August 10, 2014

Dear Centennial Lane Elementary School Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year at Centennial Lane Elementary School (CLES)! It is my pleasure to serve as your Principal, and I look forward to a year of collaboration, celebration and continued high achievement. Having met with over 47 staff members, 7 teams, 13 PTA executive board members, the PTA president, grade level play dates, and several central office staff, Mr. Scobie (Assistant Principal) and I have been provided with a wealth of knowledge on the traditions, values, norms, and strengths of this outstanding CLES community. We are proud and honored to serve the students, the staff and the community.

In alignment with the Howard County Public School’s vision and mission, CLES will focus our efforts this year on engaging our students and staff at the highest level and building on our staff’s talents to ensure a rigorous instructional program. It is apparent that CLES is a community of hard-working students, dedicated staff and supportive parents and guardians. We will build on the strengths of the community, and together prepare our students for success in their future college and careers!

During your visits to the school this summer, you may have noticed a few changes, including the administrators. Our entire building has been freshened up with a new coat of paint inside and out. Look for some changes in colors in our front office and down the kindergarten hall. The lines in our bus loop and side parking lot have been repainted, and three of our portables are getting painted in the coming weeks as well. We hope you enjoy the fresh look at Open House!

Mr. Scobie and I hope you are enjoying the rest of your summer spending quality time with your friends and family. We are really looking forward to the return of our students and staff. As a resource, we have included some information following this letter to help everyone prepare for an outstanding school year 2014-2015. **We will communicate any further information through our eSchool Alerts, our website:** [**http://cles.hcpss.org**](http://cles.hcpss.org)**, and through our Twitter account:** [**@hcpss\_cles**](https://twitter.com/hcpss_cles)**.**  Thank you for your support, and see you soon!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Amanda Wadsworth

Principal

**Important Dates**

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| --- | --- |
| **Dates** | **Events** |
| **August 18th** | **Staff Returns** |
| **August 21st**  | **Class Lists will be posted at 3:00 pm.**  |
| **August 22nd**  | ***Kindergarten Orientation* - 10:30 am in the Cafeteria*New Student Orientation* (Gr. 1-5) - 1:30 pm in the Cafeteria*****Open Hous*e -2:00-3:00 pm** **--Come see your child's classroom, drop off school supplies and   meet your child's teacher.  This event will end promptly at 3:00 pm.** |
| **August 25th**  | **First Day of School!!!** |
| **September 15th** | **Back to School Night – 6:30-7:45 - K to 2nd**  |
| **September 16th**  | **Back to School Night – 6:30-7:45 – 3rd to 5th**  |

**First Day of School**

In order to support a smooth start to the school year, we strongly recommend sending your child to school the way in which they will arrive to school all year. This helps the student learn their routines from day one, and helps ensure accurate recording of arrival and dismissal procedures. Students will also have a tag put on their backpacks by staff to help ensure accuracy in these procedures as well. On the first day of school, Kindergarten students will meet in the cafeteria, and their teacher will escort them from there to their classroom.

Please see note below on how to communicate your child’s arrival/dismissal procedures.

**Transportation Notes**

\*\*If your child will be attending before and/or after care at any daycare facility please bring a note to the front office during Kindergarten Orientation/Open House so we can update your child's arrival and dismissal in our system. This will help us prepare for the first day of school.    We will also take notes for any students who need to be dismissed as car riders on a daily basis.
Please include the following information in the note:
                  \*Child's first and last name
                  \*Grade/Teacher
                  \*Name of Daycare or car rider
                  \*Whether they will be attending in the morning, afternoon, or both.
We appreciate your help in ensuring the safety of your student.

**School Bus Schedules Online**School bus routes for the coming school year will be available in mid-August on the HCPSS website, www.hcpss.org, and then updated regularly. As a reminder - bus routes are no longer published in the local newspapers.

**Sign Up or Update Your HCPSS News Profile**On the HCPSS.org website on the right hand side of the page, you will find the link for the HCPSS News School Communication system. Directions are also provided below for your convenience. All school and system newsletters are sent through HCPSS News so be sure to log in and update your contact information, as well as grade levels and/or schools for your children.

Directions:

 Log in at www.hcpssnews.com, click on Account Management, log in with either your email or phone number, and follow the prompt to update your information. Important things to look for are **school, child’s grade, your phone number and email address.**

**Please join us in welcoming our new staff members:**

Lisa Pelligrino -- 4th Grade Teacher

Position being offered & processed -- 5th Grade Teacher (name to be announced soon)

Rob Sirios -- Vocal Music Teacher – part-time

William Rose -- Strings Teacher – part-time

Laurel Lee -- Media Specialist – part-time

Maia Duncan -- Speech Pathologist – part-time

\*Sarah McQueen will serve as Erin Scrivens’ (2nd Grade) long-term substitute starting August 18th. Sarah has served as a long-term sub at CLES multiple times in the last few years. She is a certified teacher, and an honorary member of the CLES staff. Mrs. Scrivens is expected to return in November.

\*Kristen Weaver will serve as Francesca Graham’s (PE) long-term substitute starting August 18th. Kristen has also been a long-term substitute at CLES on the related arts team, and is working towards her certification in teaching. Mrs. Graham is expected to return in early November as well.