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DATE: September 13, 2021

TO: The Pierpont Community

FROM: Michael Waide, Provost and VP of Academic Affairs
Dale Bradley, VP of Finance and Administration
Julie Cryser, VP of Institutional Advancement and Foundation Director
Lyla Grandstaff, VP of Student Services and Enrollment Management

SUBJECT: Pierpont's COVID-19 Instructional Recommendation Fall 2021 Term

The COVID Task Force, as a means of implementing strategies to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in response to a predicted spike in infection rates throughout West Virginia, is recommending shifting much of the institution's **instruction online for a period of three (3) weeks beginning September 20, 2021 and ending October 10, 2021.**

Course lectures will meet online. Labs and practical instructional experiences will continue to meet in-person unless directed otherwise by Pierpont's administration.

The intent of this shift to online instruction is to minimize the amount of physical contact and possible exposure to best protect all students, faculty, and staff. Instruction for classes transitioning to online delivery will be conducted through Blackboard.

All Pierpont campus locations will remain open during the above-noted time-period, and staff will continue to report to work, as normal. Students will be able to come to campus to use counseling services, tutorial services, computer labs, etc. and meet with Pierpont's various campus offices, such as Student Services, Financial Aid, and Academic Affairs.

Pierpont's Dual Enrollment classes meeting face-to-face will follow the guidelines implemented by the respective Boards of Education during this period to determine if the class(es) will transition to online delivery or continue to meet in-person.

Students living in campus housing on the Locust Avenue campus will have no disruption or changes to their housing arrangements.

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Pierpont's administration will communicate any changes to this announcement, if needed, to all students, faculty, and staff.

A return to normal operations is tentatively planned for Monday, October 11, 2021.

Pierpont will also offer remote instruction (in similar format as noted above) following the Thanksgiving break until the end of the fall 2021 academic term.

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