



Eric Hartfelder, Executive Principal
eric.hartfelder@mnps.org

SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Eakin Elementary
2500 Fairfax Ave.
Nashville, TN 37212

Eagles,

"Happiness doesn't depend upon who you are or what you have; it depends solely on what you think"

- Dale Carnegie

Dale Carnegie was an American writer, lecturer, and developer of courses in self-improvement, and interpersonal skills. His quote reminds me of the authority that lies inside every one of us. When times are tough, resist the urge to look outside yourself for more. We all have the power to reframe our thoughts and find happiness even in the most challenging of circumstances.

Now on to the information...

Morning Announcements

Starting our mornings together as an Eakin Family is one of my favorite aspects of Virtual Learning. Please find the links below for morning announcements. I have also added them to the Schoology calendar for every student. Accessing the announcements through Schoology also helps with being marked present for the day. As a reminder there is no school 10/2.

[9/28 Announcements](#)

[9/29 Announcements](#)

[9/30 Announcements](#)

[10/1 Announcements](#)

Return Open House/PTO Town Hall

This coming Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 we will have a combined Return Open House and PTO Town Hall meeting. During this meeting, I will share our return plan and answer questions from the community. I welcome your questions and want to structure the evening to meet your needs.

Please send your questions to EakinPTO@gmail.com by Tuesday at 5:00 pm. To request the Zoom link, please email the PTO with "Open House/Town Hall Link" in the subject line. This meeting will replace the scheduled 10/12 PTO meeting.

Welcome our New Music Teacher, Mr. Zach Ross!



My name is Zach Ross and I am excited to make music with you every day at Eakin! I grew up in East Tennessee and I have a decade and counting of experience recording, performing, and touring as a multi-instrumentalist and singer-songwriter. I love all types of music and I am always ecstatic to discover new sounds and styles as they emerge from every musical mind in the world. Part of what draws me to Eakin, in fact, is the school's celebration of artistic and cultural diversity as well as the community's appreciation for musical excellence. I cannot wait to learn the songs you love and share some of my favorite pieces as well!

Mr. Ross will begin teaching classes October 13!

Music Class Update/Library in RA

As we enter the final week of the quarter, Ms. Bulbalkaya, our incredible librarian, will continue in the related arts rotation in place of music. Links to access her class are:

[K Library RA Team Link](#)
[1st Library RA Team Link](#)
[2nd Library RA Team Link](#)
[3rd Library RA Team Link](#)
[4th Library RA Team Link](#)

Eakin Marquee

Make your mark on the Eakin marquee! Each week, we change the message on the outdoor sign (located at the corner of Fairfax and 26th Ave.) and we want YOU to decide what it should say next. Email eakinpto@gmail.com with your funny or inspiring ideas. Include student's name and grade in your submission. Thanks in advance for your help!

Tech Service Hours (MNPS Communication)

Outdoor, virtual help centers will remain open through Friday, Oct. 2. You can visit Glenview Elementary, Mt. View Elementary, Robert Churchwell Elementary, Tusculum Elementary, Jere Baxter Middle or Donelson Middle School Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. for support with student learning devices.

Outdoor help centers can help you with connectivity issues or general assistance with logging into and navigating the district's virtual learning platforms. Masks are required for everyone in attendance. For more information, visit www.mnps.org.

Passwords on Computers

Families with school issued devices **DO NOT need to reset passwords**. The district is updating the system to remove notifications on student devices to update passwords. Students need to maintain their current password and ignore and prompts to change passwords. Current passwords will not expire.

Before and After Care

Eakin offers several options for childcare. We have Fun Company and Eakin Care Program (ECP) on site and Eakin Harris Hillman (EHH) at the school next door. Students attending EHH walk with Eakin staff through the field connecting Eakin and Harris Hillman. All sites will be operating at limited capacity and adhering to MNPS and CDC guidelines.

For ECP inquiries, please contact eakincareprogram@gmail.com. For Fun Company, please contact twells@ymcamidtn.org. Additional before and after care information from MNPS can be found online at <https://www.mnps.org/before-and-after-care>. I will share more contacts and more information for EHH as it becomes available.

Calendar Reminders

As we enter the end of the first quarter, we have several reminders for you:

October 2 – No School (Teacher Planning Day)

October 5-9 – Fall Break (No School)

October 12 – No synchronous lessons for Kindergarten-2nd grade (Teachers prepare for in-person return)

October 13-14 – Kindergarten through 2nd grade ½ day return to school (11:30 dismissal)

October 15-16 – Kindergarten through 2nd grade full days (3:00 dismissal)

**3rd and 4th grade students will remain virtual October 12-16*

October 19 – No synchronous lessons for 3rd and 4th grade (Teachers prepare for in-person return)

October 20 – 3rd and 4th grade join K-2nd for full days (3:00 dismissal)

**All students electing for in-person learning will being full day instruction October 20*

I am excited for another wonderful week! Our future is bright because we are entering it together!

Sincerely,



Executive Principal, Eakin Elementary School