



Dr. Joanie M. Miranda Díaz

Reedy Creek Elementary School Principal

**August 21, 2020**

**Dear Reedy Creek Elementary Community:**

Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year.

It is a pleasure to start this adventure with each one of you. At Reedy Creek Elementary School, we have been working arduously to ensure that the start of the School Year 2020-2021 is a safe one. Given the global situation related to COVID-19 and the continuing health risks, we believe physical distancing must be seriously accomplished to safeguard the health and safety of our school community. Parents and students will be assisted by teachers and staff during the first weeks of school on protocols and procedures during these times. We want you to carefully read the following guidelines to promote the best safety and academic measures.

### **Face to Face Students**

#### **Arrival**

- Before students come to school, parents will check their temperature and assess any symptoms. If a child has a fever of 100.4 or higher, or a cough, or shortness of breath, or loss of taste or smell, or if he or she has been in direct contact with someone who has COVID-19, they must stay home and a parent should contact a medical provider. When waiting for the bus, students must practice social distancing and wear a face covering.
- All students should arrive with their masks on.
- We will have disposable masks on-site to provide students and we will work with parents on expectations if it becomes a reoccurring event.
- Students will use hand sanitizer as they board the bus. On the bus, they will wear face coverings and sit no more than two to a seat.
- All school buses will be cleaned nightly.
- Car riders will be dropped off in the car rider area; **parents will not be able to walk students to a classroom or to the cafeteria. Access to campuses will be limited to students and staff members only.** Parents should not stay in entrance areas or in school once they walk their child. This will go against the physical distancing guidelines.
- Walkers and bikers will enter the school at a designated entry point with face coverings on.
- Students will be entering through three entrances: Main entrance, back entrance (Crescent Lakes) and VPK will enter as they always do. Only teachers will enter through office entrance.
- There will be temperature checks at each entrance. (Two on the main entrance).
- As soon as students come in they will be directed to their classrooms, if not having breakfast, and directed to the cafeteria if they do.

- To avoid having students in cafeteria or hallways, District has instructed for teachers to be in rooms to receive students. Students will not eat breakfast in the cafeteria. Breakfast will be **grab and go**. This means they take it and eat it in their rooms.
- Selected staff will be in hallways to make sure students do not stay in Hallways.
- Kindergarten teachers will meet students in the cafeteria at assigned tables for the first two weeks. There will be specific staff supervising them.

### **Physical Distancing**

- Students will be seated maintaining physical distance. They will have the same assigned seat every day.
- Students will not share materials with other students or work in any small group format.
- Teachers will monitor the usage of bathrooms to avoid having clusters of students at the bathroom area at the same time.
- Students will not switch classrooms or desks. Teachers will be the ones who switch between the classrooms to minimize exposure of students and promote distancing. Students will only be released for specialized classes.
- During specialized classes students will also have seats separated maintaining physical distancing and assigned seats. Teachers will sanitize seats between classes.
- Interventionists and paraprofessionals will collect students to receive services. Services will be held in larger classrooms than usual to meet the parameters of physical distancing.
- Teachers will have disinfectant spray (hydrogen peroxide based) and hand sanitizer in their rooms to clean between activities and promote the sanitizing of hands.
- Students will have to bring their own water bottles for water fountains will be out of use. Only the one near the cafeteria will be open for students to refill water bottles if needed.

### **Cleaning and sanitizing**

- At the end of each school day our custodians will disinfect thoroughly all school areas with great emphasis on classrooms, cafeteria and bathrooms. They will first clean surfaces and then use cleaning foggers with EPA approved disinfectant. Thanks to the PTO, Reedy Creek has two Disinfecting Foggers plus one provided by district.
- The school nurse will have a designated isolation area in the event that a child or a staff member comes to school and presents COVID-19 symptoms.

### **Lunch Time**

- Only two students will be seated by table to maintain physical distance.
- Cafeteria tables will face in one direction.
- Students will have assigned seats in the cafeteria. This way they always sit in the same area minimizing cross contamination.
- To facilitate seating, tables will be identified by letters and seats by numbers. Each student will have an assigned seat, For example, A6, D5, J7, etc.
- Each number will be visible and mark the space where students will sit to maintain physical distancing.
- Students will enter and sit in their assigned seats. They will enter and sit in order by rows to avoid walking pass other students. They will exit through a different door and it will also be by rows. As soon as groups leave, custodians will immediately clean tables and seat before next group is seated. In the cafeteria, students will wear a face covering and use hand sanitizer when waiting in line for food and practice social distancing at all times.

## Dismissal

- There will be assigned staff to guide and supervise walkers to Crescent Lakes, front walkers, and car riders. KG teachers will bring bus riders out to the shaded area outside of the library supervised by digital teachers.
- Buses will be called over intercom (as they arrive) and students will walk to bus area. Assigned staff will be waiting outside verifying bus tags,
- Assigned staff will verify car rider tags, and walkers.
- Assigned staff will be monitoring hallways.

## Protocol if a student or staff member presents COVID-19 symptoms?

- The school nurse will have a designated isolation area in the event that a child or a staff member comes to school and presents COVID-19 symptoms. Parents will be contacted to pick ill students up immediately. Contact tracing will be used to identify students or staff members who may need to self-quarantine for 14 days. Students will transition to digital learning during the self-quarantine period using the TEAMS or Canvas platform.
- We will be working closely with the Department of Health regarding incidents of potential exposure. As the situations warrant, parents will be notified.

## Curbside Meals Program

- Beginning Monday, August 24, 2020, Osceola School District's School Nutrition Services Department will provide meals for digital learning students as part of a Curbside Meals Program.
- The time to pick up meals will be from 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM at the bus loop area
- Parents must provide a student's school ID with name and ID number to pick up meals.

## General academic guidelines for both Face to face students and digital students

- **Tardiness and attendance** - Both face-to-face and distance students will be required to be on time to class. Students must be in their respective classes at the time that corresponds to their homeroom group. Students are expected to attend classes on time so that they get the most out of their learning experience. A record of attendance will be kept. The cooperation of parents or student guardians is expected in this important matter. **Completion of classwork and homework (Digital Students)**- Students must meet the required dates for completion of work. Parents should collaborate in monitoring at home that students access their virtual classes, verify their platforms and complete their assignments.
- Teachers for both options will be following the same lesson plans which are developed around state standards and district curriculum pacing guides. Digital and face-to-face teacher will be collaborating in online professional learning communities (ePLCs) to ensure consistency and quality of instruction.

We know we have many challenges ahead. Nevertheless, we will be able to overcome. Together we can do it, because we are all in this together.

## If you have any other questions please visit:

<https://www.osceolaschools.net/Page/123> (Smart Start Home Page)

<https://www.osceolaschools.net/Page/5525> (Frequently Asked Questions)