

AUGUST 10, 2020

TOGETHER WE WILL START STRONG



FIRST WEEKS OF SCHOOL

Our 2020-2021 school year begins on Aug. 17, 2020, with distance/remote learning model to account for the current substantial spread of COVID-19. The first week's focus is providing students and families opportunities to become familiar with the learning and teaching technologies and develop schedules that allow students to maximize learning opportunities.

The district is purchasing 1:1 Chromebooks to ensure students in grades Pre-K through 12 have access to a device. Students and Parents will be able to view modules to learn how to successfully use software resources.



CHECK WITH YOUR SCHOOL FOR A DEVICE DISTRIBUTION PLAN

VIRTUAL LEARNING RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

The district's online platforms for virtual learning are Verge and Microsoft Teams. Training on these platforms will be offered by our Instructional Technology Department for students and parents during the first weeks of school. Additionally, there will be help desk supports that families can access through the Instructional Technology Department.

MICROSOFT TEAMS

Our district uses Microsoft Teams to connect through video, audio calls, chat, document sharing and screen sharing. The Teams app is available for Android and iOS. Teams will be used for synchronous virtual instruction. For asynchronous learning opportunities, teachers will record lessons that students can access during their self-paced learning. Students can log in to their accounts with their DCSD credentials. If students need help logging in to any of their school accounts, or resetting their passwords, they can open a ticket with the DCSD Help Desk.

HAVEN'T JOINED A TEAMS LIVE EVENT?

If you haven't joined a live event before, here is a quick video tutorial on what you need to do to access these events. If you can't make the LIVE event, a video recording will be available on our [YouTube Channel](#) for each event and workshop.

DeKalb County School District provides the Microsoft Student Advantage Program to students and parents.

[Click here for additional information.](#)

Office 365 STUDENT ADVANTAGE

WHAT FAMILIES CAN DO

This school year will present unique challenges to students, parents, and teachers alike. Know that we are all in this together, and TOGETHER WE WILL START STRONG. DCSD does not expect parents to become educators, but there are some things parents can do to maximize students' productivity while they are learning virtually at home:

- ✓ Create a daily routine and ensure children have a quiet space dedicated to learning and free of distractions
- ✓ Communicate with your child's teacher and ask questions about what your children are learning and expected to learn.
- ✓ Review communications from the district, school, and teachers to understand the available supports and expectations for your student's digital learning days.
- ✓ Make sure your children are getting breaks and getting outside when they can.
- ✓ Make sure your children are getting adequate sleep and are well-rested when they start learning each day.
- ✓ Keep computer and device screens within your view as much as possible and make sure your children are actively engaged with learning.
- ✓ Encourage your children and hold them accountable for their learning.
- ✓ Be patient and flexible.

Remember, you are your child's best influencer and advocate!

LIVE VIRTUAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS

We are excited to provide opportunities to support our parents in this new virtual experience. We know that for most of our families there is much anxiety, so we are making every effort to make this virtual transition as smooth as possible. The DeKalb County School District's Family Engagement Team will be hosting events in the upcoming weeks to help families better prepare and understand what school will look like in the virtual environment.



AUGUST WORKSHOPS & EVENTS



DeKalb County School District
Parent & Family Engagement

VIRTUAL Trauma-Informed TOWNHALL

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4TH & 11TH
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Parenting Through the Trauma of a Pandemic

This is a Virtual Townhall Meeting to discuss solutions, supports, and resources to help parents navigate the complex trauma experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic

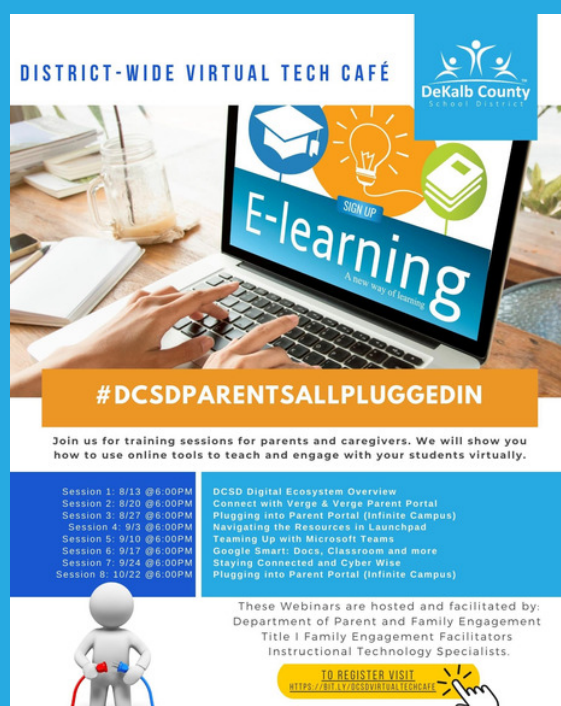
JOIN US AT OUR FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Presented in Collaboration with the DeKalb County Human Services Department

DEKALB CSB Human Services

FOR MORE INFO CALL 404.759.6909
WWW.DCSDFAMILYENGAGEMENT.COM

To Register visit: <https://bit.ly/ParentingThroughTrauma1>



DISTRICT-WIDE VIRTUAL TECH CAFE

DeKalb County School District

E-learning

#DCSDPARENTSALLPLUGGEDIN

Join us for training sessions for parents and caregivers. We will show you how to use online tools to teach and engage with your students virtually.

Session 1: 8/13 @ 6:00PM
Session 2: 8/20 @ 6:00PM
Session 3: 8/27 @ 6:00PM
Session 4: 9/3 @ 6:00PM
Session 5: 9/10 @ 6:00PM
Session 6: 9/17 @ 6:00PM
Session 7: 9/24 @ 6:00PM
Session 8: 10/1 @ 6:00PM

DCSD Digital Ecosystem Overview
Connect with Verge & Verge Parent Portal
Plugging into Parent Portal (Infinite Campus)
Navigating the Resources in Launchpad
Examining Microsoft Teams
Google Smart Docs, Classroom and more
Staying Connected and Cyber Wise
Plugging into Parent Portal (Infinite Campus)

These Webinars are hosted and facilitated by:
Department of Parent & Family Engagement
Title I Family Engagement Facilitators
Instructional Technology Specialists

TO REGISTER VISIT
<https://bit.ly/ParentingThroughTrauma1>

Family_engagement@dekalbschools.org | 678-676-0384



DeKalb County School District
Parent & Family Engagement

Active Parenting WORKSHOP

FIRST FIVE YEARS- AGES AND STAGES

August 24, 2020
From: 9:30 a.m. to: 11:00 a.m.

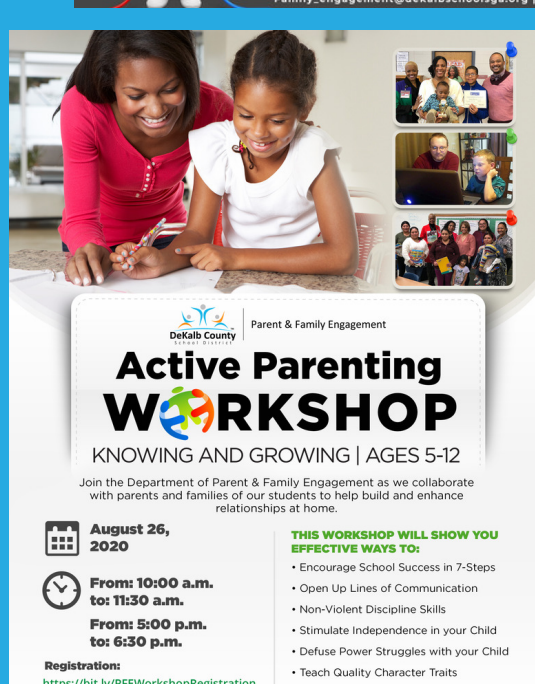
Registration:
<https://bit.ly/PFWWorkshopRegistration>

SESSION I - You and Your Child: Styles of parenting, ages and stages of development, building a bond with your child, the method of choice

SESSION II - Preventing Problems: Your child's beautiful brain, using nonviolent discipline, the "A-C-T" of parenting

SESSION III - Encouraging Positive Behavior: The power of encouragement, choices and consequences, caring for the caregiver

SESSION IV - Preparing for School Success: 6 smart things parents can do to help young children get ready for school



DeKalb County School District
Parent & Family Engagement

Active Parenting WORKSHOP

KNOWING AND GROWING | AGES 5-12

Join the Department of Parent & Family Engagement as we collaborate with parents and families of our students to help build and enhance relationships at home.

August 26, 2020
From: 10:00 a.m. to: 11:30 a.m.
From: 5:00 p.m. to: 6:30 p.m.

Registration:
<https://bit.ly/PFWWorkshopRegistration>

THIS WORKSHOP WILL SHOW YOU EFFECTIVE WAYS TO:

- Encourage School Success in 7-Steps
- Open Up Lines of Communication
- Non-Violent Discipline Skills
- Stimulate Independence in your Child
- Defuse Power Struggles with your Child
- Teach Quality Character Traits

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SERVICES AND UPCOMING PARENT WORKSHOPS?

CLICK HERE

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT COMMUNITY RESOURCES?

CLICK HERE

ARE YOU NEW TO DEKALB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND NEED TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD? CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW

» [ENGLISH](#)

» [SPANISH](#)

» [BURMESE](#)

» [AMHARIC](#)

» [NEPALI](#)

» [SWAHILI](#)

» [ARABIC](#)

» [BENGALI](#)

» [VIETNAMESE](#)

» [SOMALI](#)

» [KAREN](#)

» [HINDI](#)

» [FRENCH](#)

» [TELUGU](#)

» [CHINESE](#)

» [TIGRINYA](#)



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DIVISION OF STUDENT SUPPORT AND INTERVENTION
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