



# Albany Christian School

*a ministry of Willamette Community Church*

420 Third Ave. SE Albany, OR 97321 541.928.1110 [www.albanychristian.org](http://www.albanychristian.org)

March 18, 2020

Good afternoon ACS Parents and Friends,

With the announcement yesterday that school closures throughout the state would extend until April 28, this morning the ACS Board met and made two unanimous decisions that will provide us a pathway forward until the end of the school year if needed:

1. They approved an academic plan to ensure that ACS staff would continue to teach and educate students online to the end of the school closure with the goal of achieving academic standards for this year.
2. They approved a tuition assistance plan to ensure that parents could financially afford to remain at ACS through the end of the school year.

So the good news is ACS will join schools across the nation as we all adapt to online learning and we will provide a financial plan to ensure that parents will be able to complete the school year here at ACS.

## **Academic Plan**

This academic plan is to use **Google Classroom** and other platforms for online learning throughout the duration of the school closure. We will begin ACS Online Learning for grades K-8 on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

We understand that this will be a learning curve for all of us. Parents will be receiving training documentation and/or training videos for how to use Google Classroom next week, and Mrs. White will be making herself available March 30<sup>th</sup> - April 3<sup>rd</sup> in the computer lab during the week for any parent who wants to come in for face to face training. As parents and teachers work together and become more familiar with how Google Classroom works, more resources will become available and the online classroom will expand with experience.

In addition, ACS will have access to specific grade level subject lessons taught online by certified teachers and we will be making those online lessons part of the Google Classroom configuration.

For families with multiple children enrolled at ACS, ACS is willing to loan our laptops and iPads to families during this crisis. We have a limited number of devices on hand. If you are a family with more than one student enrolled at ACS and need an extra device to use online, please request one through the school office.

We do not expect to have need to extend the school year into the summer months since we will be up and running online right after Spring Break as our annual calendar indicates. Other than annually scheduled national holidays, ACS will be able to provide daily classroom instruction online every school day to the end of the calendared school year on June 4 if needed.



# Albany Christian School

*a ministry of Willamette Community Church*

420 Third Ave. SE Albany, OR 97321 541.928.1110 [www.albanychristian.org](http://www.albanychristian.org)

## **Tuition Assistance Plan**

This **Tuition Assistance Plan** is a plan to help alleviate financial struggles that families could be feeling as a result of the coronavirus situation. We understand that families are wondering whether or not they can afford private Christian education during this time of crisis.

So, for families who have lost a job or their income is dramatically curtailed and are questioning how they are going to be able to pay for their tuition bill, ACS would like to help bear your burden by offering you a tuition discount up to 100% depending upon your specific situation. This tuition assistance plan is separate from our ongoing Scholarship Program. The Tuition Assistance Plan is meant to financially help current ACS families for this year during this specific coronavirus crisis.

We created a Tuition Assistance Request Form that parents will use to initiate the process. Please request this form from the school office beginning Friday March 20 and we will be glad to help you get the process going.

## **Friday March 20 from 12:00pm-3:00pm is Pick Up Day**

Teachers will have your students' textbooks sitting on top of their desks in their Classroom for pick up. Middle School students will also be expected to take everything they will need out of their lockers and dispose any trash. Please check in at the office and let Mrs. Ellich know you will be going up to the classroom to retrieve your textbooks and personal belongings.

## **Monday March 30 ACS Online Learning will be available**

There are many details that still need to be worked out over the course of the next month or so in terms of what will be the core classes, how will teachers be getting assignments back from students work, what is the expectation for grades, will students be required to keep up with elective classes, how our teachers and staff will be paid, how we will pay the bills, etc?

These are times where we need to trust God to take care of His school. He is the Principal Principal. I am just the secondary Principal trying to follow His lead.

Thank you parents for your support and patience so far. Our goal is to be WARRIOR-Strong and as helpful as possible. Please join us in being WARRIOR-Strong at this time...and helpful too!!

Doug Tharp  
Principal  
Albany Christian School