

Culture and Climate Updates

10/3/22

Dear Cab High School Families,

Beginning in October, Cab will be implementing the research-based social-emotional learning (SEL) curriculum called Second Step in grades 6-12 in partnership with the Committee for Children, a national leader in the SEL curriculum. Second Step is used widely across the Red Clay school district.

- At the high school level, the Second Step program is designed to empower young people to explore and practice important skills such as communication, self-discipline, interpersonal problem-solving, and self-confidence. These skills help students be resilient and successful in school and life.
- The developers of the Second Step curriculum, Committee for Children have asked our Cab high school students to play a crucial role in the continued development of their SEL for High School Program by providing feedback on what they think of the materials. The developers of Second Step want to make sure that the high school program is relevant and useful for high school students. Students' reflections and feedback will be collected in short, 5-10 minute surveys at the end of lessons.
- Before students will be asked to provide any feedback to the Committee for Children, parents have the opportunity to "opt out" their child from responding to the surveys.
- If you do not want your child to participate in the surveys, please review the "opt-out" consent form [linked here](#) and use the link at the end of the form to complete a digital "opt-out." If you wish to "opt-out" your child, please complete the "opt-out" form by Friday, October 7th.
- Please note that the curriculum will be taught on B5 days during the activity period, so students will not miss instructional time to engage in the Second Step lessons. Additionally, to keep families aware of topics taught in the SEL curriculum, the Dean's Memo will include summaries of the topics covered in each class.

Thank you for your support of your child's social-emotional learning and development. **Second Step helps us stay true to our vision at Cab that students will "demonstrate mastery of academic, artistic, and social skills."**

If you have any questions or would like to have a more in-depth conversation about Second Step. Please reach out to Dr. Downes through email or phone at the numbers below.

Best Regards,

Dr. Dawn Downes

9/8/22:

Hello Cab Families,

The first day of school for 6th and 9th graders is Monday, August 29th! We are so excited to receive your students and welcome them to the new school year. Below is some information about the first day of school.

Please review this with your child so that they know what to expect.

- When middle students arrive at school, they should proceed to the cafeteria. We keep students in the cafeteria so that they are in a safe and supervised area. There will be teachers in the hallway to help direct them.
- When students are released from the cafeteria at 7:15 AM, they are to go to their homeroom class. Homerooms are alphabetical by last name. See the chart below:
- On Monday, students will stay in the homeroom until 9:46 AM. During this time they will rotate between getting pictures taken, picking up their Chromebooks, touring the school, receiving their schedule, and learning about the rotation between A and B days. At 9:50 AM 6th graders will go to the cafeteria to learn about lunch procedures. At 10:23 AM they will have lunch. Note that 10:23-10:53 AM will be the regular time that our middle school has lunch each day. After lunch, students will go to period 1 and move between all of their classes, spending 20 minutes in each classroom.
- Remember that lunch is no longer free at Cab Calloway. Therefore, you must pack your student's lunch, give them money to purchase lunch, or put money in their account. Visit the Red Clay Nutrition website for more information.
- At 2:15 PM, students are dismissed to get on their buses or to meet parents in the parking lot if they are a car rider. If their bus dropped them off in the front, they will return to the front of the building to get on their bus. Likewise, students dropped off at the back of the school should return to the back to get on their bus.
- Regarding buses, both Cab and the Charter School of Wilmington have grades 6 and 9 in attendance on Monday, and we share buses. There will be high school students riding the bus. Prepare your child for this, and if your child is nervous about riding with high school students, encourage them to sit up front close to the driver.
- Students will receive their schedule on Monday during homeroom. There will not be anyone available this weekend to send you your child's schedule if you were not able to pick it up at the Open House last Wednesday.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions. The faculty and staff of Cab Calloway are looking forward to a FANTASTIC 30th year of uniting ARTS and ACADEMICS!

Best regards,

Dr. Dawn Downes

Assistant Dean of Culture and Climate