

September 4, 2020

Dear SEL School Community,

Welcome back to another school year! I hope that you and your family are well. I want to thank everyone for their encouraging words and patience as we begin this school year in full remote-learning mode. We have been counting down to the first day of school! On Tuesday, September 8th we will kick off the 2020-21 school year. Teachers across the district will welcome students back in creative and innovative ways to start the year virtually.

Our preparation time during the weeks of August 17 – September 4 have been very productive as our goal was to go the extra mile and be well prepared for the start of the school year. I would like to share some of what we were able to accomplish:

- Teachers received several days of training with the district's new Learning Management System, Schoology
- A one stop management platform for parent access has been established
- Teachers in grades K-12 are collaborating and building their online classrooms to include interactive lessons and live teaching
- A K-12 Academic Road Map identifying Essential Standards has been established
- Common assessments are being developed to ensure consistency of expected learning outcomes
- Daily schedules were developed K-12 to include live interaction with teachers daily, common lunches
- Student Services staff are developing social and emotional learning opportunities for students
- School Social Workers are creating support groups for parents
- Right At School before and after school program continues to prepare for the return of students as well as offer options for SEL staff
- Our Family and Community Engagement Coordinator is working with families to provide assistance to those needing help to navigate remote learning
- Student Services collaborated with the K-6 PTAs to provide a drive-thru Ice Cream Social to welcome students and their families back to school

As we work and learn remotely, we know the primary method of communication will be electronic. To organize these communications we will be creating a *Critical Communications Center* as a warehouse to store messages and other important information sent from Principals and the Superintendent to parents and guardians. It provides a place where a parent or guardian can quickly navigate to retrieve information previously sent to them.

Please know that our team of educators is composed of some of the greatest hearts and minds you will find anywhere! We are all hard at work, planning rigorous and engaging lesson plans while ensuring flexibility for our students.

Despite it all, we are excited to get to “see” our students soon and get them off to a great year of learning and growth. This year, more than ever will be a true home and school partnership and

we appreciate our parents' flexibility and engagement. Please continue to visit our website at www.sel.k12.oh.us for updates.

Years from now, people will ask you about this time in our history. I hope you will be able to say with pride that you did the best you could, and your children's school did too!

Let's have a great year, GO ARCS!

Dr. Linda N. Reid

Superintendent

[Welcome Back 2020](#)
