

October 15, 2021

Dear Riverside Families,

***“Whoever is happy will make others happy too.”~Anne Frank***

**We have a number of things to be happy about here at Riverside.**

**Celebrations:**

- We have learned a great deal about the Hispanic Heritage as we celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month. Did you know:
  - Celia Cruz is one of the most famous Hispanic singers of the 20th century?
  - Hispanic Heritage month is celebrated in two months! It spans from September 15 - October 15.
  - This celebration acknowledges the culture, history and contributions of Hispanic-Americans.
- The week of October 18 is School Violence Awareness Week as designated by the State of New Jersey. Riverside is participating in this event through our theme days:
  - **Monday**-Riversiders Are Upstanders from Head to Toe: Wear your silliest, craziest socks and hats to school.
  - **Tuesday**-Team Up Against Bullying: Wear your favorite team jersey or shirt.
  - **Wednesday**-Show Kindness in a Flash!: Wear your flashiest and brightest colors to school. Mismatching is encouraged!
  - **Thursday**-Solving Problems is No Sweat: Wear your most comfortable sweatshirt and/or sweatpants.
  - **Friday**-Stand Together for Kindness as Riverside: Wear your favorite Riverside clothing.

**Updates:**

- Parent Teacher Conferences are virtual. Classroom teacher Sign-Up Genius for scheduling of conferences will go live on Friday, October 8, 2021, at 3 p.m.
- Riverside will hold its Fall Festival/Halloween parade on Friday, October 29 at 2:15 p.m.
  - It will take place on the Upper Soccer Field next to the tent area.
  - In order to accommodate health and safety guidelines for social distancing, each student may only have two guests in attendance.
  - Students may not leave from the parade with a parent/guardian. Students must be signed out from the Main Office.
  - Please read the following guidelines in place : [Halloween Guidelines](#)

**Reminders:**

- Wednesday, October 20 & Thursday, October 21 are Early Dismissal Days, at 1 p.m. due to Parent Teacher Conferences.
- CrisisGo daily health screening should be completed before 7:50 a.m. daily
- With the cooler weather upon us, please make sure your child has appropriate attire for our daily outdoor experiences i.e. snack, lunch, recess, mask breaks, etc.
- If you are interested in being a Parent Volunteer at Riverside:
  - Please be available for a consistent schedule (once a week is fine, if it is the same time and day of the week)

- Please complete the Parent Volunteer application: Parent
- If you are planning to travel please read the following guidelines : [News Stories Reader - Princeton Public Schools \(princetonk12.org\)](#)
- Bagels with the BOE will be first in-person opportunities to meet with BOE members since the pandemic Bagels with the board will take place on the following dates :

10/22 @ LB 8am-9:30am

10/29 @PMS 8am-9:30am

11/10 @ PHS 3pm (for students)

11/12 @ RS 8am-9:30am

11/19 @ JP 8am-9:30am

12/3 @ CP 8am-9:30am

- As part of our celebration of National Chemistry Week (NCW), the Princeton Section of the American Chemical Society (PACS) is sponsoring the National Chemistry Week (NCW) Illustrated Poem Contest for students in Kindergarten through 12th grades in schools within the Princeton Section. Information about the contest, including the submission process for the poems, can be found on the website at <https://www.princeton-accs.org/national-chemistry-week>.

They will also be hosting a virtual NCW Activities Event on Saturday, October 23 and information can be found at <https://www.princeton-accs.org/events/mpah3vb3w8da8837gi5qzgrlgefmp>.

- We want to hear from you! Join Superintendent Dr. Carol Kelley for a virtual community town hall event. Staff and community members are invited to submit questions in advance.

The District is using four key commitments to create a pathway to excellence for the 2021-2022 school year. Review the commitments below and submit your questions to be answered during the town hall by clicking [THIS LINK](#).

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for the town hall. You will receive a link to access the event.

**COMMITMENT #1:** To support the district and work toward viewing professional learning as less of a thing to do, and more of a culture of who we are. Every educator has job-embedded opportunities every day to innovate and refine their practices.

***Aligned to District Goal:*** *Inspire innovation and experimentation in both teaching and learning*

**COMMITMENT #2:** To provide high-quality educational experiences for all students.

***Aligned to District Goal:*** *Promote equity and access.*

**COMMITMENT #3:** To establish structures and programs that foster positive relationships and an environment where all students and teachers feel a sense of belonging.

***Aligned to District Goal:*** *Promote a culture of care, connectedness, and communication in schools*

**COMMITMENT #4:** To ensure systemic use of data to make continual improvements to the services we provide to our students and staff.

***Aligned to District Goal:*** *Every child known, promote relationships and instruction, that discovers and cultivates the unique gifts, talents, and interests that each student possesses*

We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with you in providing a safe, healthy and engaging educational experience for our children.

Sincerely,

Ebony Lattimer, Principal  
[Homework-free weekend](#)  
[Town Hall](#)