Principal Back to School Message

Welcome to the 2021-22 school year! All of us at Riverview look forward to seeing you! I am eager to welcome our entire community back to our building this year. **The first day for 1st - 5th graders is September 9 and the first day for PreK and Kindergarten is September 13.**

As you may know, the Board of Education has voted to require face masks for all teachers, staff, students and visitors in all SPPS buildings. While this may cause an inconvenience, we remain committed to the safety of our entire school community and are glad that we are able to return in person in the safest way possible.

I am excited that we will be able to bring back some of our in person family events, student field trips and other school activities this year!

In this letter, you’ll find a few things to know so you and your child can prepare. As always, I thank you for trusting in Riverview. It is my belief that our work in educating our children is done in partnership with families and community. Please remember that I am here to serve you and your family and don’t hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, ideas or celebrations you have about our school! I look forward to welcoming you and your family to the new school year!

Sincerely,
Nancy D. Páez, Principal

► iUpdate Information

Please complete the iUpdate form at [spps.org/onestop](http://spps.org/onestop). **Every family must complete the forms.** This allows you to give field trip permissions, provide transportation information and share emergency contacts. It also updates your contact information and ensures that you receive regular communication from Riverview.

If you need assistance completing the form, please email Mr. Pierre at [pierre.cejudo@spps.org](mailto:pierre.cejudo@spps.org) and he will schedule a time with you to provide support.

**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 2 - September 8</td>
<td>Back to School Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 9</td>
<td>First day of school for 1st-5th grade students</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 9-10</td>
<td>PreK and Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, September 10</td>
<td>Emergency Drill for 1st-5th grades (Lockdown Drill)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, September 13</td>
<td>First day of school for PreK and Kindergarten students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, October 1</td>
<td>Fall Picture Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, October 4</td>
<td>Chipotle Mexican Grill Fundraiser</td>
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**School Hours:** 9:30-4:00pm

Students may enter the building at 9:15a.

**Riverview School Calendar**

A copy of our calendar is posted online at [spps.org/riverview](http://spps.org/riverview). For the full district calendar, visit [spps.org/calendar](http://spps.org/calendar).

**COVID-19 Student and Family Guidelines**

Please review the [COVID-19 Student and Family Guidelines](https://spps.org/safelearningplan). Visit [spps.org/safelearningplan](http://spps.org/safelearningplan) for up to date information.
► School Supplies
The school supplies lists are now posted on our website at spps.org/riverview and are also attached. Please send your child with a child-sized mask and water bottle each day.

► School Bus Transportation
If your child is taking the bus to school, you should receive a yellow postcard through U.S. mail in the last week of August. The postcard lists details about where and when to meet the bus. Please arrive at the bus stop five minutes before the bus is scheduled to pick up your child. Be sure to track the status of your child’s bus on your school’s website, at spps.org/bus or through the MySPPS smartphone app.

If you believe your student is taking the bus but do not receive a postcard, please call Transportation at 651-696-9600 or our school clerk, Ms. Alicia, at 651-293-8665. The iUpdate form is where you share transportation information.

► School Drop-off and Pick-up
Students are welcomed by staff at the last door in the back of the school (on Isabel St.) from 9:15-9:30, where you can conveniently drop off students at the curb and make a U-turn to leave. Please pull all the way up to allow for a smooth transition. For pick up, families will be assigned a number for curbside pick up at the same door. Please drive on Isabel St from Robert and avoid driving by the baseball fields or Bus Loading Zone.

If you would like to walk students to the building, please park away from the Bus Zone and Drop Off Zone and walk your child to the FRONT DOORS. For your safety, do not walk in between parked buses. Due to COVID-19 safety procedures, we will continue to limit visitors in the building, except by appointment.

The parking lot is closed during arrival (9:10-9:40) and dismissal times (3:45-4:10).
A Day in the Life of a Student Example (with COVID-19 mitigation efforts)

- Students enter the building. Parents/Guardians drop off outside the building.
- Students who want breakfast, line up using social distancing marks on the floor.
- Students wash hands or use hand sanitizer as they enter the classroom and have breakfast in their classroom.
- It’s recommended that students are social distanced at 3-6 feet. However, with all students returning in person, it will be very difficult in most classrooms to maintain social distancing.
- Students will have assigned seats for contact tracing. Students do move around the classroom a lot, but we will do our best to track students.
- Students will have lunch in the cafeteria or in their classroom. Students will have assigned seats during lunch for contact tracing. Attempts will be made to have students socially distanced 3 feet when eating in the cafeteria.
- When students go outside for recess or other outdoor activities, masks can be removed.
- Handwashing and regular cleaning is a part of the school routines.
- Students will be monitored for symptoms throughout the day. Students who become sick with COVID-19 symptoms during the school day will be isolated (under supervision) in the designated isolation room until they can be sent home.
- Students may be asked to quarantine at home. However, students that wear masks and are in close proximity to someone that has positive for COVID-19 are NOT considered close contact and will not be asked to quarantine.
- Students who ride buses will wear masks at all times.

Parent/Guardian Guidelines

Please read the COVID-19 Student and Family Guidelines. It is important during this pandemic that you pick your child up as soon as possible when they are sick so we can limit the risks to other students and staff and reduce the spread of COVID-19. Please be sure that we have up-to-date contact information so we can reach you quickly. Be sure to follow exclusion recommendations provided to you and your family.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

MORE common symptoms: fever greater than or equal to 100.4° F, new cough or cough that gets worse, difficulty/hard time breathing, new loss of taste or smell
LESS common symptoms: sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, muscle pain, extreme fatigue/feeling very tired, new severe/very bad headache, new nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose

Answer the following questions each morning before sending your child to school:

1. Did my child recently test positive for COVID-19?
2. Does my child have any of the COVID-19 symptoms listed above?
3. Did my child have close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone who recently tested positive for COVID-19?

If you answered YES to any of the above:

- Do not send your child to school, report your child’s absence, and contact your child’s healthcare provider.
- Report your child's symptoms or exposure using the online SPPS COVID-19 Reporting System.
If you are concerned about the risks of attending school in person or if your child is at higher risk, you may consider the SPPS Online School as an alternative for grades K-5. **SPPS Online School** is a new SPPS school offering full-time online instruction. The SPPS Online School will address the same state standards as other SPPS schools, but will modify courses for online learning. Students attending the SPPS Online School will no longer be enrolled at Riverview. Spanish immersion instruction is not a part of the Online School.

**Meals**

All students receive a free breakfast at school, served daily from 9:15 am to 9:45 am through the Breakfast to Go program. As students arrive at school, they can grab their breakfast and eat in class. Our school is part of the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program. That means every student enrolled at our school will receive a healthy lunch 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.com/spps](http://schoolcafe.com/spps).

**Uniforms**

Our school requires all students to wear uniforms and closed-toe shoes every day. See attached Uniform Guidelines for more information. The Assistance League of St Paul/Minneapolis will once again provide 3 uniforms to every student in late September. Date TBD.

**Before-School Riverview & Community Programs**

- Extended Day Learning (EDL) is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday through Thursday from 7:15-9:15am, pending staff and bus driver availability.
- Violin and cello lessons through the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies (GTCYS) will be offered to 2nd - 5th graders.
- Registration information will be sent in September.

**After-School Community Programs**

- Discovery Club: 651-632-3793 or spps.org/discoveryclub.
► Student iPads
Some apps on your child’s iPad may no longer be available due to iPads being prepared for the school year. New iPads will be distributed to each student in September.

If your iPad is damaged, please report the issue by emailing or calling SPPS Technology Services:
- Email: familiesupport@spps.org
- Call: 651-603-4348 from 7am – 4pm.
- More information at information on spps.org/ipadhelp.

► Back to School Event
Please look for more information regarding our Fall Back to School Event. Families will have scheduled times to visit between September 2 through September 8. This will allow for more connection with teachers and to avoid large groups of people gathering. You will be able to visit classrooms, meet your child’s teachers, drop off any school supplies and learn about new and exciting activities planned for the year. Additionally, each student will receive a postcard in the mail their new teacher’s name in the last week in August.

► Let’s Stay Connected
Relationships and timely communication are important to our community. You can expect to receive a monthly newsletter from Riverview, as well as weekly family updates. We use Blackboard Connect to inform families about important information, events, emergencies and more through email, phone and text. Update your phone number, email and other contact information by completing the iUpdate form at: spps.org/onestop. If you have questions the website doesn’t answer, please call our clerk, Ms. Alicia at 651-293-8665.

You can also find up to date information on:
- The Riverview school website, spps.org/riverview
- Social media: Facebook and Twitter
- The MySPPS app; download the app and “Follow” Riverview

We look forward to welcoming you to the new school year! Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need to contact someone at the school.

- Riverview Main Line 651-293-8665
- Attendance Line 651-744-5993
- Bilingual support, Pierre Cejudo 651-767-8194
- Principal, Nancy Páez 651-785-5181
- Nurse, Kelly 651-888-7660