

August 23, 2020

Dear Lassiter Families:

The excitement of starting the school year was evident this past week. Students and teachers were happy to see each other and get the 2020-21 school year started. Thanks to everyone for your perseverance, patience, and grace as we are all adjusting to a new learning management system.

Safety in Virtual Learning

Throughout last week, we investigated multiple incidents of students posting inappropriate material, profanity during class, offensive language directed at teachers, and offensive backgrounds during class. I can cite both District policy as well as Georgia Code sections that were violated throughout the week, but ultimately, as a school, as a community, and really as decent human beings we have to be better than to intentionally disrupt classes with offensive behavior. There are simply not enough firewalls, secure logins, or safety protocols to regulate human decency. We are all responsible for creating a safe learning environment for our staff, students, and community. If your child is aware of incidents that threaten or disrupt our instructional environment, please notify a teacher, counselor, or administrator.

We are proud of our students and want to remind them of the importance of positive digital citizenship as well as virtual learning etiquette. First period teachers on Monday, will reinforce behavior and academic expectations for all students on Monday. Our Digital Citizenship slide is included in this correspondence, please take a moment to discuss with your child.

Communicating Directly to Students

Many of you have asked if teachers could directly communicate with students when sending emergency zoom links or changes to the platform. We do not have that capability yet, but we have asked the District for the enhancement to be made.

Attendance

We will begin to take school attendance this week as it is mandatory per the state. This is based on students accessing the platform each 24-hour period. All students are counted present on Wednesdays. An electronic excuse note system is in the process of being implemented. We will send out further details once the system is fully functional.

Closing

Lassiter's Instructional Learning Plan is located [HERE](#) on our website. Please make sure your student is taking advantage of teacher's office hours, tutorial times, and Wednesday's instructional support day. Ms. Huffman is available to answer questions if you are having trouble with CTLS – Julie.huffman@cobbk12.org. The District also maintains a CTLS technical support page which is located at <http://cobbcast.cobbk12.org/?p=34393>. As we start week two, we are working to get our clubs and organizations safely structured for virtual meetings to take place. Throughout the week, I heard so many positive comments from teachers regarding how much they appreciated their students actively engaging in lessons, asking questions, and working to grow as learners.

Thanks for your continued support, I know our teachers appreciate the kind words, notes of encouragement, and the work you do at home to ensure your children are prepared for class and ready to learn each day.

Sincerely,

Chris Richie
Principal