

Dear Cedar Valley Families,

We are excited to be welcoming your students back in the coming weeks. We've missed each of them and we know that in person learning is so important and we're thrilled to be able to be back in school. There are a LOT of things that I need you to know for safety before you bring your student to school:

General Safety

- **All students must have a completed attestation prior to coming to school in the morning.**
- **Students must wear masks while at school and should bring an extra mask each day.** This is for their safety and the safety of the other students and staff. We realize that young children will need reminders and that they may struggle from time to time and we will work with them. However, we need your support at home too. Please help them to understand the importance of this responsibility in keeping everyone healthy.
- **We will not have visitors or volunteers on campus.** Families are not able to walk their students to class in the morning and will have to wait in the parking lot, not by the flagpole, for students to come out in the afternoon.

Arrival

- We will start allowing students on campus at 8:45. Please do not arrive any earlier than 8:45. Because of the additional screening needs and not being able to play on the playground in the morning, there is no supervision for students until 8:45.
- If you are driving your student to school please know that students must remain in the car until a staff member has checked that you have completed your attestation.
- Students will enter the school through the checkpoints at the front. Since **students are not able to enter the classroom until their attestation is complete**, we must check each student individually so that we do not expose anyone in class in the event that someone who is ill should show up at school.
- **If you drop your student off: Please come to the main office (upstairs) parking lot attestation checkpoint. Families are not able to accompany students beyond the attestation checkpoint and for the purposes of crowd control, we'd ask that family members only leave your vehicle when the space is cleared.** We will ensure that students get checked in and get to the correct room.
- **If you walk your student to school, please come to the attestation checkpoint by the main office (upstairs) parking lot** please be sure that you are wearing a mask when you arrive on campus and that you do not congregate or socialize with other families or staff in order to maintain our social distancing protocols and set positive examples for our students.
- Once your student's attestation is checked, they will be able to go to their classroom or to breakfast.
- Breakfast will be available in the cafe or gym starting at 8:45. All meals are free for all students this year.
- If you are late, all the arrival procedures stated above will be implemented, and students will be provided with breakfast before they enter their classrooms.

Classroom

- Student desks/tables are spaced six feet apart and small group tables have been removed for the classroom space.
- Students will not be in communal floor seating like rug time, or morning circles.
- Students will have individual school supplies provided at school. **You do not need to send pencils, crayons, glue sticks etc.**
- **Student Chromebooks need to come to school each day, please help by ensuring that it is fully charged.** Chromebooks will also be transported home each night.
- Water fountains have been covered but **students may bring water bottles to school** and we will also provide water bottles as needed.
- **Students will not be allowed to eat in the classroom.** so there are no snacks at school this year.

Recess

- Students will have two recesses each day but the playground equipment is closed.
- Each classroom will be assigned a place on the blacktop or field to play. Students will play only with other students in their own classrooms to ensure that we aren't passing germs between cohorts.
- Students will not be able to play games like four square or basketball that would require them to share recess equipment but jump ropes and other individual equipment will be provided to each classroom.

Lunch

- Students will still eat lunch in the cafe or gym space with their class. They will be spaced six feet apart and all face the same direction.
- Students may bring their own lunch but there will also be lunch provided for all students free of charge this year.
- School lunches will be "grab and go" type lunches in a paper bag. There are no hot lunch options and students will not be able to pick items from the salad bar.
- Students are not able to be up and moving around the gym and we need to prevent students attempting to yell across the space to their friends because of the chance of virus transmission so there will be a read aloud or video or quiet activity to help keep lunches calm and focused on eating.

Dismissal

- Student dismissal will be staggered to prevent crowding. We will start a few minutes before the school bell with our kindergartners, followed by our first graders, and then our 2nd graders at 3 p.m.
- **Parent Pick up- At end of the day dismissal parents picking up students (walkers or drivers) will meet students by the small playground in the front upstairs, parking lot.**

Additional Resources

Our district has also provided these videos to help students and families with this transition. Please watch and share them with your students as you feel is appropriate:

- **Superintendent Dr. Balderas walks us through what going to school will be like this spring**
 - [ENGLISH \(click here\)](#)
 - [SPANISH \(click here\)](#)
- **Edmonds School District Bitmoji Hybrid Explanation**
 - [ENGLISH \(click here\)](#)
 - [SPANISH \(click here\)](#)

While we are excited to have students back, it is important to recognize that school is not going to look the same as it did before. I've tried to list out as many changes as I can to help provide a clearer picture for families. It is important to both prepare your students for the changes but also recognize that there will be growing pains as we figure this out. Change is hard during normal times but this is a stressful time so these changes will be even harder. Please have grace for both students and staff as we work through it. We appreciate your support. We know we'll figure this out together!

Leah Bracken

She/Her

Principal

Cedar Valley Elementary Community School