

August 16, 2016

Dear Julian Curtiss Parents:

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year. We are very excited to welcome you all as part of the Julian Curtiss Family. We now have 18 sections in grades K-5, four sections of first grade and two sections of fourth grade, with three sections in each of the remaining grades. We have set very high expectations and made plans to ensure that every student at Julian Curtiss will be successful this school year. Your child's classroom assignment and class list were mailed home today August 16th.

We are very excited about the school year ahead. In hopes to keep you well informed, we will hold **OPEN HOUSE for all parents on Thursday, October 13th at 7 pm**. We have many staff changes this year and will make a point of introducing all of our new staff members that evening. A staff list and an introduction of new staff members are included in this packet for your reference.

We are delighted to have new ceilings/lighting in most of our first floor classrooms and front office.

In addition, the road curbs all around the school property have been replaced and portions of the driveway have been paved.

The Julian Curtiss School works in partnership with our children, their families, and the community to provide a quality education that has high expectations for student success and excellence. **I ask for your support and participation in this effort by sending your child to school on time every day, encouraging your child to read every evening, monitoring your child's homework, and asking your child to share what they have learned at school each day.**

School spirit is important at JC! Our school colors are green and white. **We will continue to display school spirit every Friday by wearing our school colors or JC Spirit Wear! Please wear school colors or JC Spirit Wear starting the first Friday of the school year, September 2nd.**

The school year begins on Thursday September 1, 2016. Weather permitting we will meet as a Julian Curtiss community on the black top next to the playground on the first day of school at 8:00 a.m. The entire staff will be there to meet you and your children. Your child will line up with their classroom teacher, and we will all enter the building together as a learning community to begin our school year. On the first day, parents are welcome to enter the building and walk their child to the classroom.

It is extremely important that students arrive on time! School hours are 8:15 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Classroom teachers will begin their academic day promptly at 8:15 a.m. After the first day of school, we are asking all parents to please allow their children to walk to their classrooms independently. **Cafeteria supervision for early drop off will begin Monday, September 5th**

at 7:30 a.m. The building will not be open until that time; please do not drop off any earlier than 7:30 a.m. During dismissal, bus students will be released to the front circle, car pick-up will be released to the gymnasium side of the building, and all walkers will be released on the black top. During inclement weather, bus students and car pick-up will continue to go to their respective locations but walkers will remain in the classrooms for parent pick-up. A sign in the front of the building will be posted on these days to indicate "Indoor Pick-Up." **All students are dismissed at 2:45 p.m. Students should be picked up on time, as the school cannot provide supervisory services after 2:45 p.m.**

Communication with your child's teacher is essential during the school year. If you wish to speak with your child's teacher, please make an appointment via phone at (203) 869-1896 or email. Email addresses for all school staff follow the same format: Firstname_Lastname@greenwich.k12.ct.us. A staff directory can be found on Julian Curtiss' website.

Please go to the Julian Curtiss School website at www.greenwichschools.org/jcs to access back to school information and required forms. It is imperative that all parents take time to visit the website and read these documents. We recognize that there are numerous documents to be read but they are all important and we are intentionally providing them electronically to keep our efforts green and allow for organization.

Please keep in mind that the first week of school is always a bit hectic at dismissal. We will be taking a bit longer to dismiss because we want to make sure every student is leaving safely with his or her appropriate chaperone. Patience and understanding all year long will help us dismiss all our students safely and successfully. **Morning drop off is strictly Drop and Go.** Traffic is heavy at arrival and dismissal. Please expect traffic congestion at peak hours. **Walking is highly recommended!**

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. The staff and I are looking forward to seeing you on September 1st.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Trish McGuire
Principal