



AMERICAN
SCHOOL
OF
GUATEMALA

DELVALLE
GRUPO EDUCATIVO

April 30, 2020

Dear CAG parents,

The essence of our school can be defined by its sense of community and its ability to thrive. This week, I have witnessed how CAG continues to thrive under the most unusual circumstance in wonderful ways. Seniors are working with the administration to balance the end of the year celebrations and festivities. Middle Schoolers are leading the way with messages about health and awareness and a plea for everyone to keep the faith in the hope that this too shall pass. Our Lower School students have class meetings, work to support each other through confusion and sadness, and champion each other over class projects and achievements. I am amazed at the resilience...CAG strong.

This is not new for CAG. For 75 years this school has witnessed, managed, and overcome different challenges; the one thing that has allowed us to remain strong over time is our capability of being flexible while adapting to the needs of the moment, and this pandemic is no exception.

Our students will remember their Virtual School experience as past CAG generations have looked back on the inauguration of the new campus, living through the 1976 earthquake, the opening of the Middle School section, shifting from the Guatemalan to the US calendar, the implementation of school uniforms, among other experiences that have shaped CAG into what it is today. Education and school have taken on a new meaning, and this time our students will help us lead the way as we transform and break new ground as leaders of our educational community.

As we move forward, we are exploring different tools and methods that advance CAG virtually and technologically in ways we couldn't have imagined. We also watch teachers adapt, and support each other through reflective discussions about their new practice - learning from each other and raising the bar in teaching and learning, advising, coaching, and counsel. We want to thank our parents for partnering with us through this journey.

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF GUATEMALA
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Phone: (502) 2500-9595 Fax: (502) 2369-8335 www.cag.edu.gt

Authorized by the Ministry of Education of Guatemala
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Member of the Tri-Regional Association of American Schools in Mexico, Central America, Colombia and the Caribbean



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Though working from home while supporting your children with learning is hard, you have a rare glimpse into the journey of growing and learning. It's hard, but it's a privilege.

In addition, we have important announcements and positive news to share with you:

The 2019/2020 Academic Year

The American School of Guatemala is an independent school. That being said, it works hand by hand with the Ministry of Education, ensuring our curriculum meets and exceeds expectations. **We are proud to announce that we have received official approval, from the Ministry of Education, that our virtual school program meets the criteria, of course upon ending the 2020 school year, to obtain final promotion for all grade levels.** We want to thank the Faculty and Administration for completing all of the requirements to make this happen. We also want to acknowledge the work of the Ministry for partnering with us and encouraging CAG's autonomy to thrive in uncharted territory.

Important information for Seniors

We are still pending to receive information from the Ministry of Education details about the 12th-grade MINEDUC exam. We will notify you of the status of the exam once we receive this information.

Last Day of Virtual School

CAG's number one priority is the physical and emotional safety of our students and our community. All of our decisions are made to protect over 1630 students, their families, and our faculty.

Based on the government's announcement to extend the calamity state until June, we will continue with virtual school for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic school year.

The last day of school is Thursday, June 4th. The sections will be communicating details about the end of the year ceremonies and events. For grades 6-12, exam schedules will be developed and communicated in early May.

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Summer Exploratory Activities

Because it will be a long summer, CAG is working to develop a menu of programs for CAG students to participate in, by choice, throughout the summer recess. These day sessions will be exploratory in nature and meant to support families with the long recess while at home. These offerings will be elective only, and without extra fees for our families. More information about these mini sessions will be sent by the end of May.

Graduation Day

Graduation Day for the class of 2020 will be held onsite in January 2021. In addition, and to commemorate this special occasion and honor our Seniors, CAG will hold a virtual graduation day on July 4th. Both ceremonies will be ones to remember forever!

As a tribute to our seniors, we created a special video to honor their time at CAG. [Click here to watch the video.](#)

National and International Leadership

CAG is being recognized internationally, among leading American Schools in Brazil, Colombia, and Panama for leading virtual education and adapting operations and procedures to the COVID-19 situation. Last week, CAG's General Director was invited by AASSA (Association of American Schools in South America) to lead a webinar and share her expertise with international educational leaders.

Today, CAG's General Director served on a panel with 3 other leading general directors in South America to discuss scenario planning in the midst of crisis and building a responsive community through the challenges of uncertainty.

Additionally, over 30 of our faculty have volunteered to support the Ministry of Education with curriculum and instruction on Guatemala's televised educational programming for children throughout Guatemala.

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We are proud to share our experiences and contribute to the ongoing development of educational excellence.

Finally, CAG understands the difficulty that COVID-19 has sparked throughout the world and we also understand the economic concern. CAG is a family school and helps its families; this is why we are offering financial aid and payment options to those who need it in this crisis. [Please click here for further information.](#)

I am learning, both as a parent and educator, that through this challenging time we must put our fundamental need for a human connection first. In support of community connection, we welcome you to participate in our parent connections, we welcome parent outreach and meetings and encourage you to continue to share in moments of pride, achievement, and appreciation with each other, your children, and our faculty. Although we are separated by distance, we are connected by our shared commitment to our relationships and supporting the learning of our students.

By staying together, we will lead and stay strong, and our students will continue to thrive. Our community has never been stronger, and together we will overcome any challenge that may come our way!

In the tradition of maroon and gray,

Patricia Lee Marshall
General Director

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