

Parents-

It was great to connect with several students today and hear of their successes, to see their faces in online class meetings, and to hear of the dedicated work both they and their teachers are doing. It greatly helped to bring back the joy that I have so missed since our last day of school. Below are a few updates based on conversations with students, staff, and parents.

- **No instruction/assignments for Tuesday April 14:** I have encouraged students to use this as a catch-up day. The diocese is hosting a virtual professional development for teachers as we shift instruction online. Several of our GTACS teachers will be sharing best practices with our colleagues throughout the diocese.
- **Workload:** throughout the week, I have heard various feedback on the amount of work. Our goal as previously outlined is to average 15-20 minutes per class per day. There will be no work over the weekend and no new instruction for Good Friday, Easter Monday, and Tuesday April 14.
- **Newsletters:** we will continue to adapt and adjust as needed to reach our goal of providing an overview of instruction for the week and access to any necessary resources. These will continued to be emailed to both students and parents by Monday morning and will be posted for each grade at:
<https://gtacs.org/about/connections-for-learning/>
- **Access to building:** there will be access to the building once the governor lifts the “shelter in place” order. Teachers have been able to supply many necessary resources and textbooks virtually and students have been able to support one another as well. If you need something essential and it cannot be provided in an alternate format, please email me at cscholten@gtacs.org to make arrangements. There will be scheduled locker clean outs later in the spring.
- **Zoom:** Several teachers have used Zoom with good success as a way to provide direct instruction and help maintain community amongst our students. We will look to expand to additional classes in the coming weeks. Any class meetings would be scheduled in advance and during your child’s normally scheduled class times. This is one of many resources to advance student learning. Teachers will continue to utilize the best methods to move students toward essential learning objectives and preparedness for the next grade level.

In Him,

Carl Scholten
Principal, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton MS