



# Camerado Springs Middle School

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<http://buckeyeusd.org/csms>

## CSMS Parent & Student Welcome Letter

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! First and foremost, we hope each of you and your families are healthy and safe. Our current reality makes everything we do as parents and educators extremely difficult and complex. While I know things have not been easy, we will get through this together. We look forward to starting the school year and although we wish conditions were better, maintaining your child's safety is our first concern. Even though we will start the year with distance learning, we are fully committed to ensuring your student is provided with a high-quality learning experience, and that they are offered the support they need for their emotional well-being. Your continued engagement will also be important in their education. So, we will continue to provide you with regular communications.

The emergency situation we faced in the spring was all very shocking and new to everyone. We don't anticipate the same scenario for the fall. While our staff stepped up to challenge, our operations, services and instructional model will look and feel very different. In preparation for the new year, and being uncertain about the health conditions, we created and will continue to refine educational plans for better teaching throughout the school and increased supports for students. Enhancements you will notice this fall will include:

- Regularly scheduled instructional time for students with their teachers during school hours, including daily live sessions.
- Teacher training and development, which has been happening and will continue throughout the year.
- Increased opportunities for small group tutoring support.

At Camerado Springs we believe, "A connected kid is a successful kid." We will be looking for as many ways to keep students connected to school, their peers, and connected to learning. Our path forward and out of this pandemic will be a rough road to navigate. Know that you don't have to do it alone. We are here for you and we have support and resources that we can offer you and your family. We know that many of you are juggling several things right now, and we want to work together with each and every family to help reduce anxiety, make learning more consistent in your household and provide you with the support you need. By working together, our hope is that we can get to the point where we can safely bring our students back to school.

The **first day of school has changed to Monday, August 17th**. Our theme this year is "Discover Your Inner Superhero" and throughout the year we will be referring to quotes from all sorts of superheroes to gather insight on how to make middle school the best experience possible. For example, Batman once said, "It's not who we are underneath, but what we do that defines us." At Camerado Springs we encourage all our students to "be encouraging, be connected, and be you."

During this first month of school, it is important routines are established to support your child in completing his/her school work and getting help when necessary. We encourage you to contact your child's teachers if you have questions and to check the weekly bulletins, which will be emailed home and available on our website. We also encourage you to look at the Camerado Springs website at <https://buckeyeusd.org/csms> on a regular basis. We will be continuing the use of our

student information system, eSchool Plus, that allows parents access to student grades online. The parent portal can be found via our school website or by going to <https://buchomeaccess.spihost.com>.

Prior to the start of school, we will host WOW (Welcome Our Wildcats) Day, to take care of a number of items, including picking up class schedules, checking out textbooks, and checking out a Chromebook, if needed. **WOW Day is scheduled for Friday, August 7th, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM.** You may come anytime between these hours. Please plan on approximately 30 minutes to get your schedule and books. Students should wear appropriate face coverings and plan on keeping 6 feet apart from others while on campus.

1. Students should start at Room 16 near the flagpole. They will get their class schedule, planner, first day packet, and classroom workbooks.
2. Students will take their schedule to the library to pick up their textbooks.
3. Finally, students can pick up a Chromebook (if desired) from room 7. If checking out a Chromebook, a checkout form will need to be filled out and signed. Forms will be available in room 7.

If you cannot make it to Camerado Springs on Friday, August 7th, for WOW Day, you may come by the office any day after between the hours of 7:30 AM and 3:00 PM the following week. We will make sure you receive all the items that were distributed on WOW Day.

Incoming 7th graders who have not provided proof of vaccination (Tdap and MMR) can do so on WOW Day in the office. We are requesting parents return the first day packet materials and emergency cards anytime during the first week of instruction. We will have a drop off box located outside the office.

If your student has an overdue textbook or library book from last year, please have your son/daughter bring it to the library on WOW Day. We appreciate your help returning the previous year's books.

We are also asking that parents consider volunteering their time at Camerado Springs. We are looking for parents to serve on our school and district committees. We need 3-5 parents to serve on our site council, 2 parents to serve on our district LCAP Committee, 2 parents to serve on our district Budget Committee, and 2 parents to serve on our district Wellness Committee. If interested, please email Mr. Shupe at [dshupe@buckeyeusd.org](mailto:dshupe@buckeyeusd.org). Please sign up for any and all positions for which you are interested. We are anxious to work with you!

Camerado Springs will be on a block schedule for the 2020-2021 school year. We explored this model to limit student movement on campus and to reduce student/student and staff/student contact. In addition, we knew if we were to go to distance learning at any point, the block schedule would work well with distance learning. Please see the following breakdown of how the instructional program will work at CSMS this year:

- The CSMS block schedule is set up for students to attend three academic classes per day for a 90-minute block. Mondays and Thursdays students will attend their first three classes and Tuesdays and Fridays their last three classes. Wednesdays students will attend all 6 classes each for 40 minutes.
- In those 90-minute blocks (and 40-minute blocks on Wednesdays) your child's teachers will incorporate synchronous learning opportunities and asynchronous learning opportunities.
  - Synchronous Learning - Students and teachers online together for instruction, discussion, collaboration, presentations, and break out rooms for small group instruction.
  - Asynchronous Learning - Students completing work on their own, and at their own pace. This may include watching a video, reading articles, written work, projects, etc.

- Typical Weekly schedule for a CSMS student.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AR Period 8:00 - 8:30 AM	AR Period 8:00 - 8:30 AM	No AR Period 40 min blocks	AR Period 8:00 - 8:30 AM	AR Period 8:00 - 8:30 AM
Block 1 8:30-10:00 AM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)	Block 4 8:30-10:00 AM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)	Block 1 - 8:00 - 8:40 AM	Block 1 8:30-10:00 AM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)	Block 4 8:30-10:00 AM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)
Block 2 10:15-11:45 AM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)	Block 5 10:15-11:45 AM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)	Block 2 - 8:45 - 9:25 AM	Block 2 10:15-11:45 AM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)	Block 5 10:15-11:45 AM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)
Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Block 3 - 9:30 - 10:10 AM	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
Block 3 12:30-2:00 PM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)	Block 6 12:30-2:00 PM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)	Block 4 - 10:15 - 10:55 AM	Block 3 12:30-2:00 PM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)	Block 6 12:30-2:00 PM (40 min. synchronous and 50 min. asynchronous)
		Lunch Break		
		Block 5 - 11:45 - 12:25 PM		
		Block 6 - 12:30 - 1:10 AM		

- Students with zero period PE will meet during AR Time M, T, Th, and F.
- Spanish and Art/Design/Leadership will be on two week long rotations.

**Please be sure to note on your calendar that our Virtual Back To School Night will be held on Wednesday, August 19th, from 6:00-7:00 PM.** Teachers will share information or a pre-recorded video with information related to their class prior. They will then make themselves available for questions on the 19th through Zoom. Specific links to join will be emailed out by your child's teacher.

We hope this information will make the beginning of the school year a little easier. With everyone working together, this will be an exceptional year for students, parents, and staff. Again, if you have any questions, please feel free to call the school office.

Sincerely,

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Melinda Spooner, Assistant Principal  
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The Camerado Springs  
Staff

