



Cougar Column

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ONE Team!
ONE Goal!
Success for ALL!

Week of August 30, 2021

The Cougar Column is delivered via School Messenger

Dear Families,

Our district has put together a website for all the COVID information that you may need to access. It is now live at <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/covid-19/>. This site includes the COVID Dashboard, Quarantine Help Guides, directions to access online textbooks and Schoology, and Health & Safety resources. This is a great resource for families, and we are very grateful that our district has put all the pertinent information in one place for you. Please take a few minutes to review the shared information.

I have received emails regarding our safety protocols here at Crookshank and rather than address each email specifically, I decided to send the information out to everyone as many may have the same questions. Many protocols will be the same as last year and some have been adjusted. I hope this helps.

- **Classroom configurations:** Teachers will do their best to spread students out throughout the classroom. We are unable to space all desks out 3-6 feet. Our classroom sizes do not allow for that. Elementary will have students learn on the carpet during the day and seating charts will mirror the desk seating charts to minimize quarantining if needed.
- **Cafeteria:** We have been directed to limit our cafe capacity to 75% this school year. We will have classes sit together, face forward and stagger the seating to provide social distancing as much as possible. The rows are six feet apart. We will continue with seating charts. Due to the capacity limits and safety protocols, we must continue with no visitors at lunch time for all grades. Thank you for understanding.
- **Desks shields and temperature checks:** Neither of these former procedures will be utilized school-wide. These decisions were made by the restart committee for the district which included health officials, principals and district staff in conjunction with the county department of health.
- **Masks:** Parents have the choice to send their child to school masked or unmasked. We spent time during the first week of school reminding students to be respectful of each family's choice. We will not tolerate any negative comments regarding someone's decision to wear or not wear a mask.
- **Vaccination status:** As a reminder, vaccines are a choice and we cannot ask anyone if they have been vaccinated or not. This would be a violation of the Personal Health Information Protection Act.
- **Quarantining:** Unfortunately, we are still experiencing a pandemic and quarantining will continue. As you reference the district website, you will see the updated quarantining timelines, how to access Schoology and on-line textbooks, instructional expectations for the school and the student, COVID testing information, etc. The information is complete and very helpful on the district site. We will notify parents via email or DoJo regarding positive cases in classrooms so you are informed.
- **Small group instruction and/or interventions:** Yes, we will have small groups meet with teachers to reteach, remediate or differentiate. Teachers are aware of the "close contact" guidelines (within 3-6 feet for 15 minutes or more). Teachers will either space students out if the small group instruction time will exceed the 15 minutes or they will limit the time to under 15 minutes. Students will not be grouped based on whether they wear a mask or not. Students will be grouped based on instructional needs only, as always.
- **School cleaning protocols:** All enhanced cleaning protocols that were introduced last year will continue with no interruption.
- **Dismissal:** Students are gathered for dismissal in the cafeteria. The goal of for the process to be no more than 15 minutes and the students to spend the majority of the time outdoors, queued to get into their cars. As students leave for dismissal, those left in the café are further spread out. All students are facing forward and seated with their grade level.

We realize that this is stressful, and we are continually evaluating our procedures and routines to make sure that they are efficient, effective and most of all safe for all of our students. We are not able to offer individual accommodations at this time but appreciate your concerns and feedback and will do what we can to meet the needs for all of our Cougars.

Please refer to the Student Health Screener on the next page for further information regarding assessing yourself and your child's health daily.

Student Health Screening Entry Form

Please assess your child daily for the following symptoms and answer the contact questions.

- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Uncontrolled cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Muscle aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Is your child currently awaiting COVID-19 test results?
- Does your child live in the same household with someone positive for COVID19? **If yes, please keep your child home and notify the school nurse when test results are received. Further instructions will be discussed at that time.**
- Has your child had close contact with someone who in the past 14 days tested positive for COVID-19? **If yes, your child must quarantine for 7 days from the last date of contact with the positive individual. The quarantine period may be shortened if a negative COVID test result is obtained on day 5 or later from exposure to the positive case.**

Thank you!

Thank you so much for all of the snacks and goodies you donated. We were able to fill tote bags for the teachers and staff with your generous donations!

Monday	8-30	Related Arts Week C
Tuesday	8-31	
Wednesday	9-1	Early Release - Dismissal 1:45
Thursday	9-2	i-Ready Testing Begins - Math
Friday	9-3	Wear your Favorite Sports Team
Monday	9/6	No School - Labor Day
Tuesday	9/7	Related Arts Week D
Wednesday	9/8	Early Release - Dismissal 1:45
Thursday	9/9	
Friday	9/10	Wear a shirt with a positive message for National Positive Thinking Day
Looking ahead: Open House will be Virtual this year More information will be sent out regarding this event soon.		

Cougar P.A.W.S. PBIS Handbook

We are sending home a copy of our school-wide positive behavior plan in this week's Wednesday Folder. Be sure to review our P.A.W.S. Handbook with your student.

The purpose of this document is to summarize the actions that each of us can take to make this school year a successful one. Effective schools are the result of teamwork between school staff, students and their families. We want our school to be a safe and caring place where children are able to achieve academically and grow to be independent, respectful, creative and concerned citizens. We urge you to read this agreement and sign-on to the team, agreeing to do all that you can do to help.

Please sign the agreement with your student and return it to the teacher. Please keep the handbook in the Wednesday Folder for your convenience.

Parent Drop off and Dismissal Updates

We want to make pick up and drop off as safe and quick as possible. Here are some things that will help us and you with the process.

Things to remember:

- Instruction starts at 8:25. Students should be in the building no later than 8:20.
- Please have your student ready to exit the car. Unbuckle seat belts, get backpacks, and give last goodbye hugs and kisses BEFORE you get to the drop off zone.
- No animals are allowed on campus.
- Do not enter through the bus zone. This includes foot and vehicle traffic.
- You **must** have a parent pick up card. If you don't have one, please park and go to the front office.
- Tags should be displayed at the passenger side of the vehicle against the glass or hanging from the rear-view mirror, NOT laying flat on the dashboard.
- Dismissal ends at 3:05. After 3:05 you will need to park and sign your student out.
- Please stay at the pole until your student has arrived unless asked to park.
- Do not pull up unless you have your child, or someone directs you to pull up.
- Please pull off to the side or into a parking spot to buckle kids into car seats or seatbelt.
- Line up your passenger door with the opening in the fence in order for us to safely load your child into the car.
- Please load and unload from the passenger side of the car.
- Refrain from using cell phones in the car rider loop. This is for the safety of you and the students.
- Please be mindful of the people in the neighborhood and don't block driveways.