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Subject: Campus Update
Date: Saturday, April 18, 2020 11:28:26 AM

Dear Monarchs,

I have a few updates for you. First, let me begin by expressing my appreciation for all of your hard work. The transformation of Valley in just over a month is remarkable. Thank you for your ingenuity, flexibility, teamwork, and dedication. You have beautifully demonstrated that together we can achieve anything, even in the midst of a worldwide pandemic.

Now for the updates on accessing campus, CARES Act, graduation plans, Kabwe Chanda, cleaning schedule, and website changes.

Accessing Campus. Our number one priority during the pandemic is safety. With this in mind, we worked to have people telecommute quickly. There are still a small number of people on campus performing essential functions and only on campus when necessary. We recognize that while performing remote services there could be an occasion when some people need to come onto campus. As a reminder, anyone who needs to come onto campus needs to follow this process:

1. Let your department chair or supervisor know in advance. Your chair or supervisor will let their dean know. The deans will in turn let Marisol in the Sheriff's Office know.
2. Call the Sheriff's Office just before coming to campus and let them know when they are leaving. Even if you have a key to the space you need to access, you still need to call in advance.
3. Enter at the Fulton circle and park near the entrance. If you have any additional logistical needs, the Sheriff's department can help with arrangements to meet your needs.

As a reminder, buildings are not accessible on the days that they are being cleaned. Check the cleaning schedule for those days. Thank you in advance for following these steps helping us ensure that everyone is kept safe.

CARES Act. Valley is receiving a little more than \$6 million in CARES Act funding. We initially will receive about \$3 million. We also have a requirement to give \$3 million directly to students. Plans aren't yet finalized for the funding. However, the following are some of the ideas being discussed. We can use most of the initial \$3 million for awards directly to all students with College Promise Fee Waivers (previously called BOG Fee Waivers). Any additional money from the initial \$3 million can be used for Emergency Grants to students. For the remaining \$3 million, we can provide additional support for students. We also will likely use a portion of the money of college expenses related to COVID-19. As we have additional information related to the CARES Act funding, we will send it out to the campus community.

Graduation Plans. A district-wide committee has been formed to discuss graduation plans. Initially, there was quite a bit of discussion about a virtual graduation. However, additional ideas are now being actively discussed, such as a virtual recognition (but not a virtual graduation) and inviting graduates back for an in-person ceremony next year or when permitted. As the ideas continue to be developed, we will keep you updated.

Kabwe Chanda. The loss of Kabwe was tragic and he had a wonderful impact on the campus community. In the upcoming week, Jennifer Borucki will be reaching out to the campus community to collect stories about Kabwe that can be preserved for our campus community and shared with his family. We are still working out the specifics, including possibly coordinating with our colleagues at City College and Southwest College, but please keep an eye out for an email from Jennifer with more details.

Cleaning Schedule. As you know, Facilities has developed a cleaning schedule for each building. The schedule will be regularly updated as progress is made and based on changes to staff being available to work on cleaning from week to week. Administrative Services will email out the updated cleaning schedule regularly.

Website Changes. Matt Jordan is continuing to facilitate the committee to develop details for our new website, beginning with the first two or three levels of the website. In the meantime, Jennifer is also working with the District Web Team on some changes to the homepage and some remote services webpages. These changes are the result of many people working hard to make are services accessible to students. Thank you!

Please continue to let me know how I can support you and know that I'm deeply appreciative of everyone's efforts!

Stay safe and Be well,

Barry

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