

Springton Lake Middle School

From the Desk of Dr. Robert Salladino, Jr., Principal
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EVERY Student. EVERY Day. NO MATTER WHAT.

August 21, 2020

Hello, Springton Lake Students & Families!

I am writing to provide you with this week's update in anticipation of the start of the new school year on August 31, 2020. Today's communication serves as a follow-up to the communication that I sent to families last Thursday, August 13, 2020. In case you missed that very detailed update, here is a link for you to review:

<https://bit.ly/3gcM80w>

Here are this week's updates...

The ***Back-to-School mailing*** was dropped off to the Post Office in Media today. You should expect to receive the mailing within the next few days. The mailing contains a lot of important information including log-in instructions for Home Access Center (HAC). Please take a few minutes to go through all of this information.

Student schedules will go LIVE in *Home Access Center* (HAC) on Monday morning, 08/24. Please take a few moments to assist your child in accessing his/her class schedule. The schedule will also indicate your child's team assignment – A, B, or C. There is a "key" included in the Back-to-School mailing that will help you to more clearly identify the team to which your child has been assigned. Please be aware that schedules and team assignments are final and that we are unable to accommodate any change requests. If you believe that there is an error in your child's schedule, you should contact the assigned school counselor.

In order for students to have the resources and materials that will be needed to begin the school year, ***we are scheduling a time for students to come to school to pick-up items***. Once our teachers return to school the week of August 24th, they will be working to "stage" a pile for each student. The materials that we will provide may vary by course. In some cases, a textbook will be issued. However, for many of our courses, students will be able to access an electronic version of the textbook. Sixth grade students and any students who are new to Springton Lake this year will also be able to pick-up their Chromebook at that time. The pick-up days will be Thursday, August 27th and Friday August 28th. The schedule for these days is indicated below. Students will enter through the cafeteria for a very quick "grab and go". We plan to assemble the items alphabetically in the cafeteria in order to facilitate this very quick pick-up process.

Thursday, August 27

Last Name A to K: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Last Name L to Z: 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Make-up A to Z: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Friday, August 28

Last Name L to Z: 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Last Name A to K: 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

I have received many emails from families who will be away on vacation on these days. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to have materials ready any earlier than these days. As I indicated, our teachers do not return to school until Monday and they will then need time to compile and assemble those materials. In an effort to assist families who may be away, ***we are going to open the building on Sunday afternoon, 8/30, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM as an additional time for pick-up.*** Materials will also be available on Monday, 8/31, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. As a final option, families may make arrangements with another family to pick-up materials for their child. You do not need to share these arrangements with us. We will assume that if someone indicates that they are picking up your child's materials, that you have requested this assistance. We hope that this updated plan will provide some additional options.

When picking up your child's materials, we request that you return the student emergency card with any updates AND the signed Chromebook and technology forms (blue and yellow pages). All of these materials are included in the Back-to-School mailing. Any forms not submitted on the pick-up days will need to be sent directly to the Main Office as soon as possible.

We recognize that there may be some anxiety around this unprecedented start to the school year and our plans for virtual – and eventually hybrid – teaching and learning. In an effort to connect with students and families, ***we will be hosting a virtual gathering on Wednesday evening, 08/26, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.*** We will provide a brief overview of our plans and discuss some of what to expect this Fall. There will also be an opportunity for parents and families to submit questions during the meeting. A link will be emailed to families on Wednesday afternoon for you to be able to access the meeting. We hope that you will be able to join us!

Finally, I want to remind everyone that the first day of school – Monday, August 31st, is for ALL students. The day will begin at our normal start time – 7:55 AM. Students and parents will receive emailed directions by the end of next week for how students will “report” to school on the first day. Please stay tuned.

I hope that this information is helpful and serves to answer some of the questions that you may have had. Please know that we are continuing to work hard to prepare for the start of the school year and all that we do is guided by our core believe at Springton Lake: ***Every Student. Every Day. No Matter What.***

Thank you.

Dr. Salladino