

September 2020 NEWSLETTER

**** Please review the "Provision and Recording of Remote Educational Service" documents available on the district website under the COVID-19 Documentation information center regarding Student Privacy.***

Important Dates coming up

- Monday, September 7- Labor Day, No School
- Monday, September 14- Material pick-up
 - Grade levels will be handing out packets and extra material for students to do at home.
 - Teachers will reach out and let you know if you have material to pick up.
- Monday, September 14- Board Meeting at 7:00PM
- Tuesday, September 15- Fastbridge Testing
 - Teachers will not be teaching live this day as they will be testing all day.
 - Asynchronous teaching and learning will take place..
- Friday, September 18- Fastbridge Make-up testing
 - Teachers will not be teaching live this day as they will need to be doing make-ups all day.
 - Asynchronous teaching and learning will take place.
- Tuesday, September 23- MAP Testing
 - Teachers will not be teaching live this day as they will be testing all day.
 - Asynchronous teaching and learning will take place..
- Friday, September 25- MAP Make-up testing
 - Teachers will not be teaching live this day as they will need to be doing make-ups all day.
 - Asynchronous teaching and learning will take place.

Fall Assessments

District 41 students will be participating in FastBridge and Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments during the month of September. Such assessments will allow for timely and actionable data to be collected. Teachers will gain an understanding of their students' skill as well as conceptual and specific knowledge that reflects classroom content.

Kindergarten through eighth grade will be given the FAST assessment. FAST stands for Formative Assessment System for Teachers. Students in grades K and 1 will be administered the FAST earlyReading and earlyMath assessments. The earlyReading and earlyMath tests are administered one-on-one virtually and take about 15 minutes to complete. These assessments are developmentally appropriate. ***Testing for kindergarten through first grades will begin on September 8th.***

Students in second through eighth grades will take the FAST aReading and aMath assessments. The assessments are a computerized test that takes approximately 20-30 minutes and uniquely adapts to your child's level of learning based on your child's performance. Additionally, second through eighth grade students will be participating in the MAP survey assessment. MAP stands for Measures of Academic Progress. Similar to FastBridge, the assessments are a computerized test that takes approximately 20-30 minutes and uniquely adapts to your child's level of learning based on your child's performance. ***Testing for second through eighth grades will begin on September 15th.*** Palombi School will assess on Monday, September 14th and Monday, September 21st. Hooper School will assess on Tuesday, September 15th and Tuesday, September 23rd. Make-Ups will take place on Friday, September 19th, Friday, September 25th and the week of September 28th. Please refer to your child's teacher for individual, small-group assessment schedules. Asynchronous teaching and learning will take place on assessment days.

Tips for Parents/Guardians

- Minimize distractions for your child as much as possible
- Provide a quiet testing environment
- Allow the teacher/proctor to open the session first
- Follow any additional instructions from the teacher/proctor

The data helps teachers understand what students know today, so goals can be set to improve growth throughout the year. So we can best teach your child, please do not assist them unless informed to do so by a teacher.

Prior to Testing Day

- Make sure your Chromebook has an internet connection
- Make sure your child has headphones
- Practice the test at practice.mapnwea.org
(Username: grow, Password: grow)

Again, teachers will gain an understanding of their students' skill as well as conceptual and specific knowledge that reflects classroom content. From such assessments, data-informed instruction will take place as we:

- Determine student's areas of strength, with a focus on priority standards
- Determine student's areas for growth and educational gaps with a focus on priority standards
- Prioritize a strong review and infusion of the critical standards and key skills that were not addressed or mastered from the previous school year
- Determine strategies to meet areas of growth and educational gaps
- Determine best use of resource staff members based upon students' areas for growth and educational gaps
- Determine what we want the students to know based upon their background knowledge
- Determine what we want the students to know as an individual or collectively
- Determine how the students will demonstrate what they know, understand, or are able to do
- Differentiate
- Establish goals for individual student growth

Additional Resources

<https://www.nwea.org/the-map-suite/family-toolkit/>

<https://community.nwea.org/community/nwea-community-home/covid-19-school-closure-support/overview>

Google Meets

- Please remember to make sure your child is muted during the live google meets. Students should only be unmuted when the teacher calls on them. It is very distracting for the teacher and other students on google meet when they hear all of the background noise.
- If your child is at daycare during the day, please remind them to make sure your child is muted during the live google meets as well.
- Don't forget you can download seesaw to your phones. It's a great way to get the assignments from the teachers beforehand and see the work your child does everyday.

Chromebook Difficulties

- **Daily support & repair operations have resumed**: We have resumed daily repair operations as well as general support as of 8/3. We have temporarily centralized support at Peter J. Palombi Middle School during full remote. If your student is having an issue with their school Chromebook or any other general school related IT issue, please send an email to technology@district41.org and a ticket will be created for you in our system. One slight change from the spring, during this full remote portion of the school year, if you need to come onsite (for repair, exchange....etc), please come to the media center entrance at Peter J. Palombi NOT the front office.
- Another option is to clear your Cache and Cookies. Please follow the directions at this site:
 - <https://support.google.com/accounts/answer/32050?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en>
- Make sure you are turning your Chromebook off at night as this will help.

HOOPER ATTENDANCE LINE 847-245-8198

- Please be sure to call in absences to the attendance line before 9:00am. Leave your student's name, grade and reason for absence.
- Our goal this year is to ensure that every student attends school regularly even if it is virtually. Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in life.

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school, regardless of the reason, it can cause them to fall behind academically.

Absences can add up quickly. A child is chronically absent if he or she misses just two days every month. We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends every live google meet and arrives on time.

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so that they can show up for the live google meets on time every day. We want your child to be successful in school! If you have any questions or need more information please contact your child's teacher, Mrs. Vinson, or Mr. Feldman.

PTO Info:

- Many parents have reached out about helping and getting involved in the PTO so THANK YOU. Now that we have started school I am looking to get a list of everyone who wants to be involved together. Please email me if you would like to help out this year with various things, all help can be contact free. Also I would love to see more faces at our monthly meetings and now that they are done remote it is much easier to find the time. September's meeting is on the 15th. Please email if you need an invite.
- SPIRITWEAR is due the 9th! Please get your orders in. You can call in the order or print and email the order back. If you don't want to have it delivered for go pick it up please put that you will pick up from the school.

Thank you for your support!

Ashley Hammond hooperpto@gmail.com

Drive Through Grab-n-Go Lunch Service

Changes to Lunch Program - All Children Eat Free

- Due to a recent announcement from the U.S Department of Agriculture (USDA), the District can provide free lunch meals to all children until December 2020. Starting immediately no student meal account will be charged for lunch. Free meals are available to any child under age of 18 and the child does not need to be enrolled in the District.
- Starting Tuesday, September 8th, the District will also provide meals for the weekend, adding one more distribution on Friday.
- Please visit the District Website/Food Service for more information when and where the meals can be picked up.

If you have any other questions please feel free to contact your children(s) teacher, or the administration.

Steve Feldman

Principal

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Annie Vinson

Lead Teacher