



WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Thomas Matthews, Principal

*Be kind! Work hard! Share your feelings and read, read, read!
Go Wildcats!*

August 30, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The faculty and I extend a warm welcome to you and your children as we begin the new school year at Washington Elementary School (WES). We are extremely excited to return to five full days of in-person instruction in the building. By working as a team, we can make this the most enjoyable and rewarding year yet! As principal, I will always strive to ensure that your child is provided with a safe, nurturing, and highly effective learning environment.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic continues to create uncertainty, we remain committed to working with local and state health partners to develop a layered set of safety measures and protocols to help keep our students, staff and all of our family members, safe, including you! We will continue to implement mandatory mitigation measures including the requirement for all students and staff to wear masks while indoors and on the buses. Social distancing will be maintained to the greatest extent possible in all areas in and around our school building. Everyone will engage in regular handwashing and will have access to hand sanitizer. Many more answers about all things Covid 19 can be found on our district's website at twpunionschools.org

In order to ensure that students get the most out of their school experience, the development of a strong partnership between home and school is essential. With this in mind, the teachers and I pledge to keep the lines of communication open throughout this school year. In fact, you should be hearing from your child's new teacher by this Wednesday, September 1st if you haven't already. You can expect to receive detailed information regarding your child's classroom routine, expectations, and schedule directly from your child's new teacher. School supply lists are posted on our school webpage at washington.twpunionschools.org unless you received them directly from your child's new teacher. It is strongly recommended that you sign up for, and regularly utilize, our district's online **Parent Portal on Genesis** which will be available to parents on the evening of Thursday, September 2. The portal can be used as an excellent resource for tracking your child's progress during the year. You will be able to view your child's test grades, current marking period averages, report card grades, and attendance data.

Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher, or me. My email is tomatthews@twpunionschools.org. Our school number is listed below. Each teacher may also be contacted via email. Genesis is updated and all families should be able to find who their child's new teacher is and should also see their email address.

Showing interest in a child's academic and social experiences at school can be a great motivator for learning. Therefore, be sure to find time on a daily basis to talk to your child about his or her school day. Reading aloud to your child is also invaluable! Let your child see that you are working together with the school to help make this a terrific school year in every way. Finally, be sure to join and actively participate in our school's PTA. Our PTA is one of our school's greatest resources. We are confident that this is going to be an exciting and productive school year for all of our students and families. We end all correspondences with the following WES mantra; "Be kind! Work hard! Share your feelings and read, read, read! Go Wildcats!"

PS: The WES virtual Back to School Night is scheduled for Wednesday, September 22nd at 6:30 P.M. details to follow.

Sincerely,

Thomas O. Matthews, Principal