Below you will find several questions and answers. These are to help keep you informed with the current information as we prepare for the 20-21 school year, which will begin in a virtual setting on September 8, 2020. Please understand that information is continuously changing, as we move through this pandemic. Some of these answers may change in the future as we approach the first day of school. The best method of updated communication, to watch for posting on our social media pages. Twitter site: @Janowski_HISD or our Facebook page @JanowkiElementary.

**When is the meet and greet this year? How will I access this event?**
We will be having a virtual meet and greet this year. We will inform you of the date and time through call out and social media posts. Your child’s homeroom teacher will reach out to you giving the online link and/or instructions for joining the virtual meeting.

**What will my child’s daily schedule look like?**
We are in the process of creating the daily schedule and waiting on details from HISD.

**When will face to face (F2F) learning begin?**
Per HISD, virtual instruction is currently scheduled from September 8th – October 16th. Currently we are scheduled to begin F2F return to school on October 19th. HISD is still working with city officials on the physical return plans and guidelines. The HISD 20-21 school calendar can be located at: https://www.houstonisd.org/_calendars#calendar1/20200728/month

**Who do I contact/inform, if I choose to have my child learn virtually until January 2021?**
HISD is planning to release a survey after the first three weeks of school asking if the family wants to continue in the virtual setting or return to F2F instruction. Janowski may also ask our own families to ensure we have the accurate information of what our community needs.

**I think my child may need to see the school guidance counselor, is this possible? If so, who do I contact?**
You may inform your child’s teacher if you would like the counselor to contact you. You may also email the counselor, Maty Mendez directly at matilde.mendez@houstonisd.org

**Do I still need to purchase school supplies?**
Yes, the supply lists are located on the Janowski Elementary webpage (https://www.houstonisd.org/janowskies). Students will be using some supplies to support with assignments while at home, and may also need other supplies for when we are allowed to return F2F.

**Will my child need textbooks while learning virtual?**
Students will NOT need textbooks for virtual learning. Assignments will be given through the HISD HUB during the virtual setting.

**I want my child to learn virtually AND would like them to have an actual printout of each assignment BUT I don’t have a printer. Is it possible to pickup handouts of my child’s virtual assignments?**
At this time there are no processes announced that would allow us to deliver paper packets. HISD states assignments are to be completed in the district HUB system.
What if my child becomes ill during virtual learning, will they need a doctor’s note to excuse their absence? Will it be required that I drop off the doctor’s note in the main office?

We are still waiting for clarification from HISD on this procedure.

Will the main office be open during virtual learning? If so, what are the hours?
The main office will be opening on August 25, 2020. If you would like to register your child, please call and make an appointment. We are checking our messages; please leave a message and we will return your call in 24 hours. Any future changes will be communicated through the HISD call out system, Janowski’s webpage, and our social media pages.

Do you have any suggestions for setting up a learning space/area for my child to virtually engage?
There are detailed suggestions on the HISD webpage. We suggest the following: create a specific area for students to work at with minimal distractions, develop a schedule that children will follow for structure.

If I need to setup a parent-teacher conference, who should I contact?
If you would like to arrange a virtual teacher conference, inform your child’s homeroom teacher of the request.

Will students be receiving a Janowski Student Agenda?
Yes, the students will receive agendas this year when we return for F2F instruction.

If my child needs extra support, will tutoring be offered? If so, who should I contact?
There will still be small group interventions provided for students. Contact your child’s teacher if you have any questions or want to inquire about additional support.

What if my child is sick? Does that just count as a normal absence?
TEA is requiring ATTENDANCE. Attendance will be checked daily and recorded using the HUB log in records. A student must have worked in the HUB system prior to 2:30 to be counted present for the day. If a student is ill, it’s important to communicate with the teacher. A student can remove an absence if they are able to log into the HUB before 11:59pm that day. If they are not able to log into the HUB, then their absence must be recorded. At this time we are waiting on clarification on how to accept doctor notes to excuse the absence for course credit purposes.

How is my child getting the content they missed last year and the new content for this year?
Teachers will be adding any content from the previous year through various strategies. The most popular method is through mini-lessons before the main daily lesson.

Will there be assessments?
We are required to monitor and record student progress even in the virtual setting. There will be assessments/test at times in the HUB for students to complete.
If my child will need my support when working on assignments (navigating the computer, different websites, etc.) do I have flexibility on when they complete assignments and attend meetings?

Janowski is keeping student learning as priority and will also be flexible in understanding the different family dynamics and situations. We are working hard to develop and have HISD approve schedules that will allow student flexibility for HUB assignments to be completed.

Will students have to wear a uniform when returning F2F?
No, for the 20-21 school year, students will not have a required uniform. However, clothing worn must be elementary appropriate regarding sayings, pictures, size, etc…

Will attendance count this year?
YES. Attendance DOES COUNT beginning the first day of school. This is a Texas TEA requirement, and a is a big change from the Spring semester last year.

Will grades count this year?
YES. This is another big change from the Spring semester. Grades are being required per Texas TEA. The district is requiring a minimum of 2 grades per week, per subject.

Who do I contact if I need a technology device?
If you did NOT complete the HISDTechnology survey, you may contact the school main office when they are open. Teachers will also be contacting their students to inquire about technology needs on August 24, 2020.

Who will I contact if I have problems with using technology.
HISD has established a phone hotline for families with technology issues. Janowski will also be trying to support our families as much as possible with any technology difficulties.

IT Service Desk
ServiceDesk@HoustonISD.org
713-892-7378, 7:30-4:30 M-F

What are the main technology platforms that will be used during virtual school?
This year HISD has identified the main technology platforms as Microsoft TEAMS and the Houston ISD ‘HUB’ system.