



HANGER HALL

SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

An update regarding our return to school this fall

Dear Hanger Hall Community,

The Hanger Hall faculty and administration have been working tirelessly to reconceive and revamp our approach to school and our program for this upcoming school year. We are taking many aspects into consideration as we develop our programming; the health and safety of the girls as well as our staff and families, student experience, as well as faculty needs and availability. We are adhering to (and will continue to regularly consult) the recommendations and mandates from the CDC, NCDHHS, Governor Cooper and Buncombe County Health Services.

As we look to the 2020-2021 school year, we are balancing health and safety along with our students' academic, social and emotional needs. Hanger Hall has always been dedicated to supporting our students' education in balance with their emotional wellbeing. In these unprecedented times, we remain committed to this focus and to providing our students with a Hanger Hall education and experience that is reflective of our practices, ideals and philosophy. We are excited about our programming and want to share a few details of what is to come.

What we know for sure today:

Who: All Hanger Hall students will have a hybrid learning schedule for as long as it is safe for us to meet in person on our campus. The in-person classes will include: Math, Science, Humanities/Grammar, World Language, Drama and Art. Our Music curriculum will be delivered online along with other arts and academic enrichment classes facilitated on our students' virtual learning days. All courses aside from music and athletics will be organized in a block schedule and all classes will be required.

What: We are fully committed to your daughter(s) experience at Hanger Hall supported by our mission which "*provides each girl a superior middle school education in an inclusive and supportive environment that promotes a sense of belonging, creativity, self-confidence, personal motivation and desire for knowledge, in partnership with parents*".

When: Starting on September 8, 2020 all grades will be split in two groups to allow for a full week of learning each week: 2 days of in person learning on Hanger Hall's campus.

2 days of online learning with a set schedule of required live classes, 1 day of enrichment programming that focuses on social/emotional growth as well as academic support and extra challenge opportunities.

Where: Outdoor classes will be held on the Hanger Hall campus in one of three tents that the school has purchased in order to provide a safe learning environment that allows your daughter(s) to learn in person.

How: Our teachers are developing a block schedule that will allow them to be accessible for both in person and online learning as well as enrichment/support opportunities each school week. All classes will be held in the three tents and each class will remain in their respective while teachers travel from tent to tent to teach their lessons. To help break up the day, a new type of transition in between various classes will be introduced. These intentional class recesses will be facilitated by both Amy Aiken (Physical Education) and Juliette McNamara (School Counselor). Students will also benefit from additional times throughout the day that will allow for organic socialization within each grouping.

Girls will be required to wear masks while on campus. To ensure health and safety well into the fall and perhaps later into the school year, we will welcome half of the student body on campus twice a week while the other half participates in online learning. Outdoor classrooms will be held on the Hanger Hall campus in one of three newly purchased and soon to be erected tents to provide a safe learning environment that allows your daughter(s) to learn in person. Girls will be socially distant in the tents and throughout the entire on-campus school day.

In order to offer the most robust programming while also identifying ways to fairly organize our student body, the hybrid scheduling for each student will be determined by the world language she takes/has selected. Here is the general overview of the weekly hybrid schedule for all grades based on your daughter's world language selection:

FRENCH

Monday & Thursday-in person learning in outdoor classes on Hanger Hall campus

Tuesday & Friday-online learning with a set schedule of required live classes

Wednesday- enrichment programming with a set schedule that focuses on social/emotional growth, as well as academic support and extra challenge opportunities.

SPANISH

Monday & Thursday- online learning with a set schedule of required live classes

Tuesday & Friday- in person learning in outdoor classes on Hanger Hall campus

Wednesday- enrichment programming with a set schedule that focuses on social/emotional growth, as well as academic support and extra challenge opportunities.

Why: By investing in outdoor classrooms, Hanger Hall has the opportunity to provide flexibility for a hybrid approach that includes both in person and remote learning during the 2020-21 academic calendar. This approach also allows for the adherence of safety protocols while providing students with the best Hanger Hall experience

during these times of uncertainty.

In terms of how our hybrid scheduling was determined, we are committed to offering the academic and social programming that our Mission states and wanted to uphold the integrity and learning opportunities of all of our academic classes including world language.

We imagine that our community will have many additional questions about the specifics and logistics to our plan, and we will continue to share updated policies and procedures along with the new student and parent handbook as they become available in the next week. We also welcome parents and interested community members to join me and other Hanger Hall faculty & staff next week on Tuesday, August 4th at 4pm for a Reopening Town Hall via Zoom. We will continue to host these reopening town halls bi-weekly through August and into September. [You may join these sessions via this link](#). Our dedicated Board of Directors will also be reaching out to each family in the coming weeks and will be offering guided tours of campus highlighting COVID19 procedures and tent placements & plans for interested parents (please stay tuned for sign up information).

Of course, should you have more immediate questions please do not hesitate to reach out to us. As mentioned, we will also continue to update our community with additional announcements and information via the weekly Hanger Hall BLASTS and specific emails as necessary.

Here's to a healthy, engaging and learned year ahead!

Warmly,
Jen

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