

ELMWOOD PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GILBERT AVENUE SCHOOL
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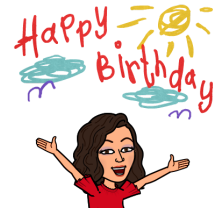
ANTHONY IACHETTI
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

KAREN FASOULETOS
PRINCIPAL

September 2020

Dear Gilbert Avenue Families,

Happy September! The Gilbert staff is excited to be making final preparations to welcome the children back to school in September for the 2020-2021 school year, the *100th birthday of Gilbert Avenue School!*



As we anticipate the start of the new year, we welcome the following staff members to the Gilbert family: **Ms. Haneen Saleh**, our new school counselor who has collaborated with me to ensure a smooth transition for our students with the new school year; **Ms. Emily Hoke**, Elementary Music Teacher, **Ms. Taylor Rauth**, Grade 1 Maternity Leave, and **Ms. Gina LoBue**, Occupational Therapist. In other staff updates, Mrs. McIvor is excited to be teaching Grade 3, and our “co-teaching teams” will consist of:

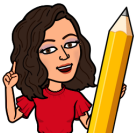
- **Ms. Phillips** with Mrs. Galati in kindergarten for ELA/Math & Ms. Fitzpatrick in Grade 4 in ELA
- **Mr. Herget** with Mrs. Cannata in Grade 1 and Ms. Kassai in Grade 2 for ELA/Math
- **Ms. Harr** with Ms. Gaydos & Ms. Wolf in Grade 3 for ELA/Math
- **Mrs. Schweitzer-Rivera** in Grade 4 for Math & with Ms. Planthaber in Grade 5 for ELA/Math.

A few program changes that you will notice, include students in Grade 4 and 5 remaining with their homeroom teacher for all subject areas. We are also happy to bring back a full time music teacher and plan to implement music exposure to our younger students in Grades 1 through 3, as well as instrumental lessons in Grades 4 and 5.

As indicated in last week’s correspondence, information is being communicated frequently. Our hope is to provide a clear and concise outline for you to follow as we begin the school year with our Remote Learning Model (RLM) during our first weeks of school. Google Classroom will serve as the central meeting place for your child’s daily learning. **Links to assignments and live instruction via Google Meets** will be posted within their teacher’s Google Classroom.

Outlined below are a few simple steps to ensure preparedness for the first day of school for **all our preschoolers and students in Grades 1-5 on Tuesday, September 8, 2020** and **all of our kindergarteners on Monday, September 14, 2020**. The Cohort A and B model will **not** be implemented during remote learning.

**SIGN
ME UP**



1. **Know your child’s ID number!** This will be their login for daily attendance, the beginning of their email address (#####@students.epps.org) and their login for Google Classroom.
2. **Attendance:** Parents will visit their school’s website and select “Click Here for Daily Attendance Link,” using their child’s student ID number. This will be completed daily by 8:45 a.m.
3. **Familiarize yourself with Google Classroom!** Your child will initially be added to join two Google Classrooms, one for homeroom and one for specials. You will only be able to access this with your child’s EPPS email address. Please be sure you are logged out of any personal Gmail accounts. (Directions attached).

- a. **Homeroom Google Classroom:** Reading, Writing, Math, Social Studies/Science/Spelling/Health links to live instruction, lessons and assignments
- b. **Specials Google Classroom:** Gym, Art, Spanish, Media (& Science Lab/Music, where applicable)
 - i. Students will complete these assignments during the afternoon sessions after returning from lunch.
- c. If your child receives a **Related Service** (English Language Learner Program (ELL/ESL) Speech, Occupational Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT), and/or Basic Skills) they will also be added to those classrooms and/or meet with those teachers.
 - i. Students will complete these assignments/meet with these staff members during the SS/Science/Spelling/Health “blocks” or during the afternoon sessions after returning from lunch. You will be contacted by the specific staff member.

Please note: On Tuesday, September 8th and Wednesday, September 9th, students will not be required to login for the afternoon sessions after 12:45 PM. Our first afternoon sessions will be held on Thursday, September 10th and on.

Reminders/Updates:

1. **Wednesdays (Week of 9/14/20 and on):** Wednesdays will be devoted to small group instruction, students will not meet with their entire class. Teachers will invite students individually to join small strategy groups for personalized learning. (8:45 am - 12:45 pm and 1:45 pm - 3:00 pm)
2. **Student Materials Pick Up:** A week in September will be scheduled for families to report to their specific school to meet their teachers and pick up related student materials. Purchased student supply boxes will be sent home at this time as well.
3. **GHSA:** Family involvement in the school’s programs and activities has become pivotal in the success found here at Gilbert. A strong partnership with the Gilbert Home School Association (HSA) has worked to provide programs that enhance the educational experience of our students. Please get involved- the spirit of volunteerism provides the cooperation that leads to success! Please download the Class Dojo app and follow the GHSA, Gilbert Avenue School, and your child’s teacher for continued updates!
4. You can also follow us on Instagram @gilbertaveschool

Sincerely yours,

Karen Fasouletos



Mrs. Karen Fasouletos
 Gilbert Avenue Principal
kfasouletos@epps.org

Cc: Mr. Anthony Iachetti, Superintendent of Schools
 Ms. Jillian Torrento, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
 Ms. Monica N. Brown, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
 Ms. Kathleen Gesumaria, Director of Special Services
 Mr. Mohammed Saadeh, Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Assessments
 Ms. Corinne DiMartino, Middle School Principal
 Ms. Courtney Risoli, Supervisor of Instruction
 Ms. Lara Schmitt, Supervisor of Instruction
 Mr. Steven Serra, Supervisor of Special Education
 Gilbert Avenue School Faculty