



PLA Regional Director: Courtney Lumbley

Principal: Jillian Kemp

Operations Manager: Mrs. Natassa Shell

Office Assistant: Ms. Regina Gary

November 13, 2020

Dear HIAT Families,

Thank you for being a part of HIAT. We know this school year has brought many surprises and challenges for our families and scholars. Through it all, we have had a great transition back to school, but, unfortunately, the global pandemic is causing us to shift and transition back to virtual learning.

With the increase in COVID-19 cases in the State of Indiana, HIAT will cancel in-person instructional lessons and close our school building until January 18, 2021. Though our building will close, we are excited that we have provided our scholars with the tools and resources so that learning can continue. We will still deliver live virtual instruction Monday-Friday using our online learning platform, Blackboard. Scholars will follow their virtual schedule daily Monday-Thursday and Friday 1/2 virtual schedule.

In addition, we are going to continue to support our scholars with our supplemental food program. Food distribution will continue to take place each Tuesday morning from 11am-12pm. During that time, scholars will receive breakfast and lunch for the entire week. **(There will be no grab and go during the weeks of Thanksgiving and Winter Break)**

Many of you know that one of our top priorities for the 2020-2021 school year has been to ensure the safety of HIAT staff, scholars and families. We implemented strong plans to support that effort including smaller classroom sizes, temperature checks, revised dismissal, and drop-off procedures, utilizing building sanitation systems, and providing protective equipment. Unfortunately, the surge of cases in Lake County in this global pandemic is forcing our school and schools in our community to elevate safety precautions with closure for the rest of the calendar year.

HIAT will continue to keep families in our thoughts. We will continue to provide support in various ways as we try to overcome the challenges of this pandemic together.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the following staff:

- **Ms. Gary: Office Assistant (8am-4pm) Call 219-885-9179 OR Email: info@the-hiat.org**
There will be no staff in the building, please call this number listed to report scholar absences and/or general information.
- **Technical Support- <https://helpdesk.phalenacademies.org/knowledge>** Please email the helpdesk and put in a technology ticket.
- **Ms. Orlando: Blackboard Concerns (8am-3:30pm) Call 219-316-0385**
- **Instructional Concerns and Questions-** Please call or email your scholar's teachers. This information can be found in the shared Google Doc entitled "Teacher Info SY20/21"

Thank you for your continued commitment, dedication, patience, and flexibility during this time.

Educationally,

Jillian Kemp
HIAT Principal