

# Jaguar News



**A. MACEO WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

HOME OF THE MIGHTY JAGUARS

DR. T. BRITTENUM, PRINCIPAL  
MRS. PATRICIA HERVEY, ASST. PRINCIPAL

MRS. LESLIE BANKS, ASST. PRINCIPAL  
MR. ROBERT WASHINGTON, ASST. PRINCIPAL

Volume 1, Issue 2

September 2020

**LET'S GET DIGITAL!**  
QUICK GUIDE TO SUPPORT YOUR STUDENT'S 2020-21 VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

SCS is expanding learning possibilities by providing 95,000 students with a personal device to support virtual instruction in 2020-21. The digital device plan aligns with our commitment to student equity and 21st century learning to prepare students for college and careers.

**RESPONSIBILITY**

- Families are responsible for the proper care and maintenance of their SCS device(s), as outlined in the Student-Parent Handbook.
- Families are responsible for the reasonable cost of repair or replacement of lost, stolen or damaged devices.

**DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP**

We will be teaching students about the responsible use of computers and the Internet, focusing on protecting themselves, protecting others and protecting content:

- Basic online safety, protecting accounts & device care
- Safe practices for social sites, sharing appropriate content & protecting personal info
- Treating others with respect & behaving ethically online
- Effective use of online content & avoiding plagiarism

**DEVICE SAFETY & SECURITY**

Devices will have pre-installed features to ensure the security of content and safe use for students:

- Software to locate/lock devices & delete files when necessary
- Content filtering software to block harmful content online
- Antivirus protection software to prevent malicious viruses

**INTERNET ACCESS**

Internet access is necessary for live virtual instruction and to access various web-based learning platforms at home. Families who meet specific criteria will receive an SCS Internet hotspot:

- Student qualifies as Direct Certified / Economically Disadvantaged
- Student is in grades 1-12
- Student has not already accessed SCS online resources

**QUESTIONS**

**WHO OWNS THE DEVICE?**  
The device is owned by SCS.

**IS THERE A COST?**  
There is no fee for families in 2020-21. The only potential costs would be due to device damage or if the device is lost.

**WILL STUDENTS BE TRAINED TO USE THE DEVICE?**  
Yes. Students will receive continuous training, materials and video instruction on the responsible use of digital devices and platforms, online safety and Digital Citizenship tailored by grade level.

**IF I AM NOT ELIGIBLE FOR AN SCS HOTSPOT, HOW CAN I GET HOME INTERNET ACCESS?**  
You can find several low-cost home internet options at [sck12.org/accessforall](https://sck12.org/accessforall).

**WILL DIGITAL LEARNING REPLACE TEACHER INSTRUCTION?**  
No. Students will continue to receive live daily teacher-led instruction. The devices will expand and enhance learning opportunities and outcomes.

**SUPPORT**

**ACCESS LIVE & ON-DEMAND PARENT TRAINING**  
[SCSK 12.ORG/ACCESSFORALL](https://sck12.org/accessforall)

**CALL FOR TECH SUPPORT**  
M-F, 8 A.M. - 6 P.M.  
(901) 416-5300

**GET FACTS, RESOURCES & MORE:**  
[SCSK12.ORG/ACCESSFORALL](https://sck12.org/accessforall)

## Be Cool..... Attend School

It is very important that you ensure your child attends school daily. Your child misses out on valuable instruction when he or she is not in school. In accordance with SCS Board Policy, excessive student absences will be submitted to the Shelby County Schools Truancy Prevention and Intervention Department. When students are absent more than five times during a grading period, they are considered truant and can be required to show doctor's notes.

### STEPS TO FOLLOW WHEN ABSENT

#### Parent Responsibility

- Parent or guardian must write an excuse indicating the date, days of absence, reason for absence, and include his or her signature.

#### Student Responsibility

- Submit the excuse to his/her homeroom teacher.
- Ask for make-up assignments. Assignments that are not made up could be reflected in academic grades.

A. Maceo Walker Middle School prides itself on having a rigorous curriculum and strong discipline. We do not tolerate misconduct that negatively impacts classroom instruction. Here are some things that students can do to have a successful year.

Dates to Remember:

LABOR DAY (STUDENTS OUT)

Sept. 7

AMW VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE 5:00PM

Sept. 24

**Represent. Every Day.**

ATTENDING SCHOOL DAILY HELPS STUDENTS SCORE BIG. TEACH YOUR CHILDREN TO REPRESENT FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FUTURE, EVERYDAY.

LEARN MORE AT [REPRESENTEVERYDAY.ORG](https://representeveryday.org)

# Jaguar News

## AMWMS'S BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

**Be Respectful!**  
**Be Responsible!**  
**Be Right!**

### Title 1 Parent Info

A. Maceo Walker Middle School is a Title I School. As a parent of a student attending A. Maceo Walker Middle School, you have a right to know the qualifications of your child's teachers. To access teacher certification information for persons licensed to teach in Tennessee, go to <https://www.k-12.state.tn.us/tcertinf>



### McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act

If your family lives in a shelter, motel, vehicle, campground, on the street, in an abandoned building, trailer, or other inadequate accommodations, then your preschool-aged and school aged children have rights or protections under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act. If you need further information, please call SCS's Division of Federal Programs, Grants, and Compliance @ 416-4189.



### Keepin' Up With Those Books

Parents, please remind your child of his/her responsibility to prevent damage to his/her textbooks. Textbooks should be properly secured in lockers and should never be left in the halls, outside, or in a teacher's classroom. Students should never give anyone their locker combinations and should make sure their lockers are locked after each visit. Following these simple steps will help to minimize lost textbook fines and report card holds at the end of the academic school year. Thank you in advance for your help.

**AMW Open House**  
**September 24th**  
**5:00 p.m. via**

## FALL ATHLETICS UPDATE

Based on scientific data and ongoing consultation with the CDC, Health Department and National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), the 2020 fall sports season is postponed until further notice. Despite collaborative efforts in the District and locally to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus, the risks of exposure for our student athletes, coaches and their families is still too great. That said, if conditions improve and we resume in-person learning this fall, families will be given an option to return to play.

### KEY FACTS

- Fall practices and competitions are postponed until further notice.
- Sports conditioning may continue with approved safety protocols in place.
- Showcases and combines are being planned for junior and senior athletes interested in playing college sports.
- Workshops are being planned to assist student athletes and families with proactive recruiting efforts.
- If conditions improve and we return to in-person learning this fall, families will be given an option to allow their student athletes to participate.
- No decisions have been made regarding Winter or Spring sports seasons.

### SHOWCASE ACTIVITIES FOR JUNIORS & SENIORS

Our Athletics and Student Support teams are working closely with coaches and community partners to coordinate athletic showcases and experiences that will give juniors and seniors opportunities to display their talents for local and national college scouts.

- Multiple local and regional events this fall for interested student athletes
- Exposure to local and national coaches and scouts
- Academic recruiting seminars for players
- Safety protocols in place for all events
- No cost for students
- More info to be shared by coaches

## Parents' Corner

### Partnering with A. Maceo Walker Middle School for Your Child's Success

As a parent of an A. Maceo Walker Middle School student, we need your help in creating an environment where your child can grow academically and enjoy learning. To do this, we are asking our parents to take the following pledge:

#### Because I want my child to achieve, I will encourage him/her by doing the following:

- Make sure that my child comes to school regularly and logged on virtually by 7:55am.
- Support the disciplinary policies of the school.
- Maintain contact with my child's teachers and remain aware of what he/she is learning.
- Monitor my child's progress and encourage his/her efforts by providing support with specific study times/places.
- Make sure my child has appropriate materials at school/home that are necessary for learning.
- Regularly communicate with my child concerning information sent home or made available for my consideration/response.
- Support my child's learning by visiting his/her classroom, by participating as a school volunteer and by participating in various school organizations.
- Set good examples of learning and social skills that promote positive interactions with all school personnel.
- Develop a supportive partnership with the school.

