

July 22, 2021

Greetings River Trail Middle School Families,

Welcome to 2021-2022 school. We are so delighted that you are a part of our amazing learning community. We welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education. We are looking forward to welcoming our new and returning students on the first day of school Monday, August 9th.

River Trail will celebrate a very special school year in 2021-22: Twenty (20) years of educational excellence. We have a lot of great events planned throughout the year and hope you will make plans to celebrate with us.

Our skilled and dedicated staff is already planning and preparing for your child(ren). In addition, our much-appreciated PTO is gearing up to welcome families, provide volunteer opportunities, and offer other programs and events. We are indeed a community with the common goals of nurturing respectful, problem-solving, and kind students.

Each year brings positive change. This includes a few additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome the following new staff members to River Trail:

Donna Callaway – Special Education
Klio Henderson - Special Education
Kimberly Jackson - Mathematics
Jacinth Warner – Mathematics

Alison Gilbert – Special Education
Hannah Hunt – Mathematics
Michelle Wallace–Instructional Support Teacher

The media center experienced a major renovation this summer. The new design provides additional collaboration spaces, mobile furniture, and endless possibilities for students and teachers.

River Trail Middle School will participate in an important district initiative called Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS). PBIS focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. Rather than a prescribed program, PBIS provides systems for schools to design, implement, and evaluate effective school-wide, classroom, non-classroom, and student specific plans. PBIS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and all staff in all settings. PBIS is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to creating a learning environment where teachers can teach, and all students can learn.

Fulton County Schools will continue to provide breakfast and lunch at no charge this school year. Families do not have to complete an application. Free breakfast and free lunch will be provided to any student who requests a meal. Ala carte food, snacks, and drinks are available for purchase.

Beginning Sunday, August 1, 2021, please visit rivertrailmiddleschool.org and click on **OSP*** to purchase your Sneak Preview items: Hall Locker, PE T-Shirt, PE Shorts, PE Locker. Hall Locker assignments are given out by teachers at Sneak Preview. PE Locker assignments are handled during PE class. PE t-shirts and shorts can be picked up in the gym at Sneak Preview with a receipt. **After making your purchases in**

OSP, print your receipt and bring it to Sneak Preview. You will need to present the printed receipt to the PE and Wolfpack teachers. NO CASH OR CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT SNEAK PREVIEW

*OSP now comes with a free downloadable mobile app so you can pay on the go “iOS (Apple) and Android”. Visit your App Store to access the mobile app – OSP Online School Payments.

Students and families will have the opportunity to visit River Trail and meet their wolfpack (homeroom) teacher at our Sneak Preview. See the attached flyer for dates and times of our Open House. We encourage everyone to bring their own pen. You can also see a video tour of the school building [here](#).

The first day of school for students is Monday, August 9th. School begins at 8:55 AM and ends at 4:05 PM daily. Students are marked tardy if they are not in the classroom when the bell rings at 8:55 AM. We urge you to have your child ride the bus beginning the first day of school to alleviate traffic congestion and prevent tardiness.

Bus stop locations and times are available online at <http://edulogweb.fultonschools.org/livewq/webquery/>. Fulton County Schools require masks for all bus and school transportation for staff and students.

Other Fulton County Schools' [recommended health and safety precautions](#) include:

1. FCS strongly encourages **ALL EMPLOYEES** and students (12 years and older) to get **vaccinated** against the COVID-19 virus.
2. Students and staff should follow directional signs, always walk on the right-hand side of the hallway, and maintain a **physical (social) distance** of 3-6 feet between themselves and others to the extent possible.
3. **Mask wearing** remains optional for FCS students and staff, except on FCS school buses. If one is not fully vaccinated, wearing a mask/face covering in indoor public places is recommended.
4. Staff and students should **wash their hands frequently** and cover their mouth/nose when coughing and/or sneezing.
5. High touch areas and personal workspaces should be **cleaned and disinfected** frequently.
6. District facilities and schools should **limit non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities** involving external groups or organizations with people who are not fully vaccinated. All school/facility visitors must complete a wellness check.

The earliest arrival time for students is 8:15 AM. Sixth grade reports to the cafeteria and seventh and eighth grade students to the gymnasium. Staff will release both groups at 8:30 AM. Students who wish to eat breakfast should report directly to the cafeteria between 8:15 – 8:45 AM. Students cannot enter the school prior to 8:15 AM since staff are not on duty to supervise them. Prior to 8:15 AM, the school cannot assume responsibility for supervision of your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to an outstanding year. Go Wolves!

Sincerely,

Neil Pinnock, Principal