August 20, 2020

This is Jared Cotton, Superintendent of Chesapeake Public Schools, with a few important updates about our return to school plans.

The first day of learning is right around the corner and our schools are busy preparing to welcome our students and families to a brand new school year. We know things will look different and this may not be the way we had hoped school would start, but we know that everyone in our CPS family is virtually unstoppable - our teachers, our support staff, our students, and our parents.

In your email inbox, you’ll see a copy of our new family update called Be Virtually Unstoppable. This update will include information about our device distribution plan, the launch of Schoology, and other important information to get you and your family ready for September 8th. We plan to provide additional updates like this as the year continues and we will be sure to post copies on our website.

Our school principals will begin contacting families with their dates and times for technology pickup beginning next week. Distribution will start with our families who identified a need in ParentVue earlier in the summer. If your needs have changed, please contact your school as soon as possible so we can help.

To also better support online learning this fall, we are excited to introduce Schoology to our students and their families. We will host four, live Schoology demonstrations where you can ask questions and see the features of this new learning management system, that includes easy access to assignments, class materials, communication tools and more.

Our schools and guidance departments are also working diligently to finalize teacher assignments. That information will be available through ParentVue the week of August 31st.

Finally, beginning next week, our schools and offices will return to normal operating hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We continue to ask all visitors to call to schedule an appointment before making a visit.

Despite all the challenges, I continue to be so proud of the important work being done to ensure our students learn and grow. We are excited to see and support them and to get back to things we do best - establishing connections, instilling a love for learning, and celebrating successes. We remain committed to our students and families and we are here for you. Thank you.
The first day of learning is right around the corner and our schools are busy preparing to welcome our students and families to a brand new school year. To help our students be successful virtually, we've included some important information below. We will provide additional updates like this as the year continues and all updates will be posted on our website.

**DEVICE DISTRIBUTION** - During the week of August 25-28, schools will begin device distribution based on need as determined by ParentVue responses from earlier this summer. Schools will contact families directly with instructions for picking up devices. Additional opportunities for device pickup will be available the week of August 31- September 4.

**SCHOOLEG ACCESS** - Schoology is an all-inclusive learning environment that brings everything students, parents and teachers need into an easy-to-use digital platform that is great for both on-campus and at-home learning. To help families prepare to use this new platform, we will host four live Schoology demonstrations:

- **Thursday, August 27 at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.**
- **Tuesday, September 1 at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE** - We know you must be wondering how attendance will work now that we will begin the year online. Daily attendance for teacher-led learning sessions is important to student success; however, we recognize the scheduling challenges families may face. **Meaningful interaction between a teacher and a student will count as daily attendance.**

In order to accommodate the needs of our students and families, students may participate in any of the following **meaningful interactions**:

1. Attending a teacher-led learning session.
2. Collaborating with a teacher 1:1 or in small group during teacher office hours.
3. Submitting an independent learning activity, assessment, or participation in an online discussion board in Schoology.
4. Communicating with a teacher via email, videoconferencing, or phone call.

**STAY CONNECTED**

CPSCHOOLS.COM  @CPSCHOOLSA  CPSCHOOLSVA

Family Update: 8.20.20
Choose your preferred session and register online to attend:

- August 27 at 2:00 p.m.
- August 27 at 6:00 p.m.
- September 1 at 2:00 p.m.
- September 1 at 6:00 p.m.

Can’t attend live? Check out our [YouTube Channel](#) for recorded sessions and other parent resources.