Good afternoon. Today marks the end of July and the half way point for Summer Session II. For those of you still laboring through classes, don’t forget about virtual tutoring that is just a click away.

If you missed my Conversation with Leadership on Wednesday, then you missed some directions about new health protocols for spaces on campus, and how folks who are coming back to campuses will be protected. Please take five minutes to review these new expectations and make sure to update your contact information in case you need to be reached by a contact tracer. We all need to be a part of the solution to controlling the spread of the Coronavirus.

For the five percent of our classes that will have an in-person component in the fall, social distancing, masks, staggered attendance, and frequent cleaning will be among the changes you will note. There will also be signage posted with directions about spacing and guidance in tight spaces. As the list of such classes indicates, the large majority of you will not have a reason to be on campus in the fall. But since we all hope to be back in the future, getting used to these practices and expectations is a valuable exercise.

By Governor Hogan’s orders, face-coverings in public spaces where social distancing is not possible (including some outdoor areas), is mandatory in Maryland beginning today at five p.m. The governor reported yesterday that 56 percent of new COVID-19 cases in Maryland are among people younger than forty years old. Please remember this as you work to stay healthy. Additionally, please answer calls from contact tracers marked “COVID-19,” so that we can work to limit community spread as much as possible.

Have a safe and restful weekend.