



HCS_ECHS



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HCS Early College
High School
@HCSECHS

Website:

EC.HORRYCOUNTYSCHOOLS.NET

The Principal's Desk

Dear Trailblazer Family,

I just want to go on record as saying, "I miss seeing each of you and giving a 'Hello', High 5, or a Hug." There is NOTHING about this time that is easy. I would love the opportunity to have everyone together and to be able to talk to our students and tell them how much we miss them and love them. We started the year with the theme of "Keep Moving Forward." I do not think that anyone would have known how those simple 3 words would become our new way of life. However, here we are, facing uncertainties, facing challenges, living life differently than we have ever before, and missing our social life. Walt Disney said, "**We keep moving forward**, opening new doors, and doing new things, because **we're** curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."

New paths are where we are right now. I want to assure you that we are all on this path together. My Faculty and Staff have been amazing over the last few days. I have long known we had the best teachers in the WORLD, but through this, they have truly risen above and beyond any expectation anyone could have had of them. Our students, your children, have also been amazing. So many of them have sent sweet messages, latched onto the eLearning, have assisted other students, and have met these challenges with the "KEEP MOVING FORWARD" mentality.

The South Carolina Governor, South Carolina Superintendent of Education and Horry County Schools believes the health, safety, and well-being of our students and staff are our top priority. Because of this, all South Carolina Schools will remain closed through April 30. This is an evolving situation and as more information is made available, I will pass that on to you.

Throughout the rest of March and through the month of April, we will continue to offer eLearning for all of our students. eLearning may be

Upcoming Dates

March 25th - April 30th - eLearning assignments

April 3 - Last day to purchase a yearbook

Jr. /Sr. Prom - POSTPONED

ECHS Graduation - Wednesday, June 3 - 3:00 p.m. at HTC - CCU



"We are Early College, being the best we can be."

a new term for some of you. I like to think of it as an ENGAGEMENT Time. Our students are most familiar with this because they have used Google Classroom, taking an online class, and have had to turn in virtual coursework for college classes. We are moving into the 4th Quarter. This means your students will be receiving new material, getting a variety of assignments that will count in the 20%, 30%, and 50% category, and having online Class Time/Virtual Meetings with the teachers. I am sure you have lots of Questions and I will attempt to answer all of the questions that I can (see below). If you have other questions, after reading this, please email those to me at kfleming@horrycountyschools.net.

Parents and Students, please know we are here for you. If you are unsure of any assignment or need additional information, please reach out to your teacher, your advisor, administration, or call the school at (843) 349-3131. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me. Please take a few minutes to like our Facebook page or to follow us on Twitter to stay up to date throughout the school year.

As always, if I can be of assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Ms. Fleming, ECHS Principal

(843) 349-3131 or kfleming@horrycountyschools.net

Additional Information:

Facebook Page @hcsechs “HCS Early College High School”

Twitter Page @hcs_echs

Additional Website for all HCS Information

<https://www.horrycountyschools.net/covid19>



**HCS EARLY COLLEGE
TRAILBLAZERS** being the best we can be."

[HCS Early College Store](#) is up and running. We are so excited to offer the opportunity to purchase ECHS Wear.

Q & A

- **What if I need technical assistance?** Please email Mrs. Ritchie at mritchie@horrycountyschools.net. Mrs. Ritchie will be able to review the issue(s) and help get them corrected. She may be able to assist via email or over the phone. You may also call the District Office Technology at (843)488-6825.
- **What will eLearning look like now?** Teachers will hold the Virtual Classes during the regular scheduled class time. These times will be posted to the Google Classroom. Our primary purpose of using the technology is to maintain communication with our students and to allow the students to get feedback from teachers. I encourage you to speak to your student and ask to see the Virtual Class Meeting. Meetings will be recorded for your student to refer back to them.
- **What will my students need to be successful?** ECH Faculty recognizes that families have different resources available at home. We will work with all students to provide equal opportunities for all students. All lessons, materials, online tools, and links will be posted to the Google Classroom.
- **What if I do not have WIFI?** If your child does not have a device or wifi connection, please note that we will provide hard copies of the assignments for the student to pick up and to drop off for grading. Please let your teachers know you will need the hardcopies. Ms. Fleming will contact the parent/student to let you know when the assignments may be picked up from the school and dropped off for grading. You may call HTC at (843) 369-7000 to see if you qualify for free WIFI. Also, all of our schools will have the gates open from 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. and the parking lot is accessible for any student who would need to access School WIFI.
- **How will I know what work my student has to complete or has not completed?** While we hope that all of our students are completing his/her assignments, it is super important for all parents to keep up with the assignments and grades. Parents may request to join the Google Classrooms(s) of your child. Parents will be able to see the grades in PowerSchool. Parents may also join the ECHS Google Announcement page with the code: **xbpifeg**
- **Will my student be in class all day, every day?** It is not our desire for any student to spend all day working on school work. While we want to ensure that your child is getting direct instructional time with the teachers, we also want students to participate in independent learning. We realize that our students may work or may be assisting families with babysitting duties. We also realize how important spending time with family and being active is. Our teachers are working on formatting the Virtual Meetings to be short meetings, but provide quality instruction. Teachers will also have a check-in time for students at least once a week to answer questions or to allow students collaboration time. All of our teachers will place the eLearning Opportunities in a Google Sheet to avoid having multiple meetings at one time.
- **Will my child and I be able to get in touch with the teachers?** Teachers for all subjects will be available throughout the week during the scheduled school days (Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) At the teacher's discretion, he or she will be available during an optional time. It is an expectation that all teachers return communication within a 24 hour time period (M-F). If you have not heard from a teacher within the 24 hour period, please contact Ms. Fleming at kflaming@horrycountyschools.net or (843) 349-3131.

"We are Early College, being the best we can be."

- **Will these grades count?** Yes, these eLearning grades will count. My Faculty and I feel that any work given is worthy of a grade. Beginning on March 24, all work assigned will count in the 4th Quarter Grading Period. The 4th Quarter Coursework will consist of low (20%), mid (30%), and high (50%) level grades. It is extremely important for students to complete all assignments. Until assignments are completed and submitted by the student, the assignments will be considered incomplete, and the grade will be entered as a zero in the gradebook. The parent and the student will need to communicate with the teacher and then submit any missing assignments. Once the assignments are submitted and graded by the teacher, the zero will be replaced with the new grade. PowerSchool is open as of 4:00 p.m. on March 25.
- **Will HGTC classes resume?** HGTC Classes will resume on Monday, March 30. As referenced on the HGTC Webpage, all academic courses will be delivered in an online format. Once these classes begin, students will be taking HGTC Courses and ECHS Courses. It will be very important for your child to manage the workload and to stay organized so they will not fall behind.
- **Will my student have to work during Spring Break?** HCS will continue to observe Spring Break from April 10th - April 17th. Your child will not have work from the Early College High School Classes. However, your child will have work from the HGTC College Classes. Grab-and-Go lunches will continue for students during the break.
- **What about extra school functions, like Prom, HGTC Graduation, etc.?** All school events/activities such as proms, galas, dances, concerts, plays, athletic competitions/practices, etc., scheduled through April 30, 2020, are cancelled as a result of Governor McMaster's mandated closure of public schools through April 30, 2020. We are unable to determine if or when these events may be rescheduled at a later date. If we are unable to reschedule the prom, a refund will be issued. HGTC Commencement will be postponed and further plans will be announced at a later date.
- **What if my child has missed or does miss an assignment?** If your child has missed an assignment from the 3rd Quarter, it is important to make contact with the teacher. Until assignments are completed and submitted by the student, the assignments will be considered incomplete, and the grade will be entered as a zero in the gradebook. Once the assignments are submitted and graded by the teacher, the zero will be replaced with the new grade.

COVID-19

Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses like COVID-19 and flu.

What are the symptoms?



Fever



Cough



Shortness of Breath

How is it prevented?



Wash hands often



Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands



Avoid contact with sick people



Stay home while you are sick; avoid others



Cover mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces


Visit scdhec.gov/COVID19 for more information.

Free Meals for Students



HCS will be serving breakfast and lunch Monday-Thursday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. beginning Monday, March 16th at the following locations:

- [Aynor Elementary](#)
- [Green Sea Floyds Elementary](#)
- [Homewood Elementary](#)
- [Loris Elementary](#)
- [Myrtle Beach Elementary](#)
- [Myrtle Beach Middle](#)
- [North Myrtle Beach Middle](#)
- [Palmetto Bays Elementary](#)
- [Socastee Elementary](#)
- [Waccamaw Elementary](#)
- [Whittemore Park Middle](#)

Lunches include grab and go style meals and **students must be present in the vehicle**. Meals will be provided for all students 18 years and younger and can be picked up at *any* of the stated locations. Monday through Wednesday's grab and go bags will include one lunch and one breakfast for the next day. Thursday's grab and go bags will consist of one lunch, and one breakfast and lunch for Friday. Adult meals will not be provided. For more information contact HCS Nutrition Services at 843-488-6925.

"We are Early College, being the best we can be."

March/April Students of the Month

2020 March Student of the Month @ ECHS



"Keep Moving Forward!"

What has been your favorite moment at ECHS so far?
If I had to choose, probably the winter formal.

When you get discouraged, what keeps you moving forward?

If I stop working hard, then I have to stop being prideful.

What are your post-high school plans?

Go to college.

What are your favorite clubs or community service opportunities?

Campus cleanups because it's the easiest way to get service hours.

Arsen

2020 March Student of the Month @ ECHS



"Keep Moving Forward!"

What has been your favorite moment at ECHS?

Probably the Poetry Slam. I had a lot of fun writing my individual poem and group poem; I was very surprised how comfortable I was when I performed. I also have so much fun in Biology because Mrs. Farmer makes learning fun.

When you get discouraged, what keeps you moving forward?

Knowing that dropping out or failing is not an option for me. I really like this school and the opportunities it provides for me are too valuable for me to give up. Also, my mom wants me to get rich so I can buy her a house on the beach.

What are your post-high school plans?

I would like to go to the Savannah College of Art and Design, but CCU is fine. If I get into SCAD, I would like to become an animator. I would like to work for Pixar or Disney.

What is your favorite club?

My favorite club is Yearbook and my favorite community service opportunities are helping out at Kind Keepers and Baby Animal Day. Kind Keepers is a no-kill animal shelter in North Myrtle and I love being around dogs and cats.

Emma

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2020 March Student of the Month @ ECHS



"Keep Moving Forward!"

Kaleigh

What has been your favorite moment at ECHS so far?
My favorite moment at ECHS so far is the freedom of having college classes.

When you get discouraged, what keeps you moving forward?

What keeps me moving forward are my parents. They encourage me to always do my best and to never give up on my dreams.

What are your post-high school plans?

After high school, I plan to go to medical school to become a Nurse Practitioner in Pediatric Oncology.

What are your favorite clubs or community service opportunities?

My favorite club is Disciples. It is a safe place and everyone is welcome and you can feel that those people care about you.

2020 March Student of the Month @ ECHS



"Keep Moving Forward!"

Stephen

What has been your favorite moment at ECHS so far?
My favorite moments at ECHS are the ones where I have been an ambassador. I have enjoyed all my times being an ambassador from bridge week to open house. I enjoy spending time with my peers while being a role model.

When you get discouraged, what keeps you moving forward?

When I get discouraged, I tend to look back at all the hard work I have already done and know that I cannot give up now. I also know that as long as I do my best, there is no reason to be discouraged.

What are your post-high school plans?

I plan to go to USC to pursue a career in pharmacy. It will take 5 years, but I am prepared to do what is required.

What are your favorite clubs or community service opportunities?

Besides being an ambassador, I enjoy the recycling club! It is fun to clean up and recycle with everyone.

These students exhibit critical thinking, communication, and personal & social responsibility skills that make a strong Trailblazer. Congratulations!

"We are Early College, being the best we can be."



**WHAT YOUR FRIEND
DOES TO YOU WHEN THEY
FIND OUT YOU HAVEN'T
ORDERED YOUR YEARBOOK**

Order your yearbook today!

(must be ordered by Wednesday, March 18)

Cost: \$40 *but for only +\$5 you can get your name on the cover!*

Place your order at the Front Office,
on MyPaymentsPlus.com, or YearbookOrderCenter.com

Yearbook orders have been extended to April 3rd.

[Guidance Google Classroom](#)



[ECHS Website](#)

[Google Classroom Announcement Page](#) (code - jtiwt7),
Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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