



8/23/2020

**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL MEMO**

Dear Parents/Guardians;

As we make final preparations for the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year using our distance learning program, I want to provide important updates for the first week of school.

**Device distribution:**

Our Chromebooks were delayed from being delivered given shipping challenges out of the warehouse in Baltimore. These issues have been resolved and they will be delivered tomorrow, Monday, August 24. We have a team ready to set up the Chromebooks and then distribute them on Tuesday and/or Wednesday to families that have not previously received a device. We will reach out with more information regarding a time window for delivery. We apologize for this inconvenience.

**Meals distribution:**

For the first week of school, we will be providing meals to all St. Coletta students from our school building at 1901 Independence Ave. between 11am-1pm. I understand this is not a location as easily accessed by those further away and we are working to have our other distribution locations in other Wards finalized by the end of the week.

**Attendance and mandatory sessions:**

I wanted to clarify the requirements for attendance. Every student must attend ONE (1) live virtual session on Mon/Tues and Thurs/Fri. There is one in the morning from 9:00-10:15am and another from 1:30-2:00pm. On Wednesday, the mandatory activity for attendance is to complete a ULS assignment. All other activities listed on the schedule are encouraged but not mandatory. We created this schedule as a way for you to provide a structured day for your child, though you may modify it to best meet your needs. We recognize the challenges of conflicting work schedules, caring for other children, and the ability for students to maintain attention for extended periods of time. Many of the scheduled activities you are able to access as your schedule allows. The specials are at a set time, so you can choose to have your child join alone or join with them as your schedule allows. They are not mandatory for daily attendance.

**Communications:**

Make sure your contact information is updated. Our main mode of communicating with families is via email and text alert. You should also check our website regularly for updates. All letters from the principal are saved on the distance learning program page.

**Celebrating the first day of school:**

I know each year when students head off to school parents love to document with a “first day of school” photo. Since we will not see their smiling faces in person at the school, if you have a first day of school photo you would like to share of your child, please email it to me! I will post any photos I receive on our Instagram account to celebrate our first day of school in 2020-2021!

I want to thank each of you for your patience as we work together to make distance learning a success for students. I may be reached at 202-595-5223 or at [cmandeville@stcoletta.org](mailto:cmandeville@stcoletta.org) if you have further questions about the start of the school year.

Sincerely,

Christie Mandeville  
Principal



