

R. L. Norton Elementary School

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J. ALVIN WILBANKS
CEO/SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Families of Gwinnett County Public Schools' Students,

School attendance plays an important role in student success. In addition to correlating strongly with improved grades, it also helps students develop good habits—including responsibility and a good work ethic—that carry over in other aspects of life.

During the first nine weeks of this school year, attendance for digital learners has focused primarily on capturing their presence online on each school day. A student who logged in any time during the hours of 5 a.m. and 10 p.m. during the school day received a “DL” as their attendance code. While this process provided information as to which digital learners were online that day to access lessons and resources, it did not provide details as to which students were online during class time, benefiting from live instruction and interaction with their teachers.

As we transition into the second nine weeks of the school year, Norton Elementary is updating its attendance procedures for digital learners. Starting, Wednesday, October 14, 2020, teachers will take attendance for digital learners who are online during live instruction. Digital learners who are not present during live instruction will be marked with the code “NPD” which stands for “Not Present Digitally.” Students who are present during live instruction will continue to be marked present digitally with the “DL” in their teacher’s gradebook.

The new process is more aligned to our normal attendance procedures and the expectations of in-person students. More importantly, it will help families to better support their students as they can clearly see that their student was online during class and interacting with their teacher and classmates, not just logging on to the computer at some point during the day. This information will help families as they partner with the school to maximize their child(ren)’s school experience.

If you have any questions about this new process for capturing attendance please contact one of our school’s administrators at 770-985-1933.

Sincerely,

Melanie Lee

Melanie Lee, Principal