

YOUR TEACHER FOR THIS YEAR:

8/26/21

Dear Cherry Park Community,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! I am incredibly honored and excited to be the new Cherry Park principal. For the past eight years, I have developed a deep love, respect, and commitment to our Cherry Park community. The opportunity to lead our school community is a dream come true for me. I am extremely excited to welcome back all of our students this fall. My excitement also comes with worry and uncertainty. There is no ignoring the current situation of Covid and how heavily it is impacting and affecting all of our lives. The past year has brought an unprecedented amount of trauma to our community. I anticipate that we will need to remain flexible this year with the understanding that we may need to pivot our instructional model at any given time. We remain committed to our students and community and will do everything we can to help every student reach their full potential.

As many of you know, our motto at Cherry Park is “Everyone is Growing” and I want to assure you that we will do our best to help your child experience great gains academically, socially, and emotionally. Following the state’s guidance we are prioritizing care and connection as we come back together. September 7th -10th will be the kick off to Care and Connection. This is an opportunity for staff, students and families to foster care, connection, community, and to create a healthy foundation for the school year. We have identified a schoolwide staggered start as the best way to cultivate this opportunity. Our learners will be split based on household. Tuesday September 7th, Wednesday September 8th (*There will not be a late start Wednesday, September 8th*), or Thursday September 9th. These will be typical school days, 9:00am to 3:30pm. School buses will run as usual and lunch will be served. This staggered schedule will provide teachers the opportunity to set a strong foundation for the year. Friday September 10th, all students will attend school.

We will do all that we can to address the collective trauma we have experienced and provide adequate support to every student in order to ensure success. The past year, we relied heavily on your partnership in your child's education and we are so grateful for that gift. We are always open to suggestions on how best to fit the needs of your child and pride ourselves on having an “open door” policy so please feel free to reach out during the year.

I truly believe that the more connected a child (and family) is to their school the greater they will achieve. Another crucial element to our success is that we believe that ALL our students are capable of high achievement and, therefore, we have extremely high academic and behavioral expectations. Another contributor is the effort that families make to get their children to school consistently. We appreciate your commitment. Overall we make an excellent team!

Below are a few important informational items to get you started for the year. More information will be sent home on the first day of school in a folder. There are lots of things to fill out and read so please make an effort to go through this folder thoroughly and send back any required forms.

OPEN HOUSE: We will be having a virtual open house this year in order to provide the safest opportunity for our families and staff to connect. Your child's classroom teacher will connect with you prior to the open house to discuss details.

FIRST WEEK SCHEDULE: (ALL STUDENTS) Your child(ren) will only come once the first three days of school. They will come either Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. Everyone comes on Friday, September 10thth. The schedule is as follows:

- Doors will open at 8:45 and class will start at 9:10.
- Tuesday (September 7th): - Please send your child today if their last name begins with A-I. School day: 9:10 – 3:30
- Wednesday (September 8th)- Please send your child today if their last name begins with J-R. School day: 9:10 – 3:30 (**NO LATE START**)
- Thursday (September 9th)- Please send your child today if their last name begins with S-Z. School day: 9:10 – 3:30
- **If you have children whose last names vary you may choose which day works best, please communicate this with the classroom teacher. **
- Friday (September 10th) -All students attend

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:

- SCHOOL OPENS: 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:

- SCHOOL OPENS: 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**

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: We have a community supply program at Cherry Park. This means that students do not bring their own supplies. Supply fees have been waived this year. Our school district will provide supplies this year. Kindergarten contributes \$15.00 for a daily snack. You may pay this fee the first week of school or have your student give the money to the office. We accept checks, cash or credit cards. Please make sure that your child brings a regular-sized backpack to school every day.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH: We will have free breakfast and lunch for all students this year. There is no form to be completed. We are still working on our delivery model and will have more information soon.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING TEAM (PLT) WEDNESDAYS: Our school will continue to open one hour late every Wednesday this school year starting Wednesday, September 15th. This schedule change will happen every Wednesday for all of our schools. School starts at 10:10 AM and the building will open at 9:40am.

NEW STAFF: I am excited to announce that we have quite a few new staff members at Cherry Park. Please help me welcome these amazing educators to our team.

- Kathleen Lower - Student Behavior Specialist
- Blaise Hammer - School Counselor
- Emily Ingalls - 5th Grade Teacher with Stephanie Myhre
- Preschool Teacher - Zong Maua
- Preschool Teacher - Mrs. Sarah Adams
- Megan Cavanaugh - Library Media Assistant
- Jeff Boone - Technology/Computer Lab Assistant
- Calissa Newcomb - Kindergarten Assistant with Staci Reed
- Reed Bertran- Instructional Assistant
- Kristina Catt - Learning Specialist Assistant

I am very excited to welcome everyone back. I am proud to work in such a special school with outstanding staff members, great families, and wonderful students. I look forward to reconnecting 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 ALL children.

Sincerely,

Matt Soule