

*March 20, 2020*

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Principal

Johnathan Griffin  
Associate Principal

Dewayne Volentine  
Assistant Principal

Kendra Miles  
Assistant Principal

Cynthia Martinez  
Registrar

Roberta Clark  
PEIMS

Chasity West  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor

Tamara Sims  
9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor

Camille Brening  
11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor

Timothy Schmidt  
Testing Coordinator

Students, Parents and Families,

We are missing you all so very much!! Please know you are all on my minds and hearts as we navigate this uncharted territory! Here are a few things to remember or look for:

- Dr. Wilson is sending out daily communication, sometimes twice a day, to keep you all informed. There is a link for questions, please continue to use this: [info@lifeschools.net](mailto:info@lifeschools.net)
- Students are being directed to the Distance Learning Website: [Distance Learning](#) Please continue to look over this website and look for updates to it. Expectations right now are to look over the site, begin looking at review materials and establish a time to work. No grades or assignments are being collected until we have more time to settle into learning at home.
- We are also asking that all students complete a survey: [Life School Student Self-Report Form](#) Another survey will be coming next week through your 3<sup>rd</sup> period teacher. The teachers will send it all through email and follow up by phone for anyone that does not respond. It will specifically ask about technology needs do complete work at home.
- Breakfast and lunch are available from our Life School Lancaster campus each day. Find more information from this link: [link](#)
- The governor has stated that no school can return until April 3<sup>rd</sup>, but this date can be changed at any point to a later date.
- Continue to practice social distance and practical ways to stay healthy!

Even though we are not together, we can stay connected through email, FB and our website. Videos are posted on our website so you can see us and hear from us. One to two videos will go up each week and can be viewed [here](#). Teachers have/will reach out to help everyone feel connected.

Take care of yourselves, get some exercise, start finding your new normal at home and look to hear from someone at LS daily!!

Missing you all,  
Mrs. Beckman  
Oak Cliff....YOU KNOW!!

Here are two Life Leader attributes we want to focus in on at this time:

1. Critical Thinking: The process of making clear, rational judgements informed by evidence.  
Questions I ask Myself:
  - A. What are my reasons for thinking this way?
  - B. What evidence supports my thinking?
  - C. What emotions do I have that persuade my thinking?
  - D. Do I have enough information to make a sound judgement?
  - E. What are my options?
  - F. What implications will this decision have?
  - G. Am I being rational?
  
2. Problem Solver: A thinker who utilizes available information and resources to achieve a solution to a problem.  
Questions I ask Myself:
  - A. What is the root of the problem?
  - B. How can I help?
  - C. What resources are available to me?
  - D. What resources do I have that I can share with others?
  - E. Who do I know that can help?
  - F. What outcome would be best for all parties involved?

Over the next several weeks as we transition into Distance Learning, think about these attributes and how to use them in your daily activities. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving will be skills that you use the rest of your lives.

We miss you, stay safe, and we will all get through this together!! Lion Pride, Lion Strong!! OAK CLIFF.....YOU KNOW!!!!!!

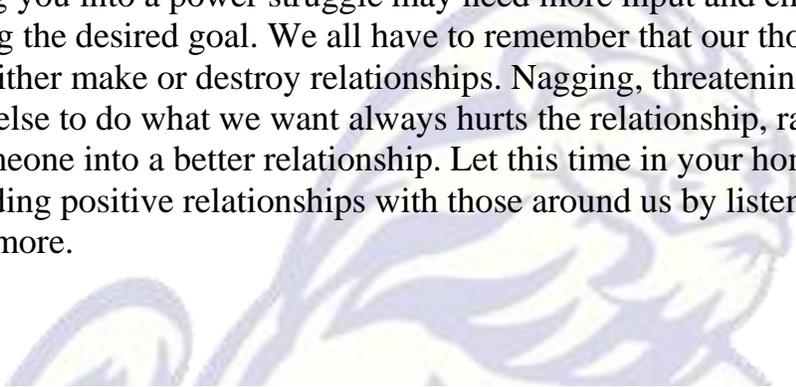
## A word from our counselors:

Counselor's Corner by Ms. Sims

The staff here at Life School hope all is going well with each of you and your families. Please know that not a day goes by that you are not in our thoughts and prayers. I realize that you may have some questions concerning course selections for next school year. Do not worry If you were not able to turn in a course selection/change form to your counselor before the break it will be ok! If you have your form completed and want to send it to us, simply take a picture of the form (front and back if it has one) and email it to me at [tamara.sims@lifeschools.net](mailto:tamara.sims@lifeschools.net). I will make sure your grade-level counselor receives it. If you do not have your form, do not worry, you will have an opportunity when you get your schedule the first of the new school year to request changes. It will all work out and be ok.

Parents, as some of you are struggling to navigate and balance your day-to-day, know that you are not alone and we will be here to support you through this trying time. Putting on my LPC hat, it may be helpful to keep in mind that situations trigger different emotions for different people. All behavior has a purpose and meets a need on some level. Our challenge is to look beyond the behavior being exhibited for the underlying need that is not being met.

For example, a student that is attention seeking or feeling inadequate learning new technology or processes may need some extra encouragement and confidence building. Try to catch them doing something good and praise them for it. A student that is locking you into a power struggle may need more input and choices in accomplishing the desired goal. We all have to remember that our thoughts and choices can either make or destroy relationships. Nagging, threatening, criticizing to get someone else to do what we want always hurts the relationship, rarely do we complain someone into a better relationship. Let this time in your homes be a time to work on building positive relationships with those around us by listening, loving and encouraging more.



Life Middle School Students!

Continue to show Strength and Perseverance during this time. I pray that you and your families are safe and healthy. As of now, I am safe and healthy and I hope to continue to serve each and every one of you. Feel free to email me at Chasity.West@lifeschools.net if you have any questions or concerns. I love each and every one of you and continue to Persevere. 😊

## perseverance how you can help your child

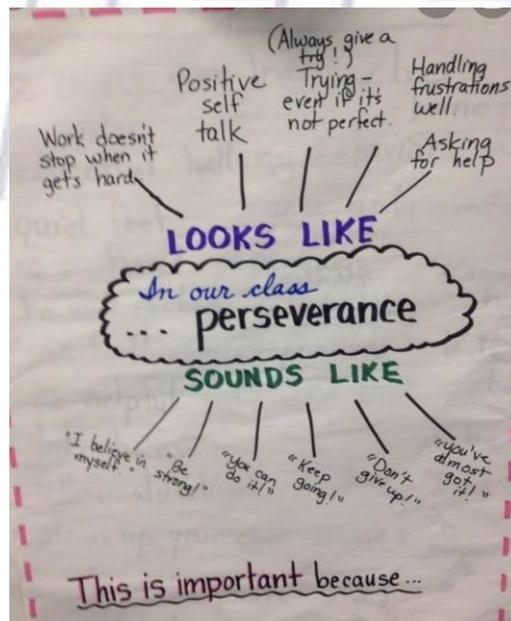
### IF YOUR CHILD STRUGGLES, TRY:

- breaking larger tasks into smaller, more manageable ones (and then show them what they were able to accomplish!)
- ask, "How can I help you?"
- resist the urge to "rescue" or give answers
- take a break and come back to it later

### BOOKS THAT BUILD PERSISTENCE

- Thank You, Mr. Falker by Patricia Polacco
- Fall Down 7 Times, Get Up 8 by Debbie Silver
- Stuck by Oliver Jeffers
- The Most Magnificent Thing by Ashley Spires
- The Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner

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## Distance learning:

Click [here](#) for a short video to help you access our online learning site!

There is a **NEW** link to Edgenuity. Please go to this link: <https://www.edgenuity.com/login/> you will login with your Life School email address for example [name.lastname@lifeschools.org](mailto:name.lastname@lifeschools.org). Many of you have reset your password. If you have not please contact Mrs. Brening at [camille.brening@lifeschools.net](mailto:camille.brening@lifeschools.net). If you need, a test unlocked or need retakes please contact Mrs. Brening as well.

## A word from Athletics:

Parents and students,

At this time we would just like to remind you all that athletes are NOT allowed on campus at any time and all athletic facilities are closed until further notice.

Thank you all for your cooperation. The healthy and safety of our staff, students, and families is always the first priority.

## SUSPENSION OF ALL UIL ACTIVITIES EXTENDED

The UIL is extending its suspension of all UIL sanctioned activities due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in Texas. All contests, practices, rehearsals and workouts will remain suspended until further notice.

At this time, the earliest games and contests may resume is Monday, May 4th. Prior to this date, the UIL will allow its member schools a reasonable acclimatization period for rehearsals and practices to occur. All decisions remain flexible and will be consistent with the advice of local, state and federal officials.



March 19, 2020