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Lena Guerrieri, Principal

# KENDALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September 2017

Dear Kendall Parents,

It is hard to believe that school has been in session for one month already! The normalcies of a school year that include excitement and energy as well as structure and routine are rolling again! As September comes to a close, I share proudly amazing stories and learning that happens here, as well as important principal reminders. I apologize, but my communication is a bit lengthy for the first month.

## **Celebrations:**

Air Conditioning In Our Classrooms- We were excited about the cool temperatures to start the year. We are also excited that when summer temperatures decided to kick in that our classrooms were air conditioned!! Hopefully you enjoyed it as well when you attended Curriculum Night on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

New Roof- Our building and grounds is something we don't think about on a daily basis. Kendall will be 20 years old next year and it was time for an upgrade. As many of you endured the pounding and scraping of our roofers over the summer months, the final outcome is beautiful and effective in keeping the functions of our school safe.

Third Grade Chrome Book Pilot- Our third graders received a personal Chromebook to start the school year. Students are over the top excited. They will be piloting alongside the district. As our school district moves closer to 1:1 Chromebooks for all students in grades 2-5, they will have the practical feedback from our elementary students and teachers to make positive adjustments. Kendall teachers did not waste one minute in beginning the implementation. Thank you to all third grade parents who were able to attend the parent information evening on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

Science Pilots- As we get closer to implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), Kendall teachers are all participating in piloting the new curriculum. Beginning last year, a team of teachers attended professional development on the new standards and curriculum to teach & assist the rest of the staff. Our lead teachers include: Miss Patino, Mrs. Breese, Mrs. Kalantzis, Mrs. Macek, Mrs. Jourdan and Ms. Neufeld.

4th and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus: A record breaking number of students joined chorus this year. Mrs. Rothmeyer is super excited to lead over 90 students. Thank you to Mrs. Dale who accompanies her as well. Our students rise and shine early to participate in Chorus. Thank you parents for driving your children to school early every Tuesday morning. We look forward to their performances throughout the year.

Helping Houston: As you well know there has been a flurry of natural disasters impacting so many people around the globe. LMC Director, Ms. Jenkins, reached out to Frazier Elementary School in Houston. I won't repeat all her details that she shared out weekly about our coin collection. But I certainly do feel the need to personally THANK every family for the extreme generosity shared.

Nearly three thousand dollars was collected by our students and families. You know that can buy many books for their library. The students were excited to assist in the choosing of those books last Friday! Most touching were the ways in which money was donated including student lemonade stands, sharing allowances and tooth fairy money, parents and businesses matching a child's donations. Proud to be a Patriot is what comes to mind when I reflect upon how we came together to help others in need!

### **How Do We Communicate?**

Kendall Staff Google Sites are greatest ways to keep up to date on what is happening in your child's grade and classroom. Teachers update the sites regularly and include very helpful information, tools and resources to support learning. In addition, parents will receive listserv (email messages) from me as well as the District 204 News in form of email. Connect Ed is used by me in the form of a telephone call. See what our district & staff are tweeting by following #futureready204, @KendallPatriots, #KendallPatriots. Lastly, don't forget our district website, [www.ipSD.org](http://www.ipSD.org) which is a comprehensive resource including the latest district news.

### **Safety & Security:**

Kendall received a new and improved security camera. As we make the transition from old to new we are still using both. Everyone will be asked to please identify themselves and their purpose for the visit. We still utilize RAPTOR, an additional security system, which requires parents to check in our main office and present their government issued identification. Our staff and students continue to practice safety drills including: fire, tornado, bus evacuation and lockdowns. We practice these throughout the year under the supervision of the Naperville Fire and Police Departments.

### **Late Start Wednesdays:**

Every Wednesday is a late start for District 204 students. Our elementary children will begin school 10 minutes later. **Doors open at 9:00 instead** of 8:50 am. **School will begin at 9:15** instead of 9:05 am. Professional Development Wednesdays provide staff opportunity to review and better examine student performance and current Common Core instructional practices. If you are unable to accommodate the 10 minute later start you may still drop off your child at 8:50 and they will wait the 10 minutes with supervision. The end of day dismissal remains 3:35.

### **Drop Off/ Pick Up Lines:**

Thank you to our parents who continue to use our drop off and pick up lines. For those of you that are new to the system here are a few reminders:

- **Have your students names in the passenger window- visible to staff**
- Remain in your car at all times
- Pull forward when possible to the STOP sign to assist keeping the line in motion
- Use the left lane to pass

### **End of Day Dismissal:**

Kendall dismisses most of our students by walking or car pick up. The process requires all staff, parents and students to follow the safety guidelines. Children need to know their dismissal location daily. Remind them if there will be a change and please contact the teacher and office when you do change the location. Staff have rotating locations daily. We have everyone on board! Our bell

system staggers and times the flow of many children exiting the building to avoid confusion. Please see below:

**3:25-** Staff and Daycare students go to their locations

**3:28-** Begin the dismissal of daycare/bus students only and car riders head to their locations in the building

**3:32-** Car Riders are dismissed

**3:35-** Walkers are dismissed

If you park anywhere on our streets your child is **considered a walker** and we ask that you please respect the guidelines and not ask your child to come out with front and side car riders. It is misleading to your child and staff cannot supervise the safety of your child when the guidelines are being compromised. Thank you for your assistance.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to call our main office at 630-428-7100. They are willing to help! Thank you for sending us your children every day!

Sincerely,

Lena Guerrieri  
Principal