



Meadow Brook

Elementary School

Dear Meadow Brook Partners,

I spent the weekend with my family and a group of friends in Lexington this weekend. It was hikes in the woods, swimming in the lake, archery, camp fires, tree climbing and rest. I hope you each had a chance to do something fun with family and friends this weekend, at home or away.

Life is super busy for all of us. When we're able to slow things down and connect a bit we're doing ourselves and those around us a favor. It's a gift for everyone involved.

If not this weekend, maybe you can plan some down time over Labor Day. Even a few walks in the park can be restorative and energizing. Give yourself permission to step out of the grind if it's at all possible. You'll be better off for it.

The Principal's Perspective: A Truth About Kindness

My wife got a new job. We're super excited. She loved her previous job, but she was ready for a change, specifically the change that came her way this summer. So, she went for it, and she got it. I'm very proud. She's amazing!

I decided to get her a new bag in celebration of her accomplishment and new journey. Something that can hold her laptop and whatever else she'll need to carry. I shopped around and found the perfect one.

I spent some time chatting with the sales rep while I was deciding. We had a nice conversation. It wasn't long, but it was pleasant and uplifting.

When she rung me up I thought it was for the wrong bag. I told her. She said it wasn't a mistake, but rather that she has simply given me a really good discount.

I thanked her and told her I didn't realize the bag was on sale. She told me it wasn't. She said she gave me the discount because I was kind to her.

When we're kind to one another outcomes are enhanced. It's true.

As we head into a new school year we all know that there will be challenges to face. Sometimes we'll agree and sometimes we won't. As parents, caregivers and educators we will all be making every decision with the best interest of kids in mind.

One of the things I love most about the Meadow Brook community is the culture of kindness we've built together. We've been intentional about it, and we remain dedicated to it with everything we do.

We know kindness is what's best for kids, and we know kindness is what's best for each of us.

Facing challenges or celebrating triumphs, seeing eye to eye or struggling to understand one another's perspectives, I invite you now to continue with me in the longstanding MBE tradition of kindness in communication and kindness in action as we head into what will no doubt be another joyful and balanced school year!

This Week:

- **Monday, August 28th - First Day of School:** Half day for students. School starts at 8:55 am and ends at 12:10 pm on half days. Please do not drop kids off earlier than 8:45 am. If you need an earlier drop off time, please contact our School Age Care (SAC) program at (248) 726 – 3023.
- **Monday, August 28th – Boohoo/Yahoo Bagels and Coffee:** Whether you're dropping your child off at school for the first time (and a bit hesitant) or a seasoned pro, come join the MBE PTA in *the media center from 9 – 10 am* to celebrate the start of a new school year!
- **Tuesday, August 29th - First Full Day of School:** Full school days start at 8:55 am and end at 3:58 pm. TK and Kindergarten students whose last names start with the letters A - M will attend school on this day. TK and Kindergarten students whose last names start with the letters N - Z will not attend school on this day. All 1st - 5th grade students will attend school on this day.
- **Wednesday, August 30th - Second Full Day of School:** TK and Kindergarten students whose last names start with the letters N - Z will attend school on this day. TK and Kindergarten students whose last names start with the letters A - M will not attend school on this day. All 1st - 5th grade students will attend school on this day.
- **Thursday, August 31st - Full Day of School for all Students (Labor Day Recess Begins at the End of the Day)**
- **Friday, September 1st - No School (Labor Day Weekend)**
- **Tuesday, September 5th - School Resumes**

Last Week:

We've welcomed staff, families and students back to Meadow Brook! We engaged in learning together, we shared stories and visions, and we got a chance to gather at school as a community.

There's excitement in the air and we're ready to start things off with joy and engagement!

With grace for one another, a foundation of positive partnerships and a steadfast commitment to the safety and success of all Meadow Brook students, I am very much looking forward to stepping into a new school year tomorrow morning!

Your input is always welcome and appreciated. Please stay connected and touch base with anything I can do to support along the way.

With gratitude,

Seth