



17 Mar 2020

Dear NOMMA Parents and Guardians:

PLEASE READ THIS LETTER THOROUGHLY AND KEEP IT ON HAND FOR REFERENCE.

We hope this correspondence finds you and your family safe and healthy during this unique period of time for our nation. This letter is sent to provide you relevant information during this period of school closure. Please understand that this is a dynamic situation and the NOMMA team is working aggressively to provide the best possible support to you and your cadet(s) under these challenging circumstances.

ACADEMICS/ONLINE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- The NOMMA Academic team, including teachers and Marine Instructors will be providing online educational resources to cadets in order to continue their learning experience. Online resources will be provided via Google Classroom and may include the following:
 - Reading Assignments
 - Powerpoint Presentations
 - Workbooks/Worksheets
 - Videos
 - Assessments
 - Other materials
- **Cadets are required to begin their online learning tomorrow, Wed 18 Mar 2020, by logging into their Google Classroom accounts.**
- Cadets will be required to log-in each day and complete class assessments to determine if they have understood the material.
- Teachers will serve as facilitators and be available via eMail for questions and support from 8AM to 3PM each weekday.
- As required and determined by the teacher of record, hard-copy, paper-based materials will be made available to cadets.
- Parents, please be aware that you are likely to receive phone calls from teachers during this period of school closure. The calling phone numbers may be unfamiliar or unidentified. Please consider answering or check your voicemail and respond to teachers via eMail so we can ensure the progress of your cadet.

- Of note, limited income households can apply for \$5 to \$10 per month internet access. Search online for [AT&T Access](#), [Cox Connect2Compete](#), [CenturyLink Lifeline](#). [Charter Communication](#) will offer free Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/pre-college students who do not already have a subscription.

It is imperative that cadets stay engaged with their education and school curriculum and complete required instruction during this period in order to master the respective subject, successfully complete the school year, and position themselves for advancement to the next grade.

STATE ACADEMIC TESTING

- Spring 2020 assessment windows for grade 8 LEAP 2020 will begin no earlier than 27 April.
- LEAP 2025 high school assessment remains unchanged; 20 Apr through 15 May.
- LDOE is working with ACT to identify new dates for testing windows.

FOOD SERVICE

USDA has provided flexibility to schools in order to provide meals to children 18 years and under during the extended closure.

Beginning Monday 16 March to Friday 20 March, several school sites will be Community Feeding Locations that are open to any person 18 years or younger or enrolled in a public school. Students will be able to pick-up “grab-and-go” meals for breakfast and lunch at any of the open school sites, regardless if they are a student at that school or not. Parents or caregivers can pick up meals on behalf of student(s) they provide care for. Starting 23 March, there is an expectation that a citywide child nutrition program will be available to families. For more information and list of feeding locations, visit the below sites:

<https://nolapublicschools.com/covid19/nutrition>

<https://louisianabelieves.com/resources/covid-19>

COUNSELING SERVICES

The counseling department is helping with coordination of services, referrals to community services and providing individual support. Due to the closure of the school per the State of Louisiana, these services will be limited but we are adjusting as we move to a virtual platform. We fully understand the need to address students' social/emotional well-being during this time. To assist in addressing all of our students' social/emotional needs, each grade level now has access to a Google Classroom where their grade-level counselor will post links to social emotional resources, videos and other supports. Check it out daily as we'll be

posting updates frequently! Please visit <https://classroom.google.com/> and use the code that corresponds to your cadet's grade:

12th - nxbisiw

11th - cc2hdai

10th - w7jjwnc

9th - qxrcjmq

8th - 2ifege7

In the event of a counseling emergency, please contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK, the National Youth Crisis Hotline at (800) 442-HOPE (4673), or text HELLO to 741741 to reach the Crisis Text Line, a free, 24/7 support for those in crisis. In the event that you are feeling unsafe or there is an emergency, contact 911 immediately. Additional resources are available on NOMMA's counseling webpage (www.nomma.net/Counseling-Department).

ATHLETICS/MCJROTC

All athletic and JROTC events and practices have been cancelled until further notice.

SCHOOL EVENTS

All school events have been postponed or cancelled until further notice.

COMMUNICATION

As the school office will be closed, parents' primary method of communication with teachers and administrators should be via eMail. Staff eMail addresses are available on the <https://nomma.net/> website. For general questions to administration, please use the info@nomma.net eMail address.

We fully understand these are challenging times for all of us. Please do your best to encourage your cadet(s) to log-in to Google Classroom, complete class assignments, and assessments. Follow the COVID-19 preventative measures provided in previous correspondence to parents/guardians which are consistent with guidance from national, state, and local authorities. Simply washing your hands for 20 seconds several times during the course of the day, staying at home to the maximum extent possible, and maintaining appropriate social distance can significantly decrease the likelihood of contracting the virus. YOU ARE A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF THE SUCCESS EQUATION FOR YOUR STUDENT GOING FORWARD! Thank you for stepping up.

This is a fluid and rapidly changing situation. We will do our best to update you on relevant matters as the days and weeks unfold. Please continue to monitor the eMail address you have on file at our school, be prepared to receive "robo-calls", and check for updates on our website, nomma.net.

USEFUL ONLINE INFORMATION RESOURCES

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/>

<http://lacharterschools.org/covid-19-resources-and-guidance-for-schools/>

<http://ldh.la.gov/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

<https://nomma.net/>

We appreciate your patience, flexibility, and understanding as we work our way, together, through this unique and challenging period. We hope you and your loved ones are and stay healthy.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Schlafer".

Col Chris Schlafer, USMC (Ret)

Commandant

New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy