

# South Whidbey Parent Partnership (SWAP)

OVERVIEW AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING

AUGUST 26, 2020



# Introductions

- ▶ Susie Richards – SWES K-4 Principal and
- ▶ Jeff Fankhauser – SWES 5-6 Principal
- ▶ Kristin Codda – SWES K teacher / SWAP lead teacher
- ▶ Please type a quick hello in the chat from your family!

# What is SWAP?

- ▶ SWAP is a pilot distance learning model for enrolled South Whidbey School District families. It provides an option for families who wish to have the guidance, support and resources of the South Whidbey School District, but want to take a more active role in their child's education, with less dependence on online computer-based learning experiences.

# Co-Creating



- ▶ SWAP is a new program for our school district and our families that we will be co-creating together
- ▶ The strength of the program will rest with the relationships that are developed between the family, child and mentor teacher.
- ▶ Entering these relationships with hope, trust and commitment will assure a meaningful experience for all

# Requirements to Assure the Viability of the SWAP Program

- ▶ As a Washington State Public School, there are a number of requirements that families must commit to and meet to participate in the SWAP program. These include:
- ▶ Regular and consistent engagement in the learning program established between the mentor teacher and family.
- ▶ Consistent weekly check in
- ▶ Monthly progress meetings between families and mentor teacher – and consistent growth, engagement being shown through sharing of work, meeting competencies and goals. So, each month, the learning plan from the previous month will be reviewed – and new monthly learning plan will be developed.

# What if the Program is not a Good Fit?

- ▶ We will ask that all families commit to their program plan (SWAP or regular distance learning model) through October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- ▶ At that time, parents and teachers will discuss if the program is working – and if a change in program should occur.
- ▶ If a SWAP or regular distance learning family is not demonstrating engagement, the principal will schedule a meeting to discuss best next steps. After that meeting, we will determine if the family should explore other options.

# Good Fit – Contd.

- ▶ We will continue to look monthly at how the program is working from the perspective of the family, mentor teacher and administration.
- ▶ If no engagement or progress is being shown, administration will have the option of implementing a move out of the SWAP program to a regular distance learning program.
- ▶ The family at that point would have the option of remaining in the regular distance program or making a move to another school based program or withdrawing from the district.

# What are the Program Goals and Vision of the SWAP Program?

- ▶ The vision of the SWAP program is to support families in taking a lead in their child's education in partnership with South Whidbey School District and SWAP mentor teachers.



# The Goals of the SWAP Program are:

- ▶ To provide teacher guidance, learning and curriculum resources, subscriptions, and supports to enrolled SWAP families.
- ▶ To build connections between families who are seeking new learning models, our public schools and the larger community.
- ▶ To provide guidance for a child's educational path to maintain high quality education.
- ▶ To provide regular parent education with SWAP mentor teachers and community child development and learning experts.

# What is the difference between SWAP and the regular South Whidbey School District Distance learning program?

- ▶ The South Whidbey School District's regular distance learning model is fully led and directed by a district certificated grade level teacher. Teachers will provide the instructional program and students will submit work as directed by the teacher, to meet grade level learning standards and competencies.
- ▶ The SWAP program is a partnership between grade level certificated teachers and parents, with parents taking the lead in delivering curriculum and instruction to their children.

# SWAP v. Regular Distance Learning

- ▶ Teachers will work with participating SWAP parents to design learning experiences that meet grade level learning standards and competencies, but with parents taking the lead in developing and implementing the instruction.
- ▶ Parents and students will make weekly contact with their mentor teacher – this can be via phone, e-mail, sharing work samples, etc... this is a requirement for us for tracking attendance and engagement.
- ▶ Parents, students and certificated teachers will meet monthly to celebrate progress, share work samples, plan for the coming month and confirm that the child is demonstrating growth and working towards meeting standards and competencies.

# Logistics and Timelines

- ▶ SWAP Parents will receive an e-mail from their mentor teacher the week of September 1<sup>st</sup> that will outline options (in person or virtual) for the initial meeting. Those meetings will be held 9/4 – 9/11.
- ▶ Those choosing the in person option will meet one-on-one with their mentor teacher outside at school.
- ▶ During that meeting, the learning plan template will be reviewed and discussed – and dates established for when the learning plan will be completed.
- ▶ Families can check out a chromebook for their child – and all district digital curriculum are already loaded on those chromebooks.
- ▶ Some resources and curriculum will be made available to SWAP families. Most of those resources will be digital (subscriptions) for online tools including I-Ready Math and Reading

# More on Curriculum

- ▶ While SWAP families are welcome to use available district curriculum – they are not required to.
- ▶ However, SWAP families are required to show progress towards the standards that are established for each grade level.
- ▶ During the weeks of 9/14 through 9/28, students will be participating in a number of short diagnostic assessments that will establish growth goals. SWAP families will be offered the option to participate in those diagnostics (offered through our I-Ready Math and Reading programs) but will not be required to participate.
- ▶ If a family does plan to use the I-Ready math and reading programs (that are loaded onto our chromebooks) it is recommended that the diagnostic be taken, as it will establish the learning program for the student based on the levels identified in the diagnostic.

# SWAP Mentor Teacher Team

- ▶ Sarah Gillett – K-2 for SWA families enrolled in SWAP program
- ▶ Jean Cravy – 3-6 for SWA families enrolled in the SWAP program
- ▶ Kristin Codda – Kindergarten (and lead SWAP teacher)
- ▶ Sharla Matthews – 1<sup>st</sup> grade
- ▶ Betsy Hofius – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- ▶ Lori O'Brien – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade
- ▶ Nels Bergquist and Caryn Ploof – 4<sup>th</sup> grade
- ▶ Jay Freundlich – 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

# Farm Opportunities

Farm time has been set up for SWAP families to schedule time at the farm in small family groups.

Please reach out to Jay Freundlich at [jfreundlich@sw.wednet.edu](mailto:jfreundlich@sw.wednet.edu) to schedule your time at the farm.

# Community Based Learning Opportunities and Family Resources

A wide range of community businesses, non-profits and organizations are developing programs for children and families to help meet enrichment and socialization needs. Some examples include:

South Whidbey Parks and Recreation

Calyx Learning Center

South Whidbey Community Center

Readiness to Learn



# Family Connection / Education and Support

Beginning in November, we will be hosting optional (virtual) monthly family education meetings - with topics focused on areas of interest of our SWAP families.

More information will be shared about these optional opportunities for connection, relationship building and learning.

Please share with your mentor teachers any ideas you have for these meetings in terms of topics or guest speakers.

# Gratitude!

- ▶ I am grateful for the inspiration, support and guidance that Michelle, Aja and Jake have provided.
- ▶ I am grateful to our superintendent Dr. Jo Moccia for her willingness to support this pilot program and let us co-create it with our families.
- ▶ I am grateful to Kristin Codda and our other SWAP mentor teachers for their willingness, in the midst of so many other teaching obligations, to engage in this critical role for the SWAP program.
- ▶ I am grateful to all of YOU for your trust and willingness to work with us in creating a public school model that I believe will be transformative for our students, community, families and schools.

# QUESTIONS AND WRAP-UP



- ▶ What remaining questions do you have at this time?
- ▶ Thank you – and you will be hearing from your mentor teachers the week of 9/1!