August 1, 2022

Dear TPS Elementary School Families:

I hope you are enjoying your summer and finding time to spend with family and friends. As we continue to prepare for the 2022-2023 school year, I want to share some important back to school reminders and information.

**Open House - First Day of School - Supply Lists**

**Wednesday, August 17:** Elementary School Open Houses - 6 to 7:30 p.m.

**Thursday, August 18** and **Friday, August 19:** Staff Professional Development; no students

**Monday, August 22:** First Day of School for elementary students and freshmen

**Tuesday, August 23:** First Day of School for sophomores

**Wednesday, August 24:** First Day of School for juniors and seniors

Most school supply lists are posted on [www.tps.org](http://www.tps.org/) – go to your student’s school page

 Kindergarten: Students will begin the week of August 29 with a staggered start

● Families will be notified if their student will start on Monday or Tuesday

● The first day for **ALL** Kindergarten students will be Wednesday, August 31

● Teachers will use the week of August 22 to complete screenings and/or orientations

 PRE-K: Students will begin the week of August 29 with a staggered start

● Families will be notified if their student will start on Monday or Tuesday

● The first day for **ALL** preschool students will be Wednesday, August 31

● Teachers will complete preservice and home visits during the week of August 22

**COVID-19**As we prepare for the new school year and continue to focus on the health of our students and staff members, we must keep COVID-19 in our plans. At this time, we are urging everyone who is eligible to get a vaccine or a booster.While we are planning to return to school following a regular schedule, district officials will continue to monitor COVID-19 infection rates in our area and make decisions about school and district operations based on information from the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department and other regulatory agencies. Other reminders:

* We encourage everyone – staff and students - to continue with daily health monitoring; if you are not feeling well or are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, stay home from school/work and contact your doctor
* Face coverings are optional for students or staff members
* Frequent hand washing or sanitizing and sneezing into a tissue or their sleeve will be reinforced with students and staff members
* To contain the spread of the virus, daily cleaning and the sanitizing/disinfecting of hard surfaces and classrooms/offices will continue

**Early Childhood Education**If you have applied or inquired about an Early Childhood placement, please note the following:

* If there is a spot for your child, you will be contacted by a member of the ECE team to set up an appointment to complete the application process
* Once your child has secured a spot in a classroom, your child will need to have current immunization and emergency medical information on file before the first day of classes
* Early Childhood Education classes will begin the week of August 29; you will receive specific information about this day in mid-August

**Kindergarten Registration**Any child who will be five (5) years of age on or before Monday, September 30, 2022, is permitted to attend Kindergarten. If your child will be attending Kindergarten this school year, you MUST call the school your student will be attending and schedule a screening. All screenings must be completed before the first full day of Kindergarten, which is Wednesday, August 31.

**Vaccines Must Be Up-to-Date - Required Immunizations**
Please plan now for your child’s vaccinations.

* Kindergarteners need their shots updated
* 7th graders need a Tdap and meningitis vaccine

The comprehensive School-Based Health Centers in all six comprehensive high schools are providing immunizations and physicals (kindergarten, preschool, sports, and work). Please call the facility nearest to you and make an appointment.

* Bowsher Health Center: 419-812-2809
* Start Health Center: 419-812-2393
* Rogers Health Center: 419-442-7702
* Scott Health Center: 419- 442-7701
* Waite Health Center: 567-204-3056
* Woodward Health Center: 567-343-6890

In addition, Shots for Tots N Teens is an option for vaccinations and physicals. Please
call 419-213-2013 for an appointment or visit their website for more information [https://lucascountyhealth.com/child-immunizations/](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__lucascountyhealth.com_child-2Dimmunizations_&d=DwMFaQ&c=2aCAd3HIzJT24Lg1nUbCpA&r=GZqxqLqgU-Wx8QCfKm1wOw&m=ejfWqqWP8-FgZe9wjgfj2ri7r8ya9k48sWdCmp2qzFdoq1mdl1c-ZiLZVOzEFtPs&s=2MRjQ0gs2h79oHKi4hfbjk2WI3Z1xwHEjCNC193eADc&e=)

**Student Dress Code**No changes have been made to the student dress code for the 2022-2023 school year. A copy of the current dress codeis available on the district’s website [www.tps.org](http://www.tps.org/) under the Resources heading under the Students & Parents tab.

**Two-hour Delayed Starts – Elementary Students Only**There will be two, two-hour delayed starts this school year for elementary students **ONLY**:

* **Friday, October 14** – End of the first quarter
* **Friday, March 17, 2023** – End of the third quarter

**Parent-Teacher Conferences – Thursday, October 27 and Friday, October 28**You will receive more information from your students’ school - elementary students do not have classes on these two days.

**Parent Notification System**Toledo Public Schools uses SchoolMessenger as our parent mass notification system. This robust system allows schools or the district to share important updates and reminders to families via a phone call, email or text message; you can choose how you want to receive updates. Please update your contact information or confirm its accuracy with your student’s school.

**Food Service for Elementary**Breakfast will once again be served daily in the school’s cafeteria; we will no longer send breakfast bags home with the students. Please check with your child’s school for breakfast times.

Toledo Public Schools utilizes Nutrislice, a cloud-based service that provides nutritional information about both breakfast and lunch menus listed on the TPS website. Nutrislice also offers an app for your smartphone that you can download through both the iPhone and Android stores. This will allow you to keep track of menus right from your phone, including important nutritional information.

**Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports**

* Toledo Public Schools’ approach to discipline is to be proactive in helping students learn and practice positive behavior, while also providing alternatives to suspensions and expulsions
* This positive school climate approach is built on the foundation ofPositive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS), which provides data-driven, prevention-focused methods for meeting the behavioral needs of all students
* Every school in the district has a Social Emotional Wellbeing team composed of faculty, staff, and administrators who oversee the implementation of their school’s PBIS plan and who regularly review relevant data to look for trends that may have an impact on the overall culture and climate of their building

**Bus Transportation**

* Any TPS student who lives more than one mile from his or her school is eligible for free bus transportation
* Please contact your student’s school with any questions about transportation, including pick-up and drop-off times and locations
* Bus schedules for the 2022-2023 school year will be posted at each school; parents will receive bus stop information through the district's mass notification system
* If a student with a disability has mobility problems or special health needs, transportation is provided in accordance with the student’s Individual Education Plan (IEP); if you are moving and your child is receiving special transportation services, please contact your School Assistance Center as soon as possible to maintain uninterrupted service

**Parent Portal**Parent Portal is an online information system designed to help parents and guardians monitor information about their student's academic progress, including grades, attendance, report cards, and comments from teachers. You can access the system or sign-up as a user by visiting [www.tps.org](http://www.tps.org)/parent portal. Call your student’s school for further assistance.

In closing, let me again thank you for entrusting your child’s education to Toledo Public Schools and for being TPS Proud. Please feel free to contact the principal at your child’s school with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Romules Durant – CEO/Superintendent