

MES Family Update - September 11

Good evening MES families,

We hope that everyone has had a terrific week. It was terrific having all of the kids - and staff - back in the building. We'll continue to work on the kinks, but it's been a very successful week overall.

A few things for you today:

\*The School Lunch Program has extended the free meals program through December 31, 2020. ***Breakfast and lunch will be free to all students beginning on Monday, September 14th.*** Students may of course continue to bring their own lunches. We will still be charging for a la carte items - water, snacks, etc. Snack purchasing is still about another week away as we wait for the arrival of new carts that will make display and distribution easier. We will let you know when snack will be available for purchase.

\*School picture days are scheduled for Tuesday, September 15th and Friday, September 18th. Individual student pictures will take place in the Community Room, with social distancing of students and students and photographers.

\*We are in need of substitute teachers this year - for both our para-educators and our certified teachers. If you are interested, the application can be found on the school website - District - Employment Opportunities.

\*We continue to work on morning drop-off - which is going much smoother - and afternoon pick-up. Afternoon pick-up has improved each day, but the volume of vehicles will still require pick-up to take much longer than it has in the past. In the morning, please watch for buses coming down the school driveway from Route 66. Be sure not to block the driveway as you turn into the Community Room lot.

\*With drop-off in the a.m., please pull up to the corner if there is space. With pick-up in the afternoon, please look to see if staff needs you to pull up in order to load a number of vehicles at a time. We understand that car seats take time to properly secure - safety is our top priority. There is no problem with you getting out of your vehicle if you need to buckle in your child.

\*If you have older students that attend RHAM (or a magnet school), please remind them that the MES basketball court is not available during the MES school day. The court is open for use after school hours (3:30).

\*We are looking to schedule some of our parent/guardian meetings (PPTs, 504 Meetings, Parent-Team Meetings) outside of the school day. We are thinking 7:15 or 3:30 based on parent/guardian and staff availability. There will always be an option for other times, but we are looking to reduce the number of substitutes we'll need to use and reduce the amount of time that teachers need to be out of their classrooms. At this point in time, meetings are still being held virtually.

Have a wonderful weekend - one with lots of smiles.

Dan & Kim