



Chief Peguis Middle School

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August 30, 2024

Hello Chief Peguis Wolf Pack families,

Welcome to the 2024-25 school year! Ms. Gillis and I are very excited to be a part of the community and have been working with staff over the past 3 weeks to get to know the school and learn as much as possible about our families.

During the past year, our division leaders prepared us to use a new operating system known as PowerSchool. If you have lived in other divisions, you may be familiar with this so you will be ahead of the game! We are just beginning to implement this in our schools and as a result, we ask for your patience in advance as we may encounter some glitches while we are learning. A letter has gone out to you regarding the new cell phone policy. Please be patient as we are still working with a new email distribution system. As adults, we know how much we are connected to our devices. As parents, we value the connection it gives us to our children. During the pandemic, we really relied on the use of cell phones as added technology in the classroom, but no longer require this as schools are well stocked. We also know that separation from devices will cause anxiety for some and be a relief for others. We are aware and preparing to support you.

As in the past, communication regarding student absences should be called into the office. I encourage you to ensure that you make after school plans with your child in the morning. It is important that they know the information they need regarding pick up, plans to walk home and who they are walking with, play dates, etc. Given the large population at Chief, office staff would struggle to support students who want to make phone calls home at the end of the day asking parents to make changes to these expectations. For those of you who remember, it will be a lot more like it was when we were growing up! Please also help your child to memorize the phone number of at least one guardian. While we do have the information at our fingertips, we notice that many children don't know their care giver's number. This is an important life skill when you don't have easy access to a cell or texting.

If there is an emergency, we will reach out to you immediately, as always. If you have an emergency, please notify us at 204 – 668-9442. We will supportively communicate any concerns to your child and work in communication with you. When picking your child up early from school, please come into the office and sign them out. This is important to ensure we have an accurate count and know their whereabouts in the case of an emergency.

At lunch, students in grade 6 remain on property unless they are going home for lunch. Grade 7 and 8 students are encouraged to stay on property for lunch, participate and spend time in clubs, at intramurals or just socializing. School property is the safest location for our students with quick access to adults who can help them.



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In June a letter went out reminding families about staggered start on Wednesday September 4th, and the opportunity for a tour for between 1:00 and 2:30 pm on Tuesday September 3rd. The tour is focused on the general layout of the building. The tour will focus on grade level hallways, the location of the gym, applied arts rooms, bathrooms, art room and band room. Students will not be going into rooms at this time or meeting teachers as teachers are in learning sessions this day.

PLEASE NOTE: This tour opportunity is really focused on **new students** or those who may have missed the tour in May. If you have already made family arrangements to come, we look forward to meeting you! Please also note that families will have an opportunity to meet and visit with teachers during our open house on Wednesday, September 11th.

When arriving on September 4th the times are as follows:

- Grade 6 students will arrive at 8:30 am and staff will be present to meet them.
- Grade 7 students will arrive at 9:30 am
- Grade 8 students will arrive at 10:00 am.

On this first day only, all students should arrive at the front doors at their assigned times to be met by their grade level teachers.

Staff will help students get acquainted with each other, find their lockers and spend time learning how to manage their locks. Please remind your student that we are all here to help!

We look forward to our new year and getting to know all of you!

Regards,

Carolyn Nazeravich - Principal

Carrie Gillis – Vice Principal