

At-home-learning plan revealed

By Sophia Aylward
News editor

JUHSD At Home Learning Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30	Counselor	Counselor	BREAK	Counselor	Counselor
9:00	1st Period	2nd Period		1st Period	2nd Period
9:30					
10:00	Counselor	Counselor		Counselor	Counselor
10:30	3rd Period	4th Period		3rd Period	4th Period
11:00					
11:30	Counselor	Counselor		Counselor	Counselor
12:00	Counselor	Counselor		Counselor	Counselor
12:30	Counselor	Counselor		Counselor	Counselor
1:00	5th Period	6th Period		5th Period	6th Period
1:30					
2:00	Counselor	Counselor		Counselor	Counselor
2:30	7th Period	0 Period		7th Period	0 Period
3:00					

Effective April 13 - May 1 (subject to change based on health recommendations)

This schedule lays out how AHL will look for the next few weeks, if not longer.

With COVID-19 forcing nearly six million students out of school until at least May 4, JUHSD and other school districts are scrambling to come up with plans to help students advance their learning while keeping the difficulties of at home learning in mind. Students have different levels of access to technology — which will impact their learning pace — and the district is trying to accommodate this. On Mar. 27, a new schedule was finalized where odd periods are held on Mondays and Thursdays, even periods are held on Tuesdays and Fridays, and Wednesdays are designated break days. The schedule will be implemented after spring break, and students will start learning new information rather than reviewing, although classes will move at a slower pace than normal.

Kareen Baca, JUHSD Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, said, “The schedule helps students and staff stay organized and know what is expected of them. We received concerns from students, parents, and staff that there is lack of consistency in at-home learning. Structure is needed during these uncertain times.”

Time has also been allotted between classes for students to meet with their counselors and have any questions an-

swered, but this is optional. In addition, teachers won’t assign students work that takes longer than two hours per week. Baca said, “We understand that reducing time will impact student learning, and that is why the District is asking teachers to only identify and teach a small set of the essential skills students would need in future classes.”

AHL is a new experience for teach-

ers as well as students, and they have to rethink how to introduce new skills. Ms. Fil said, “It is necessary to begin teaching new information rather than reviewing in History because we need to meet State and District Standards. Meeting new standards ensures better accountability for teachers, schools and students alike.” AP and SPED classes will follow slightly different guidelines, but in general, stu-

dents will have to be more self-reliant. Amanda Vance (12), voiced her concerns about this, saying, “I’m worried about learning new content during AHL after spring break. It’s putting a lot of responsibility on students that may not be met.”

Baca explained that Wednesday was made a break day to allow students to, “take a break from their regularly scheduled time to practice self-care, complete assigned work from Monday and Tuesday, and spend quality time with people at home. Some students are currently working during the school day to help families who lost their jobs due to the health crisis, and many of our staff members have young children or other family members they need to care for.”

To help ease any difficulties, the district will use a grading scale of A, B, C, and pass, with the idea being that students’ grades won’t be harmed, but they’ll still be held accountable. John Claussen (9) said, “I think it’s a good idea because otherwise kids might not do their work, and class is only until 1:30, so it’s not the end of the world. I like the idea of having a block schedule like that, so it’s a good idea. And then we’ll get work done and actually learn things.” Anna Steinberg (11) added, “I think it will be easier that we only have class twice a week because I feel like it’s harder to ‘go to class’ everyday when you’re at home. I think most students will do their work because they will have more time to do it.”

Parks closed after the public fails to distance

By Maile Harris
Times staff writer

Since the shelter in place order was announced, parks and beaches all across the Bay Area have seen record high attendance, despite the orders of Gov. Newsom, who urged those exercising in public to keep a mandatory six feet distance from each other. General manager for the East Bay Regional Park District Bob Doyle said in a statement, “All the park agencies were really excited that the public loves them, but shocked at how much.” This comes after many people had been out and about in parks and beaches, with some even congregating in the closed picnic areas. He also said, “Families and older people were doing their best to keep the six feet distancing...but it seemed like everybody in the Bay Area decided they were going to the parks last weekend.”

In response to the lack of safe distancing observed, the state park department decided to close parking lots at 36 beaches

and parks, including lots in San Mateo, Sonoma, Los Angeles, and San Diego County. Similarly, the East Bay Regional Park District closed 14 parking lots in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Marin and San Mateo counties have closed all parks after complaints of large crowds that were not safely practicing social distancing.

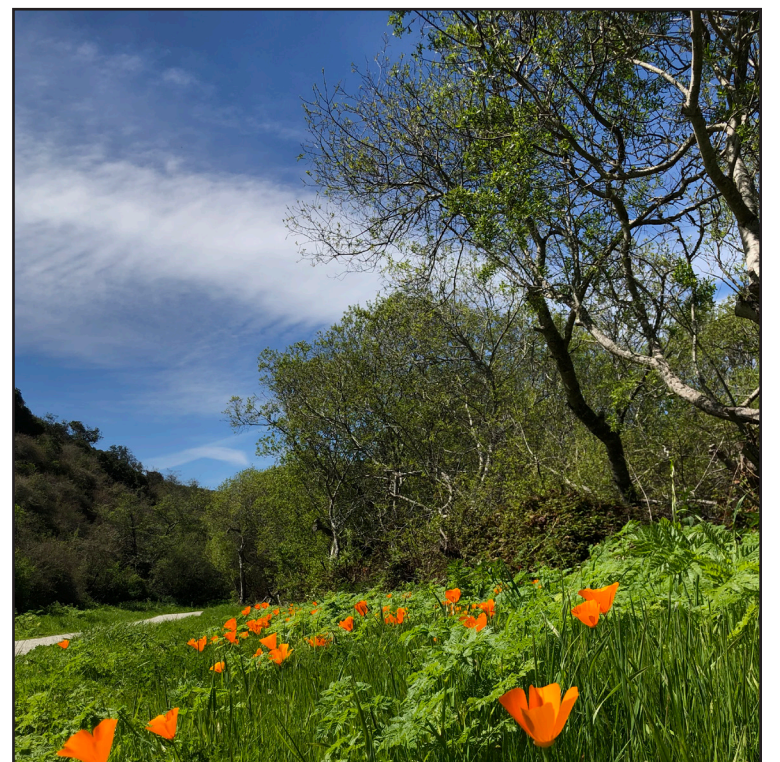
These closures have affected Pacifica residents as well. Parking lots in Linda mar and Rockaway beaches have been closed, as has the community center. Half Moon Bay has also faced closures in Poplar and Redondo beaches, and San Pedro County Park is closed.

Students are worried about the effects of this new order. Jake Bartlett (12) said, “Not being able to go out and play ball with my friends will be tough, but I know it needs to be done. I just wish people would stay inside so we could get this whole thing over with and be back to normal.”

County health officials have pleaded with park visitors to socially distance so that places

like parks and beaches could remain open. The East Bay Regional Park District website said, “Currently, state and county health departments have told us they want East Bay Regional Parks to remain open and accessible for outdoor activity if possible... [but] Keeping parks open for the public is challenging with limited staffing and the Park District is doing its best to balance the requirements of State and local health agencies’ ‘Shelter in Place’ orders, and the community’s need for exercise and stress relief.”

They are worried about the public’s well being after being stuck at home with nowhere to go, although they realize more restrictions may need to be put in place if the public fails to comply. In response to this, San Mateo County Parks Director advised the public to adhere to their advice and stay in their neighborhood when walking and hiking, in order to prevent the spread of any germs. Earlier this week San Mateo Officer County Scott Morrow issued a sternly-worded statement: “If



Alyssa Jenkins / Terra Nova Times

San Pedro Valley Park has seen increased attendance since shelter in place began, prompting the park’s closure.

you decide you want to do your own thing and follow your own rules, you disrespect us all. You spit in our face, and you will contribute to the death toll that

will follow...For those of you who say: ‘nobody tells me what to do,’ now is a time to make an exception. You can go back to being ornery in the future.”

COVID-19 cancels national sports

By Joe Murphy
Times staff writer

The world of sports has been rocked by COVID-19 in a way never before seen. Although it seemed inevitable, it was shocking to see one of the most important pillars of American society, of world society, fall under the pressure this virus has created.

Everything started to fall apart on Wednesday, Mar. 11. That morning, the NCAA announced that they would hold their March Madness basketball tournament without fans in attendance. This was a huge blow to the tournament, but as long as the games were still being played and televised, it wouldn't be a huge loss for fans (or gamblers). But that evening, everything got real. The first domino to fall was the NBA. After Utah Jazz center Rudy Gobert was confirmed to have COVID-19,



Joe Murphy / Terra Nova Times

Due to COVID-19, the MLB suspended Spring Training.

the NBA suspended their season, stopping all games for the coming weeks and possibly the

rest of the season. This seemed like a cruel joke to many, as Gobert himself had joked about

the severity of the virus just days before in a press conference, purposely touching every single microphone on his way out. The next day, the NCAA canceled March Madness, the MLB suspended Spring Training, and the NHL followed suit. Like many high school athletes and sports fans, TN junior Aiden Selli was extremely disappointed. "March madness is the biggest bummer. The NBA being cancelled really sucks a lot, too," he said. This moment, when all sports were canceled, is the moment that COVID-19 became a reality to everyone.

Many sports fans have found themselves utterly aimless — nothing to watch, no one to cheer for. And it has only gotten worse from there. Multiple NBA players, including Donovan Mitchell, Marcus Smart, and Kevin Durant have all tested positive for COVID-19.

The only major sport that ap-

peared to be untouched by the coronavirus was football, as the NFL carried on with free agency, leading to some big news. The LA Rams released Todd Gurley and the Houston Texans traded DeAndre Hopkins, but the biggest news of all was that Tom Brady and the Patriots would be parting ways, as the six-time Super Bowl Champion would be taking his talents to Tampa Bay. However, the NFL couldn't hide from COVID-19 for long, as on Mar. 19, it was confirmed the New Orleans Saints Head Coach Sean Payton had tested positive for the virus. Despite the sense of constant encroachment of this pandemic on our lives, Payton provided words of optimism and encouragement, and said, "Let's be part of the solution, not the problem. We can easily help reduce the numbers of those impacted. We have to do our best to beat this and I know we can."

Terra Nova athletes mourn their lost season

By Isabella DiDonato
Times staff writer

One of the best aspects of Terra Nova is its incredible sports programs. Many students love the variety of sports offered. However, due to the rapid spread of COVID-19, all spring sports have been cancelled. This includes baseball, swim, track, badminton, and softball. The school district and TN's athletic director Christopher Cullen made this tough decision for the safety of the students because of local and state-wide orders to social distance.

Mr. Cullen said, "I can't answer [if the seasons are done for good]. As of today, San Mateo County has canceled all schools until May 1. The decisions

about the spring sports seasons will eventually be made by the league (PAL) and CCS...I'm just hoping students see the bigger picture here, and students and their family and friends stay healthy, be positive, stay at home and practice social distancing."

Although these measures are necessary for the public's health, the news is disheartening for the students. Chris Drake (11), a member of the track team, said, "I'm pretty upset because we put in the work and practiced this whole time just to have pretty much the whole season cancelled, but I understand why they have to do it."

The timeline of when students will return to school or resume sports is extremely unclear; however, most of the students will be able to

play next year after the public quarantine comes to an end. However, graduating seniors at TN, along with multiple other schools across the U.S, have been dramatically impacted by COVID-19. They will be unable to play their last season of their beloved sport or have their much-awaited senior night. Senior baseball player Miguel Jaimes said, "I've been working hard for months to get ready for this year. Senior years are one of the most important things in sports for colleges to see. For it to be stripped away from me completely, it just feels like a bad nightmare I want so desperately to wake up from."

This whole situation is very disheartening to many seniors, and from this, a viral hashtag #redshirtcoronayear created



Courtesy of Chris Drake

The track team will miss the season they had started

by Allison Wahrman, has begun to spread all throughout social media platforms such as Twitter and Instagram. This hashtag, as an accessory to

photos of teams wearing red shirts, was created to specifically give seniors a voice about how upset they are that their last season has been canceled.

The long and winding road to CCS and PAL championships

By Peyton Dulay
Times staff writer

We all know the CCS and PAL championships, and many of us have hoped or even been able to go to one. However, the majority of us do not know the details behind these events or the process of going through them.

The Central Coast Section (CCS) is one of 10 sections that make up the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF). The CIF is the program that conducts the various sports competitions, and it serves over 1,570 high schools state-wide. It started in 1914 and is currently the biggest youth agency in the United States. The CIF serves more than 770,000 student-athletes each year.

The CCS championships are one of the two biggest events for many high school athletes, the other being the PALs. It is the competition that just about every school and a majority of the athletes get to go to, but there is a specific way to be chosen as a student athlete. Steve Filios, the CCS Assistant Commissioner, said, "Teams and players are chosen for CCS tournament/meets through their participation as members of leagues. In almost all of the CCS sports, each league is guaranteed a number of automatic entry into the CCS tournament/meets. The remainder of the field in those tournaments/meets are filled in with the at-large candidates based on the bylaws for the particular sport."

These bylaws are creat-

ed by sport representatives from all the leagues as well as all the sport officials from the schools within the CCS area, including the sports directors and even principals.

The Peninsula Athletic League (PAL) was formed in 1996 and is made up of 17 schools geographically ranging from Atherton to Daly City. The schools are split into "divisions" or "supplemental leagues" by sport according to the strength of each school's program in that sport. The strength of the program is based upon the number of students, previous records, surveys, and words from the various directors involved. The divisions are the Bay Division and Ocean Division, Bay being the stronger one. For baseball and girls soccer, there is also a

Lake Division. For the basketball teams, there are North and South divisions that depend on the geographical locations of each school. All of these divisions also have sub-categories such as Bay-1 and Bay-2 that the schools are split into.

When asked about the qualifications for championships, the director of PAL, Terry Stogner said, "We send teams to the sectional championships based on the structure of the league. All sports are unique in how they qualify." For qualifications, in tennis and baseball, there are a couple of preliminary tournaments that decide who moves on to the final. In track and swim, the players qualify through various meets throughout the season. Last year, Terra Nova's swim team qualified for

the PAL championship. Swimmer Luka Goncharov (11) said, "The PAL meet was two days long with a preliminary race one day and the finals on the second day. I placed first in one of my races and second in another, with a lot of our team placing in the top 8 in every race. Overall, it was a cool experience to watch people that have never swam before race on a competitive level. I would say it went as smoothly as possible."

A lot goes on behind the scenes of CCS and PAL championships, and all directors and coaches do their best to make each one memorable for the student-athlete. Each sport has its own process to meet qualifications, but no matter what, each event is meant to be special for all communities and players involved.

Opinion

It's hard to stay motivated

Volcanoes erupting, fires spreading, and a global pandemic — life has never felt so bleak. With information now available with a few clicks, teenagers are witnessing the world deteriorating and thousands dying, creating plummeting levels of willingness to do...well...anything.

The definition of motivation is the general desire or willingness to do something. Seeing our world crumble and all the death right before our eyes only adds to why we don't want to do anything. It spurs the question: What's the point? Saving the world seems hopeless and futile. At this point, it would take millions of people working together to get some things done, a feat which nowadays seems impossible. But even then, would it fix all of the world's problems? We are not only facing extreme climate change issues, we are now facing a global pandemic. What dent could one person possibly make compared to billions of other people? How do we plan for something that we barely understand? Questions pile up, and suddenly you're sitting wondering if your existence even matters.

And now with shelter-in-place (or



Chrissell Garino / Times staff writer

Even before COVID-19, the world's problems felt overwhelming.

“safer-at-home”) regulations, it's even harder to access the support we need.

Amanda Chen (10) is feeling the ef-

fects of the shelter in place: “Right now, everything seems so depressing and different in such a short amount of time,

making it hard to adjust. I guess it's really hard to be productive and do daily things if you know thousands of people are dying. You can only isolate yourself.”

With no extracurricular and annual school events to look forward to, students are feeling as unproductive as ever. Watching the numbers of cases and deaths climb only adds to the negative energy. So, it looks like it is up to us to be the help we need.

Psychologist Dr. Alexandra Matthews talks about the impacts of helplessness on humans: “People don't even try because they've learned from different inescapable situations that there is no point. When people are in a state of hopelessness, they don't process the data or evidence well. Another issue is that people don't like uncertainty, and it's really hard to think properly when you're faced with that. That's the problem with the Coronavirus, it's a huge uncertainty and we don't know if it's going to peter out like the 2009 Swine Flu, or if it's going to be like the 1918 Spanish Influenza

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What did your astroglogical symbol do to you?

By Amelie Taylor-Binard
Times staff writer

Have you used your zodiac sign to excuse poor behavior or blamed your problems on the planets? Stop it! An individual's misdoings are the product of poor decision making, not the sun's position. Your conduct doesn't have to be tied to the cosmos.

It may seem easier or more comfortable to believe your faults are out of your hands and instead, simply set in the stars, but this can be an escapist tendency. If you wish to devote yourself to beliefs that connect human behavior to the stars, by all means do so to your heart's content, but using this as a way to avoid responsibility is a problematic move. Blame does not help one overcome.

For some astrology fans, once they see their negative traits laid out before them as part of their “sign”, these traits are then instantly accepted as if the individual has no power to bring about change. Psychology teacher Mr. Willemse said, “I remember when I was your age people would say things such as ‘Oh I'm a Scorpio, so this is how I am,’ a lot of times using it as a justification for bad behavior, like ‘Oh Geminis are two faced’ when there's not a single shred of evidence that any of that influences our personality.”

Don't limit yourself. If you have the knowledge and insight to see your uncooperative attributes, you can gain the knowledge and insight for the better, rather than accept defeat and place blame. If you find yourself in a chaotic situation



Mario Campos

Zodiac mandala tapestry.

that you can't make better, it's not due to Mercury Retrograde. As lovely as it is to pin blame on the stars or planets, life will continue. Mercury Retrograde is seen as inherently negative,

but it should inspire us to slow down and reflect, not deflect.

You can't find your charger because you misplaced it? Not the planets. You missed your stop on the bus because you

fell asleep? Not the planets. Your quiz score is low because you chose not to study? Not the planets. See how simple it is to shift perspective and connect consequence to choice?

People often act a certain way towards another and justify their behavior on zodiac signs. Depending on the scenario, this etiquette could be seen as funny or cute, but like any situation, there is a line to be drawn that could define this action as unendearing, annoying and foolish, even. Tiana Cole (12) added, “I don't think its okay to use astrological signs as a crutch for bad behavior. I feel like taking advice from something that your horoscope indicates is fine, but using the signs traits as an excuse for things isn't it.” No need to delete Co-Star, just practice self awareness.

Some memes are offensive, but maybe you're also just easily offended

By Robert Gonzales
Times staff writer

The strongest political power in the United States is any white mom named Karen, Epstein didn't kill himself, and Tide Pods are absolutely delicious.

No, I'm not serious. I think it's quite clear that each statement is so nonsensical that it can't be a genuine opinion. Telling someone that gamers somehow face larger adversities than gay people in Iraq is so astronomically stupid. In what way do these privileged man-children go through more oppression than those not allowed to express their own sexuality? It's obviously a joke. It's a meme.



Victor Wu / Times staff writer

A sample of a few of the biggest memes so far.

Despite this, some people don't know how to take a joke.

Memes are basically jokes that apply to certain groups. For

example, Baby Yoda. I guess it's cute to see that lil' green guy say “chicken nuggies,” but I don't find it funny. Although I

don't find it funny, I do understand their perspective: it's a baby version of Yoda. Personally, I think it's funnier to destroy Baby Yoda only to spite Disney. Then there are Baby Yoda lovers who find it offensive to hurt Baby Yoda, but the fact of the matter is that this is all a joke. As long as the intent of the meme is to bring joy, there should be no reason to criticize the meme.

Despite my policy of “all is okay to laugh at,” there is a limit to how far a meme can go before it becomes hate speech. If it is the creator's intent to stir up an argument or dehumanize another party, it is absolutely an inappropriate meme. For example, Pepe the Frog was originally nothing but come-

dic relief. It was a simple frog, but an altered image of Pepe as Hitler spread from alt-right white supremacists and became marked as a hate symbol by the Anti-Defamation League.

Furthermore, offensive jokes can be funny without hurting others. Jo Koy is a Filipino stand-up comedian who satirizes different Asian races by exaggerated impressions. His main priority is to make people laugh. His racy jokes don't come off as discriminatory because he doesn't make fun of one specific race and aims to be funny, not racist. The same ideas apply to memes: as long as the creator's intent is to make a joke,

See Memes on page 4

Store shelves stocked out

By Emily Galicia
Times staff writer

As we enter the second week of “shelter in place,” more and more businesses have been closing down their shops in order to keep the public safe. The original date the shelter in place was supposed to be lifted was Apr. 7, but now officials are declaring that it will remain in place until at least May 1.

COVID-19 has affected the majority of people worldwide as the virus continues to spread. As a health precaution, many counties around the United States have implemented the shelter in place, but the downside is that all non-essential stores are closed, putting many people out of jobs, while the more essential stores will remain open, including health services, grocery stores, and gas stations. Since the news broke, many people have flooded grocery stores in order to stock up on essentials, but many have taken it out of proportion by excessively stocking up on goods that others need in such a sensitive time.

Places like Costco, Target, Safeway, and Grocery Outlet have been the epicenter for stockpiling during this time. While most



Alyssa Jenkins / Terra Nova Times

Safeway shelves have been emptied.

stores keep months of inventory in stock, the pandemic caused these stores to force their supply out on the shelves, eventually running out of these essential needs. We have all seen the rush of customers in stores stocking up on goods such as eggs, toilet paper, and milk, but that is leaving everyone else who may have a bigger family, or people who are low on income and cannot stock up, out in the cold.

One thing that has been interesting is that as the shelter-in-place orders continue, the goods that are harder to find have changed. For example, early on, it was almost impossible to find a whole chicken,

but now the chicken is back in stock, but yeast for baking has been cleared out as people have more time at home to bake.

Grocery stores have been reducing their store hours in order to get things reorganized and restocked after busy days. Other stores have allowed “Senior-only” shopping for those who are 60 years of age and older or more susceptible to the virus. These customers have a designated time to shop at certain stores in order to limit contact with others who may carry the virus. Rite-Aid, Walgreens, Costco, and Target, to name a few, have set special times for these customers, typically in the morning when they are free to shop for the higher demanded supplies.

TN student and Safeway employee Helen Eichensehr said, “Though my schedule hasn’t really changed at all, I see my co-workers schedules change by a lot due to the pandemic, but working 20-24 hours a week, I see how busy Safeway has gotten. People would come in and buy unnecessary amounts of supplies like toilet paper, Clorox cleaning supplies, and canned foods/non-perishables. Though I continue to work, I still try to stay at home more due to the shelter in place, while school continues to be online.”

Apathy

Continued from Page 3

that killed 50 million people.”

Being constantly reminded that the world is dying, many begin to believe that there is no point, so the first step towards feeling better is to turn off the constant stream of bad news. Isis Vallero (12) said, “Seeing everything that’s happening is really depressing, it seems unreal. What makes my life significant? What’s the point? With all of these bad things, I can’t do much to stop it by myself. [...] people don’t care enough to help.”

Isis is not alone in feeling this way, so we need to change the channel on what we are experiencing. Everything that is happening IS really depressing, if you take “everything” to mean isolation and sickness. But there

are also lots of good things out there, like people undertaking new ways to reach out to friends and family. For example, there has never been a better time to put pen to paper and reach out to someone you care about.

“I got a letter in the mail from a student the other day, and it really perked me up. It wasn’t much — just her senior portrait and a sticker she found — but it made all the difference in how I felt,” said Mrs. Jenkins.

If writing isn’t your thing, call a friend. Texting won’t cut it these days — with all the isolation we are feeling, we need to hear someone’s voice, so take the plunge and dial the phone.

The good news here is that this apathy and lack of motivation won’t last forever, even if it feels like it. COVID-19 will pass, and we can go back to feeling bummed about global warming.

Memes

Continued from Page 3

not to harm others, the meme shouldn’t be judged or policed by random individuals.

Meme enthusiast Jayden Betts (11) said, “Everything in this society has become too serious. Life in general, people

get more easily triggered by memes. In our efforts to be all-inclusive, memes have taken a huge hit. They aren’t allowed to criticize anyone. But, there are some memes that I do find offensive myself. But in actuality, you can just go somewhere else. There are memes for everyone, and if you have a problem with it, just go to another page.”

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