

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Soaring to Excellence!

Service. Accountability. Integrity. Loyalty

1460 Martinez Losoya Road San Antonio, TX 78221 210-882-1600 Fax 210-626-0101 www.southsideisd.org

August 7, 2020

Freedom Parents & Guardians,

It's back to school season at Southside ISD, and there is a lot of planning taking place in preparation for virtual learning on Aug 17th - Sept 11th.

These are strange times, but one thing remains certain. We are continuing our approach for students to access high-quality curriculum and assignments. Please take a moment to review our plan below and talk with your child about continuing their education.

What you can expect from our Freedom staff:

- So that students practice a regular school day routine, our learning schedule includes lesson activities students may participate in with the teacher and on their own.
- So that students access quality curriculum and assignments, lessons and activities will address all
 core content areas. Core content areas include Reading, Mathematics, Language Arts, Science,
 and Social Studies.
- We know that our students miss the interaction of their school day and personal interests. Therefore, virtual lessons and activities will address Health, PE, Music, and Art.
- During this time of social distancing, our school counselor will focus on lessons and activities that guide student's social and emotional skills.
- Teachers care about our student's academics and wellbeing. Thus, teachers will be recording the student's attendance each day. Your child will need to answer a posted attendance question daily in their assigned Google Classroom or through text correspondence with the assigned classroom teacher.
- Teachers will post meaningful lessons and activities in their Google Classrooms that support learning, such as notes, slide presentations, and website links. We will provide a paper packet for those who are not able to participate in online learning.
- Teachers want to talk to you and provide as much support as possible during these challenging times. During their scheduled office hours, teachers are available to assist you, answer questions, make clarifications, and hear your concerns.
- Special Education and Dyslexia services are still available to better meet the needs of your child.



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What we expect from our students:

- Students will actively participate and complete all required assignments directed by their teacher.
- Students will treat the virtual classroom, students, and teachers with respect by raising their hands to speak, waiting for their turn to talk, and keeping their microphones on mute during the lesson.
- Students will be safe using the chat only when the teacher has requested them to do so and participate in lessons with an adult present when possible.
- Students will be responsible for coming prepared to learn and following the teacher's directions for all lessons and activities.
- Students will communicate with the teacher and ask questions when they do not understand an assignment, the directions, or the expectations for learning.

We miss everyone and hope that you remain safe during these times. Please know that while we are participating in virtual learning, we have not forgotten about upcoming class sessions. We are participating in continued planning for instruction after the first four weeks of school and promise to keep you posted. In the meantime, we encourage all families to follow us on Class Dojo, Facebook, and our campus website to stay updated.

Attachments: virtual schedule, *Meet the Teacher* information sheet, technology distribution and support flyers, and non-virtual option information sheet.

Respectfully,

Thomasina Montaña

Principal, Freedom Elementary



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MEET THE TEACHER

We are glad you have chosen to be at Freedom this year! We cannot wait for you to meet your teacher on Friday, August 14th between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

Your teacher is very excited to see you and your family in your new virtual Google Classroom. You can log in to your virtual classroom by following these directions:

- 1. Visit the SouthsideISD school web page at www.southsideisd.org.
- 2. Click on Students/Remote Learning
- 3. Click on Classroom
- 4. Sign in using your student Google account. FirstInitialLastNameLast4DigitsofLunchNumber@southsideisd.org (Ex: astudent1234@southsideisd.org).
- 5. <u>Use your Teacher's Google Classroom Code that will be sent through Class Dojo on August 13th.</u>

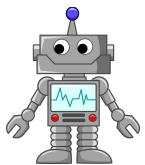
If you have any questions or trouble logging in, please call us at 210-882-1603 to assist you.

Katie Farias



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Technology Distribution at all Elementary Campuses

August 11th: 9am - 12pm August 12th: 3pm - 6pm August 13th: 2pm - 5pm

*All students must go to their home campus to pick up technology.

Please call your home campus to make an appointment if you cannot attend one of the dates listed above.



Technology Help Line Please contact 210-882-1626 to discuss your concerns, and a technician will assist you.



Please help keep your technology safe by:

- Keeping it away from food and drinks
- Storing it at room temperature
- Keeping the charger with the computer at all times
- Placing it where it cannot fall or get damaged while not in use
- Never leaving it unattended
- Treating the screen and keyboard with care



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What if I do not want to do virtual learning for my child?

If virtual learning is not your choice, please know that we have an alternative for learning in your home. All parents and students have the opportunity to take advantage of our paper-pencil learning experience.

If you choose this option, please be prepared to pick up a packet at your child's school on **August the 14th anytime between 2pm and 4pm**. If you cannot pick up a packet at this time, please be sure to contact your child's teacher to schedule an appointment for a different pick-up time.

We look forward to any opportunity to teach your child and continue their education during these times. However, we would like to take this opportunity to inform you of what your child will be missing out on if they are not participating virtually:

- **Engaging classroom activities with school personnel.** A packet cannot offer interactive lessons from the school counselor, PE coach, art teacher, or music teacher.
- Social interaction with their peers and teachers. Many of our students miss school because they miss their friends and the in-person discussions they have with kids their age. Live lessons will allow your child to feel a sense of normalcy as they engage in their learning each day.
- **Teaching by an education expert.** Leave the teaching to us as we provide daily hands-on learning of skills and concepts, emphasizing mastery of understanding the content.
- Closing the learning gaps. Schools are for children to learn and experience learning to prepare them for the future that awaits them. Help us maintain your child's grade level performance by keeping them engaged with learning in different ways paper pencil, videos, online games, digital notebooks, etc.
- **New-age learning.** Our students are the generation who can teach us to use technology! Keep them involved with learning experiences that support the use of new technology your child will see in college and the workplace.

We know that you are making the best decision for your child, and we are here to support you. Let us know what we can do to help. Know that if and when you are ready to make the switch, we are also here to help!



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SOUTHSIDE ISD ELEMENTARY VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

GRADES 1-5 SCHOOL TIME: 7:15 A.M.-3:15 P.M.

*Synchronous Learning Definition: Learning is happening in real time virtually with a teacher interacting with students. Provides active discussion, immediate feedback, and personal familiarity with students.

*Asynchronous Learning Definition: Learning happens virtually with self guided lessons, videos, and questions being exchanged through a chat board. A teacher is not present during this instructional time.

Synchronous Learning (Live with Teacher)		Asynchronous Learning & Teacher Office Hours
7:15am - 7:30am 7:30am - 8:00am 8:00am - 9:00am 9:05am - 9:20am 9:20am - 10:20am 10:25am - 10:50am 10:50am - 11:20am 11:20am - 12:20pm 12:20pm - 12:50pm 12:55pm - 1:25pm	Breakfast On Your Own Social Emotional Learning Reading & Language Arts Art & Music Mathematics PE. STAAR Time Lunch & Recess On Your Own Science/Social Studies- Writing Daily Wrap-up & Reflection	1:30pm - 3:15pm. This is a great time to communicate with your child's teacher if you have any comments, questions, or concerns while students participate in the following: • 30 minutes AR Reading Challenge • 30 minutes RAZ Kids • 30 minutes ST Math • 30 minutes Counseling *by appointment • 30 minutes Differentiated Learning (enrichment or intervention) *by appointment • Special Education Services *as scheduled • 30 minutes 1st - 4th Grade: Brainpop or 5th Grade Science: LISTO
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