

Email/Phone Call 8/21/2020 3pm

Good afternoon Villa Cresta Elementary Families,

We are very excited that in a few short weeks we will welcome you back to school! While many of you are disappointed, we are returning virtually, we can't wait to see you again and get started on this journey together. It will be challenging at times but also extremely rewarding and we will navigate those challenges together as a school community. This message contains several important pieces of information as your family begins to prepare for remote learning.

First, it is vital that our phone calls and emails are making it to your families. Check that your voicemail boxes are accepting messages and our emails are not going to your junk box or blocked. We have approximately 8% of our families not receiving our phone calls or emails. The best way to ensure you are receiving our emails is to add, noreply@bcps.org to your email contact list and unblock our phone number (410-887-5275). If at any time you think you missed an email or phone communication you can also check our school website where we will be posting all administrative correspondences for the school year for you to reference. This new tab is coming soon and will be titled, Virtual Learning 2020-2021.

This email contains the virtual learning schedules that Villa Cresta ES will follow for the 2020-2021 school year. As stated in an earlier correspondence, our school hours will be from 9am to 4pm. During this time, the entire school will break for lunch, recess, and some asynchronous learning mid-day. It is our hope that this will provide a screen break for students, allow families with multiple children to all have this break at the same time and to support child care centers who are servicing Villa Cresta students. Many of you are engaging in learning pods or coming together to support each other in home teaching. We are not able to move student classroom based on these pods, but we can assure you that students in the same grade level will follow the same online schedules and teachers will work collaboratively in planning and delivering instruction. Some work will be different based on different needs of individual students. This occurs even with students in the same classrooms. I appreciate your understanding and know we understand your need to plan for home instruction as well.

At this time, we can also share that we will have scheduled distribution days the week of August 31st where we will provide students with a bag of school supplies, curriculum materials that will be used for remote learning, and to distribute devices to all kindergarten students and students in grades 1 to 5 still in need of a device. I want to thank American Legion Post 174 out of Timonium for generously donating over \$1,000 worth of school supplies for our students. Details of the distribution dates and protocol will be sent to families next week. Please watch for this communication.

Finally, all families were mailed a personalized letter stating your child's teacher as well as a printed schedule for their grade level. The letter is also attached below along with the schedules for all grade levels. We know you have many questions, information will continue to come out as plans are finalized and approved for release. As teachers return, they will also begin emailing and reaching out to you. Details on google meet codes, small group times, and special area schedules will come to your emails by classroom teachers by September 4th. Please read their communications and respond accordingly so they can do everything they can to have all students prepared to join us online for the first day of school on Tuesday, September 8th.

Take care, stay well, and we will see you soon to distribute school supplies as we begin the 2020-2021 school year!

Mrs. Rohrbaugh, Principal Villa Cresta Elementary School