

Heritage Elementary School

July 29, 2022

Welcome to Heritage Elementary School! I would like to extend a warm welcome to both our new families and to our returning families. As principal, it is my goal to make your experience at Heritage exceptional. We are so proud to announce that **Heritage Elementary earned an A grade from the Florida Department of Education** for the 21-22 school year! Way to go Bobcats! We will be working to make the 2022-2023 school year another **Amazing** year full of learning! To ensure a fantastic beginning, please carefully read the enclosed information.



School begins Wednesday, August 10. The school day begins promptly at **7:40 a.m.** and ends at 1:55 p.m. Each day, students may begin arriving on campus at 7:10 a.m. and must be picked up for dismissal no later than 2:10 p.m. (See details of drop off and pickup enclosed.) For safety, it is imperative that parents follow the drop off and pick up time frames. If you need childcare before or after school, please register as soon as possible with the YMCA program. (tampaymca.org/afterschool) **Please note, students will be released early every Monday at 12:55 p.m.**

For the first day of school, please remember to complete the attached **1st Day of School Dismissal form** and securely attach it to your child's shirt or backpack. This label will tell us about your plans for the dismissal of your child on the first day only. For dismissal plans for the remainder of the school year, a new sheet will be sent home in the first day packet. Please note that all changes to dismissal plans need to be sent to your child's teacher **in writing**. For your child's safety, we are unable to make changes to dismissal plans over the phone.

Car line Procedure: For safety purposes, please use the attached car number (yellow paper) to display on your car dashboard for pick up. One number is assigned per family. Additional car tags can be requested by visiting the office or contacting your child's teacher. **If you do not have a car tag, you will be asked to show identification in the main office.** Please note that **our car line starts on Cross Creek Blvd. Publix has requested that parents not cut through the parking lot in attempts to cut in the line.** Doing this blocks their entrance and makes crossing to enter the store dangerous. It is also not fair to other parents who have been waiting on Cross Creek. ☺ Please be patient with the car line the first few weeks of school. It will become faster as everyone learns the procedures.

If your child will be riding the bus to school, we suggest that they begin riding the bus on the first day if possible. Allowing them to do so will help to foster independence and will **help ensure that there is no confusion at dismissal, since students receive bus identification bracelets when they arrive at school on the first day of school.**

This year, breakfast and lunch are free for all students at Heritage Elementary. Breakfast is served from 7:10 a.m. until 7:35 a.m. Please plan to have your child at school by 7:25 so that they are in their classroom to watch the morning show, which begins at 7:30, and start instruction at 7:40.

Traditional water fountains have been replaced with water bottle filling stations to prevent the spread of germs. Students need to have a water bottle every day so they can access water in class as well as after recess and physical education.

The address label on the outside of this packet has a four-digit number in the upper right-hand corner. This is your child's homeroom number. On the back of this letter is the 2022-2023 Homeroom Teacher list. Use the four-digit number to find your child's teacher.

The beginning of school is an exciting time of year, and we are looking forward to meeting your child. Parents and students are invited to attend our **Meet the Teacher** event on **Monday, August 8 from 4:45-6:45.** There is limited parking available at the school. Please plan to park at the Publix shopping plaza.

We are excited about the academic and emotional growth that your child will be making during the 2022-2023 school year. Safety and learning are our top priorities! We are looking forward to working with each family to make this an **Amazing** year of learning! Together we can achieve great things! We are Bobcat Strong!

Sincerely,

Mary Booth, Principal