

[Bobcat Blast for Monday, August 31, 2020](#)

Dear Charles Ellis Montessori Academy Family,

<https://www.smores.com/7bc40>

There are several pertinent sections in our Weekly Wonders newsletter. The link to Lunch Applications can be found under Nutrition Services. Also, the School Council is accepting nominations for the upcoming election. PTA wants your support for the first Ellis Spirit Night of the year September 1st at Chipotle on Victory.

Today we celebrate 150 years of Maria Montessori's presence on this earth. I invite you to take time today to reflect on what a Montessori Education means for us and our children. Dr. Montessori was a pioneer and today we are called as a Montessori community to take on this pioneering spirit as we encounter new ideas of education and society. In all things may love guide us and may Maria's legacy live out in the lives of our children.

As Maria states,

"No adult can become a teacher of love without special effort, without opening the eyes of his consciousness in order to see a world more vast than his own."

Happy Birthday, Maria Montessori!

Peace,

Ms. Tanya

[SCCPSS Notification for Friday, August 28, 2020](#)

Good evening parents,

This is a message from Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools with some important information for you as we head into our second full week of virtual learning.

To support our students who may not have WiFi Access in the home, Savannah Chatham County Public School System school busses equipped with WiFi hotspots will begin operation Tuesday, September 1, 2020. The district has outfitted 10 transportation buses with technology that will provide mobile Internet access for our students. The busses will make two stops daily, one from 8:00am until 11:00 a.m. and the second from 1:00pm until 4:00 p.m at locations throughout the county. You can learn more about the technology at SCCPSS.com. Locations and schedules will be posted to our website on Monday.

And the SCCPSS Virtual Learning Meal Delivery Plan will move to a three day a week delivery model on Monday, August 31st for ALL ROUTES. There will be deliveries of two days of meals on Monday and Wednesday, with delivery on Friday of one day's meals.

Updated routes have now been posted at SCCPSS.com.

Families should simply look for the route departing from the school closest to them to find their nearest stop and time. Please note that the closest school may NOT be the one the student attends.

For any questions or concerns about Meal Stops or WiFi on Wheels locations families should call the District's Transportation Line at 912-395-5591.

[SCCPSS Notification for Wednesday, August 26, 2020](#)

To our families:

SCCPSS continues to weigh all factors associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and our return to in-person instruction. With over 37,000 students and 5,600 staff members across the District, this is no easy task.

On July 16, the Board approved delay of the academic calendar start date which afforded us time to prepare, train, and ready our virtual mode of instruction. At that time, we were hopeful that transmission rates would be reduced to a safe level for a possible return to face to face operation by Labor Day. Based on the most recent data, it does not appear that the pandemic is slowing at a rate fast enough to return to in-person teaching and learning by September 8, 2020.

At this time, **SCCPSS will continue to administer a Virtual Mode of Instruction until further notice.**

Any further updates regarding the instructional model will be shared through our parent notification system and information will be posted online at sccpss.com.

The data on the number of cases in our community will dictate when children may return to face-to-face instruction. When this happens, we will ensure safety protocols are fully implemented. The District is working on a reentry plan that will include a phased-in approach for students. A Board Workshop on this matter is planned during the September 9, 2020, Board meeting.

While we recognize that virtual learning is not ideal for all, it is currently the safest approach for children and for the adults who serve them.

Thank you for your continued support of the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System.

For the latest information on school operation, virtual instruction, and District news, please visit our website at sccpss.com or follow us on social media.

[SCCPSS Notification for Monday, August 24, 2020](#)

Good evening, parents.

Throughout the virtual learning model, school meals will be available to SCCPSS students remotely and will be provided at designated bus stops at designated times. ***Families coming to meal service locations are asked to do their part to slow the spread of COVID-19 - make sure to wear a mask and adhere to socially distance guidelines while waiting in line.***

To ensure the most efficient method for providing meal service access to all students, the District has created four delivery zones or quadrants. Each day, students living in the designated quadrant will be able to access meal service at the posted bus stop locations. Multiple meals will be provided on the designated day each week.

Meals will be delivered Tuesday through Friday to geographic areas listed below.

To locate your quadrant, find the school closest to your home from the list provided below, then locate the delivery location and times for your area in the web links provided. **NOTE: THIS MAY NOT BE THE SCHOOL YOUR CHILD ATTENDS.****

QUADRANT/SCHOOLS	MEAL LOCATIONS & TIMES	QUADRANT DELIVERY DAY(S)
Quadrant 1: New Hampstead High School, West Chatham Middle School, Godley Station K-8, Rice Creek K-8, Southwest Middle School	Quadrant 1: delivery times and locations – Click Here	TUESDAY, AUGUST 25
Quadrant 2: Woodville Tompkins, Beach High School, Hodge Elementary School, Gadsden Elementary School, Butler Elementary School	Quadrant 2: delivery times and locations – Click Here	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26
Quadrant 3: Hesse K-8, Isle of Hope K-8, Johnson High School, Low Elementary School, Windsor Forest High School, Pulaski Elementary School	Quadrant 3: delivery times and locations – Click Here	THURSDAY, AUGUST 27
Quadrant 4: Islands High School, May Howard, Savannah High, A.B. Williams Elementary School, Savannah Arts	Quadrant 2: delivery times and locations – Click Here	FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

***No meal service will be provided from any school site. Schools remain closed to the public. Refer to the meal locations and times list provided above.*

Please note that breakfast is at no cost to all SCCPSS students, but unlike the delivery in the spring, lunch will be served to students using their meal eligibility status, i.e. free, reduced, or paid. Students will need to know their ID# or have an ID card in order to be identified as a SCCPSS student to receive the meals. Student must have pre-paid for school lunch through the [MySchoolBucks application](#) found on the district website before being served at the designated stops. If you do not have an account, sign up today by clicking [here](#). Parents are encouraged to use the online system to place money on their student's account as no cash will be collected at the bus stops.

USDA did provide a waiver for parent pick-up. Parents will have to supply some form of identification to prove that their student is an SCCPSS student.

SCCPSS families who receive free/reduced lunch must reapply each year to maintain their recipient status. Prior year meal status will expire on September 30, 2020. Applications are available at the Application Center located at 3609 Hopkins Street, Savannah, GA, 31404 by appointment @ 912-395-1066. Both online and paper applications are available in English and Spanish. There is also a meal application drop box located at the site if the desire is to drop off the paper application afterhours. The district strongly encourage parents to apply online by going to [myschoolapps.com](#). The link is also available on the district's School Nutrition page on [sccpss.com](#) under the [Family and Student tab](#).

There will be no change to meal prices this year:

- Breakfast at no cost to all students
- Full Price Lunch in Grades K-12 - \$3.00
- Reduced Price - \$.40

Questions? Call (912) 395-5591. En español al (912) 395-6009.

[Bobcat Blast for Monday, August 24, 2020](#)

Dear Charles Ellis Montessori Academy Family,

The school year has begun, and I am grateful for your patience and understanding as we respond to your needs and address any glitches that technology has presented along the way. Please know that we are trying to expedite answers to your questions and to make the transition into the ItsLearning platform. Please reach out to your classroom teacher as you encounter any difficulties. We are keeping a daily log of technical issues and are forwarding these to the experts.

I have included the link to The Weekly Wonders Newsletter which will be sent each Monday. I hope you enjoy the collage of pictures from the First Day of School. (Thank you, Ms. Olivia, for

pulling them all together)

<https://www.smore.com/t16nv>



I wish you a Wonderful Week of learning.

Peace,
Ms. Tanya

[SCCPSS Notification for Friday, August 21, 2020](#)

Good evening, Parents! We've had an incredible start to the 2020-2021 school year, a school year like no other in our history. Thanks for your continued support for our scholars and teachers. Everyone is adjusting to this new virtual world of learning and we are working every day to continuously improve. Together, we will achieve and succeed by being caring and flexible.

We've created some useful resources that will help you and your child. If you have a Chromebook and are having trouble getting around, click on [this link](#) for a short tutorial. And, if you or your student needs technical support, click here for our [Troubleshooting Tips](#).

For any student awaiting a device, we'll keep this information available so you can find it later. Speaking of devices, it is our goal to achieve 1-to-1 student-to-technology ratio. As new devices come in, we are processing them as quickly as possible for distribution. Make sure to contact your school if you need an alternate option for schoolwork such as a printed packet.

The [2020-2021 Code of Conduct](#) is available for your inspection. Please take a moment to review this material with your child. Remember, the expectations of good behavior still apply in the virtual learning model.

Finally, as information continues to evolve, we have updated some of the information in our parent guide. Click here to view the [new Parent Guidance](#). It is available in Spanish, as well. Click here for the [Parent Guidance en espanol](#).

Finally, if you have issues with technology or meal service, please call the Parent/Student Hotline at (912) 395-5591. We are your partner in education and together we are virtually unstoppable!

SCCPSS Notification for Sunday, August 16, 2020

Our **Return to Learning** starts Wednesday, August 19, 2020, on the [itsLearning](#) online platform. Students should use the same login ID and password they used last school year (unless they were reset by your school.) To ensure students are first-day ready, please ensure your child tests his/her school login ID and password. ***All enrolled students are required to test their login information prior to August 19, 2020.***

- On a school issued device, students should be able to login and access the internet for the itsLearning login page.
- On a personal device, students can go to portal.office.com and use their loginID@students.sccps.com.

For detailed instructions on how to check your child's login access, simply visit sccps.com and click the Student Login Test button located on the homepage. If you do not have a computer login ID or are unable to login, please let us know by contacting your school or filling out the support form located on the Student Login Test web page located at sccps.com.

Make sure to test your child's login today! Click here to get started: Student Login Test and Supporting Information. Do not wait! We want all students first-day ready!

HERE'S SOME MORE GREAT INFORMATION TO HELP YOUR CHILD GET OFF TO A GREAT START!

DEVICE UPDATE: Shipments of student learning devices continue to come in. Schools are contacting parents for curbside pickup as they are available. If your child has not received a device by August 19th or does not have access to a personal device or smartphone to use, please contact your child's teacher for an alternate learning method until a student learning device can be provided. The District has a Paper Packet option available.

PARENT PORTALS: Stay up to date on your child's progress!

POWERSCHOOL: The PowerSchool Parent Portal is now available! The portal provides information on student's schedule, class assignments, grades, and the ability to communicate with your child's teacher.

ITSLEARNING: The *itsLearning* platform also includes a parent section. The parent login will be ready for you in September. Stay tuned for more information on this great resource.

MEAL SERVICE UPDATE: Throughout the virtual learning model, school lunch will be available to SCCPSS students and will be provided at designated bus stops at designated times. The District is planning a point of sale process that will allow students to purchase lunch just as if they were in school.

- A student ID will be required. To prepay for meal service, click [here](#).

- There will be no cash accepted at bus stops (payment must be completed in advance online).
- School breakfast will continue to be offered at no cost.

Meal service schedules will be posted/updated at sccps.com. Stay tuned for all the details! Prior year meal status will remain through September 30, 2020, so make sure to fill out your free/reduced meal application today. Parents and guardians will have until September 30 to complete the application process for free and reduced meals. The district strongly encourages parents to apply online by going to myschoolapps.com. The link is available on the district's School Nutrition page at sccps.com or by clicking the following link - simply visit:

<https://www.myschoolapps.com>

We appreciate your patience and support as we get ready to launch the 2020-2021 School Year. Additional information can always be found online at sccps.com in our [Parent Guidance Document](#).

Bobcat Blast for Saturday, August 15, 2020

Dear Charles Ellis Montessori Academy Family,

Wednesday the 19th and the start of a New School Year are right around the corner. I encourage you to review the WEEKLY WONDERS newsletter for all pertinent information. This weekly link will give you access to updated information. See the link below:

<https://www.smores.com/a79cg>

	<p><u>WEEKLY WONDERS</u> WEEKLY WONDERS On Wednesday we begin a new school year. While our learning environments may seem to have changed, the reality is that... www.smores.com</p>
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Please take note of the following sections in the newsletter: Technology & Student Schedules. We are excited to see everyone at the scheduled ZOOM meetings on Monday evening. Teachers sent a link for the meeting in their letters delivered to you on Friday and also information on the daily learning schedule. Please reach out to your teacher directly if you have not received this information.

I wish you all a wonderful school year may our paths though difficult be filled with joy and love. As Dr. Maria Montessori noted:

"The child passes little by little from the unconscious to the conscious, treading always in the paths of joy and love."

Peace,

Ms. Tanya

Bobcat Blast for Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Dear Charles Ellis Montessori Academy Family,

I know that you have been patiently waiting for more information on the district's Learning Management System, ItsLearning. A video has now been posted on the front of the district website and on our district Youtube channel that gives a 10-minute overview.

<https://youtu.be/CiXodKz0NxU>

In addition, a dedicated demo site for the new SCCPSS Learning Management System, itsLearning, has been created for Savannah-Chatham County families. This is an opportunity to see and experience the online learning platform before the official site opens on August 19, 2020. There is no live data in the site; sample data has been loaded to provide a preview of the LMS.

This demo site does not hold existing teacher schedules, courses, or activities. It is an example of what courses will look like, views of lesson plans, events, tasks, and activities. We invite you to click around, explore, and become familiar with the new online learning platform.

Sandbox Demo link: [ITSL-LMS](#). Please use username and password below.

Username	Password
SCCPSSstu1	s@v@nn@h2020
SCCPSSstu2	s@v@nn@h2020
SCCPSSstu3	s@v@nn@h2020
SCCPSSstu4	s@v@nn@h2020
SCCPSSstu5	s@v@nn@h2020

The user experience on itsLearning is robust. The platform gives parents access to assignments, student work, and feedback. Students have a single source for coursework, assessments, and group activities. itsLearning serves as the center for communication, planning, collaboration, and instruction. The time-saving tools in itsLearning give educators more time for teaching and students more opportunities for learning.

I have included the links within this communication and they can also be accessed on our school website. I encourage you to review the items to gain familiarization with the platform.

I will continue to provide updated information as soon as it comes from the district office and/or when information is ready for dissemination.

I hope you continue to have a wonderful week.

Peace,

Ms. Tanya

[Bobcat Blast for Monday, August 10, 2020](#)

Dear Charles Ellis Montessori Academy Family,

We are pleased to release to you our Virtual Open House which can be accessed on the school's website and in the link embedded in our Newsletter. I encourage you to review the information and to get to know our Charles Ellis Montessori Academy community. We look forward to a WONDERFULL new school year!

Peace,

Ms. Tanya

<https://www.smores.com/j2nt6>

<https://sites.google.com/sccpss.com/ellisk8-open-house-2020/home>

[SCCPSS Notification for Sunday, August 9, 2020](#)

Hello Parents,

We know you have many questions regarding our return to school this year. Everything about school, from the way teaching and learning is conducted, to meals and athletics have had to undergo profound changes as we start the 2020-21 school year school virtually due to local impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to help everyone understand these changes, we have created a new SCCPSS Parent Guide linked below that can also be accessed at any time from the front page of SCCPSS.com.

We have produced this guide to answer many of your questions, though others are sure to arise. This document will be updated when conditions change, or new information becomes available as we move forward as a district in these unprecedented times. One thing that hasn't changed is our mission to ignite a passion for teaching and learning at high levels. We thank you for your support of Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools.

[SCCPSS Parent Guide](#)

[Bobcat Blast for Sunday, August 9, 2020](#)

Dear Charles Ellis Montessori Academy Family,

The teachers and staff returned to work last week and, despite the "would be" hurricane, it was still a whirlwind here at Charles Ellis Montessori Academy. Staff has been engaged in a jam-

packed week of training on the new Learning Management System ITSLEARNING, developing schedules for remote learning and most importantly constructing learning opportunities that hold fast to our Montessori philosophy, practice and curriculum. It is a mixture of excitement, a wee dose of anxiety and a large scoop of hope, as we plough new furrows in which to plant the seeds of life-long learning.

I know you must be feeling a mixture of the above and probably with a full bucket of anxiety; How will I fit this remote learning into my schedule at home or while I'm working? What will all the technology, the ItsLearning Platform look like? How can my children continue to grow in their love of learning? Patience and Compassion are the words of the moment. Gradually we will find answers together and support one another.

The district just released a PARENT GUIDANCE DOCUMENT which can be reached at the District Website or through the following link: <https://bit.ly/2Xlc2mn>. I encourage you to review the contents to gain insight and information on the return to the new school year.

Also, on Tuesday 11th of August at 3:30 PM Charles Ellis Montessori Academy invites you to our Virtual Open House. The link will be distributed for all our families PreK 4 through 8th Grade. We may not be Hollywood Stars, but we hope this will be an opportunity to meet our teams and to see new faces.

For returning families and new families, please know that I am here for you and our children. Our goal must be to keep turning over new ground so that we can harvest the great thinking of tomorrow's world citizens. As parents you are the first and primary teachers of your child and we are honored to partner with you in this amazing and imperative task. As Dr. Maria Montessori said...

"The secret of good teaching is to regard the child's intelligence as a fertile field in which seeds may be sown, to grow under the heat of flaming imagination."

Peace,

Ms. Tanya