

COME WITH US
ON OUR
JOURNEY!

Kate Sullivan Orientation
2020-2021



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Good afternoon and welcome to the 2020-21 School Year. While there has been a great deal of uncertainty for the last several months, please know that the teachers and staff have been working hard for many weeks now to prepare for our students both on campus and at home.

This year our theme is “Destination Learning” and while that centers on academic success, we know that there is no greater priority than student and staff safety. To that end, we have put in place many, many new procedures well beyond simply wearing masks. With the addition of our Digital Academy we are now in a very good place for social distancing with our brick and mortar students, and all of our classrooms have hygiene kits that contain many items for keeping our classrooms safe and sanitized. There are also very specific procedures for transitioning, for accessing the bathroom, for Special Area, and for eating lunch safely. There are a couple of very specific ways you can help though if you are sending your children to campus. Please send them with a full bottle of water and at least one to two masks each day. It is also important that, if they bring their lunch that it contains items they can open on their own. Finally, in spite of all of this, we want you to know that we fully appreciate that they are still kids! In that regard, we have very deliberately put into place very safe “mask breaks” and other activities to help them adapt and cope with this “new normal” as we know all of this is hard on them too.

Aside from all of the obvious safety measures that must be put in place, the teachers are working hard on lesson plans that will fill the gaps left from last spring and that will also move all of our students to new academic heights. And please know that many steps are being taken to make sure our digital students feel connected to Kate Sullivan Elementary while they are at home. Additionally, we are also developing ways to offer meaningful interventions and enrichment so that we can meet all of our students’ needs. Our “Destination” really is “Learning” and that includes all of us. It’s going to be a great year!

Finally, as always, please, please sign up for our school listserv as well as your teacher’s Remind account. If you need to sign up for listserv, please visit our website: <https://www.leonschools.net/sullivan> and click the listserv link. I am looking forward to what the new school year holds for all of us. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call or email me. Go Crocodiles!

Mr. Bryan
Principal

Who is attending Digital Academy?

In a word: EVERYONE. In the event that any of our Crocodiles need to be learning from home, we want to ensure that they are comfortable and confident using the Canvas Learning Management System. Additionally, this will provide us the opportunity to begin exploring Blended Learning as an instructional approach.

What is Blended Learning?

In a nutshell, Blended Learning is a research-based instructional approach where students learn partially online, partially in a brick and mortar location, and along a more individualized path designed to provide a more integrated learning experience. NOW, given the many challenges presented to us this year, we will not be able to fully operationalize a Blended Learning model, but this well-established instructional approach does provide us with a wealth of information that will assist our teachers as they plan and prepare for instruction. If, ultimately, Blended Learning is a chance to reinvent what learning looks like for our students, then we see this next year as an opportunity to develop some ways-of-work that will sustain us in the future. The 1:1 commitment made by our district ensures that our students will have blended learning experiences for years to come. We all know what they say about life, lemons, and lemonade...we are going to approach the 2020-2021 school year as chance to make some lemonade!!

How will our children be learning?

Students will use our new learning management system, Canvas, to access everything!!! Canvas will be accessible to all students through their ClassLink accounts. Once in Canvas, our students will be able to link with learning modules, assignments, and more. Canvas will also be where they will turn in completed work and receive feedback from their teachers. Students will have moments of live instruction, independent work, small group instruction, and BREAKS. Any students who receive services will continue to receive those services LIVE.

What will our children learn?

Our students will still be receiving Florida Standards aligned instruction in all core academic areas: English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. They will also receive P.E., Art, and Music. We will continue to use vetted curriculum resources such as, but not limited to, Canvas Digital Modules, Wonders, Go Math!, Fusion's Science, etc.

School Day:

All of 5th grade will be operating as a Hybrid model. This means that each teacher will have about 11 students in class as well as about 11 students digitally. Each group of students will be presented with the lesson and then given an assignment to complete to show their understanding of the content that was covered. A more detailed schedule will be given by each homeroom teacher.

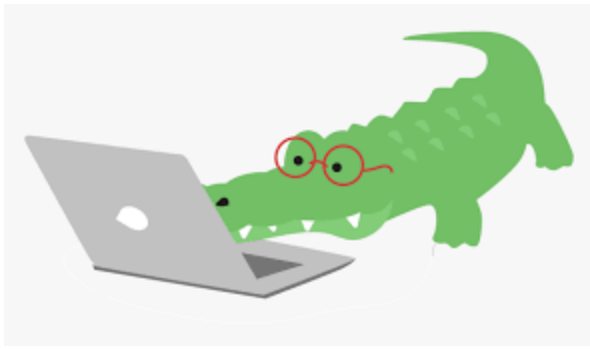
The grading policy will be as it was last year. Students' grades will be calculated using the following:

70% Assessments

20% Quizzes

10% Classwork

Please note that grades will reflect student's progression and mastery of standards covered and not just completion.



LEARNING FROM HOME THIS YEAR??? HERE ARE A FEW STUDENT AND PARENT EXPECTATIONS...

At-Home Student Expectations:

- All students are expected to go LIVE at 8:30 a.m. for their Morning Meeting. Daily attendance will be taken at this time. Students who are not present during this meeting will be marked absent or tardy. If you are late, please contact your teacher as soon as you are present. If you have an appointment, please provide the appropriate documentation so that the tardy/absence can be excused.
- Students are expected to access daily schedules, assignments, due dates, etc. through Canvas
- Students are expected to complete all assignments in a timely manner; assignments are graded work not just evidence of participation
- Students (and/or parents) are expected to contact their teacher with all questions and concerns about assignments

Parent Expectations:

- Parents are expected to sign up for Parent Portal in FOCUS in order to keep up with student grades.
- Parents are expected to sign up for Parent Canvas in order to keep up with assignments and other posted information; this information should be kept up with in the same manner as the agenda book and other school-to-home communications.
- Parents are expected to help students stick to their daily schedules.
- Parents are expected to make sure students are completing work as assigned
- Parents are expected to assist their child in creating an at-home learning space designed for maximum success. Parents are expected to offer encouragement and help students remain on-task and on schedule.
- Parents are expected to help students learn ON THEIR OWN...a moment of guidance, words of encouragement, a quick clarification or restatement is absolutely okay...teachers do this all the time...however, we need our students to show us what they are capable of doing independently in order to provide them with the most appropriate instruction.

Special Area

- All special area assignments will be done through Canvas. A schedule will be sent home by your homeroom teacher that will provide your child's special area schedule.

BRICK AND MORTAR STUDENT? HERE ARE A FEW STUDENT AND PARENT EXPECTATIONS...



Student Expectations:

- All students are expected to wear a mask for the entirety of the school day, with the exception of lunch. We will be providing masks breaks when possible.
- Students will need to have a pre-filled water bottle for class as water fountains will only be used to refill water bottles, not for drinking.
- Students will be expected to practice social distancing at all times throughout the school day.
- Students are expected to complete all assignments in a timely manner. Assignments are graded work, not just evidence of participation.
- All other aspects of school will apply (following classroom rules and procedures).

Parent Expectations:

- Parents are expected to sign up for Parent Portal in FOCUS in order to keep up with student grades
- Please sign up for Listserv as well as your homeroom teacher's Remind so that you can stay up to date with the latest school information.
- Please help us with reiterating the importance of wearing a mask as it helps to keep those around us safe and ourselves safe. Please be aware that students that cannot follow this policy, will be asked to begin using the digital platform.
- Students that are sent home with fevers are to be kept out of school until they are fever-free (without the aid of medication) for 72 hours.

Other Useful Information

Arrival to school:

Student Walk-ups

- All 5th grade students walking up will enter through the gates at the entrance of the 3-5 playground and walk to the PE Covered Area.
- If there are a number of students waiting at the Covered Area, students will stand in marked 6ft intervals along the sidewalk leading up to the Covered Area.
- Staff will conduct the Daily Health Screening (temperature check and the appearance, breathing, and circulation assessments) upon entrance.

- Students will then be directed to go straight to their homeroom teacher's classroom. If a student needs breakfast, he/she should report directly to the cafeteria to pick up breakfast and then proceed directly to the classroom to eat.
- Any student that does not pass the Daily Health Screening will be sent to our Quarantine room, where they may be assessed a second time, and either wait for a parent to pick them up or be sent back to class if the second screening was acceptable.

Parent Drop-Off

- Staff will conduct the Daily Health Screening (temperature check and the appearance, breathing, and circulation assessments) as students arrive and exit their vehicle.
- Students will be given a "CLEARED" ticket to show that they have passed the Daily Health Screening and will enter the school through the gates at the 3-5 playground and proceed to their homeroom classes.
- If a student needs breakfast, they will report to the cafeteria to pick up their breakfast then go directly to their homeroom class to eat.

Bus Riders

- Staff will conduct the Daily Health Screening (temperature check and the appearance, breathing, and circulation assessments) as students arrive and exit the bus.
- Any student that does not pass the Daily Health Screening will be sent to our Quarantine room, where they may be assessed a second time, and either wait for a parent to pick them up or be sent back to class if the second screening was acceptable.
- If a student needs breakfast, they will report to the cafeteria to pick up their breakfast then go directly to their homeroom class to eat.

Dismissal from school:

- Students will be dismissed at 2:50 to their designated dismissal spots. Bus students will wait at the bus loop, car pick up students will wait in a designated area with social distancing protocols in place on the 3-5 playground and students that walk home, will be dismissed through the side gates. East Hill and Lafayette students will go to the K-2 playground to be collected and KSE Extended Day will go to the 3-5 playground to meet Afterschool staff.
- During these transitions, students will be required to wear their masks.

Special Area:

- Art, Music and Media will all occur in the homeroom teacher's classroom
- PE will occur outside as long as weather permits.

We are all in this together. If concerns arise, please do not hesitate to reach out to your homeroom teacher. This is a new journey for us all. We know that there will be obstacles, but we will do all that we can to make this year run as smooth as possible.