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Dear Yellowjacket Students:

Well, the snowfall last night was really beautiful, and we are all doing some short-term dealing with the snow today. It's ok because we all should be staying home anyway, and warm temperatures will soon take care of the snow! We are looking out our respective windows at home and admiring the beauty of a fresh snowfall. Always look for the positive.

We know many of you are preparing for the launch of re-designed courses tomorrow. Here are some **additional specific suggestions** on how to best prepare yourself for success for the remainder of Spring 2020 as it relates to using Canvas:

1. **Watch our [Logging into Canvas](#) video.** This video demonstrates how to log into the system, as well as how to find your individual Canvas courses and navigate the Canvas interface.
2. **Learn how to get support in Canvas** by reading this Canvas Guides page: [How do I get help with Canvas as a student?](#)
3. **Familiarize yourself with each of your Canvas** courses and each instructor's communications plan and course schedule. **Review the entire syllabus for each course**, including any information about the requirements of the course and how you will be assessed.
4. **Check both your campus email account and [Canvas Inbox](#)** for important communications from your instructors.
5. **[Utilize the Canvas Calendar](#) to stay on top of assignment due dates and upcoming assessments.** Review assignment expectations well before they are due, including how you need to [participate in Discussions](#) and [submit assignments](#). It is important to stay on track in your courses—log into your Canvas courses regularly and complete assignments ahead of time so that you don't fall behind. It may appear that you have more time now that you're not meeting on campus, but you'll still need to attend your Canvas course and stay on top of deadlines.
6. **Reach out to your instructor immediately if you need help.** Do this before you fall behind.
7. **Backup your work:** Please always save your work and keep backups for it.

8. Continue to check for communication updates from your instructor.

You can access Canvas from any computer with internet access. If your home internet connection is preventing you from accessing your course, please **contact [Technology Services](#) as soon as possible**. You can also utilize free WiFi in your area.

We are also sending along **an attachment** that contains some **useful tips on preparing your home area** to be successful in online learning. It was prepared by our UW System colleagues at UW Extended Campus and we are grateful for their help on this. You might find some value in it.

We are prepared for launch! Time to buckle up, take a deep breath and take it one thing at a time. We are all running through the last-minute checklist for launch and we have your best interests in mind as we do. You have fabulous co-pilots on board with you in your instructors and advisors. Make use of them---they can serve as your “mission control” to call for help or just hear a caring human voice. You are living in historic times and exploring unknown frontiers right now---let’s make this the adventure that it is and get ready to take off together.

As always, we stand **TOGETHER WITH YOU!** You are not alone. We are here to help. We are here to ensure your success in your academics. We believe in you and our instructors. Together, we can do this!

Take care of you on this Sunday in March. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sending you all of our best wishes,

Maria and Nick

Maria’s Lake Superior Winter Big Lake piece built yesterday with you in mind! And did it without anyone else on shore so practiced sound social distancing. It’s called “Launch.” And yes---it is a rocket with fire coming out of its base!



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