

Hello Parents and Welcome to the 22-23 School Year at Riverview Elementary! I am so excited to have you back as we start a new year of "Growing our minds"! I want to begin by saying how proud I am of our school and our students, as our school grade has increased from a D to a C, almost a B! We went up 91 points, giving us a gain of 13% in our school grade. We are only 2 points shy of a B, which is even higher than what we scored the year prior to COVID! Our teachers and staff are ready to serve your children and we are all looking forward to being back in the classroom. You will receive your usual "Welcome Back" postcard in the mail, but I have also put together this letter to try and answer some of the questions you may have and to tell you about our Riverview procedures. This letter will give you all the information that you will need to know so that we may have a great start of our school year.

1. **Homeroom Teacher**: The label on the front of the postcard indicates your child's homeroom assignment. On the last page of this letter all the teacher assignments are listed by homeroom. To find your child's homeroom teacher just compare the number on your label to this list. There is also a map on the back of the list so you can see where your child's homeroom class is located.
2. **Meet and Greet**: We will be having our Meet and Greet on Friday, August 5th from 3:00-5:00pm. PTA has arranged for Kona Ice to be on campus, so be sure to bring money for an Kona Ice as well as to join PTA! Membership is only \$6 and this is a great way to help our school.
3. **First day of school**: The first day of school will be Tuesday, August 10th
4. **Visitors: Visitors** on campus will be very limited. However, our office is open from 7:00-3:30 every day and you can call us at (813)671-5105 with any questions or concerns you have. To visit on campus, you must make an appointment 24 hours in advance. Thank you for your cooperation.
5. **Parent visitation**: As noted previously, parent visitation on campus will be limited. Parents will be able to walk their children to class until August 15th, and after that it will be a closed campus. If your child is a kindergarten student, we have included with this letter a form to be pinned to your child's shirt to wear on the first few days of school. Please fill out the form using a thick marker with the following information: Child's name, Homeroom Teacher, Student # and how the child will go home (Bus #, daycare, or car pick up). Please have your child wear this for the first three days of school.
6. **AM Student Drop off (K-5 Students)**: Student drop off time will be from 7:10-7:40 in the front of the school for all K-5 students only (See next section for IPeeps, VPK and Headstart student info). **Still in place this year: Parents are not allowed to park and walk their child to class after August 15th.** If you wish to walk your child to the front, please know the grassy area on Capitano floods very easily and cars have been known to get stuck, so please do not park there. Also, we ask that you work with your child to make sure they have their bookbag ready to go when the patrols open the car door.
7. **AM Student Drop off (Ipeeps, VPK and Headstart): Due** to their age IPeeps, VPK and Headstart will drop off in the morning on the side of the school off Broadway. **All parents must remain in their vehicles and the teachers will open the passenger side**

door to assist your child out of the vehicle. We have made this change to allow a little more time for our youngest students to exit the vehicles and provide necessary assistance, where needed.

8. **PM Student Pick up (K-5):** Afternoon pick up is in the front of the school just like arrival. K-5 car riders are to have a yellow car tag placed in their window with the student's first and last name so that we may call for your child to be waiting at a numbered cone. For the safety of our students, if you do not have a car tag you will be required to park and go into the office with ID to pick up your child. Yellow car tag cars are required to line up on Broadway, coming in off 301 at Auto Zone. (Please do not block the drive of this business!) You will see the line of cars waiting when you pull up. When it is time to pull up into the school drive our crossing guard will let you know. Our line is usually long the first week of school, and finishes around 2:30. After the first week, it usually drops back to 2:15-2:20. **As in the morning, parents must remain in their cars and go through the pick-up line to get their child. No one can walk up and pick up their child during active dismissal.** If you wish to pick up your child early, you must sign your student out through the office prior to 1:30 Tuesday through Friday and prior to 12:30 on Mondays. If you are picking your child up early, please walk up and buzz the main office. We will bring the sign out to you and ask you to wait outside while we get your child from class.
9. **PM Student Pick Up (Ipeeps, VPK, and Headstart):** Ipeeps, Headstart, VPK students **and their siblings,** will be in the front of the school for afternoon pick up. **Again, parents, no one can walk up to pick up your child, you must remain in the car line.** Headstart parents are to display a pink car tag, and Ipeeps and VPK will have blue tags. Pick up time for pink tags begins at 1:30 and 1:45 for blue tags. Please be one hour early on Monday due to early release.
10. **Breakfast & Lunch:** Good news! Due to Riverview Elementary being recognized as a Community Eligible Provision site, ALL students enrolled will receive free breakfast and lunch without having to apply for meal benefits. Breakfast will be served from 7:10am-7:40am. For the first three weeks of school, we will not be offering a snack option with lunch. After that point we will introduce a limited menu of one different snack each day. **Continuing this year, parents and guests are not allowed to eat breakfast with their children. If you wish to eat lunch with your child, you must sign in at the front and eat lunch with your child only at the picnic tables outside the cafeteria.** Parents and guests will not be allowed to eat in the cafeteria. There will be no exceptions to this rule. Also, parents, if your child brings lunch from home, please make sure they are able to open the packages and items you send.
11. **Volunteers:** We love our volunteers and need your help! In order to volunteer, please apply on the district website at [Volunteer Services / Hillsborough County Public Schools Volunteer Information \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/volunteer) This form must be completed and approved prior to you volunteering in any capacity on campus. PTA has many opportunities for you to help out, especially with our monthly Sidewalk Sale. Please contact PTA when you see them at Open House. Your child's teacher would also love for you to help in the classroom. Please contact them for ways in which you can help.

12. **Masks: Masks** are optional. If your student still wishes to wear a mask, masks worn from home must meet the county's dress code rules.
13. **Water Fountains and personal supplies**: Water fill stations have been installed throughout campus for students to be able fill their own bottles. We will be providing each student with one water bottle for use this year. If your child wishes to bring their own in, please make sure that it is labeled with their name. Also, students should have a pouch or pencil box where they can keep all of their daily supplies as they will not be allowed to share supplies in the classroom.
14. **Safety Procedures**: There will be many safety procedures that we will use in the classroom and around school. This will include frequent handwashing, cleaning desks, walking in straight lines with hands to themselves, and social distancing whenever possible. Please spend a few minutes with your child to discuss why it is important that they follow the expectations.
15. **The Clinic**: We have established a separate clinic room which will be used for students with a fever or any flu-like/COVID symptoms. Parents will be contacted immediately, and we ask that you pick up your child ASAP if they display these types of symptoms.
16. **Home Check**: Please check in with your child every morning before going to school and if they are running a fever or not feeling well, please keep them at home.
17. **Buses**: If your child rides a bus there will be very clear safety procedures in while riding the bus. It will be very important for all students to follow bus rules like staying in their seat and keeping hands to themselves. Please speak with your child about the importance these rules play in their safety during the ride on the bus and in keeping safe from the COVID virus. At school we will be using a rainy day schedule every day to load buses. This will ensure that students get on their bus safely with minimal exposure. This may mean it takes a little longer to load buses so you may find that students arrive a few minutes later to their stops.
18. **Special Activities**. We are excited to be back to having special activities at Riverview Elementary! Please be sure to listen to your weekly phone calls from me and read your emails for weekly updates and what is happening at school.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this detailed explanation and please know we appreciate all of your support as we begin this new year. I hope that I have answered some of your questions but of course, you may have more. Please feel free to call our main office at (813) 671-5105 if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Teri Madill
Principal
Riverview Elementary School