



**COLUMBUS
CITY SCHOOLS**

Westgate Alternative Elementary School
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Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

August 25, 2020

Dear Westgate Parents and Caregivers.

Welcome to Westgate Alternative Elementary School for the 2020-21 school year!! To those who attended last year, welcome back! To those who are new this year, welcome to a great place to learn and grow! Westgate has a great student population, supportive parents, and the most dedicated staff! We look forward to getting to know each family and to provide any support needed to make this a very successful year for all!

Dr. Talisa Dixon, Superintendent of Columbus City Schools, has established our continued focus on academic growth. Dr. Dixon's leadership will continue to guide us to resume our work towards reaching the Columbus City School goal of **100% STUDENT SUCCESS!!** It is the mission of Columbus City Schools that **"Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community."** With your support and guidance, you can help us reach this goal.

As you may already know, Columbus City Schools will start the school 100% virtually. **The first day of school for students is Tuesday, September 8, 2020.** Students will be working with their teachers using Zoom and/or Webex meetings and completing assignments that are assigned by their teacher through the Google Classroom platform. Our teachers are working very hard to prepare themselves to ensure every student receives the best educational experience possible in this new environment. As the beginning of school nears, please be on the lookout for emails and phone calls from Westgate and your child's teacher.

I would like to invite you to attend a virtual **"Welcome Back to School" parent meeting on Friday, August 28, 2020** beginning at **12:00pm**. **I will send out a virtual meeting invite via email.**

The virtual teaching and learning environment is definitely a learning curve for all of us and it's going to take every last one of us (teachers, parents/caregivers and students) to make it successful. We are so thankful and grateful you have put your trust in us. We don't know all of the details of what this year will look like, but please know we have a strong commitment to academic excellence and we need the help of our families to ensure "Student success and nothing less" for all of our students. I am looking forward to a wonderful school year! I believe with the commitment of an outstanding education from all parts of the school community (staff, students, families, and community members), Westgate Alternative Elementary will continue a fine tradition of teaching and learning.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. The school phone number is 614-365-5971.

Sincerely,


Angela R. Martin

Parent & Guardian Right to Know

As a parent of a student attending a school that is receiving Federal Title I dollars, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teacher(s) and instructional paraprofessional(s) who instruct your child. Federal law requires every Title I school district to comply and to provide you with the requested information in a timely manner.

We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which was signed into law in December 2015 and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1956 (ESEA) includes additionally right to know requests. At any time, parents and family members can request:

- Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out, and
- Information on required assessments that include:
 - subject matter tested,
 - purpose of the test,
 - source of the requirement (if applicable),
 - amount of time it takes students to complete the test, and
 - time and format of disseminating results.