



STEEL CENTER

for CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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Monday, April 20, 2020 [3:00 PM]

Dear Students/Families, Staff, and Community Partners,

I continue to wish for your safety and well-being along with that of the entire Steel Center Community, and hope that this UPDATE finds you and your loved ones healthy. As you now know, on April 9, 2020, the Governor declared that Pennsylvania schools are to remain closed for the remainder of the school year. Though many of us believed this might happen, it became very real when finally announced. Since we left here on Friday, March 13th, our lives have all been turned upside down. Speaking on behalf of Steel Center's faculty, staff, and board members, this was not the way that we should end a school year, especially for members of the Steel Center Class of 2020. We have received great support from so many people during this time especially our students and their families, our awesome staff, our School Board Members, Superintendents, Industry Partners, and many others who have all pitched in to help in some way. For this, I say THANK YOU!

Here is some additional items and updates:

- In some ways, Governor Wolff's announcement simplifies the remaining part of this school year because the guessing is over and we now know what to expect. As a school community and "Team", we quickly adjusted to our new reality and began providing "Distance Learning" for our students on Monday, March 30, 2020, through implementing our "Continuity of Education Plan". I could not be more proud of our students, teachers, staff, parents, and community for their support, resiliency, and patience, as we have taken on these new challenges.
- Even though Steel Center and all of the other schools in Pennsylvania will remain "physically closed", we will continue to deliver "Distance Learning" to Steel Center students, and we will continue to make it as high quality and engaging as possible. We know that there is no real substitute for the face-to-face learning that we all had before the school closure, but we will not abandon our true mission of preparing students for their "Pathway to Success" because of COVID-19! We will get through this together, and become stronger because of it.
- We have received several requests from students and families to come to the school to retrieve items. We will organize a process for all this to happen at some point in the weeks to come, however, Pennsylvania is still under a STAY AT HOME order per the Governor except for certain essential activities and work to provide life-sustaining business and government services. Once

this order is lifted, we will announce our plan for the retrieval of items from the school. If there are items that are necessary for the “essential activities” of an individual of family, an email should be sent to me at krice@steelcentertech.com to discuss arrangements to obtain such items.

- All students need to go to our website www.steelcentertech.com and visit the **“Student Services/Enrollment 20-21”** section to our COVID-19 Updates & Information page.
 - **Seniors:** need to complete the **“College & Career Action Plan”** if you have not already do so.
 - **Students in grades 10 and 11:** you must complete your **“Returning Student Enrollment Form 20-21 School Year”** as soon as possible.
 - Any student that would like to enroll as a **NEW STUDENT** for the 2020-2021 school year can do so by completing the Electronic New Student Enrollment Form 20-21 also on the “Student Services/Enrollment 20-21”.
 - Questions about these items or related matters can be directed to our School Counselor Mr. Hinkle at shinkle@steelcentertech.com

- Members of the class of 2020 and their families: Steel Center will hold a Senior Recognition Ceremony for you. This year’s celebration may look a little different, but we have a very creative process in motion to honor your milestone. Work has begun to create a special “virtual” event to celebrate your accomplishments. Further details will be released in the next few weeks.

- Attached to this letter is a **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** document to provide you with information to commonly asked questions. UPDATES will continue to be posted to the Steel Center website www.steelcentertech.com and on social media Twitter @SteelCenterCTE, and Facebook @steelcenterforcte as they become available. **If there is a critical update, we will utilize the Blackboard Connect® system to inform all students and their families as well as staff.**

Warm regards,



Mr. Kevin E. Rice
Executive Director

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