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Eakin Elementary  
2500 Fairfax Ave.  
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## Eagles,

Happy Fall Break! On the eve of our first official extended “break” of the school year, I am reminded a quote from James Clear, author and speaker focused on habits, decision-making, and continuous improvement. James Clear writes,

*“Every skill you have was once unknown to you. The human brain is a learning machine. Stick with it”*

As we prepare for our return after fall break families will either be remaining in the virtual setting or returning to the building. For all of us, there is a persistent question of “how” we will do it. During fall break, I encourage you to rearrange those letters and ask the question, “who” are we doing this for? I argue that question is just as important. We enter the next phase for our students who deserve a consistent and safe environment, for teachers dedicated to serving in a setting that allows them to apply years of experience and knowledge, and families that want to see their children and community succeed. The “how” will always be important and ever evolving but the “who” will always remain constant. In short, we enter the next phase for you!

In education, we constantly live in the unknown. As educators, we push students to stretch their thinking to think of things previously unthought-of. Once a student understands a new concept or skill, we challenge them to apply it in a new setting. As we prepare for the next phase, I rest in knowing that what is currently unknown will soon be known and we will serve, learn, and growth together through it. We will stick with it and soar to new heights because that is what Eakin Eagles do!

Now on to the information for the coming week...

### Re-opening Plans and Questions

Special thank you to our wonderful PTO and those of you that were able to attend the Town Hall/Open House this past Wednesday. I am still working through several questions and will have that information and re-opening plan out to everyone in writing soon! Until then, enjoy our break and relax! Our children, teachers, and families all deserve and need a moment to unplug and relax after a successful, albeit challenging, virtual grading period.

### Tech Devices

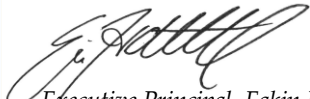
The district is releasing a plan for students needing an MNPS device for in-person learning. We are scheduled to receive a bunch of student laptops for students use. We promise to meet your needs! We do not want students bringing personal devices to school. Once we receive the inventory and district plan we will begin deploying devices for students.

### West End Coffee with the Principal (3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Grade Families)

It is never too early to look to the future! As we do every year, we are hosting a virtual coffee with the principal and teachers of West End Middle School. As our direct feeder middle school, many of our 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be attending West End next fall. Mr. Stephens, the new principal, would love to meet Eakin parents and take them through a day in the life as a 5<sup>th</sup> grade West End Blue Jay. Related arts, clubs, classes, and physical activity is a little different in Middle School, so please make a plan to join Mr. Stephens on Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 to learn all the reasons why “West is Best”. Please click the hyperlink [HERE](#) to attend

That is all for now as we enter fall break. I will send out another call out this week with return information in addition to our regular Sunday call out before we return on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup>. I wish you a restful and wonderful fall break!

Sincerely,



*Executive Principal, Eakin Elementary School*