



Collins Elementary School Winter Holiday Newsletter

**“Enjoy the little things, for one day in life, you’ll look back and realize they were the big things” ~
Anonymous**

Hello Collins Family!

Thank you so much for your continuous support in the education of our children. The year 2020 has certainly been a year that we would have never anticipated. We take pause for to pray for families who have lost loved ones, experiencing physical and mental health challenges, and dealing with economic obstacles with the loss of job, food, and/or housing. By the same token, we should also pause to give thanks for hope, joy, peace, and love that this holiday season brings. It is my prayer that we will take some time to say thanks for life, for family, for friends, and for purpose. In the grand scheme of it all, we are still here for a reason, and I hope that we continue to use this time as an opportunity to do good. The purpose of this letter is to share with you some learning opportunities available during the Winter Break and to inform you of plans scheduled upon our return in 2021.

- 🐾 This week is an intentional instructional week. Many students have Common Formative Assessments this week. Students need to be in attendance on time, all day and every day this week.
- 🐾 BCPS will be distributing a parental survey for returning to school in January 2021. Due to excessive absences and minimal academic success, some students will be contacted to consider reporting back to the school building. Schools will be making contact with families in the near future. Your completion of this survey will assist us in preparing for these possible changes in eLearning at home and at school at that time. The survey will have a deadline date so please complete it as soon as possible BEFORE the deadline.
- 🐾 Please take care of the student laptops. We will continue to use them for instruction.
- 🐾 The Title I Parent Compact will be sent home via Class Dojo or Canvas inbox this week. Please be looking for it to complete by Thursday, December 17.
- 🐾 Students in Grades 1 – 5 will have an opportunity to continue learning during the Winter Break by participating in the exciting Prodigy Math. There will be a parent orientation on Tuesday, December 15 at 6 p.m. Fifth Grade students are strongly encouraged to participate in the Winter Break Academy. They will receive the information this week. All students have access to activities through the link: <http://bit.ly/SupportingYoungLearners>.
- 🐾 The Winter I-Ready Diagnostic will take place for K-5 students from January 11-29, 2021. It is imperative that students **report back to school on Monday, January 4, 2021**, to participate in this vital preparation for upcoming Statewide Assessments, such as the FSA.
- 🐾 Beginning January 2021, Collins will no longer be a food distribution site for Grab and Go meals. To maximize manpower among district food and nutrition staff, food distribution sites will be consolidated. Our designated food distribution site will be Olsen Middle School. More details regarding pickup times and days will be coming in the future.

Collins Elementary is a school of excellence that ensures a nurturing environment to meet the academic and social needs of children. Our **mission** is to operate with high expectations that are met through rigorous instruction, personal growth, and effective collaboration with all stakeholders.

From Our Hearts to Your Hearts,

**Happy
Holidays!**

