



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

September 11, 2020

The week tested a few of our procedures, some simply by weather, and again, we sincerely appreciate your patience and cooperation as we monitor and adjust. Keep on reading for highlights, edits and celebrations.

INCLEMENT WEATHER ARRIVAL: A change from previous practice, students will enter the building through their ASSIGNED ARRIVAL DOOR. They will no longer enter via the main entrance UNLESS they are in 1st or 2nd grade or are late. This procedure limits foot traffic, promotes distancing, and supports the placing of umbrellas for use during Sip & Stroll.

SIP & STROLL: I realize that this is an adjustment for all - students & staff. Not an easy decision to make as a building administrator but one that must be enforced, at this time, to do our best to ensure the health and safety of all. Our first few breaks, classes were able to get outside to remove their masks, walk, have a drink and then, as the weather cleared, a request was made to resume snack. I realize that a class or two did eat a snack prior to my clarification. I apologize for this inconsistent implementation of practice. When we make the decision for a Sip & Stroll, *the decision holds for the duration of the school session*. I do this to not only be fair but also to limit disruption to instruction (the need for a second break for snack) and ensure the delivery of special education and related services, world language, learning workshop and core subject content areas. Please be assured that we will continue to monitor health guidelines and recommendations ... but for now, this is our practice.

TECHNOLOGY: Our tech department continues to work tirelessly to ensure that our technology is working and supporting our teachers in the delivery of instruction both live and virtually. This week we received 10 new document cameras (yes, there are more on the way). You will see these devices implemented in our 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade classrooms. There were fewer challenges this week; however, glitches and log on delays may still exist. I think of the parodies about Zoom meetings...and our educational environments are no exception. Our virtual families have done a wonderful job in providing feedback, ensuring that their students are ready to learn and

engaging in the virtual classroom with the same behaviors and respect that they would if they were with us live.

REMINDERS & CALENDAR DATES:

- **Back to School Night** - September 29, 2020. Presentations will all be virtual. We will be posting both general addresses and individual classroom teacher presentations at 6 PM for your viewing. More details will be available in the days ahead.
- **Car Line Reminders**
 - Please pull ALL THE WAY UP to the blue flag if you are the first car in the next que. Other vehicles should pull up behind the car in front of them to keep the line moving and allow for students to get out of the car safely.
 - PLEASE DO NOT STOP and disembark your child in front of their entrance door sidewalk. This delays the entire line behind you.
 - THANK you for your cooperation with mask wearing!! It has been amazing!.
 - You may NOT disembark your car, as the driver or passenger, to assist your child in getting out of the car. This is EXTREMELY dangerous. If your child requires assistance, please park (legally) and walk your child.
 - Thank you for your attention to traffic laws. I am hopeful that this is as a result of our focus, not the presence of a Summit Police Officer at our crosswalk =0). These habits ensure the safety of all.
- **Early dismissal request** - Please continue to limit these requests as your child's attendance is paramount to learning. However, when an early dismissal is unavoidable, you must write a note, requesting their release. This note replaces the former "sign out" book. A physical note is preferred but an email is permitted as long as it is received prior to 8:15 AM.

As the district experienced the first positive COVID-19 case at the middle school, our Franklin School community responded with respect and kindness. We all understand that challenges lie ahead and we have prepared, to the best of our ability with the knowledge and guidelines we have at hand, to address these situations in a safe and responsive manner. It is a partnership and I continue to be grateful for our students and families who show up every day, respecting the guidelines, ensuring students are ready to learn. I am humbled by the dedication, commitment and patience of our faculty who have had to learn, relearn, unlearn and retool their entire teaching practice to support this new school environment. It has been a Herculean lift for them and our Franklin faculty have been tireless in their efforts. I honor the privilege, each and every day, to be in a position to support our willing learners, dedicated families, committed faculty and outstanding staff.

Enjoy the rest of your weekend! j

