



The 100% Honest Weekly Bugle

August 31, 2020 Edition

Meet the writer-

James Madison Charter Academy

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Dear JMCA Family:

I have three key words for you: "We have survived!" JMCA Families and Staff, please take this time for self-congratulations. You have done a great job making the first week of school a success. The 2020 to 2021 school year will present challenges unlike any other school year. We must become accustomed to a new norm. At the end of the day, the most important thing is that we are all in this together.

After the first week of school, I do have some key observations:

- Please remember that during morning carpool that your child/children cannot leave their car until their temperature was checked by a JMCA staff member;
- Please bring your child to school with a mask. Students in grades **3 to 8** are required to wear a mask in classrooms and common areas; students in grades **K to 2** are required to have a mask with them to wear in common areas, but they don't have to wear a mask in the classrooms;
- Volunteer hours have been cut in half from 30 volunteer hours to **15** volunteer hours (volunteer opportunities will be posted on the JMCA Website and Blackboard).

Coming Attractions-

- August 31- Board of Education meeting via Zoom @6:00 P.M.
- September 7- Labor Day (No School)
- September 10- Meet the Teacher Night@6:00 P.M.
- September 22- SAAC Committee meeting @ 4:30 P.M.
- September 28- Board of Education meeting @ 6:00 P.M.
- Wednesday is early release at **1:00 P.M.**
- Wednesday is formal dress.

Uniforms-

Teachers will not send home uniform violations before Labor Day. Teachers will instead send home notes as reminders on JMCA's uniform policy. After that, uniform violations will be sent home when students are not in proper uniforms.

If a family is having difficulty affording uniforms or they are waiting upon a uniform to arrive, please contact me at morinkyle@wsd3.org, and we can work on a plan to make sure your child/children have all of the key uniform pieces. Please remember to send your child/children with their sweater on Wednesdays. They don't have to wear the sweater. They just need it with them.

Children attending JMCA's online school must wear school-appropriate clothes when online, but they are not required to be in uniform.

Homework-

Due to JMCA students becoming reacquainted with attending school, our homework policy has changed for the first quarter. The most important thing is that students' social-emotional needs are met. Thus, our new homework policy for the first quarter reflects this change. Teachers are asking students to complete nightly activities monitoring their social-emotional well-being during the pandemic. The JMCA staff will re-evaluate our homework policy for the second quarter with the goal of continuing our typical homework routine of active play, independent reading, and group projects. Please feel free to email me at morinkyle@wsd3.org if you have any questions.

Be COVID Aware-

On the JMCA website, families can find a copy of the COVID-19 Guidance for Can I go to school today. Currently, El Paso County is in the Sustained Community Transmission category. This means that unless there is a previous medical note to explain symptoms, there is a **strong likelihood** that students will be sent home for minor COVID symptoms such as a headache, sore throat, runny nose or congestion. Thank you for your understanding.

Carpool-

The JMCA staff was experimenting with carpool last week in order to find the best system to effectively and safely get students in the building during the morning. We were opening the gates at approximately 7:30 A.M. in order to make sure we had enough time to get all of the students into the building. We feel confident now that most of the glitches were worked out of the system, and we won't be opening the gates until 7:45 A.M. If you do arrive sooner, then you will be waiting behind the gate until Mr. Butler opens the gate at 7:45 A.M. Thank you for your understanding.

JMCA's Online Option-

Thank you for all of your patience this past week as we worked on the JMCA online option. Here is an example schedule for a 4th to 8th grade student and kindergarten to 3rd grade student doing the online option.

4th to 8th grade schedule-

Monday	Tuesday	Weds.	Thursday	Friday
8:10 to 9:10- Math	8:10 to 9:10- Math		8:10 to 9:10- Math	8:10 to 9:10 -Math
9:15 to 10:15 Literacy	9:15 to 10:15 literacy	9:15 to 10:15 literacy	9:15 to 10:15 literacy	9:15 to 10:15 literacy
10:20 to 11:20 Core Knowledge	10:20 to 11:20 Core Knowledge	10:20 to 11:20 Core Knowledge	On-Your-Own Core Knowledge	On-Your-Own Core Knowledge

Kindergarten to 3rd grade schedule-

Monday	Tuesday	Weds.	Thursday	Friday
8:10 to 9:10- Math	8:10 to 9:10- Math		8:10 to 9:10- Math	8:10 to 9:10 -Math
9:15 to 10:15 Literacy	9:15 to 10:15 literacy	9:15 to 10:15 literacy	4:00 to 5:00 literacy	4:00 to 5:00 literacy
10:20 to 11:20 Core Knowledge	10:20 to 11:20 Core Knowledge	10:20 to 11:20 Core Knowledge	On-Your-Own Core Knowledge	On-Your-Own Core Knowledge

Water Bottles-

Remember that due to the pandemic, the school drinking fountains are turned off. Please bring your child/children with multiple water bottles to school.

Important Reminders-

"As a Medicaid provider, Widefield School District 3 will access Medicaid eligibility information for students enrolled in Widefield School District 3 from Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF). HCPF is the designated Medicaid agency in the state.

Directory information of name and date of birth will be released to HCPF to verify Medicaid Eligibility of students in the District. The description of health and health-related services delivered to Medicaid eligible students will be released to Medicaid and/or the District claiming agent for proper administration of the program."

SAAC

The Student Accountability Advisory Committee (SAAC) meets every month on the third Tuesday. The committee acts in an advisory capacity to the principal. Parents are welcome to attend. The next meeting is September 15 at 4:30 P.M. If interested in attending, please email me, and I will send you a Zoom link. Thank you!

JMCA Mission Statement-

"JMCA inspires children to pursue personal growth and navigate a diverse world."

Absences

When your child is going to be absent, please call 391-3977 before 9:00 a.m. This allows us to verify absences efficiently. If you know your child will be absent in advance, please fill out an Excused Absence Request Form at the front office. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Safety Reminder

Your children's safety is a priority at JMCA. We continue to improve our procedures to ensure children are safe at school. Don't forget that **students are not allowed to carry any type of medicine with them at school.** This includes over-the-counter items such as aspirin, Pepto-Bismol or ointments.

Inspirational Quote



Every week, I will share two inspirational quotes with families. One quote geared towards middle school families, and one quote geared towards primary families. Pick one quote to discuss as a family. Then send me an email at morinkyle@wsd3.org with your interpretation of the quote. The child/children of the family who discussed the most quotes will earn a special lunch with Mr. Morin.

"You must expect great things of yourself before you can do them."
— Michael Jordan

"You're off to great places!" – Dr. Seuss