

August 1, 2018

Dear Parents:

I hope that all of you have had a happy and relaxing summer. The start of the new school year is rapidly upon us, and our faculty and staff are working hard to get ready for the opening days.

We have had a busy and successful summer out on campus: for the first time in several years, we had no major building projects but instead many smaller projects. Some new carpets and flooring have been laid, fresh paint has been applied in many places, computer network upgrades are being undertaken, and additional security measures have been added, including a number of electronic-access doors. These new doors are mainly in areas where Middle School and Upper School students need to move from building to building during their school day. Those students will be given cards which will allow them to open those doors. Preschool and Lower School students will not be affected.

We have a new cafeteria manager, as Chef Josh has taken a new job in another state. This represents a nice upward move for Chef Josh, but we were sorry to lose him after ten years. The FLIK organization, which employed him and which runs our cafeteria program, has brought in some excellent new people, and we expect no drop-off in service or quality. Our new cafeteria managers are Shan Speilberg and Amelia DeAngio, and they are both terrific. Look for some updated information coming out shortly from FLIK.

If you are new to Stratford, please take a moment to familiarize yourself with our traffic/carpool map which is posted on the Back-to-School page on our website. Both our Lower and Middle School Principals, as well as our Preschool Director, have included specific carpool guidelines in their back-to-school information. If everyone follows these guidelines, traffic will run smoothly, and we will be able to dismiss students in a safe and timely manner. Also, please note that Georgia state law now mirrors our on-campus rule: no cell phone use while driving! Thanks for following this rule for the safety of our children.

As you begin your back-to-school shopping, please be reminded that Stratford Academy uses Lands' End as its uniform vendor. The complete Stratford Uniform Code can be found on the Back-to-School page on our website or in our *2018-19 Student-Parent Handbook*. Please be sure to read this document before you make any back to school clothing, footwear, or outerwear purchases. To purchase Stratford uniform items, a personal shopping account must be set up at www.landsend.com. To do this, click on the **SCHOOL** tab and then **FIND YOUR SCHOOL**. Stratford's school number is **900182916**. A profile may be created for

each student with his/her gender and grade level. When shopping for that student, select his or her name after logging in and then only the appropriate clothing choices for that division and gender will be displayed. Discounts and specials offered by Lands' End may be applied to school uniform purchases, but not to logos and monogramming.

We made the move a few years ago to be more environmentally conscious with our use of paper, so this is a scaled-down version of the back-to-school packet we mailed in former years. Enclosed you will find a hard copy of the 2018-19 School Calendar. All other back-to-school information is available on our website. This information may be found under Academics on our website or under Announcements in both the student and parent portals. These portals may be accessed at the top of our homepage at www.stratford.org.

Please enjoy the remainder of your summer, and we will see you soon!

Dr. Robert E. Veto
Head of School