

Welcome to Back to School Night!

Westover Elementary School

We are Better Together!

September 8, 2021

Agenda

- * Welcome
- * Programs and Procedures
- * PTO Message
- * Classroom Visitation



Core Values that Drive Our Work

The Westover Way

- * Be Respectful
- * Be Safe
- * Be Prepared

Westover's Vision

At Westover Elementary School, we collaborate to inspire our students to be creative problem solvers and lifelong learners. We promote a respectful, equitable atmosphere that elevates academic excellence and social emotional growth for all.

School-Wide Expectations

- * **120 minute literacy block using the Benchmark Literacy program**
- * **75 minute math block using the Eureka Math program**
- * **Integration of technology**
- * **Differentiation where appropriate**
- * **Ongoing data collection and use of formatives**
- * **PBIS and SEL upgrades, including Wallaby Readers, SWBT meetings, and the Wallaby Academy**



Student Instructional Day

- * The student day is from **9:25-3:50**
- * Students will be invited into classrooms at 9:20
- * Students will be considered tardy at **9:25**--morning announcements will begin *promptly* at 9:25
- * Instruction will continue until 3:45
- * Afternoon announcements will begin at **3:50**-- **students will be called for dismissal following the afternoon announcements**



Safety During Arrival

- * **STUDENTS SHOULD NOT ARRIVE AT SCHOOL BEFORE 9:05 a.m.** School doors will remain locked until this time.
- * Students K-5 will line up outside of their classrooms upon arrival and will be supervised by adults and patrols.

Drop Off Loop

Elly
Young
K
Yoo

- * Please be reminded that cars should safely use the PICK-UP/DROP-OFF LOOP to drop off or pick up students.
- * Please, **NO PARKING IN THE PICK-UP/DROP-OFF LOOP!**
- * Drop-off and pick up should not occur in the bus lane or the parking lot.

Blacktop Pick Up

Families wishing to meet students on the Primary Blacktop during dismissal should indicate that they are “walkers”.

All students who are car riders will be dismissed to the car loop from the gymnasium. All walkers will be dismissed through the kindergarten hall doors to the primary blacktop.

Bus Driver Shortage

There continues to be a nation-wide school bus driver shortage.

We have noted that Bus 6320 is running approximately 5-10 minutes behind in the morning and approximately 15-20 minutes behind in the afternoon.

Please continue to arrive on time for both drop off and pick up at the bus stop.

Lunch

OUTDOOR LUNCH

- Kinder and 1st will eat lunch in the cafeteria, front facing only.
- Grades 2-5 will eat lunch outside on the grassy area on assigned blankets spaced 6 feet apart. There will be 4-5 students on each blanket.



INDOOR LUNCH

- Kinder and 1st will eat lunch in the cafeteria, front facing only.
- Grades 2-5 will eat in the cafeteria, with one some 4th and 5th graders in the media hallway. All students will be seated front facing only.

Outdoor Lunch



Correspondence and Communication

- * Check out the Westover website
- * Principal Coffees will be held in November and in April
- * Monthly Classroom/Team newsletters
- * PTO meetings
- * Sunday Screammers, Connect ED system, ParentVue
- * Mid-Week Updates, Connect ED, as needed
- * Friday Folders
- * Private FB Group



Positive Behavior Interventions

- *The Westover Way
- *ORANGE Wallaby Tickets
- *Peace Day celebrations
- *Classroom Meetings
- *Referrals
- *Reflection Sheets
- *Restorative Questions



Health & Safety Procedures

- PPE will be delivered to schools and offices
- **Health attestation is** ending; we will contact trace positive cases
- COVID testing will resume in grades PreK-6; opt in
- **Mask mandate remains** a MC expectation for school spaces regardless of vaccination status.
- **Outdoor mask wearing is not required**, but **highly recommended** and up to the individual.
- Triage room has been identified

Classroom & Building Use Guidelines

- Return to **pre-pandemic class sizes**
- Return to **use of tables, desks and all other furniture** for classroom seating
- Hallways- two way and no tape is needed
- Restrooms and water fountains- every stall, sink, fountain, classroom bubbler, etc. can be used
- Cubbies and lockers can be used for students
- Return to Pre-COVID bell/transportation schedules

Outdoor Instruction

- Students and teachers will utilize outdoor spaces for instruction, when feasible
 - Students have been asked to bring towels and/or mats to be left at school for such purposes

UPDATED Guidance on Quarantining Unvaccinated Students

- Unvaccinated students who have been in close contact with an individual who is displaying any single symptom of COVID-19 will be sent home.
- Students who are sent home because they have been in close contact with an individual with symptoms may return if the individual with symptoms tests negative, or has an alternate diagnosis from a medical provider.
- In the absence of a negative COVID-19 test or alternate medical diagnosis of that individual, all students who were in close contact with the individual are required to quarantine for 10 days.

What Does This Mean?

MCPS will be directing schools to send home:

- An individual who tests positive
- Those who are unvaccinated and in close contact to an individual who tests positive or has one or more COVID-19 symptoms
- An individual with one or more COVID-19 symptoms

Elementary: Individual Student Quarantine

- Schools will establish a Zoom room that can be staffed on a rotating basis to provide virtual continuity of learning; some live instruction via Zoom, independent work time, and check ins
- Students will access grade-level course work through their teacher's Canvas page

Elementary: Full Class Quarantine

- Access to a combination of live instruction via Zoom, independent work time, and check ins.
- We will prioritize continuity of learning in core content areas with attention and balance to off camera time, breaks, social/wellness support, and independent work time.

Goals for 2021-2022

- * Focus on Social Emotional Learning and Student Wellbeing
- * Build positive relationships
- * Use a variety of data to determine students' strengths and needs to inform instruction and increase student learning
- * Keep students and staff healthy and safe



Message from the PTO

Follow us on Facebook: Westover Community Alliance

https://youtu.be/69ymYliff_M

Visitation

Have a Great Night!

Use teacher/team provided Zoom link for visitation

- * 1st Session: 7:00-7:30
- * Repeat of 1st session: 7:35-8:05