**Jessica Layne**, Asst. Principal **Carlos Santiago**, Asst. Principal

August 2020

Dear Heritage Families,

As principal of Heritage Middle School, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone back to the 2020-2021 school year. It is an honor and privilege to serve our school community. While COVID-19 has changed how we start our school year, we are all excited to connect with our students.

Enclosed in this envelope you will find:

- Pink Information/Emergency form
- Attendance Works flier
- Flu/Health updates
- 2020-2021 District calendar
- #5100 BOE Attendance Policy
- BOE Policy re: Electronic Devices

At Heritage we have an amazing team of professionals who have spent time planning and preparing for our virtual September. Our faculty and staff have been involved in a lot of summer planning to provide effective online instruction utilizing the research-based practices and the best online resources. We look forward to transitioning through the phases of welcoming back students as soon as it is determined safe for all.

We are very aware you have many questions and it seems that answers & decisions shift and we must all be flexible. We have made an effort to answer the most pressing questions you have as a parent/guardian at this time

**Question:** When does school start?

**Answer:** The first day of school for all scholars will be Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

**Question:** How do I know what team my scholar has & what their schedule is?

**Answer:** For the month of September all students will participate in online classes starting at 9:00 AM. A schedule for middle school students will be available on the district website soon. Student class schedules will be available via the Parent Portal. Schedules will NOT be mailed home this year.

**Question:** Who do I talk to about schedules, courses & my scholar's well being?

**Answer:** School Counselors will be with your child during their duration at middle school.

Grade 6: School Counselor: Mary Ryan & Assistant Principal: Jessica Layne

Grade 7: School Counselor: Rosella LaTorre & Assistant Principal: Carlos Santiago

Grade 8: School Counselor: Susan Barringer & Assistant Principal: Shaneequa Cameron

**Question:** What if I don't have a Parent Portal?

**Answer:** The Heritage Main Office staff is in the process of contacting families regarding the Parent Portal. If you have not already signed up, you will need to as this is how students will receive their schedules for this coming school year. You can contact the school at 845-563-3750.

**Question:** How will my scholar know which Google classrooms to attend? **Answer:** Google Classroom codes will be posted on the Heritage website.

**Question:** What if my child is going to be absent from school?

**Answer:** If your child will be absent from virtual school, you MUST call into the school and leave a message. Call 845-563-3750. Details of what information to leave will be in the voicemail message.

**Question:** How does my scholar access information and learning?

**Answer:** All students in grade 6-8 should have a Chromebook from the district. You can also use a home computer. Just go to the district website, click on FAMILIES and the select ClassLink Launchpad.

**Question:** How will my scholar learn the technology needed to be successful online?

**Answer:** Teachers will assist the students in "how-to" the first week using email & Google classroom.

**Question:** How do I know what supplies my child needs?

**Answer:** Teachers will notify students of any virtual supplies & face-to-face supplies they may need during the first week of school.

Please make sure to visit the district website & the Heritage school website regularly. All updates will be found on these sites: <a href="https://www.NewburghSchools.org">www.NewburghSchools.org</a> and <a href="https://www.newburghschools.org/heritage.php">www.newburghschools.org/heritage.php</a>

The district is compiling a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) resource for faculty, staff, and families. You can assess the information here: <a href="https://www.newburghschools.org/webapps/reopen/index.php#FAQs">https://www.newburghschools.org/webapps/reopen/index.php#FAQs</a> Spanish:

 $\frac{https://translate.google.com/translate?sl=en\&tl=es\&u=https\%3A\%2F\%2Fwww.newburghschools.org\%2Fwebapps\%2Freopen\%2Findex.php\%23FAQs$ 

Another valuable resource available is:

https://newburghschools.org/webapps/reopen/NECSD OperationReopenFamilyGuidebook Updated 082120.pdf

The Heritage website is the best way to communicate with families & provide updated information. You can also go to the PTO Heritage Facebook page for updates. Any and all updates will be posted in a timely manner.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, the grade level assistant principal and/or school counselor if you have any questions or concerns.

Most Sincerely,

Lynnette Brunger

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