

Hello East Lake Middle School families. I know this is a time of uncertainty for many of us as we continue to support our families and one another. As we make the transition to digital learning, I want each of you to know that the safety and learning of your child is of the utmost importance. While our school building may be closed, learning will continue.

Over the next week I encourage you to engage in the academic enrichment activities available through our school website as our teachers prepare for their class specific lessons that will begin on March 30th. I also want to make sure you know that our school will be distributing digital devices for students and families that do not have access to a computer, iPad, tablet or smartphone. Any existing device that can access Clever and the Internet will work.

If you already have such a device, visit our webpage for next steps. <https://www.pcsb.org/eastlake-ms>

Another website all families should check out is

<https://www.pcsb.org/Page/32734>

This is filled with tips and help for MS Teams.

DIGITAL DEVICE DISTRIBUTION

For any family that needs a digital device, we will be distributing devices for at home learning on Tuesday, March 24th between the hours of 8:30am and 3pm and Wednesday, March 25th between the hours of 8:30am – 1pm in the front car circle of the school. Both the students and a parent or guardian must be present to check out the device.

Please fill in the form via the link to let us know you will be coming for a device.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BZM8c9c5GkaGb_3ye_PH_4XcEw/djFdLmOVpDo_8_xVUNzU0UTNLRVFjRFNVWUtZV1VHTE5jMFdRSS4u

This is just to give us an idea how many devices we need to have ready.

I encourage you to come at your assigned time to ensure we do not have a large crowds.

The assigned times are posted on the school website and I will share them now: The times are by last name alpha. Please adhere to the schedule as it should lessen your wait time. We will be doing a drive thru in our car circle. It is important that you pull all the way up and be patient and kind as this is new to all of us.

Tuesday, March 24th

A-H: 8:30am to 10am

I-R: 10am to Noon

S-Z: 1pm to 3pm

Wednesday, March 25th – 8:30-1pm (this is for parents that missed pick up window on Tuesday 3/24).

If you do not have internet service at home, Spectrum is providing 60 days of free internet for new customers with school-age children at home. Call Spectrum at 1-844-488-8395 to enroll.

If you have any concerns or special needs, please contact the school or me directly, via email huzark@pcsb.org . We want to ensure all families have the necessary technology and Internet access to engage in online learning while school is closed.

Again, see our website for more information or contact the school via telephone at 727-940-7624 with questions. I will continue to keep our families updated.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility. We are a strong community and I know we will continue to support each other as we move forward.

Virtual/Remote Learning –

This week – All students should use the link on our website and go through enrichment activities. These activities will not be graded however they are to get students used to the system.

All students must download MS Teams on their computer and log into their classes. This lets us know that you can get into your classes. If you do not complete this task we will be contacting you to help trouble shoot your technology issues.

Starting March 30th students will start classes and will following schedule below. Teachers will be taking attendance based on your student logging in on their schedule day.

Your teachers will be reaching out to you, please check your email and messages in your MS Teams classes.

[Virtual Learning Schedule Starting 3-30.pdf](#) - This is also on our web page.

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FOOD DISTRIBUTION

We know that students must have healthy and nutritious meals in order to learn. From March 23 through March 27, Pinellas County Schools will be providing free Grab & Go meals for all students ages 18 and under at nine schools throughout the district. Those schools are:

School Time

Dunedin Elementary

900 Union St., Dunedin 10:45 am - 11:45 am

Eisenhower Elementary

2800 Drew St., Clearwater 11:00 am - Noon

Fairmount Park Elementary

575 41st St. S, St. Petersburg 10:15 am - 11:15 am

Marjorie K. Rawlings Elementary

6505 68th St. N, Pinellas Park 11:00 am - Noon

John Hopkins Middle

701 16th St S, St. Petersburg 10:30 am - 11:30 am

New Heights Elementary

3901 37th St. N, St. Petersburg 10:45 am - 11:45 am

Ponce De Leon Elementary

1301 Ponce de Leon Blvd. Clearwater 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Southern Oak Elementary

9101 Walsingham Rd., Largo 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Tarpon Springs Elementary

555 Pine St., Tarpon Springs 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Your student must be present to pick up a meal.

Our community partners are also providing meals for students in need. For a complete list of partners throughout Pinellas County please visit the 211 Tampa Bay Cares website at www.211TampaBay.org.

Our Food and Nutrition Service Department is working diligently to finalize a long-term plan that will provide meals until schools re-open. We will share that information as soon as possible.

For more detailed information about our Grab & Go meal plan, please visit the district's website www.pcsb.org