



August 28 , 2020

Dear Mt. Royal Families,

**September 8 is the first day of virtual school** and it is right around the corner! Our teachers are officially back at work as of 8/26 and are working hard to prepare a robust virtual learning experience for our students and families! As we are launching something we have never done before, information is changing rapidly, but it is our goal to have a consistent structure once we launch. We know there are still things to address prior to September 8<sup>th</sup> and I hope that the information below answers some of your questions and concerns. Other questions and details will be addressed at parent orientations on 9/3. Please read below:

### **Teacher Assignments and Campus Portal**

This year, we will be using Campus Portal for parents to view their child's teachers, classes and grades. This is a crucial part of staying connected while we engage in distance learning and we hope to have 100% our families connected this way. As of today, 8/27 – all students enrolled at Mt. Royal are assigned to their teachers for SY 20/21. If you don't have a campus portal account, you can create one by clicking [HERE!](#) If you have issues – you can call ITD at 443-984-2000 or call the Mt. Royal office at 410-396-0864 between 9am and 3pm to update your information in order to register.

### **Orientation Schedule**

On Sept 3 – ALL teachers will be facilitating virtual parent orientations to fill parents and students in on the instructional tech programs/applications, schedules, expectations, grading, attendance, communication etc. You will receive a link from your child's teacher(s) next week to get access but please mark your calendars for the following times according to the grade level your child(ren) are in.

### **Thursday, September 3rd Virtual Parent Orientations**

9:00-10:00 am: PreK, K, 1

10:00-11:00 am: 2nd and 3rd

11:00- 12:00 pm: 4th and 5th

1:00-2:00 pm: 6th

2:00-3:00 pm: 7th

3:00-4:00 pm: 8th

**Note: Zoom Links will be created and pushed out through email, posted on school website, and social media.**

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## Schedules

Teachers will be providing detailed schedules during orientations on 9/3. However, for family planning purposes, I have included a general schedule that is attached to the parent email and can be seen by clicking [HERE for Elementary School](#) and [HERE for Middle School](#). Please note that the instructional day is from 9am – 3pm for most students and we are providing an increased amount of synchronous/live instruction daily. Class times were determined by guidance from City Schools District Office. *Note: ELA = English Language Arts, Synchronous = Live Instruction with teacher, SPAR = Special Area Resource (Art, Physical Education, Music, Spanish, Library, Theater). More details will be shared by your child's teacher on September 3.*

## Uniforms

We have received several questions about uniforms for virtual learning. We are not requiring students to wear uniforms to engage in virtual learning.

## Device Distribution and Academic Materials

**Devices:** We are still awaiting the delivery of student laptops and hotspots and as soon as we receive them will announce days for distribution.

**Academic Materials:** To clarify – students will be receiving materials that are required for their coursework that are not accessible online. These materials will be bagged and prepared by grade level and will include Wit and Wisdom (English Language Arts) workbooks and accompanying novels for Quarters 1 and 2, composition notebooks. Unfortunately, Eureka Math workbooks are on backorder for the whole district and won't be available until the end of September/early October. Dates for materials pick will correlate with device distribution and will be announced soon and should be next week.

For anyone who can't make it to school to pick up devices or academic materials on the set days – don't worry! – we will have designated hours after the set dates for parents to come pick up items in a socially distant and safe way from Mt. Royal. Our goal is to have 100% of our students and families prepared to be successful with distance learning.

We cannot thank you enough for your partnership. Never in the history of education have parents and schools worked so closely in collaboration for the success of children and we are extremely thankful for your partnership.

Kindly,

Stephen D. Skeen Jr.

Steve Skeen, Principal

Mt. Royal Elementary/Middle #66



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