June 1, 2021

Dear Kellar Parents and Guardians,

I would like to welcome each and every one of you to the 2021 - 2022 school year! 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 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 faced this past school year is what education would look like with the COVID-19 pandemic. Please know, that as a district, we are starting the school year with consideration given to student and staff safety, while staying committed to our high standards of teaching and learning. 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, and follow the KELLAR PTO and Peoria Public School pages on Facebook.

Kellar continues to partner with our community to provide opportunities for our students. This year we will continue working with Family Core to have Mrs. Joanna Kenser at Kellar as our Family-School Liaison. She will work closely with teachers, students, and families to provide children the assistance they need both in school and in the community. We will also continue our partnership with LOOK! It’s My Book! What amazing generosity!

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:

- Our Run with Reading check-ins will be Wednesday, June 23rd, and Wednesday, July 21st, from 6:00-7:00. Come join us for prizes and treats. This summer LOOK! It’s My Book! will join us to give free books to every child who attends!
- August 2nd Kellar Office reopens
- Class lists will be posted on Friday, August 13 at 4:00 on the front doors at Kellar.
- August 18th First day of school for students
- All students and parents are invited to Kellar’s Open House on Tuesday, August 17th from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm. At our 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
Breakfast, lunch, and latchkey will all begin August 18th with regular student hours being 9:10 am – 3:40 pm.

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 7th, 2021.

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 J. Baron
Principal

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.