June 1, 2020

Dear Kellar Parents and Guardians,

I would like to welcome each and every one of you to the 2020 - 2021 school year! It is an honor to introduce myself to you as the new Principal of Kellar Primary School. With over thirty years serving Peoria Public Schools, I have had the pleasure of being both a teacher and parent to a Kellar Colt, along with assistant principal at various schools in the district. I am thrilled to be back with my Kellar family!

I hope that everyone had a relaxing summer and took time to recharge and gear up for another great year of learning! Our teachers and staff have been very busy this summer attending trainings and staff development activities. We have many new ideas and materials to help our students excel!

One of the unprecedented challenges we face coming into this school year is what education will look like with the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Due to COVID-19, most students will be on a Blended Virtual A/B Learning Schedule. Students’ temperatures will be checked each day when they arrive at school. Students must bring hand sanitizer to school and must wear a face mask while in school and on the school bus.**

Due to the fluid nature of these circumstances, it is important to stay connected with Kellar Primary School and Peoria Public Schools over the summer and beyond. Here are some tips to ensure that you are receiving information in a timely manner:

- Please be sure all contact information (phone number, email address, and home address) is current in Skyward. If not, please call the office at (309) 693-4439 after August 2nd to update your information.
- Listen to automated messages and read emails from the school and district as they will have pertinent information regarding the start of the school year.
- Access our website [www.peoriapublicschools.org/kellar](http://www.peoriapublicschools.org/kellar), and follow the KELLAR PTO and Peoria Public School pages on Facebook.

Please take note of the important dates for the following activities as we move towards the beginning of the school year. These dates and events are subject to change:

- **August 3** School secretaries return to work
- **August 8** Student registration hubs open 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at Manual High School and Peoria High School
- **August 11** Student registration hubs open 9:00 am-6:00 pm at Manual High School and Peoria High School
- **August 13** Student registration hubs open 9:00 am - 6:00 pm at Manual High School Peoria High School
- **August 18** Online registration ends
- **August 19** First day for students - Kellar Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- We will post **class lists** on Friday, **August 14** at 4:00.
- **All students and parents** are invited to **Open House** on Tuesday, **August 18th** from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm. At Open House, students can drop off supplies, find their desk, meet their teacher, meet their new classmates, and receive important information about the school year.
As a reminder, several of our students have **peanut & tree nut allergies**. Please follow your teachers’ guidelines for safe snacks, cold lunch, and handwashing procedures. You can find more information about our policy in our handbook at www.peoriapublicschools.org/kellar.

Kellar Hours this year will be 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Breakfast, lunch, and latchkey will all begin August 19th. We look forward to great collaboration and learning this year!

Kellar is excited to operate our own before and after school **Latchkey Program** again this year. Information and registration forms are available on our website at www.peoriapublicschools.org/kellar or at the school. We think the students will benefit from another great year of the Latchkey Program!

At Kellar, we take pride in our tradition of academic excellence! For our students to continue to receive the best educational opportunities possible, our staff and families need to continue to work as a team. A positive relationship between home and school is critical to children’s attitudes and achievement. Good communication is an absolute necessity. Please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child’s teacher or myself if you have questions or concerns. Additionally, the teachers’ newsletters and notes should be read carefully. I will send home a monthly newsletter as well. The first principal’s newsletter will be sent home Tuesday, September 8th, 2018.

If you have any other questions, call Kellar at (309) 693-4439 or access our website at www.peoriapublicschools.org/kellar for more information.

We are safe, we are responsible, we are respectful because WE ARE KELLAR!

Sincerely,

**Heidi Baron**
Heidi J. Baron
Principal

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**Our Mission:** Kellar Primary School seeks to create a challenging learning environment that establishes high expectations for success through developmentally appropriate instruction that allows for individual differences and learning styles. Our school promotes a safe, orderly, caring, and supportive environment. Each student’s self-esteem is fostered by positive relationships with students and staff. We strive to have our parents, teachers, and community members actively involved in our students’ learning.

**Our Vision:** Every student is a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community.