

August 15, 2016

Dear CES Families,

I hope you have all been enjoying our wonderful summer with your family. This season is such a magical time for children and families.

**The Parent Portal will be open for parents to view student placements on the evening of Tuesday, August 23rd. You should have received a Parent Portal letter at the time of a completed registration with directions and student id.** Also, please update your demographic information when you login.

Everyone here at Center has been busy over the summer preparing for the upcoming year. We have some important dates we'd like you to put on your calendars as we start to plan for the upcoming school year.

- **August 23** – Classroom assignments and Welcome Back Letters with important information will be posted. Please be sure to access the appropriate Welcome Back Letter for your child. It contains important information regarding back to school events.
- **August 30, 2:30-2:45** – New First Grade Student Orientation – *Enter through center main entrance. This is only for parents and students who have never attended Brookfield Public Schools before.*
- **August 30, 2:45-3:15**- First Grade Meet and Greet – *Enter through main entrance near Gymnasium.* Grade one teachers will be available in the courtyard to greet students. Students and their parents are welcome to walk in the first grade hallway to find their classroom, but the classrooms will not be open.
- **August 31** – First day of school for First Grade Students only- full-day (3:25 dismissal)
- **August 31**- Kindergarten Meet and Greet for Students/Parents – Meet and Greet with Teachers in kindergarten classrooms, bus ride and confirm bus information. See schedule in Welcome Letter posted in the Backpack section of the Parent Portal for your assigned time on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- **September 1st**- Kindergarten first day of school – 12:50 dismissal– (12:50 dismissal until September 13<sup>th</sup>)
- **September 6th** – Kindergarten Open House – 6:30 PM – Parents only
- **September 13th** – First Grade Open House – 6:30 PM – Parents only
- **September 13th**- Kindergarten first full day of school
- **September 29th** – Picture Day

We look forward to welcoming all of your children into our school. Please enjoy the end of your summer break. Remember to read to your child every day. I'd like to make a few comments about placement information:

- We engage in an extensive process to place each of our 350+ students. We do our best to set up everyone - students, families, and staff - to have a positive experience in an environment in which they can grow and learn.
- Each child is unique and each student-teacher relationship is equally unique. Information you garner from neighbors, friends and even siblings, will not help you determine whether the match between a particular teacher and your child will be a good fit.
- While the match between a particular teacher and a child feels important, the grouping of students is an equal factor in how a student's year will go.
- Brookfield and Center School are very close knit communities. Please consider carefully posting a message on Facebook or sending an email about your child's placement or experiences with a particular teacher. Remember, many of our staff members and their families are residents in town and attend our schools. Many of them are also exposed to posted electronic messages on the Internet.
- We cannot distribute class lists due to confidentiality laws. At the Open House evenings in September you will have the opportunity to grant give permission for your child's name to be included on a class distribution list.
- Our practice is to not change a student's class. Rather, I encourage parents/guardians to start the year with a positive attitude and allow a reasonable amount of time (at least several weeks) for the teacher and child to get to know each other and begin establishing a relationship. Parent/guardians should talk to the teacher first if they have any concerns so that the teacher can try to address the concerns at the classroom level. If concerns continue, I'll arrange a meeting with the teacher and parents/guardians to discuss the specifics of the concerns and to develop a plan to best support the child in his/her classroom.

Please take the time to complete the "PAWS to Read" sheet (available online, if you cannot find yours), or simply write down the titles of some of the book your student has read or heard over the summer and send them to school in the first week. Every participating student receives a prize and returns to school ready to move ahead.

Bus information will be available on the district and school websites as soon as it is available.

Take care,

Krys Salon

Center School Principal