



# Ralph E. Waite Elementary School

## January 2021 Newsletter

January, 2021



Happy New Year, Waite Families!

### Welcome Back!

We are so excited to welcome our students back to school in person on Tuesday, January 19th! We would also like to welcome back to 28 of our 113 MODA students who will be returning to in person learning for the second semester! As we prepare for the students' return, we thank you in advance for your help with this transition as we recognize students haven't been in school for two months, and our MODA students for almost ten months! Please review the following information with your child:

- Reassure our students that the procedures we had in place for arrival, dismissal, classroom setup, restroom, lunch, recess, Encore, etc. that we had in place until November will ALL remain the same! Reminders of these procedures are listed below.
- Your child's teacher will communicate with you what school supplies will need to be brought back to school.
- Please remember to send your child with the following:
  - [Art Supplies](#) in a Ziploc bag
  - Chromebook (grades 2-5) *Please charge at home each night and bring back to school each day in the provided case.*
  - Wear a mask (and include one extra mask in your bookbag if possible)
  - Water bottle (*Drinking fountains are not in use, but a water bottle filling station is available*).

### Covid Safety Plan

The Safety Plan detailed below was developed with the cooperation of the Medina County Health Department, District Staff, and Staff at Ralph E. Waite Elementary. We developed this plan in order to ensure the utmost safety of our students, parents and staff. Please take time to read through this plan and become familiar with the measures that will be in place to make the 2020-2021 a safe and learning-filled school year.

### Daily Safety Checks

Each morning parents are asked to perform a daily health check. Please use [this checklist](#) as your guide.

- Parents need to have access to a thermometer in order to complete the assessment.
- If your child exhibits any symptoms on this checklist, the office must be notified immediately and your child must remain at home.
- The school nurse will work with families to determine next steps.
- Students will not be allowed to return to school until cleared by their physician with a signed note.
- Parents need to self quarantine students for 14 days if travelling to states that the Governor has deemed high-covid risk. [This list](#) is updated according to the Governor's orders. Such travel plans must be communicated to the office staff as soon as possible.
- Staff members are also required to conduct a daily self assessment.

## Arrival (8:40 am, 8:55 tardy bell)

Please remind your child of the following arrival procedures.

- **Walkers:** Students/parents please wait at the end of the walking path maintaining a distance of at least 3 feet and wearing masks until safety patrol safely crosses you to the sidewalk.
- **Car Riders:** Students will exit cars in the carline beginning at 8:40 am (when staff and safety patrol are present) and enter the side carline door and head straight to the classrooms maintaining a social distance of at least 3 feet and wearing masks. Parents please do not exit cars as we will have staff to assist students.
- **Bus Riders:** Students will have a staggered exit off of the bus and enter the building as follows:
  - Grade K will enter the main entrance doors and proceed **left down the K hall** to their classrooms.
  - Grades 1 and 2 will enter the main entrance doors and proceed **straight through the cafeteria** to their classroom.
  - Grades 3 and 4 will enter the main entrance doors and proceed **right down the main hall** (past the media center) to their classroom.
  - Grade 5 will enter the **5th grade door** (to the right of the main entrance door) and proceed to their classroom.
- Parents/guests are not permitted in the building until further notice.

## Dismissal

Students will have a staggered classroom dismissal between 3:20 and 3:23 and exit the door they arrived in at the start of the day.

- **Walkers:** Safety patrol will safely cross walkers to proceed to the walking path.
- **Car Riders:** Students will position themselves on a social distanced marking on the sidewalk as they wait for their car.
- **Car Line Reminders:** Please have your child's last name clearly posted in the passenger window of the car. Please pull all the way forward towards the flagpole (please do not park by the doors). For everyone's safety, please stay in the carline and do not park in the side lot or exit your vehicle in the carline.

## Masks

- Both staff and students are to remain masked and at least 3 feet apart. Students should have their own masks. If students arrive at school without a mask, students will receive a disposable mask in the office.
- Masks must be worn appropriately to cover both nose and mouth. Please make sure your child's mask fits and is not too large.
- Classrooms will provide mask break times for students throughout the day.
- Students will have a lanyard to clip to their mask to use during mask breaks and lunch.
- We recommend if possible to have a spare mask in their bookbag.

## Social Distancing/ Classroom Space

- Classroom tables will have 3 foot distancing and plexiglass dividers. Up to 3 students will be placed at each table.
- Lockers are not utilized. All materials remain at student desks each day. Please keep unnecessary materials to a minimum.
- Tables will be sanitized throughout the day. Students assist with desk washing throughout the school day. All sanitizing materials are safe for student use.

## Restroom Use/Hand Washing

- There are scheduled restroom breaks for classrooms throughout the school day.
- Up to three students are permitted in restrooms at one time. Students will follow the directions listed outside of the restrooms.
- Students are permitted to use the restroom if necessary outside the scheduled times with teacher permission.
- Students will be instructed how to check the restroom for number of students.

- Hand sanitizer is readily available as well as times for hand washing throughout the day.

## Recess/Meals/Special Areas

- Snacks and lunches will be eaten in the classroom (or outside when possible).
- All cafeteria prepared lunch meals will be "boxed" and delivered to the classroom.
- Desks will be sanitized before and after meals
- Students may bring lunch and snack from home. \*Please practice opening items at home and only send items that students are able to open independently.
- Students should not share food or drinks.
- There will be no snacks for sale in the cafeteria.
- Classrooms will have a scheduled 25 minute recess each day.
- Students will wash their hands before recess and after recess.
- Students will be assigned to a group of the same 2-3 students (pods) to work with each day.
- Encore teachers (Art, Music, Media) will take place in homerooms. Encore teachers will travel to student homerooms. P.E. will be outside or in the gym.

## Student Sign In

If a student is returning to school from an appointment or arriving late to the building:

- The parent and student will enter the vestibule together.
- The parent and student must have a mask on.
- The parent signs the student in on the attendance log which will be located in the office vestibule, leaving any notes in the white basket on the table.
- The student will take a Tardy Pass to give to the teacher.
- After signing the student in, ring the buzzer & the office staff will unlock the door for the student to enter the office. The parent must remain in the vestibule.

## Student Sign Out

If a student needs to leave school early:

- The parent will enter and remain in the office vestibule.
- The parent must have a mask on when entering the vestibule.
- The parent will ring the doorbell or call the office (330-636-4500) and provide the name of the student they are picking up. The parent/guardian will be **required** to show ID through the office window.
- The office staff will call the student down to the office.
- The parent will sign the student out on the attendance log.
- The parent waits in the vestibule for their student. Once the student arrives, the parent and student may leave.

## Other Considerations

There are many other considerations as we learn more about the COVID 19 virus and what is best practice throughout the school year. Please understand that our plan changes as we learn more and adjust what will keep our students, families and staff safe and healthy. Here are a few other considerations:

- Visitors are not permitted in the building at this time.
- Food deliveries for staff and students are not permitted at this time.
- Please refrain from delivering any forgotten items to your child from home.
- All meetings with parents will be virtual, including IEPs and parent conferences.
- Students are not permitted to bring birthday treats or other food items to share at this time.
- Sharing of classroom or art supplies will not be permitted.
- All recess/PE equipment will be sanitized daily.
- No games, recess balls or toys may be brought to school from home.
- In regular classroom/recess/PE students will be assigned to a pod (group of 2-3 students) for the entire school day.

## Mark Your Calendar:

- Friday, January 15: No School: Teacher Inservice Day
- Monday, January 18: No School: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Tuesday, January 19: Welcome Back to School!
- Monday, February 15: No School: Presidents' Day
- Thursday, February 25: School Picture Day (more details coming soon)
- Thursday, March 11: Early Release
- Friday, March 12: No School: Teacher Inservice Day
- March 29-April 5: Spring Break!

## PTO Dining to Donate:

# Making Dough Fundraiser Event



Waite Elementary PTO

&



Please join us to raise funds together!

**January 20, 2021**

**12:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

**Courthouse Pizzeria / 2 Public Square / Medina  
330-952-1PIE (1743)**



### How Our Program Works:

Order Pickup (or dine-in if available)

- Bring in this flyer, or image on your phone, during the scheduled fundraising date and time
- Or call in your order at **330-952-1743 (330-952-1PIE)**
- Inform our Guest Ambassador that you are dining for the Fundraising Event
- Place your order
- 25% of your pre-tax sales (alcohol sales excluded) will be donated by Courthouse Pizzeria to your organization
- Enjoy your pizza!
- Online orders and delivery orders cannot be included in the fundraiser, please call for pickup or place your order in person, thank you

As always, please reach out with any questions. We look forward to welcoming the students back to school on Tuesday, January 19th!

Cindy Grice  
Principal, Ralph E. Waite Elementary

