

Good Afternoon Sanford Creek Families,

As we embark on a new phase of the school year tomorrow, I want to publicly acknowledge the **Sanford Creek Staff** and the work they are putting in to minimize each obstacle and face each new challenge with positivity. I am extremely proud of them. You should be too.

Looking forward to seeing some of our SCE BlueJays this week!

Tiffany Rich, Principal

The following is specific for Plan B Families only:

Families who will begin in-person learning should read and sign the **Student Accountability and Required Health Protocols Form**. Return it to your child's teacher. [Click this link](#). If you do not have printer capabilities, a hard copy will come home Cohort 1 students on Monday, 10/26.

Bus/Vendor Transportation: All Plan B students should pass a health screening at home *before* getting on a bus or a vehicle to travel to campus. Students will be screened again by our staff upon arrival to campus. Here are some of the key points to remember if your student is coming to campus:

- Parents of bus riders must complete the [Attestation Form](#). You can complete it online or print it, sign, and deliver to your child's teacher on Monday.
- This [three-minute video](#) was really helpful in breaking down all the new safety procedures for our bus drivers and riders.
- Here are [Sanford Creek Bus Routes](#).
- Don't forget to download the [Here Comes the Bus app](#) to track your student's bus, mornings and afternoons.
- Remember that in the afternoons, K/1 students *must* have a responsible adult waiting to meet them at the bus stop. If there is not an adult present, students will be returned to the school to await pick-up.

Reminder of New School Hours

Students can enter the building at 8:45 AM. Instruction begins at 9:15 AM. **Dismissal is at 4:00 PM.**

Ways to Prepare for the Transition back into the School Building

Hello Sanford Creek Families I would like to extend an official welcome back to the school building! We have sure missed you and your children during this time. My name is Kelly Taylor and I get the honor and privilege of being your child's School Counselor this year. I would like to provide you with some tips as we begin this new and unique year, but before I do so I would also like to address all the emotions and feelings we all are having. I too am a parent of a child here at Sanford Creek. My child, like yours, will be walking through these halls, wearing a mask and social distancing - so the emotions you are feeling are the same ones I have felt and are currently feeling. With that being said, here are some things you could do to prepare not only your child but also yourself for that first day (and beyond) of school.

Routines

- *Gradually get back into the school year structure and routines. Set a bedtime and wake up time and start to move it closer to what will be expected once school starts.*
- *Ask your child about routines to continue. What new COVID-19 routines has your family adopted like regular family walks after dinner or movie nights that they want to like to keep?*

Normalize mask-wearing: *Some children will be able to wear a mask easily, but others may have a harder time. Consider the following exposure strategies.*

- *Are you buying a mask? Try involving your child in the process to pick out a mask that they would like.*
- *Are you making a mask? Let your child choose the material.*
- *Create and exposure hierarchy to understand your child's fears. From least scary to most scary it might be: seeing others wear a mask, touching a mask, putting a mask on for short periods of time and putting a mask on for longer periods of time.*
- *Practice calming strategies like deep breathing and going outside for a walk.*
- *Consider motivating kids to get used to wearing a mask by paring it with something they enjoy.*

Help your child continue to cope

- *Validate and empathize their feelings and model healthy coping. Kids do best when they learn healthy ways to cope with adversity, such as following public health recommendations with masks and physical distancing.*
- *Try to attach positive meaning. you make say something like: "On the one hand, this pandemic has not been easy. On the other hand, we have been able to have a lot more time together as a family."*

Ease your child's worries: *Does your child seem to have excessive fears and anxiety about COVID-19? COVID-19 restrictions (such as restricting parents from entering the school) may lead your child to feel more isolated.*

- *Ask about their fears and try to reassure or problem solve. Ask: "What worries you the most?"*
- *Validate and accept your child's feelings about the situation. You might say: "I can see why you might be feeling (insert your child's feelings here) about this."*
- *Give your child a sense of control.*

The first week back to school

- *Leave earlier than usual. Whether you are driving, or simply dropping off your kids at the bus stop, this will give you more flex time*
- *Establish a goodbye ritual. When it's time to say goodbye to your child, give them a final hug, kiss, say goodbye, and talk about when you'll see them next. Don't just say "Goodbye!" but bridge the separation by talking about when you will see them next.*

- Try to take some time just for yourself, whether it's going for a walk, to the coffee shop, having tea with a friend, or just going home to nap. Breathe a sigh of relief and savor this time, maybe even have some tissues ready for your ride home.
- If they are sad, validate the sadness: "I can see you are feeling sad and it's ok to cry. I'm going to miss you too." Offer comfort like a hug or offering a tissue. Crying is good because it helps the brain ease both physical and mental pain.

Lastly, I just want to say that I am resource for not only your child but for you as well so please feel free to reach out anytime you need. We are so excited to have your children back!

.....

The following information is a repeat of information provided previously. New or changed information is highlighted in yellow.

Plan B	Virtual Academy
<p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will continue to be assigned their same homeroom teacher for the remainder of Semester 1. • PreK-3 and ECS students will return to the building in 3 cohorts - 1 week per cohort between October 26th- November 13th. All K-3 students return November 16th • 4-5 students will return to the building in 3 cohorts- 1 week per cohort starting November 16th through the end of December. • Cohorts were assigned by the district for all students riding the bus and all students with siblings. Our school assigned cohorts for remaining students to balance cohorts. • New bell schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8:45 AM students enter building ○ 9:15 AM tardy bell ○ 4:00 PM dismissal • Follow a new master schedule to accommodate staggered lunches, recess, and longer specials • Additional days added for asynchronous learning = no live instruction 	<p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistency • Students will continue to be assigned their same homeroom teacher for the remainder of Semester 1. • Follow a new schedule for the next 3 weeks • Additional days added for asynchronous learning • = no live instruction
<p>Change Requests for Semester 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students currently not registered in VA will be given an opportunity in December to register for VA for Semester 2 which begins January 25th, 2021 • Approval of this change will depend on how many parents request changes and if we have enough space to accommodate them. Classes and teacher assignments may have to change for Semester 2. 	<p>Change Requests for Semester 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VA families will be given an opportunity in December to decide if they want to continue in VA for Semester 2 or if they want to return to in-person instruction beginning January 25th,2021. • Approval of this change will depend on how many parents request changes and if we have enough

	space to accommodate them. Classes and teacher assignments may have to change for Semester 2.
<p>Remote Learning Days:</p> <p>November 3, November 18, November 23-24, December 2, December 16, December 21-22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No live instruction is provided on these days.• Teachers can work with students to meet specific learning needs on these days.• Students will be given asynchronous learning assignments consistent with other days.• Attendance must be recorded on asynchronous days because it is an instructional day. This should be handled through work submitted or a brief check in opportunity. <p>Upcoming Holidays and Track out - No School</p> <p>Thanksgiving Break: November 25-27</p> <p>Holiday Break: December 23-January 1</p> <p>Next Track Out: January 4-22, 2021</p>	<p>Remote Learning Days:</p> <p>November 3, November 18, November 23-24, December 2, December 16, December 21-22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No live instruction is provided on these days.• Teachers can work with students to meet specific learning needs on these days.• Students will be given asynchronous learning assignments consistent with other days.• Attendance must be recorded on asynchronous days because it is an instructional day. This should be handled through work submitted or a brief check in opportunity. <p>Upcoming Holidays and Track out - No School</p> <p>Thanksgiving Break: November 25-27</p> <p>Holiday Break: December 23-January 1</p> <p>Next Track Out: January 4-22, 2021</p>

Safety Measures for In-Person Learning

1. Daily health screenings along with forehead temperature checks will be conducted for every student and adult prior to entry into the building.
2. Students and staff will travel divided hallways.
3. Students and staff will wear masks except when eating, drinking, exerting strenuous physical energy and/or during mask breaks.
4. At this time, visitors and volunteers will not be allowed in the building.
5. Hand sanitizing stations have been installed in every classroom and entrance/exit.
6. Classrooms will be set up with individual desks and/or tables to ensure social distancing.
7. **Students will eat lunch in the classroom, café or socially distance picnic outside.** Pre-packaged meals will be free for the remainder of the school year and will continue to be offered for breakfast and lunch. There is one choice available each day. Here's the [WCPSS list of menus](#).
8. **NEW! Playground Equipment/Play Structures are now OPEN for student use with daily focus on hand sanitizing before/after play.** Custodians will disinfect structures at night.
9. Specialists will come to your child's classroom for Specials instruction or work with students virtually within their classroom.
10. A Care Center has been created for students with COVID related symptoms separate from the front office health room that will be used for medication distribution, injuries such as scrapes and skinned knees.