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**To:** jackie.c.earley@gmail.com

WS



August 14, 2020

## Welcome Back!

Dear Westmoor Families-

Welcome Back to the 2020-201 School Year! We've missed you. I'm hoping that all our Westmoor families had a relaxing summer break. I was fortunate to slip away for a visit home to Oregon - with lots of hikes and visits to the ocean.

Staff have been hard at work to make sure that our school is ready to welcome back students with plenty of safety protocols and new procedures in place. For families that are attending the Remote Learning Academy (RLA), our district staff have been participating in a variety of professional developments to ensure that our RLA students have a rich and rigorous experience. Class placements went out today for students. If you did not receive your email with your child's classroom teacher assignment please let us know.

Please mark your calendars for Meet the Teacher on August 21st. This year, Meet the Teacher will be done virtually for both our in-person and RLA students. Look for a schedule from your child's teacher next week to sign up for an appointment via Zoom to meet the teachers and (virtually) see the classroom.

Take care,  
Mary

## School News



Beautiful New Mosaic



New Outdoor Seating



GaGa Pit

Thanks to our generous PTO, we have some new features around Westmoor! The PTO has purchased and installed a new GaGa Pit for our students to utilize during recess once the restrictions due to the pandemic have lifted. The new pit is larger and steadier than the previous GaGa pit.

There are also some beautiful new benches and tables around the blacktop and recess equipment. These new seating options will be great for our students, staff, and families to utilize.

The new mosaic on the front of the building is a gorgeous addition to the facade of the Westmoor. Last spring students and staff created tiles during art class to use on the mosaic. It was a fun two weeks of fun with our artist in residence Sonata Ka.

Thank you again to our incredibly generous Westmoor PTO!

### **REMOTE LEARNING ACADEMY (RLA):**

We had 23% of Westmoor students that elected to attend our Remote Learning Academy (RLA) this fall. Our students in RLA will follow the same curriculum, and work toward the same standards, as our in-person students. We have a talented group of teachers ready to support our students including some Westmoor staff members who have chosen to work remotely this fall.

RLA families K-5 iPad distribution, supply kits, workbooks and other materials will be coordinated through the district office. Please watch for communication coming out for times and dates.

While our RLA students won't physically be in the building with us we will be looking for ways to keep connected this year. Don't forget we have Westmoor spirit days on Friday for all students, families and staff. The PTO will be selling Westmoor spirtwear again this year. Please look for information on the PTO Westmoor webpage and in the PTO section. We are also looking for volunteers for remote learning room parents. The PTO will be reaching out soon to any families that may be interested.

### **SAFETY:**

- All students and staff will be required to wear face coverings, covering their nose and mouth, while inside the building. Parents, please send your child to school wearing a mask with a second, clean mask to put on after lunch. Teachers will ask for 1-2 extra masks to keep in lockers as well.
- All student desks have been placed 6-feet apart. Teachers can interact with students for a few minutes at a time closer than 6 feet (*e.g.*, passing out papers, giving individual feedback on an assignment) and may also use a face shield or plexiglass divider provided by the district.
- All parents must "self-certify" their student's health before the student arrives to school, or boards the school bus every day. This simple self-certification survey will help ensure that everyone is taking part in the collective effort of keeping our students and staff safe. Please self-certify by 7:45 each day for each child. *Our district office staff will share more details about the expectations for this process.*

### **ARRIVAL:**

Students may arrive at school any time between 8:15 a.m. and 8:35 a.m. This year, as soon as they arrive, students will enter the building and walk to their classroom. Children will have choice time at their seats until the school day begins.

- Walkers
  - Kindergarten walkers will enter through the main office (Door A)
  - 1st grade walkers will enter by Cherry Lane (Door B)
  - 2nd-3rd grade walkers will enter by the playground (Door C)
  - 4th-5th grade walkers will enter by the gym (Door D)
- Bus riders
  - Will enter through Cherry Lane (Door B) with the bus supervisor
- Carline
  - If you are driving your child, cars enter the parking lot northbound on Cherry

Lane and drop students off along the sidewalk next to the parking lot. Staff members will be present to greet students.

School begins at 8:35. Any student arriving after the 8:35 bell will need to be signed in at the front office. Please make every effort to ensure that your children are here on time to begin their days. We will give plenty of leeway in the first weeks of school as we all adjust to the new routines.

### **DISMISSAL:**

We will stagger our dismissal this year to help maintain physical distancing.

3:20pm: Students attending KidCare and riding the bus will be picked up from class and escorted to the bus or KidCare.

3:25pm: Walkers will be picked up from classroom and escorted to the playground.

3:30pm: Car riders will remain in their class and dismissed once their names are called.

### **Our kindergarteners and 1st graders who walk or meet parents outside will be dismissed through the back playground doors (Door C).**

Please practice social distancing from others if you are waiting to meet your child(ren) and depart Westmoor as soon as your children exit the building.

Please note, our playgrounds will be roped off this fall to prevent children from playing on equipment during recess times. If you choose for your child to play on the equipment after school, please make sure they are well-supervised.

### **LUNCH:**

- Our goal is for students to eat lunch outside as much as possible. They will not typically be eating in their classrooms and when the weather cooperates, classes will eat outside. In inclement weather, we will make use of the three tents that will be set up on the property.
- Students may go home for lunch as long as a parent or guardian signs a release form with the main office and communicates the plan with the teacher in advance. Please contact Tracy Ferraro if you would like to request a form.
- We are not currently offering PTO pizza days or Marla's Brown Bag lunches.

### **RECESS:**

- Students will have a morning recess and afternoon recess scheduled each day. This will provide a mask break as students can take off masks while outside and more than 6 feet from others.
- Classes will play in specific zones. All students will be given a lanyard (with quick release function) to hold masks around their necks while outside. Using the lanyard is not a requirement.

### **SNACKS:**

- We will incorporate snack time into our outdoor recess schedule. Please send a healthy snack for your child, including fruit and vegetables
- As the number of children with food allergies increases, we strive to make sure that all students are included at Westmoor. To that end, your child's teacher will notify you if there is an allergen that should not be brought into the classroom. (Since we are eating snacks and lunch outside this year, this should be less of an issue!)

## **Parent Guide to In-Person Learning**

[The Parent Guide to In-Person Learning](#) provides a resource of safety protocols and procedures.

In addition, all of the information we have been sharing for reopening school is hosted on our website, on the [Reopening 2020 web page](#).

Watch for a district email with additional information on returning to school this afternoon.

## PTO News and Events

### [Westmoor PTO Back to School Packet - Click Here](#)

This packet contains information about:

- How to Join PTO
- Paperless PTO & School Directory
- Free Will Giving
- Birthday Signs
- School Supplies
- Westmoor Lanyards/Yoga Mats
- Ordering Spiritwear
- Amazon Smile
- DQ Back to School Week



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