



West St. Paul School

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David Ingram – Principal

Tanya Kohut – Vice Principal

September 15, 2020

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year.

We met all parents and all our new students on orientations days on September 8th and 9th. A COVID-19 screening sheet was given to each parent. Please continue to follow this screening sheet carefully each day. Children displaying symptoms cannot attend school. Further, parents should have plans in place in the event that their child is sick or in the event of school being suspended on short notice due to changing public health advice.

Children are quickly learning new routines in their classrooms and the school. Children are learning to wear masks on the school bus and in the school and even our youngest children are choosing to wear a mask. Children are washing and sanitizing their hands multiple times each day and working on distancing themselves from others. Recess and lunch breaks have been divided so that we have fewer students in the school grounds at any one time. The Division has hired an additional custodian, so we now have two custodians working to keep our school clean during the school day. Our Plexiglas dividers for rectangular tables have arrived and have been installed. We continue to teach our students that we are all working together to keep each other safe.

We have supervision for students beginning at 7:40 each day. Teachers will take students into the school when the bell rings at 7:50 and students always begin each day by washing their hands.

We appreciate that parents and guests have avoided entering the school building. We are doing our best to contain the school with staff and students and taking students outside for learning opportunities as often as possible. For parents coming to pick up students during the day, we ask that you phone the school first and we can have your child ready and we will send them out to your car when you arrive. The vehicle activity in the school parking lot remains an ongoing concern. We know that we have 14 school busses that must have access to the parking lot. The busses are a priority and arrive between 2:20-2:30. There is not enough space in

the parking lot for all parents to park their cars at the end of the school day. We would like parents to consider two changes when picking up a child after school. **First, consider picking your child up on Minnehaha or Hiawatha Avenues across the street from the school.** Each day we have one of our staff members walking children across the street at the lights both before and after school. **Second, arrive at the school at 2:30 – 2:35 after all the busses are in place.** Students can be picked up in the loop by the school play structure. These two suggestions should help to keep the children safe and the parking lot less congested.

We are so glad to see the eager and happy faces at school again. Kids are delighted to be back making connections with all their friends!

David Ingram

Tanya Kohut

Administrators