

COVID-19 UPDATE

April 1, 2020

Saint Ursula Community,

Lelia and I continue to monitor [COVID-19](#) through Governor DeWine's daily briefings. Unfortunately, the spread of the virus in Ohio and beyond is not yet slowing down, and the State of Ohio remains under a *Stay at Home* Executive Order. The current order states Ohio schools must remain closed until May 1. Pending Governor DeWine's permission to re-open schools, Saint Ursula Academy will plan to re-open our campus and return to face-to-face instruction Monday, May 4.

Lelia and I need to share that this extension will have an impact on the look and feel of our year end celebrations, especially Class of 2020 events. Planning for upcoming events is challenging as recommendations and orders are changing daily. We are taking this situation day by day together, and no matter what the future brings, we are confident that we will do everything in our power to honor and celebrate our seniors! We will communicate this information to our entire community as soon as we can.

COVID-19 FAMILY VIDEO SERIES, EXCLUSIVE FOR SUA FAMILIES

On March 27, SUA launched our first COVID-19 Family Video Series video with Dr. Dean Whitfield. [Here is the link](#) in the event that you missed it.

Today we are pleased to share an SUA exclusive session with Dr. Lisa Damour who talks about healthy anxiety during this public health crisis.

April 1 - Dr. Lisa Damour, Psychologist, best-selling author, monthly New York Times columnist, and regular CBS News contributor

Topic: [COVID-19 and anxiety](#)

The remaining videos include the following topics:

April 3 - Ms. Sara Hyzdu, Owner *Why Grey Matters*, Neuroscience Trainer, Leadership Coach

Topic: COVID-19 and concentration

April 8 - Dr. Julie Wigton, Pediatrician

Topic: COVID-19 and vaping

April 10 - Mr. Joel Handorf, CIMA, Graystone Consulting | Cincinnati at Morgan Stanley

Topic: COVID-19 and Investment Plans

SUA will continue to upload updates on a special section of our website dedicated to COVID-19 information. You can find the Coronavirus Planning and Information section on the [homepage](#) or under the Family Resources section of the site.

Travel Information

Saint Ursula Academy will not make recommendations regarding travel. However, if you travel, the WHO, CDC, Ohio Department of Health, and Cincinnati Health Department encourage organizations to collect travel information from their community members. **We will ask every family/student to complete a re-entry form prior to the girls returning to school.**

Technology, Broadband, and WiFi Access

Students experiencing technology issues should create a [helpdesk](#) ticket. Mr. Wilking and his team will respond to helpdesk tickets as soon as possible.

Please keep in mind the Distance Learning best practices that Dr. Dean Whitfield, M.Ed., Ed.D., SUA Instructional Technology Coordinator, shared with our community on March 27, 2020.

Counseling

Our school counseling team remains committed to the continual care and support of each of our students. School counselors have communicated with all SUA students that they are available through email or Google Chat video between the hours of 10am to 3pm. If your daughter wishes to set up a chat video, please have her email her counselor to set up a time!

Hope Squad

HOPE Squad has been working on resources to give our community ways to reach out and learn more about mental health during our distance learning. Check out the [Hope Squad website](#) where you can find personal stories, resources, contact information, and more.

Hope Squad is also active on instagram, [@suahopesquad](#). A different member of the HOPE Squad is taking over instagram every week.

Hope Squad email: hopesquad@saintursula.org. This is a great resource if you want a private way to reach out to any member of the Hope Squad.

AP exams

Please read the [latest update](#) from the College Board regarding AP testing. The College Board has made it clear that it is committed to providing support, flexibility, and solutions during this crisis. And, because the students overwhelmingly shared with the College Board that they want to take their AP Exams, the College Board has created [online learning and AP Exams](#) available at home for all students this spring. Additionally, the community of extraordinary AP teachers has stepped up to teach [live classes on YouTube](#). The full exam schedule; specific, free-response question types that will be on each AP exam; and additional testing details will be available by April 3.

SAT Tests

The College Board is well aware of the fact that students are anxious about how the COVID-19 may affect taking the SAT. As of March 31, College Board has confirmed the following information:

- The next SAT is scheduled for the first weekend of June. At this time, the test is still scheduled.
- Additional test administrations will be scheduled in response to canceled administrations. The SAT will be available in school and out of school as soon as the public health pandemic allows.
- Khan Academy provides students with personalized practice support online for free.

ACT Tests

The ACT test that was scheduled to be administered last Tuesday, March 24 at SUA was canceled. SUA Counselors inquired about rescheduling but have been told by ACT that it is

impossible. Since it is important that juniors (Class of 2021) take an ACT test and/or the SAT test, it is imperative that you sign your daughter up to take the [ACT](#) and/or [SAT](#) in June, July, August, or September.

Both ACT and SAT have indicated that they intend to add additional summer testing dates to meet need. However, with so many test dates canceled around the nation this spring, the entire US population of juniors will be needing to test within a finite number of available sittings. Please sign your daughter up ASAP if she is intending to take either test again or for the first time so that she is secured a spot. Register for the [ACT](#) here or the [SAT](#) here.

Sports

The mandated OHSAA No-Contact period has been extended through this date (May 1). This is to assist with the Governor's 'stay at home' order, to prohibit coaches from privately meeting with student-athletes AND to put all schools on an equal level relative to future competitive opportunities.

It should be noted that the OHSAA No-Contact Regulation was never intended to discourage or prohibit electronic communication with student-athletes. For the mental well-being of student-athletes, electronic communication is encouraged but it is NOT intended for coaches to encourage any form of group gatherings or instruction.

No practices or competitions may occur through this date (May 1).

Orange and White Game

This year's Orange & White Game has been canceled. There is just too much uncertainty to try to reschedule the game and not enough time to get the teams prepared to play safely. This is certainly disappointing but the biggest disappointment is not being able to provide Cincinnati Children's Hospital with funding for fighting Leukemia. We are working on some other ways to support our cause but they will not include playing NDA in flag football this year.

Prom

Due to Governor DeWine's new order that extends the closure of Ohio school buildings through May 1, 2020, Prom scheduled for April 24 is canceled. SUA is exploring possible options in the event that the Ohio *Stay at Home* order is released as currently stated.

SUAVE

"Music in the Parks" Competition scheduled May 9 in Louisville is canceled.

On-site Staffing

SUA continues to ensure continuity of services despite the campus being closed to all but essential staff. As long as Governor DeWine's office permits, Dr. Thomas or Mrs. Kramer will be on campus during the mandated distance learning period. If you have needs during this time, please call Mrs. Kramer's Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Patrice Eby, at 961-3410 ext. 132. We are all in this together!

Keeping the SUA Community Healthy

CORONAVIRUS.OHIO.GOV

COVID-19 FAST FACTS

During this time, remember to be kind. Thank those in the service industry, appreciate our healthcare workers, and be patient with those working on the front lines of the outbreak. We're all in this together.



Watch for Updates

We will continue to send our weekly Parent Bulletin Fridays at 3:00 PM. COVID-19 updates will be sent as needed. Given the rapid pace of change, and the critically sensitive nature of the updates, please take time each day to check your email in the event we need to communicate COVID-19 updates and essential information.

“If you see one who is...inclined to give way to discouragement; then comfort her, encourage her, reassure her...and gladden her heart.” *St. Angela Merici*

Dr. Thomas