



COYOTE NEWS

Roberta C. Cartwright Elementary School
1050 E. Gary Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89123
Ms. Peggy Wilson, Principal

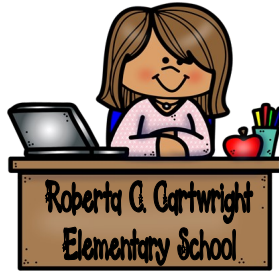
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The Principal's Desk

Welcome back Cartwright Families! We are so excited to work with you on behalf of your children this school year as we commence a year of learning and growing together. We would much rather we all be at school in our traditional way face-to-face with our students. However, that is not possible in the world we live in right now. My hope is that you will embrace distance learning and truly partner with us as we navigate this new world of education and the truly exciting possibilities it presents. This is exciting! Of course, we realize remote learning changes your role in your child's educational process. As parents you are your child's first teacher. Distance learning is an opportunity to maximize your influence and that is exciting too!

Teachers are working very hard to develop relationships between the students and them as well as between students since we realize a sense of belonging is crucial to our social-emotional well-being. Teachers are establishing norms and expectations in their classrooms and determining what students know and can do. This will allow them to begin teaching from where students are and differentiate to grow each student while filling the holes in their learning that resulted from the pandemic in the spring.

The Board of Trustees voted to review the status of our community in 90 days to determine how we proceed. Regardless of the outcome, we look forward to learning and growing together all year.



Dress and Online Etiquette

Appropriate dress is essential while at school. Students should dress for success even in our virtual world. We feel differently in our school clothes than our pajamas and play clothes.

It is just as important that the adults dress appropriately and use appropriate language while your children are in class. Conversations conducted in the background are heard by your children's classes through the microphone as they answer questions and contribute to discussions. Please be mindful. We want this to be a positive experience for all. Thank you in advance for your assistance.



Breakfast and Lunch

The Clark County School District identified Cartwright as a Community Eligibility Provision School. This means that all our families are eligible for free breakfast and lunch.

You may pick up breakfast and lunch between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. at Gehring Elementary. You will need to show your child's student ID number.

Even though all our students are eligible for free breakfast and lunch this year, please complete the Free and Reduced Lunch application regardless of whether you intend to use the service. The greater percentage of qualified families, the more federal funds our school is given. You may apply online at www.myschoolapps.com. For information call the Free and Reduced Food Service Office at 1-800-819-7556.



Communication

Communication in this virtual world is more important than ever. We have created several means of communication for our families. Please ensure you visit our school website regularly at <https://cartwrightelementary.wixsite.com/cartwrightelementary>. You may reach your child's teacher through email or Class Dojo. Email addresses are posted on our school website for your convenience. Of course, you can always reach out to the school at 702-799-1350. We are always here to help!



MAP Growth Assessment

Students in kindergarten through fifth grade will complete the MAP Growth Assessment fall benchmark in reading and math remotely in the next few weeks. The purpose of this assessment is to determine the skills and concepts students know and at what level so teachers can design remote differentiated learning experiences for our students.

MAP Growth Assessment (Continued)

The test is administered three times per school year so we can measure growth and assess the curriculum and make adjustments as necessary.

This test is computer adaptive meaning the next question is based on the student's response. In order for the test to determine what a student knows and at what level, it will not conclude until a student answers 50% of the questions correctly and 50% of the questions incorrectly. That is unusual.

It is imperative that you are only assisting your child with the technology aspect of this assessment. We need to know exactly what our students know, understand, and can apply when given the need. Giving students answers will invalidate the results and will not allow us to begin instruction based on where your children truly are.

Giving answers also sends the implicit message to your children that they can't do this on their own and that they need you. Instead, provide a message of faith that your children can do the assessment and encourage them to do their best. That is all anyone can ask, including themselves. We want to promote a growth mindset and teach our children that mistakes are opportunities to learn. Those are invaluable lessons for our children and will serve them well throughout their lives.

Please look for more information to come next week. We appreciate your assistance to administer this interim assessment.



Attendance

As with face-to-face instruction, attendance is crucial to student achievement. According to The National Center for Education Statistics, the primary rationale for high-quality attendance data is the relationship between student attendance and student achievement. Teacher effectiveness is the strongest school-related determinant of student success, but chronic student absence reduces even the best teacher's ability to provide learning opportunities. Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve at higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance. This relationship between attendance and achievement may appear early in a child's school career. A recent study looking at young children found that absenteeism in kindergarten was associated with negative first grade outcomes such as greater absenteeism in subsequent years and lower achievement in reading, math, and general knowledge.

Poor attendance has serious implications for later outcomes as well. High school dropouts have been found to exhibit a history of negative behaviors, including high levels of absenteeism throughout their childhood, at higher rates than high school graduates. These differences in



absentee rates were observed as early as kindergarten, and students who eventually dropped out of high school missed significantly more days of school in first grade than their peers who graduated from high school. In eighth grade, this pattern was even more apparent and, by ninth grade, attendance was shown to be a key indicator significantly correlated with high school graduation.

The effects of lost school days build up one absence at a time on individual students. Any absence, whether excused or not, denies students the opportunity to learn in accordance with the school's instructional program. Chronic absences (18 absences all year) also count against our school using the Nevada School Performance Framework.

Understand that your child's academic and social success reflects the commitment to and support of the home-school connection. We are here to support you and our students in every way possible.

During distance education students are expected to follow their daily schedule. For a student to be counted as present or participating, the student must either:

1. Complete coursework during the same day the class meets; and/or
2. Attend a real-time class session; and/or
3. Meet or communicate with the licensed teacher or licensed substitute teacher who is able to discuss the student's progress.

Educators will mark the student as present once they complete one or more of the above mentioned distance education conditions.



Counselor Corner

Ms. Spoon

Welcome Back Coyote Students and Families! I hope you all had a great and safe summer. My name is Mrs. Spoon, and I am the school counselor at Cartwright. This will be my 4th year at the school, but I am with you in learning how to navigate this school year virtually. We are learning together.

Every student can access my virtual Canvas page by clicking on the counselor's corner button on their teacher's home page. You will find classroom lessons that I will be doing throughout the year, as well as other resources that you may find helpful. As always, this doesn't change the fact that if you need me, we will set up a time to talk virtually, so, my "door" is always open. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me (Mrs. Spoon) by email: subuv@nv.ccsd.net.

Please find some resources for you below.

Social/Emotional Activities:

- ♥ Practice using a breathing strategy like belly breathing.



Counselor's Corner (Continued)

- * Place your hand on your belly, breathe in and out slowly 3 times.
- ♥ Tell someone all of the feelings you can think of!

Parent/Guardian Tips for Distance Learning

1. Set up an area in your house for learning. You can ask your child to create a list of items they think they will need for learning.
2. Create a daily schedule with your child/children. Creating the schedule with your children will build buy-in. Post the schedule near your learning area.
3. If your child becomes frustrated during learning time, prompt them to use a coping skill, such as counting to ten, taking deep breaths, naming feelings, or stretching. Remember it is ok to take a break.
4. Engage in self-care for yourself
 - * Take time each day to notice how you are feeling and use a coping skill to find calm.



Read by Grade 3

Ms. Rodrigo, Instructional Coach

Welcome to the 2020-21 School Year! This year will be unlike any other, for educators, families, and students. While we miss some of our traditional ways of "doing school," I hope you will join us in embracing some of the new opportunities that online teaching and learning have presented. My name is Linda Rodrigo and I am the Instructional Coach at Cartwright. I support teachers, oversee the MAP assessments, and am here to help our community in reaching our goal of providing the best education possible for your children, whether they be learning from home or in our building.

Teachers have been working extremely hard to prepare for this school year. We are all still learning how to navigate our online programs, but teachers have but teachers have placed an emphasis on getting to know your children, building connections with them, and assessing their academic needs. We thank you for partnering with us on this journey and for your patience as we all learn together.

We will soon provide information about our MAP testing and how to help proctor the online assessment at home. PLEASE, during MAP and all assessments, encourage your children to do their best, and allow them to answer ALL questions with NO ASSISTANCE. It is imperative that the assessment results accurately reflect our students' abilities so that we can purposefully plan instruction to help them grow from wherever they are. We thank you for your cooperation.

Looking for a way to move away from that computer screen? What about a read aloud? Research consistently shows that the



most important thing you can do to help your child is to read to or with them. When doing so, take time to discuss what is happening in the book (summarize), how the characters react or change, and any predictions or opinions your child might have regarding the characters and events of a story, or informative text. Talking about the text helps develop vocabulary and content knowledge that can build comprehension and foster connections to new situations. It's also a time to pause and connect with your child each day and dive into a good book!

If you have any questions, regarding MAP or anything else, please feel free to contact me at rodri-117@nv.ccsd.net. Educating your children is a team effort, especially now. I am proud to be a member of Team Cartwright!



Speech News

Mrs. Howell & Ms. Hollenbeck

Hello Cartwright families from the Speech team! It's going to be a fabulous year. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back and are excited to meet any new Coyotes. We look forward to seeing you virtually and hearing about your exciting summers! Of course, we are here to virtually support your children's speech needs. Should you have any questions, we can be reached at giesllv@nv.ccsd.net and johnsl11@nv.ccsd.net.



Coyote of the Month

Again, this year we are celebrating our Coyotes of the Month for demonstrating the virtue or character trait we modeled, taught, and reinforced with our students during each month. The Coyote of the Month selected from each class will be invited, along with his or her family, to attend a celebration with the principal, Ms. Wilson, and Mrs. Spoon, our counselor. Invitations will be sent home with the students selected. Look for those invitations!

During the month of September, we are focusing on the virtue empathy. Empathy means identifying with and feeling other people's concerns. Our daily Words of Wisdom address empathy and teachers follow up with discussion about the message conveyed.

**Please stay healthy
and safe!
Thank you for
partnering
with us during
these
unprecedented
times!**

