



August 31, 2020

Dear Stratfield Families,

This week the staff are all back and we are preparing the school for our students to join us next Tuesday, September 8th. We are beyond excited to see our students again as it has been a long time since we have heard laughter in the hallways. The beginning of the year will surely bring many adjustments, but staff are ready to pivot and adjust to make sure that all students feel safe and happy as they transition back to the building. Although we will only be joined by those students who are in the Hybrid Model, please know that all of the students who are learning remotely are still an important part of our Stratfield community!!!! Below is some information for the start of the school year.

**Classrooms:** All classrooms are set-up so that each student desk has a 6' circle around it to allow for social distancing. All students and staff will wear masks in the building. Additionally, staff have been provided face shields to work with students 1:1. Several items were removed from classrooms, ie. bookshelves, file cabinets, tables to allow for social distancing among students.

**Lunch:** Students in the AM who will order lunch will pick up their lunch to bring home prior to dismissal. If students are riding the bus, please remind students not to eat on the bus as this presents a safety concern. PM students will arrive and if they have ordered lunch it will be delivered to their classroom. Lunch will take place in the classroom for all PM students.

**Supplies:** Students will not share supplies. Students will have their own bag of supplies for LA, Math, Art, and general supplies. Students/teachers will assemble these bags the 1<sup>st</sup> few days of school.

**Staff Changes:** As you know, we had a few changes at the end of the year due to Mr. Foster's retirement and a few staff members accepting new positions. Please welcome Mr. Adam Welsh,

our new psychologist to the Stratfield staff. As mentioned previously, Adam has worked in both private and public schools previously and is excited to join the Stratfield community. Please also welcome Jeanne Marie Prisciandaro. Jeanne Marie has an abundance of experience as both a speech clinician and a special education teacher. Alyssa Zadrovicz has also accepted a new position as a grade 5 teacher in Stratford. Mrs. Jennifer Tinelli-Biondo will be joining us full-time to fill this .5 position. Please also welcome Mrs. Lisa Jackson to the grade 2 team! Lisa is coming to us from Riverfield School, and we are so delighted that she will be a member our Stratfield community. We will certainly miss Kathleen Flannery, David Foster, Alyssa Zadrovicz, and Alex Richard. We have learned so much from all of these staff members over the years and we wish them well as they head into their new positions.

We have also had some recent changes in two grade levels: Kindergarten and 3rd grade. Due to the number of remote students in these grade levels we needed to reduce the sections to 2 sections of both of these grades. Therefore, Mrs. Elaine Casale and Mrs. Penny Nielsen will be teaching for the Remote Academy of students. For further information on this please see the information sent to all families last Friday by Superintendent Mike Cummings.

**Transportation:**

<b>EXCEPTIONS</b>		
<p><b>NEW REGISTRANTS ADDRESS CHANGES COHORT CHANGES</b></p> <p><b>MADE AFTER 5:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY 8/26</b></p>	<p>Transportation cannot be provided on trial days for any of these changes made after 8/26 at 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Transportation for the first day of school will be in the IC parent portal by Friday 9/4. Changes not reflected by this date will be made as soon as possible thereafter.</p> <p>Please continually monitor the IC parent portal to confirm that a change has been put into effect.</p>
<p><b>ELEMENTARY COHORT A</b></p>	<p>The AM cohort trial day will be held in the PM. For this day only, student pick up times will be 4 hours later than posted in IC.</p>	<p>Follow pick up time posted in IC.</p>

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- Bus routes and bus stop locations may be different than in the past due to the current hybrid schedule.
- We ask for your patience. Transportation is a challenge at the start of a new school year, and those challenges are exponential this year.
- Children should be at their bus stop a minimum of 10 minutes before the posted pick up time. As changes are made for other students, it may impact your child(s) pick up time, but we will strive to minimize the impact.
- Genuine safety concerns should be reported to the Transportation Dept. at 203-255-8274. All other issues should be addressed by emailing [busservice@fairfieldschools.org](mailto:busservice@fairfieldschools.org)

**Arrival/Dismissal: K-5:**

	AM Cohort	PM Cohort
Arrival Time	8:45 – 8:55 AM	12:45 – 12:55 PM
Dismissal Time	11:15 – 11:30 AM	3:15 – 3:30 PM

- If driving your child to school, please use the “Kiss and Go” Lane only for all student drop-offs. We will have many staff assisting and supporting students out of their cars to the appropriate locations. Please do not get out of the car as this will slow down this process.
- Students riding the bus will be unloaded 1 bus at a time and brought to the gym - (grades 2-5) or the cafeteria (K-2) by a staff member. These staff members will be holding signs for all students to see and staff will give extra support to our youngest riders to be sure they feel supported.
- Please do NOT drop students off at the Melville entrance as students will not be able to enter this doorway.
- Walkers: Parents of walkers should walk the students for the 1st few days. Parents should maintain a 6 foot distance from others. We also ask that parents do not linger as social distancing will be difficult with many people in this area.

**Before and After Care:**

As of Friday, August 28th we will only have 1 Before and After Care Program at Stratfield. This program is the SCC - Stratfield Child Care. Unfortunately, **The Kids Club Program** is not able to run due to enrollment. The hours for this program are 7 - 8:45 AM and 3:30 - 6 PM. If you are interested in signing your child up for this please contact Casey Jadach @ [Casey.jadach@eastoncc.com](mailto:Casey.jadach@eastoncc.com).

**AM/PM Times:**

Day/Cohort	Monday - Friday	
AM Cohort	In Person learning 9:00 – 11:30 AM	Remote Learning 12:30 – 3:15
PM Cohort	Remote Learning 9:00 – 11:45	In Person learning 1:00 – 3:30

**Class Assignments:** Class Assignments will be available in IC later today.

Have a great day!!!!

Respectfully,  
Elizabeth McGoey