



Inside the Issue

MR. DENTON'S MESSAGE

You don't have to wait any longer to hear what Mr. Denton has to say. Look right below.

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Important information and updates that you need to know.

A MESSAGE FROM MRS. FOOTE

Keeping yourself healthy mentally, physically and spiritually during this time is essential. Check here for tips.



MR. DENTON'S MESSAGE

As we close out our first full week of our temporary closing, your teachers and principals are certainly missing seeing you in-person. You are what brings C.W. Baker High School to life! That being said, I am unbelievably proud and impressed at how everyone is managing to stay connected and moving forward. C.W. Baker is ALIVE and WELL...Virtually! Teachers and Counselors are here for you. Remember that flexibility and taking care of yourselves and your families is key. Thank you for all you are doing to stay engaged with your teachers and classmates, follow directives regarding social distancing, and stay healthy. We will keep you updated and informed. Have a peaceful and restful weekend.





SHOUT-OUT SPACE

Mrs. Hollis! She brightens our day every morning with a beautiful quote and a vocabulary term. She always leaves us a piece of music to and asks us for a response back.

Mr. Keating! Mr. Keating has been very helpful with this transition and has been helpful with his students by reaching out with reminders on his classroom and Instagram.



ANOTHER SHOUT-OUT

Mrs. Wise, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Mautz, and Mrs. Handzel for helping all of us get through our English struggle for the year!



Submit your SHOUT-OUT here
(shout-outs can be for anyone or anything)

IMPORTANT UPDATES

- If you are having difficulty in classes or with organizing your work - please reach out to your teacher, counselor or support staff.
- Interested in BOCES - The New Visions/BOCES Embedded Program application deadline has been extended until May 8th. If you were not able to pick up an application, please check in with your Counselor.
- **Cancelled**
 - April and May ACT's and SAT's. June dates are currently still on.
 - PLTW end-of-year exams have been cancelled. More to come for your PLTW teacher.
- **Seniors** - Most colleges have extended their deposit deadline but check the university website to be sure.
- **Grading** - While Districts around the county wait for additional guidance from the State Education Department regarding grading, here are some options teachers have for providing grades and/or feedback during the temporary school closure. Flexibility for everyone is important right now and encouraging students to stay engaged with their teachers and coursework is critical.
 - Option A: Teachers may use their current system of tracking grades and providing feedback. However, grades will not penalize students at this time. Zeros will not be used as placeholders for missing work, as we do not want students or parents feeling any anxiety due to poor grades.
 - Option B: Teachers may also adopt alternative ways to track progress and provide feedback during this time. In SchoolTool, teachers can use the key below to provide feedback to students in lieu of numerical grades.
 - C or Complete = Student has executed the task to the course or grade level standard.
 - I or Incomplete = Student has executed the task but it is not yet to the course or grade level standard
 - M or Missing = Student has not yet submitted the assignment
 - Option B is a temporary measure teachers can use if they feel it is in the best interest of their students to suspend numerical grading during the school closure.

As we work together to ease any anxiety for our staff, students, and families, we will continue to provide information from the State Education Department as it becomes available. If you have any questions, please contact your teacher or building principal.

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Q & A

1. Do we get a spring break? As of right now staff and students will get spring break from April 2nd through April 13th. School resumes on Tuesday, April 14th.
2. How are we getting graded? Teachers can continue using any system they have put in place that does not penalize students or include "0's" as placeholders from missing work. Alternatively, teachers can use the attributes complete, incomplete or missing to grade assignments during the school closure.
3. Have there been any confirmed cases of COVID-19 in students or staff in the district? The Onondaga County Department of Health monitors all COVID-19 testing and maintains lists of test results. Because of that and because of HIPPA (health privacy laws), we do not know if any students or staff have tested positive.



Have a Question for Us?
[Submit your questions here](#)

A MESSAGE FROM THE POSITIVITY PROJECT

Rigg's Reflection on Humor.

Humor is a great way to get through difficult times, like the ones we are facing now with not being in school, seeing our teachers and friends, and having some uncertainty. Instead of focusing on the negative, find a way to make someone smile over Facetime or by writing a letter to a friend or relative and send it in the mail- getting a handwritten letter in today's times is definitely surprising and will certainly make them feel happy and connected to you! Have a younger sibling or cousin? Learn a sill knock knock joke to tell them over Facetime or Zoom.

Humor means that you like to laugh and bring smiles to other people. Humor is a sense of playfulness and lightness. It is a way of looking at and describing the world that brings laughter to people. A person with the strength of humor is skilled at seeing the funny side of things, bringing smiles and laughter to others, and identifying and communicating the absurdities in life. People with this strength don't specifically need to be joke tellers, although many are.



HUMOR

You like to laugh and bring smiles to other people.



Congrats to senior Rachel Blake for earning 2 National Silver Medals for her writing. She was awarded multiple Gold Keys in our Regional Competition. Her memoir entitled "Ally" & her science fiction/fantasy piece entitled "Upgrade" both earned National Silver Medals. #BeePride

Friday's with Mrs. Foote

Just a thought and a perspective. Many people on Facebook have chastised young adults for crowding Florida beaches - seemingly dismissing the impact they could have on the COVID-19 epidemic. Honestly, it makes sense to me - you have had limited experience with epidemics or even situations as dire as this - and honestly we know that the teenage brain runs on an invincible mind thought. For the most part the rate of death seems to be lower for young people your age - but others around you are really at risk - and this virus is sneaky at best. One of my B'ville 2015 graduates has been infected with the virus - I asked the Baker grad to help me to put the experience of having the COVID-19 in perspective (# this is really real).

This is what the Baker graduate had to say.

"Millennials not at risk? False. I am a millennial and I did as much as I could to avoid COVID-19. So much that my hands were scabbing from how much I was washing them. Somehow, I still got it and for those wondering, it's not a walk in the park. This virus has been some of the worst days of my entire life. For four of these days, I had such a pain in my lungs that felt as if they were closing and I would not have access to oxygen. I isolated myself in my room because if my young and healthy body reacted so poorly to it, how would my parents be able to survive this? Millennials today need to stay inside and listen to the rules of social distancing for themselves, but more importantly to save the people around them, you could be asymptomatic and never know!"

Think about it :)

