



# Good Foundations Academy

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Dear Parents,

It has been a busy, yet exciting, start to the school year. I just wanted to reach out to the parents to give you some basic information on upcoming events. I apologize for the length of this first letter, but there is a lot of information to get out to you.

### **Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. - Back to School Night.**

This is an opportunity for parents to meet the teachers and/or drop off classroom supplies (if they haven't already done so). We will have a parent meeting in the Gym from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. Teachers will be available in their classrooms from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Please keep in mind that teachers will not be available to talk to parents before 6:30 p.m. or after 7:30 p.m. If you need additional time to meet with your child's teacher, we ask that you please set up a meeting for another time.

### **Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to approximately noon – School Beautification Project.**

This Saturday, we are doing a beautification project for the school. We will be planting perennials by the wall in front of the school, doing some light weeding in flower beds, and spreading out some wood chips (actually a lot of wood chips!) around the big toys on the small playground. We could use all the wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels and pitchforks you can bring. Any and all help would be greatly appreciated.

For the most part, Morning Drop-Off and afternoon Carpool Pick-Up has been going pretty smoothly. Please keep in mind that school starts at 8:00 a.m. Meet and Greet runs from 8:00 to 8:10. Meet and Greet is an important part of our GFA culture. We recognize birthdays, talk about lunch and recite the Pledge of Allegiance, GFA Pledge, and the Foundation Stone of the week. Because we do all of this before the kids go to class, we rarely have to interrupt classroom instruction for announcements. Please try to make sure your kids are here by 7:55 a.m. to make sure they don't miss out on important information. Front doors open at 7:40 a.m. for students. If you need to drop off your students before 7:40, please make arrangements with a care provider like Explorers.

During Morning Drop-Off, the vast majority of adults dropping off students are doing a great job! When we wave you forward, please pull as far forward as you can before you stop the vehicle to let the kids out. I know it might seem like we are being a little bossy, but if everyone pulls as far forward as they can before they stop to let the kids out, we can unload twice as many students in the same amount of time. This means we can quickly and safely get the students into the school. I realize, especially in poor weather, that a parent's inclination is to let their own student off as close to the door as possible; we ask that you continue to pull as far forward as you can.

We know that many of you are willing to stop for anyone waiting at the parking lot crosswalk. I personally like manning the crosswalk to ensure the safety of anyone waiting to cross. If we wave you forward, please rest assured that we have asked the people waiting by the crosswalk to wait a few extra seconds. This allows the whole process to flow more smoothly.

In regard to afternoon Carpool Pick-Up, things have been running pretty smoothly. Don't be afraid to double park along the sides as you wait for your student. Please keep to the right and avoid getting out of your car. This allows for an open lane on the left for people who are trying to exit the parking lot. Of course, double parking does require some courtesy for those who are ready to exit, but most people have been great about allowing other vehicles to leave. Some carpool assignments may be shifting on **Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**.

- Afternoon **Kindergarten** will still be at the Pink sign (Cooperation Court).
- **First Grade** will either be waiting at the Red sign (Self-Control Drive) or the Green sign (Respect Avenue).
- **Second Grade** will shift to the Orange sign (Responsibility Road)
- **Third Grade** will shift to the Yellow sign (Perseverance Way)
- **Fourth Grade** will shift across the parking lot to the Purple sign (Integrity Lane).
- **Fifth and Sixth Grade** will wait in front of the Blue sign (Citizenship Boardwalk).

Again, this will begin on Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

Jana, our Office Manager, has asked that I remind parents to verify that all paperwork has been turned in for the year. If you are not sure, stop by the front desk and they will check for you. In addition, if your child is expected to take medicine during the school day, that must be registered with the main office. We don't want kids sharing or losing medicine.

Some of our newer parents may still be a little unsure of uniform standards. Those guidelines can be found on our webpage and at the front desk. While we need to uphold the dress code policy, we don't want to embarrass anyone in the process. If you are struggling financially to afford your student's clothing, we may have some resources available to help out. Just check with the front office for more information.

Also, as a reminder to those parents who are struggling financially, we want to remind you that applications for free or reduced school lunch are available online at our website or at the front desk. If you are not sure whether or not you qualify, we strongly encourage you to at least fill out the application. Far more people qualify for free or reduced school lunch than apply for it. All applications are kept strictly confidential.

I apologize for the length of this letter. Hopefully, my letters will be shorter in the future. We look forward to a great school year and seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Dave Dau  
Executive Director