



Lisa G. Young
Principal

J. F. Gauthier Elementary

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Shellie H. Monk
Assistant Principal

Dear J. F. Gauthier Families,

I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. Our teachers and staff are working diligently to prepare for the students' arrival next month. Earlier today Ms. Voitier released some information regarding the opening of the 2020-2021 school year. This information can be found on the St. Bernard Parish district website. I wanted to share some information that is specific to our school.

Our school day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. We will begin our year with a staggered schedule for students in grades K-5. Students with a last name beginning with A-D will come to school on August 11th, students with a last name beginning with E-K will come to school on August 12th, students with a last name beginning with L-Q will come to school on August 13th, and students with a last name beginning with R-Z will come to school on August 14th. All students in grades K-5 will report on Monday, August 17th.

ARRIVAL and DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Students may arrive on campus beginning at 8:05 am. All car riders must follow the car rider line and be dropped off at drop off area near the school's gym. Under no circumstance should a child be dropped off in the front parking lot. Due to our latest COVID-19 guidelines, parents will not be allowed to walk their child in the building.

All students will be offered breakfast upon arrival and will then report directly to their classrooms.

It is important that all students arrive on time daily. We can only allow one adult in the office at a time. The adult will be required to wear a mask and have their temperature checked before being assisted by our office staff.

Car riders will be dismissed from the gym. Car rider signs for the front car window will be given out on the first morning. Please make sure to place the sign in your car window every evening as you enter the car rider line.

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL AND SCHOOL SAFETY

- Face masks should be washed/sanitized daily They must be free of graphics/messages and follow the

accessory section of our dress code.

- Please check your child's temperature and assess them each morning before school. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 or higher please keep them home and contact their medical provider.
- Initial temperature checks will be done daily. Students who have a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be isolated and will need to be picked up immediately.
- Water fountains will be closed. Students are encouraged to bring a filled water bottle daily.
- Students will wash their hands or use sanitizer throughout the day.
- Children must practice social distancing at the bus stop and throughout the school building.
- Visitors will be restricted at this time. If an adult must enter the office, they must wait to be buzzed in, wear a mask, and have their temperature taken before being helped at the counter. We can only allow one adult in the office lobby at a time.
- Doorknobs, light switches, bathrooms and other high traffic areas will be cleaned throughout the day.
- All buildings and work spaces will be cleaned nightly.
- Students will participate in Cultural Arts and recess daily (weather permitting).
- Please continue to monitor our district/school's websites and Facebook pages for the most current and accurate information.

FACE COVERINGS

All adults and all students in grades 3, 4, and 5 must wear a face covering. Students in Pre K, K, 1, and 2 are encouraged to wear a face covering. Face coverings can be any color or pattern, but cannot contain messages or symbols that are inappropriate for school. A shield cannot be worn in place of a mask.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Teachers will call parents before the first day of school to introduce themselves. On the first day of school, teachers and staff members will be available to guide students to their correct classroom.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

We will not have a School Supply night this year. We ask that parents send in school supplies over the first three days of school. Please send items such as earbuds, pencils, paper, notebooks, binders, etc. on the first day. The other items should be sent on the second and third days of school.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms are required for all students. Uniforms consist of navy blue or khaki bottoms (shorts, skirts, skirts or pants – no cargos (side pockets), capris, zippered or other ornamentation pockets), white or school approved red collared shirts with a logo, belts, tennis shoes, and socks (matching solid white or solid dark). Red collared shirts must be purchased from an authorized uniform store. Tennis shoes must be fastened with Velcro or laces, they cannot be worn unlaced. Sweatshirts must be solid navy blue, solid white or solid red with the official school logo. Undershirts must either be solid white or solid red. Please do not purchase colored sweatshirts or sweatshirts with non-school logos or hoods

on them because they cannot be worn in the building. Refer to the enclosed St. Bernard Parish Uniform Policy prior to purchasing school uniforms. Stores may advertise articles of clothing as "uniform"; however they may not meet our district's uniform requirements.

TRANSPORTATION

In accordance with the guidelines, school bus capacity is limited based upon the phase in which the state is operating. It is for this reason, the St. Bernard Parish Public School System is urging families to consider transporting students to and from school in personal or family vehicles.

DISCIPLINE

Send your child to school with the expectation that they will learn in a disciplined and positive classroom environment. Every child must cooperate by listening and following directions so the teacher can utilize every moment for teaching and learning. We appreciate your support to maintain a positive child centered learning environment. Our school wide discipline plan will be discussed with the students on the first day and implemented throughout the school year.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Contact the school office at 272-0700 if you have moved. You will need to submit documentation for your new proof of residence.

VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Our district understands that some parents would prefer to have their children taught virtually at this time. Parents can find information on this option and register their children for virtual instruction using the link on the St. Bernard Parish School Board's website.

We look forward to seeing soon.

Sincerely,

Lisa G. Young
Principal