



CHESAPEAKE SCIENCE POINT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

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January 8, 2021

Greetings CSP Families,

Happy New Year! It has long been a tradition at the start of a new calendar year, one makes New Year's resolutions and new rules go into effect. Beginning January 11, major changes will go into effect across AACPS. Those changes include a revised student daily schedule and the requirement that **ALL** cameras be on throughout Synchronous learning except for lessons that are being recorded.

Chesapeake Science Point will be adhering to the High School Student Schedule ONLY. For my parents of students in grades 6-8, please ONLY reference the High School Student Schedule. Flex Learning is now held on Wednesdays. Students will have the option of joining any of their teacher's Flex sessions. A Matrix, that has the access links for each teacher, will be sent via email, posted at mycsp.org, posted in each teacher's Google Classroom, shared via the CSP Newsletter, and on our social media accounts. During the day Clubs/Activities will only be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. After school Clubs/Activities **Are NOT** impacted by the new schedule.

AACPS has made the decision to require ALL cameras be on during live Synchronous Learning. When cameras are on, it allows the teacher to gauge the following: student engagement, assess student understanding, holds student accountable, to ensure the student is following along with the lesson, and research shows that having cameras on reduces feelings of loneliness and isolation. It is also for attendance purposes. IF the teacher cannot see your student's face, we truly do not know if it is your student who is present for learning. Google has created a plethora of backgrounds for its users who do not wish to show their actual background. I have used several of those backgrounds while participating in live meetings with my colleagues. I understand that this change may pose a challenge for your student. However, it is a change that is required and to which we will adhere at CSP. I ask that you have conversations with your student about this change and the importance of having on their camera. I thank you in advance for your cooperation. Remember, by working together, we can accomplish any task set before us! As always, I am available via email, djefferson@mycsp.org, should you wish to further discuss the changes.

Sincerely,

Dwight L. Jefferson
Principal