

Hello, Soddy Daisy High School Family.

We are so very excited to be welcoming you all back to school, whether you are coming in person or working through HCS At Home! We are all the Soddy Daisy High School family and will continue to work together to make our teaching engaging, our learning profitable and our efforts successful for all. Things will be different, so I wanted to reach out with some information that I expect you have been anxiously waiting to hear. Feel free to email me with questions at cox_karyn@hcde.org , but understand this is going to 1200 people, so it might take me a minute to get back with you. 😊 And also you can be sure that I do NOT have all the answers to your questions...or mine for that matter! We will continue to send out information as we receive it; however you may have questions about the topics listed below that I can answer, and I will be happy to help.

Phases: HCDE is watching COVID case numbers to decide what Phase we will be in when we start school on August 12, but they will not make a final decision until August 5, so please don't ask. You will know when we know, because it will be announced through the news media. We are working hard to plan for all phases and will be ready at SDHS for whatever decision is made.

School hours: The doors open at 6:45, and school begins at 7:15. To avoid being tardy, you should arrive no later than 7:05. The final class is over at 2:15. All students must be out of the building no later than 2:30.

School schedule: Students will have a schedule of 7 classes all year unless your child is a senior. Seniors are allowed to arrive late or leave early if they are passing all classes and do not need the full 7 credits to graduate. However, all seniors must have parent approval for this. A permission slip will be posted online Monday, August 3, for seniors only, and should be printed out, signed by both student and parent/guardian, and returned to your counselor Mrs. Williams during the first two days so schedules can be correct.

First 3 days: No matter what phase, we will start with the A day group on Wednesday, August 12, and the B day group on Thursday, August 13, and everyone stays home on Friday, August 14 and logs in virtually to make sure that everyone knows what to do if and when we are working from home since all grades will count this year and learning will stay on pace with normal school days.

Traffic: Traffic can be really bad here at SDHS the first couple of weeks, so please be watching for instructions on our traffic patterns for this year. There are some changes, and we want everyone to be informed in advance. We will even post a map on our school website on August 10 so you have a visual before you come Wednesday or Thursday. There will be teachers and administrators out there to direct you, so don't worry.

Dress Code: Students are working on a dress code video to help everyone know and understand the new dress code so there are no questions this year about what is approved and what isn't. If you need assistance The only real difference is that pants or knee-length shorts have to be white, khaki, black, navy or gray; you can't wear jeans; and shirts must have no words or pictures. Most things stayed the same. The video will be posted on www.sdtrojans.com by Wednesday, August 6.

Earbuds: Every student will need earbuds that can be plugged into a Chromebook. They will be a requirement for every class. Please have these on the first day of school.

Orientation for Freshmen and New Students: We are working on a Virtual Tour for orientation for all students who have are new to SDHS, as well. This video will introduce you to some teachers and school leaders, as well as show you around the building so you will feel more comfortable when you arrive . Hopefully you will be as excited about coming as we are about seeing you! This will be available for viewing by August 6th as well, on www.sdtrojans.com

Chromebooks for Freshmen and New Students: We are passing out Chromebooks to all Freshmen and new students on **Tuesday, August 5th any time between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.** We will be at the car-rider side of the building so that the Chromebooks can be handed to you right out of the library outside door in the corner to the right of the car rider entrance. We will post all papers required for Chromebooks on the school website by this Friday so you can print, sign and bring them with you. We are hoping that by giving you these extended hours, everyone will be able to come to the school on this day and all students will have Chromebooks on the first day of school. Every class will require a Chromebook to access learning portals.

Parking Permits: Information on parking permits will be posted on www.sdtrojans.com by Monday. The cost is \$25, and students must have a drivers license, current insurance card and a picture of your license plate, along with a picture of your vehicle. The payment can be made in the Online Payments tab on our school website starting Tuesday, and you can upload your documents then, also, after the permit information is posted.

School Fee: There is only one school fee this year, and it applies to everyone since we are all having to use school issued technology. It is a Science, Arts and Technology fee of only \$20. You can pay this online starting today through September 1 on the Online School Payments tab under Parent Resources. Every penny you give will go toward educating your child by providing resources. None of it is used for administrative or teacher cost. It is only used for student resources.

School Choice: If you did NOT select your student's School Choice option online, please reply to this email ONLY if your student will be participating in the HCS At Home option 2. We are assuming your child will be with us in person if you do not email or you did not select At Home

on the School Choice link. We need to have accurate counts so we can prepare for the appropriate number of students in the building and at home receiving instruction from our teachers at SDHS.

Summer School: All students enrolled in Summer School must complete work by Friday, July 31. If you have questions, contact your summer school teacher immediately.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to work with your students during the 2020-21 school year. We are excited about what the future holds in these days of uncharted territory. Let us know if we can help you. We will send another email at the end of next week when we have more definite information.

Karyn Cox
Assistant Principal & FRI Administrator
Soddy Daisy High School

“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.”
--Albert Einstein