

# **Little Ferry Public Schools**

## ***Washington Elementary – Grades Pre K -4***

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Tonilyn Peragallo, Principal  
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September 10, 2018

Dear Washington Elementary Families,

### **Welcome Back!**

I want to officially welcome all of you to the 2018-2019 school year. For those of you who are new to our school, I want you to know that you are coming to an absolutely wonderful place. Our teachers and staff are passionate, caring, hardworking, and always learning something new for the benefit of your children. We are a collaborative and driven group of people who take learning seriously while also making personal connections that help kids succeed.

As I enter into my fifth year as principal, I would like to continue building a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We believe that all of us - the school and the community – must work together in an extended family environment to ensure success for all our students. It is very important that we work together. Please also know that we highly value home/school communication here at Little Ferry Public Schools. It is vital and plays an integral role in each student's success. We want and encourage our parents to stay in the know about their child's studies, assignments, assessments, and school activities, as well as other events and happenings. It is our desire to keep you informed of all that is taking place at school. We urge you to check our website regularly.

### **Facilities Update**

Due to the closing of Washington School, our Washington School Main Office has been moved to the modular school known as Washington Annex. Washington Annex will open on or about September 24<sup>th</sup>. Our preschool, first, and second graders will also be located in Washington Annex while our kindergarten, third, and fourth graders will be located in the Primary Wing located in Memorial School. Even though locations have changed, all students in Pre K -4 will be recognized as Washington School students.

As principal, my top priority is the safety, security, and well-being of all students and staff. Please know in our new locations we will maintain a variety of active security measures at all times, including locked exterior doors, mandatory check-in procedures at school entrances, video surveillance, alarms and campus security personnel. The administrative staff is cognizant of your concerns and will continue to take steps to insure the safety of students and staff.

### **New Staff**

Each year brings “bundles” of change. This year we are welcoming two “new” teachers to our Washington Elementary staff.

- Mr. Steven Brunck – Instructional Support Teacher
- Ms. Shawna Lieb – Kindergarten (Mrs. Ondrof) September – February
- Ms. Shawna Lieb- BSI (Mrs. Carletto) February – June

We are delighted to have Mr. Brunck and Ms. Lieb back with us again this year. Last year, they served as a maternity replacement teachers in Kindergarten. You will have a chance to meet Mr. Brunck and Ms. Lieb at Back to School Night.

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### **Arrival / Dismissal Updates**

We ask that you make sure your child arrives to school on time (8:15a.m.) and limits the number of absences. Students depend on the structure of the day. If your child is habitually late, you will receive a warning letter. Thereafter, any tardy will result in a lunch recess detention on the same day your student arrived late to school. Research shows that children who are late have trouble settling in and mastering routines.

Also understand the importance of following our dismissal procedures. All elementary students are dismissed at 3:05p.m. except Kindergarten which is 2:55p.m. It is imperative that you or the designee picking up your child(ren) be on time daily. Children understandably develop a great deal of anxiety when they do not see a caregiver at dismissal.

The arrival and dismissal procedures are located on our main webpage. Please check regularly as this will change once Washington Annex opens.

### **Newsletter and Important Notices**

Each month I will post a newsletter highlighting what's happening at Washington Elementary School. To locate my newsletter, please visit the Principal's Corner on the Washington School page on our website. Also our district will no longer be sending home Wednesday folders. We will be posting all important notices to our E-Backpack on our district website.

### **School Spirit**

Each Friday, our students and staff will show their school spirit by wearing our school colors. This will kick off on October 5<sup>th</sup>. We will also be opening our online store throughout the year. We look forward to adorning our sea of blue every Friday.

### **Dates to Remember**

September 25, 2018 – Elementary Back to School Night 6:30pm-8:30pm

I consider it a great honor and privilege to be able to serve as your principal again this school year, thank you for your trust and support. I look forward to a wonderful year.

Yours in education,

*Tonilyn Peragallo*

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