



Mike Piccininni - Principal
Nicole Delgado - Assistant Principal
Sarah Barlow - Assistant Principal

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Jamie Gilbert - Assistant Principal

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Trisha Davenport - Assistant Principal
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March 23, 2020

Cougars,

This situation has created more uncertainty, anxiety, and unknown than anything we have ever been a part of. Life's perspective, in a week's time, has changed in so many ways for all of us. Today, I went in to Coronado as the only person with permission to enter the building. Each day I am to make sure the premises is secure and complete a list of required items to complete; I met virtually with our administrative team, a first for Coronado High School. Looking out my office window I realized that the pigeons in the quad were gone. Gone. Not on the roof, not on the stairs or planter beds; for sure, gone. There was really no one there but me. It was a really sad moment; one I've never had in over 20 years of teaching.

After I finished in my office, I went to the library to water the plants for Mr. Mckee. I packed my laptop, got my bag and started to walk to my car. While I was walking out of the back office door one of the pigeons came back, and landed by the cafeteria. For whatever reason, inexplicably, I felt better. As I'm writing this... I feel better.

Today, I made contact with our staff to ask that they maintain contact with students through their classroom websites and Google Classrooms that are accessible at our school website, www.coronadocougars.net. Our teachers are required to provide supplemental activities for students to complete virtually and to maintain contact with their students. This will look different for each teacher, and the supervising administrators are in close contact with each of our teachers to address individual needs as they are presented. Teachers will continue to use the platforms that work best for their classrooms – Google Classroom (and other Google options), class websites, Canvas, Actively Learn, and Zoom – to name a few. We understand our community has a variety of situations in regard to technological access; again, we are asking our teachers to be available and, where possible, provide engaging and supplemental instruction to students during this shutdown time.

Please be encouraged to know that in time this will pass, life will return to normal, and most importantly, we will be stronger having gone through it. Our character in times of distress is exposed; be kind in everything you do and say. This situation is going to challenge families in ways we cannot even imagine. I'm encouraging all of you to help your neighbor, offer what you can to those that need, and be reminded that kindness should never be confused with weakness. You are the strongest, most capable students and families I have ever known. Use what you are to help people. We will all outlast this. How we treat people now will stay with us forever.

It has been the greatest honor of my professional life to serve you. The students, families, and faculty of Coronado High School have, for as long as Coronado has stood, been the finest anywhere. Our greatest collective attribute - the one that shows most often in the classroom, on the field, or on the stage - is that when stakes are highest and risks are greatest, we are unafraid and at our very best. It is the singular most consistent fact that ensures our performance in any/all aspects of life at our school.

I have great admiration and respect for our leaders trying to navigate the unknown tied to this. I too, don't have answers for where we go from here. I know this without a doubt. Wherever it is, we will go there together. Thank you for your patience and kindness with us; I appreciate it. I am mindful of all our students' and families' health and wellness in all areas.

Please stay safe,
Mr. P

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Mike Piccininni
Principal, Coronado High School