

Dear Cherry Park Community,

8-21-18

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! I have been so fortunate to work with spectacular students, involved families, and dedicated staff for the past eight years at Cherry Park. I hope you've enjoyed the beautiful weather, had fun with your family and took some time to relax. I've had a busy summer of travel which included a trip to Singapore and Indonesia. It was an incredible experience that I will never forget. Now, I am ready to hop into an amazing school year with the students and families that mean so much to me.

We have great news! Our achievement levels in reading and in math continue to have the top assessment scores in the district and exceed all state averages, at every grade level, in every subject. IMPRESSIVE! The entire Cherry Park staff is looking forward to another school year of continued academic and social growth. One huge contributor is the effort that families make to get their children to school consistently. Our overall attendance rate for the 2017-18 year was 95%. Thank you!

At Cherry Park our motto is "Everyone Growing". Our students' progress has skyrocketed due to our designated systems for math and reading. We review data every six weeks to make sure our students are on track. If we find a child is not making adequate growth we alter programs, schedules and teaching strategies. We have a deeply committed staff who are continually learning best practices to meet our students' needs. We also have very involved parents that are engaged in their child's educational experience. What a winning combination!

Our students will continue to be challenged with rigorous reading and mathematics instructional programs that are directly aligned with Common Core. We have a new math and writing curriculum this year so we will be busy learning. We believe that the student who knows that his/her parents/guardians are interested in and supportive of the instructional program will also enjoy greater academic and overall developmental success. We value the principle that open communication among parents, students, and teachers is the key in promoting successful schools. We are pleased to have you as partners and want to assure you that we will do our best to help your child experience academic, social, and emotional growth. With your help, this will be an excellent school year.

SCHOOL HOURS:

- 9:10 AM-3:30 PM (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)
- 10:10 AM- 3:30 PM (Wednesday)

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays:

- BREAKFAST SERVICES: 8:40-9:00
- MORNING RECESS: 8:45-9:00
- BUS ARRIVAL: 8:45
- CLASSROOMS OPEN: 9:00
- TARDY BELL: 9:10
- DISMISSAL: 3:30

Wednesdays:

- BREAKFAST SERVICES: 9:40-10:00
- MORNING RECESS: 9:45-10:00
- BUS ARRIVAL: 9:45
- CLASSROOMS OPEN: 10:00
- TARDY BELL: 10:10
- DISMISSAL: 3:30

*****NO PRESCHOOL ON WEDNESDAYS**

OPEN HOUSE: Please join us on **Thursday, August 30th from 5:30-7:30 PM for our Open House.** You will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher, meet the Cherry Park staff, see your child's classroom, learn about the curriculum and expectations, and tour the school. We will also be serving a cool treat out on the playground. **Don't forget to bring your \$20.00 supply fee. We now take cash, checks and credit cards.**

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: **Tuesday, September 4th** will be our first day for preschool and first- fifth grade. **Doors will open at 8:45 and class will start at 9:10.** Kindergarten students will either come September 4th, 5th or 6th (just one of these days). All kindergarten students will attend on Friday, September 7th. Please see your kindergarten letter for specifics.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: We have a community supply program at Cherry Park. **This means that students do not bring their own supplies. Each student contributes \$20.00.** Kindergarten contributes an additional \$15.00 for snack. You may pay this fee at Open House, the first week of school or have your student give the money to the office. **We accept check, cash or credit card.** Please make sure that your child brings a regular sized backpack to school every day.

KINDERGARTEN SCHEDULE: Our kindergarten students have a different schedule the first week of school. This will give us a great opportunity to build relationships with our newest students in a smaller environment. We encourage you to bring your child to school on the first day. Your child only comes **once** either Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday the first week. **Everyone comes on Friday, September 7th.** The schedule is as follows:

- **Tuesday (September 4th):)-** Please send your child today if their **last name** begins with A-I. School day: 9:10 – 3:30
- **Wednesday (September 5th)-** Please send your child today if their **last name** begins with J-R. School day: 10:10 – 3:30
- **Thursday (September 6th)-** Please send your child today if their **last name** begins with S-Z. School day: 9:10 – 3:30
- **Friday (September 7th)-** All students attend

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH: This year lunch prices will be as follows: Paid-\$2.85, Reduced-\$.40, Milk-\$.50, and breakfast will be provided **free** to all students. Breakfast begins at 8:40. Applications for free and reduced lunch will be in the first day packet. **If you are a new student to Cherry Park (even if you are a kindergarten or preschool student of an existing family) you must pay for lunch or bring a lunch until your application is approved.**

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING TEAM (PLT) WEDNESDAYS: Our schools will continue to open one hour late every Wednesday this school year. This schedule change will happen every Wednesday for all of our schools. Teachers will use this one hour of extra time every week to plan and implement school improvements. Increasing academic achievement for every student will be the focus of these planning periods. School starts at 10:10 AM and breakfast will be served from 9:40-10:00 AM.

SUN PROGRAM: We are excited to offer SUN (School Uniting Neighborhoods). We are looking forward to school enrichment classes, synchronized community resources and enhanced family engagement in our school. More information on our Fall after school sessions will be coming home in the next couple of weeks.

I am looking forward to another great year. I am proud to work in such a special school with outstanding staff members, great families, and wonderful students. I look forward to re-connecting with our returning families and students and I would like to welcome our families new to the area. I feel extremely privileged to be a part of the Cherry Park community and to work with a staff that is dedicated to a quality education for children.

Warmly,

☺ Kate Barker

