SHHS Frequently Asked Questions:

Maddie Foley, Interim Student Council President:

How will students be able to ask questions during instruction?
- Students can raise their hand using a feature on Zoom or they can unmute when the teacher is not talking and ask their question. They can also ask a question in the chat - to the whole class or just to the teacher. The raise the hand feature should be located at the bottom of your screen.

How will students know what to do on the first day of class?
- Instructions will be posted on the Google Classroom for each class along with the link that they will use to get on to their Zoom or Google Meet for that specific class. On the first day of school, the first class is A Block so students will log on to that respective class on their schedule. When that class is over, they will sign in to their B block class and continue to follow the schedule for the rest of the day.
- Many teachers are planning to send emails to their students and the student's caregivers with the meeting information for the first day - especially if students are not familiar with Google Classroom.

How will students know where they are supposed to log in and what they are supposed to do?
- Every teacher will have a Google Classroom that the student should be a part of, where teachers will post everything the student will need to log in to a virtual class. The student should check their Google Classroom for every class, frequently, to get any information they may need.
- It will be handy to have all of your notifications for Google Classroom on, to download the app for your phone, tablet, etc, and to download the Google Calendar app. The Google Calendar syncs with Google Classroom and due dates for assignments, meeting links, etc will automatically sync onto your Google Calendar.
- All students need to do is click the link for their online class and it will bring them to the virtual class.
- If they are still confused and cannot find the link to log on, they can always email their teacher.

Will students need to sign on to a Zoom for their studies and edgenuity classes?
- Students will be expected to be working independently during their studies. During their edgenuity classes they should be logged on to their edgenuity account working on their class.

Ms. Cole, Tech Liaison :

Define synchronous and asynchronous.
- Synchronous learning is learning that is done live with a teacher. Asynchronous learning is learning that is done, totally, student-paced - with pre-recorded teacher videos, notes, etc.
- Synchronous learning is happening full day, 7:23-2:01 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; along with synchronous Advisory on Wednesday mornings. Wednesday will also have asynchronous learning.
- Please refer to the plot sheet of the weekly schedule for the high school. https://docs.google.com/document/d/17ZYJtCu3sXBHRTiAIxf9cjuinNv638UEpteh9jh-viE/edit?usp=sharing

Do students have to log into Zoom everyday?
- Yes. Teachers will be posting their Zoom links for their classes in the student's Google Classroom page. These links will be for recurring meetings. For example, if your student has A block American Literature with Ms. Cole, under their American Literature Classroom Ms. Cole will post the Zoom meeting invitation. This meeting invitation will be recurring, thus the student will only need to find this one link every Monday and Thursday at 7:23 am.

- If you do not know how to get to your teachers Google Classroom, please go to the SHHS Learning Portal at: https://sites.google.com/shschools.com/shhs-academics/academics

Please clarify the availability of tech support. How robust is the tech support and IT staff within the school department and/or high school?
- There is a tech support help ticket for all to use. If you have log in or email issues - that is for school administration or district wide IT. The tech support help ticket form is to be used AFTER a student has collaborated with the classroom teacher to ensure that they cannot assist, then please use the help ticket. Tech support at the high school is a stipend position and thus Ms. Cole still has her classes to teach. If someone needs 1:1 Zoom conferencing support, that will happen on Wednesday afternoons. However, tech support emails will be answered during the regular school hours, just like classroom teachers would.
- Staff at the high school have spent days and days in professional development learning tech resources. These resources include: Google Classroom, Nearpod, Pear Deck, Loom recording, Edpuzzle, Game-based Learning - such as Gimkit, Kahoot, Choice Boards, Strategies to teach remotely, how to best support caregivers, and how to use google to provide feedback and assessments.

How many employees make up the tech support group/IT department? What other roles do they have besides tech support/IT responsibilities?
- Sometimes too many cooks in the kitchen makes things a mess! The high school has one stipend tech position, however MANY teachers work together to provide support to each other in many areas - not just during remote learning. For example: there are known teachers who know PowerSchool really well and will help teachers, there are other teachers with tech backgrounds who are collaborating within their own departments to assist. The high school is a collaborative and engaging staff - and remote learning is only making that stronger.

If a tech desk ticket is generated how long will a student be expected to wait until getting a reply?
- The tech desk ticket has an urgency section for a student to rate how urgent their issue is. Email responses happen during the school hours, up until 3pm. Thus, students can expect a response back within 24 hours of their ticket submission. Again, communication with the classroom teacher will also be key - the teacher may know the answer!

Is Tech support only available for one hour on a Wednesday or is this the time availability for video chat only?
- This is the time for video chat. Like, previously mentioned, email responses will happen within 24 hours of ticket submission.

How and when will they learn all these platforms? Will they have time at the start of the school year to learn how to use these learning platforms effectively before classes start?
- During staff professional development it was strongly encouraged for teachers to start slow with the technology and to explicitly teach students how to use it. For example, perhaps they will start off with just Zoom and Google Classroom and through low stakes assignments and community building teach students these platforms. Then they may integrate Nearpod or another resource and again explicitly teach students how to use it and their expectations.

One hundred minutes seems like a very long time for a class. Can you give examples of what a class this long will look like? An example for English or Spanish plus an example for a science class too? For students enrolled in AP Biology with separate class time for labs, what will 200 minutes of instruction look like?
- Just like with in-person teaching, teachers will have some level of autonomy as they teach. However, there are some sample class ideas, for the 100 minutes, that teachers are working on to create.
    - **Sample English course**

- 20-25 minutes of direct instruction
- 10-15 minutes breakout rooms/independent work
- 15-20 minutes come back together
- 10-15 minutes game/review/plan
- Independent work with the teacher staying online for support
- **Sample Science course without a lab**
    - Do now/check-in
    - Mini-lecture on the material to be covered during the day
    - Class activity or virtual lab to explore the activity in partners
    - Stretching/yoga break
    - Share finding from class activity
    - Independent work -- work on adding materials to notes, flashcards, or reading a related article/watching a video
    - Share findings from independent work
    - Closing activity
- **Sample AP Science course:** The AP curriculum covers two semesters of material, which is why the time for lab investigation is important. The AP model is also divided into a lecture and lab course to mimic a college course. A lot of problem solving looking at AP questions (just like during a regular period). Teachers will be filming labs and sending data. These labs will be silent so students have to observe and record. They will write lab reports, take full length tests. Break down group data. There is a lot of info to get across, teachers try to finish by April 1st, so there are a few weeks to review before the exam.
    - Lecture Material (this would be close to 100 minutes):
        - Movie / ppt on topic
        - Discuss
        - Try AP style questions, and self grade (open responses take almost 25 minutes to do)
    - Labs - Video labs (silent for observation) or virtual.
        - Discuss with a group
        - Analyze data, look for errors and WHY they occurred
        - Analyze class data sets
        - Write a lab report
    - Tests:
        - Will take 100 minutes (50 min multiple choice, 50 minutes open response).
        - Next day, students self grade to reflect and ask questions.

Ms Wood, Interim Principal:

Why are state public health and safety expectations being exceeded?
- At this time the administration and School Committee have taken every precautionary measure to ensure student safety. It is our top priority to make sure students have access to their education, while remaining physically and emotionally well. State guidelines can be found here. It is important to remember that these are guidance, and it is up to each local municipality to determine what works best in their domain.

What is the purpose and intent of the HVAC assessment?
- The purpose of the HVAC assessment is to ensure a safe air exchange and quality as staff and students begin to return to our buildings. Findings of these results will be issued to school administration, School Committee members and facilities staff.

How did the School Department decide that it is fair and equitable to all students if vocational students have in-person access for trades, but science students enrolled in rigorous courses such as AP Biology or AP Chemistry do not have access to in-person labs?

- CTEC , Pathfinder and Smith Vocational are independent schools, not governed by SHPS. Their boards and Towns in which they are located determined their individual reopening plans.

When can students/parents expect to see the parking pass refund?

- Refunds for parking were mailed out 8/31. If someone paid in cash, that is available for pick up in the main office between 7 a.m and 2.pm.

How will physical education courses such as Team Games be taught remotely?

- Students will be expected to log in through the online platform for live instruction, followed by independent physical activity and written work in alignment with the Physical Education curricular expectations.

Does every student have to take a chromebook?

- All students are expected to take a chromebook. These devices are fitted with security and applications needed for both distance and in person learning. Once we return to in person learning, students will be expected to utilize these devices in each class.

How will students get textbooks?

- Text book and Chromebook pick up will be this Friday 9/4, from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Friday 9/11 from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. will the make up day if you are unable to attend on 9/4. This will be a drive through style.

How will students have access to library books?

- Students will have access to digital collections, or requesting specific books through Ms Pronovost, our librarian. For questions, please feel free to reach out to her at epronovost@shschools.com

I have a senior , will we have a meeting and assistance from counselors for college and after high school planning?

- Yes! Counselors are available for virtual meetings and guidance. Each senior will have an individual meeting to discuss their specific plans. Meeting times have been sent home via mail. If you are unsure of your time , please reach out to the counseling department.

Will attendance be taken every period?

- Yes! Attendance counts and will be taken at the start of each period!

Is there a compelling reason not to have those Wednesday Advisories start at 8:30 AM or even 9:00 AM or 9:30 AM, to offer the kids a midweek break from the 7:23 AM start times?

- At this time our contractual school day starts at 7:23. We will continue to follow our traditional schedule so that when we return to in person learning, there will be no disruption in academic times, transportation and the participation of after school sports and activities.

Will teachers be making full use of PowerSchool (listing assignments, marking grades, using the flags for whether assignments have been collected, are late, are missing, etc.

- All caretakers and students will have access to PowerSchool. Teachers will update PowerSchool with assignments, collected, missing, and grades.

What is the plan if a teacher contracts COVID and is out sick for an extended period of time?

- SHPS has secured teaching staff to cover as long term substitutes in the event of extended absence.

The quarantine time frames listed in the tables in the SHPS Return to School Plan are not up to date with current CDC guidelines. Is this document up to date and in keeping with the most recent CDC and DESE guidelines? Will this document be updated on a regular basis to reflect relevant changes in CDC and DESE guidance and will parents have an opportunity to review and publicly comment on the document?

- The SHPS reopening plan is up to date with approved procedures by the SH School Committee. DESE and the CDC offer guidance, but local municipalities determine what is best for their specific circumstances. Our reopening is a phased in approach, and is under review and adaptation as additional information is released. If changes to the plan occur, community members will be kept informed through multiple means of communication.

Below are some pictures of changes to the building that have occurred to ensure safe social distancing in an in-person return