



Washington Montessori Public Charter School

2330 Old Bath Hwy.
Washington, NC 27889
Phone: (252) 946-1977 Fax: (252) 946-5938
www.wmpcs.org

March 29, 2020

Dear Seniors and Senior Families,

What a remarkable time we are living in. At this point, there is not much more that we can say regarding the impact that the Covid19 pandemic has had on all of our lives.

On Friday, the State Board of Education met and made adjustments to the requirements of graduating for your class. As our world changes overnight, we know that your lives and responsibilities have also changed over night. This is a world that none of us anticipated but that we all must respond and navigate. Our philosophy, and your education, have always been centered on adaptability and flexibility which is greatly needed in this changing environment.

While you will be given access to the remote learning opportunities of WMPCS, they are not required for your class credit or to fulfill your graduation requirements. At this point, we ask that you make a choice for the remainder of the year. There are some caveats and we will host a family Zoom for your class tomorrow evening at 7:00 pm to answer any questions that you may have. This meeting is for both students and parents. A separate email invitation will be sent this evening or tomorrow morning.

As of March 13, 2020, all seniors with passing grades are considered to have fulfilled their academic obligations for graduation. You will not be required to attend or participate in any further academic activities at WMPCS. We will still have an official graduation ceremony as planned if the school reopens.

Please note, as per the State Board of Education change in policy:

- If you choose to conclude your education at this time, the higher of the two options will be used for your final GPA:
 - For year long courses (whichever is greater):
 - Average of Q1 and Q2 grades, or
 - Average of Q1, Q2 and Q3 up to March 13th.
 - For semester courses
 - You will either receive a "Pass" or "Withdrawal" based on your grade as of March 13th.
 - If you choose to withdraw, your transcript will be noted with "WC19" but it will not affect your GPA or Graduation requirements.
- If a student was failing any course prior to March 13th, we will be in touch regarding steps that need to take place in order to receive credit for your coursework. Options include a final interview, project, paper or activity that will show mastery to a level that is sufficient to pass your courses with a 60. Your guide may decide to choose which option for you.
- You can choose to continue to attend classes but the grades and activities will not increase or decrease your grade.

- If you choose to complete your tenure at WMPCS now, you will not be invited to ongoing class activities and will be classified as “graduated.” Your official graduation will be finalized on June 9th.
- If you are in community college courses, you are given the option to continue those classes in either of the WMPCS scenarios (graduating now or continuing with course work). If you withdraw, the coursework will appear as “WC19” on your transcript. There will not be any penalty for withdrawing from the courses. Your grades in those courses will follow the requirements set forth by the community college. Please email Mrs. Smigel with your decision in addition to completing the attached form.

After careful consideration, we have also decided to cancel all extra-curricular activities and trips for the remainder of the year. This includes the scheduled end of year trips as well as the Jr./Sr. Prom. This decision is based on the Order from the Governor restricting gatherings of 50 or more people, the uncertainty of what our post-Covid19 world looks like, differing and ever-changing local government decisions to have “stay at home” orders in place as well as our commitment to ensure student safety.

If you had a deposit for the end of year trip, those funds will be refunded to you at a later time. We are currently working through the logistics and will notify you personally if this applies to you. If you had funds remaining in your “end of year” trip business or fundraising activities, you will be given a choice to either have those refunded or to donate them to future class trips in a scholarship fund.

Attached to this letter is a formal form that will be required in order for us to complete the process of refunding. Please complete, sign, and send via email to us by Friday, April 3rd.

While this is not how any of us would have anticipated your year ending, know that you are supported and ready to take on the challenges that face you. We have enjoyed every moment of our interactions with you; you will be successful regardless of what the world throws at you. As this will end the “formal” interactions with some of you, we will always be there to support you for the remainder of the year and in years to come. If there is interest, we will schedule a special, non-academic, zoom weekly so we can keep in touch during this time.

Yours Sincerely,

Darla and Austin



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Senior Graduation Determination (Please return to Amy Smigel, amy.smigel@wmpcs.org)

Name: _____

Coursework:

_____ I am choosing to graduate with the academic information as it stands on file. I understand that my GPA will be determined by the highest of either an average of the Q1 and Q2 grades for year long classes or an average of Q1, Q2 and Q3 (up to March 13th). If I was failing a course, I understand that I will be contacted regarding a one time activity(ies) to prove mastery. My alternative non-WMPCS email is:

_____.

_____ I am choosing to continue with coursework at WMPCS but understand that the grades will not affect my GPA.

BCCC Classes (if applicable):

_____ I will continue to take BCCC coursework and understand that WMPCS will follow their determinations regarding course grades, attendance requirements and any other requirements.

_____ I am choosing withdrawal from my BCCC courses (listed below) and understand that my transcript will be coded as "WC19."

End of Year Trip:

_____ I am requesting a payment of the funds I have worked for the end of year trip.

_____ I am choosing to donate my funds to a scholarship fund for future high school students.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date