

# Update #5

## Water bottles:

Please send a reusable water bottle that is filled with your child each day.

## Milk Program:

Due to COVID, the milk program is being cancelled this year. Ms. Diggs will be working on providing reimbursement cheques over the coming weeks. Please be patient as this takes time.

## Breakfast Program:

As of right now, the breakfast program will start up in early October. Once again this year we will be doing a delivery service to each classroom before the school day begins. The difference this year is that students will NOT be permitted to go to the bin throughout the day to snack on items. Items will be delivered to each student in the morning by the teacher and if a student requests an additional item throughout the day they will need to ask their teacher or another staff member to have the item brought to them.

We will once again be offering breakfast program 5 days a week this coming year.

## Specialist Classes (Music, Physical Education, and Library)

### **Music**

- The music teacher will go to the classrooms. The music teacher will sanitize her hands each time she enters and exits a classroom.
- Following Public Health Requirements, singing will not be allowed at this time.

### **Physical Education**

- Phys. Ed will be outside as much as possible. Please ensure your child has the proper outside attire.

- If Phys Ed is in the gym, there will be a minimal amount of equipment use.

### **Library**

- The librarian will be coming to the classrooms.

## Student Belongings/School Supplies

- School supply lists can be found on our website.
- The supplies listed are for the whole school year.
- Teachers will reach out to you before the first day of school to let you know what materials they need to bring for the first day/week.
- **Please keep in mind that students will need to bring their belongings back and forth to school each day, so they will need to be able to carry their backpack. This will include indoor sneakers and extra clothes.**
- **Please send reusable water bottle (filled with water from home) every morning.**

## What will Learning Look Like?

- Our initial weeks will focus on building relationships and creating a safe and welcoming class community.
- Instructional time will focus on all curriculum areas. A number of curricular areas will be modified, including Music and Physical Education as already indicated.
- Staff will immediately be responsive to the students and they will receive ongoing feedback to help move their learning forward. We will meet students

where they are – and in the beginning will focus on building community, social emotional learning, and using a restorative practice.

- Students will continue to be supported to learn how to identify how they are feeling and what strategies they can use to help them refocus.
- These are unique times, requiring a lot more traditional teaching practices than the ones we have implemented over the past decades. A lot of our students are used to working in a collaborative setting but that will not be possible this year. Staff will aim to create engaging activities that do not require partners, moving around different stations in class or the sharing of material and equipment. This will be a shift from our previous practices but student and staff safety is our number one priority at this time.
  - Please remind your child(ren) that listening and following directions is very important to our shared health.
- Where possible, classroom windows will remain open for improved air quality. Send your child dressed with a sweater when the fall and winter seasons arrive.
- The gym and library will not be open for their usual purpose.
- All support teachers will come to students' classrooms to teach their respective subjects, following hand hygiene expectations.

## Monitoring for Symptoms

For our shared health:

- Use the COVID-19 Checklist daily before sending your child to school each day.
- Teachers will also be instructed that if a student in their classroom is exhibiting COVID like symptoms to send that child to the office for further screening. In this situation, it will most likely result in a phone call home to get more information.

- If a child does need to be sent home because they are exhibiting COVID like symptoms, they will be masked and wait with a socially distant adult in an isolated room near the office until they are picked up.
- If the school calls for you to pick up your child, **it is expected that they are promptly picked up.** **If we can not reach the first contact we will move on to the second contact.** **Emergency contacts should know be aware that the students will need to be picked up promptly** (p.30 NS Back to School Plan)
- Once the child is picked up, parents are to call 811 and they will guide the family as to next steps.
- Please remember, we are not health professionals, we will do our best to monitor students in the building for symptoms related to COVID-19, and this is something we will need your co-operation with.
- In the meantime, if you child has any conditions, such as seasonal allergies, that may present as COVID like symptoms, please reach out to your child's teacher and administration to let them know.