

Puppy Tales

Michigan Avenue Elementary

2015 South Michigan Avenue
Saint Cloud, Florida 34769



www.maes.osceolaschools.net

Mrs. Diane Crook-Nichols, Principal
Ms. Erin Williams, Assistant Principal

August 2020

LETTER FROM ADMINISTRATION

Greetings, Bullpup Families!

We are so excited to welcome our students back into the building (and online) on August 24. These past few months have been filled with challenges for our community, and we are looking forward to being able to work with our students face-to-face and digitally.

Please know that while there are still many uncertainties, Michigan Avenue continues to be committed to the social development and academic success of our students. Our doors are open to answer your questions and address your concerns. We have implemented new safety procedures and health expectations. Our top priority continues to be to provide our students with high quality education in the safest environment that we can create.

As this year has been a year of consistent change, please know that Ms. Williams and I are readily available to answer any questions or concerns that you may have. Student learning and safety continue to be our top priorities. As we receive information, we will continue to notify you through Remind and Facebook. If you are not linked into Michigan Avenue, please check your student's agenda for our REMIND code. We have found this to be an extremely successful way to communicate with parents about happenings on campus. We also

use Facebook to share great pictures of activities that are happening with our students and staff.

We are truly looking forward to this school year and the opportunity to serve your child/children. As a community, it is the time to unite and build together. We are looking forward to a wonderfully successful year!

Sincerely,

Diane Crook-Nichols, Principal

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF

We have some new faces joining our team this year! Please join me as we welcome the following new team members!

Ms. Ximena Ballesteros, School Counselor

Ms. Andrea Carrion-Barragan, ESE SNA

Ms. Luz Howard, ESE SNA

Ms. Kerrie Perez, Paraprofessional

Ms. Nazari Gonzalez, Custodian

Ms. Melissa Gatlin, ASD Teacher

Ms. Haley Kibbe, Kindergarten Teacher

Ms. Kimberly Connors, Kindergarten Teacher

Mr. Zachary Brown, Kindergarten Teacher

Mrs. Estefania Wheeler, First Grade Teacher

Ms. Krysta Gonzalez, First Grade Teacher

Ms. Michele Rivera, Third Grade Teacher

Ms. Candace Mercadante, Fourth Grade Teacher

Ms. Claire Polachek, Fourth Grade Teacher

Ms. Rachel Keener, Fourth Grade Teacher



This Photo by Unknown Author is

HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATES

To keep our students and staff healthy, we are asking that students follow all health and safety guidelines.

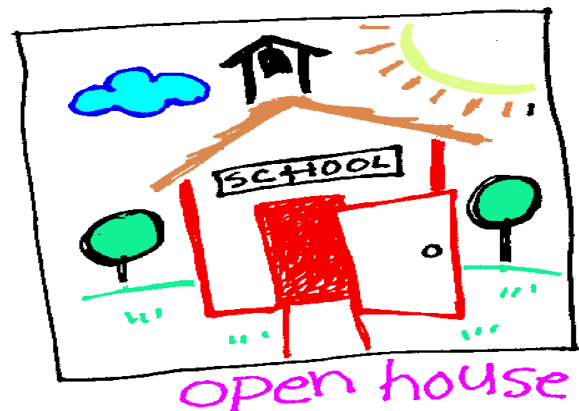
1. Students will practice social distancing in all classrooms and wear masks throughout the day. The school will provide five masks per student that can be washed and reused. Students should arrive at school daily with a mask and students will be expected to wear the mask throughout the day.
2. There are stations around campus for frequent handwashing. Throughout the day, teachers will ask students to wash and sanitize their hands.
3. Students will have individualized supplies and we ask that students do not share with others. We are also requesting that students do not engage in any physical contact with each other or the staff to ensure safety for all.
4. Breakfast will continue to be served daily, but it is a "Grab-n-Go" format. Students will eat breakfast in their classrooms daily.
5. During lunch, students will practice social distancing in line as they wait for their

lunches. Two choices will be provided each day. Students are welcome to continue to bring lunch and snacks from home. Students will not be permitted to share their lunch with other students. The students will sit in a forward-facing direction with social distancing in place. No more than three students will be allowed at each table. Seating will be marked with yellow labels, so students know where to sit.

6. Students will participate in regular temperature checks to ensure the health and safety of all. Please partner with us and check your student's temperature prior to sending him/her to school. If your child is feeling ill or running a higher than normal temperature, please keep your child at home. We have many students in the building, and we would like to keep everyone healthy.

OPEN HOUSE

This year our Open House will be completely virtual! Open House is Friday, August 21, on demand all day! Look for updates on Remind and Facebook to see how you can "meet and greet" with your child's teacher!



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We are excited to continue to offer extracurricular activities, as the safety

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requirements allow. We are hopeful to continue to offer Art Club, Battle of the Books, Chess Club, Chorus, Cross Country, Disney Musicals in Schools, Fitness Olympics, Gaming Club, Odyssey of the Mind, Soccer, and Track. We will make daily announcements to notify students when it is deemed appropriate to start these activities. Please keep in mind that numbers may be limited due to social distancing requirements.

A NOTE FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

We are so excited to announce the addition of a second school counselor. Ms. Ximena Ballesteros is joining Mrs. Shiver in the guidance department. Mrs. Shiver will continue to work with our students, focusing mainly on grades 3-5, and Ms. Ballasteros is thrilled to be working with our primary students. They are both eager and excited to begin small groups and support your students!

SPIRIT SHIRTS AND UNIFORMS

Please be reminded about our policies in regards to the school uniform. Students are permitted to wear navy, white, maroon, and yellow polos to school. Fridays are designated, SPIRIT days, and students are permitted to wear a Bullpup t-shirt. Students may wear black, navy, or khaki pants and skirts. Students may also wear jeans if they are not adorned with decoration and free of holes. Students also may not wear hoodies and all jackets must zip up the front.

SPIRIT Shirts are currently for sale! Please check out the Michigan Avenue Facebook page for details to order yours today! The shirts are \$10.00 each and you can purchase them through MySchoolBucks.com



STUDENT ARRIVAL

7:50 a.m.

Students are allowed on campus at 7:50 a.m. Staff members report to work at 7:50 a.m. As a result, supervision for student arrival is not available until this time. If morning daycare is an issue, please consider the Osceola School District Extended Learning program. You may contact the Extended Learning office at 407-343-8780 to register your child for morning care services.

WITHDRAWALS

~ 24 HOUR NOTIFICATION~

If you plan to withdraw your child from MAES, 24-hour notification must be given and it is necessary that you come into the office on the last day of attendance to sign a withdrawal form. Only the parent who registered the student may withdraw the student. The parent/guardian who registered the child may call the office one day prior to notify the office regarding the withdrawal. This will give our office and teachers ample time to fill

out necessary paperwork (withdrawal form) and input all student grades in FOCUS for an accurate student withdrawal grade in each academic area. It will also allow the school the opportunity to check all textbooks and library books as they must be returned.

PREARRANGED PERMITTED ABSENCES

Absences from school for a family trip, other than an emergency, is greatly discouraged. In almost all cases, the student's grades can suffer from being absent from regular classroom activity. In some cases, advance (prearranged) approval for a permitted absence can be obtained from the Principal. Attendance records will be reviewed before a permitted absence is granted by the Administration. Excessive absences (cumulative excused and unexcused more than 7 days) may lead to the permitted absence being denied. **No more than 3 days will be permitted for a prearranged Permitted Absence.** Anything more than 3 days will be unexcused and you may be asked to withdraw your child from school if the time is more than 10 days. Students may re-register upon their return. Only one permitted absence form will be approved each school year.

RAINY DAY DISMISSAL PLAN

RAINY DAY ~ NO LIGHTNING

RAINY DAY (NO LIGHTNING): *light sprinkle* - Follow normal dismissal plan.

RAINY DAY (NO LIGHTNING): *hard rain*

Car Riders & Day Care Riders: No Change – students report to the cafeteria.

Paws/Walkers & Bike Riders: K – 5th grade students, report to the foyer. PAWS students will be released to parents from the foyer by staff.

Bus Riders – teachers walk students to the Media Center hallway.

Extended Learning: No Change - report to Rm. 1-123.



RAINY DAY ~ WITH LIGHTNING

RAINY DAY (LIGHTNING): *report to following areas*

Car Riders & Day Care Riders – No Change – students report to the cafeteria.

Paws/Walkers & Bike Riders: K – 5th grade students, report to the foyer. PAWS students will be released to the parent from the Foyer by staff.

Bus Riders – teachers walk students to the Media Center hallway.

Extended Learning: No Change - report to Cafeteria.



In the event that dismissal is delayed due to rain or storms, we will post updates on our school's Facebook page and through REMIND.

SCHOOL HOURS AND INFORMATION

The office hours are 7:30-4:00 daily. Student class hours are 8:20-3:20, with the exception of Wednesday. School hours on Wednesdays are 8:20-2:20.

Please be reminded that students may NOT be on campus prior to 7:50 a.m. as there are no staff members available to provide supervision prior to that time. The only exception to this rule is if students are involved in a scheduled supervised school activity with a teacher sponsor or coach.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Due to our blended school (face to face and digital), all events will be placed on the calendar on the school website this year. We will not be sending home a paper calendar with the upcoming events. We will also post upcoming events to our Facebook page. Please check the website and the Facebook page often so you are up to date on all the great things happening at Michigan Avenue Elementary!