

Hello Paramount Families!

I trust that this cyber-newsletter finds you enjoying the Labor Day weekend! In just a few days we'll begin our new school year!

This has been a great summer with plentiful sunshine, warm temperatures, and lots of opportunity to enjoy all of the beauty Michigan offers. Though I know that I for one will miss those relaxing days at the beach and the ability to wake up without an alarm clock in the morning, I'm excited to see all of my Paramount families as they head back to school on Tuesday! The entire staff and I have been working for the past several weeks to prepare the building and classrooms for what promises to be a great year for us all.

School begins on Tuesday, September 6 at 8:15. **The first day of school is a full day.** Dismissal is at 3:15.

As I have indicated in a previous newsletter and at our back to school orientations, we will be starting a breakfast program this year. Breakfast will be served beginning at 7:45 and ending at 8:10. Students who will be taking advantage of the breakfast program **MUST** come in through the doors closest to Norman Camera. We call this our "Porch". We will begin letting breakfast students only in at 7:45. **PLEASE** do not drop off your children for breakfast before 7:45 as there will be no one available to monitor them. Breakfast will be served in the gym. Please remember that breakfast must be wrapped up by 8:10 so that students can be in class by 8:15. If you are planning on having your child receive breakfast could you please drop me an e-mail at 16.kgrinwis@heritageacademies.com so that I can have a

general idea of how many children to prepare for? I realize that this number will change but would like to have a rough idea of how many families will participate. If your child is NOT participating in the breakfast program they will be allowed in the building at 8:00.

For arrival this year, we are asking that students in grades 3-5 be dropped off at the main office doors. Students in grades 6-8 can be dropped off at the middle school doors, and only students in grades Young 5-2 should be dropped off at the "Porch" doors. Doing so will help us to keep our students safe while they are waiting to enter the building. We will have several adults out at each entrance to supervise the students. Teachers grades Y5-2 will meet their students outside and escort them into the building.

I know that many parents will want to come into the building on the first day of school and we welcome you to do so! We will have coffee and donuts available for you across from the music room. Please join us if you are able! Keep in mind, however, that our parking lot will be crowded and that this will require patience on everyone's part.

Just a few reminders about traffic flow. Remember to enter the parking lot off of Westnedge in the drive nearest the pedestrian bridge. If you are dropping off students in front of the main entrance, please pull up as far as possible in front of the doors where you will find staff members standing to greet your children. Please encourage your children to exit your car quickly so that we can keep the traffic flowing. After you have dropped off your child or children you may exit through either the Lynn Street exit or Westnedge. Remember that it is a **Left Turn Only onto**

Lynn and a **Right Turn Only onto Westnedge**. Please do not attempt to turn left onto Westnedge. Our goal is to keep everyone safe and traffic moving as efficiently as possible.

Safety first! We will be issuing a small card to each family for use at dismissal. This card will have our NHA logo and your family name on it. In order to be certain that your child is picked up **only** by you as the parent or by **someone you have approved**, we are asking that you place this card on your dashboard on the drivers side. Staff members will NOT be releasing children to anyone who is in a vehicle without this card. If you need more than one card please let Mrs. Ruiz or Mrs. Walsh know. If someone needs to pick up your child but doesn't have the approved release card, they must come into the building so that we can determine that you as the parent or guardian have given permission for your child to be released to them. This is important for the safety of your children. If you have questions about this process, please let me know. We'll be passing out the cars in the carline on the first day of school or you can pick them up Tuesday morning.

We will be in dress code on the first day of school. Just a reminder that our dress code colors are black, khaki, and navy pants, and white, navy blue, powder blue, red, or black shirts with a collar. If you have any questions about dress code please refer to the parent handbook or to our Paramount website.

Have you completed all of the necessary paperwork for this year? A HUGE thank you to those of you have gone online and filled out all of the forms. If you have not yet had a chance to do this, please take a moment this weekend to

complete them. If you need access to the internet, we will have some computers available for you to use at school on Tuesday. We must have 100% of our families fill out 100% of the forms. Thank you for your cooperation!!!

Are you in need of dress code clothing or school supplies? If so, please check out our donated dress code table in the hallway near the library. If you have clothing you'd like to donate, just bring it into school and we'll add it to the collection! If your child is in need of basic school supplies please contact me. We'd love to help!

Show your school pride! Fridays will continue to be Paramount and/or college wear day. Your children may wear their jeans on Fridays as long as they are wearing a Paramount shirt or sweatshirt or a college shirt or sweatshirt. Mrs. Sandt is taking orders for new Paramount clothing. Order forms are available in the office. She'll be placing an order very soon and will most likely be placing a second order closer to the Holiday season.

You may have noticed some changes in our backfield. We now have a full size basketball court and a play surface for our students. Thank you to the Family Council and to NHA for improving our field. Unfortunately, there here has been a delay in the relocation of the basketball hoops. I've been told that they will be moved by the end of the first week of school along with some finishing landscaping. We're also working to get more playground equipment for our student.

There are SO many ways you can get involved in your child's education at Paramount. Become an active member of our Family Council, our band boosters, and our athletic

boosters! We welcome and need your support! We are also in need of parents who are willing to serve as room parents. Please talk with your child's teacher if you are interested in serving in this capacity. Remember - we depend on you for lunch/recess coverage. Please don't forget to sign up on the lunch calendars outside each classroom door. If every family covered just one day each month, our teachers would have a duty free lunch every day!!!! (And that would make for some really happy teachers!)

Have you ever considered joining our staff? Preferred Meal Services is currently looking for a part-time lunch server for Paramount. This position involves about 8-10 hours a week. If you'd like to hear more, please call or e-mail me! I'm also looking for interested parents who would like to be substitute recess aides.

Wow! I think that's it for now! If you would ever like me to include information in my weekly cyber-newsletter please contact me at 16.kgrinwis@heritageacademies.com. You can also call me at school at 269-553-6400. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

I am really excited about working with all of you this year. I look forward to partnering with you for the best educational experience for your children and your family. I'm confident that we will have an awesome year learning and growing together!

In service,
Kathleen Grinwis
Principal
Paramount Charter Academy

16.kgrinwis@heritageacademies.com.

269-553-6400

616-304-6601 cell