

Parents and Guardians,

This is Mrs. Vanderklis, Principal of Little Oak Middle School. I am placing this call to welcome you to another fantastic school year and to update you on a few things. First, a letter has been mailed out this morning to all of our students which will tell you your child's homeroom teacher and room number. Students should bring this information with them on the first day of school, which is Thursday, August 9th. ALL students will report directly to their homeroom Thursday morning and this note will help them to remember where to go.

On the first day of school, it is NOT necessary for students to bring ALL their school supplies, as this would be very cumbersome. Instead, they should bring the amount that fits into their book bag without being too heavy to carry. The rest of the supplies can be brought in on Friday and Monday. Fourth graders, and 4th graders only, will have a "Meet and Greet" tomorrow, Tuesday, August 7th, from 3:30 – 5:30, just come at your leisure. Parents who are able to attend the 4th grade Meet and Greet should bring their child's school supplies at that time. Remember, this is only for our 4th graders. If you do not receive your 4th grader's schedule before tomorrow's Meet and Greet, don't worry, we will have it for you when you arrive tomorrow.

We are asking that our students ride the school bus on the first day of school. We have over 1,080 students enrolled at Little Oak and the traffic is always a bit nerve racking on the first day of school, as it usually backs up Gause Blvd. We incorporated a new traffic flow last year. Be sure to view the map on our website, as it will provide details about the traffic procedures. The link can be found on Little Oak's main web page.

Parents cannot drive or park in the bus lane, and is not room to park in our faculty parking lots. Please keep in mind Boyet's faculty and staff begin arriving just before 8:00 so we cannot park on their campus. We will have extra personnel on hand on Thursday and Friday with a printout of all student names and their homeroom number. All of our students will be in good hands. You will have an opportunity to meet the teachers during Open House later in August. Remember, parents are not permitted to enter the classrooms on the first day of school. This does cause additional anxiety and stress for our students.

If you would like to get a head start on some paperwork, the district's Free and Reduced Lunch Form is now online on our district's main web page! If you complete the application online, the approval rate is much faster. Also, if your child will attend Little Oak's aftercare the registration forms are available on our website. Be sure to read all forms because some changes have been made.

We are certainly looking forward to seeing all of our students on the first day and we hope you all had a wonderful, relaxing break. Since this call was rather lengthy, it will also be posted on our website for your convenience. Thank you for your continued support.

Our theme this year is "Honoring Our Heroes." The Little Oak Family is proud to support our Veterans and Military Service Members. Each branch of service including Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard have been "adopted" by a grade level or group to honor throughout the year. We are looking forward to a wonderful and productive school year!

See you soon.