



STEPHEN FOSTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Re: Elementary Instructional Delivery Options at Stephen Foster.

Dear Foster Families

As you know, the Florida Department of Education and Governor DeSantis have asked that schools reopen our doors to students this fall. While we are making the necessary changes to prepare for this, we also understand that there could be families who are not prepared for transitioning back to the brick and mortar structure. This week, the district will be sending out a survey allowing families to identify the instructional delivery that will best suit the students' needs this Fall as we continue to work through this pandemic.

The following options are available for students at Foster. We ask that parents choose the program that best fits their current situation and health concerns. All students will receive a curriculum that covers the FL standards for their appropriate grade level and be able to participate in extension learning in their selected environments.

TWO OPTIONS - STEPHEN FOSTER ELEMENTARY

1. Traditional ("Brick and Mortar")

- a. Enhanced safety precautions (hand sanitizing, hand washing, mask, routine cleaning, etc.)
- b. Collaborative instruction across the curriculum
- c. Frequent hands-on learning opportunities in all content areas.
- d. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) instruction, with specialized materials and designated STEM teacher
- e. In person extension opportunities and clubs (Robotics, Olympiad, Media, etc).
- f. Individualized, immediate feedback/support and enrichment with teachers.
- g. Social emotional instruction with Leader in Me and social development with peer-to-peer interaction and socialization.

2. Digital Academy (“Virtual LIVE”)

- a. At-home instruction using live lessons with a Foster teacher.
- b. Students engaged in full school day instruction following the typical elementary schedule.
- c. Curriculum is the same as traditional, in-person instruction with modifications.
- d. Hands on learning, when possible and with supplies at home.
- e. One-on-one scheduled teacher conferencing for feedback
- f. Collaboration based around online interaction with peers with facilitating teacher.
- g. Social emotional instruction with Leader in Me and virtual peer interaction.

Participation in the non-traditional method of a digital platform may be challenging for some students because they would not be physically present in the classroom to receive immediate feedback and support. However, it is important to develop an appropriate delivery plan that still provides the academic press without bringing on a stressful experience for students. We understand that this pandemic has changed the way in which students are provided the opportunity to learn; at the same time, we are ready and willing to make the necessary accommodations in order for all students to receive the quality education they rightfully deserve.

Sincerely,



Wanza Wakeley, Ed.S.
Principal
Stephen Foster Elementary School
Alachua County Public Schools