



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

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Eakin Elementary
2500 Fairfax Ave.
Nashville, TN 37212

Eagles,

Eagles,

I am excited to welcome back our 3rd and 4th grade students this week! Please make sure you take a moment to read all the information included below. There are a lot of dates, events, and information to help you have a successful week! For our car riders, please take special note of some procedural reminders.

At the end of last week, I heard a great quote that I have not been able to find online. To the best of my memory, the quote was:

*Even if you're treading water, you'll still move with the current.
Sometimes it is better to swim with the current and see how far you can go"*

This quote resonated with me as we completed our first week back. It was wonderful seeing all of the students but I was well aware of how different things are. This week I found myself struggling for school to feel like it did before the tornado and pandemic. When I admitted that things would not be the same, I was able to appreciate how far the current of the past few months has carried us. I have said it many times, but we have the most amazing teachers and students. Your children are in the best hands! Moreover, I say that as a parent because my own kindergartner came home every day gushing about how awesome Eakin is. As your principal, I have to agree!

Now on to the information...

Morning Announcements

Starting our morning together as an Eakin family is one of the many highlights of my day. Even as we welcome students back in-person, we will continue with our virtual announcements. Students in classrooms will log in as a class through their teacher's computers. Our students remaining virtual will continue with the same process. Links are included below as well as posted in Schoology.

[10/19 Announcements](#)

[10/20 Announcements](#)

[10/21 Announcements](#)

[10/22 Announcements](#)

10/23 – No School (Parent Teacher Conferences)

Calendar Reminders

With our phase-in return plan, our K-2nd and 3rd-4th graders are still on different schedules. This week the schedule is as follows:

Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd Graders

Monday-Thursday: Full-Day Schedule (7:45 doors open, 8:00 start, 3:00 dismissal)

Friday: No School for Parent Teacher Conferences (Virtual conferences)

3rd and 4th Graders

Monday: Asynchronous Only (No in-person learning)

Tuesday-Thursday: Full Day (7:45 doors open, 8:00 start, 3:00 dismissal)

Friday: No School for Parent Teacher Conferences (Virtual conferences)

Report Card/Quarter 2 Materials Delivery (Virtual Families)

Virtual families, we will be distributing Quarter 2 materials and report cards Tuesday, October 20th from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM and Wednesday, October 21st 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM. Please drive through the car rider loop off 26th Avenue for curbside pick-up. If you cannot pick-up during these times, coordinate with your child's virtual teacher.

Parent Teacher Conferences (Friday 10/23)

Our mission as a diverse and caring Eakin family is to learn, serve, and grow together. For many of our families, there have been numerous changes since the start of the year. As such, we will focus on building relationships and getting to know your quarter 2 teachers. You will be receiving information from your child's quarter 2 teachers on how to schedule a virtual conference. During the conference, you will discuss the first quarter and collaborate on how to meet your child's needs. If you have questions for your child's quarter 1 teacher, you are welcome to reach out to them as well!

To help prepare for Friday, I invite you to reflect on the first grading period using the following questions. Teachers may use these questions to guide the conference but it is not a school expectation that they do so.

1. What has been an area of strength so far this year?
2. Where is an area we can work on together?
3. This year will be successful if...

If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher

Cafeteria Menu and Updates

With the return to school, there is lots of information available from MNPS Nutrition Services. Information includes food distribution sites and times, cafeteria menus, and resources. Please visit <https://www.mnps.org/nutrition> for more information. To review our cafeteria menu, please click [HERE](#). Additionally, **all Eakin students will eat free through December.**

Belmont Presidential Debate Traffic

Just as a reminder, this coming Thursday Belmont is hosting the final Presidential Debate. Road closures will begin on Wednesday. I anticipate traffic being heavy in the area. Please forgive us if our dismissal is a little slower than anticipated. We promise to understand too if your commutes are longer! Per the Tennessean, road closures are as follows:

Starting at noon Wednesday:

- Belmont Boulevard from Delmar Avenue to 18th Avenue South
- Compton Avenue from 15th Avenue South to Belmont Boulevard
- Acklen Avenue between 17th and 18th avenues (south)

Starting at 6 p.m. on Wednesday:

- 11th Avenue South from Ashwood Avenue to Wedgewood Avenue
- Acklen Avenue between 14th and 15th avenues (south)
- Caldwell Avenue between 12th and 15th avenues (south)
- Delmart Avenue from 15th Avenue South to Belmont Boulevard

Car Rider Reminders

We have had a wonderful first week with our kindergarten through 2nd graders! We have efficiently moved through the car rider line and students safely made it to their classrooms! As we prepare to welcome our 3rd and 4th grade students next week, please review a few reminders for morning drop off:

Car Rider Reminders

- Morning drop off begins at 7:45
- If you arrive before 7:45, please pull as far forward in the line as possible

- Students must have their mask on before exiting their vehicle
- Parents **must** stay in the car (this is an MNPS expectation)
- Please have your children ready to exit the car as quickly as possible
- If you need additional time, please pull through the line and part in our far lot
- We have a few hundred cars passing through, so safety and efficiency is key!

I fully acknowledge that I end every week saying, "That was a lot of information!" If you are feeling overwhelmed, that is okay! Please reach out to your child's teacher with questions. We are ready and eager to help. I am excited for this next week and seeing where we can go if we all continue to swim with the current in the same direction. Together we have already come so far!

Sincerely,



Executive Principal, Eakin Elementary School