



**Stewart County Elementary School  
Stewart County Middle School**



Return To School Newsletter

July 2020

Volume 3

Greetings Parents!

As the principal of Stewart County Elementary and Stewart County Middle Schools, I would like to express my commitment, along with the staff, in continuing upon the diligent work that is occurring at the elementary and middle schools even in the mist of the COVID 19 Pandemic. Our staff has participated in numerous virtual trainings as we shift gears on how we deliver instruction to our students. The School Level Leadership Team will be the decision making body to strengthen our strategies, procedures, rituals and routines in order to best meet the needs of our students with the Distance Learning Option for the 1<sup>st</sup> Nine Weeks. As we embark upon this year, we readily accept the challenge in making this school year productive for each of our students. As we launch into Distance Learning, our staff is ready to continue our vision and mission for the students of Stewart County Schools! With the help of our staff, students, parents, and stakeholders, we can make this year successful for all students as One Team. Each day at Stewart County Elementary School and Stewart County Middle School, we will continue to strive for Straight A's in attendance, attitude (behavior) and academics. (Attendance + Attitude (behavior) + Academics = Achievement!).

We welcome you to the 2020-2021 School Year!

Mrs. V.H. Fedd, Principal

Dr, Busani, Siphambili, Assistant Principal

**Virtual Open House (K through 8<sup>th</sup> Grades) and 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School**

The Virtual Open House for Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade is scheduled for Thursday, July 30, 2020 from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. The Links to the Grade Virtual Open House will be posted on the District Website. Homerooms and general information will be provided to parents during the Grade Level Virtual Open House. Students' daily schedules will be issued on the first day of school, Monday, August 3, 2020, by the homeroom teacher. Our instructional hours are from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Monday through Thursday. Fridays will be used for small groups and one on one instruction for select students.

**Our Theme is “Be A Light In Our Community”!**

**Pre-K Mandatory Orientation**

The Mandatory Pre-K Orientation for parents and students will be held on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.. The Link to join the Virtual Pre-K Open House will be on the District Website. The required documents for entering Pre-K are a birth certificate, social security card, proof of residency, immunization, and hearing, vision, and dental and nutrition (Form3300). These forms should be uploaded during the Online Registration. Please call our Pre-K Director, Mrs.

Tawnya Hadley, if you have any questions at 229.838. 4374. Our Fax Number is 229.838.6801

**Online Registration – Permission Click**

For your safety, parents are asked to complete the On Line Parent Information Package posted on our District Website. Instructions are also posted on our Website. Parents of new enrollees will be asked to upload required documents – birth certificate, social security card, proof of address (utility bill in the parent's name), and parent's identification. Our Online Registration- Permission Click - is continuously monitored with the highest level of encryption - AES – 256-bit. The contactless registration is another way the schools are trying to keep everyone safe by limited contact.

**Teachers' Work Schedule**

Teachers work schedule will be from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Teachers will be available to parents until 5:00 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Teachers' work hours have been adjusted to accommodate time for those students who need support in smaller groups, one on one, or need adult supervision at home. Individual schedules for Elementary and Middle School students will be provided to parents at the Grade Level Virtual Open House.

**Devices**

Each student will be issued their own personal device after parents have completed the Online Technology Agreement. A parent's identification card will be required (license or identification card). Only one device will be issued per student for student use only. Inappropriate sites will be flagged and the student can lose the privilege of using a school issued device. Parents will be responsible for lost, damaged or stolen devices. Chromebooks cost \$230.00 and Ipads cost approximately \$300 each. Devices not returned to the school will be reported as stolen with the law enforcement. It will be essential that students maintain their device to complete on line lessons and interact with the teachers. While students will be trained to use a variety of technology tools, - the following technology tools will be required - Google Classroom, Google Documents, Google Slides, Google Meet and/or Zoom.

**The Distribution Plan for the Devices is listed below.**

Preschool and Kindergarten students will be notified when their devices are available for pick up. First and second graders can pick up devices on Thursday, July 30th and Friday, 31st from 8am to 11am. Third through eighth graders can pick up devices on Wednesday, July



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29th, Thursday, July 30th, and Friday, July 31st from 1pm to 3 pm. High school students can pick up devices at any time on July 29th, 30th, and 31st. Parents with more than one child will be allowed to pick up all devices on one day. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

**Hot Spots**

The District has purchased Hotspots to place in select areas of the community to ensure that internet services are available to all students. We hope that we will be able to connect all students to the World Wide Web especially during this COVID 19 Pandemic which currently hinders us from face-to-face instruction.

**Google Classroom**

Students are asked to log in to their teacher’s Google Classroom Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. to be instructed in the various classes. Students will be expected to follow online rituals and routines for Distance Learning and complete their tasks and assessments. Teachers will provide extra support in small groups on Fridays to select students. Grades will be taken.

**Assessments**

The Georgia Milestone Tests and the End of Course Tests have been suspended for this school year; however, students will be given daily assessments, weekly assessments, and Nine Weeks Exams. If students are in attendance daily, attentive to their teachers, and complete their tasks, we are confident that we can meet the needs of your child even during Distance Learning. Students must earn a grade of 70 in order to pass their classes. The grading scale is as listed – 90 – 100 A, 89-80 B, 79-70 C, 69 and below F. Teachers will provide extra support in small groups on Fridays to select students. Progress Reports and Report Cards will not be mailed; however, students grades will be uploaded in Infinite Campus each Tuesday afternoon. Parents will review report cards and progress reports on Parent Portal.

**Child Nutrition – Meals**

Meals will be delivered by the paraprofessionals and bus drivers on Mondays and Wednesdays. Following United States Department of Agricultural (USDA) Guidelines, these meals will be issued only to students enrolled in Stewart County Schools. Directions will be provided for preserving and warming the meals. Specific information on deliveries

will be posted on the District Website. Please call our Nutrition Director, Mona Hubbard with any questions at 229.838.4374 in reference to meals and our Transportation Director, Mr. Darryl Jones, in reference to times of deliveries. The start date for meal deliveries will be announced on the District Website. Thank you for being patient and flexible with us for plans are subject to change; however, we are **committed** to providing meals to our students following guidelines of USDA.

**Communication**

**While we will have a “No Visitors” Policy during the 1<sup>st</sup> Nine Weeks of School, teachers will be in continuous communication with the students and parents.** Teachers will communicate with parents through phone calls, email, texts, Virtual Meetings (Zoom, and Google Meet), Facebook, Remind/Dojo, progress reports and report cards. Parents please make sure that the school has a current phone number and your email address.

**Remind Communication**

Parents are asked to please accept the teacher’s invitation to Remind as the primary means to communicate about their child’s daily progress.

**Parent Portal**

Parents can view their child’s progress in the Parent Portal. Instructions will be posted for you to access your child’s academic progress in Infinite Campus.

**Home Supplies**

Home supplies should include paper, pencils, pens, crayons (Pre-K – 2<sup>nd</sup>), pocket folders (5). Teachers in Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grades will send home supply kits with manipulatives that students will need to complete certain assignments.

**After School Program**

The Virtual After-School Program will begin on Monday, August 24, 2020. Parents may enroll their children online when the applications are released by the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Director, Mrs. Tawnya Hadley. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Hadley at 229.838. 4374 and our Fax Number is 229.838.6801.

*Alumni Back To School Bash*

The Alumni Back to School Bash is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Elementary Parking Lot. We are asking for our partners to donate pre-packaged masks, and hand sanitizers. Hope to see you there!!! Special thanks to our Alumni for your continual support each year.

**Knights A+ Parents**

