



## THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

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PINES LAKES ELEMENTARY  
Susan F. Sasse, *Principal*  
Amrita Balroop, *Assistant Principal*  
<http://pineslakes.browardschools.com>  
[www.browardschools.com](http://www.browardschools.com)

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March 20, 2020

Dear Pines Lakes Families:

I hope our Panther families are doing well during such a challenging time. Please know the staff and I are committed to doing all we can to ensure a smooth continuation of your child's learning! I am hoping the information provided here is helpful to you as we proceed together through this uncharted territory.

My top priority as a principal has always been, and will continue to be, student safety and security. During these times, it's important that our students feel safe and secure and that their emotional needs are being met. I want to reassure our Panthers that we will get through this together! Many child experts have provided online resources for families who are searching for the right words to say to their child. Two recent ones I discovered were [pbs.org](http://pbs.org) and [nasponline.org](http://nasponline.org). In times like these, I remind myself of what Mr. Rogers said, "*When we can talk about our feelings, they become less overwhelming, less upsetting and less scary*". Some students may need more support than others in the coming days or weeks. Parents can always reach out to our school counselor, Mrs. Yoloye, via email or through Canvas, as well as to myself or our Assistant Principal, Ms. Balroop.

As a parent myself, I recognize the impact this "new normal" will have on our families' daily lives. While we want our students to meet our high expectations and to challenge themselves, we also want to provide them the flexibility and understanding they'll need to get through the coming days or weeks.

This is a good opportunity to encourage our parents to stay informed by visiting [browardschools.com](http://browardschools.com). It's important to rely on official and reliable sources. General school messages from PLE will be communicated via recorded phone calls, so now is a good time to make sure we have your current contact information on file. If you have not received a recorded message from us this week, it is probably time to contact us and update your records. While we are disconnected physically, we can still stay connected in other ways. To this end, be sure you follow us on Twitter [@pineslakeselementary](https://twitter.com/pineslakeselementary) and [@sasseprincipal](https://twitter.com/sasseprincipal) as well as visit our school website. We look forward to sharing our fun remote learning experiences and staying connected to our families.

As the "Leading Learner" at PLE, I am committed to working with our teachers and parents to ensure our students continue soaring "To Proficiency and Beyond", no matter what challenges we face. Sending "virtual hugs" to all my Panthers!

Yours truly,

*Mrs. Susan F. Sasse, Principal*