



August 4, 2025

Chute Family,

Welcome to a new school year! We hope the summer has been amazing and that you've had a chance to relax and recharge! For us, the summer weeks have been dedicated to preparation for a fantastic new school year! We are excited to meet our new Eagles and welcome our returning Eagles on August 25, 2025. Our goal is for Chute to be a place where students “believe that smart is not something you are but something you get” (Dylan Williams, 2013) by being willing to try new things, make mistakes, and keep trying.

REFLECT  
SOLVE  
CREATE  
GROW  
THINK

### **SAVE the Date:**

- **September 9th, Chute will be hosting a combined event to celebrate the launch of the new school year, dedicate our amazing new mural, and Open House. More information to come.**
- **September 16th Chute Parent University- Learn how to support your child in middle school, PowerSchool support, navigating homework, Google Classroom, and more. Look for a flyer to come out the first week of school.**

### **Other Information You Need to Know:**

#### *Student Schedules*

---

The PowerSchool parent and student portal will open on August 11th. Students and parents will be able to view their child's schedule there. We are still in the process of adding new students and balancing class sizes. Students' schedules are not “Final” until school begins. Students will report to their homeroom class for the first day of school. Students will be assigned lockers, provided with the necessary school supplies, and learn about the expectations.



## Student Expectations

**Personal Electronic Devices (Cell phone, headphone, etc):** Students will not be allowed to carry personal electronic devices during the school day. Our goal is to minimize distractions that can occur when students have access to phones/headphones/AirPods during learning time. Students are expected to secure their electronic devices in their lockers from 8:00 AM to 3:05 PM. Students will have access to their iPad throughout the day. **Please be sure to discuss this expectation with your child before the start of the school year, as it will be enforced beginning on day 1.** If a student has their personal electronic devices with them, they will be directed to return them to their locker or turn them in to the office. We will partner with parents, as needed, to ensure this expectation is consistently enforced.

**Attendance:** When children regularly attend school, they are more likely to develop their whole selves—personally, socially, academically, and emotionally. They can connect with friends and adults, collaborate, problem-solve, think critically, and be creative. In other words, showing up matters.

## Chute Middle School

## Good Attendance Matters



When Do Absences  
Become a Problem?

	<p style="color: #c00000; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">CHRONIC ABSENCE</p> <p style="margin: 0;">18 or more days</p>
	<p style="color: #ffcc00; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">WARNING SIGNS</p> <p style="margin: 0;">10 to 17 days</p>
	<p style="color: #008000; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">SATISFACTORY</p> <p style="margin: 0;">9 or fewer absences</p>

Note: These numbers assume  
a 180-day school year.

When your child is  
absent please call

(847) 859-8600

**Hall Pass:** Hall Pass is a digital tool that allows the school to monitor student movement throughout the building. This tool will provide the school with an additional behavioral data point to help us maximize students' learning time, identify patterns, and address any concerns that may arise. It is essential to us that students are present in class and actively engaged in learning.



**S.O.A.R.:** We will continue to focus on S.O.A.R. this year as the anchor for our school's culture and climate. We have worked this summer to build out S.O.A.R. expectations for all the areas of the building. These will be shared with students on the first day of school. We have included a few examples below. Students will be able to earn PBIS points for exhibiting these positive behaviors throughout the school. Points can then be redeemed at our school or during one of our raffles.

 <b>EAGLES S.O.A.R!</b>	 <b>EAGLES S.O.A.R!</b> <b>In the Hallways</b>	 <b>EAGLES S.O.A.R!</b> <b>In the Classroom</b>
<b>Show Kindness</b> Be friendly and understanding to others.	<b>Show Kindness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smile, say "hello" and "excuse me"</li> <li>• Don't block others' access to their locker</li> <li>• Keep voices down to not disrupt classes</li> </ul>	<b>Show Kindness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be fair, give all opinions a fair chance</li> <li>• Judge ideas based on evidence, not people</li> <li>• Make space for others' ideas and opinions</li> </ul>
<b>Own It</b> Take responsibility for your actions and decisions.	<b>Own It</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep cell phones off and out of sight</li> <li>• Be on time to class</li> <li>• Keep moving toward class</li> </ul>	<b>Own It</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's OK to make mistakes, learn from them</li> <li>• If you don't know something, ask questions</li> <li>• Don't quit when the work feels challenging</li> </ul>
<b>Always Be Safe</b> Put well-being and safety first for yourself and others.	<b>Always Be Safe</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walk</li> <li>• Keep to the right side of the hallway</li> <li>• iPads closed while moving through the halls</li> </ul>	<b>Always Be Safe</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be mindful of your words and actions</li> <li>• Disagree with ideas, not people</li> <li>• Treat others the way you want treated</li> </ul>
<b>Respect Diversity</b> Value and appreciate what makes all of us unique.	<b>Respect Diversity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move at your own pace</li> <li>• Be patient with others</li> <li>• Stay out of others' personal space</li> </ul>	<b>Respect Diversity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dig deeper by asking "Why?" and "How?"</li> <li>• Don't be afraid to share your ideas</li> <li>• You don't have to agree, try to understand</li> </ul>

### *The School Day*

Doors will open at 7:30 AM for students wishing to eat breakfast. Adult supervision, on campus, begins at this time.

Students will enter the building to get ready for the school day at 7:50 AM. Classes begin at 8:00 AM and end at 3:05 PM. **Students must arrive on time to optimize instructional time and minimize disruptions to the learning environment.**

Students who demonstrate a pattern of being tardy will be addressed on the following continuum.

1. Reteaching the expectation
2. Parent communication
3. Problem-solving session(s) with the school counselor/social worker
4. Parent meeting

### *Breakfast and Lunch*

**Breakfast and lunch fees have been updated for this year.** Families requesting Free/Reduced lunch, please complete the application [here](#) before the first day of school.



## Chute Middle School

---

Meal Fees for 25-26 are as follows:

Breakfast	Full-price: \$2.25/Reduced-price: \$.30/Free: \$0.00
Lunch	Full-price: \$4.25/Reduced-price: \$.40/Free \$0.00
Milk	\$.60

Middle school students (6-8 grades) can purchase a la carte items if they do NOT carry a negative account balance. Change for cash purchases will not be given; instead, the balance will be applied to the student's lunch account for future purchases.

### *School Supplies for 2025-26*

---

The following school supplies will be provided by the school at no cost to families. This includes:

- Binders
- Pocket dividers
- Pencil pouch
- Notebooks
- Pencils
- Loose-leaf paper
- Locks for students' street lockers

As part of our shift to standards-based grading, educators will continue to focus on helping students develop the necessary learning habits that will help them to be successful not only here at Chute but in high school and beyond.

Based on your knowledge of your child, you might consider purchasing the following optional items for use throughout the school day:

- Daily planner (or students can use Google Keep on the iPad)

### *PE Uniforms*

---

PE uniforms (shorts and T-shirt) may be purchased at school. The order form is linked [here](#). Please print a copy and return it with payment to your child's PE teacher. Uniforms will be distributed during the first couple of weeks of school. PE Staff will be available in the auditorium lobby on August 21st from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM for families to size uniforms and place orders in person.



### *Transportation*

---

Information about bus transportation from Skokie should be sent via email in mid-August. If you have questions or do not receive information regarding the bus routes by August 18, 2025, please send an email to [transportation@district65.net](mailto:transportation@district65.net).

Here's to a wonderful year! We, along with all the dedicated Chute staff, look forward to partnering with you to ensure the success of every student. Let's go, Eagles!

Feel free to call or email if you have any questions about the upcoming year!

Sincerely,

Chute Admin Team

Ann Riemenschneider- Principal

[riemena@district65.net](mailto:riemena@district65.net)

847-859-8602

Eboni Dixon Asst. Principal

[dixone@district65.net](mailto:dixone@district65.net)

847-859-8609