

September 12, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The 2014-2015 school year is in full swing and the building is buzzing with hardworking students, teachers and staff. Communication is essential between the school, teachers, parents and students. Through open communication, it is our goal for each child to reach their fullest potential and to push beyond. As a result of changes in New Jersey law and procedural review, the Board of Education and School District have adopted many new policies, procedures and regulations. The purpose of this letter is to bring some of these new policies to your attention.

Attendance Notes:

Upon return to school after an absence, a written note explaining the reason for absence must be sent to the office. If a note is not received the absence is considered an "unexcused absence that counts toward truancy."

Late Arrival Days:

Four professional development days have been added on the school calendar and are late arrival days for students. The school day will start at 10:45 (2 hours and 15 minutes later). Students are to report to their bus stop 2 hours and 15 minutes later. The building will open at 10:15 and students are expected to be in their homeroom by 10:45. The first late arrival day is October 3, 2014.

Social Media:

Teachers and support staff members are prohibited from communicating with students through personal communication and social media sites including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, etc. Any communication or friend requests sent by a student to a teacher or support staff member will be reported to the Principal.

e-Reader:

Students will be allowed to use e-Readers for the purpose of reading only. E-Reader permission forms will be sent home this week and must be returned to school prior to student use in school.

Communication:

Much of our school communication will be sent home via parent email lists this year. Please make sure we have accurate contact information in the Parent Portal under "Contacts" to ensure receipt. Parent Portal letters were sent home this week. Progress reports for grades 4-8 will be posted on the Parent Portal. Paper copies will not be sent home this year. Report cards will still be sent home on paper.

New Code of Conduct and Dress Code policies have been adopted. Please carefully review these sections of the Student Handbook. We look forward to a fantastic 2014-2015 school year.

Yours in education, Jennifer Chickey