July 29, 2020

**Dear Families,**

**We hope you are faring well. Hard to believe that we are just three weeks out from the start of school. A gentle reminder that SKTCS is on a different schedule than SCCPSS. Our students will start back for virtual learning on Monday August 17th at 9 am. You will receive more detailed instructions about schedules, school supplies, and expectations once teachers are back to work.Please remember to look-out for information from SKTCS. You can disregard information sent from SCCPSS.**

**Open House**

**We will hold our Two Sessions of Virtual Open House for each grade band:**

**Lower School**

**Tuesday August 11th: Kindergarten- 2nd; 12 noon - 1 pm and 5 pm - 6 pm**

**Wednesday August 12th: 3rd - 5th:   12 noon - 1 pm and 5 pm - 6 pm**

**Middle Grades Academy (6th & 7th):**

**Thursday August 13th: 6th & 7th**

**WELAR (Writing, English, Language Arts, Reading): 10:30 - 11 AM   & 4 - 4:30 PM**

**Math: 11 AM - 11:30 AM & 4:30 - 5 PM**

**Science: 11:30 AM - Noon & 5 - 5:30 PM**

**Social Studies: Noon - 12:30 pm & 5:30 – 6 PM**

***Links to the online presentations will be provided at a later date and time.***

**School Supplies**

**Although we had school supply lists all ready for you, Covid has, of course, thrown us for a loop. Once teachers are back in the building next week we will revise and disseminate the school supply lists for Face-to-face instruction.**

**For now, all students should have the following materials for virtual instruction:**

**K - 5: An 11 inch neoprene carrying sleeve/bag for Chromebooks (mandatory for students borrowing a school device).**

**Like this one found at Amazon:**



**6 & 7th grade: A 14 inch  neoprene carrying sleeve/bag for Chromebooks (mandatory  for students borrowing a school device).**

**Like this one found at Amazon:**

[](https://www.amazon.com/MOSISO-Shoulder-Compatible-Ultrabook-Briefcase/dp/B07KPF8NT3/ref%3Dsr_1_4?dchild=1&keywords=neoprene+computer+carrying+case&qid=1596042720&sr=8-4)

**Blue Blocker Glasses (optional, but they are good for reducing strain from looking at a computer screen):**



**A Notebook**

**Pencils and erasers**

**Crayons**

**Headphones with a microphone** like these found at Amazon (or the headphones that come with iPhones):

[https://www.amazon.com/Mpow-Headphones-Foldable-Comfortable-Earphones/dp/B07RSJX4KW/ref=sr\_1\_8?dchild=1&keywords=headphones+with+microphone+for+kids&qid=1596047593&sr=8-8](https://www.amazon.com/Mpow-Headphones-Foldable-Comfortable-Earphones/dp/B07RSJX4KW/ref%3Dsr_1_8?dchild=1&keywords=headphones+with+microphone+for+kids&qid=1596047593&sr=8-8)



***Again, once teachers are back in the building we will share more specific supply lists.***

**Technology Distribution**

**Families will be notified when they can come and pick up resources (Computers and Workbooks) for students. Please stay tuned to your email for further details.**

**Pandemic EBT**

**The application for pandemic EBT benefits is now available. If your student received free or reduced lunch last year you are eligible to receive pandemic EBT benefits.**

**If you already receive SNAP and/or TANF benefits you don’t need to do anything. The benefits will be added to your card.**

**If you do not have an EBT card, you will need to get your student’s GTID number from their report card (or log into PowerSchool and retrieve it from their transcript) and complete an application**[here](https://gateway.ga.gov/access/accessController?id=dcc526491e9a26999a0dcb6db)**.**

**Finally, email will be our primary mode of communication (you can delete the Bloomz app!). We will share information as we are able and as always, we thank you for your patience and understanding during these times.**

**Yours in Service,**



**Dr. Chattin**

July 23, 2020

SKTCS Families,

We are excited to tell you about a program being offered at Susie King Taylor Community School this year! **Any child who is eligible for free or reduced school lunch is eligible to receive a bag of food each Friday between the hours of 9 am -12 pm free of charge starting on August 21st, 2020.**

Non-perishable, child-friendly foods such as macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, breakfast items, etc will be donated, packed, and delivered by community volunteers to the school and will be sent home in a 2 gallon freezer bag.

If you qualify for free and/or reduced lunch and would like for your student to participate, please first complete the [Lunch Application Form](https://www.myschoolapps.com/). Lunch Applications must be completed every school year and the deadline for this year is September 15th. **We strongly encourage ALL families to complete the lunch application even if your child will never eat school lunch. It is easiest and most accurate to complete online. We recommend all families complete the Lunch Application form each year as it allows us to collect demographic information on our families. Additionally, our Title 1 designation and funding is dependent on the accurate and timely completion of this form.**Once you have completed the lunch application, please complete[this release form to receive a P.A.C.K. bag weekly.](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-VhN5Gjz3qEfMTGa9h9tLcDjma66og_EbQ1-ahlmrunowkg/viewform?usp=sf_link)



If you qualify and would like to participate but have a child with food allergies, please speak with Mrs. Hardy, our DSEL, for more information. If you are not eligible or do not wish for your child to participate, please do not complete the form below.

**Two forms to complete:**

**Lunch Application:** [https://www.myschoolapps.com](https://www.myschoolapps.com/)

**PACK Application**: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-VhN5Gjz3qEfMTGa9h9tLcDjma66og_EbQ1-ahlmrunowkg/viewform?usp=sf_link>

Yours in Partnership,

Mrs. Hardy

Dean of Social Emotional Learning



**July 20, 2020**

**Dear SKTCS Families,**

**I hope this email finds you well. By now you have learned that on Thursday evening the SCCPSS Board voted to implement e-learning for the first three weeks of the 2020 - 21 school year. As our returning parents know, as a charter school we have liberties to waive many of the policies and procedures of the local school district. Our SKTCS board met on Friday evening and have determined that since we receive Nutritional Services (lunch) and Transportation (buses) from the district our best course of action will be virtual education.**

**That said, SKTCS will welcome our students back, virtually, on Monday August 17th, 2020. We know that this is not the ideal situation for many of our families as almost 65% reported a desire to be back in school face-to-face. However, we must also consider the health and well-being of our faculty and have a responsibility to mitigate any possible transmission of this disease where so much is still unknown.**

**We have**[adjusted the calendar](https://www.sktcs.org/calender)**to account for a late start. As of now the only other e-learning days on our calendar are Election Day. On or before September 4th the SKTCS board will reconvene to assess the current situation. At that time we hope to have further guidance from the district and/or state to decide whether to extend the virtual learning days or return face-to-face.**

**Nevertheless, we fully intend to provide the same quality hands-on, personalized, and place-based education you have come to expect. Unlike the spring, we are much better prepared for virtual lessons and students will receive live instruction from their teachers in addition to projects, labs, and virtual field trips!**

**We have many new additions to our program as well, and despite starting the year online we are excited to announce:**

1. [New Faces and Spaces!](https://www.sktcs.org/faculty-and-staff)**We are ecstatic to welcome new members of our teaching faculty. You can find their introductions and biographies on our website.**
2. **Additionally, we have had some shifts within the building. We want to congratulate Ms. Q (**business@sktcs.org**) for her promotion to Business and Operations Manager, Ms. Ervin (**frontoffice@sktcs.org**)  for her promotion as the Administrative Specialist in the front office, and Mrs. Medina (**yanis.medina@sktcs.org**) for her appointment to Dean of Lower School. Please feel free to email them your congratulations!**
3. **All teachers will be fully trained in project-based learning this summer. That means more hands-on learning to encourage activation of multiple areas of the brain, real-life applications, and meaningful engagement with the curriculum.**
4. **2020 - 21 brings the start of the**[SKTCS Middle Grades Academy for Social Justice](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1_Hf3bPOhq5BsRmNv8nJEO94YXm5aJKk0GPhJjupC8IU/edit?usp=sharing)**(Grades 6 & 7). The middle grades program will weave the following four strands throughout all of disciplines:**
* **Access - greater equality of access to goods and services.**
* **Equity - overcoming unfairness caused by unequal access to economic resources and power.**
* **Rights - equal effective legal, industrial and political rights.**
* **Participation - expanded opportunities for real participation in the decisions which govern their lives.**

**5. SKTCS MGA also has a new home! We are proud to announce we have located a temporary new home for our middle school students (lower school students (K-5) will still be at 1709 Bull Street). This space will allow our older students to be fully immersed in the middle school experience. Of course, we desire for our entire school to be on one campus, so we will continue to look for one location that can house us all (please let us know if you have any ideas). But, for this year the MGA will be located at 3400 Florance Street.  We will be housed in a portion of the Ramah Junior Academy building, a historical organization that has educated and served the African American community in Savannah for over the past 100 years.**

* + **The details for transportation are delayed due to Covid; however, the goal is that K-7 siblings will ride the bus together and be dropped off/picked-up at their respective sites. We will share more information as we get closer to face-to-face instruction.**

**6. Follow us on Instagram at susiekingtaylor**

**7. Third through Seventh Graders - please don’t forget to do your**[summer reading](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uGSSQteYFEB3SjCGcJ6T_wwcz9SRuRjUzn8fjtImqrg/edit?usp=sharing)**! This will be your first grade of the first marking period!**

**8. Final notes:**

* **We will announce the rescheduling of our now virtual Open House and Kindergarten Orientation soon.**
* **We intend to create video tutorials to assist families with accessing learning online.**
* **We are awaiting guidance on how to implement IEPs virtually.**
* **There will be no paper-pencil option this time. Online only**
* **Each student will receive their own device that is assigned to them for the duration of the school year. Families will have access to the hotspot buses provided by the district. If it is determined that there is no reliable internet in your area the school will also provide internet.**
* **As of now attendance policies are still in place and students are expected to be online during school hours. We will let you know if things change.**

**Again, I know this is not how any of us intended to start the school year, but we will have a grand party to re-start when it is appropriate. We thank you in advance  for your flexibility and patience during this uncertain time. I will provide more information as we near the start of school and ask you to anticipate changes and be surprised if there are none.**

**I am always so grateful to be a part of this amazing school community. As always, if there is anything you need assistance with please feel free to call the front office.**

**We miss you and are excited about the start of this new school year …**

**Humbly Yours,**

****

**Dr. Chattin**

director@sktcs.org

**912.395.4200**



June 24, 2020

Good Evening Parents,

I hope this email finds you well. This evening the school district sent out an email describing their E-Learning Academy for students in grades 3-12. There are many things that are confusing and uncertain during these unprecendented times. One of those things is whether or not we will be face-to-face in August. However, here are a few things you can count on:

1. IF we return to the building in August we will take every precaution to prepare the building and maintain safe conditions for staff and students.

2. SKTCS will offer a distance learning option this fall for families who are not comfortable with their students returning to a brick and mortar building. This will allow students to learn the same curriculum, the same way as their in-school peers without losing their seat at SKTCS.

Please note, **in order to enroll in the E-Learning Academy you will lose your spot at SKTCS** (you can only be enrolled in one school at a time). If you wanted to come back to SKTCS after COVID you would have to apply and be added to the waitlist and/or the lottery in March.

Again, while nothing is certain, we will discuss our contingency plans for re-entry at our July Board Meeting on July 8th at 6 pm.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact frontoffice@sktcs.org.

Best Regards,

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Dr. Chattin



June 16, 2020

Dear Families of Students entering the Intermediate and Middle Grades,

This summer SKTCS will start our inaugural summer reading assignment for students entering grades 3 - 7. [Click on this link to find a list of books for your students](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uGSSQteYFEB3SjCGcJ6T_wwcz9SRuRjUzn8fjtImqrg/edit?usp=sharing). Students should choose a book within their grade band and interest area. Gifted students must choose books at their grade level or higher. Students who have an IEP may choose to read via audiobook.

You may choose to borrow books from the [Live Oaks Public Library](https://liveoakpl.org/studentpass) and/or purchase from a local or online ebookstore.

Choosing an appropriate book will definitely require parental discretion. As a family choose a book that will retain their interest, that they can read independently, and whose content is appropriate for their level of maturity.

The assignments for these readings are also included in the link. Students should be prepared to give their book talk at any time during the first week of school. Students who are on the more introverted side may choose to use a prerecorded presentation (i.e. - Prezi, iMovie, Powerpoint) to deliver their presentation.

If there are any questions please contact me before June 23rd (director@sktcs.org).

Happy Reading!!

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- Dr. Chattin

June 15, 2020

Dear Families,

The state of Georgia has recently been approved to provide pandemic EBT to students who received free or reduced lunch during the 2019 - 20 school year.

### Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT)

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act includes a benefit called Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT) for children who received free or reduced-price school meals in the 2019-2020 school year, but their school is was closed.

**Who needs to apply for P-EBT?**
If your family is currently receiving SNAP benefits, **YOU DO NOT NEED TO APPLY.**

**Everyone else must apply to get P-EBT benefits.**
Complete the entire application to see if your child is eligible. Answering all questions will help us process your application more quickly.

Applications will be processed in the order they are received. The P-EBT amount for each eligible child is **$256.50**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| No. of Children Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch | Allotment Amount |
| 1 child | $256.50 |
| 2 children | $513.00 |
| 3 children | $769.50 |
| 4 children | $1,026.00 |
| 5 children | $1,282.50 |
| 6 children | $1,539.00 |
| 7 children | $1,795.50 |
| 8 children | $2,052.00 |

The application will open in July.[You can go here to apply.](https://dfcs.georgia.gov/pandemic-electronic-benefit-transfer)

Best regards,

****

Dr. Chattin

June 3, 2020

Dear SKTCS families,

The most recent events regarding the unarmed murder of Breonna Taylor by police in Louisville (KY),  the unarmed murder of Ahmaud Arbery at the hands of vigilantes in Brunswick (GA), and the unarmed murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis (MN), during the month of May have brought to light a need for uncomfortable, but necessary, conversations regarding justice and a universal right to life for every human being.

At SKTCS we will continue to value peaceful means to evoking change in our immediate and extended community. We realize that words without action are fruitless. We are committed to preparing our students to think critically, question the status quo, and to stand up for the rights of every human being to feel safe, valued, and respected in society.

To that end, we are proud to announce the **Susie King Taylor Community Middle Grades Academy for Social Justice** (6-8). At SKTCS-MGA we define social justice as,

“Advocating for the rights of every human being to have equal access to economic, educational, physical, and emotional resources that ensure their right to health, wealth, and freedom regardless of their gender, race, political affiliation, or socioeconomic status.”

At SKTCS-MGA our Georgia state standards-based lessons will address the four strands of social justice:

* **Access**(greater equality of access to goods and services)
* **Equity**(overcoming unfairness caused by unequal access to economic resources and power)
* **Rights**(equal effective legal, industrial and political rights)
* **Participation**(expanded opportunities for real participation in the decisions which govern their lives).

Lessons will begin by choosing a real-life standards-based problem.  The students will then participate in hands-on project-based learning to create a solution to the problem. Each report period will conclude in a service-learning project to help students advocate for change in their communities for a total of four large service-projects per year.

We hope that this contribution to our Savannah community sparks a generation of critical-thinkers who will advocate for the protection of the rights of the Earth and all of its citizens - especially those that are being persecuted. Together we are one small light that can spark a fire.

Take care of yourselves and each other,

****
Dr. Chattin



May 22, 2020

Final report cards for the 2019-2020 school year will be available on the Parent Portal PowerSchool Friday, May 22 at 5 PM. Report cards are only available in the web version of PowerSchool; they are not viewable in the PowerSchool app. You must have an account to view your child’s report card.  If you do not have an account, you can request one at <https://savannahchatham.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Sme3EiH8cNFJqt>.

Families will receive their generic grade level school supply in an email on  June 5th, 2020. Students will find out their teachers and get a specific supply list at their Open House.

As a reminder, PowerSchool will no longer support the web browser Internet Explorer.  To minimize web browser-related disruption, PowerSchool strongly recommends using Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, Apple Safari or Mozilla Firefox as your default web browser.

Have a safe and healthy summer!



- Dr. Chattin



May 4th, 2020

Dear SKTCS Families,

What a crazy end to a wonderful school year. But we’ve made it to May! We have two weeks until the official end of the school year and we intend to end as strong as we started! Please continue to read to see end-of-the-year notes and reminders.

**Teacher Appreciation Week**

Although we celebrated our faculty and staff the week leading up to Spring Break, this week is the national Teacher Appreciation Week. We are so thankful for all of the vocal support of our staff everyday, but if you could send an extra kind word to a staff member this week, I know they would appreciate it!

**Opt-Out Students**

Congratulations to our students who were able to opt-out of the last two weeks of school. Although the official part of your school year is over, please remember that you will continue to have access to the online learning platforms (i.e. - IXL. iReady, Khan Academy, Freckle, etc.) until July 30th, 2020.

**Continuing Students**

Students who did not, or were not able to, opt-out will continue their learning path (e.g. - online, workbook, or teacher generated) until Thursday May 14th. During these last days of school, teachers will provide targeted assistance to students through specific assignments designed to improve their weakest academic areas.

**End-of-Year Procedures**

We have reached the end of the school year, and while this time of the year would typically be filled with parties, parades, and field days, we are thankful for the health and well-being of our staff and students. We would like to keep everyone safe by minimizing person-to-person contact with the following procedures:

**May 14th Pick-Up/Drop-Offs:**

**10 am - noon: Medicine pick-up** - Students who have medicine at school may drive through the car line to pick-up their medicine and the items they left behind at the cafeteria door. Any medicine not picked up at the end of May 14th will be discarded.

**Noon - 3 pm: Butter Braid Orders** - Students who participated in the Butter Braid fundraiser can pick up their orders between the hours of noon and 3 pm by driving through the car line and stopping at the cafeteria door.  Butter braids are refrigerated, so you need to be prepared to deliver them within four hours of picking them up. Butter braids will NOT be ready before noon. Butter Braids not picked up by 3 pm on May 14th will be donated, as we do not have space to keep them refrigerated. No exceptions.

**5/14/20 Notes:**

1. If your family qualifies for either pick-up on this day please be prepared to return your Chromebook and/or workbook when you come to pick-up your medicine and/or Butter Braids. We will have all of your family’s materials ready at pick-up.
2. If you are “medicine only”, please  come between 10 am and noon. If you have Butter Braids and medicine please come between noon and 3 pm.
3. If you are picking up for someone else, please email frontoffice@sktcs.org before May 14th so we can prepare for your arrival.

**May 15th Pick-Up/Drop-Offs:**

**10 am - noon: Kindergarten - Third Grade - Drop-off** Chromebooks/Workbooks, pick-up items that were left in the classroom.

**1 pm - 3 pm: Fourth - Sixth Grade** - Drop-off Chromebooks/Workbooks, pick-up items that were left in the classroom.

**5/15/20 Notes:**

1. If you are picking up for someone else, please email frontoffice@sktcs.org before May 14th so we can prepare for your arrival.
2. If your student borrowed a Chromebook, they must return the Chromebook at this time.
3. If your student is returning next year and you do not have a workbook or Chromebook to return, you do NOT have  to pick-up your items. The items are bagged with your student’s name on it and we will place it in their next year’s class.
4. If your student opted to do the workbook and they are returning next year you may also choose to mail your workbook to 1709 Bull Street (31401) and  as long as we receive it by May 20th, they will receive a 4th quarter report card.  You do NOT have to pick-up your items. The items are bagged with your student’s name on it and we will place it  in their next year’s class.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at director@sktcs.org.

Best Regards,



Dr. Chattin



April 14, 2020

Dear SKTCS Families,

As always, I hope that everyone is doing well. We miss all so much and wish we could be back on campus again!

There has been a lot of information being exchanged throughout the district. With families having students in both our school and traditional public schools, I wanted to take this moment to remind you of our expectations for students and some exciting new updates.

**Student Expectations for Distance Learning:**

1. Families have reported to teachers one (and only one)  form of Online Learning that their students will be participating in:
	1. Digital Platforms (i.e. - iReady, Freckle, IXL, etc.)
	2. Teacher Created Assignments (assigned through Google Classroom)
	3. Packets (which were distributed in March) and Workbooks (which have been mailed to houses and will arrive on Thursday).

Students who borrowed a Chromebook from the school must choose Option A or B. Homeroom teachers should know by now those students who are choosing Option C.

1. Students are expected to complete 30 minutes of each subject per day:
	1. Reading
	2. Math
	3. Science
	4. Social Studies
2. Students will receive a grade for the 4th quarter of Pass or Fail based on assignment completion, nit accuracy. Meaning, they must participate in learning, but we will not grade how much they got “right.”
3. Art, PE, and Music opportunities are available for students to continue their enrichment, but are not counted for a grade.

**New Information:**

We recently learned that Governor Kemp has decided that schools in Georgia must remain physically closed for the rest of the school year. We realize the strain that distance learning puts on families and recognize that students who are struggling learners could benefit from more support from our staff. Therefore, after May 1st students who meet all of the following criteria will have the option to opt-out of Distance Learning:

1. Received a 75% or higher (or satisfactory or higher for Kindergarten)  in ALL subjects in the third quarter
2. Are current in all 4th quarter assignments
3. Are not identified EIP, REP, have an IEP, or are in Tier 3 in any academic area

Parents of students who meet all of the above criteria will receive an email from their homeroom teacher on Monday April 27th with a link to a Google Form that will serve as your official notice to “Opt-Out.” This form must be returned by May 1st or students will forfeit their Opt-Out option.

By allowing students who are on-track to meet grade-level standards to Opt-Out, teachers will be able to provide intense and intentional remediation to students who are identified EIP, REP, are in Tier 3 (academically) and/or have an IEP for the last three weeks of school.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your homeroom teacher.

**Fun News:**

1. Mrs. Hardy is having her baby! Therefore, she is going on maternity leave this week. If you need any assistance please contact our Social Worker - Mrs. Maggioni (penny.maggioni@sccpss.com)
2. Challenges - We miss seeing our kiddos, therefore, we want to offer you a Weekly Challenge to see each others’ faces. They are completely optional and just for fun!

**Week 1: April 13 - 17th**

The Great Outdoors

Submit a picture of you doing something fun outside to challenge@sktcs.org and we will share your entries on Bloomz.

**Week 2: April 20 - 24th**

The Art Show

This week you are challenged to create a piece of art that shows your interests and imagination. Think of it as an artist's choice. You can paint, sculpt, draw, use found objects, collage etc. You choose the subject, if you love baseball, do a baseball drawing, if you love anime draw your favorite character or invent your own. The sky's the limit!

Submit your work to  cheryl.mravec@sktcs.org in the subject line and put your first and last name and grade level. Entries will be posted on instagram at sktcsartgallery  lets flood our Instagram with creative and unique art!

**Week 3: April 27th - May 1st**

SKTCS “So You Got Talent?!” - TikTok  Challenge!

We are challenging our kids, teachers, and parents... YES, even YOU, teachers and parents... to show us what you got!

Can you dance, act, sing, create beats, be funny or do comedy... or maybe you can do it all! Well, we want to see and experience your Unique Talents and creativity!

Individually,  with your same-household family create a TikTok video of your choice (nothing explicit or vulgar).

Use your personal TikTok page, (if you don’t have one and want to participate, you have to create one),  create a video, and then tag the @SKTCS TikTok Account and Follow @SKTCS on TikTok, then that video will be posted on SKTCS TikTok page.

In order for videos to be posted on the SKTCS page, you have to tag the school’s page and follow, before posting the video on your page!

Simple as that.

**Week 4: May 4th - 8th**

Home Chef Challenge

Create a personalized trail mix, using the ingredients suggested below or whatever you have on hand at home.

CATEGORIES:

GRAINS: Cereal of your choice or Granola

TREATS: Chocolate chips, white chocolate chips, M&Ms, marshmallows, Teddy Grahams, animal crackers

SALTY: Chips, goldfish, pretzels, popcorn, mini crackers

NUTTY: Nuts of your choice (optional because of allergies)

DRIED FRUIT: Raisins, raisins, banana chips, cherries, blueberries, apples,  pineapples

SEEDS; Sunflower, flax, pumpkin

DIRECTIONS:

* Pick 1 or 2 items from each category listed above
* Mix ingredients together
* Create a name for your trail mix
* Provide a list of ingredients to share so that we can replicate it
* Get creative with the packaging. Examples: decorate a Ziploc bag, bowl or canister using stickers, makers, create a cool label
* Have members of your household taste and write a review of your trail mix.
* Please take pictures and send to challenge@sktcs.org so we can post on Bloomz

**Week 5: May 11th - 15th**

The SKTCS Family Picture Recreation Challenge

Pick a favorite old family photo and recreate it by posing in the same position and similar clothes as the old photo. Submit the original and new picture to challenge@sktcs.org  and we will post on Bloomz.

Have fun with the challenges and let us know if you have any questions!



April 5, 2020

Good Evening Parents,

Last Friday we handed out over 60 Chromebooks to families needing technology to participate in Distance Learning. It was great to see and serve our families and want to let you know that you can continue to reach us whenever you need us. You can find more information to keep you  up-to-date on Covid-19 and all information regarding school at our new page on our [website](https://www.sktcs.org/covid-19).

Now that our families are equipped to participate in Distance Learning I wanted to share the learning expectations effective April 6th, 2020:

**The SKTCS Distance Learning Plan Is as follows:**

 a.  Online Assignments. Each student will decide to be either Online or Paper. Please Note: Any student who has borrowed a Chromebook is in the Online program.

b. Paper Packets. Packets were distributed twice in March. Students who are not participating in online learning must inform their teachers that they need a workbook mailed to them. These books will arrive at the student’s address on file around mid-April. Paper assignments (workbooks) will be turned into the school when we are given permission to return to school.

c. What to Do. All students should strive to complete 30 minutes of work per subject (Reading, Math, Social Studies, and Science) per day on Google Classroom.

There is one writing assignment due per week. All students are expected to complete the writing assignment.

d. Grading - Due to our inability to instruct all students in the same manner, students are not being graded for accuracy. Students are graded pass/fail for completing their work. Any student who completes at least 75% of each week’s assignments will receive a “Pass” for that subject.

Students who do not submit work online or turn-in written work at the end of the quarter will receive a “fail” on their report card.

Please contact your homeroom teacher if you need any support completing assignments.

e. Communication and Interaction. Teachers will offer an online homeroom once per week. Teachers will also call each student once per week.

 f. Special Education. Special Education teachers are supporting students and SLPs are providing activities for students at home.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Who should I contact for help with my computer and/or log-ins?**

If your log-in is not working, you’re having an issue with your computer, or you don’t understand your assignment please contact your homeroom teacher.

**How do I get assistance with counseling or other services?**

Please contact Mrs. Hardy at DSEL@sktcs.org

**When do we come back to school?**

Unfortunately, due to Covid-10 the governor has mandated that schools are closed for the remainder of the school year. Our first day of school is scheduled for August 10th, 2020.

**When/how should I return my device?**

We will make an announcement when it is safe to return devices.

**What should I do if my device is damaged or stolen?**

Please refer to the loan agreement signed, but students who have borrowed a computer are expected to return them in the same condition. If your device is damaged you will be asked to pay for a replacement. If your device is stolen you are required to report it to the School Director and the police, and will be required to pay for the replacement.

**Will there be another day to distribute technology?**

In an attempt to flatten the curve we will be limiting how much we expose our staff to possible transmission of the virus. There is no one on campus, we are all working remotely. Therefore, there will not be another technology distribution day.

**What should I do if I don’t have technology or access to the internet?**

Please let your teacher know if you were unable to make the technology distribution. We will put you on the list to receive paper assignments.

**Enrollment/Withdrawal/Transfer**

If your student needs to withdraw or you need to submit documents for a new student, please contact frontoffice@sktcs.org

I hope that this has helped to answer many of the questions you have. During this time of being away from the building your child’s teacher should have provided you with an email and a phone number where you can reach them. Since teachers are using Google Voice to call home, many of their numbers will not have a “912” prefix.. Please save their number as a contact in your phone so that you do not miss their calls as they will be your primary resource. Please let your teacher know about any concerns or needs and they will be sure to get you the help you need.

Finally, the school will be closed for business on Friday April 10th. Our faculty, admin, and staff will be taking a brief break to celebrate the holiday weekend with their staff and we will return for your students on Monday April 13th. Students are also excused from any assignments on Friday.

Yours in partnership,

Dr. Chattin



April 2, 2020

Good Afternoon,

I hope that you are all faring well. We are getting a lot of calls and emails about Butterbraids and Laptops.

**Butterbraids**

We had a wonderful turnout with the[Butterbraid fundraiser](https://www.smore.com/pexa4). Unfortunately, right now we are unable to distribute that product due to logistics regarding Covid-19. However, as we mentioned last week, those who purchased Butterbraids will still receive their product when we are able to distribute them. We will send out a notice when they are ready and it is safe to distribute.

**Chromebooks**

If you are in need of a Chromebook we are distributing one Chromebook per family. You should email your child's teacher and ask to be placed on the list. After doing that all you need to do is come to the school tomorrow, Friday April 3rd, between 10 and 5, through carline to pick it up.

Please, please, let your teacher know before 5 pm today so that we can prepare your Chromebook and paperwork before you arrive decreasing the exposure to the virus for everyone.

**PACK**

We have several bags of food left for families in need. If you are signed up for PACK lease pick up a bag tomorrow if needed.

Thank you so much for partnership,

Dr. Chattin



April 1, 2020

For those families interested in borrowing technology please preview the agreement you will need to sign before being issued a device:

Susie King Taylor Community School is providing students with a learning device to support the continuation of teaching and learning through online software and Internet resources.

Student’s/Parent’s Responsibilities

* The Learning Device is provided for the student only. Student ID and password is required to access the device.
* The student is required to practice good digital citizenship and adhere to the attached Student Technology Agreement
* Student/Parent agrees to use the device for learning during the period of assignment, protect the device, maintain it, and promptly return the device (including power cable) when requested.
* The Learning Device will remain checked out to the student until it is returned to the issuing school. This means that the record will follow the student until the equipment has been returned in the same condition that it is issued (reasonable wear is expected).
* If a student has borrowed technology from the school they are expected to participate fully in the online curriculum or arrange immediate pick-up of the device.
* If the device is stolen, you are required to file a police report and notify the school.
* If the device is lost, stolen, or damaged, you are responsible for repairs or replacement (current retail value is about $250.00/device).

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT

Below are policies that will regulate our use of the Internet and computer at home:

1. Refrain from having food or drinks when using the computers.
2. Unless assigned, use of the device for games, Facebook, Internet Games, YouTube, chat rooms, Instant Messengers, Blog Websites, Fantasy Football/Basketball, Instagram, Snapchat, taking pictures, making videos, etc are NOT permitted!!!
3. No installing software onto the computers.
4. No “Hacking,” accessing unauthorized files, or using the network in any way other than that intended.
5. Students will be held responsible for the condition of the computer. Any damages presumed above normal wear and tear will be financially assessed to the students’ family.
6. Students MUST sign in with their district assigned username and password and be sure to NEVER give the password to anyone.
7. Do not touch the screen.
8. Computers should always be placed on a flat surface. Never on the ground.
9. Do not carry computers by their lids or tops. Computers should be closed when being transported.
10. Do not change the desktop, screensaver, or settings on your device.
11. Do not save anything to the desktop of hard drive of the computer.
12. All technology should be properly turned off, put away safely and charged each night.



April 1, 2020

Happy April Families,

I hope you are all hanging in there. I know this time can be stressful with employment being up in the air for some families, or working at home with multiple kids, or the overabundance of information right now that can feel like a lack of information. I hope that we are not adding to any family stressors.

This afternoon Governor Kemp announced that all schools in Georgia will remain closed for the duration the 2019 - 20 school year. For the past two weeks we provided students with optional activities to ensure they retain all of the skills they have learned so far this year.

This new announcement by the governor will surely come with more details in the upcoming days. We do not have all the details of what is expected of us, but we will share information as soon as we get it. We ask for your patience as we navigate these uncharted waters. Unfortunately, what we know and share today could be obsolete and change tomorrow.

For now our expectations are:

1. Students complete 30 minutes per subject per day - either online or in the packets distributed.
2. Teachers make individual contact with each student once per week (If you have multiple students in your household, you will receive multiple calls).
3. Through Zoom, teachers will provide students an opportunity to socialize with each other weekly.

If you wish to participate in online learning and are in need of a Chromebook, please email your homeroom teacher by Thursday, April 2nd at 5pm, This will allow us to prepare your pick up at the school on Friday, April 3rd between 10 am and 5 pm. Again, we ask that you stay in your car and come through the carline. If transportation is an issue, please contact Mrs. Hardy at DSEL@sktcs.org. Please note that you do not need a computer to successfully receive credit for the final quarter. You can still complete the packets as assigned for credit. Also, be aware that we are loaning technology, which means that families are responsible for the condition in which the technology is returned.

Also, please take the time to [complete this survey](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfs99AK0Wt-3AxEqQKpzZdlAgFHj9XZa01pSH5c9toxM576qw/viewform?usp=sf_link) to help us improve our service to you. We know that this is not what any of us signed up for, and we appreciate your partnership in this new endeavor. Finally, at this time we have put all of our communications to parents on the front page of our website for easy access. However, to make information more easily accessible, we will add a new COVID-19 page to our website at [www.sktcs.org](http://www.sktcs.org/) by Sunday evening.

As always, please let us know if you need anything, Dr. Chattin



# March 26, 2020

Good Afternoon Parents,

I hope you're not tired of hearing from me yet, but I know that anxiety is high in these uncertain times so I am hoping that frequent and direct communication alleviates some fears or worries.

This afternoon, Governor Kemp executed an Executive Order calling for the extension of the closure of all public schools in Georgia. SKTCS will now remain closed through April 24, 2020 at minimal.

**Learning Packets and PACK**

Tomorrow from 10 - 3 we will distribute Learning Packets and PACK bags to families who have signed up and 12 - 2:30 will have free fresh produce and the LOKI food truck in addition to the PACK bags and Learning Packets. As of now, this is the last day the physical school building will be open.

**Report Cards**

Third Quarter Report Cards will be available digitally through the PowerSchool Parent Portal TOMORROW, Friday, March 27th after 5 PM. You will need a PowerSchool Parent Access account to view. ***If you have not previously used PowerSchool before to access your students' grades follow these directions:***

1. Navigate to the [Family & Students page](https://spwww.sccpss.com/Pages/Family-%26-Student.aspx) from the front page of [SCCPSS.com](https://spwww.sccpss.com/Pages/default.aspx).
2. Click on [PowerSchool](https://spwww.sccpss.com/dad/sis/Pages/Parent-Access.aspx) under the Parent Tools section, then click the button to [request a Parent Access Account](https://savannahchatham.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Sme3EiH8cNFJqt).
3. Note that the information you put in must match what is in file in order to receive an account. Meaning, if you have changed your email, address, or phone number and have not notified the school to change it in PowerSchool (this must be done through the front office, not a teacher) your request will most likely be denied.

Web report cards are not accessible through the PowerSchool app. Parents must access report cards through the actual PowerSchool website only by going to PowerSchool through a web browser.

If you have any issues accessing your students' report card please contact Ms. Q at frontoffice@sktcs.org

**Distance Learning**

Starting Monday March 30th at about 11am teachers will release Google Classroom codes for your students. These activities are intended to keep students learning and practicing what they have learned at home. We are well aware that with the unprecedented volume of families using certain platforms at home that there are a lot of freezes and inoperable sites. Do not stress. Do what you can, when you can. If you have any technology issues please contact your child's homeroom teacher. Although they are not trained in IT, they will do what they can to help.

Finally, I thank you all for your patience in these trying times. I ask that you remember that the most helpful thing you can do right now is be kind. Some of our very own staff members are coping with family and friends who have been affected by this virus across the country and the world and are still at home helping their children e-learn, while helping your children e-learn. Some of our staff and families are experiencing hardships due to the loss of employment of a spouse or an adult child. While learning is important, more important is the idea that we all stay physically and mentally healthy during this time. If distance learning is stressing your family out. Walk away and try again another day. We're in this for the long haul.

If you need me for anything - 912.395.4200 or director@sktcs.org

Yours in Solidarity,

Dr. Chattin

# download.jpgMarch 25, 2020

During this time, Mayor Van Johnson has instituted a mandatory shelter-in-place for the city of Savannah. We want to make sure that all of our families are taking care of themselves and their neighbors by honoring that charge.

We also want to make sure that we are taking care of our SKTCS community's academic physical needs. **On Friday March 27th, 2020 from 10 - 3 pm we will offer drive-through service for families to receive learning packets and PACK bags. From 12 - 2:30 we will also distribute fresh produce and free farm-to-table food courtesy of the LOKI food truck.**

We will operate the same as carline and we ask that all families please stay in their cars. This will work best if arrival is staggered. The busiest times will be the beginning and the end.

Also, SCCPSS will move the School Closure Meal Plan to a meal delivery program by school bus. **Beginning Thursday, March 26, meals will be distributed to families at more than 400 bus stops across the county. Meals will no longer be offered at the 12 school locations previously used as a distribution point.** On Thursday, meals for both

Thursday and Friday will be delivered by school bus. Buses will not run on Friday. The meal delivery schedule of stops and their associated locations is now available online at the District’s

website: [https://spwww.sccpss.com/Documents/ROUTES%20FOR%20Meal%20Distribution%20Prog](https://spwww.sccpss.com/Documents/ROUTES%20FOR%20Meal%20Distribution%20Program%20%283-24-20%29.pdf) [ram%20%283-24-20%29.pdf](https://spwww.sccpss.com/Documents/ROUTES%20FOR%20Meal%20Distribution%20Program%20%283-24-20%29.pdf). Families are encouraged to visit this link to locate stop locations that are most convenient.

While there is a “shelter-at-home” order in effect for the City of Savannah, families may proceed to the stops for the purpose of receiving food, an essential need. SCCPSS Campus Police will provide security on board the buses and will offer traffic support as appropriate.

Motorists are encouraged to be alert on Thursday from 10am-12noon as school buses will be on the roadways and in the community making various stops to provide food for families. Visit SCCPSS.com for a complete list of meal delivery locations and times. Simply look for the route departing from the school closest to you to find your nearest stop and time. For any questions or concerns about Meal Stops, families should call the District’s Transportation Line at 912-395-5591.

Again, we hope that you are taking care of yourselves, and it is our honor to take care of you, too. March 23rd Letter to Parents: <https://www.smore.com/xqdrv>



**March 23, 2020**

Dear SKTCS Families,

Just a reminder that school is closed - physically and operationally. However, this week teachers will be sending home log-ins and passwords for your students to access digital activities from home. Physical packets were handed out on Friday. Unfortunately, due to needing to minimize the liability from reentering the building, we will not be at school to redistribute those packets, but they are available

here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11Gn85SkOv1yGaZrzNOWvFJ_cIshdUqgY>. Google Classrooms will start on Monday March 30th and those codes and directions will be distributed to you through your teacher's Bloomz pages no later than Friday March 27th.

We recognize that all students do not have access to the same physical and/or human resources. We are distributing these activities to prevent loss of learning - not to replace traditional teaching. All activities are to be completed at the individual family’s ability. We will be sure to make-up for whatever we missed when we return!

Please remember that your school family is available to you Monday - Friday 10 am - 3 pm via Bloomz, phone (Teachers will provide a number where you can reach them), and Email. We ask that during this extremely stressful time we all provide each other with some grace by limiting school-related conversations to these days, hours, and methods to give school staff time to regroup and also focus on their homes.

We appreciate the extreme adjustments you have had to make at this time and want to thank you for being patient with us. We miss you and love you!

Virtual Hugs (and forehead kisses), Dr. Chattin

912-395-4200

director@sktcs.org



# Update on School Closure

March 16, 2020

Dear SKTCS Families,

Due to the widespread Covid-19 (coronavirus) this morning, Monday, March 16th, 2020, the State Superintendent of Education, Richard Woods, suspended the administration of the Georgia Milestones Assessment System (GMAS) End-of-Course and End-of Grade tests. Later this evening Governor Kemp issued an Executive Order requiring all

K-12 schools to close for the remainder of March. Although the Governor’s orders are through March 31st, at this time **SKTCS will remain closed through April 3rd at least, and at this time we plan to reopen on Monday, April 6th.** At that time we will reassess the situation and determine whether it is safe for our students to return. Please disregard SCCPSS closure notifications and stay tuned to our Bloomz, your email, and our website for updates on when we will open.

Please know that SKTCS staff, administration, and board are dedicated to continuing to serve our families academically, physically, and emotionally.

**Academically:**

* Beginning on Monday, March 23rd you may email your child’s homeroom teacher if you need your child’s password for Freckle (K-3) and iReady (K-6) for students to continue their reading and math studies at home.
* Starting Monday, March 30th families will have access to Google Classroom where teachers will have set-up a week’s worth of lessons at a time. **Update: The activities in Google Classroom are to prevent loss of learning. Students are not required to submit anything at this time, but are highly encouraged to continue reading and learning independently in order to be prepared for our return to school.**
* Given our current closure, parents may access their students’ third quarter grades online through PowerSchool. If you need assistance with this please email Ms. Q at frontoffice@sktcs.org when we return from Spring Break on Monday, March 23rd.

We are aware that not all of our families have access to the internet or to devices, so complete online learning may not be possible. If your family is unable to access learning digitally please send an email to Dr. Chattin

at director@sktcs.org to make alternate arrangements. We will accommodate families to ensure a successful end of year for every student.

**Physically:**

This week our school is receiving a deep cleaning including all upholstery and floors. Additionally, we are distributing two weeks of food for students who receive PACK packages tomorrow Tuesday, March 17th, 2020 from 5 - 6 pm. If your family has food insecurities or other needs during this school closure please

contact compassion@sktcs.org and we will do whatever we can to assist.

**Emotionally:**

Mrs. Hardy is available to provide emotional support for any family or student needing to process the current situation. dsel@sktcs.org

Again, at this time our utmost concern is the safety and well-being of our families. If there is anything we can do to help please do not hesitate to let me know.

Be Well, Dr. Chattin

School Director