

China Primary School

Regional School Unit No. 18 - www.rsu18.org

Belgrade – China - Oakland - Rome – Sidney

Engaging Learners ~ Strengthening Communities ~ Creating Global Leaders

Carl W. Gartley
Superintendent of Schools

Darlene Pietz
Principal

August 6, 2020

Dear Students and Families!

It is MY PLEASURE to write this letter to welcome you, back if you are returning, or to (if it's your first time) China Primary School. I am so grateful that CPS is going to be "open for business" this fall. The halls and classrooms felt very empty last spring and it's time to bring life back into our building!

In the past, we have sent letters from your child's teacher to you in the summertime; however, this year, we are waiting on that. We first need to know who will be here, in person, and who will be with us remotely. Once we know our numbers for the classrooms, we will begin the process of assigning students to teachers. I appreciate your incredible patience during these unprecedented times.

Although, some things will certainly be different this school year...wearing masks, sanitizing, distancing...most things will be the same. Our commitment is, and has always been to provide China children with a positive learning experience.

We will work with your children to teach them how to do school safely during a pandemic. We will be showing them how to wash their hands, how to keep their materials to themselves, when and where to wear masks, and when they need to sanitize.

It would be a GIANT step up if children were practicing the following things at home, so we limit the number of hands that are touching your children's things:

- Practice wearing masks for extended periods of time
- Teach your children to open: their water bottles, Tupperware, ziplock bags, and twist off snacks
- Also practice harder to open items like: milk cartons, juice boxes, lunchables, yogurt tubes and twist off drinks
- Work with your children to learn: to unbutton and button pants, fasten their shoes, blow their noses, toss their tissues, wash their hands properly (singing Happy Birthday or the Alphabet song) and to zip their jackets

This fall it is going to be more important THAN EVER to bring children outside to play to give them a break from wearing those masks. In order to make sure we can all do so every day, please be weather watchers at home. If it is going to be a rainy day, it would help us if all children had raincoats and hoods, AND a change of clothes in their bags! Also, watch for brisk days, and as it gets colder, pack extra warm clothes! We really want all of our children to be as prepared and comfortable as possible for getting outdoors in the fresh air. Because we are not using drinking

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fountains, we will be asking families to send re-fillable water bottles so children stay hydrated all day long...ESPECIALLY for those early hot days!

We fully realize that this year has been financially hard on our families. If you are having difficulty providing what you feel your child needs for this school year, please call our office and we will help you in any way we can. Our office phone number is 445-1550. Do not hesitate to call.

The wellbeing and safety of your children are the PRIORITY...their emotional and physical wellbeing matter most! We are preparing our school year with your children's safety at the core of everything we will be doing. We will have to leave some of our favorite activities behind, for now, like our assemblies, field trips, community activities and concerts. When we are told we can return to "normal", we will do so! Until then our classrooms will still be thriving communities of learning, sharing and exploring.

Please read through all of the materials in this mailing, and as quickly as possible, click on the link <https://forms.gle/jpYzkN1Wso9zTL7AA> and complete the survey. This is an essential piece of information we need to plan! We are putting new safety measures in place, which are outlined in this mailing. These are for the safety of all, and although they may not be convenient, for now, in order for us to open, they are necessary. As always, we appreciate your compliance and your patience as we all adjust to these new protocols!

You will receive more information from me at a later date that will include details for our annual open house. Of course, this will look very different this year. We are developing now a plan for a friendly, welcoming and safe way to introduce new families to our school, new staff to our families and to answer questions.

I am delighted to "get to" share this school year with you. It's going to be a great journey. We will see you on August 31.

Sincerely,

Darlene Pietz, Principal

[Parents - What you need to know](#)