

PARENT NEWSLETTER  
MAY, 2019

**May/June Dates to Remember:**

Friday May 17 – Pancake Breakfast (starts at 8:15 for gr. 6/7)

Monday May 20 – Victoria Day – no school

Wednesday-Friday May 22-24 - Book Fair

Monday May 27 – ProD – no school for students

Tuesday May 28 – last PAC Meeting of the year

Friday May 31 – Parent Appreciation

Monday June 3 – District Track Meet

Friday June 7 – Fun Fair

Friday June 21- Latimer Road Sports Day

Wednesday June 26 – Gr. 7 Farewell Ceremony

Thursday June 27 – Year End Assembly (student’s only) and early dismissal 1:30PM

**Pancake Breakfast**

Our PAC and Latimer are joining forces once again to provide a pancake breakfast to all our students this coming Friday, May 17. Beginning at 8:15 (with our older students), we will provide pancakes and juice. The Principal (yes, that’s me!) and a host of parents will be mixing, flipping and serving pancakes to over 500 students! If possible, please have your son/daughter bring a plate and cutlery from home. All who bring their own will be entered to win 2 free movie passes!

We would like to encourage everyone to dress western/cowboy style.

**Jump Rope for Heart**

Congratulations and THANK YOU. Our Latimer Road Community raised **\$4878.75** for the Heart and Stroke Organization. Amazing work to support such an excellent cause.

**Buddy Bench**

One of our students (Grace) came to me earlier in the year with an idea. Grace asked if we could have a “Buddy Bench”. A Buddy Bench is a meeting place for those students looking for an opportunity to be included in play. When Latimer students see someone on the Buddy Bench, it gives a signal that someone would like to be included in a game or just connect with others. Our hope is that this will help our school recognize that little acts of kindness, inclusion and care for each other is what we are all about. Grace will select a friend and together, they will have the task of painting 2 benches so students know where they can go if they are looking for a playmate.

**School Start Supplies**

Thank you to those parents who completed a short survey last month about school supplies. We took that information and have worked with both the School Start program and our teachers to refine the supply lists and the costs. We have taken away the shipping charge for home deliveries and will also be offering a school pick-up option at the end of the first week of classes in September (thank you to PAC for providing volunteers for this).

**School Growth and Class Organizations**

Latimer Road continues to be in a growth cycle. We are anticipating 560 + students this fall. Many changes occur between this time of year and the end of the first week of September. All class organizations are

temporary at this stage. Please understand that student placement is a complex task for teachers and administration and we are unable to take requests from parents for their children to be matched up with friends or with particular teachers.

### **Communication with Support Staff**

We encourage and value open communication and always endeavor to be available to address your questions and/or concerns. Like our teachers, our EA/ABA staff is growing also. As the teachers are directly responsible for the programming of designated students, please know that the District Policy is that all communication is to go through the teacher, not the support staff (ABA/EA's). This includes text messages and emails. I will be sending a letter specifically to parents of designated students to elaborate a bit more on this.

### **Parent Appreciation**

Parents play a significant and fundamental role in helping us to create a culture and environment whereby students thrive. As a small token of our appreciation we will be hosting a "coffee and snack" drive-thru or pick up for those who walk, on the morning of Friday, May 31. Beginning at 8:10 AM, you will find our lovely teachers pouring coffee and handing out home baked goodies! We do have a special request – PLEASE PROVIDE A TO-GO MUG as we will not have disposable cups this year. It is our way of being environmentally friendly. A BLAST OUT was sent yesterday to all parents so check it out for details.

### **Dress Code/Expectations**

School is a place of business and it is expected that both staff and students dress in an appropriate manner. Please work with us to ensure students understand the expectations outlined below:

- Flip flops are a safety hazard. Closed toed shoes or sandals that are secured around the ankle will lessen the possibility of tripping/spraining.
- Spaghetti straps, crop tops and short shorts are for the beach. We respectfully request tummies are covered, no bras or boxer shorts are displayed and shorts are mid- thigh length.
- Caps and hats are fine outside but not to be worn in the school.

### **Water Bottles**

Not all classrooms have access to water. Students should have a full water bottle in the morning. They may fill it at recess and lunch if necessary.