

August 31, 2020

Greetings James B. Angell School Families,

On behalf of the entire Angell Elementary School staff, I would like to welcome you to the 2020-21 school year. This year, for obvious reasons, will be different. We hope you enjoyed a summer filled with some special times and that you are ready for school to begin. I want to extend a special welcome to the families who are new to the Angell community. We are eager to meet and get to initially know you online, later in person.

Two of our teachers retired and will be deeply missed. Mr. Mark Kelly, 3/4th grade and Mrs. Mary Lindemann, physical education, both had a huge impact on the students over the years (29 years at Angell for Mr. Kelly!). They are excited about embarking on new opportunities.

We have some outstanding staff additions this year: Ms. Abigail Stull will be teaching a 1st grade class along with Mrs. Hepner and Mrs. Medeiros. Mrs. Brennan is on a maternity leave and we are happy to welcome back Mrs. Tauber who will be filling for Mrs. Brennan for the first two months. Mrs. Tauber taught Kindergarten students reading last year. Mrs. Meredith Harrison will be teaching third grade in addition to Mrs. Ward. Ms. Starr has moved to 4th grade this fall. Miss Lee will be teaching a 4th/5th grade multi-grade class. Ms. Stull, Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Tauber are all eager to introduce themselves to the Angell community. More to come!

This letter contains important information. Please email us if you have any questions.

<u>Office Professional:</u>	Lisa Durham, durhaml@aaps.k12.mi.us
<u>Teacher Clerk:</u>	Janet Reid, reidj@aaps.k12.mi.us
<u>Principal:</u>	Gary R. Court, court@aaps.k12.mi.us

<u>School Phone:</u>	734-994-1907 (the office is not currently staffed so the best way to reach Lisa or Janet is by email)
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<u>School Hours:</u>	8:10 A.M. online learning begins 3:13 P.M. online learning ends
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Next week – Monday, August 31-September 3rd – Preparation Week

1. Technology distribution will occur August 31 – Sept. 3rd. See this link about picking up an iPad or Chromebook for your child. The AAPS would like each student in Young Fives-1st grade to have a iPad and for 2nd-5th graders, a Chromebook for use online.

.Distribution of Technology Devices

Enrollment Paperwork – if you are the parent of a new enrollee, paperwork is being collected and photocopied at the technology distribution sites. For Angell, this is the Balas building at 2555 South State. Please click on the following link: [Please click here for details on required documents for enrollment](#)

2. On Wednesday, September 2nd, at 6:00 P.M., each Angell classroom teacher will conduct an online Zoom “**Meet and Greet**” meeting with their classroom students and parents. Students and parents will get to meet their teacher and classmates. That meeting will be recorded so if you are unable to attend, you will be able to watch it later at your convenience.

Labor Day Weekend (September 5th -7th)

Tuesday, September 8-Friday, September 11th – Orientation Week

1. Instruction will begin for mornings only (8:10-11:20 A.M.) All teachers will spend the four mornings of this week helping all students become acquainted, build friendships, create a classroom community and help build capacity to confidently use Schoology, the online application.
2. Here is the daily schedule for Orientation Week, Sept. 8-11th - [here](#)

Monday, Sept. 14-18th – Full Day Instruction begins for Everyone

1. All students begin full daily instruction. Each day begins with a classroom Morning Meeting at 8:10 A.M. The end of the day concludes with a Closing Circle Meeting from 2:58-3:13 P.M. all days except for Wednesday. Each day will consist of both

synchronous (direct live) instruction as well time for student independent work (asynchronous) at home.

2. This is a link to the [2020-21 school year calendar](#) and [sample daily schedules](#).

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS: Your child's teacher and classroom assignment are attached to this newsletter. Assignments are based on our student enrollments as of Friday, August 29th. We have kept twins in the same classroom to help with the logistics of online learning.

The Angell staff spent considerable time carefully placing each child in a classroom. We balance classrooms by many components including gender, achievement, special needs, behavior, neighborhood and ethnicity. This year, in addition to the usual factors we used to create strong, balanced classes, we took into account families' choices regarding the three learning options, as well as trying very hard to make sure that siblings will have the same schedule when we return to school "in person." We conscientiously placed students in the classroom that we feel will best fit them. If you need to discuss your child's assignment, please do so with me after the first TWO weeks of school.

Meet and Greet Zoom Meeting Links: Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2020 6:00 P.M.

Young Fives – Mrs. Friday

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/9220204676>

Kindergarten – Mrs. Bullock

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/93801339732>

Kindergarten – Ms. Gittleson

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/91344451496>

1st Grade – Mrs. Heper

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/99448997301>

1st Grade – Mrs. Medeiros

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/94765419663>

1st Grade – Ms. Stull

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/96515074748>

2nd Grade – Mrs. Tauber

<https://zoom.us/j/96613218338?pwd=RWd6SUF1QVJHdEJ0cTBjaGt5cFVMZz09>

2nd Grade – Mrs. Williams

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/99469132192>

3rd Grade – Mrs. Harrison

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/98567619464>

3rd Grade – Mrs. Ward

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/96718839393>

4th Grade – Mrs. Sawin

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/99025538012>

4th Grade – Mrs. Starr

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/91292346026>

4th/5th Grade – Miss Lee

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/95243898205>

5th Grade – Mrs. Maj

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/92140480269>

5th Grade – Miss Rademaker

<https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/93801339732>

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS: We are intent on implementing the IEP's for students in this online environment. Clearly, some adjustments will need to occur. The Angell special education team will be in contact with families about providing services. Students with a 504 will also have support addressed by teachers. Angell has a large ELL/ESL population and we are excited to have a full-time teacher, Mrs. Mary Catherine Rudberg, who will contact families and provide additional support for learning. And, our Reading Intervention teacher, Mrs. Katie Russell, will continue to provide small group reading instruction to students who need it.

PTO: The Angell PTO supports the school in countless ways including the sponsoring of special events that help bring families together virtually or hopefully in person. The PTO also fosters community-building and provides opportunities for enrichment for students. This year's enrichment model will be different and more information will be forthcoming. Everyone is welcome to participate in the PTO and school activities. There are many ways to support the school. **Website:** www.angellpto.org

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: In September, the AAPS district will coordinate the distribution of school supplies to families to support online learning. For your convenience, we hope that the distribution will occur at Angell. More information will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Court,
Principal