



Saint Paul
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Maxfield Elementary School
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Welcome to the 2020-21 school year!

All of us at Maxfield look forward to seeing grades 1-5 on **Tuesday, Sept. 8** and Pre-K and kindergarten students on **Thursday, Sept. 10**. While this isn't the beginning any of us were hoping for, it will still be a beginning of excitement, possibility, and love for our students. I thank you for your patience as SPPS prepares guidelines for staff and families. Your flexibility to the ever changing dynamics of the COVID pandemic is greatly appreciated. Below you will find some key information as we prepare to launch into the 2020-21 school year.

Distance Learning 2.0

The Maxfield staff have been working hard getting ready for Distance Learning 2.0. I know there are many questions entering this year including how it will be the same or different than the spring. Distance Learning 2.0 will include:

- All PreK-12 students will be issued an iPad
- Distance Learning 2.0 will be a balance between any time (asynchronous) and same-time (synchronous) learning
- Students will receive daily same-time (synchronous) instruction from their teachers
- There will be daily student-to-student interaction
- Students will have access to enhanced WiFi options

More details about Distance Learning 2.0 will be shared and updated on spps.org as it is made available. To view information about Distance Learning 2.0, visit spps.org/distancelearning.

Classroom Teacher Assignments

A separate email will be coming in the next few days with your child's classroom teacher.

Back-to-School iUpdate Now Open

Please complete your Back-to-School iUpdate, now open at spps.org/onestop. Using iUpdate parents and guardians accomplish the following annually required tasks:

- Complete required school and district forms including the Technology Use Agreement (for student iPad use) and field trip and media permission forms.
- Add or change primary and alternative addresses to ensure accurate school-bus transportation to and from home or childcare addresses (if/when hybrid or in-person learning returns later this year).
- Add or change phone numbers and email addresses to ensure the District has accurate contact information on file for your family.
- Once completed, you'll be asked to fill out the Application Educational Benefits/Free or Reduced Price Meals. Please complete this step regardless of your family's income.

How to access iUpdate:

Visit the One Stop website at spps.org/onestop. **Note:** Only one parent or guardian in a primary household completes iUpdate.

For assistance, submit your question or describe your problem using the One Stop Assistance Request form.

Family Orientation

There will be two (2) family orientation sessions with our new Assistant Principal, Ms. Kortney Hill, and me. The orientations will provide a deeper overview of what to expect during Distance Learning at Maxfield and have plenty of time for questions. **The meetings will be held virtually on Google Meet.** A link will be sent out on Tuesday afternoon prior to the first meeting. The orientation sessions are scheduled for:

- **Tuesday, September 1 from 5:00pm-6:00pm**
- **Wednesday, September 2 from 9:00am - 10:00am.**

The sessions are designed for parents/guardians and will cover the same information. One of them will be recorded for families that are unable to attend.

Virtual Open House

An online Open House via Google Meet will happen on **Thursday, September 3 from 3:30pm-5:30**. Classroom specific links will be sent earlier that day. It will be a time for families, including students, to pop in and meet your teacher.

Learning Materials

Maxfield will be providing distance learning materials for students. They will include basics like writing materials, notebooks, crayons, markers, scissors, pencil sharpeners, math workbooks, art supplies among other items. We are planning to have curbside pick up of materials Thursday, September 3 and Friday, September 4. More details will be announced soon.

Student and Family Distance Learning Checklist

Please view and use this technology checklist as a guide to make sure you are ready for the first day of school. This checklist is available at spps.org/fallchecklist.

iPad Help

If your iPad is damaged or needs to be replaced, please report the issue by emailing or calling Saint Paul Public Schools Technology Services:

- Email: familysupport@spps.org
- Call: 651-603-4348 from 7 a.m. – 4 p.m.. Please leave a detailed voicemail and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

If you are having problems with your iPad, you may also contact your student's teacher or our school. After a report is made, a member of the SPPS technology support team will contact you about replacement options to continue distance learning in Saint Paul.

If you are having issues logging into Seesaw, Schoology or other district-approved apps, please see the information on spps.org/ipadhelp.

School Hours

We are following our school's regular start and end times 7:30am to 2:00pm, regardless of whether students are distance learning or in hybrid or in-person learning scenarios. Instructional availability for learning occurs during this time. This does NOT mean that students will be on their iPad for this whole time. These are just the hours that synchronous and asynchronous learning times and support from teachers will be available.

Meals

Nutrition Services will continue to provide weekly meal boxes through home meal delivery and curbside pickup while SPPS is in distance learning. All students eligible for free or reduced-price meals will receive meals at no cost.

Every SPPS family should complete an application for Education Benefits/Free or Reduced Price Meals -- regardless of family income. Not only does this help us identify families in need of assistance, it also allows SPPS to receive federal dollars for classroom programming. Applications are available online on [SchoolCafe](#), and paper applications were mailed to homes in August.

I am looking forward to welcoming you and your child to a new school year **Tuesday, September 8, for grades 1-5, and Thursday, September 10, for Pre-K and kindergarten**. I'm so proud to be part of this wonderful school community.

Sincerely,

Ryan M. Vernosh

Principal

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