

**Subject:** August Welcome

Parents,

I hope this letter finds you healthy and starting to think about the opening of school. As I am sure most of you now know, the school board approved a reopening plan on Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. We have been working on a host of changes and are now able to start sharing information with you. Earlier today, our main office sent an email with the **type of information to come next week**. It was intended as an alert, not as the actual information or links to make decisions. Please be patient with us as we have only had two days to finalize what this information will look like and will share next week the information you will need from schedules, choices for remote or in person learning, information on bussing etc.

I recognize that this has been an unprecedented 6 months and for many of you has been filled with anxiety, stress, disappoint, and confusion. It has been that way for us too, here in the school. My hope is that we can work together all year long to make this coming year successful. We will need you to view us as allies as we will view you. To that end, I will be writing each week this month to share the bigger perspective on what we have planned, what is new, and how we can help one another juggle what will be a challenging school year for you, your children, and our staff. There will be issues that arise that no one anticipated, new problems that the school has never tried to solve and unique challenges for your children. The best approach we can take is to be transparent when these issues come up and work in partnership to find a solution.

The amount of information that you must process as a parent this month will be much more than normal. Please take your time to be sure you understand the options and new procedures. Please reach out to ask questions, but I am asking that you treat our front office staff with kindness and patience. We know this is stressful and that information has been scarce. We are now able to address many of these questions and are more than happy to do so. Just give us a chance to help you before letting your frustration be directed at the staff. Thank you.

Next week I would like to talk about the goals and changes we are making to address academics, social and emotional learning, and health. In the coming days, I will share with you the steps we are taking to provide safety and how you can help us with these steps. I will share the new opportunities and expectations for students as it relates to how the building will operate. There is a lot to share and I wish we had more time, but the timing of decisions dictated when we could be clear about what will be happening. I hope you understand and recognize that we are sharing as soon as we can. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me directly with concerns, thoughts, or suggestions. Our main office staff is capable of answering nuts and bolts questions, but other items should come to myself, the assistant principals or the guidance director.

Thank you. Enjoy this lovely weather.

Principal Carlson