

MES Family Update – August 19, 2021

Good evening MES Families,

We hope that you are doing well and enjoying the last couple of weeks before the start of the school year.

A few things to share with you this week:

*In an effort to reduce crowds and keep Meet & Greet as an in-person activity, we are asking families to follow the time guidance below for Tuesday, August 31.

- Families with last names from A through L - please plan to visit school for Meet & Greet from 8:15 - 8:45 on August 31st
- Families with last names from M through Z - please plan to visit school for Meet & Greet from 8:45 - 9:15 on August 31st

*The *Open House* date has changed to *Wednesday, September 15th from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.* We will look to have a similar structure where we divide the night in order to reduce the number of people in the building at one time. More information to follow as we get closer to the Open House date.

*A reminder that masks will need to be worn when in the building for any of the events through September 30th at this point in time. This would include any events/activities during the day or in the evening.

*At this point in time, we are planning on holding meetings virtually. This would include Team Meetings, 504 Meetings and PPT Meetings.

*We have one more Virtual Story Time scheduled for next Wednesday, August 25th at 6:00 p.m. If you are available to join us, the Zoom link is:

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309917604?pwd=M2FaWHY5bXITQVF0S1MwbFFsYkN6dz09>

*Please see the link below in case you are interested in taking part in the "Virtual House Call for Parents and Families: Return to School Safely During COVID-19. This virtual meeting is being hosted by the Connecticut State Department of Education.

- https://ctserc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CXXBLyeUTCiEzzWjRN3y7g

*The CSDE and CT DPH have released the following information - Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Plan to Lean and Grow Together - Fall 2021 - Updated Guidance for the Use of Mitigation Strategies in CT Schools. You'll also find the information on the MES website in the 2021-2022 Reopening Plans section. One of the key components of the new guidance is the following: "*School districts can allow fully vaccinated teachers to remove their masks during active instruction at the front of the classroom (masks must still be worn at all other times indoors)*".

- <http://21-22 Updated Guidance for the Use of Mitigation Strategies in CT schools>

As always, any questions on anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Have a terrific Friday and a great weekend.

Dan & Kim