



PMG PHOTO: MIA RYDER-MARKS - Students from River Grove elementary school started their first day at a new building on Monday, Aug. 29.

Monday marked a lot of new beginnings for students in the Lake Oswego School District.

On Aug. 29, elementary students, sixth and ninth graders had their first day of school for the 2022-2023 academic year. Other students and kindergartners start later in the week.

With crisp outfits fresh off the rack and unscratched school supplies, River Grove Elementary School students said hello to a new building Monday morning.

PMG PHOTO: MIA RYDER-MARKS - Students had the chance to play a game of hopscotch during the first day celebration.



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Due to the school bond work currently demolishing the River Grove campus, students and staff were moved to the former Uplands Elementary School building for the time being. In 2024, the school will reopen with a brand-new campus intended to accommodate the growing student population while also featuring more greenery and offering a more connected campus.

As families streamed into the front of the Uplands campus, the school staff welcomed the student body with a mini-celebration before they walked through the front doors. Students could take their photo with the school's raccoon mascot, do a round of hopscotch or chase around bubbles.

PMG PHOTO: MIA RYDER-MARKS - River Grove elementary school welcomed students with a mini celebration including bubbles.



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For first grader Maise Tieman, Monday not only marked the arrival at a different school but also a new experience as she tackled in-person learning for the first time. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Maise spent the first couple of years of schooling in virtual learning and homeschooling.

But this year, she was adamant on trying out school in a classroom. Besides the excitement of meeting new friends and learning in a classroom, Maise is most excited about gym class.

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"I'm excited about a lot of things ... but mainly gym — I want to see what that's all about," she said.

For sixth graders at Lake Oswego Junior High, the first day meant they officially shed their elementary school statuses and became middle school students.

Adam Koh, an eighth grader, accidentally showed up to school on Monday (the first day for eighth grade was Tuesday), but he said he was OK with that as it gave him a chance to scope out where all the classes were.

He planned to spend his last day of summer vacation hanging out at home and "relaxing."

"Tomorrow I'm excited about seeing my friends again. It should (be) a fun year," Adam said.

PMG PHOTO: MIA RYDER-MARKS - Students in Brigitte Dennett's second grade class started their morning off with a fun worksheet while getting to know their classmates.



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