Dear all,

As we look toward Fall, the Dusty Drake Finishing School continues to be prepared to start the academic year in a safe and healthy manner. The Dusty has worked to identify several important parameters, many of which are outlined below. Once we get through this pandemic, we will start to regroup and relaunch our academic and co-curricular programs. Our goal continues to be to provide a high-quality educational experience to our students, and that will be our focus going forward. We will support the development of four cohorts of secondary STEM teachers starting in the fall semester, and we will work to accommodate students who haven't attended an orientation session in June. Thank you to all of our faculty who have participated as advisors! This was the first real college experience for most of the entering first-year students (EFRs), and our students and families were absolutely satisfied with the experience. Throughout the summer, the Dean’s office will continue working with EFRs who tuition-deposit by BOT last week, since there are still too many unknowns. Our strong enrollment numbers have brought out so many good things in people. Let’s focus on the most important things, let’s try to get through this and come out strongly.

With many staff on furlough for the next one to four weeks, service will be minimal. We have a smaller schedule of office hours, and most offices are operating on a limited and reduced basis. Individual offices have developed service and communication guidance on remote teaching, and there are many helpful resources. The CTE has put together a Planning Guide for virtual and blended courses. Resources and information are available here on the CTE website. Students will be required to wear face masks when indoors and in all classroom. Faculty and staff will provide for faculty who are teaching f2f equipment. Students will be required to maintain the following assignments are being made). Students will be required to wear face masks when indoors and in all classroom. Faculty and staff will provide for faculty who are teaching f2f equipment. Students will be required to maintain the following assignment (if allowed, following social distancing guidelines). The first week of classes will be online only. No classes during Thanksgiving week. Students will be tested for COVID-19 when they arrive on campus and again mid-semester. Finals week will be delivered remote only. Teachers will meet twice in the month of July. The first meeting would be on the 8th, the second on the 15th. Teachers who have not yet met might want to meet with their students now to get to know them better. EFRs and advisors will work together to accommodate students who haven’t attended an orientation session in June. Four cohorts of secondary STEM teachers will meet in the fall scenarios. I have tried to summarize some of the most important parameters below, so that you can start to plan.

In the Spring 2021 semester, encourage them to visit friends and family in places far away or closer to home, and I keep thinking I have to buy airplane tickets. But that is not happening this summer! July will be a quiet month at Drake. Visit the website!

On your radar for the Fall semester:

- If you are an advisor to incoming first-year student(s), keep your calendar open for the first month of August. What are their plans for the summer? Are they doing anything that will support the development of four cohorts of secondary STEM teachers starting in the fall? Last year, we had students from all over the country, and many had the opportunity to be part of a STEM camp. This year, we are hoping to reach students who are not ready to commit to a full-time college experience. This is a great opportunity for incoming first-year students (EFRs) to connect with their peers and learn more about Drake. As advisors, we can help them explore their options and answer any questions they might have. The Dusty will support the development of four cohorts of secondary STEM teachers starting in the fall. This is a great opportunity for incoming first-year students (EFRs) to connect with their peers and learn more about Drake. As advisors, we can help them explore their options and answer any questions they might have.

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