

Dear Choctaw Employees and Families,

I hope this message finds you well as you and your relatives continue through this unprecedented crisis. In compliance with recommendations from the public health community, our physical campus is closed, however, **SCHOOL IS IN SESSION!** All instruction will take place online and will begin March 30th. The new normal for school this 4th 9-weeks is an opportunity for all of us to support each other. This online model will feel a bit different than face to face instruction, however, we are committed to moving students forward. Our Superintendent and OCS District staff have been working diligently, and the new model we have is the culmination of weeks of planning.

As Big Green Indians, and residents of the Emerald Coast, we have many things to be thankful for even though we are all dealing with this national pandemic. I wanted to take a moment to keep you informed. Our Choctaw Team is committed to all of our students at our school and across our district.

March 23rd all 12-month employees will report to work and beginning March 25th, teachers will be involved in remote professional development, which will prepare them for this shift toward online learning that will begin on March 30th for our students. I know that these changing times may cause anxiety and stress, however, we will do everything possible to provide flexibility and support so that our students keep moving in a positive direction and learning.

All 3rd 9-weeks grades will be finalized by March 30th and the 4th 9-weeks will begin on that Monday as well. Every Choctaw teacher will have a teacher link that should include course requirements and messages for our students. The teacher pages may look or feel different, however they should direct the students to resources and assignments. Edgenuity, Zoom, Google Classroom, and other platforms will be used to deliver content and instruction. We understand that nothing can replace the comprehensiveness of a Choctaw teacher, however the core courses will be delivered through Edgenuity on an online platform. Edgenuity will be the official platform that will generate grades for these courses. Teachers may use other instructional materials to support instruction, however the class grade will originate from the Edgenuity assessments.

Our district has been in contact with both International Baccalaureate and College Board regarding both our IB Program and Advanced Placement (AP) Courses, so we will continue to keep you up to date with the latest information. IB and AP Courses, Electives and any other courses that are not offered as Edgenuity courses will have assessments and assignments delivered directly from the instructors. Administrators, teachers, and guidance counselors will monitor the progress of students and help to contact students and families who have failed to begin or keep up with this course work.

The OCS District Instructional Continuity Plan requires a device, however, we do not have enough laptops or Chromebooks for every student, so we are asking that students use a device from home. If you do not have access to a device for online instruction, look at the schedule below to pick up a device at Choctawhatchee High School.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: *The CDC recommendations for social spacing are imperative, so, as we deploy hardware/technology you can expect a brief wait in the parking lot or designated area.*

OCS District schools will provide assistance with internet access as well. COX CABLE is working in conjunction with the OCS District staff and the schools to disseminate paper applications that will be submitted to the district staff. The WiFi hardware should arrive in the mail from COX CABLE.

- Tuesday, March 24th Device pick-up by parent - BUS RAMP side of the Choctaw - bring an ID for checkout
 - Bus Ramp Side of School between 7:00 am -10:00 am or between 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
 - This will be conducted in a “drive-thru” model - Stay in your vehicle
- Wednesday, March 25th Remote Professional Development for Teachers - OCS District Web Page
- Monday, March 30th 4th 9-weeks and Online Instruction Begins

Superintendent Chambers participated in a conference call with FLDOE Commissioner of Education and he granted our seniors, the Class of 2020, considerations for certain graduation requirements regarding FSA and EOCs to be waived. More specific information will be posted in the near future.

Most important, I encourage you to take care of yourself and stay connected. Current conditions can punctuate the isolation many people already feel in their roles. Hearing the bell ring here at Choctaw followed only by silence rather than the lively bustle of students changing class feels surreal. You are a Big Green Indian, and you are not alone. Remotely reach out to a friend, activate your network, and maintain communication. As always, and especially during these trying times, I thank you for allowing Choctaw to be a part of your heart.

Sincerely,



Principal