September 2, 2020

Dear Priest Elementary-Middle School Families,

I am pleased to welcome you back to the 2020-21 school year! I would like to extend a special welcome to all the new families joining Priest Elementary-Middle School this year and welcome back all of our returning families as well! I am honored to be your principal. Our goal at Priest Elementary-Middle School is to work together to provide our students with a rich learning environment. My vision, as the principal, is to ALWAYS put kids first! My belief is that all students can learn. As educators, we need to discover how each child learns in order to differentiate our instruction to support diverse learning styles. In a collaborative effort, we want children to thrive in all ways possible. My hope is that all children will LOVE school and nurture a learning environment that is positive, safe, warm, caring, as well as a fun place to learn and grow.

Student success is attributed to the partnership and the relationships we build within our community and this is MOST important now more than ever. It truly does take a village and at Priest Elementary-Middle School we value teamwork and collaboration! Education is a joint venture and Priest greatly appreciates the support you provide for your children at home and at school to help them meet their learning goals.

Although this year looks different than any other year, we are dedicated to providing your child(ren) a memorable, interactive, engaging, and most importantly safe learning experience.

Priest Elementary-Middle School will be focusing on all of the positives that we can take from this experience and as the role models in our little dolphins’ lives it is important that we display a positive attitude towards distance learning and face to face learning each and every day. I encourage you to do the same at home.

A few things you may be wondering about before we get started next week:

Will school be the same start and stop time?
Yes, school will start at 8:30am and end at 3:40pm

What will distance learning look like?
*Please visit our Return to school website for the latest information regarding our Distance Learning Program.

Important Dates to REMEMBER

- Thursday 9/3- Parent-Student virtual orientation 2:00pm
- Tuesday, 9/8-First Day of School
- Instruction material pick-up (for virtual students) and connected futures device pick up for any student who didn’t get their device yet.
  - Wednesday 9/9-Thursday 9/10 3:00pm-5:00pm
  - Friday 9/11- 9:00am-3:00pm

Students Rise. We all Rise

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To start, the Priest Elementary-Middle School website is full of great information and we urge you to check the website often for news and updates.

- Make sure to check your email regularly! We send most of our communications home via email.
- If you have twitter, please follow Priest Elementary-Middle School @PriestEMDPSCD

We hope you will find that Priest Elementary-Middle School is truly a place where learning is joyful, and children delight in coming to school.

To all my fellow Dolphins, let’s make it a great year! Please stay safe and enjoy the last week of summer!

See you ‘virtually’ or ‘in person’ very soon!

Warmly,

Mr. Justin Hauser
justin.hauser@detroitk12.org
Principal