

Dear King families,

We are only a few days away from launching the 2020-21 school year! Our mission for opening day on **Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**, is to get every student in their classroom at **8:10AM**. Although we would prefer to be in person the children, we are just as excited to be with them remotely.

The staff has been working hard to design a week of welcoming students and families, helping students to navigate their technology, clarifying the daily schedule and expectations, and most importantly, building remote classroom communities. We understand there will likely be anxiety and stress that your child and family may experience at this time, and we are committed to helping you with whatever you might need.

Please remember, we are a community and will work together for the success of all students and families.

We have been planning this launch for months and have been in weeks of professional development. We have been collaborating, testing things out and reaching out to others for their guidance and experience. Regardless of all of this work, we are going into next week expecting some bumps along the way. We believe that if we expect them, our reaction to them will be much more controlled. We mention this to ask you to do the same. Prepare yourselves and the kids that this is new and some things might not go right at first. Remind them and yourself that it is okay and normal. This is what the first week is for and why we are only having half days. Please reassure your child that no matter what happens, we will figure it out together and it will get fixed. Hopefully this can reduce some anxiety.

Don't forget to monitor everyone's [Zones of Regulation](#) and use the tools to help regulate yourself, the kids and the family.

Please take some time and look through the information below, where you will find access to classes for next week, a link to King's Help Desk, details for the school year, technology information, food and resources, and tools to help with remote learning at home.

Should you need anything, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher, the front office, or myself. If we do not see your student online Tuesday morning, you can expect a phone call to see how we can support them getting online.

### **School Messenger**

Due to a glitch in our School Messenger system, you may not have received important information shared last week. We have included that information in this communication to make sure you are up to date with all the latest Dream Keeper News.

### **Technology Update**

**There will be additional information regarding technology distribution, including hot spots, coming from Ann Arbor Public Schools. Please stay tuned to your email for more information.** For questions about devices, please email [family\\_techsupport@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:family_techsupport@aaps.k12.mi.us). Also, live technical support is available, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the AAPS Parent Help Desk, **734-997-1222**.

### **Student Orientation Week/First Week of School Schedule:**

We will launch the 2020-21 school year fully virtually on **Tuesday, September 8th**, at **8:10 a.m.** Each day of school this week, Tuesday-Friday is a scheduled **half day of school**, where the students' school day will end at **11:20 a.m.**

The first week of school is designed for students to engage in community building, connect/reconnect with their classmates and to get acclimated to an online learning environment. Students will connect to their classroom via Zoom. A "how to" tutorial is shared below.

### Zoom "How To"

Below are videos in multiple languages that explain how to operate zoom. - Spanish, Arabic, English, Swahili.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvH-LMZv9IQ&list=PLBr7UyIZXhPp9tmXr6uDmW1QgHPau2Z0a&index=3>

### School supplies, books, textbooks, & materials

Students will receive school supplies, textbooks and materials within the next upcoming weeks after the start of the school year and throughout the fall. More details will come regarding distribution. In addition, over the coming weeks, students will have 24/7 access to books for class and enrichment via a **Digital Library**.

### Schoology/Clever Badges

A letter has or will be coming through US mail with information for your child's Schoology and Clever Badge access. Below is a sample of what the letter will entail and what the badges will look like. Please remember the code is specific to each individual child.

- Depending on your child's grade you will find **1 or 2 badges**:

| <b>Y5's, Kindergarten, 1st Grade</b>  | <b>2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th Grade</b>  |
|---|--|
| <p><b><u>Two Badges:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clever - The Clever badge assists with access to various apps (white paper)</li> <li>• Schoology - The Schoology badge assists with access to Schoology via shortcut on home screen (orange paper)</li> </ul> | <p><b><u>One Badge</u></b> (on white paper)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clever - The Clever badge assists with logging in to your Chromebook. After logging into your Chromebook, all other resources are available automatically.</li> <li>• Schoology is a shortcut icon at the bottom.</li> <li>• Clever is an extension at the top of their browser.</li> </ul> |

## Food Distribution

For a detailed list of food distribution sites and times, click [here](#).

## Complete Free & Reduced Lunch Applications

Free and Reduced Lunch Applications are available now! You can apply online or request a hard copy of the application to be mailed to you. Applications will also be distributed with technology pick-up and are available in six languages. If your student(s) was approved for Free or Reduced Lunch last year (2019-2020), that application is only good for only 30 days after the first day of school. Parents with any questions or who need a Free and Reduced Lunch application mailed to them, please email [foodservice@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:foodservice@aaps.k12.mi.us) or call food service at 734-994-2265.

### **“Walk” in the Front Door**

If you have any questions, especially while preparing for the launch of this school year, please reach out directly to our school team via email [mlking@a2schools.org](mailto:mlking@a2schools.org) We will respond to your inquiry.

### **Good-byes and Welcome:**

**Mrs. Barb Vanek** will be retiring as our King Elementary School music teacher. She has loved devoting 32 years to serving at King, which is also where her two children, Christi and Michael attended school. We sincerely thank and congratulate Barb, her husband, Mike and children as she begins this new life chapter.

**Ms. Kristin Berger** will be stepping in to run our music program, and we welcome Kristin to King. She has degrees in Music Education, Vocal Performance, and is a certified Orff Teacher. Kristin has six years of experience, most recently in the Chelsea Schools. Kristin served as a long-term sub at King several years ago; we are excited to bring her back into our King Team! She is excited to be (re)join our wonderful staff. Kristin absolutely loves making music with children and looks very forward to making all kinds of music with the kids!

**Ms. Tricia Guest**, after teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at King for four years, was provided the opportunity to serve as Building Literacy Expert at A2 STEAM, which has been one of her goals. This means great things ahead for her, and we wish her well.

Yesterday we were able to hire **Ms. Trisha Shah** to serve as King's 3rd-grade teacher. She grew up in Toronto, Canada and completed her undergraduate degree at The University of Western Ontario and then pursued my Masters in Education in Buffalo, NY. As Trisha enters her ninth year in education, she is grateful to be part of the King community and is looking forward to meeting the students and all of the families. When Trisha is not teaching, she loves spending time with her husband and two children, playing outdoors, gardening and baking.

**Ms. Laura Wayne** will be teaching art in the A2 Virtual program this year. She plans to be back at King when we are all able to return to the building.

At this time, we do not have an art teacher, but it will be one of my top priorities this week.

If you need any help, please email ([cooper@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:cooper@aaps.k12.mi.us)) or call my cell phone (248.345.7706).

Be well,

Mary