

**EAST ORANGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
JOHNNIE L. COCHRAN, JR. ACADEMY**

190 Midland Avenue
East Orange, New Jersey 07017
Phone (973-395-5975
www.eastorange.k12.nj.us

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Mr. AbdulSaleem Hasan
abdulsaleem.hasan@eastorange.k12.nj.us

Principal

Dr. Tabina Adam
t.lyte@eastorange.k12.nj.us

August 28, 2020

Greetings Cochran Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. We hope that this letter finds you and our scholars well. In March 2020, we left our school building and assumed a remote learning plan to mitigate the risks of COVID-19. As a nation, we continue to battle this deadly virus and are challenged to quickly respond to changes. Based on all collected data, our district made the decision and communicated to all parents that we will continue to offer a remote learning plan for all students beginning September 8, 2020 until November 13, 2020. Thus, there will be no in-person option available at this time.

At Cochran Academy, we are committed to providing high quality instruction and supporting all of our scholars to meet challenging learning goals during this continued period of remote learning. Please note the following:

Instructional Program

- Schoology, a learning management system secured by our district, will be implemented to facilitate virtual learning. Please see the enclosed additional information. Opportunities for training will be provided to parents both through the district's curriculum department and our school.
- We have new elementary curricula and programs. Please also note that this year, ELA and Humanities/Social Studies for grades 3 through 5 are merged. Please review the enclosed information.
- At the fourth and fifth grade levels, we have moved to a departmentalized structure/schedule. What this means is that your scholar will benefit from a two-teacher team focused on the core subjects. This will allow teachers to provide stronger and more targeted support to our scholars. See below:

Teacher Team	Subjects Taught
Teacher A	Mathematics and Science
Teacher B	English Language Arts/Humanities and Writing

- Distribute Chromebooks to ensure that every student has access. We will continue to distribute from the limited supply that is currently available at Cochran until our district-purchased Chromebooks arrive. Please call the school immediately if your child is in need of a Chromebook. We will distribute on a first come, first serve basis until the shipment arrives.

Daily Attendance

Attendance must be submitted daily. Students must click the **"I'm Present"** button from their student FOCUS portal at the start of each instructional day. Failure to submit attendance will result in your child being marked absent for the day.

Meals

During this period of remote learning, Grab and Go meals will be available. The following schools are pick-up sites: Bowser, Campus High School, Garvin, Hughes, Tyson Elementary, Louverture, Warwick and Houston Academy. Please note that Houston Academy is the site closest to Cochran. The address is **215 Dodd Street**. The Grab and Go days and hours are as follows: Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. However, for the first week of school, the days will be Tuesday (9/8) and Thursday (9/10).

Communication

Consistent and positive communication with you, our parent partners, continue to be essential towards ensuring your scholar's success. Thus, we encourage you to contact us should you have any questions, concerns, comments or ideas about the teaching and learning process at Cochran. In addition, we hope to see you at our monthly offering of Parent University meetings (virtual). Please also be encouraged to frequently check our Class Dojo, school's website and our FOCUS Parent Portal for updates. Other ways we plan to communicate include emailing letters and through phone blasts. Thus, it is important that we have accurate contact information. Please contact our school if there are any changes.

Meet & Greet and Materials Pick-Up

On the morning of September 3rd, 2020, we will have a virtual Meet and Greet. At this meeting, our scholars will be introduced to their teachers, get an overview of the instructional program and expectations as well as get answers. In the afternoon, you will have the opportunity to pick up your scholar's materials, which includes their schedule. Please make a strong effort to attend. If you are unable to attend, please contact the school to make other arrangements. Please see enclosed flyer for more information.

Again, welcome to the new school year! We are excited to support your scholar's continued academic and social emotional growth. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Dr. Tabina Adam

Principal