**Follow Us On Instagram:**

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Feltonville School of Arts & Science

210 E. Courtland Street

Philadelphia, PA 19120





2020 – 2021

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**John Piniat, Principal**

**Dear FSAS Family,**

**I would like to welcome our new students to FSAS and I’m excited to see our returning students ready for another successful year! Last year, schools closed abruptly but our students persevered and did an incredible job learning through a new online environment. In an effort to make sure all students, staff, and community members remain safe, schools will continue to deliver instruction virtually through at least November 17th. Our teachers have been preparing and working hard to make sure that your child is provided with a high-quality education each and every day. If you encounter any challenges and obstacles, we will be here for you every step of the way!**

**At FSAS, it is very important that your child attends school every day. All students are expected to earn 95% attendance, which means they can’t miss more than 8 school days throughout the year. Your child must log into his digital classroom at 8:15 am for our daily Community Meeting. Your child will then follow their assigned schedule that will be emailed to their school district account. At FSAS we believe that when expectations are set high, children will rise to the challenge. Your children will receive the highest quality education delivered by a passionate, talented, and caring staff that want to see each child reach their full potential.**

**Whether learning through a digital environment, hybrid approach, or face-to-face in our classrooms, we put an emphasis on utilizing sound instructional strategies that implement the Common Core State Standards in a way that provides meaningful and memorable learning experiences for your children. Each day, your children will develop the skills necessary to become critical thinkers so that they can gain a deep understanding of the curriculum.**

**Our school also puts an emphasis on showcasing the various skills and talents that your children possess. We will hold numerous events throughout the year to display these talents and I hope to see you there to support the children of our school.**

**I expect this to be another phenomenal year for the entire FSAS family. Our doors are always open and I encourage you to visit, share your ideas and concerns, and play an active role in all of the great accomplishments that your children will achieve this year.**

Sincerely,

Mr. Piniat

Principal

**Virtual Back to School Night:**

**Thursday, September 17**

**5:00 – 7:00 pm**

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| Our Vision: We envision the Feltonville School of Arts and Sciences as a learning community that provides a supportive environment where students feel physically and emotionally safe.  We are committed to providing students with instruction that is authentic, rigorous and standards driven.  The school community that we envision understands individual differences, appreciates diversity and emphasizes the importance of life-long learning. | Our Mission: The mission of Feltonville School of Arts and Sciences is to provide a comprehensive preparatory education through academically rigorous instruction and technology rich programs. We expect all students to maintain the highest standards of excellence and to develop their skills, so that they become confident learners empowering them to contribute to their education and community. |

**DAILY SCHEDULE:**

Students must log into their first classroom by 8:15 for their daily Community Meeting. Students will then follow their regular schedule to attend Literacy, Math, Science, Social Studies, and specialist classes in a virtual environment. Attendance will be taken each period every day so make sure your child builds a consistent routine to be successful.

**BREAKFAST:**

Breakfast is available at no cost and is required for all students every day. Families will be able to pick up breakfast and lunch at various food sites throughout the city. Follow @PrincipalPiniat on Instagram for updates and changes to the food site schedules throughout the city.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Our school’s goal is to surpass **95% Student Attendance** this year! In order for your child to have 95% attendance at the end of the year they can not miss more than 8 school days. Even though we are starting the year off virtually, attendance will still be taken each day for each class. At the end of each month, your child will receive an email updating them on how many absences they currently have. Make it your goal to make sure that your child earns perfect attendance each month. All parents must make every effort to have their children come to school every day. Certificates will be given out to students that earn perfect attendance each month. Lets all strive for **perfect** **attendance**!

**ABSENT NOTES:**

If a student is absent, they must present a note to their homeroom teacher giving the reason for the absence. Without a legitimate absent note, each absence is coded as “Unexcused”. The note must include the reason for the absence, the dates of the absence, any medical attention that was received, and the parent’s signature. Once a **legitimate** absence note is received, the absence may be coded as “Excused”. The trigger for a truancy referral remains ten unexcused days.   After eight cumulative absences for illness, the parent must secure a doctor's note for any future absences for illness.

**LATENESS TO SCHOOL:**

Our school day begins at 8:15am. Students who show a repeated pattern of lateness will be referred to truancy officials and may not be eligible for voluntary after-school activities.

**LATENESS TO CLASS**:

Regular and prompt attendance to class is expected of all students. Teachers will keep a log of all students who arrive late to class.

**CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT:**

**In order to create a safe learning environment, all students must adhere to the FSAS Non-Negotiable Rules. These will be strictly enforced by teachers and administrators:**

* While learning in a virtual environment, students must wear school appropriate clothes to their digital classes.
* No profanity—NO CURSING at students, teachers, or staff.
* Physical and verbal violence will not be tolerated.
* No loitering in their digital classroom before or after a teacher arrives for class.

**ACT 26:**

The Pennsylvania General Assembly enacted legislation that requires all public schools to take a mandatory course of action in dealing with students who are found to be in possession of weapons. The law requires the arrest and expulsion, for at least one year, of any student found in possession of a weapon on school property, in a school program, or while traveling to and from a school program, including time on public transportation. The law defines a weapon to include, but not be limited to, any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, firearm, shotgun, rifle, or any other tool or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury. There is no requirement that the student use or try to use the weapon. Possession for self-protection is not a defense. Parents are encouraged not to send tools or supplies such as metal or pointed scissors to school with students unless you receive a written request from the teacher. The law requires that violations become part of a student’s permanent disciplinary record and will be available to any school in which the student may later enroll. Parents will be required to sign an affidavit prior to enrolling their child in school.

Our goal is to provide the highest quality education in every classroom with no disruptive behavior!

Every student has the right to an excellent education, and every student at FSAS has the right to high quality instruction in a place that is safe and secure. The faculty and staff work very hard to handle problems as they occur. No student will be permitted to harm another, threaten another, or behave in such a manner as to disrupt class. **Students who are disrupting class may be removed and will be treated according to the School District of Philadelphia Code of Student Conduct.**

Students who insist on threatening or harming others, disrupting classes, or acting in a disrespectful manner may be suspended from school. Bullying and any form of physical or verbal harassment will not be tolerated at FSAS, and will be treated as a serious offense.

FSAS supports and enforces **THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT of The School District of Philadelphia.**

The Feltonville School of Arts and Sciences is a “sanctuary” for all of our students. We envision a safe and healthy environment that supports the learning of our students, the development of our faculty and staff, and the incorporation of our students’ family into our school community. We aim to make FSAS a model of how a high-quality school should be.

In order to create a strong and cooperative school community, we have defined clear behavioral expectations. We stress positive recognition of appropriate behavior and disciplinary consequences for uncooperative behavior. Since we have such high expectations for our students, certain behaviors are not even mentioned in the Discipline Code. Swearing and fighting are actions that are inappropriate, undesired, and we hope, never occur in the building, and will be met with the most severe response outlined in the code.

The Philadelphia School Board has the authority to make reasonable and necessary rules governing the conduct of students in school. As provided by Section 1317 of the School Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: Authority of Teachers, Assistant Principals, and Principals Over Pupils, every teacher, assistant principal, and principal in the public schools shall have the right to exercise the same authority over students as to conduct and behavior while students travel to and from their homes, as the parents, guardians, or persons in parental relation to such pupils may exercise over them.

Students are expected to act in a courteous and peaceful manner toward staff, visitors, and each other. **A student may not act in any way that disrupts or disturbs an educational or school related program**. Violations of this rule include, but are not limited to:

\*Failure to obey directions from school staff

\*Behaving in a disruptive or disrespectful manner

\*Disruption of a classroom or other school function by failing to behave in an

appropriate, safe and respectful manner

\*Running and/or making excessive noise in the hall or building etc.

**All expectations and policies for behavior closely adhere to the School District of Philadelphia’s Student Code of Conduct. To download a copy, please visit**

**https://www.philasd.org/studentrights/wp-content/uploads/sites/67/2018/07/Final-Code-of-Conduct-SY-2018-2019\_7-2.pdf**

**DETENTION:**

Detentions are assigned by the Dean of Students, Administrators, and/or teachers as an early intervention for minor school infractions such as lateness or for failure to follow the code of conduct.

**SUSPENSIONS:**

It may become necessary to place a student on temporary suspension for serious or repeated violations of school policies and procedures. The intent is to have both pupil and parent recognize that the pupil was involved in serious, disruptive and unacceptable behavior.

An out-of-school suspension results in the exclusion of a pupil from school and all school-related activities because of serious misconduct. Before a student is suspended, the principal and/or discipline coordinators will meet with the student and discuss the reason for the suspension. Suspended students will be reinstated only after a parent or guardian meets with appropriate staff members as per a pre-arranged appointment. Students returning without a parent or guardian will be treated as a trespasser.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM:**

All students are required to dress in school appropriate clothing while learning in a digital environment. If you currently own a school uniform from our previous year, it is encouraged that you wear your uniform shirt to your virtual classes. When we return to learning in a hybrid or face-to-face environment within our school building, you will be required to wear the following uniform:

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| --- | --- |
| **Regular Uniform** | **Gym Uniform** |
| * **Powder blue Button-Down Shirt (short or long sleeve), Powder blue Polo Shirt, or Powder Blue T-Shirt with FSAS School logo**      * **Navy blue uniform pants (NO jeans or stretch material)** * **Close toed Shoes or Sneakers** * **Optional navy blue tie or cross bow** | * **Powder blue T-Shirt with school logo**   **(Purchased at FSAS for $10 each)**     * **Navy blue Sweatpants** * **Sneakers** |

**ELECTRONICS:**

All electronics including cell phones must be silences and not utilized during digital instruction. These devices will distract you, as well as your classmates, so make sure that you turn these devices off prior to logging into your digital class.

**CLASS TRIPS/SCHOOL CLUBS:**

It is the policy of the FSAS that a school sponsored activity, such as after-school clubs or class trips, is a privilege that is to be reserved for those students who comply with School District of Philadelphia and FSAS policies regarding attendance, lateness, behavior, and school uniform. Students may be excluded from any non-mandated or non-curricular event or activity if they refuse to comply with such rules.

**ONLINE TEXTBOOKS/GRADES/RESOURCES:**

StudentNet is The School District of Philadelphia’s new resource to help students chart their course to graduation and beyond. Its purpose is to EMPOWER students with their own information and resources they need to achieve success! StudentNet provides students with access to the following:

* Academic records:  grades, credit accumulation, attendance, grade point average, benchmark scores, and standardized test scores, from the 2001-2002 school year to the present.
* Textbooks and Learning Supports: textbooks online, video tutorials, PSSA prep guides, and more.
* Resources and Tools: the Individual Learning Plan worksheets and guidelines, information about selecting a high school, career and college planning, jobs, internships, and apprenticeships, after-school and summer programs, alternative pathways to graduation, social support services, and more.

**TEACHER CONFERENCES:**

To communicate with the school about a concern please send an email to your child’s teacher to set up an appointment. Next, ask for a conference with the teacher to help you resolve the concern. If you still need assistance, ask to meet with the administration. Teachers will supply their email address as another form of communication. Parent conferences are to be conducted outside of instructional time. Please arrange with a teacher to meet with you at a time during the day when he/she is available.

**INSTRUCTIONAL TIME:**

Instruction begins at 8:15am when students logs into their digital classroom and ends at 3:19pm when they are dismissed.

**HOMEWORK**:

Homework is assigned on a regular basis. The assignments are a follow up of class lessons and must be completed. These are essential activities for your child to practice what they have learned. Homework also teaches students responsibility and how to remain organized. Please see that your child has a specific place to complete their homework, sufficient school supplies, and that someone is there to help.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER:**

In weather emergencies, schools may close early or not open at all. Announcements will be made between 6:00 and 9:00am on KYW 1060 and other radio stations. The number for all Philadelphia public schools is 100. For early dismissals, students must have a listed emergency destination and a current phone number. Other important information will also be posted on twitter @PrincipalPiniat.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS:**

* Notify the school of any change of address or telephone number.
* Provide the school with an up-to-date emergency contact.
* Ensure that students attend school regularly and arrive on time. In case of absence, provide a written excuse note upon the student’s return to school.
* Check to see that students are properly dressed for school in full uniform.
* Ensure that students bring their textbooks, notebooks and school supplies to and from school everyday.
* Attend all report card conferences with student’s teacher.
* While the student should assume the major responsibility for completing all homework assignments, parents are encouraged to take an active role by:

1. Promoting a positive attitude toward homework assignments.
2. Providing time and a quiet place at home for study.
3. Assisting with preparation for tests.
4. Checking student’s work for neatness.
5. Ensuring that all assignments are completed on time.
6. Check student’s work for teacher’s notes or comments.

**BOOKS AND SUPPLIES:**

Student workbooks will be given out at the school building on August 27 and August 28 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. See the attached Virtual School Supply flyer to know what supplies each student is expected to have available to them while they learn virtually.

**HOW PARENTS CAN HELP THEIR CHILDREN:**

At the end of each school day consider asking these questions:

1. Tell me about something interesting that happened during your day?

2. What was something nice that you did for another student?

3. What did you learn that you didn't know this morning?

4. What was something that was difficult for you to accomplish today?

5. Tell me about the topic that you discussed in (math, science, art, etc.) today.

Ask to see their homework, and review all long-term and short-term assignments for understanding.

* Provide a special place to do homework free from distraction.
* Check homework daily. Discuss it. See if it is done correctly.
* Encourage neatness in everything that they do and hand in to their teacher.
* Insist that all letters, fliers, notes, etc. be placed in a special place so that you see them.
* Make sure your child reads a book for at least 20 minutes every day.

**Parents can monitor academic progress through the parent portal on the school district’s website at https://www.philasd.org/resources-for-families**

**HONOR ROLL AND RECOGNITION:**

Students that achieve all A’s in every subject area including their specialist classes will be inducted into the FSAS High Honor Roll. Students that have all A’s and B’s in every subject including their specialist classes will be inducted into the FSAS Honor Roll. Students with outstanding attendance and punctuality for each report period will also receive special recognition. Encourage your child to strive to earn these recognitions.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:**

Photographs of students are taken in classes and at special events for the yearbook, bulletin board displays, promotions, our school Instagram, and Facebook page. Parents who do not want their child’s picture taken must notify the principal in writing. If no notification is provided, it will be assumed that the parent consents to having their child’s photograph taken and displayed.

**APPOINTMENTS WITH PRINCIPAL:**

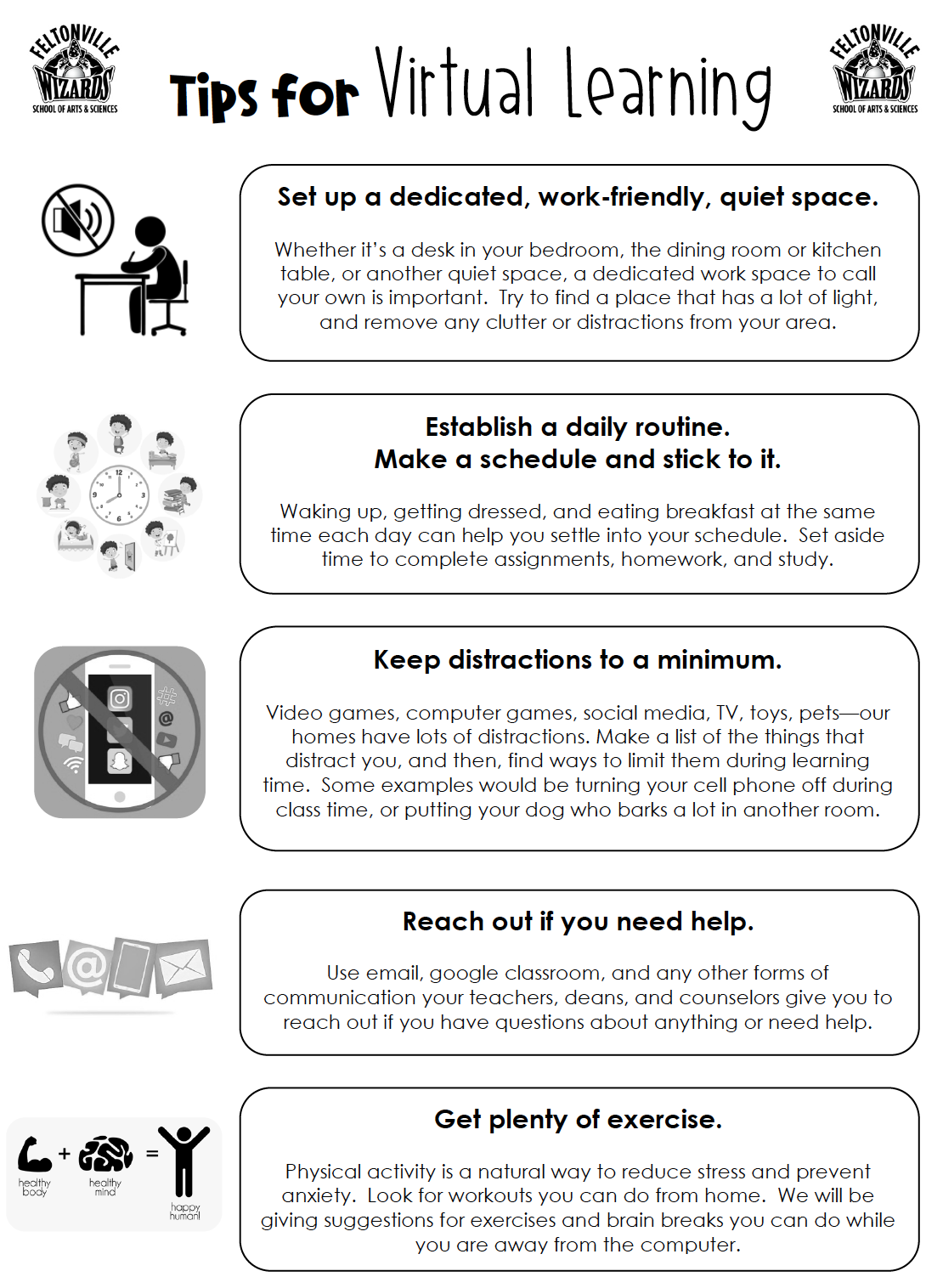
The principal is available before, during, or after the school day to meet with parents who request an appointment. Please call the school secretary to make an appointment.  If there is an emergency situation, the principal will make every effort to accommodate you.

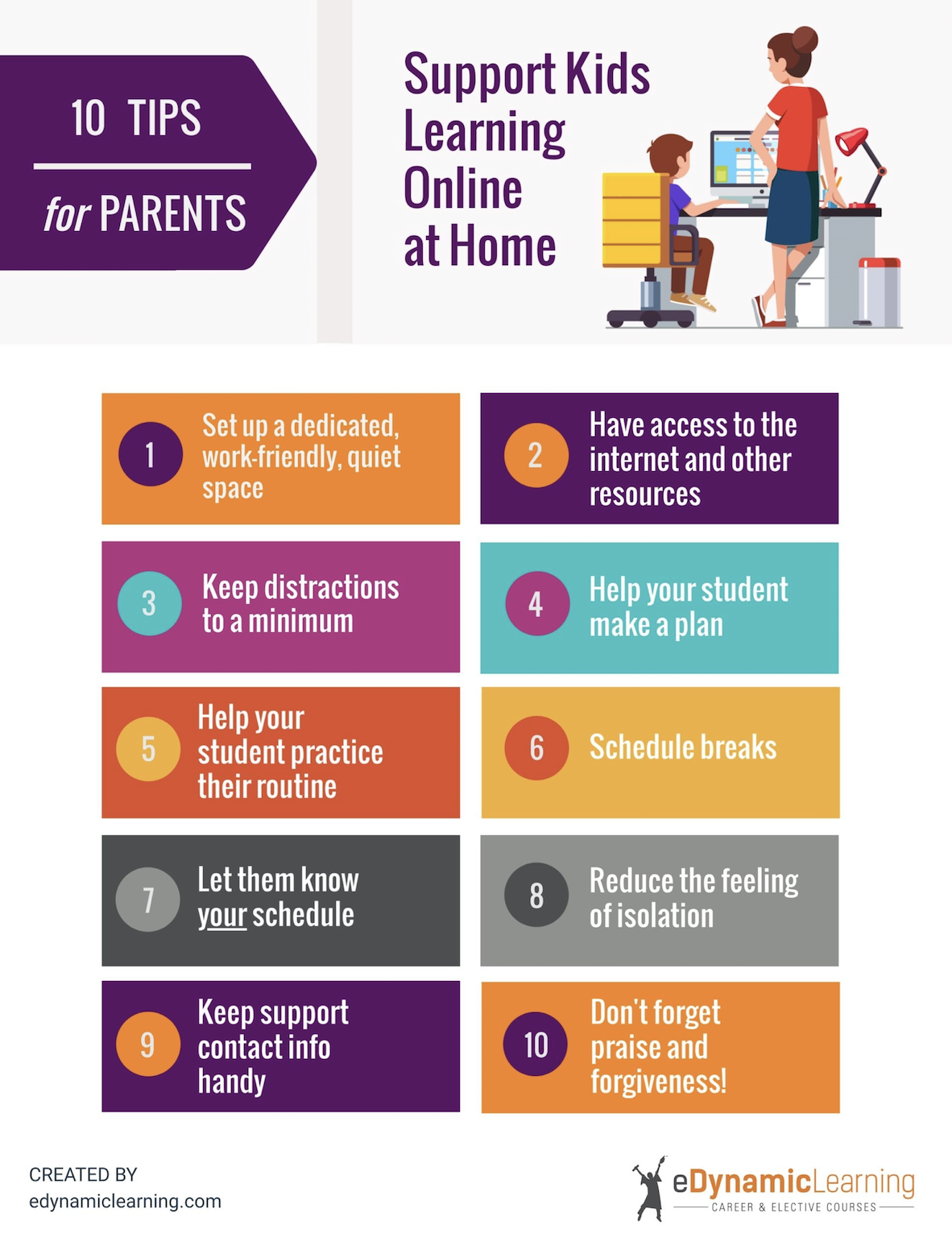
**RIGHT TO AMEND:**  
The principal retains the right to amend the handbook for just cause.

**Important Dates**

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| **August**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 24 | First Day of School for ALL Staff Members | | 24-31 | District-wide Professional Development |   **September**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 2 | First Day for Grades K-12 | | 7 | Labor Day – Schools Closed | | 17 | Virtual Back to School Night – 5:00-7:00 pm | | 28 | Yom Kippur – Schools Closed |   **October**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 16 | Professional Development (12:19 Dismissal) | | 16 | Interim Reports Due – Printing at 3:19 | | 19 | Interim Reports Mailed Home |   **November**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 3 | Election Day – Schools Closed | | 11 | Veterans’ Day – Schools Closed | | 23 | Report Card Conferences – 1-3pm & 5-7pm | | 24-25 | Report Card Conferences – 1-3pm | | 26-27 | Thanksgiving – Schools Closed |   **December**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 11 | Professional Development (12:19 Dismissal) | | 18 | Interim Reports Due – Printing at 3:19 | | 21 | Interim Reports Mailed Home | | 24-31 | Winter Recess – Schools Closed |   **January**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1 | New Year’s Day—School Closed | | 15 | Professional Development (12:19 Dismissal) | | 18 | Dr. Martin Luther King Day – Schools Closed | | **February**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 3-5 | Report Card Conferences – 1-3pm | | 12 | Professional Development (12:19 Dismissal) | | 15 | Presidents’ Day: School Closed | | 26 | Interim Reports Due – Printing at 3:19 |   **March**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1 | Interim Reports Mailed Home | | 26 | Professional Development (12:19 Dismissal) | | 29-31 | Spring Recess – Schools Closed |   **April**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1-2 | Spring Recess – Schools Closed | | 7-9 | Card Conferences – 1-3pm | | 19-23 | PSSA – English Language Arts | | 26-30 | PSSA – Math | | 28-30 | PSSA – Science |   **May**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 3-7 | PSSA Make-ups | | 4 | Election Day (tentative) – Schools Closed | | 13 | Eid-al-Fitr – Schools Closed | | 28 | Professional Development (12:19 Dismissal) | | 31 | Memorial Day – Schools Closed |   **June**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 11 | Last Day for Students | | 14 | Last Day for Staff | | 18 | Juneteenth (observed) – Schools Closed |   **2020-2021** |

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