



FORT HAYES METROPOLITAN EDUCATION CENTER

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Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

Greetings and welcome to the 2020-21 school year. Undoubtedly this will be a challenging and unpredictable school year. As we reflect on the COVID-19 pandemic, and the closing of schools back in March, we realize that the school year did not end in a conventional manner, nor will we begin this year in a conventional manner.

The transition to a fully remote educational delivery model will be the practice for the start of the school year. This will require some additional learning and new technology tools for us to navigate. Unlike the experience of transitioning to remote learning in March with no warning, we now have a slight bit of experience and prior notice to prepare what our teaching responsibility will look like.

There are still many unknowns relative to the structure of the school day, but we have embraced the philosophy that we will conduct our business as we have in the past, but in a virtual manner. Students will have the choice to engage in the CCS Digital Academy (asynchronous), or the CCS Remote Classroom (synchronous). The implications of both methods are far-reaching and a bit unpredictable to say the least. However, the combination of the two will be where we will need to situate ourselves.

Synchronous learning is learning that happens essentially in real time, and asynchronous learning occurs in a self-paced online format without the benefit of real-time interaction. I believe that a robust hybrid of the two methods is what will be best for our students and the equity of educational access.

As we prepare for the coming school year, we will have two weeks of Professional Development to learn and develop our practice for this blended approach. I understand this is new for us all, and we will be learning and implementing in a collaborative manner. I look forward to chatting with you on the opening day, and I will send information and updates to you as they become available.

Stay safe, stay positive and stay in touch.

Artistically,

Milton Ruffin, Ph.D.