



**February 1, 2021**

**Volume 16 Issue 5**

**VARSITY LAKES  
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

## Principal's Message

Dear Varsity Lakes Families,

It is hard to believe that we are half way through the school year. We could not be more grateful for our staff and students who have been working hard to adapt to a new way of teaching and learning.

During the month of January, we have welcomed back over 200 students for face-to-face instruction. As we begin the new semester with new elective classes, some student schedules may also change as class sizes are adjusted.

We continue to focus on attendance, academics, and safety. Starting later this month, we will be starting an afterschool tutoring program to assist students with their academics. If you would like to check your child's grades, attendance, or contact the teacher, the Focus Parent Portal is a valuable tool. Information regarding how to sign up for a Focus account is located on our website or by clicking:

<https://lee.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/index.php>

I want to thank you for working together with us to keep our Varsity scholars on track for success.

Sincerely,

Carol Woelke

Principal

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The School Board of Lee County, Florida, prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, marital status, religion, or sexual orientation.

**February 1: Start of Quarter 3**

**February 9: MOCK FSA Writing Test**

**February 15: President's Day – No School**

**February 17 6pm: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Virtual Curriculum Night**

**February 26: Student Enrollment period closes**



# Out of Area Teacher Notification

## Florida State Board

Rule 6A-1.0503(3) requires that the School Board must approve all instructional personnel who are assigned to teach out-of-field. In addition, all parents of students being taught by a teacher who is out-of-field must be notified. Failure to meet out-of-field requirements places the District at risk of losing FTE funding.

Compliance with out-of-field requirements is a joint effort between schools, teachers, and the Staffing & Talent Management Department to reduce the loss of limited resources to the District. The following actions have been established to ensure compliance:

Requesting prior approval for out-of-field assignment (except ESOL).

Seeking Board approval prior to FTE Survey Week.

Publishing names and subject areas of all out-of-field teachers as per Florida Statutes 1012.42(2):

Evalea Barret - ESOL  
(Endorsement)

Mary Leigh Harris -  
English 6-12

Kristian Campbell -  
Gifted

Kelly Howiszak - ESOL  
(Endorsement)

Tiffany Countryman -  
ESOL (Endorsement) &  
Gifted

Melissa McClanahan -  
ESOL (Endorsement)

Cox Christina - ESOL  
(Endorsement)

Ellen Moran - ESOL  
(Endorsement)

Crosby Chandler -  
English 6-12

Jillian Reyes - ESOL  
(Endorsement)

Kerrion Davis – Science  
6-9

Ruth St. Romain - ESOL  
(Endorsement)

Kristie Dougherty -  
ESOL (Endorsement)

Kali Cage- Math 5-9 &  
ESOL (Endorsement)

Phillip Edwards - Gifted





## DRESS CODE UPDATED INFORMATION

Your child's safety is of the utmost importance to the faculty and staff of Varsity Lakes Middle School.

Effective February 1, students will no longer be permitted to wear croc style shoes to school.

While we recognize that this is a current fashion trend, it is proving to be a safety hazard.

Also, we would like to remind students of the jacket/sweater policy here at VLMS.

- All jackets should have buttons or a zipper that reaches the hem line.
- Jacket coverings should be worn open.
- Hooded jackets and sweaters are allowed, however, the hood may not be worn on the head during school hours.
- A uniform shirt must be worn under the jacket or sweater
- A long sleeved shirt may be worn in place of a jacket, under a school approved uniform shirt



**Please note the difference in these two jackets. One zips and is school appropriate, while the other is not due to the absence of a zipper or buttons.**



## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE INFORMATION

Attention all 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents and students! We will be hosting a special Virtual Curriculum Night just for you on February 17 at 6pm. This event is designed to relay all pertinent information about middle school credit requirements, deadlines, and student enrollment information. There will be a ZOOM link sent to parents via Parent Messenger. We look forward to seeing you there.



## STUDENT ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

**Student Enrollment:** The School District of Lee County is currently accepting registrations for new students to the District year-round, but hold a Student Open Enrollment period for the upcoming school year once a year. Parents of incoming Kindergarten, 6th or 9th grade students should register during student open enrollment. Open enrollment concludes on February 26, 2021. Send registration paperwork, registration form, enrollment form and records release form to [studentenrollment@leeschools.net](mailto:studentenrollment@leeschools.net)

Registering in Person:

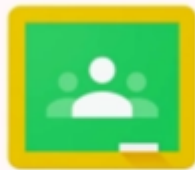
- family member only (students do not need to be present)
- Mask required
- Capacity in waiting area is limited
- Social distancing is practiced
- **Please Note:** Due to high volume of visitors, you may have a long wait outside in the elements. You may drop paperwork in a secure drop box located at the Student Enrollment entrance. Please place paperwork in an envelope with your child's name printed on the outside.

## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

In the event that you would like to speak directly to your child's teacher(s), please contact Ms. Deloris Thompson to schedule the conference. Ms. Thompson can be reached calling the school, (239) 694-3464 or by email [DelorisTH@leeschools.net](mailto:DelorisTH@leeschools.net)

## Google Classroom

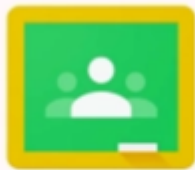
6<sup>th</sup> Grade



Google Classroom

gvqehqu

7<sup>th</sup> Grade



Google Classroom

wfz42lh

8<sup>th</sup> Grade



Google Classroom

dp7goha

If you have not already done so, please take a moment and join the Google Classroom associated to the grade level your child is currently enrolled in. This will be a useful tool for parents to gain updated information on school events, policies and procedures as well as parent resources that are applicable to the grade.



## FACE TO FACE REMINDERS

As we follow the directions given by the Governor and the District Directives opening our campus up to our students who would like to return face to face, we would like to extend a few reminders to our student body and their families:

- Hallways are one way and should be strictly followed
- No loitering in the hallways- report to class, no looping
- No running or horse playing in the halls
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself
- Watch what comes out of your mouth including social media, text, etc...
- When in the café, stay seated at your class' assigned table and sit on the assigned seat
- Water bottles must have a lid and be filled with water only (no Tervis style cups will be permitted by students)
- Water is available for purchase in the atrium and at lunch
- Uniform policy is to be adhered to every day

## HOME CONNECT REMINDERS

Home Connect Expectation Reminders Lee Home Connect is an instructional model where students follow their schedule virtually from home. It is a structured learning environment and students are expected to be in their virtual class the entire period. Lee Home Connect mirrors the in-person classroom experience therefore students are expected to:

- Arrive to school on-time by 9:45
- Arrive to each class period on time according to the bell schedule
- Have their video turned on at all times
- Submit all assignments on-time through their Google Classroom
- Follow school and district Code of Conduct expectations
- Adhere to school dress code
- Turn off and put cell phones away
- Communicate with teacher when assistance is needed
- Use the Zoom chat feature for academic purposes only



## TITLE 1 AND PARENT INVOLVEMENT

**Title I information:** Click here for [Title 1 Information](#).

The School District of Lee County receives an annual allocation of Title I funds to provide additional interventions for students, professional development for teachers, and family engagement activities designed to help students succeed academically. Varsity Lakes middle would like to invite families to participate in parent conferences, School Advisory Council (SAC), parent-teacher organizations (PTA/PTO), parent workshops, school events, volunteering, and other school activities.

**Parent Involvement:** Click here for [Parent Involvement information](#).

Parent Involvement was designed to promote parents' active input in their children's schools and education.

**SAC Meetings:** Click here for [SAC Meeting information](#).

Varsity Lakes' School Advisory Council (SAC) is made up of school employees, parents, and community members. We meet monthly throughout the school year to discuss current school data and other school related topics.

**SPAR:** You can access Varsity Lake Middle Schools' public accountability report from the following link. For information about Florida's Consolidated State Plan, see Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and for detailed information about School and District Grade calculations see the School Grades Overview and Guide to Calculating School Grades, District Grades, and the Federal Percent of Points Index. Click here for [Annual School Public Reports](#)