

Panther Run Elementary School

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Happy New School Year for 2020-2021!! One like no other. ☺

Dear Panther Run Family:

I am very excited and honored to be your Principal at Panther Run Elementary. I want to congratulate all our students, parents, teachers, and staff who helped make our school such a resounding success both in person and virtually. Panther Run prides itself on continuing the rich traditions that have brought the school so many accomplishments over the years. **We are a fully inclusive school and create a positive atmosphere in which ALL STUDENTS, no matter who they are can and do achieve success!!** This is due to all of the hard work and dedication from our staff, parents, volunteers and community to the students, families and each other. I couldn't be prouder of all of you!!! We will continue to do all of this in the "new normal" times. I know many of you are eager for the new year at virtual Panther Run and the adventures of e-learning and we look forward to "seeing" you!

With the start of the 2020-2021 school year, we have new challenges unlike any other year. But more importantly, we have opportunities to improve the lives and futures of Panther Run's children, families and each other. I am thankful that we have such a talented and dedicated community of parents, students and staff. I assure you we are in this together as a family and will help each other learn and grow. I would not want to do this with any other people. Together we can, and together we will bring virtual Panther Run to life and succeed. In August we begin to work on our quest for success together! We will face challenges. We will celebrate successes and we will rise to high expectations and meet the needs of our students and their families. The next phase in our story is here and will be SPECTACULAR!!! Let us make 2020-2021 the GREATEST year ever, both virtually and hopefully at some point in person once again!

Our themes for the year continue to be **"Pay It Forward!"** and **"Who I Am Makes A Difference!"** **Pay It Forward** or paying it forward refers to repaying the good deeds one has received by doing good things for other unrelated people. In this way we hope to establish an ever growing, branching, organic flow of generosity amongst our fellow humans. "Pay It Forward", you never know how your actions can change the world!

Who I Am Makes A Difference is a philosophy that we all are important and make a difference in the lives of others by our actions, words, feelings and just being who we are. Each of you can and will make a positive difference and have an amazing impact on Panther Run. Thank you in advance for that!

I feel that communication and teamwork between students, parents, teachers, staff and administration is vital. We will do our best to keep you informed and involved in your child's educational experiences. You are strongly encouraged to become a virtual volunteer and a part of the many organizations designed to make a difference in our school. In addition, our wonderful PTA can use your support, as could our School Advisory Council and/or School Advisory Forum. Contact your child's teacher, our volunteer coordinators, the PTA Executive Board members, or administration if you would like more information on how you can get involved. I want you to remember that our school is also your school and we welcome you into our activities virtually and eventually face-to-face once again someday in the future.

The partnership between home and school is fundamental to student success. Parents must be involved in their child's education in order for education to be important to your child. As principal, I am asking every parent to make a commitment to get involved and stay involved in his or her child's education. Make a commitment to yourself and your child to spend time with them on their virtual education and also a minimum of 20 minutes a day communicating one on one about their school day, school work and about your day and work. Make a commitment to spend another 10 minutes reading to or with your child daily. These 30 minutes could be the pivotal point in your child's educational success and achievement! It is the best investment you can make in our children's futures!

The staff of Panther Run Elementary is committed to excellence. We look forward to working with all of our students and parents. We share a common goal -- your child's success. Together we can make this a wonderful and successful school for all of the students at Panther Run Elementary!

If you ever need to come on campus, in person, **you MUST follow all CDC guidelines & protocols – MASKS MUST BE WORN at all times (PROPERLY and even with a face shield), 6' physical/social distance, wash your hands frequently, etc. Gathering together to visit is NOT permitted.** *** If you are not feeling well, have a fever or anyone in your home is not feeling well, you will not be permitted on campus. – Thank you for your understanding of this. We are in a new normal with COVID-19 protocols.

I look forward to "seeing" you either in person from a proper **6' physical/social distance with a mask** or on TEAMS. I look forward to our continued journey into the magnificent world of education, e-learning and the great school year ahead. I wish all of you and your children much success and achievement! We will use our super powers to change the world one child at a time and PIF-WIAMAD!!! Working together, let's make this the best year ever!!! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. As always, I am here to support you, the students, parents & community. We will do this together!

Sincerely,
Elaine L. Saef
Principal

P.S. Information on device distribution, teachers, supply lists, textbooks, etc.
is forthcoming prior to the start of school.

