

In-person Instruction Reminders

August 21, 2020



From the Desk of Dr. Mary Henderson

Good afternoon,

If the "beep and greets" that have taken place the last two days are any indication, Monday is going to be day filled with joy and excitement! At the same time, I know that many harbor some nervousness and anxiety as we return in-person and remote instruction. Our staff feel the same, as do I. Our staff, despite their worries, have gone to tremendous lengths to get ready for in-person instruction. I'm so proud of them and so lucky to work with them!

This first day of school will not look the same. As you arrive to school, please know that kids will be going directly to their classrooms. First day of school pictures should be taken at home, prior to arriving at school. Our staff is taking an "all hands on deck" approach and there will be adults around, guiding our students to their proper spot. Once you have left your child, please move away from school grounds. **IMPORTANT NOTE: You and your child should put on a mask upon arriving to school property. Our students will be wearing masks during arrival and dismissal because it's possible that students may inadvertently break the six feet of social distancing before they land under the supervision of school staff. We are taking every precaution possible to keep a healthy school community!** Parents who do not abide by this will be asked by staff to put on a mask or to leave school grounds. At the end of the day, students will be exiting school in masks. Your child may remove his/her mask once you have cleared school property or when they have gotten off of the school bus. Your cooperation is expected and much appreciated.

Please be prepared to say a quick good-bye and leave your child with school staff. I know that may be difficult for some parents, but it the best way to ensure that we do not have people milling around within six feet of each other.

School supplies: If they do not all fit in your child's backpack or it is too heavy for him/her, send them over two days. Please make sure that pencils, folders, some notebooks, and crayons come the first day.

The certification sent home during beep and greet is a critical piece to the success of our re-opening plan. It is required that you are checking your child's temperature each morning as well as checking for the symptoms listed. I know that mornings can get rushed and chaotic. I (and our school staff) would much rather that you arrive five minutes late having accurately completed the symptom certification than just signing it without checking. As a community, we need to take collective responsibility for our health and well-being.

When our buildings closed to in-person instruction on March 13, none of us expected that we would not be with our students in classrooms this long. There were also many days and sleepless nights not knowing if we would have this opening on Monday. I encourage you to keep your start of year traditions, to celebrate the wonder and excitement you see in your kids, and see our start as a hopeful sign that we will not be in a pandemic forever.

I remain grateful for your support and am so looking forward to Monday!

Sincerely,
Dr. Mary Henderson
Superintendent