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August 5, 2022

## Message from the Directors

### **Patriot Families,**

We are excited about the news from the school builders and our governing board that our school will be ready for the first day of school on August 30th. This communication provides more specific information regarding the changes sent in our previous email and the logistics of the first day of school.

As stated in the previous email, the delay to start on the 30th will give us the time we need to have the incredible opening we have all been planning. We are so grateful that even though the JH/HS building had been three months behind in construction, thanks to smart scheduling and around-the-clock crews, we were able to narrow it down to only a two-week gap.

### **Calendar Update**

We will utilize a split-day schedule for the first day of school. The hours for drop-off and pick-up are outlined below in our **“Driveline and Traffic Flow”** section. The delayed start date of August 30th will cause only one minor change to the school calendar. **January 17th was originally a teacher workday, but will now be a normal instructional day.**

\*NO CHANGES WILL BE MADE TO THE END DATE OF SCHOOL IN JUNE OR ANY OTHER VACATION OR BREAK\*

## **“Patriot Night” aka Meet the Teacher Night**

We realize that everyone is eager and excited to see our brand new school facility, and we are equally excited to show it off. Therefore, our goal is to host Patriot Night on our campus so that families are able to see our beautiful building before the first day of school. **We have postponed Patriot Night** as late as possible in order to give the greatest chance to be in the school. If we do not have the Certificate of Occupancy by the date of Patriot Night, we will be using the Clayton Center. We will keep you informed of all changes about Patriot Night including dates, times, and locations.

No matter where Patriot Night is held, we will be having an exciting ribbon cutting and grand opening event once the entire building is completed. All families will be invited!

## **Uniforms and Decal Application Pick-up**

- If you dropped apparel off to be heat pressed, we will still have those ready at Patriot Night for pick up.
- We will distribute them based on the last name of the parent on the form.
- If you are not able to attend your assigned Patriot Night but have apparel to pick up, you will be able to come to the other scheduled Patriot Night to pick up your uniforms.
- If Patriot Night has to be held at the Clayton Center, any apparel that are not picked up once all nights are completed will be taken back to school for pick up.
- Uniform apparel pick-up and purchasing will resume at the school starting August 31st.

We are aware of the current uniform issues and appreciate everyone’s patience as the C1 Apparel works to get orders out. Understanding the situation, and that many aspects of the process are out of our control, we plan to give grace to families who may be waiting for polo orders or have been unable to get them because they are out of stock. If you do not have your polos by the first day of school, please have your child wear a solid approved color (red, navy, white, or gray) polo. We ask that you continue to make every effort to get your polos, and we will continue to stay in contact with C1 Apparel to find a solution.

## **Driveline and Traffic Flow**

While August 30th is a unique split-day schedule, in order to **maximize safety and efficiency for all families, everyone will be required to follow our established procedures for drop-off and pick-up.** Please do not plan to walk your child into the building. Our staff will be excited and ready to welcome all students on the first day of school and help them get to the correct classroom. Kindergarten families will receive a separate communication with details specifically for Kindergarten.

**Driveline information for August 30th is as follows:**

- **For K-5:**

- Families will get your carpool numbers and tags at Patriot Night. If you are not able to attend Patriot Night, please make every effort to get your carpool tag before the first day of school. We will be contacting families to get tags if they are not picked up at Patriot Night. To ensure safety for all of our students, you must have your carpool tag visible in your car during the pick-up line on Day 1.
- Drop-off will begin at 7:40 am. **Please do not let your child out of the car until there are staff members on duty to help.**
- We will begin loading students in cars for K-5 afternoon dismissal beginning at 10:50 am.
- Please be mindful on Day 1, that our Grades 6-10 students will be arriving at 11:30 so we will be working diligently to complete the K-5 carpool line by 11:25.
- There will be signs along the carpool route with directions. **Please be attentive and follow the directions.**

- **For 6-12:**

- In order to give adequate time to complete our K-5 dismissal, please do not plan to arrive on campus until 11:30 am. We will not allow students to get out of the car until 11:30. There will be staff members available to help any students that need assistance getting to classrooms.
- We will begin afternoon dismissal at 3:00 pm.
- Grades 6-10 students will not need carpool numbers on the first day of school. Carpool numbers will only be used for grades 6-10 on rainy and inclement weather days. These numbers will be handed out at Patriot Night.
- There will be signs along the carpool route with directions. **Please be attentive and follow the directions.**

**If you have siblings in both buildings,** you may pick your K-5 student up and

drop off your 6-10 student at the same time, but please consider waiting until closer to 11:30 to arrive. This will give families that have students only in the K-5 building time to get in and out of the line. If you are picking up and dropping off siblings from both buildings, when we load your K-5 student during pick up, your 6-10 student will be released from the car to go into our gym while they wait to go to classrooms.

Attached to the bottom of this letter is the map for Driveline flow and additional information about driveline. Please note, all students will be dropped off at the “Lower Building” on Day 1 since the “Upper Building” will not be ready.

Please remember to be patient and kind in these beginning weeks of school, especially on the first day of school. We are all eager and excited and want the best experience for all families, and it will take everyone’s cooperation, patience, and kindness to make that happen. When in doubt, be kind.

### **Other Transportation**

- If you have been contacted about bussing, we will be sending a separate communication to bus families for alternate pick-up and drop-off times for the first day of school.
- If your child will be riding a childcare van to or from school, please fill out this Google form so that we can reach out to those facilities.
- **Childcare Van Transportation Form**

### **Before and After School Care**

- Innovation Learning *will not* provide before and after school care on August 30th. They will begin serving grades K-5 on August 31st. They will not begin serving grades 6-10 until September 12th.

### **K-6 Rosters**

For K-6 students, teachers will begin contacting families on their rosters beginning Friday, August 12 through the next week.

### **Athletics**

- All home games will be rescheduled or switched to away games until we receive permission to use specific buildings.

- Coaches will communicate with athletes about practice dates, times, and locations.
- Weekly event notices will be sent electronically making our Patriot families aware of weekly events, times, and places.
- Grades 9-10 students will not be dressing out for P.E, Dance, or Weights on August 30th. As a reminder, it is not mandatory for students in 7th and 8th grades to dress out for PE, Dance, or Weights during the school year.
- There is a live academic/activity calendar on our ALA Johnston website where current events, dates, and times are posted. [ALA-J School Calendar](#)

### **Food Services**

- ALA Johnston is not providing breakfast during the 2022-2023 school year.
- We will provide a free lunch for all students on the first day of school.
- If your child has specific food needs, please have them bring lunch from home on the first day of school.

### **Attendance**

August 30th starts our first official day of school. We acknowledge that the split schedule on that day could be an inconvenience for some families. However for funding our school, the first 20 days of school and particularly the first day of school, are **vitaly important** for student attendance. Our goal is to have as many of our students as possible present on the first day of school. If at all possible, please do not skip the first day simply because of the inconvenience of the schedule. We have been working diligently to get ready to welcome all of our students on Day 1, and we are excited!

- On this day, Grades 6-10 students will receive important information about the remote learning they will be required to do for the 6 days of virtual learning (August 31; September 1-2; and September 7-9).
- If your student is going to be absent on the first day of school, normal absent procedures will be in place. Refer to the parent/student handbook for absent procedures. Student absences can be communicated either by calling school, a note sent in the take-home folder (K-5), or email to one of the following Registrar's email addresses:
  - Grades K-5: [bsells@alajohnston.org](mailto:bsells@alajohnston.org)

- Grades 6-10: [jennis@alajohnston.org](mailto:jennis@alajohnston.org)
- Phone: (984) 302-3630

### **School Supplies**

If Patriot Night is held at our building, we welcome students and families to bring any donated classroom items with them. If it is held at the Clayton Center, we ask that you do not bring donated classroom supplies to the event. Additionally, if it is held at the Clayton Center, please consider sending any donated supplies in shifts with your student during the first week of school. Please do not send more than your student can carry in from the drop-off line. We appreciate the graciousness of families who are able to help by donating supplies. If you would like to donate supplies please check out the **Supply Lists**.

While we are very grateful for any and all donations, the supplies that students bring for their individual learning will be theirs to use. Some supplies, such as hand sanitizer, tissues, and things of that nature may be used for the whole class. Additionally, the teacher may decide to use any “K-6 Optional Supplies” for whole class use. We will have additional supplies on hand at school if needed.

Once assigned classroom teachers have become public, teachers may request specific needs for individual classrooms or grades.

### **Remote Learning (Virtual)**

In planning for our unique situation, we wanted to minimize the number of days that grades 6-10 students would be doing virtual learning.

On August 30th, it is imperative that all grades 6-10 students attend the afternoon session so direction can be given on how the next two weeks will be implemented.

If families need assistance with devices for the 6 days of virtual learning, please complete this **Device/Equipment Agreement** and have your student bring the completed form to school on August 30th.

*Devices loaned out for remote learning will need to be returned on September 12th, when in-person learning commences.*

## **We are making history!**

Starting a school our size is no small feat. It takes the time, dedication, and heart of so many people. In fact, Charter One is making history by opening the two largest charter schools here in North Carolina (ALA - Johnston and Wake Preparatory Academy)! We know that many of you have been waiting for this to come to fruition for years now, and we are honored and proud to be so close to the big day of opening. Whether you have been waiting years or have just recently joined us, we cannot wait to see you in the coming weeks. Please continue to reach out to us if you have any questions.

Here's to a great year!

**Ray Turley**

**Campus Director, Grades 6-10 Director**

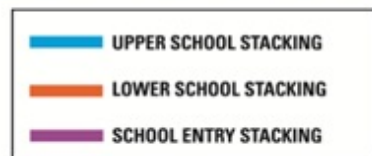
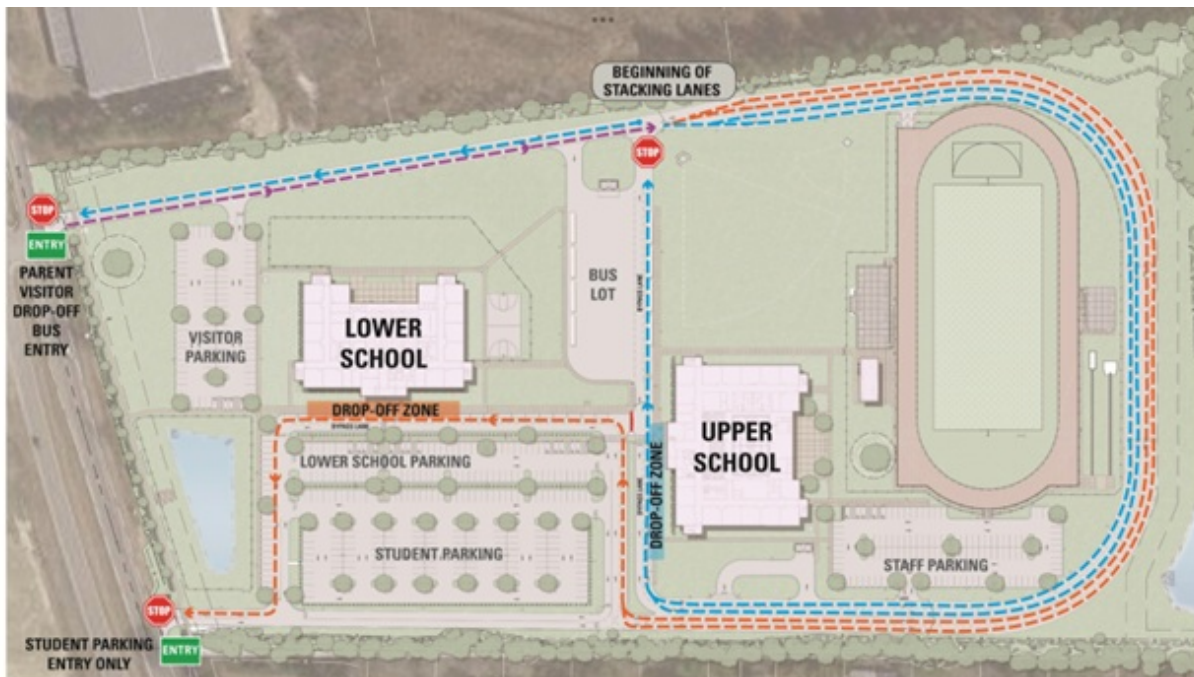
[rturley@alajohnston.org](mailto:rturley@alajohnston.org)

**Samantha Nordan**

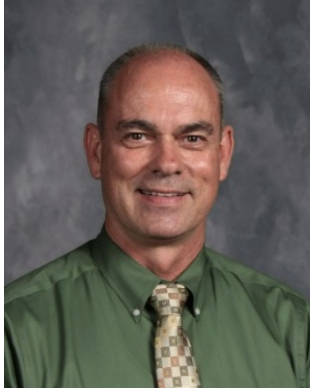
**K-6 Director**

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Linked [HERE](#) is a document that outlines our carpool procedures and rules



## ALA Johnston Leadership



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