

Caroline Wenzel Elementary School
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August 19, 2020

Principal's Welcome Back Letter

Dear Wenzel Families,

Welcome back, Wildcats! On behalf of our staff, let me welcome back each of our families. The start of this 2020-2021 school year is different than in years past. In spring, COVID-19 prompted our school's closures and required a shift from in-person instruction to distance learning. The change created challenges for schools and businesses, organizations, families, and especially our students. I want to commend each of our families for the flexibility and resilience in adapting to the challenges. Although we had hoped to start school in-person, COVID-19 challenges persist, and our return to the new school year continues in distance learning.

Although we are returning to distance learning, I remain confident that our staff, families, and students will continue the collaboration and partnership necessary to ensure our students receive a quality education. I encourage parents to reach out to our office with questions and concerns and invite you to engage with your child(ren) teacher actively. Learning starts on September 3, 2020. We want the year to begin in the best of conditions, but there will undoubtedly be challenges that will surface during distance learning. Our communication with each other will help successfully ease students into the new school year and help us collectively work to resolve barriers to distance learning.

Our focus this school year is on these three goals:

Math: We aim to improve the overall Math proficiency rate (meeting or exceeding standards) by 10% from 20% to 30% as measured on the 2020-21 SBAC assessment for all students, including African American, Hispanic, Socio-economically disadvantaged, English Learners, and Special Education students.

ELA: We aim to improve the overall ELA proficiency rate (meeting or exceeding standards) by 10% from 27% to 37% as measured on the 2020-21 SBAC assessment for all students, including African American, Hispanic, Socio-economically disadvantaged, English Learners, and Special Education students.

School Climate: Increase positive results for school climate survey by 20%, reduce student suspensions by 50%, and reducing chronic absenteeism by 22%, from the raw number of 44 students to 34 students, for African American, Hispanic, English Learners, Socio-economically Disadvantaged, and Special Education students by June of 2021.

In closing, I look forward to this new school year with anticipation and excitement. I recognize there will be challenges, but we believe our joint partnership is our strength in getting through those challenges. I know I speak on behalf of my staff when I say that I miss our students and cannot wait until we return together again in brick and mortar space. Until then, please stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely yours,

Yee Yang, Principal