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# CES News

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September 2022

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## **A Message from Mrs. Moyer, Principal**

Welcome families to the 2022-2023 school year. We are extremely excited to have our students back in the building and I'd like to give a warm welcome to our new students and our Kindergarteners.

First, I'd like to introduce myself to those who are new to CES. I began my career at JBM, then I moved to Clayton Intermediate, and I landed at Clayton Elementary. I was a 6th grade ELA teacher, a reading specialist, an associate principal at CIS, and Principal at CES for the past 3 years. I have lived in Clayton for 22 years. I have three children... Hunter (22 years old), Halie (21 years old), and Cole (17 years old). My oldest two graduated from Smyrna High School and my youngest son is currently a Junior at Smyrna High School. We are proud Smyrna Eagles!

To begin the year, there are a few important things you should know. First, communication is key to a successful partnership between our school and your home. Please make sure your information is up to date so that we can have clear and effective communication. I often use email, phone calls, and text messages to communicate with families.

To ensure that parental concerns or issues are heard by the appropriate individual who can resolve the issue at the point of origin and provide a direct response, we ask that parents follow the School's Communication Tree outlined below. It is the intent to resolve concerns and issues during the earliest steps with the individual(s) directly involved with the concerns.

Step 1) In the event of a concern, a parent should contact the teacher, who is directly involved with the concern or situation.

Step 2) If a parent has completed Step 1 and feels that the issue/concern was not remedied, they should contact the building Principal.

Another form of communication is our Home Access Center. This application gives important information regarding your child such as attendance, current grades, and report cards. If you do not have your log-in information for HAC (Home Access Center), you can contact our secretaries at 302-653-8587.

Join us on the following social media accounts:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ClaytonElementarySchool>

Instagram @clayton\_eagles

School website <https://www.smyrna.k12.de.us/ces>



### **A Note from Mr. Daws, Associate Principal**

Hello CES families, I am Mike Daws, the proud Associate Principal of Clayton Elementary School and I'd like to formally welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year. We are extremely excited to welcome your child(ren) into our classrooms!

For those that do not know me, I have been a proud Smyrna Eagle here at CES for the past 5 years. During this time, I have forged many great relationships with families and students and I eagerly anticipate working closely with you and your family to ensure the utmost success for your child(ren).

As we embark on this new school year together, please remember that an open line of communication is crucial to forging a strong home/school relationship. If for some reason you have a change in how you would like to receive school-based communications, for example your cell phone or email address changes, please contact our front office staff at 302-653-8587. We look forward to a year full of love, laughter, and learning



### **Important Dates in September:**

- 6-19 Joe Corbi's fundraiser benefits PTO
- 13 Professional Development Day – No school for students
- 19 Pediatric Cancer Awareness Week
- 28 PTO mtg 5 pm in cafeteria (all parents are welcome)

### **Important Dates in October:**

- 11 Field Trip to Clayton Firehouse
  - 1<sup>st</sup> grade 9:15 – 10:15 am
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade 10:30 – 11:30 am
  - 4<sup>th</sup> grade 11:45 – 12:45 pm
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade 2:00 – 3:00 pm
- 12 Clayton Firehouse visits our Kindergarten classes – 9:15 am
- 21 Picture Day
- 26 PTO mtg 5 pm in cafeteria

## School Nurse News



### **Karen Jones RN, BSN**

Welcome to another fun filled school year. My role here is to work with you and your child to ensure a smooth, healthy transition from the home/preschool setting to Clayton Elementary. I am here to assist you and your child in any way that I can as your school nurse.

Listed below is some information that should help answer questions you may have regarding the operations of the school nurse's office:

The following are some important policies for the Nurse's Office:

#### **Medication Guidelines:**

- Students are not permitted to carry any medications. All medications must be brought to the nurse's office, in their original containers, by a responsible adult.
- The nurse must be notified of any food allergy or action plans for foods, asthma or seizures as well as provided a copy of their action plan from their medical provider.

**Illness guidelines:** Your student needs to stay home if they have:

- A temperature of 100.0 or higher\*
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- A student who returns to school after an illness must be fever-free for 24 hours without fever reducing medicine, such as Acetaminophen (Tylenol) or Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin). If a student is being treated for a contagious illness i.e. strep, they should be on antibiotics for 24 hours prior to returning to school.
- Itchy, red eyes with discolored discharge or crust upon waking
- Severe Asthma flare-ups that make it difficult to work in school

#### **Consider keeping your child home if they have:**

- Headache, cough, sore throat or congestion severe enough to interfere with attention to school work.
- Child is too weak or too tired to take part in normal school activities.

If there are any updates to your students' medical records please send a copy to the nurse so that their records remain current.

Please notify me of any changes to your contact information that could affect the immediate care or treatment of your child while at school.

Hearing and Vision screening will begin soon after school starts for all kindergarteners, second, and fourth graders. A referral will be sent home with the student if they do not pass the screening.

Kindergarten and First Grade, it proves to be beneficial to keep a change of clothes in your child's backpack or cubby for unexpected emergencies.

I promise to give your student(s) the quality care they deserve. I look forward to establishing a relationship with you and your child. If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to call me at 302-653-3147 or email [karen.jones@smyrna.k12.de.us](mailto:karen.jones@smyrna.k12.de.us).

I look forward to a great year!!



**Sarah Yatskevich, School Counselor**

Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year Clayton Eagles

My name is Sarah Yatskevich, also known by the kids as Ms. Y. This is my second year as the school counselor here at Clayton Elementary. I am really looking forward to creating and building relationships with our students and their families. Over the last ten years, I have been a school counselor in the state of Delaware and I am looking forward to continuing as the counselor here at Clayton Elementary. Each month, I will go to all classrooms to present a guidance lesson that focuses on the social and emotional development of students. Some topics include active listening, cooperation, compassion and empathy, career exploration, self-esteem, and more. I will also begin topic focused small groups in October that will be 6-8 sessions long depending on the group focus. Students can be referred for group by teachers, administrators, and/or parents/guardians. Previous group topics have included social skills, making and keeping friends, school readiness, study skills, and anxiety. I also see kids on a one-on-one basis for check-ins and when needs arise. If a student has a need that goes beyond the scope of what I can do here at school, I can refer students and their families to outside agencies. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out via phone at 302-653-8587 or via email at [sarah.yatskevich@smyrna.k12.de.us](mailto:sarah.yatskevich@smyrna.k12.de.us) I look forward to partnering with you and your students to build meaningful relationships that will carry forward in the years to come.



## CES Reminders, procedures, and expectations

### Birthdays

- Store bought food items ONLY can be brought into the school for your child's birthday. No balloons or gift bags please! Students can eat treats, but there will not be individual birthday parties.

## Lunches

- Visitors will be able to come to Special Occasion lunches only due to spacing and timing. Invitations will be sent home for these occasions.
- Packed lunches should be from home only. Please do not drop off fast food lunches for your child such as McDonalds.

## Holidays and parties

- Holidays and parties may occur throughout the year. These events will be teacher invitation only and may be limited due to spacing.

## Absences

- A parent note or doctor note is REQUIRED after your child's absence.
- 10 parent notes per year are accepted as EXCUSED absences.
- After 10 unexcused absences, a mandatory meeting will be held and a plan will be put in place.
- 3 consecutive absences will require a doctor's note excusal.

## Change in transportation

- If there is any change in transportation, the request MUST be put in writing prior to 2:00 p.m. otherwise there is no guarantee the change can be made. Requests can be sent to school with your child or you can send an email to the front office (not the teacher) at [whitney.hitchens@smyrna.k12.de.us](mailto:whitney.hitchens@smyrna.k12.de.us) or [brenda.darrell@smyrna.k12.de.us](mailto:brenda.darrell@smyrna.k12.de.us)

## Coats/Jackets/Lunchboxes/Personal items

- Please write your child's name on all personal items. Each year the lost and found items become overwhelming and unclaimed, which leads to a large donation of unclaimed items.

## Bus Lane

- Absolutely NO CARS should enter the bus lane if there is a bus present. Even if there is only 1 bus, we still must maintain the safety of our children and we cannot have vehicles moving through the bus lane.

## Code of Conduct

- The student code of conduct for the Smyrna School District is located on our website <https://www.smyrna.k12.de.us/Page/897>

## Home Access Center

- You can access your child's current grades, report cards, and attendance through our Home Access Center. Please contact our front office if you do not have a username and password.

## 1:1 Distribution

- All students will receive a chromebook, charger, and case upon receiving the signed Chromebook agreement.

## Communication Tree for student concerns

- To ensure that parental concerns or issues are heard by the appropriate individual who can resolve the issue at the point of origin and provide a direct response, we ask that parents follow the School's Communication Tree outlined below. It is the intent to resolve concerns and issues during the earliest steps with the individual(s) directly involved with the concerns.
  - Step 1) In the event of a concern, a parent should contact the teacher, who is directly involved with the concern or situation.

- Step 2) If a parent has completed Step 1 and feels that the issue/concern was not remedied, they should contact the building Principal
- Please know that when a complaint or concern is shared by a parent with administration regarding an employee, the concern must be shared with that employee.