



DICKSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Every Student Every Day

March 30, 2020

Dear Families of Dickson County Schools Elementary Students,

I would like to begin by asking, “How are the children?” I trust this letter finds you feeling hopeful and tenacious, fueled with the knowledge that this “new normal” is only temporary. This present situation is difficult, unsettling, and disruptive, but again, temporary. As you adjust, adapt, and do all that is necessary to ensure the well-being of your family, please know the entire staff of Dickson County Schools is here to assist and support your family.

In this letter, you will learn about an opportunity for your child to interact with district created activities. These Core activities are and will always be optional for your child. We understand that at this time each family has unique needs and will set priorities based on those needs in order to provide the environment you deem best throughout this unprecedented situation. This is exactly what you should do. If any of the activities or recommendations cause stress or frustration for your child, adapt the expectation, or choose to do a less demanding activity.

Our District Curriculum Coordinators have created an opportunity for your child to access quality, uniform, grade-level Core English Language Arts and Math activities based on the state curriculum standards. You will find these activities on this website.

The purpose for this approach is to ensure that all K-5 students have access to the same quality online instruction. It is important to note that teachers had taught the majority of the state curriculum standards before the closing of schools on March 11, 2020. Most of the Core activities will be reviewing content your child has been taught this year.

Prek activities consist of hands-on ideas and online learning activities. The K-5 math online curriculum is presented through iReady. Your child is encouraged to complete a minimum of 3-5 lessons a week. Each lesson will take between 10-25 minutes. The K-2 ELA online curriculum will be presented through Smarty Ants. These lessons are adaptive and will be based on each child’s individual level. The lesson typically takes 10-15 minutes. If necessary, the lesson will re-teach and re-assess. The 3-5 ELA online curriculum will be presented through Achieve 3000. We recommend one lesson a day. Your child will read a nonfiction article and complete a five-step process. This should take approximately 30 minutes. In order to access these lessons, your child will have to access their Clever account. Your child will be familiar with these curricula and the Clever login process.

The curricula programs are designed to archive a proficiency percentage related to activities completed by the student. However, these percentages will have absolutely no impact on report card grades or promotion to the subsequent grade. After you have reviewed the Parent Direction Guides and your child begins lessons, if you need further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child’s teacher, administrator, or our District Office.

Additionally, we have available to students Science and Social Studies online activities that I am certain they will enjoy. General Education, Special Education, ELL, Creative Arts Teachers and School Counselors will be enhancing the Core activities through entertaining and stimulating online opportunities.

For students who will not be engaging with the curriculum through online participation, we have created a Student- Home Interaction Packet that will be sure to please your child and provide valuable bonding time for families. Parents may request a packet by calling our District Office at (615) 446-7571.

In closing, we wish you and your family the very best. Again, please contact us if we can be of assistance to your family. We miss our precious students. EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY...in every situation.

Respectfully,

Ernestine Adams, Director of Elementary Education, Dickson County Schools