



ARCHWAY CLASSICAL ACADEMY | GLENDALE

A Great Hearts Academy

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8-24-2020

Dear Golden Eagle Families,

This week we are entering a new phase in the life of our school. Since schools closed in March, we have been teaching our students from a distance, something extremely difficult for parents, students, and teachers, and something our teachers had never done before. I am amazed at how much progress our teachers have made in the art of teaching digitally!

Now we have a new and perhaps even greater challenge. We are up to it and are looking forward to it! That challenge has been called “blended” or “concurrent” teaching. The administration has worked closely with every grade level team and the specials team, giving them freedom to think through and plan how best they can deliver safe and successful teaching to all our students, distant and on campus. It is almost like having two full time jobs for our teachers, and they have been working harder and for longer hours than ever. We need from you (as you need from us) patience, understanding, and flexibility as we implement our plans and learn how to do this better and better.

Please do not expect a neat division between lead and assistant or one lead and another. Your students may be taught by multiple teachers, whether they are distant or brick and mortar, depending on the subject and how best our teachers can organize their limited time to deliver quality instruction to all students.

Your feedback is very important to us as, together, we learn how to teach in a “blended” manner. Your encouragement and understanding are even more important. If you see something that you think can be done better, or if your student needs help in a particular classroom, send a very brief email to the teacher, asking the teacher to talk to you in person or by phone. If you see something that can be better schoolwide, please email me, and I will call you. If your concern is Covid 19, masks, or health specific, please call or email our Dean of Students, Mrs. Swinford, who serves as the school’s Covid Response Coordinator in close communication with our nurses, Maricopa County Health Officials, and Great Hearts. If your concern is 504-related or strictly curriculum-related, please contact Mrs. DeStefano, our Assistant Headmaster. If you have a concern about a student on an IEP, please email Mrs. Almazan, the leader of our ESS team. If your concern is office-related or arrival or dismissal related, call our office staff directly, led by our Office Manager, Ms. Mobley.

Together, we can do hard things! Let us work closely together with love and respect to have the very best school year possible.

Choose joy and Nunc Coepi!

Jack Kersting