



Myakka River Elementary School

Charlotte County Public Schools

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Grace Shepard ~ Principal

Ryane Magill- Assistant Principal

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Dear Mighty Manatee Families:

As we prepare to welcome our students for the 2020-2021 school year, we have examined every aspect of their school day in an effort to provide students a safe, healthy environment in which to receive an education. The following changes and protocols will be in place during the first quarter of the school year. These changes and protocols will be examined and possibly amended at the beginning of the second quarter, depending on the trend in the number of COVID cases in the state of Florida and in Charlotte County, particularly.

Students

- Masks: All students are required to wear a **mask, buff, or neck gaiter** while on school grounds.
 - Special considerations will be given to pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and Exceptional Student Education (ESE) students.
 - Mask breaks may be given throughout the day when social distancing is possible.
 - Students requiring medical exemptions for wearing a mask must turn in medical documentation.
 - All students will receive a lanyard from the school to hold their identification badge and mask
 - Students may carry up to 3oz of personal hand sanitizer (provided by parent/guardian).
 - Students are encouraged to bring a filled water bottle to school to utilize throughout the day.
 - Daily morning announcements will reiterate hand washing and social distancing protocols, as well as walk students through a "self-wellness" check.
- Hand washing/hand sanitizing breaks will be scheduled into the school day.
 - Students will wash/sanitize hands before/after: lunch, specials, recess, intervention time, or using any shared classroom materials.
 - Signs have been placed throughout the school campus and in every bathroom to remind students to wash their hands.
- Social Distancing will be adhered to, when possible.
 - Students will line up and walk at least an arm's length apart in the hallways, at specials, and lunch.
 - Social distancing signs have been placed around campus to remind students of social distancing requirements.
 - Bathroom sign-out sheets will be utilized in 4th/5th grade to trace student interactions and to limit the number of times students leave the room.
 - Students will walk to the clinic, office, library (etc.) alone, with the exception of Pre-k, kindergarten, and ESE students. An adult will accompany these students.
 - Safety patrols will no longer open car doors for students.
- Breakfast and Lunch
 - Tables will all face the same direction.
 - Students will be seated 3 per bench.
 - Students will scan a lunch badge instead of entering their pin numbers on a keypad.
 - Only two students can enter the bathroom at any given time.
 - Social distancing arrows will be used for students as they move about the cafeteria.
 - No guests will be permitted to eat with students for breakfast or lunch until further notice.

Teachers

- Teachers must wear masks while on CCPS grounds.
- Teachers have been provided with hand sanitizer for their classrooms and special cleaning wipes.
- Teachers will provide time within the classroom for students to wash/sanitize their hands.
- Teacher/Parent conferences will be held virtually or via phone until further notice.
- Teachers will encourage social distancing in classrooms, to the greatest extent possible.
- Student desks have been moved apart to allow for social distancing, to the greatest extent possible.

- Media center books will be housed out of circulation for the CDC recommended time period prior to being returned to circulation.
- School based clubs will continue. This includes the Be Mighty Club.

Parents/Community Guests

Until further notice:

- Only CCPS employees and contracted employees will be permitted on campus.
- If it is necessary to enter the school lobby, you must wear a mask, please adhere to the distance markers on the floor and wait to be called to the protective shield to speak with someone.
- Parents/guests may not eat breakfast or lunch with students.
- Parents/guardians may not walk their child to class. (We will make arrangements for kindergarten parents and students to meet their teacher prior to their first day of school.)
- Volunteers will not be permitted on campus.
- Outside clubs (ex: Good News Club, Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.) will not be permitted on campus. However, YMCA will continue.
- Student Advisory Council (SAC) meetings will be held virtually.
- Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) meetings will be held virtually.
- In person school events will be held virtually or will be rescheduled to a later date.

School Clinic

- Only emergencies or unwell students will be sent to the nurse.
- The nurse will distribute medication from a second room/location on campus.
- Parents must immediately contact the school nurse via phone to alert her of a positive Covid-19 case
- Parents must communicate student issues to the nurse either via phone or medical documentation/scripts.
- Parents must make an appointment with the nurse to drop off medication.
- If the nurse calls a parent to pick up an unwell child, it is expected the child will be picked up right away.
- PLEASE ensure the school has your correct phone number and address in FOCUS.

Other

- Students may NOT be dropped off prior to 7:55 am, unless they are attending Be Mighty Club.
- Parents may not park and walk up to the school with their student/s. Please use the drop off line.
- Store bought birthday snacks may still be dropped off in the office.
- Please do not bring children late or sign them out early, unless absolutely necessary.
- Perfect Attendance awards will not be given out this year. Please keep your child home if they are sick.

We will continue to update procedures and protocols as the Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control release new information. We hope this information allows you to feel more secure in sending your student/s back to Myakka River Elementary. We miss the students and cannot wait to safely see them and educate them! Although parents/guests will not be on campus to start this year, please know you can still contact your child's teacher by phone, email, or remind. We want to keep open communication with our families, as we value your input. Please reach out to us with any questions. Our mission has always been to be a caring family and a community growing MIGHTY leaders to achieve academic excellence! The world has changed - our mission has not.

Sincerely,

Grace Shepard

Ryane Magill