



Dear Parents:

It is hard to believe that the first grading period is over. Second grading period is from October 25, 2023-January 12, 2024. According to our diagnostic results in reading and math, there is a great deal of work that needs to be done to ensure all students are making adequate progress toward grade level expectations and district benchmarks.

We cannot do this without you. Please make sure that you have communicated with your child's teacher to find out what you can do at home to reinforce concepts that are being taught during the school day. It is of paramount importance that your child has a quiet place to study and work while at home.

We thank you in advance for partnering with us to ensure the best outcomes for your child. As always, we welcome questions, concerns or positive feedback as we work in collaboration in support of your child.

You will need to access the Parent Portal to see your child's first quarter report card. Make sure your contact information and email address are up to date in the Parent Portal. If you need assistance with the portal, please call the district's help line at 380-997-7245 or email [parentportalaccess@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:parentportalaccess@columbus.k12.oh.us).

You should have received a parent teacher conference sign up form from your child's teacher. Please make every effort to sign up and meet with your child's teacher. The home school connection is critical to your child's success.

### **District Assessments**

All **second-grade students** are required to take the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test. The Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (or NNAT) is a nonverbal measure of general ability. Specifically, it measures **nonverbal reasoning and general problem-solving abilities**. The Naglieri test measures **students' ability to think critically and to solve problems**. The questions measure the child's ability to complete patterns and to use reasoning by analogy. This test is often used to determine eligibility for gifted schools and programs. Students will participate in this diagnostic sometime during the testing window of November 6-17.

All **fifth-grade students** are required to take the CogAT test. The test is intended to estimate students' learned reasoning and problem-solving abilities through a battery of verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal test items. Students will participate in this diagnostic sometime during the testing window of November 6-17.

### **Student Behavior**

Ensuring that school is a safe and orderly place to learn is a priority. Over the past few weeks, staff has spent a considerable amount of time dealing with issues that impact the orderly operation of the school. We are just beginning the second grading period and students are well aware of the expectations. There is a great deal of unfinished learning that still needs to be done to ensure that all students are prepared for the next grade level.

Below you will find a list of the most prevalent infractions that are being dealt with on a daily basis:

- Class Disruption
- Disrespect to Staff
- Fighting/Physical Assault
- Insubordination (Refusing to follow adult directives)
- Threats (Student to Student/Student to Staff)
- School Bus Misconduct
- Cell phones (Should not be left on or used during the school day)

Administration will take swift and appropriate disciplinary action if your child's behavior impedes the learning process or disrupts the orderly operation of the school. Please have a talk with your child about expectations for the educational setting. We know that working together yields positive results and helps to

ensure a positive school year for all students. Please do not hesitate to contact administration or your child's teacher with questions.

### **Attendance—Every Minute Counts**

The instructional day begins at 9:00. Please make sure that your child is present each day and stays until dismissal time. Each minute counts!!! Avoid a House Bill 410 attendance intervention plan by making sure to send in medical documentation for any late arrivals, early dismissals, or absences. As much as possible, please refrain from late arrivals and early dismissals as this will count against your child's attendance. Please email the Attendance Secretary, Keysha Woodson, at [attendance.liberty@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:attendance.liberty@columbus.k12.oh.us) to send in any type of absence documentation.

What is considered a legally acceptable reason to be absent from school? Generally, absence from school is considered lawful, or an excused absence, for the following legally acceptable reasons (a signed parent or guardian note is required):

- Personal illness
- Illness or death in the immediate household
- Emergencies or any other occurrences or situations which, in the judgment of individual principals, may necessitate absence from school as a last resort
- Religious holiday
- Superintendent's designation

### **Friendly Reminders**



Students should not be dropped off in the mornings prior to **the 8:30 a.m.** start time. We do not have adults on duty prior to 8:30 to supervise your child(ren). In addition, your child must be picked up each day by **3:45** as we do not have adults on duty to monitor children after this time. You must have a back-up plan in the event that you are unable to pick up your child. **School staff cannot be the backup plan. Please refrain from making changes to your child's dismissal plans—it confuses the child and office staff are scrambling to contact you to determine how your child is going home. This should be reserved for emergency purposes only.**

As we approach fall/winter weather, be advised that if the temperature is 27 degrees or higher, with wind chill, students will have outdoor recess. Please make sure that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing (coats, hats, scarves, and gloves). This rule applies to all students and will not be altered to honor individual requests.

Parents of Pre-K and K students, please make sure that your child has a change of clothes (including socks and underwear) in his/her backpack each day. This is in case your child has an accident at school. This will alleviate the need for you to have to come to the school to attend to your child.

If you need to speak with one of our staff members, please call the school office to schedule an appointment. Teachers require a 24-hour notice. Staff is willing to meet with you, but things must be done with proper procedure. Our number one goal is the education of students.

Thank you to parents who remain involved. We appreciate your support and assistance as we are working hard to ensure that your students remain actively engaged in the learning process.

### **Important Dates**

10/25 – 1/12	Second Quarter
11/6	Prek Professional Development Day, NO SCHOOL for Prek
11/7	Professional Development Day, NO SCHOOL for ALL Students
11/9	Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:45-7:15pm
11/14	Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:45-7:15pm
11/15	Fall Picture Make Up Day (for students absent on October 2 <sup>nd</sup> or enrolled after October 2 <sup>nd</sup> )
11/20 – 11/24	Wellness Week, No School for Students
11/27	Prek Professional Development Day, NO SCHOOL for Prek
11/30	Liberty Lion of the Month Principal Luncheon
11/30	Literacy Night, 5-6:30pm

Best,  
Shalonda Likely-Roach,  
Principal

Eric Butler,  
Assistant Principal