

# Principal's Newsletter

Maple Elementary, 1405 Maple Avenue  
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Mrs. Tammy Poole, Principal/Ms. Linda Caudle, Assistant Principal

Dear Maple Families:

Welcome Back to another great school year. The Maple staff is excited and eager to start the school year! We have missed the Maple students!

Please read this newsletter carefully as it has a wealth of information in it for the start of the school year.

## **Calendar:**

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### **August**

- 12 Meet the Teacher 6:00-7:30 PM Grades 1-6
- 14 First Day of School grades 1-6 – full day begins at 7:50 AM
- 14 Meet the Teacher 5:30-7:00 PM EC families only
- 19 1<sup>st</sup> Day for EC Students
- 28 GPS Maple Family BBQ- 4:30-6:00
- 30 August Birthday lunches with Principal

### **Class Lists/Teacher Notification**

We will be mailing home class assignments closer to the start of school.

### **Meet the Teacher Night/Drop off school supplies**

One of the most important nights of the school year is our Back to School Night. Our Back to School Night will be on Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 PM for grades. Classroom orientation times will be from 6:15-6:45 and 7:00-7:30p.m. Please arrive at 6:00 or before as it will take time for everyone to find classrooms etc.. So, if you have more than one child you can attend one session and then go to the other session. If you have more than 2 children I would suggest that you go to the classrooms that you are not familiar with and attend those and just pop into the other rooms and take the handouts with all the important information. Please know that you will also be able to sign up for parent teacher conferences, at the Back to School Night, which are quickly coming up in September. This is a critical night and we need all parents/guardians in attendance for their students. Teachers will be going over classroom expectations, passing out the Maple compact for you to sign etc.... Students can also bring their school supplies on this evening as well.

For our EC families we would like to invite you to come for a separate night so that the building won't be so crowded and overwhelming for the Early Childhood students. You can take your time and walk around the building and start to make yourself at home for what will be a brand new school for many of the students. So, on Wednesday night, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 we would like to invite the AM students and families to the gym, we will then transition into classrooms at about 5:45 for individual teacher presentations about drop off, pick up, coffee chats, family nights etc... PM students and families you are invited to arrive at 6:15 in the gym and classroom presentations will start at 6:30-7:00. You do not want to miss this night! When you are done you might want to go outside and play on the brand new playground equipment. It is just beautiful! We hope you enjoy it!

### **School Start Times**

Our school start and end times are the same as last year. Students will begin school at 7:50 and end at 2:35. The tardy bell rings at 7:55. In order to start the day in the most productive way we need all students in class by 7:55. Breakfast is served at 7:35 and goes until the tardy bell rings. EC students AM- 7:50-10:35 and EC PM 12-2:35.

### **Family BBQ Night**

Yes, indeed we have a date for our yearly BBQ. This is one of our biggest, most attended, and just simply one of our best events! The Family BBQ event right here at Maple School will be on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:00. What a great opportunity to come out and socialize with other families, see all your favorite Maple teachers, dunk your favorite teacher in the dunk tank, jump in a bouncy house or just relax. Once again, Maple and GPS Church will be hosting our beginning of the year Family BBQ Night. This event is free including the supper! A picnic-style dinner will be provided by GPS Church. We however will have some type of vendor here selling ice cream or snow cones so you may want to bring a little money if you are interested. 20% of the sales for this will be given back to Maple Elementary to help fund our Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS) Program.

### **Birthday Lunch with the Principal**

The birthday lunches with the principal will continue as one of our new Maple traditions. So during your child's birthday month, he/she can have lunch with me. Your child will still need a lunch on this day. When the weather is nice we will go outside for a picnic. So, if your child has an August birthday then he/she can eat with me on August 30<sup>th</sup> at their lunch time. If he/she is absent on the day I do the birthday lunch then he/she can join the next month's birthday lunch. They will still go outside for recess if they choose to or they can stay with me for a longer lunch. It is up to them.

### **Fall Fundraiser**

We are going to have a catalog fundraiser again this year to help raise money for our different programs and student field trips. This money will be raised for the Family Engagement Team, which will decide how to spend the funds raised for our school and the different activities. The company has decided to continue to increase the level of prizes this year. I am not sure yet what the prizes will be but I am excited! We hope you will support our efforts with this fundraiser and join our Family Engagement Team/PTO. The fundraiser is a catalog sale.

### **Parent Pin Program**

We have many parents who participate in our different activities and meetings every year. To recognize the commitment from our parents, we are in our sixth year of our Parent Pin Program. There are three levels of participations to earn a Silver, Gold, or Mustang award. Make a difference at Maple and get involved. We value and appreciate your involvement. Remember to get the mustang pin you must volunteer for one event or attend one parent engagement meeting! I know you want that Mustang pin.

### **Communication**

Open communication is so important to all of us at Maple. Please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Caudle or me with questions or concerns. No question or concern is too small. I will respond back to you within 24 hours. As partners in your child's education it is important to keep the lines of communication open. We can be reached via email at [tammy.poole@harlem122.org](mailto:tammy.poole@harlem122.org) and she can be reached at [linda.caudle@harlem122.org](mailto:linda.caudle@harlem122.org) or you are welcome to call me as well at 815 654-4502 ext. 1515. We look forward to partnering with you in making this a fun and educational school year.

Mrs. Poole

Maple Principal