Hey guys! I was looking forward to getting back in the classroom with you guys after Spring Break and working on more stories and helping you grow as reporters. Unfortunately, that is being put on hold for the time being. Even though we aren’t at school, doesn’t mean that the world has stopped, which means that there is still news to report. That’s just what you will do—report the news from the comfort of your own home. Each week, I’ll have different assignments for you. If you have an idea for something, just send it to me for approval prior to starting.

Obviously, this isn’t a way I am accustomed to teaching this class so it will be a learning experience for all of us. You know I’m always available to answer questions so feel free to reach out when you need something. You guys can email me at [margaret.falatko@dcsms.org](mailto:margaret.falatko@dcsms.org) or reach out in the group chat.

There are tons of online learning opportunities in college, so this is great practice for you guys. Many companies are even using technology to conduct business, hold meetings, etc., so this will also help you in that capacity. This might be super easy for some of you and more challenging for others, but hang in there. We will all get through this together!

You may email or text your work. If you email it, please your First Name and Last Name and Assignment Number in the subject line. (This will help me keep everyone’s work sorted.) For example, in the subject line, I would type Margaret Falatko- Assignment 1. Be sure to confirm that you type the email address correctly.

Overview: Below are package assignments for the upcoming weeks. With each package, there are several requirements. Below are the requirements. (Note that there is an overlap in assignments each week. Videos are due by Thursday, but the topic for the next video is due on Wednesday. If you want to submit several topics at once for approval, that is fine. Just make sure they are all from different packages.)

**Week 1: March 25th-April 2nd**

1. Assignment 1: Topic approval- must text or email for topic approval

* Give me an idea of how you are using the topic with a sentence about the direction of your intended story
* Due Wednesday (March 25th)

1. Assignment 2: Script approval- must write a script and submit it for approval
   * You should have a minimum of four paragraphs—great lead, two informational paragraphs, and a great ending
   * Due Friday (March 27th)
2. Assignment 3: List of shots- submit for approval
   * Send a list of b-roll you plan on using in your video
   * Due Monday (March 30th)
3. Assignment 4: Final package- submit your final filmed and edited video
   * Be sure to film yourself on camera for the first and last paragraph and use b-roll over your voiceover for the middle two paragraphs
   * Due Thursday (April 2nd)

Package 1: Tell your story by producing a 1-3 minute video. Below are some suggestions for topics. If you have a different idea that reflects your story during the pandemic, submit the topic for approval.

* How your life has changed with the coronavirus pandemic?
* What are you missing most during this time?
* What suggestions do you have for other teens to pass the time?
* What are your thoughts on distance learning?

**Week 2: April 1st- April 9th**

1. Assignment 1: Topic approval- must text or email for topic approval

* Give me an idea of how you are using the topic with a sentence about the direction of your intended story
* Due Wednesday (April 1st)

1. Assignment 2: Script approval- must write a script and submit it for approval
   * You should have a minimum of four paragraphs—great lead, two informational paragraphs, and a great ending
   * Due Friday (April 3rd)
2. Assignment 3: List of shots- submit for approval
   * Send a list of b-roll you plan on using in your video
   * Due Monday (April 6th)
3. Assignment 4: Final package- submit your final filmed and edited video
   * Be sure to film yourself on camera for the first and last paragraph and use b-roll over your voiceover for the middle two paragraphs
   * Due Thursday (April 9th)

Package 2: Tell the story by how it affects the community by producing a 1-3 minute video. All of these require a little bit of research to put together a good story. Below are some suggestions for topics.

* What are some ways people can deal with anxiety and fears during the pandemic?
* What are ways the community is helping students with meals and internet access?
* What are ways the community has been affected by the pandemic (sports, restaurants, churches, etc.)?
* What are the economic impacts on jobs and businesses in the community?

**Week 3: April 8th-April 16th**

\*Note that thedue dates are a little different this week due to Good Friday and Easter Monday.

1. Assignment 1: Topic approval- must text or email for topic approval

* Give me an idea of how you are using the topic with a sentence about the direction of your intended story
* **Due Tuesday (April 7th)**

1. Assignment 2: Script approval- must write a script and submit it for approval
   * You should have a minimum of four paragraphs—great lead, two informational paragraphs, and a great ending
   * **Due Thursday (April 9th)**
2. Assignment 3: List of shots- submit for approval
   * Send a list of b-roll you plan on using in your video
   * **Due Tuesday (April 14th)**
3. Assignment 4: Final package- submit your final filmed and edited video
   * Be sure to film yourself on camera for the first and last paragraph and use b-roll over your voiceover for the middle two paragraphs
   * Due Thursday (April 16th)

Package 3: Tell the story by how it affects the nation by producing a 1-3 minute video. All of these require a little bit of research to put together a good story. Below are some suggestions for topics.

* Are jobs in danger? If so, what types of jobs?
* How will this affect the nation’s economy? What will it take to recover from it?
* What does this mean for sports across the nation? Should an additional year of eligibility be granted to those sports whose season were cut short?
* How has the pandemic affected the family dynamic with so many parents and kids at home more than usual?