



PALMYRA BOARD OF EDUCATION

PALMYRA, N.J. 08065

Brian J. McBride
Superintendent of Schools

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William R. Blatchley
*Business Administrator/
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Dear Parents,

Happy Friday! On behalf of the entire CSS team I would like to say “thank you” for your assistance in making the start of school a huge success. Our team of professional teachers and support staff worked throughout the summer to prepare for the new school year, and it is always an amazing feeling to watch all the students return on their first day of school as it signals a fresh, new opportunity for learning and growing!

The CSS Website continues to serve as the primary medium for building-wide communication. Teachers will communicate on an individual basis and may use their respective websites, social media, email, telephone, and notes to reach out to you. More details will be provided by your child’s teacher this coming Thursday, 9/20, during Back-to-School Night at CSS. A friendly reminder that Back-to-School Night is an event for parents to meet their child’s teacher and to learn about learning and classroom expectations. I certainly hope that you can make it out next week. Parents are kindly reminded that students are not to attend the Back-to-School Night.

Throughout New Jersey, school safety and security is a major focus for local school boards and school administrators. Here at CSS, a number of initiatives were put in to place with the start of this school year that supported increased student safety and security. Our initiatives altered arrival and dismissal procedures, requirements for visitors to provide valid identification along with a genuine need to be in the school building, increased surveillance and vigilance throughout the school campus based on recommended security checklists provided by the NJ Department of Education, and provided staff with in-depth training on emergency response. The Palmyra Board of Education is actively expanding the evaluation of school safety and security, and as such is working closely with contracted professionals and with members of local and state law enforcement to ensure that best practices are not only being considered, but implemented where applicable.

To help afford a safe, secure, and organized experience for your child/children, I share a few important reminders and ask that you kindly support our efforts:

1. The Breakfast Program begins at 7:45 AM (students are to enter through Walnut Street doors)
2. Regular student arrival time is 8:00 AM (doors are open and students may enter the building at that time)
3. **Doors close at 8:15 AM (students must sign in at the Main Office and will be marked late if they arrive after 8:15 AM)**
4. School day starts at 8:15 (not 8:20) and it is necessary to have all students in the building by this time
5. Please keep your personal contact information up-to-date with the Main Office
6. There is no adult supervision of students before 7:50 AM and parents will be contacted if their child/children arrive too early on the premises
7. Traffic is always a challenge around CSS; kindly we ask drivers to be FRIENDLY, COURTEOUS, CAREFUL and to keep the traffic moving so others can pull up and drop off quickly

I am looking forward to a wonderful school year and remain very confident that the collaborative effort of our entire CSS family will provide an exceptional learning experience for your child/children. Although I maintain an

open door policy, I encourage you to first work with your child's teacher should you have any concerns, questions, or terrific ideas to share. It takes a community to raise a child!

All the best,

Brian J. McBride

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