August 8, 2022

Dear CTES Families,

We are so excited to welcome our students, families, and staff to the start of the 2022-2023 school year! We are looking forward to the positive, fun, and memorable learning experiences that are in store for this school year.

Please mark your calendar for some exciting 2022-2023 events:

- **Sneak a Peek** will take place on **Thursday, August 25th from 1:30 – 3:00**. Students and parents/guardians are welcome to drop in to visit the classroom and meet the teachers. Our PTA is generously hosting an Ice Cream Social during the event. You are welcome to bring your child’s labeled supplies during Sneak a Peek so s/he does not have to carry them on the first day.

- The **first day of school is Monday, August 29th** for students in grades 1-5. PK and K students are on a gradual entry. Those gradual entry schedules will be in the mailer sent home.

- Parents/guardians are welcome to join us on **Monday, August 29th** to kick off the new year! Just meet us outside in back of the schoolhouse. Students will get in line with their classmates and teacher (who will be holding a sign). This allows our students to wave to their teacher from last year and get in line with their new teacher. We will have welcoming remarks and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Then, students can wave so long to their parents as they are escorted into the schoolhouse by their teacher. If your child is a bus rider, please consider allowing her/him to ride the bus and you just drive to meet us. That way, your child will know the bus routine for day 2. Teachers will start greeting students at 8:25 and we will start remarks at 8:40.

- Our **Back to School Night (BTSN)** will take place on **Tuesday, September 13th from 5:30 – 7:15**. Parents/guardians are invited in to hear grade level specific information. Two identical sessions of information will be presented for families who have more than one grade to attend.

- In **October** we have an assembly, **NED’s Mindset Mission**, scheduled for our students, K – 5. We look forward to other assemblies throughout the year.

- **American Education Week** will be **November 14th – 18th**. We look forward to inviting family members to visit classrooms and shop at the Scholastic Book Fair in our school library. A specific schedule will come out early fall so you can coordinate with work and other plans.

- We have been collaborating with our **CTES PTA** to offer **evening and weekend family fun events** throughout the year. We will keep you posted as those events are scheduled.

Communication is incredibly important. To ensure that you receive all communications, please do not opt out of School Messenger phone calls and emails. Also, you will want to be able to access Schoology and Focus. See the other letter for Focus access.

You are able to check Focus starting on 8/15/22 for your student’s schedule of classes and teachers. The second page of this letter has additional information.
Our doors open each school day at 8:25 and the late bell rings at 8:40. We encourage our walkers and car riders to come close to 8:25 so they have time to purchase breakfast (if they’d like) and to get ready for the day. Our dismissal starts at 3:25. Car riders will be dismissed out the front doors. Please put the CTES placard with your child’s name (can pick up at Sneak a Peek or sent home in your child’s folder) in the passenger-side visor. Our bus riders will be escorted out the playground doors. After all bus riders have exited, the walkers will be dismissed out the playground doors.

Although we may be a small school, we are quite large with our staff and personnel who support your child(ren). Our amazing 22-23 staff includes:

- Classroom Teachers: Ms. Gemmill (PK), Ms. Clites (K), Ms. Mellecker (K), Ms. Young (K), Ms. Currier (1), Ms. Brown (1), Ms. Martino (2), Ms. Serafini (2), Ms. Williams (2), Ms. Knoerlein (3), Ms. Lautenberger (3), and our 4/5 Team will consist of Ms. Evans, Ms. Denne, Mr. Gromeck, Ms. McGarry, Ms. Meszaros, Ms. Pecson, Ms. Ponatoski
- Special Area Teachers: Ms. Boston (art), Ms. Gingrich (instrumental and exploratory music), Mr. Jones (PE), Ms. McGarry (library media specialist), Ms. Michael (vocal music)
- Resource Teachers: Ms. Evans (reading specialist), Ms. Gray (ESOL), Ms. Pecson (resource)
- Special Education Teachers: Ms. Bronushas (special educator), Ms. Christensen (physical therapist), Mr. Coffman (occupational therapist), Dr. Hanover (psychologist), Ms. Ponatoski (special educator)
- School Nurse: Nurse Box
- Paraeducators: Ms. Gemmill, Ms. Gilbow, Ms. Goldrick
- Adult Assistants: Ms. Crystal, Ms. Darlene, Ms. Deena, Ms. Frank, Ms. Glaspie, Ms. Eppie, Ms. Jeri-Lynn
- Cafeteria Workers: Ms. Dottie, Ms. Marie
- Custodial Staff: Mr. Dave Kappel, Ms. Carol, Ms. Paulette, Mr. Tim
- Front Office: Ms. Cole, Ms. Kotecki
- Administrators: Principal Patrick and Assistant Principal Seifert

The 22-23 Supply List is enclosed and is posted on our website https://chesapeaketerracees.bcps.org/

Thank you for your positive partnership as we begin what will be an amazing school year at CTES!

Sincerely,

Shandra K. Patrick
Principal