COMMACK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT Commack, New York 11725

North Ridge Primary School 300 Townline Rd. Commack, New York 11725

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Katherine M. Rihm *Principal*

August 2021

Dear North Ridge Families,

I hope this letter finds you enjoying the warm summer rays and time with family. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the start of a new school year! The staff and I look forward to working with you and your child/children and we are confident it will be a fabulous year!

As you get ready for the upcoming year, I wanted to provide you with some information. Our school year begins at 9:25am on Thursday, September 9, 2021. Our walker line begins at 3:25pm. Our busses will depart between 3:35pm and 3:45pm. We ask for your patience with both arrival and dismissal as it does take a little longer the first dew days of school. Please see the reverse side of this letter regarding specific routines for arrival and dismissal, which have been modified from last year. Staff will be chaperoning buses in the PM.

Bus passes have been mailed home to all eligible students by the transportation department. If you have not received your bus pass, please call transportation at 631-912-2020. If your child is not riding the school bus this year and will be a permanent daily walker, please click on or use the QR Code and fill out the Permanent Walker Google Form below. Class placements are not mailed home and were posted to the Parent Portal on August 23, 2021. Emergency Contact information needs to inputted into the Parent Portal, so please complete that information prior to the start of the school year and log on throughout the year and modify this information if it changes.

Lunch menus and ordering information can be found on the school website under the "Parents" tab by clicking on Lunch Menus. Please be sure to order your child's lunch on the Meal Planner App prior to 9:00PM each evening (lunch count is not taken daily in the classroom). You can also order for up to a month at a time. Students will be offered breakfast daily. The daily breakfast offering can be found on the website as well. Please note, only one option is offered for breakfast and it will be available for pick up in your child's classroom. You do not need to order breakfast.

On Thursday, September 2, 2021, we invite you to join us for a visitation. All students and their parents are invited to visit their classroom anytime between 10:00am and 12:00pm. If you purchased a PTA school supply kit, your kit will be available in your classroom on the visitation day. If you did not purchase a kit, please bring your school supplies with you on the visitation day. Furthermore, we will place on your child's desk, a packet containing an Early Dismissal Card (yellow) and other pertinent documents that must be returned to school on the first day. Students will receive a name tag to wear for the first days of school. If you need to drop off medication to our school nurse, please bring your medication on Visitation Day and meet our school nurse, Mrs. Albrecht, between 10:00am and 12:00pm.

On Monday, September 27, 2021, we will have our Open House. The times are posted on the district calendar and more information will be posted to Backpack News. On that evening, you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and learn about your child's educational program. Also, I encourage you to join the PTA and become involved in our wonderful committees. The PTA helps to provide many great opportunities to our students. Information regarding the PTA will be in your child's Welcome Packet on their desk on visitation day.

This is going to be a rewarding year for everyone! Enjoy the rest of the summer and we are eagerly awaiting the arrival of all of the students on Thursday, September 9, 2021!

All my best, **Katherine Rihm** Principal



<u>North Ridge Arrival Procedures</u> 2021-2022

Arrival:

- Arrival for buses and walkers begin at 9:25am when school doors open.
- Staff will begin unloading busses at 9:25am and direct walkers to come down the sidewalk paths at 9:25am.
- Bus students will enter through the Kindergarten doors and walkers will enter the Main entrance.
- If your child is a walker and you arrive prior to 9:15am, please kindly wait in your car or with your child on the area at the start/end of the bus circle near the cones as we cannot accommodate walkers waiting near arrival doors or on the sidewalks in front of the building.
- The staff will direct students to where the temperature check stations are located.
- The bus loop will be closed to all cars.
- When parking, please be mindful not to block the crosswalk, the intersection or the NO Parking area.
- If you arrive to the building after 9:45pm, your child will be marked late and you need to walk them to the visitor entrance.
- All students and families must use the designated crosswalks and sidewalks. Do not walk across the front bus loop as busses will be entering, unloading students and departing.

Dismissal:

- All individuals picking up a student or students must show their ID and be <u>designated on the Google Form</u> as a walker pick up for that student.
- Please remember to bring ID each day as different staff members may assist with walker dismissal.
- Walker dismissal begins at 3:25pm.
- Student Walker Sign Out Door 2nd Grade door, back parking lot.
- Busses will begin loading between 3:35pm and 3:45pm. Please be patient as bus routes may take a little longer the first few days of school.
- Please note: All early dismissal pick-ups must be done prior to 3:00pm. Staff is preparing for dismissal after 3:00pm and we cannot accommodate pick-ups after 3:00pm.

We ask for your patience and understanding as we navigate our walker and arrival/dismissal routines at the start of the school year. Thank you in advance!

