

## **Hello, Zebulon Elementary Families,**

This is Principal Newkirk with the update for the week of September 18, 2020

### **Returning to School Face to Face**

This past Tuesday the WCPSS Board of Education presented a plan to return students back to face to face learning as early as October 26. On Thursday Governor Cooper opened the doors for all schools to return in early October. This is exciting news and the ZES staff is busy preparing classrooms for students. Stay tuned for more information as the WCPSS Board of Education makes final plans for students return to school.

### **Interim Report Cards**

It is hard to believe that we have already reached the halfway point of the first quarter! Next week teachers will email interim report cards. These interims will not have grades, but they will have teacher comments about your child's attendance, effort, work habits, and tenacity during remote learning. In five more weeks, students will receive their normal report card with grades and comments. It is important that students with a negative interim begin making course corrections now to ensure a positive report card. Speak with your child's teacher if you have questions about the interim.

### **ZES Virtual Support Session**

Join us on September 24 for a Virtual Family Support Session. Families will learn techniques and specific strategies to help their child excel in virtual learning. We will host sessions at 8:00 AM and noon in both English and Spanish. See below for links to each session.

Remember, school attendance is mandatory even in the remote learning environment.

[English at 8:00 AM](#)

English at 12:00 PM

Spanish at 8:00 AM

Spanish at 12:00 PM

### **Show Your School Spirit**

The PTA wants to make sure your students still feel a part of the Cougar Pride here at ZES. Whether virtual or in person, we know small school traditions like Spirit Week are still important. With Spirit week creeping up soon, we will be taking orders in our ZES PTA Memberhub store for spirit wear. Click the "Shop Now" Button on our Facebook page to purchase yours or visit: <https://zespta.new.memberhub.store/store>

This year we will have two designs available for Spirit Wear. These profits support the PTA's goals to fund projects for our students and teachers.

Orders will be taken until September 30th.

### **Technology Support for Students and Families**

All students who requested a device or a hot spot should have received an invitation to pick up their device. The technology request website will close today so we will not be able to request any additional devices until further notice. If you have a technology issue or a broken device, please visit [here](#).

### **Istation**

Your child's teacher will be using istation to assess your child's progress toward becoming an independent reader. This assessment will take place remotely in September for all students in grades K-5. It usually takes 30-40 minutes. This is one way for your child's teacher to decide on the best literacy instruction for his/her needs.

The classroom teacher will let your child know when to take the assessment and which assessment to take.

To take the assessment your child will need an environment free of distractions. A headset is a good idea to help with this. It will also help our younger students to hear the

sounds asked for more clearly. Please encourage your child to pay close attention to the screen to do their best work.

[Directions for accessing iStation at home.](#)

As the year goes on your child will interact with this platform several times, both as an assessment and as a learning tool.

### **School Pictures**

Here is the [link](#) to schedule your child for school pictures on September 30<sup>th</sup> in the school gym. Once you create your account you will be able to select a time for your child's appointment. Parents and guardians will not be able to come into the building with their child.

Once you create your account you will need to prepay for your pictures at [www.mylifetouch.com](http://www.mylifetouch.com).

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| <b>September 21</b> | <b>Electives Begin!</b>        |
| <b>September 23</b> | <b>Interim Reports go home</b> |
| <b>September 28</b> | <b>Teacher Workday</b>         |
| <b>September 30</b> | <b>Picture Day</b>             |

**Yours,**

**David Newkirk, Principal**

