

# Falcon Flyer - April



## Suspension of in-person Learning

Suspended. Through the guidance of the President of the United States and Governor Polis, School District 49 will remain on an E-learning schedule through April 30, 2020. District 49 re-opened for learning under the new conditions of operations required by the coronavirus health emergency. For the time being, D49 will pursue excellence as E49, which acknowledges our move as a district to an E-learning and E-working model. Falcon High School will continue to provide quality education through electronic learning that features live teaching sessions and teacher office hours!

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Athletics and Activities Update

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### April 30 E-Learning

Suspension of In person learning until APRIL 30

#### Meal Assistance

Falcon Elementary,  
12050 Falcon Hwy

11 - 11:45 a.m.

#### ROTC College Scholarship Award Recipients



# Classroom and School Updates

## “As Message from FHS Principal”

There are so many questions and not many answers surrounding this very historic and tragic Spring. I know that parents, students and community members want and deserve answers so I am going to give you what I can with the caveat that things are changing by the minute and everything is fluid.

- Graduation ceremony – We do not have guidance at this time on if and when we can return to school. This guides our ability to have graduation. Please stay tuned for more information!
- Spring sports reimbursement – Once CHSSA Officially cancels Spring sports, we will begin the process of issuing refunds and cancelling fees.
- When will seniors be turning in textbooks and spring sports equipment – We will schedule the return of textbooks and pickup of student owned items from the school once the district approves our letting students come to the building.
- Yearbooks – We anticipate a scaled down version minus some Spring content being completed and distributed once we are able to get students into the building.
- Cap and gowns - “I would like to take cap and gown pictures and send them to families even if the ceremony and parties are most likely canceled” – Herff Jones is developing a plan to figure out if they can deliver products to our representative. If

and when this is determined, we will try to identify a location where parents would be able to drive up and pickup their products.

## “E-Learning At Falcon High School”

With the longest-running tradition of e-learning in District 49, Falcon High School’s Administration and Staff are committed to supporting student learning that is as closely aligned to the learning that they would have received had they attended school in the building on a regular school day. We recognize that in these very difficult times, circumstances are different from those that we have experienced previously when our students were the only ones home on e-days. We know that parents, siblings and other family members are all competing for computing and bandwidth space and will be flexible as possible in providing a quality educational experience. Please stay well and safe and we hope to see you again in person soon.

Please use the following Guidance for teacher and student E-Learning Expectations.

Teachers will work Monday – Friday. Monday will serve as a planning day. Lesson and instruction will be delivered Tuesday – Friday each week.

All teachers will post lessons, assignments, links, etc., in **Schoology** each E-learning day, Tuesday – Friday.

- Tuesday and Thursday will be a "Gold Day" - Periods 5-8
- Wednesdays and Fridays will be a "Green Day" - Periods 1-4

- All classes will begin with a Virtual Session in Schoology Conferences.
- **We will follow this class schedule:**
  - Period 1/5 - 8:15 am
  - Period 2/6 - 9:30 am
  - Period 3/7 - 10:45 am
  - Period 4/8 - 12:30 pm
- All teachers will be available to students by email during normal working hours, from 8:00 – 3:00, Monday – Friday.
- All teachers will hold “office hours” each day of e-learning, Tuesday - Friday. Office hours will be held virtually through Schoology Conferences or through email where students will be able to access a link within Schoology. Teachers will be available for office hours based on the schedule below:
  - **1:30 - 2:30 PM - Each Academic Day - Tuesday - Friday**
- Teachers may post directions or links, in Schoology, to other online resources, However, Schoology **will serve as the primary place for students to login in to receive instruction and direction.**
- Students have until **their next scheduled class period** to turn in assignments on the date due unless the student(s) communicates with the teacher otherwise.
- All teachers will take attendance, in PowerSchool, the day of each learning day (attendance will primarily be done through Schoology Conferences on the day of class) but students will be marked present for completion of assignments.
- Accommodations and modifications will be provided to students on plans (IEP’s, 504’s, or ELP’s) and may include supplemental resource support. Students' case managers will contact families to notify them of the process for students to access additional support.
- IEP meetings will now be held virtually through ZOOM or Schoology Conferences. A Special Education staff member will send the e-meeting link to parents and others involved for access.

## **“E-Learning Attendance”**

### **Attendance will be taken each day.**

Log in to Schoology Conferences on E-learning days, Tuesday – Friday each week during the mentioned schedule. The easiest way for your attendance to be recorded is to log in to your teacher’s classroom, for each period of each day before logging in to other online platforms.

In order for your attendance to be recorded, you **MUST** log in to your teacher's classroom, for each period each day, before logging in to other online learning platforms.

Don’t worry if you can’t get in at this time. Your attendance will be logged once you get in or through the completion of your E-Learning work and submission to your instructor.

## “Chromebook Assistance”

We have our FINAL round of Chromebooks ready for pick up Thursday, April 9. Reservation slots are now available to reserve your devices for pick up at Horizon Middle School. **This will be our last open call for reservations.**

*If you did not successfully make a reservation during any previous reservation phase, please register using the Eventbrite link below prior to pick up on Thursday to secure a device and to provide information for each student needing support.*

**Use password 3E49 to register.**

[Chromebook Checkout @ HMS](#) - [Horizon Middle School](#)

*Please bring your confirmation email to the pickup location.*

**We are committed to meeting the needs of D49 families and will continue to provide Chromebooks throughout E-learning.**

## “Lunch Assistance”

District 49 will continue to offer free meal pickups for students during the suspension of in-school learning and programs. Students get a lunch for the current day, and a breakfast for the following morning.

These meals are provided free of charge and can be picked up at several District 49 locations:

**Falcon Elementary School of Technology,**

**12050 Falcon Highway**

**From: 11 - 11:45 a.m.**

Meals provided by District 49 Nutrition Services are nut free. Please contact Nutrition Services with dietary requests.

## “State Testing at Falcon High School”

CDE is working with The College Board to generate possible solutions for the administration of the PSAT and SAT tests, which offer unique roles in Colorado’s system in terms of scholarships and college entrance. Additional information will come from CDE as it becomes available.

CDE intends to engage with the U.S. Department of Education to address implications, including those related to federal accountability, and will complete waiver documentation as necessary.

“I’m a big fan of accountability and transparency in public education, but we will simply have to forgo incredibly useful data on student achievement for a year to help contain the virus,” said Colorado Gov. Jared Polis. “Right now, students, families, and educators need to be focused on doing everything they can to keep families safe and stable. It is clear that COVID-19 will put extraordinary stress on our education system for the coming weeks and months. In order to ensure our schools and educators are able to spend as much time as possible on online instruction in a difficult situation, I support the decision to pause assessments and school accountability for this year only.”

Making the decision to pause testing for the PSAT, SAT, and CMAS now allows schools and districts to concentrate on determining ways to deliver continued instruction to the extent they are able during this unprecedented disruption in education.

The Department will continue working with schools and districts that are already identified for improvement to help support instruction, including options for instruction during and after school closures.

CDE has compiled resources about Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) for schools and districts on its website here: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/safeschools>.

For further information on how the assessment pause will impact the state’s accountability system, [please visit this webpage](#).

## "AP Exams @ FHS"

AP polled over 18,000 AP students to see if they still wanted the opportunity to test this year. Their answer: a resounding yes. So they developed a secure, [online free-response exams for each course](#). Here's what you should know about the 2019-20 AP Exam administration. For more details, see [their FAQ page](#).

### Exam Length, Structure, and Format

The exams will only include topics and skills most AP teachers and students have already covered in class by early March. We know that some students have lost more class time than others, and we want to be fair to all students.

Like many college-level exams, this year's AP Exams will be open book/open note. [Get tips for taking open book/open note exams](#).

Most exams will have one or two free-response questions, and each question is timed separately. Students will need to write and submit their responses within the allotted time for each question.

For most subjects, the exams will be 45 minutes long, and include an additional 5 minutes for uploading. Students will need to access the online testing system 30 minutes early to get set up.

Students will be able to take exams on any device they have access to—computer, tablet, or smartphone. They will be able to either type and upload their responses or write responses by hand and submit a photo via their cell phone.

## Counseling Updates:

### "Counseling - E-Work"

During E49, the FHS Counseling Department will operate virtually in an effort to support students' academic, social/emotional, and college and career pursuits. Our counseling department will be processing emails as quickly as reasonably possible and will be checking their voicemails once each afternoon, Tuesday through Friday.

Please keep in mind that our staff members are serving our students, staff, and community to the best of our ability during this challenging time, while also juggling additional duties. We appreciate your understanding, patience, and grace.

Please also refer to the FHS E-Learning page for continued updates: <https://www.d49.org/domain/2646>

**For emergencies, dial 911 or reference the community resources listed below:**

SAFE2TELL	1-877-542-7233
Colorado Crisis Support Line	1-844-493-8255
Text to Talk	38255
Aspen Pointe Crisis Stabilization	719-572-6100
Cedar Springs Hospital	719-633-4114
Children's Hospital Colo Springs	719-305-1234
Peak View Behavioral Health	719-444-8484

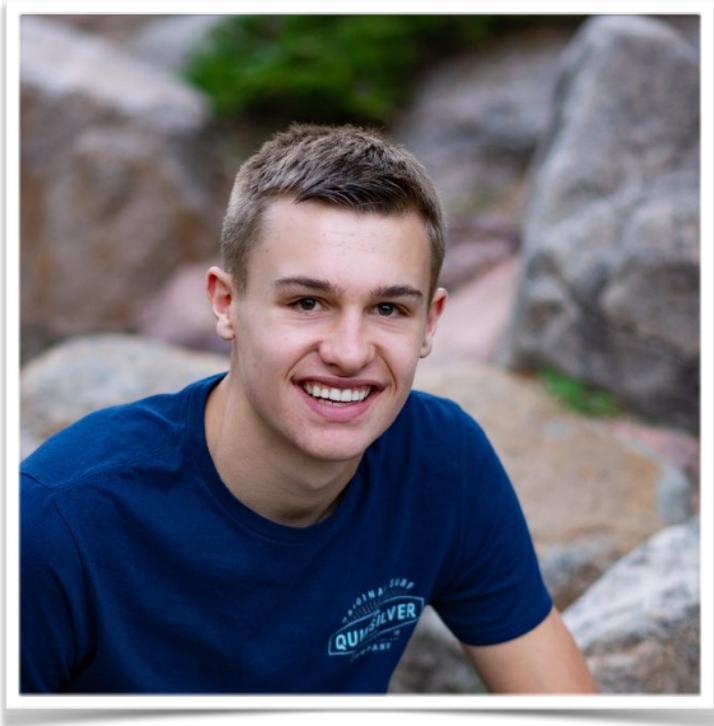
# FHS Valedictorian and Salutatorian Announcement

## Falcon High School Valedictorian Class of 2020

In a tradition that goes back to 1920, the Valedictorian has honored the high school student with the top Grade Point Average in the school. Falcon High School has many outstanding students who work hard every day and are tremendous scholars, athletes and role models for other students in the community. Many of them have very high GPA's but only one can be named Valedictorian. With so many traditions interrupted this Spring, being able to still honor the top student at Falcon High School is one tradition that still remains. It is an honor to announce to the class of 2020 that your Valedictorian is Creighton Werner. Congratulations Creighton!

## Falcon High School Salutatorian Class of 2020

The Salutatorian is an honor that goes to the student who has the second-highest GPA in the school. This young lady impressed me the first time that I met her and continued to amaze me with her dedication, commitment, and selflessness while she shadowed me during Senior Takeover, sharing insights on the student perspective and telling me how to make Falcon High School Better. She is a member of just about everything in the school from girls Basketball to Student Council and can make me laugh on tough days. It is a pleasure to announce that your 2020 Salutatorian is Kalyn Ohlrich. Congratulations Kalyn!



## Scholarship Recipients:

**Ryan Tester** has received a 4-year Air Force ROTC Scholarship - Ryan plans on attending Texas A&M in the Fall. His Scholarship includes FULL tuition plus a stipend! Congrats Ryan!



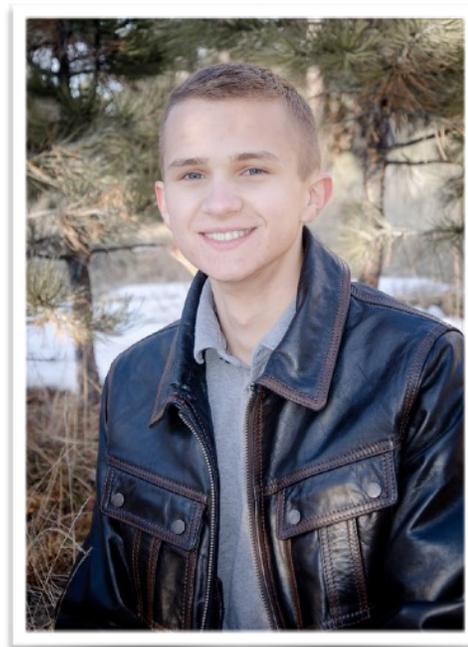
**Paola Elder** has received a 3-year Army ROTC Scholarship - Melanie is currently deciding between DU, Baylor, and Missouri for her Fall attendance. Her Scholarship includes Tuition for 3 years plus a stipend! Congrats Paola!



**Michael Price** has received a 4-year Air Force ROTC Scholarship - Michael plans on attending the University of Nebraska in the Fall. His Scholarship includes FULL tuition plus a stipend! Congrats Michael!



As previously announced, **Ryan Sims** was awarded the premier Air Force Type 1 Scholarship. Ryan is deciding between GA Tech and various other Engineering schools to attend in the Fall. Ryan's Scholarship includes a FULL ride will all expenses paid. Congrats Ryan!



## Athletics and Activities



**FROM THE COLORADO ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION:**

[From the information communicated on April 1](#)

The suspension of spring activities and sports has been extended to April 30 following state and local extensions on school closures and mandatory social-distancing related to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

Any decisions regarding spring activities potentially resuming will depend on students' abilities to return to in-person instruction.

As an Association, CHSAA encourages everyone to stay home in order to stay safe.

"The recent closing of some schools and districts, and Gov. Polis' extension of the stay-at-home order, hasn't changed the timeline we established on April 1," said CHSAA commissioner Rhonda Blanford-Green.

"We encourage everyone to follow all guidance from the state in terms of social distancing, and staying at home," Blanford-Green said. "We have seen recent postings of students gathering for athletic purposes of group workouts. This is disheartening that adults would place our students in situations that may not be in the best interest of their safety and well-being, and those of their community. The more that we follow federal and state guidelines, the sooner we can get back to the activities that we all love."