

August 18, 2009

Friends,

There are some things that will be new for us this year. We now have a new security gate that will require some adaptation on the part of parents and visitors to the school.

First of all, reason for installing the gate is for safety of the children. Although we have not had an incident of intrusion into the school, the potential has been there. We tried to have visitors sign in or at least wear a badge but that didn't work out as well as we had hoped. So the best solution is the locked gate during school hours.

The gate will be opened in the morning and afternoon before school (8:15) and after school (3:00). During school hours, visitors to the school will be directed to press the button to the right of the gate to be admitted. The secretaries in the office will have a monitor so that they can see who is at the gate and they can open the locks remotely. They will be able to talk to the visitor as well as see who is there on the monitors.

No doubt there will be some adjustments necessary as we use this new device. However it is certain that children's safety has increased with this technology.

We have a new schedule for Middle School that may have implications for the other grades.

Overview:

7 periods vs. 8 periods

8:15-8:25 10 minute opening period for assembly, attendance and non-academic activities

10:00-10:20 Morning Recess

11:55-12:40 Lunch

Parents should note that morning recess is 10:00-10:20 vs. the 10:20 -10:40 last year. And lunch begins now at 11:55 vs. 12:04. Those who volunteer for lunch-time supervision should be here by 11:50.

Speaking of lunch, I am in the process of contracting for some canopies for the kids' eating areas. Those of you who have been here a while know that I have been trying to do this for years. So during September we will have some canopies built to cover both the eating areas so that the kids will be more comfortable during periods of warm sun and times of drizzle.

See you soon,

