



Barack Obama Elementary School
3101 Fendall Avenue
Richmond, VA 23222
Telephone: 804-780-4879
Email: jdrye@rvaschools.net

August 6, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope this letter finds you well and excited for the upcoming school year at **Barack Obama Elementary School**. As we prepare for an amazing 2024-2025 school year, we want to inform you of an important initiative regarding student safety and security.

In line with our commitment to ensuring a safe and secure learning environment for all students, we will implement a clear backpack policy beginning this academic year. Clear backpacks have been shown to enhance safety measures in schools by allowing staff to easily identify the contents of students' bags, thereby reducing the risk of prohibited items being brought onto campus.

To facilitate the transition to this new policy, we will be distributing clear backpacks to all students at our Open House on Thursday, **August 15, 2024**. Please take note of the following details regarding the distribution:

- Distribution Dates: **August 15, 2024**
- Distribution Location: Barack Obama Elementary
- Distribution Time: **4:00 - 6:00 PM**
- Each student will receive one clear backpack free of charge.
- We kindly request that parents/guardians accompany their child to collect their backpack to ensure that they understand the importance of this safety measure.

We understand that transitioning to clear backpacks may raise questions or concerns, and we want to assure you that we are committed to supporting both students and parents throughout this process. Should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact our school office at (804) 780- 4879.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we work together to prioritize the safety and well-being of our students. We look forward to a successful and secure school year ahead!

Sincerely,

Dr. Jacqueline Drye
Principal