Dear Naval Academy Family:

When I communicated with you last week, I reiterated that throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, my #1 priority has been, and will remain, safeguarding the health and safety of our midshipmen, faculty, staff, and our extended Naval Academy community here in the Annapolis area. Since that correspondence, we have identified the need to take some increased precautionary measures for a minimum of the next seven days. I am hopeful that these increased measures will enable us to allow our midshipmen some much needed time off to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday with local family and friends, while ensuring we can safely execute the remainder of the semester amidst the COVID-19 pandemic:

- The Brigade of Midshipmen is currently authorized Yard liberty only.
- We are temporarily halting in-person classes and resuming 100% remote learning.
- All group physical training is being halted, as well as intramurals and club sports, out-of-season sports, and in-season sports that cannot train in a socially-distanced fashion or that cannot test 3 times/week.
- All in-person extracurricular activities are being halted.
- Everyone on the Yard is expected to wear face coverings and maintain social distancing to the maximum extent possible.

During these next seven days, we kindly request, again, that any parents, sponsors, or friends with authorized access to the Yard refrain from visiting.

Thank you in advance for your support, and I will provide another update in about a week. Again, our goal is to provide our midshipmen the opportunity for liberty during the Thanksgiving holiday, while we safeguard the health and well-being of our midshipmen and community here in Annapolis.

Sincerely,

S.S. BUCK