

# Griffin Elementary School

## Monthly Newsletter – Volume 1

### September 2020

## WELCOME TO THE 2020 – 2021 SCHOOL YEAR!

### Message from the Principal Jones



I am very excited to start the new school year. I know these are challenging times for most families, but I am optimistic that we will be back to brick and mortar as the COVID-19 cases declines. The district is monitoring the situation closely. As I stated in my opening speech for open house, we will return to school in phases. Virtual learning in the first semester will always be the option for families not comfortable returning to the building.

We are now in the second week of school. All students should have picked up consumable textbooks, computers or iPads, depending on grade levels- work packets, white boards and school supplies. If you have not picked up your materials, or if you are having device issues, please contact the school.

The teachers have worked hard in creating Canvas courses and online resources for your child. There are also daily live instructions for your child to participate interactively on TEAMS. We are trying to provide robust instruction to engage and close the learning gaps. Please be patient, if the teacher encounters technology issues. For the most part, it is bandwidth and connectivity problems. We are all in this together, learning and supporting each other as we journey through the eLearning environment.



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## OUR SCHOOL THEME:



Individually we are unique, but together we are BETTER

## Griffin's Framework for Success

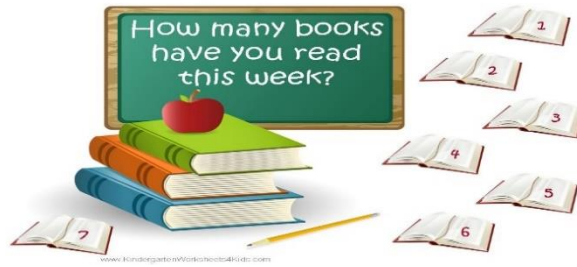
<b>C</b>	Canvas Ready		
<b>H</b>	High Student Engagement		
<b>I</b>	Inclusive Environment		
<b>P</b>	Planning and Goal Setting		
<b>S</b>	Setting High Academic Achievement		

### Attendance:

Teachers will record student attendance in the system used by the District to capture attendance (Pinnacle). Attendance will be based on the student's presence in the digital classroom. Students will be counted for attendance during their scheduled class time. Teachers will be flexible and take into account the extenuating circumstances of individual students and may consider other evidence of attendance in these individual cases. Please communicate with the classroom teachers at all times.

### Grab and Go Meals at Griffin Elementary

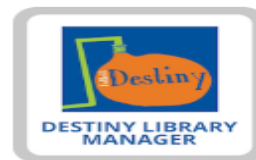
Please take advantage of the district service to our families. Breakfast is FREE. You have to pay for lunch- prices vary from \$2.00 or less- depending if your child is receiving free and reduced prices. Distribution days are Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM or 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM. – All meals are FROZEN.



## Our Media Corner

Welcome back, Griffin family! As libraries have taken on a different look this year, I wanted to be sure you knew how to access books online through our District Library. On your child's Canvas page, go to the Resources folder, then click on Library Media Resources. Here, you will find many sites for you and your child. Be sure to check out TumbleBooks and FollettDestiny. Included in this newsletter are step-by-step directions for FollettDestiny. Now is a great time to read with your children and share with them books that you are passionate about. If you or your child are looking for a book recommendation or have any questions regarding our online resources, please reach out to [valerie.berger@browardschools.com](mailto:valerie.berger@browardschools.com).

## Read for Free Online Axis 360



Follett Destiny

1. Login to Clever and select Follett Destiny.
2. Select "Griffin Elementary" under Elementary Schools. "Log In" in the upper right-hand corner.
3. Select "Log in using Clever Broward SSO."  
**Log in Using...**

**Broward Clever SSO**

4. Select "Catalog" from the dashboard.

5. Select "Destiny Discover" on the left hand side, then "Axis 360." Log in.
6. Search for a book by title or audio/ebook.
7. Checkout your book or add it to your Wishlist.
8. Books are automatically be returned in 2 weeks. If you would like access your book on a within those two weeks, select the menu bar in the left-hand corner and select "checkout."



### **Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year!**

As your school counselor it is my job to ensure that all our students feel safe and secure so they are ready to learn and grow. I provide support and guidance for students and their families in the areas of academics, social emotional learning, and college and career readiness.

Although we are currently meeting virtual we at Griffin are determined to provide some of the activities and celebration we have always enjoyed. This month we will be celebrating Chose Peace Week, Hispanic Heritage Month, and the Character trait of Cooperation.

#### **Pebbles for Peace**

To celebrate Choose Peace Week we asking our student to find a small rock, no larger than a fist, and decorate it to place around our peace pole. Use bright colors, peace symbols, and words of kindness. Be creative!

#### **Virtual Learning Tips**

- ❖ Provide a routine for you and your family.
- ❖ Supply a home classroom space that students can call their own.
- ❖ Allow students to work independently and promote classroom rules.
- ❖ Provide encouragement and support.
- ❖ Focus on the positive and celebrate success.

#### **Home Health Tips**

- ❖ Practice good hygiene: Wash hands often.  
Sneeze/cough in crease of elbow
- ❖ Build your immune system: Eat well-balanced meals.  
Get a good night's sleep.  
Keep open communication to reduce stress

Communication between home and school is key to student success. Together we can make this school year a great one. – Ms. Novack

## Free and Confidential Therapy

Via phone or TEAMS

Cooper City Zone Family Therapist

**Shantelle Moxie**

754 323-0231 or shantelle.moxie@browardschools.com

**"Ask BRIA"**(Broward Remote Instructional Assistance).



Our districtwide evening academic assistance is scheduled to begin Wednesday, September 2, 2020. This service will be provided Monday through Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Students will find a link in their Canvas courses to "**Ask BRIA**"(Broward Remote Instructional Assistance). By clicking on that link, they will be guided to a live Teams session with a certified teacher to receive academic support.

The central office will publish a link in all students' Canvas courses entitled "Need Assistance with Schoolwork- Ask BRIA" on Tuesday, September 1, 2020. It will be live beginning Wednesday, September 2, 2020.



### September

Dates	Events	Time
Wednesday, 9/2/20	Broward Remote Instructional Assistance	3:00-8:00
Monday, 9/7/20	School Closed – Labor Day	
Thursday, 9/10/20	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Material Distribution	2:30–3:30
Friday, 9/11/20	Interim Report Card Issued	
Sunday, 9/13/2020	National Grandparents Day	
Monday, 9/14/20	Grandparents may join TEAMS with student	8:15-8:45

Friday, 9/18/20	Rosh Hashanah begins	
Mon-Fri, 9/21-25/20	Peace Week	
Monday, 9/21/20	SAC Meeting Virtual – Parents invited	2:15 – 3:00
Tuesday, 9/22/20	Fall begins	
Monday, 9/28/20	School Closed – Yom Kippur Holiday	

## Griffin Elementary PTA!

Griffin Elementary PTA welcomes parents, grandparents, guardians and teachers to become active PTA/Advisory members and volunteers. Any time, talent, aptitudes and ages are needed to support and encourage our students' education and to augment our curriculum. Whether you have a spare hour or two, whether you like consistency and regularity, or just to be called for special events, your Griffin Elementary volunteer force wants and appreciates you!

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 The PTA Executive Board has elected the following officers for the Griffin Elementary PTA Executive Committee for the 2020-2021 school year:

President: Sarah K. [president@griffinpta.org](mailto:president@griffinpta.org)  
 Vice-President(s): Pam M., Dana K., & Sara D. [vp@griffinpta.org](mailto:vp@griffinpta.org)  
 Recording Secretary: Maria B. [secretary@griffinpta.org](mailto:secretary@griffinpta.org)  
 Treasurer: Andrea G. [treasurer@griffinpta.org](mailto:treasurer@griffinpta.org)  
 Teacher/Staff Liaison:

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 Please help Support Griffin Elementary PTA through [Amazon Smile](#)

### September is PTA Membership Drive

Single child \$8.00

Family \$16.00

Visit our Griffin website – Under School - select PTA which will take you to their Website – click join PTA for online payment.

## BACK TO SCHOOL ONLINE FORMS



If you completed your forms, thank you. If you have not – please complete as soon as possible. Link can be found on our website. Only 50% of our families have completed this task. We need 100% completion rate. It will take 15-20 minutes of your time. It is important for us to update your information in our system. Once completed email or call the school with your confirmation. If you need assistance, please reach out to the school.



Thank you, Griffin family for adjusting the sails as we venture into uncharted waters. If you need any assistance to help you to sail smoothly, feel free to reach out to us. We are all in this together, and together we can achieve greatness for Griffin. Griffin is some place SPECIAL.

**Next Edition: Volume 2** – October 1, 2020

Additions: Grade Level Reports, Student of the Month, Curriculum Corner, Specials Hub, Technology and ESE Updates.