

*News from*

# Elm Drive Elementary

September 2020

## Welcome to Our New School Year!



### **Some things will be the same; a lot will be different.**

First, I would like to take a moment and say thank you for all you have done over the past several months. No one could have imagined the roles we all played this spring and I commend our families for their herculean efforts to help support our young learners during this difficult time.

The start of this school year is filled with many challenges. To ensure we maintain a positive and open relationship between school and community, we have organized the following important information in a clear and detailed fashion. Our goal is to answer as many questions that you may have as possible while also providing a vision for how students, families, and staff can make these first few months the most positive and productive they can be. After looking over this information, feel free to call or email us with any questions or comments at 845.677.4225 and [Michael.Setaro@MillbrookCSD.org](mailto:Michael.Setaro@MillbrookCSD.org).

#### **Building Update:**

There have been many changes to our building here at Elm Drive this summer as we prepare for the healthy return of staff and students. Our Custodial staff have created markings in hallways and classrooms to aid with social distancing. Signage has increased along with spacing decals for water station hands free usage, nurse's office, main office, and restrooms. Furniture moving, painting and waxing were also accomplished. When you see our great custodial team: Mr. Hurley, Ms. Mangione, and Mr. Tompkins, be sure to thank them for their hard work.

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**Staff/Teacher changes:**

Please welcome Kim McKeon, who was hired as our new Speech Pathologist!

**School Schedule:**

We will begin the school year with Remote Instruction. During Remote Instruction, the school day will begin roughly at 9am and conclude at 3pm. Within the Remote school day, there will be an even balance of whole group live instruction, small group live instruction, and independent student work. We do this so that our youngest students are not required to be “on a screen” for large portions of the day. Some of the instruction will also be recorded so that families who have more support outside the traditional school day can still have access to instruction and curriculum during that time. Individual classroom and student specific daily schedules will be created by your student’s teacher and communicated home prior to the start of school, Monday September 14th.

**Technology:**

It is the goal of our district to provide each student with the technology needed to have a successful start to this school year during Remote Learning. As part of that goal, we are providing every student with their own electronic device. Pick up for 1st and 2nd grade student chromebooks will take place Friday, September 11th during the afternoon. Kindergarten chromebook pick up will take place on Monday, September 14th, our opening day. Specific details pertaining to precise time frames and pick up procedures at Elm Drive will be provided in the days prior to next Friday as our grade level teachers may be a part of this process so our students can meet our teachers face to face. We understand those days may not work for all families so if you need to pick up your child’s device at an alternative time, please contact our main office and we can make arrangements.

**Important Elm Drive dates for 2020/21:**

Opening Day September 14

Parent/Teacher Conferences November 18-19

Spring Break March 29 – April 2

Open House May 13

Budget Vote May 18

Tentative Field Day May 28

*In Closing...*

We look forward to working with you this year, in all the different shapes and forms learning may take place.

- Michael Setaro, Principal of Elm Drive

