

September 2019

Kerr Elementary School Newsletter



A Monthly Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 1



**First Day of
School in
Our New
Building!**

Update on Old Kerr Elementary School

This past Thursday the OLD Kerr Elementary school was cleared of any asbestos by the Allegheny County Health Department. **This is great news!** The demolition work will now resume on Friday, September 5, 2019, and will take 20 workdays or less to complete.

Open House @ Kerr Is CANCELLED

Our Kerr Elementary School Open House scheduled for October 17th from 6-8 p.m. has been cancelled. The cancellation is due to the lack of parking space that is available on school premises. This cancellation is with disappointment because our open house has traditionally been a very successful event where our Kerr Elementary School community and staff are able to visit with each other in an informal and enjoyable environment. I am looking forward to our next open house and setting a new standard for our school community moving forward.

Recess

As we await our new recess area to be built within the upcoming months, we have put things into place that will allow students to have physical activity throughout the school day while maintaining the integrity of the academic schedule. Outdoor recess is currently being held outside on our bus loop area. We have an assortment of appropriate recess provisions (footballs, balls, corn hole, hula hoops, etc.) that work well within the space of our outdoor area. Indoor recess activities are inclusive to the individual choices of our students. Based on the grade level, indoor recess provides various physical activities, such as: Corn Hole, BucketBall, Giant Toppling Tower, Ring Toss, Giant Dice games, BulziBucket, etc. During assigned days, grade levels will have the opportunity to have indoor recess in the gym based on the weekly schedule. Many students still like to read, draw, play board games, and sit and talk with friends during recess, so these options are also available for all students as well. Students in the intermediate grade levels are able to move to other grade level classrooms where specific activities have been designated for a particular day.



During the school day, each grade level has incorporated a movement break so that all students experience some type of activity during the academic portion of their day. Also, students in grades 1-5 have physical education twice a week built into the regularly scheduled week.



We appreciate your patience as we put things into place for this school year. We will continue to work within the parameters of our school building and the academic schedule to ensure that physical activity is included at multiple times within a school day.

Sincerely,

Paul Noro, Principal

Car rider Information

We currently have over 60 families enrolled as car riders at Kerr Elementary School. After the car rider numbers were issued last week, we were able to begin to safely and quickly move through our dismissal progression. However, we are still having some issues with students not knowing their car number when we announce it. We ask that you please take time to rehearse your car rider number with your child so that we can send them out to you more quickly and efficiently.

Thank you!

Kerr Elementary School Building Committee

Raptor System

Entrance/Early Dismissal

Your driver's license **MUST** be used to gain access into our building at any point of the school day. This practice is in place to ensure the safety of our students and staff. If you are picking up your child from Kerr Elementary School during the school day, please make sure that you have your driver's license so that we are able to verify your identification. Your driver's license is used to sign your child out of our school.

Thank you!

Kerr Elementary School Office

September 2019 Dates to Remember

September - 2 - NO SCHOOL

September - 6 - Kerr PTO Ice Cream Social

September - 10 - Elementary Battle of the Books

Orientation - Grades 4-5 - Hartwood Elementary Gym

September - 16-19 - Grade 5 - Camp Allegheny Experience

September - 17 - Constitution Day & Citizenship Day

September - 23 - Kerr Elementary School PICTURE DAY

September - 23 - First day of Autumn

Student Change Committee

Over the past several years, the Kerr Student Council has become a valuable resource for the students in our building to become more involved in different aspects of citizenship, leadership, and community involvement. Last year the Kerr Kids PBIS Team was created to provide the students with a voice in our School Wide Positive Behavior Supports program and promote its mission and goals.

Both programs have seen great success and have been well received by the staff, students, and families of Kerr. This year, we have decided to merge the two student groups together to create a "Student Change" Committee.

The Student Change Committee will be comprised of last year's previously trained members of the Kerr Kids PBIS Team and newly selected students that will serve in roles of Leadership Team member or Classroom Ambassadors. The new team will continue to carry out Fox Chapel Area School District's core values of Respect, Responsibility and Integrity by coordinating student activities, encouraging students to become responsible active members of their community, and promoting school spirit.

Additional information will be coming soon regarding the selection process. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Jakubek, Mr. Strzempek or Mrs. Trpcic.

