



September 25, 2020

Tarwater Families,

We had a very good week! We were happy to welcome many more of our students back on campus. It feels like a little bit of normalcy in an abnormal time. Our students did an outstanding job following new procedures and rules this week. We were grateful to have many “big brothers and sisters” back to help their younger siblings with arrival and dismissal.

I would be remiss if I did not mention, once again, the hard work of our teachers. I said it last week, but it is worth repeating, we are focused as a school staff in doing our very best to keep your child’s safety as our number one priority. At the same time, teachers have worked so hard in pivoting once again to the way they deliver instruction, practicing new mitigation strategies, and building a strong classroom community while keeping students in their own “space”. This is no easy task. I am so grateful to our PTO for helping me keep teachers’ spirits high with a stocked teachers’ lounge!

This morning I showed a guest around our campus and her comment was “everyone here seems so happy – the energy is great at this school!” I realize this atmosphere does not happen accidentally. We work intentionally and consistently on creating a positive environment and it takes a whole community to make it feel that way. Thank you for your help in contributing to a great community.

As we head into one more week of an almost-full campus, I would like to remind you of a few things. School starts at 8:20am. Please do your best to be on time. Our staff on duty is limited to only those of us who are not assigned a class, so it is safest for everyone if students arrive before 8:20 while adults are on duty. In addition, all students are required to wear a mask while at school. Please remember to pack an extra for your child in case their first is soiled or lost. Finally, a large sign in your vehicle, if you pick up your child after school, is essential. As you pull into the drive, we look at the sign in your car to call your child from their classroom. This system has worked very well while minimizing large groups of students together. I appreciate your cooperation in our new system.

Have a great weekend and stay safe.

Sincerely,

*Diane Hale*

Diane Hale, Principal