



MCPOLIN OFFICE UPDATES

Wednesday, August 11th, 2021

Dear parents and caregivers,

Hard to believe we are less than one full week away from the 1st day of **IN-PERSON** learning for the 2021-22 school year. Undoubtedly, even with the success of last year and all we learned, there are as many questions, concerns, and clarifications as ever before at the start of a school year. With confidence, we can assure everyone this year will be no different than previous years - best year yet. No change in our approach of “Every Student, Every Day, NO EXCUSES”!

Here is our district focus for being **R.E.A.D.Y.** to operate schools while COVID 19 continues to exist in the community:

- **R**.eturn to in-person instruction
- **E**.hanced hygiene protocols
- **A**.nyone with symptoms of illness stays home
- **D**.istancing measures in place to minimize exposure to contagious illness
- **Y**.ES! Additional cleaning, sanitizing and disinfection measures are in place.

So, what does this R.E.A.D.Y. “look like” in our school for our children?

- **Face coverings are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.**
 - The majority of healthy habits including distancing and handwashing will continue.
- **ATTENDANCE** – if you are sick or are demonstrating symptoms, we encourage everyone to stay home.
- **LUNCH** - will be in the cafeteria – students will have assigned seating and additional sanitizing will occur during and after meal service.
- **“Start of Day” routines** - Students can start entering the school at 7:30am for “free” breakfast by entering through the outside doors that lead directly into the cafeteria by our modulars.
 - At 7:45am, all students can enter directly through their classrooms. As last year, we will have a safety and sanitizing protocols as students enter the school.
- **“End of Day” routines** - Starting at 2:55pm, we will have a “staggered” release of students to limit interactions:
 - Grades 3, 4, and 5 will release at 2:55 pm
 - Grades 1, 2 and Kinder’ will release at 3:05pm
- **RECESS** – students will be grouped by grade.

**There are changes in reference to our advertised “OPEN HOUSE” and our “Back-To-School” nights:

- **OPEN HOUSE: Tuesday, 8/17 from 2:00-3:30pm**
 - Face coverings are encouraged. We will have tables for the PTO, PCEF, and other organizations on the playground or in front of the school.
 - Everyone is welcome to enter the building to visit classrooms and teachers. We do ask that we all limit our visits inside the building to allow everyone to safely participate.
- **BACK-TO-SCHOOL – VIRTUAL (Time TBD)**
 - In fact, other than our Open House activity visits to the school will be limited to essential visitors, and until we are given direction to be more open there will be **NO LARGE GROUP ASSEMBLIES OR SCHOOL-WIDE** activities for students and the MPES community.
 - How we enjoy our Fall Festival, Halloween parade, Motivated Moose Assemblies, and so on will be reviewed based on the information we have at those times.

I know that is a lot of information. All of us would have hoped for a different, start to the school year. Regardless, all of us at McPolin are committed to our students, our families, and our community. Our students are counting on us, and as always, we have no intention of letting them down.

As the principal, I will do my best to keep everyone informed with the most recent information. Without a doubt, we will use this moment as an opportunity to learn and grow as a community. All for ONE and ONE for all.

Continue to be safe and well,
Bob Edmiston

Important Dates:

- Tuesday, August 17th – Open House
 - 2:00-3:30pm
- Thursday, August 19th First day of school – YES, we will be in person
- Tuesday, August 31st- Virtual Back to School Night