



# Meadowthorpe Messenger

September 2021

Mission: **Meadowthorpe** exists to create a community that **works together** to ensure all students **achieve** at high levels and are prepared for lifelong **success**.

## Curriculum Night

All parents/guardians are cordially invited to attend the Meadowthorpe Elementary Virtual Curriculum Night for **K-5** on **Thursday, September 16** and **GTAP 4/5 Thursday, September 23**. Both evenings will begin at 6:00 p.m. Your child's classroom teacher will send the virtual link for your access to the meeting next week. Parents will have an opportunity to meet their child's teachers for this school year. Parents will get a brief overview of the classroom schedule and logistic, grade level expectations and the instructional programs. Our goal is for parents/guardians to gain a better understanding of their child's grade level expectations and curriculum.



## Upcoming Events

- Sept. 10th- Send home progress reports
- Sept. 14th- Picture Day and LCT Play (grades 3-5 at 8:30 and grades K-2 at 12:15)
- Sept. 16th- Curriculum Night (Virtual 6:00-7:00)
- Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> SBDM at 4:00
- Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> GTAP Curriculum Night (Virtual – 6:00 p.m.)



## Mask Requirement

Everyone is required to wear a mask on FCPS school buses at all times and in FCPS facilities when students are present. Mask requirements apply to all employees, students in kindergarten through 12th grade, contractors, and visitors, regardless of immunization status, with the exception of those who have a medical exemption or exemption determined by an Admissions and Release Committee. Students and staff may lower their masks while actively eating or drinking. Students may remove masks outdoors on campus as long as they remain in their cohort group and maintain social distancing to the best of their ability. Employees may remove masks outdoors on campus as long as they are physically distanced. Fully vaccinated employees may remove masks indoors when students are not present



**Tuesday, September 14**

## In Person Instruction & Quarantine/Isolation Instruction

While students will be returning to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year and school based virtual learning is not available, there may be times when schools will need to provide virtual asynchronous learning for quarantined students. If an entire classroom were to be quarantined then the class would move into a virtual platform for the time of the quarantine and asynchronous learning utilized. However, if a small group of students were to quarantine out of a class they would be provided work to complete within their Google classroom and Imagine Learning while in quarantine. We will handle these on a case by case basis.

## Free & Reduced Lunch

While all students are able to receive school meals at no charge for the 2021-22 school year, **it is still important that families who would qualify (Free/Reduced) meal assistance, to fill out an application every school year.** This is a great support to our families but also provides funding and resources for the school.

- Income guidelines are below that may help determine if you should complete the application.
- If your child already received an approval of benefits letter for this school year, you do not need to fill out the form.
- Only one form per family needed, and it only takes a few minutes.

Apply now @ <http://bit.ly/FCPSEBF> . (If you need any help filling out the form on-line, please contact Jessica Morgison, FRAM Coordinator for FCPS Child Nutrition at 859-381-3838 or MES's Family Resource Director, Mary Jo Dendy at 859-381-3521.

# IMPORTANT

*All students infected with COVID-19 must report their diagnosis to the their school and/or FCPS within 24 hours of being diagnosed (per a new Emergency State Mandate).*

### There are 3 ways you can report a COVID-19 diagnosis:

- Call 859-381-FCPS (859-381-3277)
- Email [covid19@fayette.kyschools.us](mailto:covid19@fayette.kyschools.us)
- Fill out a report at [www.fcps.net/covid19](http://www.fcps.net/covid19)

*Please continue to help us keep our school and students safe.*

*Thank you for everything.*

## FALL Testing

MES students have completed fall benchmark assessments in Galliano and MAP to help teachers be informed of baseline data. These benchmarks will be shared with families during fall conference and will help to inform instructional levels of students. These do not determine grades but are more to help drive instruction areas for reteaching and areas for acceleration.

## PTA Membership

Our PTA membership campaign is online this year. Families can join online at the following link: <https://meadowthorpe.memberhub.com/store> . Our ultimate goal it to have at least one member for each student enrolled, and this year our members are needed more than ever. Your membership helps strengthen advocacy efforts for our children at the local, state, and national level.

Please join today! If you have any questions, please contact Charity Foster at [charitymfoster@yahoo.com](mailto:charitymfoster@yahoo.com).

## Absences/Tardy- Excused?

### Two Steps to an Excused Absence!

- If your child is absent, please call the school at 381-3521 before 7:30 am. Please note that even if you call us we'll call you each day through the automatic system to note the absence.
- For an absence to be excused, it must be followed up with a written excuse within 3 days. Absences are not excused without a note from the doctor or parent and cannot be excused if the note is not received within 3 days of the absence. It is so important to be sure all notes about absences are turned in right after your child is absent. FCPS Board Policy does not allow us to accept notes after this time and absences will remain unexcused. Remember, when you take your child to a doctor or dentist, get a note. See all the details in the FCPS Code of Conduct.

### What is an Excused Absence/Tardy?

- Death of immediate family member
- Illness of Student: Parents have a total of 10 notes to write for students illness. After 10 cumulative absences due to illness students are required to present a written statement from a medical professional for each additional absence for the school year in order to be excused.
- Religious Holidays & Practices
- Medical & Dental Appointments
- Family Emergencies: limited to three cumulative absent events per school year, as approved by the Principal.
- Family Vacations & Trips are not excused absences.

### Tardy Reminder

- Remember, school starts at 7:45 a.m. every day. Students must be in the building before the bell rings or they are considered tardy. After the bell rings, state and district attendance policies require an adult to sign in the student in the front office. If your child is late in the morning, you must come to the door and sign them in, please do not just drop them off.

## Canceled Bus Protocol

FCPS has been dealing with a bus driver shortage which has impacted many MES families these past few weeks. Please know that FCPS will post cancellations daily around 1:30 to [www.fcps.net](http://www.fcps.net). We will also work to call each family impacted and determine change of transportation. Please feel free to reach out to school if you see the posted cancelation as well. We understand the inconvenience this has caused for our families and are sorry for that.



## Medication at School

If your child needs to take medication at school, the following is required:

- Medication Authorization form signed by the parent. Stop by the office to fill one out!
- Medication must be in the original prescription container. Information listed on the container must include the student's name and the prescribed medication.

If your child has an allergy, asthma or other medical conditions that require special adult attention and/or medication while at school and you have not completed a medical information packet, please come by or call the office immediately. Call our Nurse, Sherry with questions.

## Transportation Safety & Transportation Changes

Transportation is one of the biggest worries for a teacher and making sure students arrive and get home safely. We are welcoming & dismissing close to 450 students on a daily basis and we need to ensure that every child gets to school and their home safely. Please help us by following these procedures: Do not make unnecessary afternoon transportation changes, and only make changes during the school day in the case of an emergency. All changes in transportation must be in writing and before 11:00 p.m. please don't email your child's teacher with changes because they can't be honored. Parents please stay in your cars during arrival/dismissal. It is for your safety too. Do not drop students off at the front door (bypassing the car line) prior to school starting. If you need to get through the car line quickly, the line is short at 7:15 but tends to be one at 7:40.