

Terra Nova Times

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Terra Nova High School

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COVID-19 hits hospitals

By Khrislenn Garino
Times staff writer

With the rise of COVID-19 cases in the United States, hospitals are anticipating waves of patients. During this time of uncertainty, California hospitals are trying to do what they can to accommodate this outbreak.

California has over 2,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, and 40 deaths, although the number of cases is undoubtedly an underestimation. It's predicted that there are more cases across America, yet hospitals lack the testing kits to test everyone who believes they have been exposed to the virus. Hospitals are prioritizing those who are the sickest in hopes of saving their lives.

Because California only has about 90,000 hospital beds available, Governor Gavin Newsom plans to increase the number of hospital beds by using old hospitals and dormitories. Two such hospitals are Seton Medical Center in Daly City, which was on the verge of closure a couple of weeks ago, and St. Vincent Medical Center in Los Angeles, which had already closed. California is leasing the two hospitals in order to increase the number of hospital beds to accommodate the projected number of COVID-19 cases that are sure to increase soon. Newsom has also said that officials are communicating with the University of California and California State University systems to open vacated dorms for future COVID-19 patients.

Hospitals are short of many supplies, including important personal protec-



Khristine Miller / Terra Nova Times

It is important we listen to their advice to protect ourselves and others.

ive equipment (PPE's) for health care workers like gowns, gloves, face shields, and face masks. Khristine Miller, a nurse for the San Francisco VA Medical Center, said, "We are trying to utilize our PPE's very wisely during this time due to the lack of supplies and resources. [The number of patients] is low because we are cancelling all non-emergency surgeries in preparation of accommodating the surge of COVID-19 patients coming into the hospital."

Hospitals have the task of educating the staff, training workers how to protect themselves, and care for the patients with this new virus. Nick Miller, a

nurse for the UCSF Medical Center, said, "Education and training have been disorganized, leaving many to feel that it's inadequate for what's to come. Health professionals have fear, dread, and anxiety for what's to come. Emotions run high, but we must keep our composure and be strong to care for those who are vulnerable and need our help."

Health care workers are putting their lives at risk to care for these patients, but it must be done; as Nick Miller said, "It feels like this virus is a test of who we are and if we can keep our mind and body intact. That's just what the job requires: being there for the people in a time of need."

College Board releases plan for AP

By Nick Wong
Times staff writer

In light of recent events, society has effectively ground to a halt, with many businesses and other facilities closed down. Among the most affected by the widespread closures and cancellations are high school students. Terra Nova High School, along with the other schools in the district, has been closed until Apr. 13 at the earliest, but Gov. Newsom has predicted that California schools will remain closed until summer. This conflicts with the traditional method of AP exam testing in classrooms, as large groups are prohibited currently. As a result, schools have had to adapt and the College Board has been forced to modify AP testing for 2020.

The College Board announced on Mar. 20 that tra-

ditional exams will not take place and will be replaced by online at-home exams, although details are sparse. Each class will have one 45 minute free response exam that can be taken on a computer, smartphone, or tablet. Taking a photo of handwritten work will also be an option for students. For students who don't have access to one of these devices, the College Board said, "We will invest so that students have the tools and connectivity they need to review AP content online and take the exam. If your students need mobile tools or connectivity, you can reach out to us directly to let us know."

The College Board has also decided that, because this time of the year is critical for preparation, the content covered in AP exams will only be on material they believe has been taught through March rather than May. This

leaves students with less to study overall, lightening the load in these stressful times.

Not all teachers strictly follow the order of the College Board curriculum, meaning the material on the test will not necessarily match what you've learned. It is vital that you check the College Board for specifics on the material that will be tested, so you can work with your teachers to cover all of the necessary information.

AP Psychology and AP US History teacher Mr. Willemse said, "Certainly, it's going to be more challenging for both teachers and students — especially because students are going to have to take more responsibility on their own. Learning must be done socially for it to stick, and that applies to both content and skills. But I'm certain that many students will study together on group chats

while in physical isolation."

He also offered five pieces of advice: "1. Practice using the spacing effect when reviewing for the test, meaning study in small sessions multiple times per day. 2. Get plenty of rest every night. 3. Use online sources, like Albert.io and the College Board website, and use their practice free-response questions. 4. Try to apply what you learn to real-life situations. 5. And if your teacher is holding online meetings, attend them."

This is just as hard for teachers as it is for students, but if everybody works together then things will work out. Danny Corbelli (12) remains optimistic: "I'm glad the AP board has made such a quick response to the issue and is willing to be flexible... to those who really care about the subjects, it shouldn't be too bad. At least we still have the opportunity to take the tests."

What's something positive that you have been doing?

By Brooke Garrett
Times staff writer

Kyle Gossage (10): "I enjoy experimenting with different recipes."

Ayva Mould (9): "Hanging out with the fam."

Patrick Harmon (11): "I don't have to see annoying people. It's a nice break for us introverts."

Shirley Morrison (12): "Being able to go to the beach and spending time with my family."

Adrian Vizcarra (12): "Catching up on shows and playing video games."

Abby Moore (11): "I don't have to see anyone from school, and I get to stay in my PJ's all day."

Juli Bass (12): "My favorite part about the quarantine is getting time to get back to my hobbies. I started painting a pair of shoes!"

Anna Steinberg (11): "Not having to go to school and staying in bed all day."

Natalia Hernandez (9): "All the time we get to be creative and do things we didn't have time for before."

Jade Harless (12): "My favorite part is spending time with my family. As hard as things have been, it's been really nice to have quality family time!"

Connor Uter (11): "Getting to take a look at yourself and spending the extra time improving on what you want to improve on."

Elijah Fernandez (10): "Being able to use the bathroom whenever I want."

Richard Baglio (11): "Sleeping until 2 PM everyday."

Amanda Calimlim (9): "I've been playing lots of Minecraft, as well as taking daily walks around my neighborhood to deal with having to stay inside."

Mateo Jimenez (12): "Well, I keep myself busy by working out at home. I listen to music 24/7 and find little things to do. I'll get my homework done, play my ukulele, and clean my shoes."