

MES Family Update email - September 17

Good afternoon MES Families,

To start off the school year, this is the delivery method that we will use for our weekly Family Thursday Letter. We will work to get the information posted on the website as well.

A number of things for you today:

*Thanks to everyone for your cooperation and patience around morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. Things are working much more smoothly than they were last week.

*We have extra masks at school for any students who might have forgotten their mask, had their mask break during the school day or wear a mask to school that is not recommended. The CSDE recently provided new "Interim Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings in Schools during COVID-19". The guidance reminds families that ***Exhalation Valve Masks*** are not recommended for school settings. Some families have sent an extra mask to school for their students to keep here in the building.

*A reminder that we began the ***free breakfast and free lunch program*** for all students this week. All students are able to take a Grab & Go Breakfast bag on their way into the building each day. All students are also able to order a free hot lunch each day.

*The CSDE continues to work on making sure that all Connecticut students have access to technology and have connectability at home. The CSDE has asked us to reach out to qualifying families to see if they would need support with connectability at home. Any families that currently qualify for any of the following - National School Lunch Program (NSLP), Housing Assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, TANF, SSI, Medicaid - should reach out to us tonight or tomorrow if they would like to see if they might qualify for connectability assistance.

*Tomorrow - Friday, September 18 - is School Picture Day for Grades 4, 5 & 6. If any students in a younger grade forgot or were absent on Tuesday's Picture Day, please let us know and we can make sure that they get their picture taken tomorrow.

We hope everyone has a terrific Friday and a nice weekend.

Dan & Kim