



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Remote Learning Plan into action at Marist Catholic High School

Marist has been training for and implementing remote learning since 2015.

Eugene, Oregon - Marist Catholic High School began announcing to staff, students and families by noon last Thursday, March 12, the decision to cancel classes on Friday, March 13. This would provide teachers a planning day for transitioning to remote learning for the week beginning Monday, March 16-20, 2020.

The Marist administration's decision to move to a Remote Learning Plan this week was made prior to the mandate by Governor Brown to close all public and private schools through March 31. Marist will continue to monitor the situation, follow the direction of health authorities and respond accordingly to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and keep students, staff, families and the greater community safe.

"This is an unprecedented time for our world and we are all adapting as quickly as possible to the information and recommendations coming at us rapidly. During this time of uncertainty, Marist is fortunate to be able to provide academic continuity so that our students can continue to learn," says Suzanne Graf, President of Marist.

Following the major ice storm of 2017, Marist administrators began making plans for the official institution of annual Digital Learning Days (DLDs) in anticipation of the next major inclement weather event. DLDs allow students to learn from home, ensure continuity of teaching and learning, and can mitigate potential lost class time in the event of an extended school closure.

Since 2018, Marist has instituted the regular practice of Digital Learning Days - 1-2 scheduled days each school year so that students and teachers are well-versed in the application, allowing the school to easily implement a DLD if necessary. Two snow days are included in the academic calendar each year; if extended school closure is required, students and teachers transition to Digital Learning Days.

The severe winter storm that hit Lane County in February, 2019, resulted in 5 days of local school closures, many of which had to extend the school year. Thanks to the implementation and practice of Digital Learning Days, Marist was able to respond quickly and ended the school year on time.

In 2015, Marist adopted 1:1 Technology Integration: Every student has a school-owned and issued personal iPad to improve opportunities for learning through increased access to information and increased personal engagement. Marist believed that the integration of technology in the classroom would provide new opportunities for teaching and learning, as well as help students learn to be good digital citizens.

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