

Message from the Meadows

...a weekly update from Mrs. Battaglia

August 28, 2020

Hello South Meadows Families!

It has been a busy and productive week “here” at South! Our staff has been hard at work virtually attending Professional Development sessions, collaborating, planning and preparing to meet their students next week! I cannot begin to tell you how very proud I am of these amazing people. We are all so very lucky to have them here in Chelsea. I will warn you in advance that this is a very lengthy message! It is filled with many links and all of the information you will need to get your child(ren)’s school year off to a great start. Thank you once again for your patience and support as we have worked tirelessly to get all of the parts and pieces of this new journey in place.

Class Placements

Please understand that due to the nature of instruction this year, along with the various options that families were able to choose from, class placements not only took longer to build, but were also much trickier to balance. I will not be making any changes to class placement at this time. Thank you for your understanding.

Materials Pick Up Day

This **Tuesday, September 1st**, we will be hosting “Materials Pick Up” day from **8:00 AM - 6:00 PM**. Pick up will be in the rear parking lot off of Pierce Street. Please have your child(ren)’s name(s) clearly printed on a piece of paper that you will **hand to the staff member** who greets you, and please remain in your vehicle at all times.

Upon arrival, you will follow the cones around the loop and make your first stop at the iPad drop off table. It will be very important that you **REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CHILD’S old iPad**. **We will not be able to issue his/her new iPad and the materials if the old one is not turned in**. In addition, we are asking that if at all possible you bring the iPad fully charged. This will be a tremendous help to our Tech department! ****You do not need to return the charger and cord, please keep them for your new iPad.**

After turning in the old iPad, you will proceed forward and wait for a staff member to approach your vehicle. Please hand them the paper with your child(ren)’s name and remain in line. We will gather all of the materials and bring them to your vehicle.

You will receive the following materials:

New iPad (QR Code and log in information sheet)

iPad insurance form (please return to school with payment: 335 Pierce Street, Chelsea, MI 48118)

Math journal

Planner

Grade Level Handbook

SEL Journal

All About Me worksheet (3rd Grade only)

2019-20 Yearbook (if ordered)

Art paper (5th Grade only)

Artwork from 2019-20 (4th and 5th Grades)

Ukulele (5th Grade only)

***Please Note: We have not received the full ukulele shipment yet and are told it may arrive by Monday; however, staff will then need time to get all of them tuned! If they're not ready for Tuesday, we will have to add another pick up day. I will keep you posted.

Upcoming Schedule

Monday, August 31: You and your child will receive a phone call from their new teacher!

Teachers will email families with a timeframe to expect the call.

Tuesday, September 1: Materials pick up at South Meadows (8AM to 6PM)

Wednesday, September 2: Virtual Open House at either 5:00 OR 6:00 PM. Please read the details below for how this will work!

Thursday, September 3: Class Zoom Meeting

Friday, September 4 and Monday, September 7: No School/Labor Day Weekend

Open House

On Wednesday evening, we will hold our first ever, VIRTUAL Open House! The staff is very much looking forward to being able to welcome all of their students and families. Each classroom will be sharing their open house presentation two times, once from 5:00 - 5:50 and again from 6:00 - 6:50. This will give those with children in two grades the opportunity to attend both. Please choose just one of the time options. Here is what you can expect:

Use the link next to your child's teacher's name in the chart below to log onto Zoom.

Please know that you will be "in the waiting room" until the teacher admits you into the meeting.

For the first ten minutes or so, teachers will admit participants into the meeting and greet everyone. If you do not arrive within the first 15 minutes, we will ask you to wait to participate in the 6:00 presentation. We also ask that once the presentation begins, you shut your video off and just listen and watch; this will help with the quality of any videos that are presented.

Following the presentation, your classroom teacher will make some final comments and share any information they need you to have. Each will then say goodnight and you will leave the Zoom session. He or she will then take a short break to prepare for the 6:00 visitors. Again, please remember, you can sign on prior to the start time, but you will be sitting in the waiting room until the teacher admits you.

Please notice that there are links for support staff and specials' teachers as well. They will be available for you to pop in and join on Zoom between 5:00 and 7:00 PM. Due to confidentiality, please understand that when you join a meeting with one of our TCs or support staff, you will be in the "waiting room" until they finish with the family(ies) before you.

Teacher	Open House Link	Teacher	Open House Link
3rd - Hopkins	Hopkins Open House	5th - Heydlauff	Heydlauff Open House
3rd - Myers	Myers Open House	5th - Leverett	Leverett Open House
3rd - Schertzing	Schertzing Open House	5th - Lewis	Lewis Open House
3rd - Spisich	Spisich Open House	5th - Pollack	Pollack Open House
3rd - Stubbs	Stubbs Open House	3rd Gr. TC - Hermosillo	Hermosillo Open House
3rd - Trevisan	Trevisan Open House	4th Gr. TC - Merkel	Merkel Open House
4th - Driscoll	Driscoll Open House	5th Gr. TC - Busch	Busch Open House
4th - Kinsey	Kinsey Open House	Resource Room: Thorburn	Thorburn Open House
4th - Linde	Linde Open House	PE - Rhodes	Rhodes Open House
4th - Lucas	Lucas Open House	Music - Berger	Berger Open House
4th - Radomski	Radomski Open House	Art 3rd/4th - Olsen	Olsen Open House
4th - Schmidt	Schmidt Open House	Art - 5th - Brander	Brander Open House
4th - Witzig	Witzig Open House	Social Work - Salazar	Salazar Open House
5th - Bates	Bates Open House	3rd Gr. Psych - Joyce	kkrarup-joyce@chelsea.k12.mi.us
5th - Dres	Dres Open House	4th/5th Psych - Talarico	Talarico Open House

Virtual Learning Schedule

Our Virtual School Year begins at **8:30 AM on Tuesday, September 8th!!!** Please use this link to access the schedule: [SME Virtual Schedule](#)

****Important to note:**

We have finally come up with a plan to offer specials' experiences during virtual learning! On Fridays and during the afternoon Monday through Thursday, each grade level will have the opportunity to join their Art, Music and PE teachers! Specials' classes will not begin until **Monday, September 14th.**

Our focus the first couple of weeks will be on relationship building and helping our students navigate their new school year and being a virtual learner.

Technology Support For Families

Every child in the Chelsea School District is assigned a school iPad for their learning. Once you pick up your child's bag of learning materials on Tuesday, September 1, please watch this video

tutorial with your child before our Virtual Open House. It will help you get started with our virtual learning platform, which is Seesaw. [Technology Tutorial for Students/Families](#)

Additional resources for technology support can be found on the [Tech Support for Families](#) page on our District website. Please also review the attached South Meadows Zoom Expectations with your child. [SME Zoom Exectations](#)

Grade Level Supply Lists

[3rd Grade Supply List](#)

[4th Grade Supply List](#)

[5th Grade Supply List](#)

Closing Thoughts

I cannot repeat enough how grateful I am. Grateful to each one of you for your patience and understanding over the past few weeks and as we work through these first few weeks of school. We know that it will not be an easy or smooth transition back; but we are hopeful. And above all else, we are keeping our students at the forefront. THEY are our priority, and we want to help them adjust to this new, even if temporary, normal. I am also so grateful for the staff at South Meadows. You will never know the effort, time, collaboration and commitment they are pouring into this planning. If we all remember that we are IN THIS TOGETHER...we will get through. We are all nervous, anxious and uncertain...and we will be there for one another. Our staff theme this year at South Meadows is “Grit and Grace”. I have asked staff to remember the following:

GRIT *Determines that life's challenges will neither defeat nor define us, and*

GRACE *Gives kindness to ourselves and others even when it's hard.*

And last, I am so grateful to be a leader in this tremendous District. Please know that I will continue to try my best to help us all get through this.

Take good care, South Meadows...we will “see” you very soon,

Stacie