



# DEEP CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## NOTHING LESS THAN OUR SUCCESS

PRINCIPAL: JAMES VERNON ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: KELI SARE

Dear Cub Parents,

We are excited for the arrival of our Cubs back to our school buildings. In preparation for the school day, examination of every aspect of the school day has been necessary to ensure a safe, healthy environment for our staff and students. It is understood that some parents will applaud the changes, while others may feel they are not necessary. Either opinion is of course fine, but we will share with you the following changes and protocols that will be in place during the first quarter of the school year. These changes and protocols will be examined at the beginning of the second quarter, depending on the trend in the number of COVID-19 cases in the state of Florida and in Charlotte County, particularly.

### Health Self Assessment

Before entering a school bus, school building, or district building, all individuals must assess their wellness with the following questions:

1. Have you experienced any of these symptoms, not associated with previously diagnosed conditions, in the past 72 hours:
  - Fever greater than 100.4
  - Cough/Shortness of breath
  - New change to or loss of taste and smell
  - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
  - Experiencing multiple symptoms

\*Always check CDC website for a list of most up to date symptoms
2. In the last 14 days, have you:
  - Been in close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19
  - Been placed on quarantine for possible contact with COVID-19
  - Traveled abroad or to an area of the country where it is recommended that you self-quarantine
  - Have a COVID-19 test pending

### Reducing Student Exposure by Adults to Coronavirus:

- Only CCPS employees will be allowed past the front office of the school.
- Parents/guardians may no longer walk their children to their classrooms.
- Parents/guardians may no longer eat breakfast or lunch in the cafeteria with their children.
- Volunteers will not be allowed at this time.
- PTO and SAC meetings will be held virtually.
- After school events and activities will be canceled at least through the first quarter.
- Parent conferences will be held virtually or via telephone.
- Meetings that require parent presence (IEP, 504, LEP, etc.) will take place virtually or in the office conference room.
- Birthday treats may be sent to school, but must be store bought. They can be dropped off in the front office. Please do not send in treat bags.

### Reducing Student Exposure from Classmates to Coronavirus:

- The wearing of masks is mandatory. The teacher will contact the student's parent/guardian to be reminded to do so.
  - Masks should be clearly labeled with the student's name.
  - Masks must be school appropriate.
  - Buffs and gaiters are acceptable substitutes for masks.
  - Students with sensory or medical conditions may be exempt pending medical documentation.
- Desks have been distanced and students are facing the same direction to the maximum extent possible.
- Students hands will be sanitized before entering the classroom each morning, before and after out of classroom transitions, and after the use of communal supplies.
- Students will be assigned a technology device to reduce sharing of equipment.
- Students will be taught proper handwashing and will be prompted frequently to wash hands throughout the school day.
- Media Center books will be placed out of circulation for the CDC recommended time length after return from checkout. Digital access to books will be available through the MyOn program.
- Cafeteria tables have been arranged facing the same direction and students will be seated three to a bench.
- Seventh inning stretch has been eliminated from the lunch period to avoid students sitting closely in the courtyard.
- Students should bring a personal water labeled with their first and last name. Water bottles are also available for sale in the cafeteria for one dollar during breakfast and lunch.
- Students that take medication at school will receive their medicine at a secondary location.
- The perfect attendance award has been eliminated this year. If your child is ill, we want them to stay home.
- The school building will open at 7:35 am each morning for students that are not enrolled in Cub Club. Breakfast service will begin for these students at 7:35 am.
- Students that do not need to eat breakfast in the cafeteria should arrive to school between 7:50 am and 8:15 am and report directly to their classroom. This will assist us in reducing the number of students in the cafeteria at one time before school.
- Students will be provided with two student identification cards. One will be placed on their backpacks for breakfast service and the second card will be stored in their classroom for lunch service. This will reduce the need for students to touch the cafeteria keypad.
- Students are permitted to bring up to a 3 oz bottle of hand sanitizer in its original container to school.

After reading the above, we hope you feel more secure in allowing us to educate your child(ren) this coming school year. We understand these are many changes to absorb at once, and we understand it might negatively influence the welcoming family feeling we strive to demonstrate at Deep Creek; however, our mission has always been to keep your child(ren) safe while providing them with a top-notch education. The world has changed - our mission has not.

Sincerely,

James Vernon  
Principal

Keli Sare  
Assistant Principal