

Dear PSE Parents,

Welcome to Providence Spring Elementary School, the Home of the Rockets, where together we create the “Scholars of Today and the Leaders of Tomorrow.” Beginning our eleventh year, we will continue to build on the strengths and traditions which have served us well as we set the bar higher, providing a first-rate education, second to none, for all our boys and girls. A key ingredient to our success over the years has been an active parent support group. All but a handful of families over the last decade have contributed their time, talents, and financial support to our collective efforts. This base of overwhelming support has put us in the enviable position of being able to meet our student needs, whatever they may be. Your support in Year 11 will keep that same magic alive. We’re glad you’re a member of the PSE Family.

A few updates for you as we begin our journey:

Notification of Class Assignment:

Your child’s teacher will make the Welcome Call to your home, beginning on the afternoon of Thursday, August 16, the teachers’ first official day back. By the weekend (August 17-19), grade-level welcome letters will be posted on the school’s website.

Meet the Teacher:

On Thursday, August 23, we will host our annual “Meet the Teacher” event. Our K-2 students and parents will visit the classrooms from 1:00 – 2:30 that day. Our grades 3 – 5 families and students will visit their classrooms from 3:00 – 4:30 pm. As our teachers are working right up to the last minute to get their rooms ready, we request no “early birds” for either of these open houses.

Student/Parent Visitation during Teacher Workdays:

Regretfully, we cannot allow visitors in our school prior to the first day on August 27, with the exception of the “Meet the Teacher” events. With the new Common Core Standards being implemented this year, our teachers will be involved in classes, meetings and other tasks that have an immediate due date. Likewise, our front office staff will be rushing to make sure that students are registered, supplies are ordered, records are in order, and simply will not be able to stop their work. We would appreciate your scheduling any needed appointments with staff members after school is underway, and we appreciate your understanding of our time crunch and our need to get everything “just perfect” for our students.

School Supplies:

For those of you who ordered your school supplies by June 8, your child’s supply pack will be on his/her desk at “Meet the Teacher.” Supply packs ordered from June 9 – August 1 have been delivered to your home. Please bring the supply pack to your classroom “Meet the Teacher” event. If supplies were not ordered by August 1, parents should copy the supply list from the school’s website and bring the locally purchased supplies when they come to “Meet the Teacher.” In addition, all students must have name tags and other items dependent upon the grade level (agendas, nature journals, expanding files, flash drives, zipper binders, etc.). These items are listed on the PSE website.

Kindergarten Parents:

We extend a special welcome to our Kindergarten parents. We are delighted you have joined the PSE school family and look forward to the unique contributions only you can make to our school. Jump right in and become involved. It’s fun. It’s a great way to meet other parents, and it sends a message to your

child that school is a top priority.

Your child will begin his/her school career on a staggered schedule. His/her first day to come to school will be determined by the last name.

Monday, August 27	Last name begins with A – F
Tuesday, August 28	G – L
Wednesday, August 29	M – R
Thursday, August 30	S – Z
Friday, August 31	All kindergarteners report to school.

During the first four days, the small groups will allow the teachers to do some informal assessments of the children, so they can immediately begin differentiating instruction to meet their needs. These small groups will be touring the school, learning rules and procedures, and will start to feel right at home in their new setting. We are excited to welcome our newest “little Rockets.”

School Hours:

Our school hours have changed just a bit this year. Our students may enter the building beginning at 7:30 am. They are to report to their classrooms upon entering the building, unless they need to eat breakfast. The tardy bell rings at 8:00 am. In order not to be tardy, a student must be in his or her classroom, unpacked, and at his/her desk ready to work. Students riding a bus are not counted tardy on those rare occasions when buses are late. For this reason, we recommend that all our students use bus transportation, if at all possible.

The First Days of School:

We will have an army of parent volunteers working on our campus the first two weeks of school, greeting the children in the morning and walking our kindergartners and new students to class. Our teachers will be in the classrooms greeting and working with the students as soon as they arrive. Parents are requested to let the volunteers, who have walked children to their classrooms for many years now, do their jobs. Meeting with teachers must be scheduled ahead of time as teachers cannot be taken from their classrooms during instructional hours. Thank you for adhering to this request.

Finally...

We hope that you are as excited about the upcoming school year as we are. Your children are your most priceless treasures. We understand that and appreciate the trust you have put in our school and in our faculty to design an environment which will foster curiosity, creativity, scholarship and character. Working together, we can insure that our students know the inner satisfaction of achievement and a task well done, while being grounded in the principles of personal and group accountability, social responsibility, and a strong moral compass, which will never steer them wrong, even in our uncertain world. These are our promises to you, as we begin an exciting journey together in just a few days.

Until then...

Diane Adams, Principal