

# Royal Palm Journal/A Title I School

3050 Indian Street  
Fort Myers, FL 33916  
239.337.3511  
<http://roy.leeschools.net>



## Summer Break!!



Lee County School District

June 2nd, 2020

## Important Dates

May 25th Memorial Day - No School

June 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Early Dismissal Days

June 3rd End of Fourth Quarter & Last Day of School for Students

June 4th Professional Duty Day

June 5th, 8th, & 9th Hurricane Make-Up Days

August 10th First Day of School for Students



## Royal Palm Mission

To work in partnerships with students, family and the community to ensure that each student acquires the knowledge, skills and core values necessary to achieve personal success and enrich the community.



## Mr. Moretti | Principal

Dear parents, we are going through some unprecedented times and we miss our students very much. We understand the struggles you and your children are having with distance learning. Please make sure they are checking into their Google Classrooms and completing the work.

Please stay safe and follow social distancing guidelines.  
We will see you soon!

**Robert Moretti** - Principal Royal Palm School



## Mrs. Wilson Assistant Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian, As the 2019-2020 school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your support over this past school year. It takes a team, and together we made great things happen this past school year for our students! It's amazing to me how quickly time goes by. I would like to wish each of you a safe and happy summer break, and I look forward to continuing to work with you next school year.

**Latoria Wilson**  
Assistant Principal Royal Palm School

A Message from the  
Assistant Principal

# Classroom News

## Elementary



### Ms. Fisher and Ms. Porshae Hawkins Kindergarten & 1st grades

Dear Royal Palm Families, It has been a trying time for everyone! Love life and everyday! I hope all families have a great summer and spend quality time reading with your child! That is what makes memories last a lifetime! I do miss all of you.

### Mrs. Batista and Ms. Fettig 2nd grade

We are continuing to work on our reading skills via distance learning as this year comes to a close. I enjoy making the Zoom videos using the Really Great Reading HD Word and Blast programs and posting them in my Google Classroom for my students to watch and continue to become great readers. I miss my students, and hope they are well and continue to work hard and never stop learning!

### Mrs. Eddy, Ms. Davis, and Ms. Thornton Elementary Life Skills 1st & 2nd grades

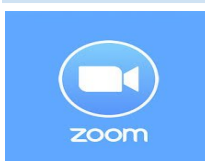
Following Winter Break we continued working on our name identification, birthdate and age identification, daily journal writing, weekly spelling and vocabulary words, counting on and back, identifying less and more, counting to 100 (by 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s), shape identification, and making 10 using two numbers We continued our daily read alouds to learn more about Martin Luther King Jr., Chinese New Year, the 100th Day of School, Winter, Valentine's Day, Black History Month, Dr. Seuss, and St. Patrick's Day. →

### (Cont'd)

We had fun counting up to the 100th Day of School and were excited to count down the last 80 days of school. Unfortunately, we were unable to safely return to school after Spring Break. We continued our read alouds using YouTube videos to learn more about Women's History Month, Easter, Spring, Earth Day, Cinco de Mayo, Mothers' Day, Animals, and Memorial Day. We also continued working on our name identification, birthdate and age identification, daily journal writing, weekly spelling and vocabulary words, identifying missing numbers, shape identification (2D and 3D), skip counting (by 2, 5, and 10), puzzle logic, identifying more and less (by size, group, and number), and place value. Thank you for all your support and patience during these unprecedented times. We have made it through this quarter because of your assistance with our lessons and tasks. Please tell your child that we are all so very proud of them and their hard work, through your guidance. We look forward to seeing you next school year! Have a fantastic summer and stay safe! Thank you for your continued support!

### Ms. Brensinger & Ms. P. Hawkins 1st & 2nd grades

The fourth quarter was definitely one that we never expected nor have we ever experienced before. But, the good news is that we have made it through this difficult time together (even while apart). Students have done a great job with distance learning and continue to work on their academic skills through i-Ready and Compass Learning and have worked on their social/emotional skills through teacher created lessons. Although we haven't gotten to enjoy each other in person, we have enjoyed weekly show and tell visits through Zoom. We hope you all have an enjoyable summer and are well rested and ready for next school year!



# Classroom News

## Elementary

**Ms. Jackson and Ms. Anderson**  
3rd grade

Hooray! We are almost done with this school year. My 3rd grade class has worked very hard through the distance learning process. They jumped right into their new normal, stayed home and learned virtually. They learned to access their Google Classroom and did a great job completing their assignments. Yay! Summertime is here, let's keep on that course; READ, WRITE, and do MATH. I know they will try remembering all that they have learned. Thank you, my wonderful students, for showing that you can do it. Now, stay safe and healthy.

**Mrs. Barnes, Ms. Tindal, & Ms. Hayes**  
3rd grade

Hello All, For the past weeks it's been quite challenging. With all of the changes we've incurred, we welcome summer to relax and have some down time. Learning remotely has been interesting, but quite different from what we are accustomed to. I have enjoyed your comments, communications, enthusiasm and your approach to learning a new way. You stayed the course and I sincerely THANK YOU and PARENTS! It is now time to rest and relax. Enjoy your summer and don't forget to continue practicing your READING, but most importantly please continue to wash your hands regularly, practice safe distancing, and wear a face mask when appropriate.

Summer Reading Tips! ·

<http://www.leegov.com/library/summer-reading-program> · <https://summerreading.net/>

Parenting, Media, and Everything In Between  
15 Online "Camps" Fill Kids' Summer with Learning Adventures ·

<https://www.common sense media.org/blog/15-online-camps-fill-kids-summer-with-learning-adventures>

**Mr. Bechler and Ms. Schley**  
4th grade

This school year has been a real journey, especially after beginning Virtual learning. I would like to encourage parents to read to your child over the summer as well as let them read to you. I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer. Please stay safe too.



**Mr. Brown and Ms. Woodard**  
4th grade

This has been an amazing first year for me as a teacher! I hope everyone had a wonderful year and learned a lot. I recommend that you continue to have your student read either to you or you read to them for 10-15 minutes every day. This can be done in the car or just before bed! To help develop a healthier brain, have your student alternate between a fiction and a non-fiction book after they finish one. I also recommend that your student gets 15 minutes of Prodigy or other learning programs like Gonoodle.com, Starfall.com at least three times a week. Another great online resource is FloridaStudents.org. There are fun "games" available for students of all grades! I can't wait to see everyone next year as they move up to the next grade and hope they have a great summer break!





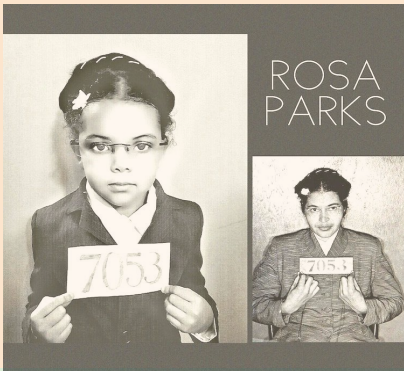
# Classroom News

## Elementary



**Ms. Perl and Ms. Walker**  
**4th grade**

Our third and fourth grade students got a lot of work done this academic year. We are so proud of their accomplishments such as presenting their oral presentations for Black history month and also learning to use special computer programs. They learned how to multiply multi-digit numbers, write complete paragraphs with correct punctuation and also improved in science and social studies. The students did a great job when they participated in the science fair, researched dinosaurs, made fossils and decorated their science booth. We want to thank our students and their families for being so patient with the unexpected virtual teaching during the fourth quarter. We enjoyed Reading Across America. Please read to your children over and have them read to you this summer. We look forward to seeing you at the start of the new academic year at Royal Palm.



$$\begin{array}{r} 345 \\ \times 12 \\ \hline 690 \\ 3450 \\ \hline 4140 \end{array}$$



**Mrs. Richardson and Ms. Lader**  
**5th grade**

This has been a dynamic year! We have learned so much and I am very proud of the response of parents and students to our emergency virtual learning setting.

Our students have learned how to navigate Google Classroom, an online system that they had never used before. They did well!

We were able to continue learning at home and stay safe!

Congratulations to my new 6<sup>th</sup> graders.  
You worked hard and did well this year in 5<sup>th</sup> grade



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# Classroom News

## Secondary

**Mr. Eady and Ms. Farmer**  
3rd, 4th, 5th, & 6th grades

I want to thank all of the parents and students for being able to navigate through these challenging times, both academically and personally. As the summer approaches, the unknown is still present on how we will return next school year. Please be safe and continue practicing social distancing.



**Mr. Murph and Ms. Harris**  
5th & 6th grades

Spring break has come and gone, and it is almost summer break. Just as Spring Break was taking place, we were all hit with a curve-ball. We all had to adapt to a new change on how we do things pretty much overnight. Online learning has given us the opportunity to still be able to learn from a safe environment while helping protect against the coronavirus outbreak, which during this time can be described as an "unparalleled crisis". Even though we have been cautious by not being in the school building, one thing is for sure and that is we are family at Royal Palm! Always keep your head up and tomorrow is another brighter day.



**Mrs. Kiesinger-Morales and Ms. Candelaro**  
6th-8th Math

Greetings Parents and Students! So we have all been living in unprecedented times! With this being said, I have to give a BIG "shout-out" to all my math students and parents! I am so amazed with the joint efforts of both parents/guardians and students in making distant learning work as well as successful. Throughout the 4th quarter there were frequent visits to our Google Classroom, many emails asking for quizzes and tests to be checked, and a lot of completed assigned math work. Ms. C. and myself could not be more proud of our students! If you would like to work on your math skills over the summer break, I highly recommend the online program, Khan Academy. Khan Academy offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empowers learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. I wish you all a well-deserved summer break and I truly look forward to seeing my students back at school during the next school year!



**RP Classroom Newsletter - Secondary**

## Secondary





# Classroom News

## Secondary



slide to power off

**Ms. Kunze and Mr. Buckley**  
**6th-8th Social Studies**

Welcome Summer Break!!! Thank you to all the parents who supported and pushed their student to do their lessons and helped them with their assignments in the last quarter of our school year. It was different and difficult but our students and families did a great job and worked hard to keep up their grades. During the summer break continue to spend a few hours a week with your child discussing current events and encourage them to turn off the electronics for at least an hour a day and read a book, cook a meal together or take a walk. Rest, relax and enjoy the summer break. See you in August!

**Mr. Krachenfels and Ms. Jackson**  
**8th-12th Science**

The High School Science Department at Royal Palm would like to congratulate the students of Royal Palm for successfully completing the 2019 through 2020 school year, especially those students who are graduating this year! We are especially proud of the way these high school and 8th-grade students have been able to quickly adapt to being taught through the district's new distance education classes. These students have consistently achieved high academic scores and have shown excellent attitudes towards school.

Additionally, students have shown an increased potential to succeed during these uncertain times both in as well as out of school and are steadily improving! We are sure this trend will continue into the next school year. While this has been a very troublesome year for all of us given the makeup of today's COVID - 19 pandemics world, the high school science department hopes that this is only temporary and that things will soon return to normal. We also hope that you are well and that you will all have a safe and enjoyable summer vacation.



**Dr. Moore, Ms. Thornton & Miss. Jerger**  
**9th-12th Life Skills**

This certainly has been an unusual quarter. I am pleased to report that the the students in our Life Skills class have been doing remarkably well receiving and completing assignments. Some of the young men have done their work in our Google Classroom and others preferred the assignments to be printed out. Then they send me a photo from their telephones or camera. Either way all methods have worked well. I am also pleased that most of the parents/caregivers have participated.



This summer there will be many opportunities for learning daily living skills. In some ways these are as important as academics.

Grocery shopping, doing chores around the house, cooking, and personal finance rank at the top of the list. Again, be safe and follow the directions of your parents/caregivers.



# Classroom News

## Secondary



**Mr. Weigand and Ms. Robinson**  
**6th-8th Language Arts**

Wow!! Another school year has concluded. While the fourth quarter of this school year was different than usual, Miss Robinson and I are very proud of the way in which students adapted to online instruction. We continued to see progress in essay writing, vocabulary development, self-editing and spelling. Students also utilized Compass Learning and reflected on the importance of taking ownership for their own learning experiences.

With summer break coming up, students can continue to engage in the learning process in different ways. One way is to have them spend 10 minutes per day reading from a book of their choice. A website that offers good reading options for students [www.readacrossamerica.org/kids-summerreading-list](http://www.readacrossamerica.org/kids-summerreading-list).

While doing this reading, they can pick out words they are unfamiliar with and look up their definitions. Students can also practice writing and work on vocabulary development through the following websites: <https://www.journalbuddies.com> and [www.vocabulary.org](http://www.vocabulary.org).

We wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer vacation. We look forward to the opportunity to be back on campus for the start of school in August.



**Ms. Baez and Ms. Briscoe**  
**6th-8th Reading**

Dear Students, Parents, and Families,  
What a year! I want to start by saying THANK YOU to all parents, guardians and students.

Definitely you all were the shining stars during this last quarter. It was a pleasure to work as a team with all of you. Even though it was different, we did it. During the summer break continue to read 20 minutes a day on anything that you choose. Stay safe, relax and enjoy your summer.

**Ms. Brown and Ms. McMillian**  
**6th-8th Science**

As another school year comes to a close, please remember to stay safe, polish your science skills, and have fun during summer break.

There are many activities which will be sent in the google classroom and by email. Crash Course is a YouTube channel that has many videos for science as well as other subjects. Please be looking for the resources in your inbox soon. Best Regards



**SHINING  
STARS**



# Classroom News

## Secondary

**Mr. Jensen, Ms. Robinson, Mr. Delva, Ms. Roberts & Ms. Hernández**  
8th-12th Life Skills

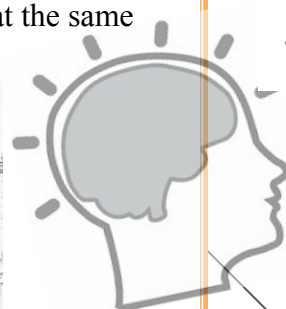
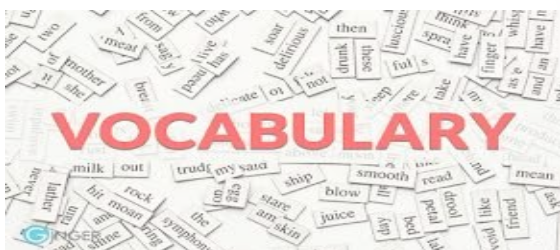
Greetings, the end of another school year is rapidly approaching. Even though we have not been in school I can see that my students, parents, administration, and paraprofessionals have all done a super job during these unprecedented times. To all the parents, I really want to thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to your children's success. Mr. Delva, Mrs. Hernandez, Miss Roberts, and Ms. Robinson have all been instrumental in student success this year and I cannot thank them enough. Hopefully we will see each other at the beginning of the new school year, so until then, stay safe, healthy, and have some fun.

THESE UNPRECEDENTED TIMES

**Ms. Strykiewicz and Mr. Greene**  
8-12 English

Did you ever think about thinking? Most people think, using words in their head. The more words we know, the more things we can think about. Studies also show that, the greater our vocabulary, the faster our brains can work.

You can help expand your child's vocabulary in some fun ways. Exposing them to different tv shows, movies, and music than they normally listen to will bring new words to their ears. Trying new hobbies or activities have their own set of words they use. Taking a virtual field trip to a zoo or museum teaches them about the world around them and also adds more new words. Basically, new experiences tend to bring new vocabulary with them. As students are stuck at home, they can still experience something new and be learning at the same time..



**Ms. Rosier and Ms. Miller**  
Credit Retrieval 8th-12th Reading

**10 Fun Things to do With Kids at Home while Surviving the Covid-19 Pandemic.**

Parents, even though our new normal is different from times past, there are still some fun things that kids can do while surviving the pandemic. Here are 10 fun activities. Additional activities can be found on the [indyschild.com](http://indyschild.com) website. Be sure to try out the many activities with recipes. One of my favorites is the ice cream in a bag.

1. Play indoor hide and seek.
2. Go camping in the living room.
3. Play board games.
4. Plan a family garden.
5. Make your own popsicles.
6. Play "I Spy" inside or out the window.
7. Snuggle on the couch and read your favorite books.
8. Have a family music night.
9. Decorate a T-Shirt.
10. Write letters to family and friends.



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# Classroom News

## Secondary

### Mr. Carr and Ms. Tivis 8th-12th Critical Thinking & Careers

Greetings Royal Palm families. Throughout this last quarter your students have been introduced to a new style of learning during a trying time in our lives. They have adapted well to this new responsibility of working at home and being more accountable for turning in their own work on time. They have done a terrific job keeping up with work and regularly checking in with their teachers.

During this distance learning, the students have learned how soap helps prevent viruses, and about sustainability, societies, and population demographics. This helped connect everything they've been hearing on the news and from their families about what is going on in the world, why this pandemic has spread the way it has, and what we can do to prevent it as well as what we as a society can do to get through this situation.



### Mr. Kovacs and Ms. Blue 8th-12th Math

Hard to believe it's the end of another school year, and boy what an ending it turned out to be! Lucky there is such a thing as virtual learning. For all of you who took virtual classes seriously and did what you needed to do, thank you. It was all new to me too. Hopefully, come August, if it is safe, we will be back in class. Stay safe.

### Ms. Senat, Ms. Jackson, & Mr. Vandeveld 9th-12th Life Skills

Many of us started this year with a list of New Year's resolutions, but none of us expected a worldwide event such as COVID-19. Although we miss our students very much, their safety has always been our highest priority. During this challenging time, we have been working online through Google Classroom and Unique Curriculum. As we close this school year out, parents can read books, go on walks, and continue practicing social distancing with their students. There are links in Google Classroom about mental health, books to read, and other opportunities. As always stay safe and enjoy your summer!



### Ms. Alexandre and Ms. Sneed 8th-12th Social Studies

Hooray!!! It is summer time again. Hello parents, it is really a pleasure to write this note to remind you how happy I am to be your child's teacher and a part of this learning community. Despite all the circumstances with Covid19 which happened right at the end of third quarter, our students have managed to learn a lot throughout the school year about social studies and social issues regarding our community and our country as a whole. In the social studies class, our students have learned a great deal about world history, and what made the world the way it is today, and how cultures evolve over a lifespan.



They have learned about their own culture and the diversity we experience over the years. They also learned about how to appreciate our differences and to treasure our country and our democracy. I can go on and on, but my aim is to remind you as a parent the importance of keeping our students still proactive in learning over the summer. You can select some books that are recommended by the district for the children to read or you can try to reach our Visit public libraries, which offer excellent summer programs for the children. It has been a pleasure to have you trusting me with your child's education and I hope to do this again, for the next coming year.

Have a wonderful summer vacation and try to keep yourselves safe. We hope to see you soon.

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# Classroom News

## Secondary

Ms. Gilmore  
8th-12th Reading

As the school year comes to a close, our minds and hearts are filled to the brim. It's been a great year! It was a great pleasure to have your kiddos in my classroom this year. We have laughed, learned, studied and enriched one another's lives throughout the school year. Your child(ren) should be proud of their progress! Please continue to work with your students this summer: read to them, have them count the change in the change jar, help them to make choices and order when you are out to eat, encourage good social skills with eye contact and slow and clear speech. Our community offers so many learning opportunities and I encourage you to use them. Best wishes to our graduating Seniors, whom I will miss greatly—please come back and visit. Everyone have a safe and happy summer break. Until next school year, here's wishing you love, laughter and learning.



Mr. Ramos and Ms. Howell  
P.E.

This semester went by so fast! In PE, we played a few different games and sports that your students really enjoyed before leaving for Spring Break. We did tug of war and flag tag amongst other games. We also learned about basketball, football and played some dodgeball and freeze tag. We ended the year in a much different situation than any of us ever imagined. We did it through a lot of movement/dance exercise using YouTube videos. Some of your kids learned about different topics through BrainPop. I look forward to what the new school year brings! Have a great summer!

Mr. Stephens  
6-8 Art

As the school year ends, distance learning has provided another way for our Royal Palm artists to shine! Smile at some of our students' work and have a safe Summer!



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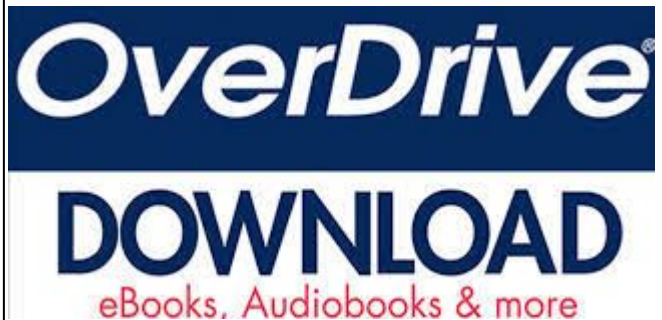
## Mr. Mike Bursztyn Title 1 Parent Involvement and Family Engagement

Much appreciation if you attended one or more of Royal Palm's parent workshops, student activities and events, and/or SAC Meetings throughout the 2019-2020 school year. These included our Open House; Annual Title 1 Meeting; Pastries with Parents; Science Fair; Christmas with Community Partners and Santa; and a number of parent workshops including those by Donna Djerf and Lanna Elrod-Flynn on Increasing Your Child's Achievement. Additional thanks to parents who responded to our paper and on-line surveys as we sought your input in making plans for next year. In addition to Royal Palm administration and staff, a caregiver and student attended Royal Palm's first ever online Zoom SAC Meeting and Parent Workshop on May 14th, and many parents took the time to go online to complete the Title 1 parent input survey.

It is **VERY** important that you are involved in your child's education, and this year's **COVID 19** pandemic required your direct and ongoing support. Your child performs better academically and behaviorally if you regularly communicate with the school staff and attend school events, and my goal and my job is to encourage more parent involvement at Royal Palm. When you hear my voice on a School Messenger telephone call, or receive an email or text from me about an upcoming school and parent activity, please respond and attend some of our workshops and events. I look forward to working with you during the 2020-2021 school year, hopefully face-to-face and not from a distance. But for now, please have a relaxing and safe summer! Thank you.

## Mrs. Meltzer & Ms. Cruzado Reading Coach/Media Specialist

Boy has this been a crazy year! Your child has access to thousands of books online thanks to a collaboration of the school district and the public library through Overdrive. They can log on to this site through [overdrive.leeschools.net](https://overdrive.leeschools.net). Students can sign in using their school login information. Once again the Lee County Library System is offering a summer reading program. Information and registration can be found at <https://www.leegov.com/library/summer-reading-program>. Have a great summer, stay safe and keep reading!



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# Classroom News

**Mrs. Millins**  
**Behavior Specialist**

I can't believe we are coming to the end of the year! I miss all of you so much and I am looking forward to getting back to normal so I can see your faces! In the meantime, I would like for all of you to practice mindfulness. Also, meditation is a great coping strategy to help you find your calm. If you would like to visit my google classroom, I have many links to guided meditation, mindfulness and relaxation videos. Take this time to practice self-care and stay safe!

**Mr. Kleinmann**  
**School Counselor**

Greetings students, parents and guardians. We are in the home-stretch here in Quarter 4. Although I am certain that it has been a difficult last couple of months adjusting to virtual assignments, I urge you to keep up the good work. I hope that you all stay safe and keep on focusing on your goals. May is mental health awareness month and I have posted some useful information on my Google Classroom. Check it out at [classroom.google.com](https://classroom.google.com). Hit the "+" sign and my code is: 55mef5p.



## Out-of-Field Teachers

According to Florida Statute 1012.42, we must notify parents of students who are being taught by out-of-field teachers. A teacher is out-of-field until the coverage/endorsement for a class that he or she is teaching is issued by the state of Florida. In addition, the certification and/or endorsement must appear on his or her teacher certificate. Individuals who are teaching out-of-field are certified in a least one area and are qualified to teach, but are required to take additional coursework or testing to add a coverage/endorsement to their certificate. Please contact the school, 239.337.3511, if you need further clarification. The following teachers have agreed to teach out-of-field while completing coursework and/or testing. Out of Field and Not Highly Qualified (NHQ) Lorna Baez Hernandez—ESOL (Endorsement), Essie Barns—ESOL (Endorsement), Michele Batista—Elementary Education K-6 & ESOL (Endorsement), David Bechler—ESOL (Endorsement), Roderick Eady—ESOL (Endorsement), Gloria Fisher—ESOL (Endorsement), LaToya Gilmore—ESOL (Endorsement), Eric Murph—Elementary Education K-6, ESOL (Endorsement), & ESE K-12, Bethy Senat—ESOL (Endorsement), Karen Strykiewicz—ESOL (Endorsement), and Wendy Wadley—ESOL (Endorsement)

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