

Trojan News

JOHN KNISELEY <kniseleyj@duvalschools.org>

Thu 8/6/2020 1:20 PM

To: James Weldon Johnson Middle School Recipients <recipients@duvalschools.parentlink.net>

This message was sent from outside the district. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Dear Trojan Parents and Guardians,

I wanted to give you all an insight into the complexity of scheduling students this school year. We currently have over 600 students who have selected Duval Homeroom. This means that nearly 2/3's of our students will be off campus for the first quarter receiving their instruction virtually.

In essence, we really have two schools in one. So, the students in Duval Homeroom are only able to access half our master schedule and our brick and mortar students can only access the other half. Remember, Duval Homeroom is taught by our JWW teachers live every day. So, priorities in scheduling is to make sure our students get their 4 core classes (Math, Science, Social Studies, and English). To further complicate matters, when scheduling Duval Homeroom, we have to create cohorts of students per grade level that are organized by Gifted and/or level of courses, i.e., Geometry, Algebra, Biology, etc. This leaves only 2 periods to find students their electives, and we are only accessing half the master schedule. One solution for accessing certain courses that are not available, we can assign the student to a Research Class and they would use DVIA Flex (more info to come) and complete the course online. Examples might be high school credited courses such as Algebra 2, Spanish 2, and Chinese 2.

I am only telling you all this because I know students will possibly not be happy with their electives. Chances are the electives we schedule are not the ones the students requested. I can tell you, I have had an opportunity to meet all our teachers, and I believe all our electives are amazing. Hope this brings some clarity and understanding of the complexity of this process. My motto is going to be, "Make the most of every situation". We hope to have schedules completed by end of day Friday. You can check Focus. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Respectfully,

John R. Kniseley II, Principal

You are receiving this email because of your relationship with James Weldon Johnson Middle School. If you wish to stop receiving email updates sent through the Blackboard service, please [unsubscribe](#).

James Weldon Johnson Middle School | 3276 Norman Thagard Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32254 | 904-693-7600