

September 2020

Dear Parents,

I welcome each of you to Water Canyon Elementary! It has been an extraordinary and historical school opening. The Covid 19 pandemic has presented many challenges for families, communities, and schools. However, we have had an exceptional beginning of the year. The majority of our stakeholders are supportive of designated restrictions and guidelines and getting kids back in school! This is my fifth year here at Water Canyon, and I look forward to great things ahead!

After a five month absence, it is wonderful to have our students back in school! As our students began to stream into school on our first day, my emotions were more overwhelming than I expected. Along with me, our teachers and staff also felt very strongly and happy about this wonderful reunion.

I have told our students and staff that the pandemic and masks are not the most important thing at Water Canyon. Our number one priority is to provide a safe and caring learning environment where great learning can happen. Additionally, we have the opportunity to build strong, positive relationships together.

Opportunities abound at Water Canyon! At our school, all of our teachers are certified and are highly qualified. We set a high priority on reading education. Our growth in reading improvement is one of the highest in Washington County School District! We have opened a Wellness Room where students can visit and take a few minutes, when needed, to relax and focus on social emotional regulation. We have a new STEM system called Infini-D that will provide a high level of class and student engagement with lights, sounds, and lots of fun while working on appropriate curriculum material, activities, games, and competition!

Water Canyon has also received a grant to help build our Parent Engagement program. Although presently we have some visiting restrictions due to the pandemic, it is our goal to have more parents participate in many levels at our school. Some of these ideas will be more Parent Nights, family visits, develop a monthly forum with the Principal, etc. I welcome your suggestions and ideas.

We have a wonderful culture of support here at Water Canyon. You are welcome to come by and visit and be a part of our school!

I look forward to having a great school experience this year!

Chris Barrett, Principal

