

Waverly Elementary School

Enter to Learn, Depart to Serve.



Volume 14, Issue 1, August 21, 2020

A Message from our Principal, Mr. DuBois.

Good Morning and Happy Friday!

We have over two full weeks of school under our belts as of today! It is so nice to finally get to see all of the students and parents again. The empty hallways and classrooms seemed unreal. I want to thank you for your patience in working through the various processes and procedures upon our return.

We have seen a need to alter a few of the procedures that were drafted prior to the opening of Waverly. Sometimes things look good on paper, but in reality, some modifications are needed to be more efficient. One of the changes that needed corrected was the "one-way hallways." This created a bottleneck at certain times of the day, so we are treating the hallway traffic much like we do when driving down the road. Classes stay to the right side of the hallway and walk in single file lines keeping their distance from other classes they may pass. We try to avoid this situation as best we can by waiting until a classroom clears the hallway before traveling on.

Another area of needed change is the unloading and loading of the buses. We had thought dismissal by grade-levels would be appropriate, but have found that dismissal by buses serves the same purpose. There is an adequate mix of students on each bus, so students are not all trying to enter or exit the same doors. We are happy with the assigned doorways for each grade-level.

A reminder that if you park in the north lot near the church, you must walk your child to the curb. Students are not allowed to walk from their cars to the building unescorted. There is much traffic at that end of the building with our special needs buses utilizing the back lot for arrival and dismissal.

We have had some staff changes this year. First of all, we have a new nurse, Mrs. White RN, who has stepped into her new position running considering the guidelines around COVID. Mrs. White is our contact person with the Morgan County Health Department should students or staff show symptoms of the virus. She has done a wonderful job working with everyone. We are very fortunate to have someone with her experience on our team! We have two new instructional assistants with us to start the school year. Mrs. Ramirez and Mrs. Bauer will be working with our Developmental Preschool and Resource teachers respectfully. We are happy to have them on our team! Finally, we have two new custodians coming on soon to our team. Ms. Cook and Mrs. Spears will be helping keep our building clean and disinfected for our students and staff. Areas are disinfected throughout the school day to help assure the safety of our students and staff. Our custodians and teachers are working very hard to see all common areas are ready for students upon arrival.

Parents, please note that PE classes will be held outside as much as possible so students are able to breathe some fresh air and remove their masks when socially distanced. Mr. Evans would like to remind students and parents that especially in the morning the grass may still be dew covered. It might be good to have those students bring an extra pair of shoes and socks to change into after PE class should their feet get wet.

I would like to let everyone know that I canceled our building fundraiser this year. It would have been a virtual sale and the expected profits were very minimal, so the time and energy to see it through was not worth the effort. Having said that, please support our PTO in their fundraising efforts such as the trash bag sale. The profit from these fundraisers all go back to the students and their teachers to support learning. We are very thankful for our PTO!

Mr. Smith, Transportation Director for Mooresville Schools, would like to say that due to the need to social distance and contact tracing, students should not ask to ride home with another student on a different bus this year. Only in extreme circumstances will I approve a student riding home with a friend to the friend's home if it requires riding a different bus. Please plan on students riding home to their own bus stop after school.

I have informed teachers that students should be utilizing Google Classroom daily. The students should be very comfortable with the program. If we are required to go to eLearning across the board, students will be expected to know how to utilize this program. As you know, this is a very fluid time we live in and changes can happen quickly. It is best to prepare now so if we are required to close in-class instruction, students and teachers are comfortable with virtual instruction.

I am looking forward to a great year of in-class instruction and eLearning for those who prefer virtual instruction. Have a great weekend!

Upcoming Events:

SEPTEMBER

7: NO SCHOOL; Labor Day

11: Quarter 1 Midterm

OCTOBER

9: End of Quarter 1

12-16: NO SCHOOL; FALL BREAK

NOVEMBER

13: Quarter 2 Midterm

25-27: NO SCHOOL; Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

17: Last day of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester

Friday, Dec. 18 - Fri., Jan. 1, 2021: NO SCHOOL; Christmas Vacation



~A Note from Nurse Amy~

*Please be sure to check the MCSC website periodically for updates on the COVID guidelines.

*Please be sure to send your child to school with a clean mask each day. It's important to wash them (if they are the reusable kind) or throw them away at the end of the day.

Textbook Rental 2020-21

It is very important to our schools to receive textbook and fee payments as soon as possible. Payment can be made via cash or check in the Waverly office, or credit cards can be used online in the Skyward Family Access Portal. Please see below for the textbook rental amounts to be paid. Parents have three payment options:

- 1. Full payment to the Waverly office by <u>Tuesday, September 8, 2020</u>. Checks can be made out to Waverly Elementary.
 - \$60 Developmental Preschool
 - \$65 Alternative Curriculum (Life Skills)
 - \$120 Kindergarten 6th Grade
- Complete and confirm a free/reduced lunch and textbook application and pay the reduced amount.
 - \$60 Developmental Preschool
 - \$15 Alternative Curriculum (Life Skills)
 - \$15 Kindergarten 6th Grade
- 3. Make a partial initial payment and set up a payment plan with the school. The plan must include a final payment by **May 3, 2021**.



Please call the school office with any dismissal changes by 3:00 p.m.





When Mooresville Schools are on a 2-hour delay, the first bell rings at 10:55am, and the tardy bell rings at 11:05am. We will dismiss at the regular time.

AM Developmental Preschool 2-hr Delay — 10:30am to 12:30pm PM Developmental Preschool 2-hr Delay — 1:30pm to 3:30pm

The Mooresville Parks Rec&U Before and After School Program is still available with a 2-hour delay. However, they will **not** provide after school care if we have an early dismissal.

PTO Contact Information



President: Rena Whiteleather (317-494-2950) srwhiteleather@gmail.com Vice President: Stephanie Cronin (317-607-3815) Stephj33@outlook.com

Treasurer: Dorie Maryan (317-670-0215) doriemaryan@gmail.com Secretary: Lisa Lykins (317-650-9064) lisamarielykins@yahoo.com

Member-at-Large: Tessa Thorstenson (317) 501-0739 steventessa@yahoo.com

Facebook.com/WaverlyPto Waverlyelementarypto@gmail.com

Music Notes from Mrs. Mohler



Welcome back to music! This year may look a little bit different in music class, but we are finding creative ways to keep making music safely. The students' favorite character has returned, and Quaver is introducing us to beat, meter, and rhythm in the first 9 weeks. We look forward to learning more about musical styles, famous composers, and creating our own music. As we learned during quarantine, the arts are essential!

4th grade - We usually participate in the Waverly Old Town Park Festival with Indiana songs and poems. The date this year is Saturday, September 26th, at 2pm. Since this is an outdoor event, we are still able to participate! It is a voluntary performance, and more information will be sent home with your student later this month.

P.E. Notes from Mr. Evans



PE classes will be held outdoors as much as possible depending on the weather. On your child's PE day make sure to bring any sun and outdoor protection as needed including a water bottle, hat, sunglasses, and tennis shoes.

Art Notes from Mrs. Abbott



Hello! I am so happy to be back in the art room with your students! Currently we are working on artwork for our Art-To-Remember fundraiser. I have also been busy on getting all artwork from last year back to students and sent home, so be on the look out for that next week if it has not already made its way home! If you don't already- please follow "Waverly Art Room" Facebook page for more updates on what we are working on in the future!



Attendance

Mooresville Consolidated Schools has partnered with the Morgan County Prosecutor's Office to employ the "Empty Seats Don't Learn" program to properly monitor and encourage high rates of attendance for our schools. This program was initiated at MCSC in January of 2015.

The "Empty Seats Don't Learn" program is based on Indiana State Law which states that every child is to attend school at least 180 days each year, and that no child should miss more than 10 days of instruction in a school year. Parents are held accountable for their children's attendance at school and can be prosecuted if absences are excessive.

At MCSC, our procedures for implementing the program are as follows:

- A parent/ guardian must call the school office each morning a student will be absent and give the
 reason for the absence. This is mandatory for <u>all</u> students including those who have opted for the
 virtual program.
- 2. A parent/ guardian of a student who attends school in our buildings, must, in addition to a phone call, provide a signed note explaining the reason for the absence. The note must be received within 3 days of the student's return to school to excuse an absence. A doctor's note must include the date the student was seen and the date the student should return to school. Only the school days between those two dates will be excused unless a separate parent note is included to explain additional days missed for the illness.
- 3. After 5 and 10 unexcused absences, a letter will be sent to the parent/guardian to inform them of the student's attendance status.
- 4. After more than 10 unexcused absences or an excessive number of excused absences, parents/guardians will be contacted by the Family Services Coordinator via mail and/or phone.
- Should unexcused absences continue after meeting/speaking with the Family Services Coordinator, the student's attendance record will be forwarded to the Morgan County Prosecutor's Office for review and determination of further action.

Reminder:

Absences are excused for the following reasons **only**: illness, doctor appointment, death in the family, or court appearance.

Any absence from school for any other reason (family vacation, hospital visit, etc.) must be prearranged and approved by the school principal to be an excused absence.

Absences as a result of a family emergency will be determined excused or unexcused by the school principal based on the information received from the parent/guardian.

Students in the virtual program who do not log in to classes during regular class hours will be considered absent.

Visitor Policy:

At this time, no visitors are allowed in the building for any reason.



Skyward Family Access

Skyward is Mooresville Consolidated School Corporation's student management software, and through it's Family Access Portal, parents are able to access their student's grades, attendance, assignments, and upcoming events. Book fees and meal payments can also be made through this system.

In order to better serve the families of Waverly Elementary, it is very important that you log in to your Family Access portal and keep all family and emergency contact information as up-to-date as possible! If you are having any issues logging into your Skyward account, don't hesitate to contact the school office where you can find out your username, or have your password reset for log-in if necessary.

Cafeteria Reminders

Meal Prices: Breakfast — \$1.70 Lunch — \$2.60



It is against school policy for students to charge school lunches. Please make sure to keep money in your child's account.

This year we will continue to use email as often as possible to send lunch account balances. Please make sure your email is updated with the office staff.

If you have any questions, please contact Cynthia McCammack at 831-9218 X5148 or cynthia.mccammack@mooresvilleschools.org.



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