

CARMEL CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL



COUGARS

8th Grade Cougar Update — 4/30/2021

Teresa Peterson, Assistant Principal

Cougar families,

We have less than one month left of school! Keep up the hard work and finish strong.

Please be sure to sign up for PTSA's **Cougar News**, which has important information on all things happening at Carmel. To sign up [click here](#).

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Important Dates

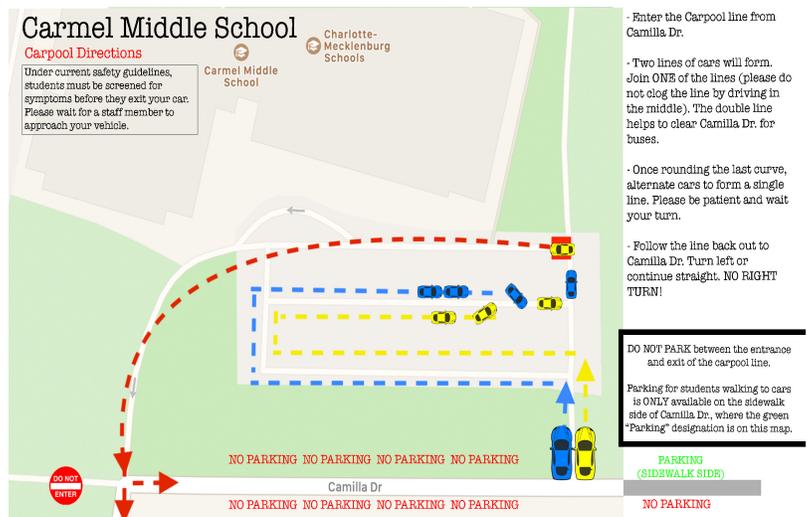
- May 5th Early Release/Math MAP
- May 10th Students come 5 days a week
- May 12th Science EOG
- May 14th Reading EOG
- May 20 Math EOG & Math 1 EOC

Carpool Update

Thank you for your patience with the increase in traffic volume under Plan A. Please take note of Carmel's unique traffic pattern. During afternoon dismissal, we have noticed cars are parking opposite the sidewalk on Camilla Drive, as well as down Lori Lane. Parking in these areas causes students to cross traffic through an unsupervised area to get to their parents. This is not safe for our students. Parking is only permitted on the sidewalk side of Camilla Drive. Please see the carpool graphic.

[School Schedule \(Wednesday Addition\)](#)

Although we will have more students on campus, and at a greater frequency, it is important to understand that safety guidelines have not changed. We will still prioritize student and staff safety within all expected safety protocols, including ensuring students are socially distanced. Carmel will not compromise on those expectations. Carmel Administration has evaluated each classroom's maximum capacity and the number of students in each class now that Group C has been reassigned to Group A or B. There will be no instance where any class size will exceed the number of students that can maintain six feet of social distancing within that space. Additionally, every student group will remain together and be provided a classroom space that can safely accommodate the total number of students within that class.



Additional information regarding the carpooling process and safety protocols.

Curriculum Updates

Language Arts

The 8th grade language arts students are reaching their final destination in *Farewell to Manzanar*. They are completing the final task of writing a literary analysis on a repeated significant idea. Upon completion of this assignment, the learners will move into a horror unit to examine reliable narrator, POV, figurative language, theme, and vocabulary in context. This unit as well as other small practices passages will be used to sharpen the skills in preparation for the EOGs.

Math

Math 8: Next week students will be taking a two part test on rational/irrational numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem. Following their test, students will begin reviewing for the EOG. We will be focusing on a few specific topics that we covered earlier in the year, and then sprinkling in review of the more recent topics through their warm-up.

Assessment: Unit 8 Part 1 Test (rational/irrational numbers): Tuesday May 4
Unit 8 Part 2 Test (Pythagorean Theorem): Friday May 7
Math 8 EOG: Thursday May 20

Math 1: Students will continue to work through our heightened review unit to prepare for the Math 1 EOC on May 20th. During Heightened Review, we are reviewing a different math 1 topic every 2 days to help students prepare for their EOC. Every quiz that students take during Heightened Review will be a formal assessment, so it is important that students take each one seriously. If a student scores below an 80% on their quiz, they should check with their teacher for the re-looping process prior to taking a re-take.

Assessments: Math 1 EOC: Thursday May 20

Math 2: To learn about upcoming Math 2 assessments, please join Ms. Frank's Remind by texting the number 81010 with the message @frankmath2. Assessment and graded assignment dates are also posted on Canvas regularly.

Science

In science classes, we are deep into our Heightened Review for the End of Grade test, which is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12th. That gives us less than two more weeks to get ready and for our kids to show what they know! We've made use of Blooket a lot for our reviews, as it's a way for our students to see a lot of EOG-type questions while having fun competing against their classmates online in a game-style environment. In addition to the fun of Blooket, we have been reviewing our science content, unit by unit, with EOG Prep assignments on Canvas. These assignments are all set to unlimited attempts, so all students have a chance to get a 100% on each of these. If they get a score they're not happy with, they can try again! The goal is to increase understanding, NOT to just "get it done." As always, if you have any questions about science, please email Mr. Mahoney, Ms. Elliott, or Ms. Ploeger directly.

Social Studies

We are wrapping up our study of WWII and the Holocaust in Social Studies. The project for this unit is due on Monday, May 3rd, and Tuesday, May 4th. The directions and rubric have been explained and on Canvas. Our next content focus will be on the Civil Rights Movement. We will examine The Montgomery Bus Boycotts, Freedom Rides, and The Civil Rights Act of 1964 amongst more. Our last and final test this year will be on May 13th and 14th.

News:

End-of-Year Testing

As we approach the end of the school year, we would like to share information with you regarding the expectations for students to participate in end-of-year testing. Unlike spring 2020, all students are expected to take the following state tests:

- End-of-grade tests in Reading, Mathematics (grades 6-8), and Science (grades 8)
- End-of-course tests in NC Math 1

All state and federal assessments are required to be administered in-person, at school. Unfortunately, it is not possible to have students take these assessments at home. Carmel will work to ensure all health and safety protocols are in place. We understand there may be concerns about students who are currently enrolled in the Full Remote Academy coming to school to take an assessment. Please consider the value of having information on your student's learning for this school year, particularly in planning for instruction next year.

As we have all experienced in the past several months, by working together we can make the best decisions for each student. If you have any concerns or needs, please contact Carmel for more information or a discussion on how we can best meet the needs of your student and your family.

Tentative End-of-Year Dates

- 5/10 - Begins in-person learning all five days of the week (no more remote learning Wednesday for in-person students)
- 5/3-5/7 - Spanish I Testing*
- **5/12 - 8th Grade Science EOG**
- **5/14 - Reading EOG**
- 5/17 - Last day to submit Quarter 4 assignments
- **5/20 - Math EOG & Math I EOC***
- **5/24 - Math 7 EOG** (only current 7th graders enrolled in Math I)
- 5/28 - Last Day for Students

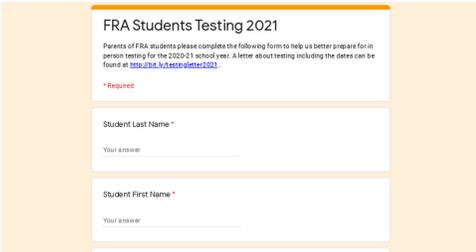
**EOCs will still count for 20% of the student's final grade this year.*

**Students who miss an EOC and the EOC is not made up will be given a 50% for the final exam grade.*

Full Remote Academy Students and EOGs/EOCs

Please review the attached testing letter regarding End of Grade Testing for the 2020-21 school year. CMS encourages all students to report to school to participate in end of grade assessments. We are providing your student the opportunity to participate in required testing this year at Carmel Middle; unfortunately, no state tests can be administered remotely. When students arrive on their designated test days, they will be directed to their Homeroom teacher.

In order to plan for testing numbers, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/VqrW6UxDyZC7m96w9>

	<h3><u>FRA Students Testing 2021</u></h3> <p>Parents of FRA students please complete the following form to help us better prepare for in person testing for the 2020-21 school year. A letter about testing including the dates can be found at http://bit.ly/testingletter2021 .</p> <p>forms.gle</p>
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by April 30th.

Thank You

Thank you for your ongoing support as our partners in learning. Our success would not be possible without your engagement and collaboration in the educational journey our children embark on.

Next Cougar Update: May 14th, 2021

