



Mary B. Austin Elementary

ROOTS TO SUCCESS "Holding firm to our roots as we branch into the future."

Melissa Whigham, Principal

August 5, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Mary B. Austin, I want to welcome everyone to the 2021-2022 school year. Our mission is to engage all students through relevant, individualized instruction that empowers students to take ownership of their learning and gain the skills necessary to think creatively, critically, and independently within a safe and encouraging learning environment.

A parent and student handbook are located on our school website. Please review handbook for school procedures, carpool procedures, attendance policy, discipline policy, extended day program, and general school information.

"Meet the Teacher" will be held on August 6th

Teachers will call parents according to their class rolls by **last names** to set up appointments by Thursday. If you do not receive a phone call, please follow the designated times.

A-L 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

N-Z 1:00 pm.-3:00 p.m.

- Masks are **STRONGLY** encouraged to be worn by parents and students entering the building.
- Two parents' and student are allowed in the building.

First Day of School Procedures - (August 11, 2021)

- Parents are not allowed to walk students to the classroom.
- Our support teachers and staff will assist students to their classrooms.
- *Please review our carpool procedures in the handbook. No parking* in the front parking lot, in front of resident's driveways, or mailboxes.
- Carpool will begin at 7:40 a.m. on the first day of school. Please wait at the 3 ways stop at Stein/Provident until the crossing guard and the lead teacher pull everyone forward to begin carpool.
- Kindergarten students will have a professional photographer visit the classroom and take a picture of your child's beginning minutes in "real" school. The picture will be returned to you as a proof by August 19th and you will be able to purchase a memento package for \$12 - \$48.
- Dismissal will begin at 2:55 p.m.

At this time, parents must make an appointment for school business, conferences, and meetings. We will follow MCPs policy and CDC guidelines for the safety of our faculty, staff, and students.



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During this school year we will share many new and exciting opportunities together. I look forward to making this a positive and exciting experience for Mary B. Austin Elementary students and their families. Together we Achieve!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. mswhigham@mcpss.com or 251-221-1015

Thank you, parents and guardians, for choosing us! Mary B. Austin is the place to BEE!

Sincerely,
Melissa S. Whigham