



OLD DONATON SCHOOL

HOME OF

BRICKELL ACADEMY

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September 17, 2020

Hello Old Donaton School (ODS) Parents,

The purpose of my letter is to provide you with an update on your child's class or team placement as we look ahead to our return to face-to-face instruction. As we formed classes in August, we worked within the guidelines provided by Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS) including planning for implementation of health mitigation strategies. One of those requirements is the spacing of desks within each classroom at three feet apart. At ODS, we can fit 18 student desks in all elementary and 21 desks in all middle school classrooms.

The resulting challenge in scheduling is that we cannot accommodate all students whose parents selected Option 1: Face-to-Face Instruction. To ensure safety mitigations are implemented, we randomly identified students who selected Option 1 and shifted them to a classroom with a teacher who would work remotely with them throughout the first semester in order to meet the deadline for publication of schedules. I am writing to give you a choice of remaining virtual through the first semester with an ODS teacher in the ODS curriculum or being included in a random assignment of ODS classes since we now have a schedule for returning to face-to-face instruction.

The following teachers will remain in the virtual setting throughout the first semester: Ms. Scott (grade 2), Ms. Rabusa (grade 3), Ms. Yang (grade 4), and Mrs. Green (grade 5). The following teams will remain virtual through the first semester: Dolphins (grade 6), Bay Lynx (grade 7), and Kingfishers (grade 8). If your child is not currently assigned to one of these elementary teachers or middle school teams, you may choose to:

- (A) remain in or move to the class/team that is staying virtual for the first semester or
- (B) move into a lottery for placement.

Once classes/teams are at capacity, we will default to the lottery for all remaining placements. If your child has been assigned to these classes or teams and you wish to remain with them, there will be no change in schedule, teacher assignment, or electives at the middle school level. If you choose to move to the virtual team, we will do our best to be consistent with electives. Middle school parents who elect to move into the lottery for placement should expect changes in electives that may not align with current assignments or student preferences.

The evolving circumstances associated with COVID-19 are putting each of us in situations that are less than ideal. Your support in all of this is most appreciated. Please complete the following Google Form, <http://bit.ly/odstern1>, for each of your children at ODS by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 21, 2020 indicating your choice. We will notify parents of placement prior to each grade level's return to face-to-face instruction. Please contact me at Kelly.Hedrick@vbschools.com with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Kelly A. Hedrick, Ed.D.

