

# Week 4 Updates for Centennial Families

## Sunday, August 23, 2020

Good Afternoon Centennial Families,

As we head into our fourth week of virtual learning, I want to share some important information about clubs, sports, announcements, grades, attendance, course fees, and more. Thank you to all the parents who were able to participate in our Virtual Meet the Teacher Night. You can [click here](#) to access administration's introductory video and reach out to specific teachers if you have questions about their presentations to families.

### **CLUBS STARTING THIS WEEK**

Many of Centennial's 30+ clubs will begin holding virtual meetings this coming week, including the Anime Society, DECA, Drama, French, Mat Pack, and more. Please visit the below site to find contact information for each club's advisors, as well as virtual meeting "join codes" for those Centennial clubs resuming this week. Students should watch the announcements regularly to find information about club start dates. Each club listed in the below link contains advisors' email addresses. Please contact the advisor with specific club questions, and revisit the below page often, as it will be updated regularly as advisors begin holding meetings and communicating join codes:

[www.peoriaunified.org/CeHScubs](http://www.peoriaunified.org/CeHScubs)

### **FALL SPORTS RESUMING WEEK BY WEEK**

Our Spiritline and Golf teams began practice last week. Cross Country runners, swimmers, and divers begin this week. Badminton, Volleyball, and Football start in the later weeks to come. Please revisit [this letter from Mr. Jelovic](#) concerning Fall Sports start dates, and regularly check our website and social media pages for athletic information:

[PUSD Phased-In Fall Sports Information](#)

### **DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS: ENCOURAGE DAILY VIEWING (FAVORITE [THIS LINK](#))**

You can [click here](#) anytime to access Centennial's daily announcements. Last Friday's contained information from the Peer Counseling Club and shoutouts from students and teachers like Ms. Cothren and Mrs. Menasco. Thursday's featured an athletics update from Mr. Jelovic. Tomorrow, you'll find meeting information from our French and Drama clubs, and seniors will get some important information from Mrs. McMillen, Centennial's Career Center advisor, who has just published the [first senior newsletter of the year](#).

[Daily Announcements](#)

## **SELF-SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR**

Centennial's school counselors have created a virtual appointment system through Office365 Bookings to allow students and parents to self-schedule time to meet on Teams to discuss a wide variety of personal and academic needs like scheduling, career planning, college applications and scholarships, and more. Visit the below page, find your counselor's, name, and click on the "Schedule an Appointment" link to get started:

**[www.peoriaunified.org/CeHSguidance](http://www.peoriaunified.org/CeHSguidance)**

Not sure of your student's counselor? Follow [these directions](#) in ParentVUE to find your Coyote's counselor.

## **FIRST PROGRESS REPORT PERIOD ENDS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>**

Students are just ten school days away from the first progress reports of the 2020-21 school year. Now is a good time to visit ParentVUE to check on your Coyote's current grades and determine whether there are any missing assignments. Remember that Peoria Unified policy allows students to earn 50% of the points associated with late work, up until the end of each progress period. Be sure that your Coyote turns in any missing work prior to the September 4<sup>th</sup> deadline, in order to earn half points. Paperless grade reports will be available Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup> in ParentVUE and StudentVUE.

### **Information on Paperless Grade Reports and 20-21 Grading Timelines**

## **DAILY ATTENDANCE REMINDERS**

Please review your son or daughter's daily attendance in ParentVUE. If you notice issues, speak with your Coyote about daily attendance, and please communicate immediately if you have questions or feel there may be errors. Any errors not reported to the teacher within 24 hours must instead be reported to the Attendance Office at 623-412-4405 or 623-412-4406.

There are many ways for students to be marked "present," so long as they progress in their courses daily. Students can engage by:

- Attending and participating in Teams meetings.
- Logging minutes in the online platforms.
- Submitting completed work.
- Otherwise verifying course progress with the teacher.

In the event of technology issues, parents may also verify a student's attendance, but students who do not engage in any meaningful, daily participation should be marked absent for that class period. Students should strive to join all Teams meetings, as these face-to-face student and teacher interactions provide vital lectures and presentations, directions, and other important information. The challenges of this pandemic may create occasional scenarios where students miss Teams meetings. Students should please work with their teachers to access recordings and verify course progress for those occasional days.

## **WHEN DO I CONTACT THE TEACHER VERSUS THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE?**

Teachers have 24 hours to correct any absences, provided they receive student or parent communication within that timeframe. After 24 hours have passed, teachers can no longer change absences, and parents must call the attendance office to pursue any necessary corrections.

When students encounter technology issues that prevent their participation, students and parents must communicate immediately with the teacher, via email. If email is not an option, please call the school's attendance lines at 623-412-4405 or 623-412-4406.

If a student needs to miss a school day due to an appointment and cannot check in with teachers, the student's parent or guardian must call the school's attendance line to notify Centennial of the absence at 623-412-4405 or 623-412-4406. The attendance clerks will mark a parent-verified absence for the day.

## **COURSE FEES**

This week, our district will assess the Governing Board-approved course fees for the 2020-2021 school year. The Peoria district assesses fees for a limited number of fine arts, career and technical, and other courses that offer services, equipment, and materials beyond those needed to successfully complete the basic requirements of the course. Many teachers have already begun to distribute materials or provide access to services associated with course fees. Others will be communicating distribution dates in future weeks, as students approach certain units and activities. Later this week, Centennial will provide families with information about how to:

- Access PUSD's list of course fees.
- Pay course fees online or in the Bookstore.
- Pursue fee waivers in instances of economic hardship.

Please watch for this Course Fees Communication, and please call our office if you have questions or concerns.

## **OUTSTANDING LIBRARY BOOKS TO THE FRONT OFFICE**

Families still in possession of Centennial Library books should please return those items to the front office receptionist as soon as possible. Fines have not accumulated since the March closure. They will resume when in-person classes resume. Remember that if you must visit the office to return a book or checkout a tablet, please be sure to wear a mask.

## **STAYING INFORMED**

Here three pages that I recommend for staying informed and accessing assistance:

### **[Centennial Learning Start Here Each Day](#)**

Important Links, Updates, and Contact Information

### **[Technology Tutorials and Resources, Meals, Etc.](#)**

Office365, OneDrive, Teams, ParentVUE, StudentVUE and More

### **[PUSD Return to School Plan Messages](#)**

Public Health Metrics, Video Messages, Athletics, Etc.

It's hard to overstate how this pandemic is challenging students, families, and teachers. Each of us is striving to discover new ways to learn, connect, support, work, and achieve. Despite occasional technology issues and a vast learning curve for teachers, administrators, parents and students, our Coyotes ARE learning, connecting, and achieving. As we visit their virtual classrooms, we see students creating, asking, answering, singing, debating, and building understanding.

I know many of them may also be struggling with isolation and uncertainty. Please consider encouraging your Coyote to pursue virtual clubs, try out for fall sports opportunities, watch daily announcements, and rely on access to our counselors and other social-emotional support staff. Consider discussing how daily routines – like the [bell schedule](#) – foster balance, family time, and healthy sleeping patterns.

Thank you for your support, patience, and partnership. Thanks also to the dozens of parents who've taken the time to email an encouraging message to a teacher or staff member who's making a difference. Encouraging words go a long way during times like these! Please also reach out to us to let us know how we can better-serve you and your student.

Have a relaxing Sunday evening,

Mr. Hollabaugh  
Principal