



## High School Thursday Notes Message Archive

April 2, 2020

### A Message from Dr. Ann Marie Krejcarek, President of Convent & Stuart Hall

Dear Convent & Stuart Hall Community,

Thank you for the valuable feedback you have been passing along via our [SFCorConnect link](#). I hope you experience our team as being responsive and continuing to iterate and add value to this remote experience.

In this update, I will share our adjusted spring break schedule, how the San Francisco Public School announcement affects our school calendar, and lastly let you know about the weekly schedule for course delivery moving forward.

#### Spring Break

Questions about spring break may have been the most asked this week. Below is what I shared earlier today with our faculty and outlines an adjustment I have made to the break.

It is my goal to both support a teaching and learning week that is good for our students and faculty as well as to finish the school year as initially scheduled. In service of that goal, I have made the following decision on this year's spring break.

#### Easter Break - Adjusted Schedule

Friday, April 10 (Good Friday) – Tuesday, April 14

Classes resume on Wednesday, April 15

Our school complex will be closed during spring break from Friday, April 10 (Good Friday) through Tuesday, April 14.

With this schedule, we will be able to maintain the robust course delivery on Tuesday–Friday with Mondays as teacher preparation going forward (see below for additional, optional Monday offerings for students). We will also be able to end the year as currently scheduled. We intend these Mondays of planning and independent work to offer balance in the week for both students and faculty.

#### Additional Monday Offerings - ASP for K–8

For some families, the Mondays without instruction have been challenging, so we are offering an optional Virtual ASP programming during the school day on Mondays. Andrew Hoffer, our Extended Programming Director, will be sending a schedule of activities to our K–8 families via email. If you would

like to participate in ASP Mondays, please RSVP with the link in SFCorConnect. This programming is free of charge and is intended to meet the needs of our community.

### **San Francisco Public School Announcement**

You may have heard the public school system is going to stay virtual for the remainder of the school year. I have also heard that the public school system may need to adjust the start of the school year next fall to make up required attendance days and to catch up on the curriculum.

I meet weekly with the CAIS school heads across the state. The conversation this week centered on independent schools in California making individual school decisions. To date, most independent schools have not made the decision to remain virtual through the end of the year. We will continue to be attentive and responsive to new information as it becomes available. As yet, there is not sufficient information to make a determination about our May schedule. The difference with independent schools is the size of our student body, which makes it possible for us to respond more quickly if it is deemed safe for us to return to campus this year.

I sincerely appreciate your continued partnership and I am so very proud of our students and faculty, as well as all of our Central Services team for the role they are playing.

Sincerely,

Ann Marie

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### **A Message from Rachel Simpson, Head of Convent High School**

Thanks to those of you who were able to join the Zoom book clubs earlier this week. It was great to share the inspiration of what we are reading, listening to or watching at this time. I hope to share the list of recommendations soon via our community hub, SFCorConnect. Please continue to refer to SFCorConnect for ongoing information and updates.

Tomorrow, we will be opening the course request portal for the 2020–21 school year. Students will have the ability to designate preferences for next year's courses, which is the first step of the course scheduling process. Students can expect a message from Ms. Pfeiffer tomorrow when the portal is open. The portal will close on Thursday, April 9.

As we continue our work, including preparation for the following school year, I am thinking in a special way about our seniors. Today was the planned-for date of the senior retreat, a community experience that is clearly on hold at this time. I hope to reassure each member of the Class of 2020 that we will find a way to honor and celebrate this year's graduates. While we do not yet know what May will bring, we are thinking deeply about how and when we might invite the rituals and ceremonies the class has been deservedly anticipating. While we cannot yet make any predictions or definitive plans, I hope to let the seniors and their families know that you are in my heart and top of my mind.

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## **A Message from Tony Farrell, Head of Stuart Hall High School**

I begin this message with a heavy heart about the passing of Mr. Robert (Robbie) Socks, who was one of our leads in our Tech Department. Robbie operated as our faculty advisor to our intrepid broadcasting students for the live-stream of last year's graduation ceremonies, and he succumbed to a swift and virulent form of cancer on Saturday. He was a unique, warm and talented man and I have fond memories of his commitment to our community. When you're not sure which microphone is on and there are 500 people in front of you, his was the calm voice and manner you'd want, assuring you that things are as they should be. Rest in peace, Robbie.

Even with sadness and the surreal times we live in, we beat on. Please continue to refer to **SFCorConnect** for updates and additionally you may call Laura Maupin between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. (415-345-5811) with a question that isn't housed on SFCorConnect. Laura will help locate the best person to answer.

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Our seniors are top-of-mind for me as today was the scheduled date of the senior retreat, a community experience that is clearly on hold at this time. While we do not yet know what May will bring, we are thinking regularly about how and when we might invite the rituals and ceremonies the class has been anticipating. Even as definitive plans have yet to reveal themselves, I want our senior families to know that you are in my heart and thoughts.

My colleague, Rachel Simpson, successfully hosted a parent Zoom room this week, and I am inspired to do the same for next Wednesday. Like Rachel, I'll offer two times, 9:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. This week's topic will be "Our Students and Money: Resources for Teaching Teens the Money Basics." I will be working from Susan and Michael Beacham's *OMG (Official Money Guide) for College Students*, but please feel free to bring your own trusted sources. Please let me know if you plan to attend and I'll send along a Zoom link.