

March 18, 2020

Dear Students and Parents:

This is obviously a strange letter for me to be writing but by now you all know we are in strange times. I honestly believe that this will pass, and normalcy will return, but it might take a month, or two, or maybe longer. In the meantime you might find yourself with more time on your hands than you have things to do, so I am going to give you some chemistry ideas.

First, you can only do what you can. No one knows yet what will happen with grades, the Regents Exam, Lab Reports, etc. It's the same everywhere, so this won't hurt you anymore than anyone else.

You are not at a disadvantage. I will at some point have to give you a grade, and if you were about to hand in a bunch of stuff, you missed your chance, the In Box is in the school and you aren't.

I will still accept back work, and you can just email to me (photographs: be steady handed, and one page at a time. Make sure it's clear, and make sure you SAVE all of the papers in one place, I will certainly need the lab reports in my hand when we get together again.

The new work is not mandated, and some of you will not want to do it anyway. Do your best to keep learning, keep reading books, and 15 minutes of chem a day will actually be good for you. Pick a time, 10 AM—10:15 AM daily say, and stick to it. Please know you can ALWAYS call me for help, I am more bored than you might imagine. Also know you can call me if you are afraid or worried about anything. I'll be there for you.

My whole course is on Arbuiso.com, I will not be transferring to this school based system. You have all of the materials for SOLUTIONS now. Read the BASICS, go online and fill in the blanks in the notes, then do the HW questions. Call me or email me with problems concerning the material, I'll help you.

The next topics up will be Kinetics (the rate of chemical reactions) and then Acids/Bases (with a great story that I have been promising all year). If we are not back for these topics, you can either print out the BASICS and the NOTES, and the HW's, (they are still separate, not in the "bound packs" we've been getting lately). You can all read, write, think, and do the work, if you want to, and I hope you do want to.

Know that I miss you and I care for you. Please reach out to your friends, and also to the kids that you don't always spend time with, they will need to feel connected as well. This is the time that real character will be built and solidified. Now is the time to be the best people that you can be. It will be hard some days, you might be scared, but on other days you will have the resources to help others. Stay connected, even if it's only by phone/text. Include some other kids into your loops, even if you do it privately so the rest of your friends are compartmentalized in different text messages. Be a good person, now and forever.

My cell is 607-727-3865, parents and students please call if you want to, or need to. If you want to contact me but think that it might be bothering me, call me, it's okay. .

See you soon,

Sincerely, (and Love too)

*Charlie Arbuiso* (I will *always* be your chemistry teacher).

PS: in the next day or two I will send you all another email, reminding each of you of what your grade is now, and what you will need to complete in order for me to (at least for now) tell you you're passing so far. Please tell everyone you know to check their email.

