



June 26, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for an amazing first year as your school principal. On behalf of the Belle Creek Charter School staff, I want to extend a warm back to school welcome to new and returning families for the 2017-2018 year. A special welcome goes out to our incoming Kindergarten students who are new to our school and to new staff joining our incredible team. As we start the year, we will continue our work towards ensuring the safety, social well being and engaging curriculum for your child/children.

In order to support a smooth transition from summer, we have provided important information in this letter. Please read it all carefully.

Registration:

Registration days are **August 1st from 8 am-5 pm and August 2nd from 10 am-6 pm.**

This year Belle Creek will also offer electronic payments for registration and other fees assigned to your student. These fees can be paid online through our school web store and can be viewed and paid before you come in for registration. We will also be offering electronic payments the day of registration as well, however it will be faster to pre-pay online.

All past fees must be paid before you will receive your student's schedule/ teacher assignment. This includes the registration fee \$20.00 and any past due fees that your student may have - missing library books, lost locks, or returned checks/ returned check fees. The registration fee can be waived for free lunch/reduced lunch students with a copy of the letter received from the district.

Uniforms:

Approved uniform shirt vendors will be at registration on August 1st and 2nd. We will have a uniform donation table at registration for those families in need. Please consider bringing in your gently used uniforms to donate to others. **We will no longer have the uniforms in the office during the school year for parents and students to go through at their convenience.** We will have them available at Core Knowledge nights and parent teacher conferences only.

Dress Code:

Students are required to conform to the school's dress code. With summer coming to an end and a new school year starting, please remember students, male and female must wear their hair clean, neat, and traditionally styled. No radical hairstyles. Boys may not wear any Mohawk haircuts, drawings, designs, letters, or numbers in their head, for any reason. Girls' hair must be styled traditionally with only natural colors. Students may also not have tattoos visible, whether permanent or temporary. Dress codes will be enforced.

Back to School Night:

The Back to School Night is **August 7th from 4:00-6:00 p.m.** During your visit you will have opportunity to meet the teacher, drop off all supplies, find your child's seat and coat hook/locker and become acquainted with your child's new "home away from home".

Classroom Placement:

When teachers assemble homeroom classes, they try to make them heterogeneous. The major factors are your child's demonstrated achievement; the quality of the student's citizenship; the child's work and study habits; whether he or she may need behavior support; if he or she is a leader or a follower; how a child's personality will fit with the others in the class; and the boy-girl ratio in the class.

We do NOT consider social factors such as the number of friends the child will have in the new class, or what class his or her best friend is in. Children are adaptable and will make friends wherever they are placed. We do know that parents sometimes have preferences for teachers; however we cannot place children in classes only on the basis of the parents' preferences or the teacher's reputation in the community.

We group children for *instructional purposes*, and placing in class based on any other factor would defeat this purpose. You need to trust the staff to make the best placement possible with all the information at our disposal. We will do the best job of placement we can, because it is important to us that every child has a good chance for success.

First Day of School:

All students report to school on **August 8th**.

School Hours:

Kindergarten & 1st Grade - 8:30 am -3:20 pm

2nd - 3rd Grade - 8:30 am- 3:30pm

4th – 8th Grade - 8:25 am – 3:30 pm

For the safety of students, parents are asked not to drop students off at school prior to 8:15 am unless participating in the breakfast program. There is **no adult supervision prior to 8:15 am.**

Kindergarten -4th grade will line up on the playground blacktop according to their homeroom. 5th and 6th grade will line up by the south side door next to the bike racks. Teachers will be on hand to receive your child. 7th and 8th grade will line up by the cafeteria.

Staff will be in the parking lot to direct traffic flow. It is important that you follow the directions of the staff and follow all posted traffic signs. We would like to inform /remind you that there is **NO parking** in the **passenger drop-off zones, the unauthorized locations** and in the **Staff Parking Lot.**

Meal Prices

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Breakfast</u>	<u>Lunch</u>
K-5	\$1.75	\$2.50
6-8	\$1.90	\$2.75
Adult	\$2.80	\$3.90
Extra Milk	\$.65	

Free and Reduced lunch forms for the 2017-2018 school year will be available around the third week in July. Please apply for free or reduced lunches via the School District 27-J website. www.sd27j.org - Nutrition Services Department. <https://www.sd27j.org/Page/294>

Visitors:

All parents, guardians, visitors and guests entering Belle Creek during the school day must do so through the **main entrance only, ring the bell, and wait to be identified. A video camera located in the monitoring device transmits a picture of the visitor to the office. Please look at the black box so we can identify you.** Once identified, the door will open. **All visitors must report to the office** to sign in and receive a visitor's identification badge. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but the safety of our children is our number one priority.

Communication:

We encourage communication between parents and teachers. However, because of their teaching responsibilities, teachers will not be called to the phone during instructional hours (8:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.). If you would like to talk with a teacher about your child, a message will be taken or you may email the teacher and you will receive a call back at the conclusion of their work day.

If at any time you have a concern with a teacher or staff regarding your child's education or school procedures, **it's very important that you respectfully communicate with that teacher or staff first.** If your concern is not resolved, please call office to speak with an Assistant Principal or myself.

School Carpool Program:

This year BCCS will be partnering with Way to Go, a school carpool program that may help us alleviate some of the congestion in the parking lots before and after school. Way to Go is a really exciting tool where you as a parent can view a map of your area to see what families live the closest to you (within 7.5 miles) and contact them to set up carpools or even to find walking, biking or busing buddies. There is no obligation to participate and an opt-out option is available **if you would not like us to share your information. The opt-out letter is attached and must be received via email to Ms. Ericka @ esievers@bellecreekcs.org, or faxed in @ 303-468-0164 BEFORE July 31st** so we can distribute the information out to families wanting to carpool as soon as possible. If you do not opt-out your information will be shared.

Thank you for choosing Belle Creek Charter School. By working together and following the rules, we can make "First Comes Learning" a reality for your child. We all look forward to an amazing 2017-2018 school year!

Jacolyn Fields
Executive Director

www.bellecreekcs.org