



RAMS CONNECT

Augusta Raa Middle School
Raa Pride – Ram Tough!

Volume 5, Issue 1

March 23, 2020

LEAD – INSPIRE – SERVE

Hello Ram Nation!!!

We are entering week 2 of our extended Spring Break and I hope that each of our Raa Families are in good spirits. These are the types of circumstances that we cannot ignore the challenges of, but also have to keep in mind that after every storm that comes are way we become stronger and more resilient for the next circumstance of life. As the proud principal of over 900 Raa students, the father of a 2nd grader in Leon County Schools and advocate for our community of families, I am standing in agreement with each of you that we will come out victorious. I am thankful for the power of love within our families and challenge you to find moments this week to share a kind word or a moment of laughter with someone you are connected to. ***We will also kick-off a Virtual Spirit Week starting March 30th so stay tune for details.*** Below are also a few updates regarding our current status and our plans for instruction beginning on March 30th.

Academic Updates:

The Leon County Schools Academic Services Team has worked to provide a convenient collection of learning packets categorized by subject for Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. These resources review and support key areas in academic content to provide students with subject area enrichment for what has already been covered this year with students. The resources provide an opportunity for students to continue working while away from the traditional classroom

setting amid COVID-19. It is our hope that we will be reporting to school soon and the traditional classroom will once again be the primary way to teach and enrich our students, but until that directive it is important to provide some system of support for our Raa Rams and families.

We want to be respectful of what different families are dealing with at the moment, but also be able to provide some avenues for our scholars to be able to keep up with some of the grade appropriate academic skills during this time off.

Digital and paper copies of the Learning Packets will be available on March 30th and we will be sure to share the links and access for these once things are finalized. Our Front Office will also be open starting on March 30th from 8am – 12pm Monday- Friday for families to pick-up hard copies of the packets if you are not able to access them online.

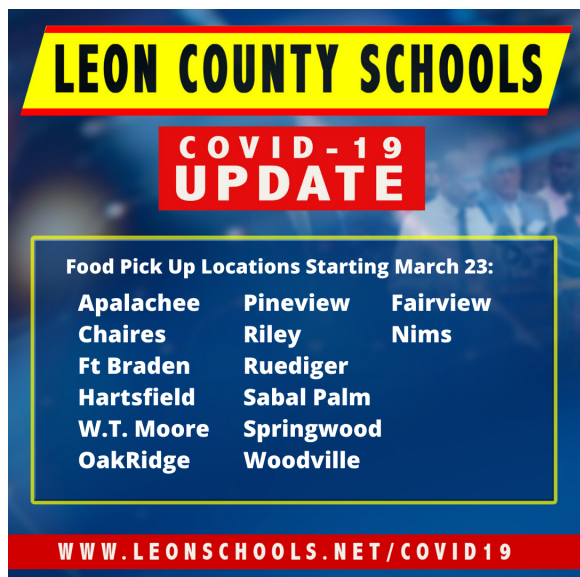
Completed Learning Packets for Week 1 (March 30th – April 3rd) and Week 2 (April 6th – 10th) can be returned the week of April 13th via hard copy to the front office or answers can be emailed directly to teachers via each students Classlink Portal.

At this time our campus hallways and classrooms are not open to the public and we will do our best to maintain respect for social distancing for those coming to pick-up paper copies of Learning Packets.

Food and Support Items:

We have been presented with an opportunity to host a **Drive Thru Farm Share Distribution Event** on our campus this **Wednesday, March 25th from 8am – 10am**. We will be giving out close to 15,000 pounds of food and this is open to the public. We will be stationed in the bus ramp and the entry point will be from 10th Avenue. See attached flyer to spread the word.

The district has also set up 14 different school sites that will act as food distribution locations for **free breakfast and lunch** for students under the ages of 18 years old. Groceries will also be provided to each family unit. This will begin on **Monday, March 23rd around 10am**. See the flyer below for designated school locations.



Mental Health and Wellness:

Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations and this situation is definitely unique and bring about many unknown elements. As hard as it may be and as much as teens may want to have additional freedoms, structured routines and schedules are great ways to minimize anxiety and provide systems for processing information. Identify what may work for you and your home and remember to keep our Raa Rams on as much of a routine as possible.

You may also visit our district Mental Health website below for additional resources and support:

<https://www.leonschools.net/Domain/7259>

Field Trips and Spring Events:

Based upon the ongoing health and wellness concerns as well as items related to social distancing it has been decided that all large group gatherings including sporting events and all field trips for the rest of the school year will be cancelled. We will work out a plan with the district on how best to process refunds and we are currently working with a few vendors regarding deposits. We will be in contact with families once we have more details on school operations.

For 8th grade parents that reserved their child's seat for the Washington, DC Trip with World Strides Travel Agency they are looking into allowing us to postpone the DC trip until late June in hopes that conditions and our situations improve. Mr. Collins along with the travel agency will provide additional updates in the weeks to come and parents may also contact World Strides Directly regarding their payment accounts.

Stay Connected:

If you have not already done so please subscribe to our social media platforms on Facebook or Instagram, subscribe to our email Listserve group by going to our school website, and join us for Remind101 text alerts by Texting @raarams19 to 81010.

Comcast Partnership:

Comcast/Xfinity is giving away two free months of internet service for families who qualify, regularly priced at \$9.95/month plus tax after that until they cancel. There is no contract so they can disconnect at any time without penalty. It's only for new customers, but existing customers have some additional perks and protections they're offering too.

https://www.internetessentials.com/covid19#gethelp&all_Pricingandotherinfo

Please also check-out the following link for other information and resources that you may quality for:

<https://corporate.comcast.com/covid-19>

We are ONE RAM NATION!!

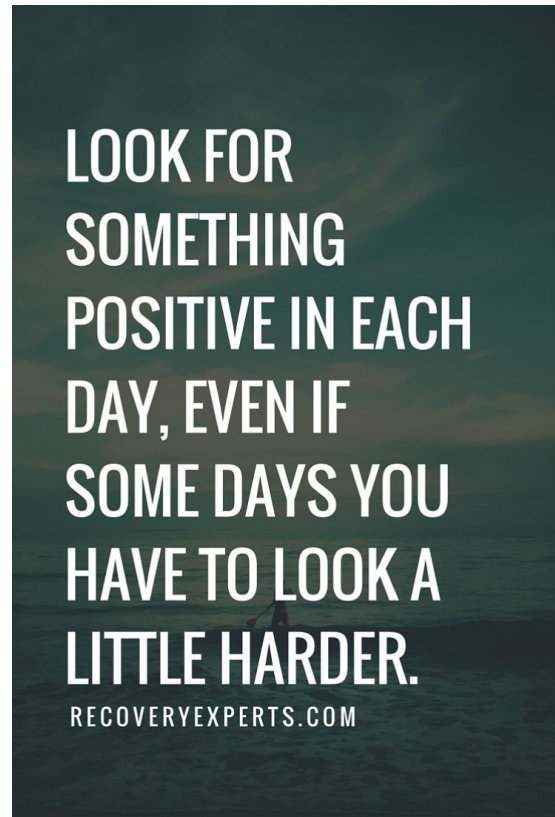
Thank you all for your patience with this and I will work to continue to keep you posted as I receive additional information.

I Love you all and there is NOTHING you can do about it!!

Sincerely,



Dr. Small
Proud Principal of Raa Middle School



Eclaster.com

RAA MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTS



**TUESDAY
GAME DAY**

PLAY A FAMILY GAME AND
HAVE A GOOD LAUGH.
POST & TAG US WITH
#RAMTOUGH

**MONDAY
PJ DAY**

BRIGHTEN UP SOCIAL MEDIA
WITH PJS & A GOOD BOOK.
POST & TAG US WITH
#RAMTOUGH

**VIRTUAL
SPIRIT
WEEK**

MARCH 30TH - APRIL 3RD

#RAMTOUGH TO WIN

**WEDNESDAY
GET FIT**

SPEND 20 MINUTES BEING
PHYSICALLY ACTIVE.
POST & TAG US WITH
#RAMTOUGH

THURSDAY

CREATIVITY DAY

CREATE SOMETHING ARTISITC
AND SHARE A SMILE.
POST & TAG US WITH
#RAMTOUGH

**FRIDAY
SPIRIT DAY**

YOUR SPIRIT IS STRONG!
POST FAMILY PIC IN
SPIRIT WEAR!
POST & TAG US



FARM SHARE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

LEON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Wednesday, March 25, 2020
8:00am - While supplies last

Raa Middle School Bus Loop
401 W. Tharpe St.

For More information, or to volunteer contact
Dr. Michelle Gayle: 850-487-7177

** This is a Drive Thru event to be accessed by 10th St. from MLK **

Distribution of these materials is in no way an endorsement of services,
activities, and/or products by Leon County Schools.

