Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones in good health. As you are aware, due to the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the School District of Philadelphia and the School Board have decided to begin the new school year fully online. I want to thank everyone in advance for your support, patience, and flexibility as we embark on our new fully virtual school year 2020 – 2021.

Full online learning will be in effect from September 2, 2020 until November 17, 2020 which marks the end of the first marking period. We know that we are living in uncertain times, but we also know that this new school year will offer our students new and refreshing opportunities to extend their learning experiences. We will be updating our McKinley website link HERE to reflect current school opening information as well as our Facebook page link HERE and our Twitter page link HERE.

Below, I am including some important information as you begin to prepare your child(ren) for the beginning of the school year…

**First Day of School:**
- Grades K-8th – Wednesday, September 2nd – School start time is 8:20am and end time is 2:59pm. Teachers will share classroom Google Meets links and specific schedules that will include face-to-face instructional time and independent student activities.
- On September 2nd, students will need to log into their Google Suite account where they will find information on how to join their new Google Classrooms.
- Kindergarten – Your child’s teacher will be contacting you regarding your appointment time.

**Attendance:** Please keep in mind that daily attendance and punctuality are very important for your child’s success. Teachers will provide more information on how attendance will be recorded.

**School Uniform:** Students will not be required to wear a uniform, but should be appropriately dressed when participating in face-to-face instruction.

**School Supply List:** We have compiled a list of supplies we feel would support your child’s learning needs. This link HERE contains information on specific items by grade. Each student should be prepared on September 2nd with paper, pencils, and a willingness to learn.

**Schoolwide Communication:** We will be using either Class Dojo and/or See Saw for parental communication. More information will be provided.

**Chromebooks:** The SDP will loan a Chromebook to any SDP student that needs one. If your child is still in need of a Chromebook, this link HERE contains information on how you can acquire a computer.

**Some Suggestions for Successful Virtual Learning:**
- Stay organized and manage your time carefully.
- Establish a regular, uninterrupted work time each day. Try to limit distractions.
- Contact your teachers, counselor, and/or administrator when you have a concern.
- Consider purchasing headphones for your child.

**Virtual Parent Information Session:**
We have scheduled a Virtual Parent Information Session for Saturday, August 29th at 11:00am. Below is the information and Zoom meeting link…

McKinley Elementary is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85852176058?pwd=OGROYtNveGNsSkVtVA5ZkNXMmI5UT09
Meeting ID: 858 5217 6058
Passcode: 2vZdx9
Finally, please mark your calendars with the date of our Virtual Back to School Night, which is scheduled for Tuesday, September 16th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Stay safe,

Marilyn Carrion-Mejia
Principal

Crystal Tung
Assistant Principal