

November 23, 2020

Dear Landshark Family,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones healthy and ready for Fall Break! I have a lot of information to share so bear with me as we get through all of it together. 😊

### **Football**

As you may have already heard, I made the very difficult decision to cancel our playoff football game scheduled for Friday night. I am incredibly disappointed for our players, coaches, and entire school community that were not able to continue our season. The burden of this decision ultimately rests with me, and it was not taken lightly. I gathered input from our entire administrative team and coaching staff who support the decision. Please understand it ultimately came down to the safety of our students, our families and the opposing team. A variety of alternatives were considered before making the decision. We considered rapid testing, called the High School League about postponing, etc. In the end there was no other option. While it was a very tough decision- it was the right decision.

I am very proud of our players and coaches for all they have done to enjoy success throughout such a difficult year. I am especially heartbroken for our Seniors, and **am very excited about the future of Oceanside Football!**

### **Lottery 2021-2022**

I am proud of the fact that during these times when other students were not allotted the same opportunity, our students are and have been able to attend face to face school and have been given the opportunity and chance to participate in school activities while the school abides with Federal, State, local and SC High School League guidelines and mandates. Part of me always feels bad for anybody who is not a Landshark, but these last few months, that sentiment is even stronger.

Our lottery for 2021-2022 was held Thursday. We now have our first 150 offers ready to go and a waitlist of already almost 400. Interesting bit: next year out of a freshman class of about 160, almost 80 will be siblings of current Landsharks!! Every year that number grows...last year it was around 60. To me, that is the biggest compliment anyone could ever give our school! You all know what it takes to be successful and take advantage of everything we have to offer, and you CHOSE to send us your children knowing 100% what this school is about. I can't thank you enough for always being there with your support and for spreading the word about our school.

### **A Look Ahead...**

Second semester is right around the corner and we are diligently working on bringing back those students who chose Distance Learning at the start and wish to come back on campus. **This option is also available for students who are currently on campus and wish to choose the distance learning option for second semester.** I want to remind our families that while we are doing our best to create the safest environment possible- we cannot guarantee your student is not sharing a classroom or hallway with individuals who may be asymptomatic with COVID-19. If you have a family member at home with an underlying health condition, or are concerned with the increased number of positive test results, consider moving to distance learning. If you have any questions about the above, please contact our Distance Learning Coordinator, Mrs. Brittany Moore at [BMoore@Landsharks.org](mailto:BMoore@Landsharks.org)

## **WE MUST ALWAYS BE READY TO ADAPT**

While I am on the topic- please remember that until conditions on the ground change, we live in a constant state of worry that mandates to close schools will come from federal, state or local government; or Oceanside internally not being able to maintain a face to face learning environment due to possible staff illness or a high number of student infections. At this point, you are probably the biggest determining factor on our chances to continue providing our current model to Landshark students! Please encourage your students to be mindful while off campus and about town, continue to follow all guidelines and recommendations and of course **stay home if you are not feeling well**. Remember that **a positive test result of a household member means automatic quarantine for all school age students in the house**. If you have any questions about what to do as it relates to COVID-19 please call the school.

### **And Finally...**

- **College Schedules for Spring Semester** – College Schedules are available for second semester. A lot of classes and class locations have changed. **All college students must verify** their second semester schedules **by December 15<sup>th</sup>** and fill out our **Schedule Change Request Form** if they have requests for changes. **The form is** on our website [www.oceansidecollegiateacademy.org](http://www.oceansidecollegiateacademy.org) No need to email or call, simply fill out the form and a member of our team will reach out with the outcome of your request.
- **Outdoor classroom-** Work is well under way for our Outdoor Classroom! We expect to have it ready for student use by the time we come back from Winter Break.
- **Free and Reduced Fee Status-** Please keep in mind that even though schools are free, there are some fees which are required by all public schools. Know that if you are experiencing a job loss or a family situation which is making it a challenge to pay for fees, we may be able to help and you may qualify! The form is on our school website under Student Life, it is called a **Reduced Fees Application** and it is basically a self-reported income application which could qualify you for reduced or waived required school fees.
- **COVID update-** In my humble opinion, we have been allowed the luxury of being in school with our students because we are ALL doing what we need to do. **Students and adults are staying home if they do not feel well**, they are washing their hands, practicing social distancing as much as possible and being aware of the virus and focused on minimizing opportunities for infection. Since our return to school, we have had 10 students test positive. We have quarantined about twice that number based on DHEC guidance, and household members positive test results.
- The Charter Institute at Erskine is working on a report to legislators as they work to ensure charter schools have funding available for future growth through our political landscape changes. They have asked we fill out this survey to help them gather data to share. Link to the survey: [https://erskinecharters.formstack.com/forms/transfer\\_student\\_parent\\_survey](https://erskinecharters.formstack.com/forms/transfer_student_parent_survey)
- In order to continue to stay as safe as possible remember we are **not allowing afternoon session students into the building until 11:30AM and morning session students prior to 7:15 AM**. Students

are not allowed to sit in the café when entering the building and must report immediately to their next class.

- Our expectation remains and will now be super focused on **students being picked up at their dismissal time**. Staff supervising car pick up and drop off will remind students about masks and social distancing, however students will need to demonstrate personal responsibility while on campus. Please have these important conversations with your students as often as possible.
- **I need your help! Dress code rules have not gone away with Covid guidelines.** I hope you all know how much we all dread having to call home about a dress code situation. It is awkward and seldom a positive experience for anyone involved and so easily avoidable. We all have a lot going on right now, please do yourselves and your school staff a big favor and make sure your student comes to school dressed appropriately for school. They will be sent home if out of dress code, assigned a Saturday School and possibly suspended if the situation continues. Questions about dress code... see Student Handbook on our website. “Everybody else is doing it” is not an excuse. We may not be able to catch every raindrop but we will catch some.
  - **No crop tops (if there’s skin showing front or back it is a crop top, it doesn’t matter how hard they pull the “shirt” down or the pants up).**
  - **Shorts must have at least a 3-inch inseam and no holes!**
- **Pick up Drop off-** All, the **ONLY** place to pick up your student or drop them off is from the car rider line. Do not pick up or drop off on Faison, in a student parking lot, in faculty or visitor parking lot or on any road that is not the front of our school. **This includes athletes who end practice during the school day. Do not be that guy! We are going to talk about you and to you if you do this.**
- **Easy opportunity to give back!** I see you guys at both Harris Teeter and Publix all the time, so let us link those cards to Oceanside!
  - **Harris Teeter Shoppers:**

Harris Teeter’s Together In Education program gives schools a chance to earn funds when you link your VIC card and shop Harris Teeter brands. Harris Teeter has donated over \$30 million to Together In Education schools since 1998 but we have received about twenty dollars? 😞

When you shop Harris Teeter brands, a percentage of your purchase is donated to the school that your VIC card is linked to. There are NO LIMITS to how much a school can earn.
  - **Publix Shoppers:**

Support your school every time you shop! Some schools get thousands of dollars monthly! We get about \$25/month. 😞 Simply sign up for [Club Publix](#), click Publix Partners, and select a school. Then enter your phone number or use pay with the Publix app every time you check out.

[Links to set up:](#)

<http://corporate.publix.com/community/corporate-campaigns/publix-partners>

<https://www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education>

Thank you for your attention through this long letter. Your continued love, empathy, understanding and support towards our faculty, coaches, staff and school family as together we **uphold our mission of elite academics and elite athletics, does not go unnoticed!** We are who we are because each member of our school family is working towards the same goal- **getting our Landsharks to the NEXT LEVEL!**

***Go Landsharks!!!!!!!!***

**B. Corley**

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Remember for questions or concerns about:

- ✓ **Classroom/Instruction** Concerns: Email or call the faculty member first and establish a line of communication to share information. You can also schedule a meeting in person or virtual.
- ✓ **Covid Concerns:** [bshackel-scott@Landsharks.org](mailto:bshackel-scott@Landsharks.org)  
Beth Shackel-Scott (Assistant Principal)
- ✓ **Curriculum Concerns:** [CBrown@landsharks.org](mailto:CBrown@landsharks.org)  
Christina Brown (Academic Dean)
- ✓ **Athletic Concerns:** [MMeyer@landsharks.org](mailto:MMeyer@landsharks.org)  
Mark Meyer (Athletic Director)
- ✓ **Student Concerns:** [LPeirano@Landsharks.org](mailto:LPeirano@Landsharks.org)  
Laura Peirano (School Counselor)
- ✓ **Distance Learning Options:** [BMoore@Landsharks.org](mailto:BMoore@Landsharks.org)  
Brittany Moore (Distance Learning Coordinator)
- ✓ **PowerSchool Concerns:** [KHarshaw@Landsharks.org](mailto:KHarshaw@Landsharks.org)  
Khrystin Harshaw (Data Manager)
- ✓ **Attendance:** [KIriart@Landsharks.org](mailto:KIriart@Landsharks.org)  
Kathleen Iriart (Front Office)