

Dear Parents/Guardians,

August 2020

We are looking forward to seeing all of the smiling faces of students at Abita Springs Middle School! We are ready and prepared to provide engaging lessons to our students in a safe, loving environment. Our faculty and staff have been hard at work, getting all of our classrooms ready with safety of students and staff in mind. Many safety measures have been put into place and will be implemented and followed by staff and students. Open communication between school and home is a must to help in this matter. Our school theme this school year is "Reaching for the Stars". We encourage all of our students to strive for the best and expectations from teachers will be high as we continue to push our students on the path of success.

Morning arrival will be different this school year as safety measures have been put in place. When students arrive to school, they will use hand sanitizer, then report directly to their homeroom for health screening, which includes questions and temperature check. Breakfast will be delivered to the classrooms in the morning if your child is eating breakfast. It is a good idea for bus riders' parents to call the bus driver to get an idea of when the bus will arrive in the morning at the stop. You can find the bus driver's number by clicking on the link on our school's website under "Parent Info" and entering your address.

Carline arrival in the morning will be in front of the school on Main Street, please do not pull in the driveway for morning carline unless it is raining. We have duty personnel outside the fence that will direct cars and monitor students. Please wait for duty personnel to drop your child off, no students may be dropped off before 7:00. Walkers in the morning should use the walker gate at the corner by the crossing guard. All students should arrive by 7:30.

Dismissal of ASMS is at 2:31. The first group to dismiss will be our bus riders. After bus riders dismiss, we call for our car riders and walkers. Car riders will be spaced out for social distancing as they wait for their car. Car rider parents, please line up outside the fence along Hwy 36 on the shoulder. After all buses have left the school yard, cars will be allowed to enter the driveway by the crossing guard. All car riding parents will be expected to turn right exiting the driveway as this is a one-way street. It is very important that if your child is a walker, you write a note to your child's teacher for that first day of school.

Lunchroom procedures have also changed. Students will be eating lunch in their classroom at this point in time. Please remind your child that there is no sharing of food. During this time, we cannot accept birthday cupcakes or any other food items that you want to send for your child and classmates.

At this time, we can only have essential visitors on campus. With this being said, please make sure that your child has everything that they need each day before they leave home. We are asking you not to bring work or projects to school that a student left at home. The student will have to bring it the next day, even if that means a lower grade. This also means that parents at this time may not eat lunch with their child. If or when this changes, we will let you know.

Any parents that must come to school to check their child out of school must be screened before entering the building. Please call the number on the office door and someone will meet you at the door to screen you.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to have our annual "Meet & Greet" this school year. Some of you may have questions that are not answered in this letter. Please feel free to email me at [edward.strohmeyer@stpsb.org](mailto:edward.strohmeyer@stpsb.org) with any questions that you still may have. I will be doing a robocall on September 4<sup>th</sup> that will go out after 3:00 to each homeroom roster's parents, letting you know who your child's homeroom and switch teachers are for the 2020-21 school year. You can also find this information on the Student Progress Center starting on Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. It is very important that your child knows his homeroom teacher to help with the process each morning as students arrive to school that first week. We will have personnel available the first week to direct students to their hall and homeroom class. Also, as a reminder, students will be required to wear a mask. This must follow STPSB guidelines which can be found in the district handbook.

We are looking forward to a great school year!

Sincerely,

Edward Strohmeyer, Principal