

VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 24

WILLIAM L. BUCK SCHOOL

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Mrs. Johanne Gaddy
Principal

Dr. Don Sturz
Superintendent of Schools

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! My name is Johanne Gaddy, and I am the proud Principal of William L. Buck Elementary School. I happily greet you and want to express how excited I am to be on the journey of a new school year together! On behalf of our Superstar Staff, we invite our Scholars to begin a new adventure with us of learning new things and meeting new friends.

I want to assure you that our school is safe, and we have taken specific measures to keep your child protected while in our care. While the complete reopening plan is available online, here are some points you should know:

- ❖ Our Superintendent, Dr. Sturz, carefully and consistently monitors both the CDC & American Pediatric Associations guidelines for a safe school reopening.
- ❖ Masks are required for all while indoors. *Masks are optional while outdoors*
- ❖ Students will be seated a minimum of 3ft apart, more whenever possible.
- ❖ Classroom doors & windows will remain open for maximum air circulation.
- ❖ There will be one student at a time in our bathrooms. A hall monitor will be present to supervise & assist throughout the day.
- ❖ Students will eat lunch inside of their classrooms.
- ❖ Breakfast will begin at 8:10 am. Please use the front door only.
- ❖ Our school day begins at 8:25 am (front & back doors will be in use). Dismissal will be at 2:50 pm for Kindergarteners and 2:55 pm for grades 1-6.
- ❖ Devices will go home daily. *Please charge each evening!*
- ❖ We will continue to promote the 3Ws. **Wear a mask, Wash your hands, Watch your distance.**

Our first four days of school are being dedicated to wellness. These are high energy, low stress, feel-good days, where teachers will cultivate a warm welcome, back into the school community, with lessons that focus on the whole child. Each of these days will have a specific theme: **Thursday, September 2nd All About Me, Friday, September 3rd Team Building, Thursday, September 9th Be the Best You in 2021-2022, and Friday, September 10th Have a Growth Mindset!** There will be no homework on these first four days of school while our learners transition back into their school routine. We are confident that this will ignite a love of school and learning for our students and are excited to roll out this initiative with the support of our Wellness Team.

Being at William L. Buck is truly a family affair. Our Superintendent as well as our Board of Education members, continue to show support for our school, families, and community. We have tremendous support from an active PTA and hope you will consider becoming a member and volunteering as a part of this vital effort to connect home and school.

Please know that we are all here to help you navigate your child's academic, social, and emotional needs. Our Staff Superstars are fully prepared to welcome your child back on **Thursday, September 2nd**. Should you have any questions at any time, please feel free to call the school.

I know that by working together, we will have a successful and safe school year!

In partnership,
Mrs. Johanne Gaddy

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