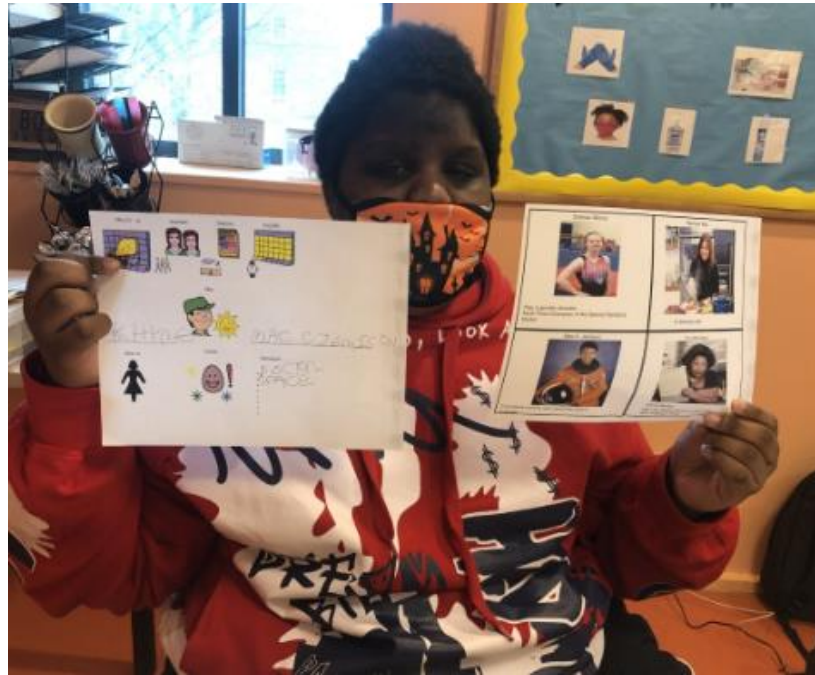


Town Hall Meeting August 19, 2021



2021-2022 School Year

St. Coletta School is open full-time for in-person instruction,
5 days per week.



Agenda

- *Continuous Education Plan
- *School-wide procedures
- *Q & A

Continuous Education Plan development

Our CEP will address 3 guiding principles

- Safe reopen
- Student and staff well-being
- Accelerated learning

*We will not be discussing virtual instruction in this presentation. A separate meeting will be held for those that have submitted medical exemptions. Our deadline for accepting medical exemptions was Aug. 6.

*The ONLY option for virtual instruction is through submission of OSSE's medical exemption form.

Safe Reopen

- *Vaccination
- *COVID compliance & communications
- *Mask requirements
- *Classroom structure
- *Cohorts
- *PPE
- *Social distancing
- *Building ventilation



Vaccination

All St. Coletta staff are required to be fully vaccinated. As of August 16th we have a 99% vaccination rate.

*We encourage all eligible students to get vaccinated,
as well as members of their household.*

Go to our website for vaccination site information

www.stcoletta.org

THE COVID-19
VACCINES
ARE OUR **BEST SHOT**
AT **BEATING THIS PANDEMIC**
AND GETTING BACK TO
NORMAL.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

DC Dept of Health

[Get Vaccinated](#)

Prince George's County
Dept of Health

[Get Vaccinated](#)

Montgomery County
Dept of Health

[Get Vaccinated](#)

Alexandria City Dept of
Health

[Get Vaccinated](#)

Arlington County Dept
of Health

[Get Vaccinated](#)

Fairfax County Dept of
Health

Information on
Vaccines for Children

[Children's National Hospital](#)

Coping with Stress and
Anxiety

[CDC.gov](#)

General Mental Health

[Resources & Help Lines](#)

COVID communications

We have a COVID compliance team that oversees any positive COVID case. Should there be a positive case, the COVID compliance manager will contact the families of students considered a close contact regarding next steps, including if quarantine is necessary. They will also report the positive COVID case to the Department of Health.

Nursing will follow up with any student who is on quarantine to determine a return to school based on DOH recommendations.

Nursing and assistant principals will also follow up with any student absent due to illness.

A letter will be sent out to the entire school community about a positive COVID case from the principal.

Mask requirements

All staff and/or contract workers are required to wear masks in the school building regardless of their vaccination status

If a student is unable to wear a mask given a medical condition, a doctor's note is needed. For students unable to put on/take off their own mask, CDC guidelines indicate they should not wear a mask. Those 2 groups of students will not be expected to wear masks.

It is expected that all other students come to school with a mask and wear one properly. We understand there are students who have sensory issues and/or other aversions to wearing a mask. We will work to increase their tolerance for wearing a mask during the school day. We will not exclude a student from the classroom or send them home for not wearing a mask.

Please make wearing a mask with your child part of your regular routine so they become familiar with it.

PPE & social distancing

PPE will be distributed to classrooms daily (gowns) and on an as needed daily basis (gloves/disposable masks.)

Appropriate PPE given the activity will be worn at all times. PPE for personal care is at a higher level than PPE during classroom interactions.

Social distancing will be monitored and maintained by staff in the classroom. Desks will be spaced appropriately in the classroom given the ability of students to wear masks.

Classroom structure and cohorts

Students will remain in their classroom with limited transitions.

Specials teachers will travel to classrooms for in-person instruction.

Students will transition to outside horticulture class, PE, and outdoor activities.

Students will continue to eat in their classroom maintaining appropriate social distancing.

Staff will substitute as necessary in other classrooms.

Students in House 1 will transition to alternate classroom spaces for certain activities that require more space e.g. play based activities/centers

Building ventilation

Our building has upgraded filters in our HVAC system.

Every classroom and office space has mobile air filtration systems.

Student & Staff Wellness

- *Daily social work classroom visits

- *Calm classroom

- *Mental health referrals

- *Formal & informal sessions

STAFF

- *Mental health counseling

- *Access to school mental health liaison

- *Wellness Wednesday's

 - *Wellness webinars, recorded sessions, tips & resources



Accelerated Learning

*What accelerated learning looks like

- Assessment
- Classroom Schedules

*Curriculum & Instruction updates



Accelerated Learning - Assessment

Purpose of the SANDI: Systematic Approach to Assessment, Instruction, and Access to CCSS

- Assess **ALL areas** of student performance
- Target **"need area"** (successive 3's or 2's)
- **Prioritize** student need areas & **flag** IEP target
- Determine **Present Levels of Performance** on the IEP
- Write IEP goals **linked** to CCSS and individualized for student level
- Determine **student learning level** to inform:
 - Student grouping
 - Lesson planning
 - Standards based classroom instruction
 - FAST testing level and targeted instruction
- Measure **incremental progress** with **frequent** periodic multiple measures assessment

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Student Annual Needs Determination Inventory

- designed specifically for students with significant cognitive disabilities
- already administered in Fall of 2020 and Spring of 2021 (baseline)
- data in areas of ELA, Math, Communication and Writing being used to determine areas needing targeted instruction
- next testing window will be in Fall of 2021 and the assessment will allow for progress monitoring, which will drive further decisions for continued targeted instruction

Other assessments that will continue to be employed throughout the year include portions of Readtopia And TouchMath (programs we've invested in because of their focus on unique learners) and an Essential Skills Assessment Checklist.

Accelerated Learning – Assessment

August/September:

- Teachers will use review assessment data collected in the Spring and use this data to identify student levels for literacy and numeracy instruction (BRIDGE, Touch Math, Readtopia, Essential Skills Assessment Checklist)
- Teachers will work with their instructional teams (teacher/SEC/therapists) to determine student groupings, access points, learning needs and levels for Readtopia and Touch Math

October:

- Instruction (including daily targeted instruction periods built in to the school day)
- Enhanced data tracking and analysis to drive instructional decisions

October/November/December

- SANDI assessment updates

Accelerated Learning – Scheduling

Instruction and Data Collection (Ongoing throughout the year)

- Individual skills scheduled for at least 1 hour each day
- Each staff will be assigned to specific students to instruct and take data (leveling students using assessment data will be used to determine this)

Accelerated Learning – Assessment

Spring and Summer Assessments

Teachers will update literacy (Readtopia), numeracy (TouchMath) and Essential Skills Assessment Checklist.

SANDI will be administered again during the Spring/Summer window.

Data examined and analyzed will also include vocational assessments for older students

This year, St. Coletta is introducing two new instructional programs that will support our Functional Academic and Functional Life Skills Curriculum:

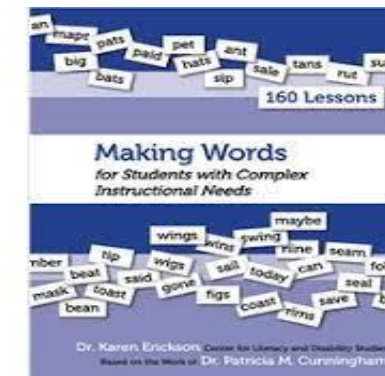
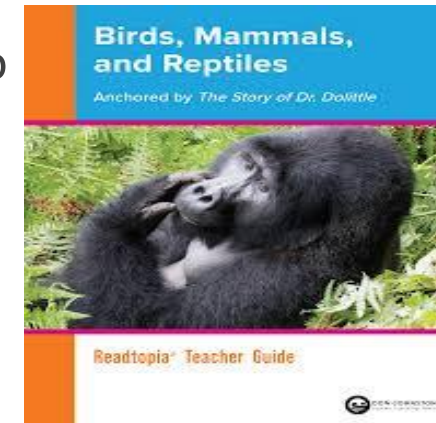
Readtopia and TouchMath

Readtopia

Readtopia is a special education curriculum designed for teachers who work with students with intellectual disabilities, autism and complex needs.

Based on research that supports literacy instruction for students with complex learning and communication needs-specifically students with significant cognitive disabilities

It serves as an integrated, comprehensive curriculum covering several domains of study including ELA, Math, Social Studies, Life Skills, and Science.



Academic Domains

ELA / Reading — Includes all components of a comprehensive reading curriculum and resources including Informational Text, Phonics/Word Study, Videos, Graphic Novels, and Literature

Math — Integrated math lessons (at up to six levels) connect with thematic units—delivering instruction in context

Social Studies — Social Studies subjects take students around the world to learn through hands on learning opportunities, stories and videos.

Functional Life Skills — Functional Life Skills cover three major life domains: Daily Living Skills, Self-Determination/Interpersonal Skills, Employment Skills

Science — Students learn about science topics while hands-on with experiments to make predictions about the world

What's included...

Readtopia consists of leveled instructional materials that cover the widest range of student needs—including students who are non-readers, emergent readers and early readers and students with complex communication, motor and/or behavior needs

Integrated thematic units connect literacy with content area learning and life skills as well as hands-on learning experiences which maximizes engagement.

- Example: Birds, Mammals and Reptiles anchored by the book Dr. Doolittle

TouchMath

The TouchMath program is designed for students with complex learning needs to support their development of the Concrete-Representational-Abstract continuum, a sequence of instructional practices and research-based best practices that reflect how most students learn mathematics.

The TouchMath program utilizes manipulatives, modeling, drawings, and pictures to help students achieve abstract mathematical thinking.

As students see, say, hear and touch using the signature TouchPoints™ on the numerals, they easily make the connection between the numeral and the quantity it represents.

TouchMath TouchPoints

Every numeral from one through nine has TouchPoints™ corresponding to the digit's value.

Numerals one through five have single TouchPoints.™ Numerals six through nine have double TouchPoints.™

Students count aloud as they touch the single TouchPoints™ once and double TouchPoints™ twice.

This concrete approach engages students on auditory, visual, and tactile/kinesthetic levels.



Scope and Sequence

When students have mastered the Touching/Counting Patterns, the Touch Math sequential strategy moves them through counting and number concepts, making computations achievable as they touch and count their way through addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and into more advanced mathematical concepts.

Feel free to e-mail me with any questions!

Amy Warden, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Amy.warden@stcoletta.org

School-wide procedures

- *Back to School forms
- *Transportation
- *Chromebooks/technology
- *Attendance
- *When to keep your child home
- *Emergency sick plan
- *COVID quarantine
- *Return to school
- *COVID communications
- *Visitors
- *Parent communication
- *School Lunch



Back To School Forms and Transportation

ANNUAL DOCUMENTS (complete ASAP)

- *Back to School Documents- link sent to all families via email; can request hard copy
- *Immunization Records- students must be compliant to attend in-person (no virtual option for non-compliance)
- *Residency Verification- **required** for all charter school students

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION:

- *All parents are encouraged to have back up plans for transporting your student the first few days of school should there be delays
 - PARTICULARLY FAMILIES OF NEW STUDENTS (routing for new students is often delayed)
- *MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED during transport unless your student has a mask exemption letter on file



Chromebooks & technology

- *All students should return their assigned Chromebooks
- *In the event of quarantine or school returning to virtual instruction, Chromebooks will be redistributed
- *Our IT help desk will still be available



Attendance

- School Schedule
 - Students arriving after 8:30am would be considered tardy (exception if a bus has arrived by 8:30am and is waiting to unload)
 - Dismissal begins at **3:00pm** on **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday**; Dismissal begins at **12:30pm** on **Wednesdays only**
- Tracking of partial day presence/absence will resume in 21-22
 - ***Students must attend 80% of the day to be considered present*** (students attending less than 80% of the instructional day are considered absent)
 - This applies to both in-person and virtual students
- **To excuse absences or tardiness**, parents must **send written documentation** within 5 days of the absence
 - A parent note can be used to excuse 3 days of consecutive absences; additional documentation will be required to continue excusing the absence beyond 3 days
 - Parents are also encouraged to verbally report absences via the student attendance line (202)350-8680 ext. 1101

Illness and Attendance



- Students are not automatically eligible for virtual instruction if they are kept home
- Students required to quarantine will be provided asynchronous learning opportunities
 - If student is directed to quarantine by someone other than the school, the parent/guardian will need to provide a written note including the date of the COVID-19 exposure, the length of time the student has been directed to quarantine by a medical professional or contact tracker, and the name/contact information of the medical professional or contact tracer that has provided the quarantine directive

Keep student home when sick

Any ONE of these red flag symptoms:

- *New or worsening cough
- *Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- *New loss of taste or smell



OR at least two (2) of the following symptoms:

- ***Fever (measured or subjective)**
- *Chills
- *Muscle or body aches
- *Headache
- *Sore throat
- *An unusual amount of tiredness
- *Nausea or **vomiting**
- *Runny nose or congestion
- ***Diarrhea**



Emergency sick plan



- *All parents must have an emergency plan to have their child picked up from school should they become ill.
- *Students may not stay at school until the end of the day when sick. They must be picked up within one hour of being notified their child is ill.
- *If a parent is not able to pick up their child, an emergency contact should be identified on their emergency care form.
- *If a parent or emergency contact is unable to be reached, next steps will be taken, including contacting CFSA for support.

COVID Quarantine

You should keep your child home if:

- *They exhibit symptoms of COVID
- *They have been exposed to/are a close contact to someone diagnosed with COVID.
- *They are awaiting COVID test results

Instruction during quarantine:

- *Students will participate in asynchronous instruction during school directed quarantine



Return to school procedures

For COVID reopen plan procedures

Student Illness/Return To School

If a student is reported absent from school due to illness, the following is required for return to school:

1-If a student is exhibiting any symptoms that COULD be attributed to COVID, the following steps must be taken in order for them to return per OSSE Return To School guidelines:

- *A doctor's note indicating an alternate diagnosis that is not COVID

- *A negative PCR COVID test, in which they could return as soon as they are symptom free for 24 hours

- *If a student is sick and they are NOT seen by a doctor, they must stay home for 10 days or until they are symptom free for 24 hours WHICHEVER IS LATER.

- *If a student is seen by a medical provider for non-COVID related health issues, a doctor's note stating why they were seen and indicating they are cleared to return to school is required.

2-If a student has been exposed to COVID and/or is awaiting COVID test results, they must stay home from school and in quarantine until they get results. If results are:

Negative- student may return to school after minimum quarantine requirement and being symptom free

Positive- the school will be informed and the student must stay home in quarantine. St. Coletta's COVID compliance will submit a report to DC Health and they will conduct an investigation.

3- Nursing staff will follow up with all families indicating their child was absent due to feeling ill or having other medical appointments.

4- The school COVID compliance manager will follow up with all students who have tested positive for COVID for next steps.

COVID communications

- *Our COVID compliance manager keeps up to date through regular meetings with health experts and city leaders/educators
- *If there is a positive COVID case, the COVID compliance manager will communicate with all close contacts
- *Communications of a COVID positive case will be given to the wider school community by the school principal
- *Nursing will follow up with students who were sent home sick or were absent due to illness to discuss needed documentation for returning to school

School visitors

- *At this time we are not permitting school visitors.
- *Parents are permitted into the building to drop off and pick up their child.
- *A mask must be worn at all times in the lobby at pick up/drop off regardless of vaccination status. NO exceptions.





Teacher communication

*Our expectation for teachers communicating with parents is as follows:

- Daily note in communication notebook
- Monthly phone call to update on student progress
- If there is a need for additional school items, if their child is sick/injured, or if there is other pertinent information needing to be communicated during the day
- Return phone calls within 24 hours
- Therapists will write in communication books monthly

- Teachers are not expected to call every day
- Teachers are not expected to take phone calls during the day when they are teaching
- Teachers are not expected to respond after work hours or on weekends/holidays

School communication

Parents will receive communications from the school on:

- *school events
- *school-wide program updates
- *positive COVID cases
- *changes in operations due to inclement weather
- *emergency situations

Most school-wide communications are sent via email. Please make sure to check your email on a regular basis. In addition, please ensure your contact information is up to date and that you have joined our text/email alert system.

School Communication

Social Media Accounts

- Facebook- St. Coletta of Greater Washington <https://www.facebook.com/stcolettagw>
- Twitter- St. Coletta <https://twitter.com/stcoletta>
- Instagram- St. Coletta Special Education PCS <https://www.instagram.com/stcolettapcs/>

Website:

<https://www.stcoletta.org/school-program/>

School Contacts

Program Administration Team

Christie Mandeville, principal- cmandeville@stcoletta.org

Waverly Powell, assistant principal Houses 1-2- waverly.powell@stcoletta.org

Dave Knight, assistant principal Houses 3-5- dknight@stcoletta.org

Catherine Decker, assistant principal of admissions & records, transportation liaison- cdecker@stcoletta.org

Lourdes Licuanan, director of therapy services- lourdes.licuanan@stcoletta.org

Amy Warden, director of curriculum & instruction- amy.warden@stcoletta.org

Shannon Ball, director of IEP & assessment- sball@stcoletta.org

Lucas LaFaver, vocational coordinator- lucas.lafaver@stcoletta.org