



## Uniacke District Newsletter #1

We are off to a great start to our school year! We currently have 405 students in grades primary to nine. We extend a special welcome to students and families new to our school community.

### Morning Arrival



We have a change in our morning routine this year. School doors open at 7:40am and all students enter the school immediately as buses arrive. Students do not wait outside until 8:00. This creates a calm, smooth start to the morning and provides time for students to visit the breakfast program, settle in, and get ready for the day's start at 8:00. This year we hope to drastically reduce the number of students arriving late in the morning. Parents, we need your help for this!

Late arrivals cause disruption in the morning routine and learning in the classroom. A late student interrupts the entire class and the teacher. When students are late they are missing valuable instructional time. **We ask that parents help us with this issue by ensuring students are in school and settled by our 8:00 a.m. start time.** We appreciate your support with this matter.

### Dismissal



**Dismissal time for students is 2:00pm.** The end of the day can be busy with 405 students packing up and heading to buses. **We ask that parents not arrive to pick up their child prior to 2:00.**

Every time a student is picked up early it disrupts the teacher and the entire class. Students usually need help to get organized and ready to go home and that means their teacher has to stop teaching and attend to one child to prepare them to leave ahead of everyone else. We also request that you make every effort possible to have afterschool arrangements organized with your child before they come to school.

## Bus Notes

Students are to ride their assigned bus to and from school. We ask parents NOT send in notes requesting their son or daughter to get on different buses to travel to different locations after school for play dates, activities, or parties.

**CCRSB expects students to travel from their own house or daycare to and from school.**

We understand that there are *extenuating circumstances* when your child must take a different bus home to be dropped at a location other than their usual stop. In this event, please include **the name and address and phone number** for where their stop will be that day. Please respect our request and have your child travel on their regularly assigned bus.

## Allergies and Nuts



According to medical information filed by parents on student registration forms, we have determined that we **have students with severe or anaphylactic allergies or reactions to NUTS.**

**We do not allow nuts and peanuts, nor peanut butter in the school. Thank you for helping us keep our students safe!**

## Breakfast Program

We are pleased offer a healthy breakfast program for our students. Students in grades Primary to 3 visit the breakfast program in the cafeteria and remain there to eat Nutri-grain bars, cheese, crackers, fruit, yogurt, milk, and/or juice. Grades 4 to 9 students are offered breakfast choices as they enter the school from the bus and they take their breakfast items to their classroom.

Running such a program for 405 students is a big undertaking that requires many volunteer hours. If you would like to volunteer your time helping our breakfast program, please contact the school at 902-866-5100. Thank you!

**Breakfast food items:** As we have students with various food allergies, we are specific with what types of food items we can safely offer students. Therefore, we ask that prepared food items such as homemade muffins or breads, not be donated to the program. We welcome prepackaged items such as w/w crackers, cheese, yogurt tubes, apple juice, Nutri-Grain bars, and Multi-Grain Cheerios. Thank you for your understanding.

#### **Microwave Usage**

Microwaves are available for *grades 4-9* in our cafeteria for **re-heat** items only - not frozen meals that required 3-5 minutes to cook (such as KD bowls, Michelina's) The microwaves service approximately 150 students per lunch time. Time simply does not allow for meals requiring 'cook time.' Quick reheat items only will ensure all students can access the microwave in a timely manner.

#### **Classes and Birthday Lists & Invites**

Student information is considered private and confidential, therefore we do not provide class lists nor names of children in each class. Please do not send in a request for classmate names for birthday or out of school invitations. We do not distribute birthday invitations at school. Please understand we are respecting each child's privacy and we do not distribute social event information through the school.

#### **Cell Phone Policy**

On the first day of school, students and parents were made aware of our new Cell Phone Policy. The new policy states that students are NOT to use electronic devices or cell phones during the school instructional day, which includes hallway time and morning recess breaks. Cells and devices are to be stored in lockers or backpacks during the instructional day. During lunch time and after school waiting for the second bus run, cell phones and electronic devices are permitted if they are appropriately used. Students are not to take photos or videos, nor record any person on school property. The new policy has been working well and students are respecting the new expectations.

#### **School Advisory Council**

The **School Advisory Council** is actively seeking new members! If you are interested in joining our SAC please contact the school at 902-866-5100 and leave your name and number. The SAC currently needs parent representatives and community members from the Uniacke area. We strongly encourage new members to join!



#### **Important Dates to note:**

##### **September 29**

In-service day for staff. No school for students.

##### **October 2 Picture Day**

##### **October 3**

Pick up day for Nourish Your Roots orders 2:30-7:30

##### **October 9**

Thanksgiving Holiday



##### **October 27**

Provincial Conference Day. No school for students.



#### **Brand new UDS website coming soon!**

We are currently creating a new website for our school. By October, all important school based information will be communicated to parents through our new website.

In effort to reduce vast quantities of papers being sent home several times a month, we will be using electronic communication. We ask parents to start visiting the new site regularly for all news, important dates, school calendars, cafeteria menus, upcoming events, and general school information.

You will receive more information and the web address as soon as the new site is ready.

*We look forward to working together for a great 2017-2018 school year!*