

Dear MacGowan Families,

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and healthy. We are so excited to be starting the 2020/21 school year. While the beginning of the school year will be different, the MacGowan staff are working together to provide your child with an outstanding educational experience. The Board of Education voted on Monday, August 10th to begin the 2020/21 school year with online learning only to keep students and staff safe.

During the next two weeks we will be preparing an online experience for the students. We will be providing each student with a learning kit that will include a variety of school supplies for your child to use during their online learning time. Those families new to the school district will be supplied with an I Pad to use if they don't have their own device. For existing families if you did not receive a device in the spring you will be able to sign out an I Pad. In order to support your child's online learning, prepare a quiet learning space where school supplies and their technology device will be kept.

Our school year will begin on Monday, August 31st. During the day on August 31st, your child's teacher will contact you to make an appointment for you and your child to meet them, pick up school supplies and a packet of forms to be completed. Using Covid safety procedures (masks, social distancing and screening) your child's teacher will obtain some information about your child to help them prepare instruction to meet their individual needs. These appointments will be held either September 1, 2 or 3rd. On September 3rd each teacher will hold a short Zoom meeting to have the whole class meet for the first time. The regular school schedule will start September 8th.

Communication between school and home will be extremely important during this online learning time. We will communicate with you via-email, phone and Remind 101 so it is especially important that we have current information entered in our records. An emergency card was mailed to you that needs to be completed and brought to your appointment. Directions on how to sign up for Remind 101 were mailed to you. Remind 101 allows us to send a brief texts to you with important updates without disturbing you with robo calls. Please make sure you sign up to receive these notifications.

We are looking forward to meeting, educating and getting to know your students this school year! We have a great virtual plan for your child to start the year and hope that we can resume face to face learning soon.

Sincerely Yours,

Kathleen A Robbins

MacGowan Elementary School Principal