

August 17, 2020

Dear Pillsbury Families,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year at Pillsbury School! I hope that you and your family have had an enjoyable summer despite limitations due to COVID-19, and are as excited for the new school year as I am. I am eager to reconnect with Pillsbury students and connect with students who will be part of the Pillsbury Pride for the first time.

As you are likely aware, Minneapolis Public Schools will begin the school year in Distance Learning. Distance Learning will look different from what was experienced this past spring. We have been working hard this summer to ensure that this new school year is productive and exciting for your child. I also want to acknowledge beginning the year in Distance Learning will raise many questions that have yet to be answered. MPS and I will get you the information you need as soon as possible. The following is information that I hope you will find helpful. Further information can be found in the Parent Calendar and Handbook you will receive at the beginning of the school year.

Back to School Night:

Pillsbury's Back-to-School Night will be an in-person, socially distanced event. This event will occur outside the building (we will adjust if it is raining). Families will have a brief time to visit their child's teacher, pick up materials and/or devices, and complete forms. More details will be coming soon!

Pillsbury Back-to-School Night

- Thursday, August 27, from 4:15-7:00 PM
- 2250 Garfield St. NE

First Day of School:

- Tuesday, September 8, 2020 for grades 1-5
- Thursday, September 10, 2020 for High Five and Kindergarten

School Day:

- Our school day is 7:30 AM - 2:00 PM.
 - Please note that if your child walks to school or is dropped off, they should arrive no earlier than 7:15 AM and no later than 7:40 AM.
 - **Staff are not available to supervise students until 7:15 AM; children should not be dropped off earlier than this time.**
 - All children **MUST** be picked up by 2:05 PM.
- The Distance Learning schedule will be similar to an in-person learning day. More specific details about the schedule will be coming soon.

Meal Distribution (Distance Learning/Hybrid):

- School meal service will begin on September 8th and remain available throughout all MPS Phases to Safe Learning, including Distance Learning phases.
- MPS is working on plans to provide school meals to students who are learning from home.
- For the most current information on how to access school meal services during the upcoming school year, please visit the [Culinary & Wellness Services website](#).

Attendance Matters:

- ***Students are expected to attend school daily in all models of learning (Distance Learning or in-person).***
- If your student is unable to attend school for one of the reasons below, please call our Health Office to report his/her absence. (612)668-1538.
- Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner in all models of learning (Distance Learning or in-person).

Regular school attendance is a high priority because time in the classroom is essential to academic learning, no matter if we are in a Distance Learning model or in-person model. Students are expected to attend school regularly, be on time, well rested and ready to learn unless prevented by illness, religious observance, family emergency or severe weather. Vacations must be pre-approved by administration in order to be excused and doctor/dentist appointments are excused only if the office is provided with a note from the doctor/dentist.

Behavior:

- ***Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner in all models of learning (Distance Learning or in-person).***

Pillsbury students will be expected to follow certain rules of conduct, which will provide a safe and enjoyable place to learn during both Distance Learning and in-person learning. These rules will be enforced in a firm, fair, and equitable manner. Parents are asked to comply with these rules when they enroll their children at our school. You will receive a complete discipline policy in the Parent Calendar/Handbook at the beginning of the school year.

Stay Connected:

- Keep up to date on all information by:
- Follow us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/MPS.Pillsbury>
- Checking our MPS website. <https://pillsbury.mpls.k12.mn.us/Home>
- Getting involved! Opportunities for volunteering will resume in later phases.
- Join our PTO! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/110886489546585> or pillsburypto@gmail.com

I value your commitment and involvement in your child's education and am looking forward to a great year together.

Sincerely,

Jessica Skowronek, Principal