



**Colonial Beach Elementary School**  
**102 First Street, Colonial Beach, VA 22443**

Dr. Dashan Turner, Superintendent  
Mrs. Michele Coates, Principal  
Mrs. Rebecca Tabler, School Counselor  
Mr. Dan Styer, Director of Student Services  
Office 804-224-9897 Fax 804-410-3849

[www.cbschools.net](http://www.cbschools.net)

July 27, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! We are excited to get started and are working diligently to implement our virtual learning plan. I am writing to share some important information with you.

We know you have lots of questions. We completely understand. In order to answer your questions and ensure you and your child are ready for our virtual start on August 17, 2020, you need to know the following.

1. A virtual Open House will be held for students in grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> on Thursday, August 13, 2020, using Zoom. There will be four times that you can attend a “live” open house with your child’s teachers at any of the following times: 9:00am, 10:30am, 1:00pm, and 3:00pm. You can sign-up for a Virtual Open House Session by emailing your child’s homeroom teacher. You will be notified of your child’s homeroom teacher when you pick up your child’s device (more information below). We staggered times to ensure parents who have multiple children at CBES can attend a session for each of their children. During the open house, teachers will provide a detailed presentation of your child’s schedule and our virtual learning plan, important information to help your child succeed at home, as well as time for questions and answers.
2. An in-person Open House will be held for PreK and Kindergarten students on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. You MUST schedule a meeting time in advance by contacting your child’s teacher via phone or email. Only two adults (must be parent/guardian) can attend with the student. Face coverings are required.
3. An in-person tour with the school counselor will be offered for NEW students in grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. If your child is new and you want him/her to have a tour and meet his/her teacher in person, contact our school counselor, Mrs. Rebecca Tabler, at [rtable@cbschools.net](mailto:rtable@cbschools.net), for an appointment. Only two adults (must be parent/guardian) can attend with the student. Face coverings are required.
4. Students will be provided with a device. ALL CBES parents need to pick up their child’s device on the date/times below at the elementary gym.

August 10<sup>th</sup> for Grades PreK – 3

12:00 - 1:00 PreK and K

1:00 – 2:00 1<sup>st</sup>

2:00 – 3:00 2<sup>nd</sup>

3:00 – 4:00 3<sup>rd</sup>

August 11<sup>th</sup> for Grades 4 – 7

12:00 – 1:00 4<sup>th</sup>

1:00 – 2:00 5<sup>th</sup>

2:00 – 3:00 6<sup>th</sup>

3:00 – 4:00 7<sup>th</sup>

5. All the required beginning of the year paperwork and homeroom teacher assignment will be provided along with the devices when picked up. Parents need to read the paperwork carefully and return any signature pages to the school by using one of the methods below. Forms are due back to the elementary school on or before August 28, 2020.

- Drop the forms off at the elementary school. Staff and building hours are 7:30am - 3:30pm.
  - Mail the signed required forms to: CBES, Attention Tammy Groves; 102 First Street; Colonial Beach, VA 22443.
  - Scan and email the signed required forms to Mrs. Groves at [tgroves@cbschools.net](mailto:tgroves@cbschools.net).
  - Fax the signed required forms to 804-410-3849.
6. CBES will be using ClassDojo again to communicate with parents. Make sure you sign up for ClassDojo. You will get more information about this during the virtual Open House. Additionally, check our website [www.cbschools.net](http://www.cbschools.net) and our Facebook Page (Colonial Beach Schools Community) on a regular basis.
  7. Parents of students in grades 3 – 7 will be provided with information on how to access Power School to check grades/assignments.
  8. Students are expected to participate in virtual lessons daily. Teachers will be taking attendance. Attendance is tracked just as it is if students were attending in-person. School policies for attendance apply to virtual learning. Doctor notes can be dropped off, scanned/emailed to your child's teacher, mailed or faxed to 804-410-3849.
  9. Assignments/tests/quizzes will be graded. Students will earn grades and report cards will be issued.
  10. If you are having any difficulties or need help, please reach out to our school counselor, Mrs. Tabler, at [rtabler@cbschools.net](mailto:rtabler@cbschools.net). She is available virtually for students and parents as well.
  11. K – 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be using CANVAS as the learning management system while incorporating Virtual Virginia as well as our school-based programs (i.e. HMH, Pearson Math, Reading Plus, IXL, etc.). Zoom will be used for direct instruction. The teachers will ensure all Standards of Learning are taught and follow our curriculum maps. SOL assessments for grades 3 – 7 are scheduled to take place in Spring of 2021. Teachers will explain all of this during virtual Open House. Stay tuned for more information about trainings for parents and students.
  12. PreK will be using ClassDojo and See Saw.
  13. If your child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), his/her case manager will be reaching out to you the week of August 10<sup>th</sup> or sooner. If you have any questions pertaining to special education and related services please contact our Director of Special Education, Mrs. Lacey Neitzey, at [lnowitz@cbschools.net](mailto:lnowitz@cbschools.net).

We are looking forward to partnering with parents to ensure our students have a successful experience. Parents can help by:

- ensuring their child understands the work expectations of virtual learning.
- making sure their child follows the class schedule and completes all assignments.
- notifying the teacher via email or ClassDojo if their child/children are going to be absent.
- keeping in close contact with teachers using email, phone calls, ClassDojo.
- checking ClassDojo, Facebook and our Division Website on a regular basis for important information and updates.
- reaching out to teachers, the school counselor or principal if you need help.
- checking grades and assignments in Power School regularly (grades 3 – 7).

Never forget...you are not alone. Your school family has your back and we are here for you along the way as we navigate yet another challenge. We've got this!

As always, I am available and can be reached at 804-224-9897 or [mcoates@cbschools.net](mailto:mcoates@cbschools.net). I look forward to a wonderful and productive school year.

With Drifter Pride,

Michele K. Coates  
Principal