

August 20, 2021

Dear ISD Parents/Guardians,

Let me be the first to welcome you to the 21-22 school year. The anticipation is building as the countdown begins to the first day of the new year. It is always an exciting time. I hope you and your children are looking forward to the beginning of a new year in their elementary experience. The school is sparkling and materials are arriving every day. Next week teachers will be returning and will begin preparing and organizing to welcome their important guests. The class lists are accompanying this letter (but you probably already know that)!

The first day of school for all students is Wednesday, September 1st. Unfortunately, we will all be needing to wear masks as we begin the year and only students can enter the school building. Front doors and outside classroom doors will open at 8:30 am for students. Students in grades one and two will enter through the classroom door on the field side of the school (except for Ms. Sciarretta's students who will enter and exit through the front doors as her classroom does not have an exterior door). Students in grades three, four and five will enter through the front doors and proceed upstairs to their classrooms. Students in grades 1-5 are dismissed at 3:15.

Kindergarten students have a slightly later start on the first day only. Their classroom doors will open at 9:30 and they will be greeted by their teacher. Kindergarteners are dismissed a little earlier at the end of the day so parents should plan on being here around 3:05 for pick up.

Orientations - We have scheduled two orientations for certain groups of students. Please see the details below:

1. New students in grades 1-5 and students who were remote all of last year - We would like to invite this group to meet at the picnic tables by the side of the school on Tuesday, August 31st from 10:00 - 10:45. Look for your grade level sign. Mr. Matejek and I will be there, along with members of our PTA Board. Teachers will come to this area to meet their new students and parents and then take students only into the building to show them the classroom and other areas. They will return the students to the area at 10:45.

2. Kindergarten - Students in kindergarten and their parents should meet at the picnic tables by the side of the school on Tuesday, August 31st from 2:00 - 2:45. Look for your teacher's name on the signs. The three kindergarten teachers will come out and meet everyone and then take half of their students into their classrooms for a twenty minute visit and then return and take the other half. Parents will remain outside. This brief visit will give them the opportunity to meet their teacher and see their classroom before the first regular day of school.

Our PTA is an active organization that not only works tirelessly planning activities to benefit our school community but also communicates information regarding a multitude of topics, including

the PTA Council, Board of Education meetings, etc. In order to stay well informed and receive regular communication, please be sure to register at: [isdpta.org](http://isdpta.org)

On behalf of the entire staff, we want to extend our best wishes to everyone for a great year, filled with fun, new learning AND good health. There are new programs for students and teachers to work with, including a new math program for all students. In addition, some students will be using a new phonics program, while others will be using a new handwriting program, and still others will be introduced to a new word study program. Much more information will be shared at a later date regarding these new initiatives.

In the meantime, please enjoy the last waning days of summer, while you slowly begin to adjust from your relaxing August routine to a September, “back to school” routine. This will allow everyone to be prepared to start the new year on the right foot!

Sincerely,  
Teresa Ricci  
ISD Principal