



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
Francis Scott Key Elementary School
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PRINCIPAL

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Dear Key School families:

Welcome back! Or, if you are new to the Key School family, welcome and thank you for choosing our amazing school for your child's education. I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer and are ready to start a new school year on September 3rd.

Last school year was filled with lots of fun learning experiences and student successes. Here are a few of our favorite memories:

- Our Community and Family Story nights where parents and their children were able to come into the school to share their story. Please view the nine stories we have up on our webpage: <https://key.philasd.org/family-and-community-stories-project/>
- Our Academic Parent Teacher Team Initiative where teachers in grades K-3 hosted parent meetings three times a year and shared new ideas and games with parents
- Eagles Pep Rally! We are hoping for another one this coming school year!
- Our annual back to school movie night event
- Girls on The Run 5K in December and June, can't wait for a new season this year!
- Read Across America week of events with a special Saturday celebration of reading from your teachers and Councilwoman Helen Gym
- Opera Philadelphia partnership and residency in 4th grade
- National Liberty Museum partnership and anti-bullying campaign in 5th grade
- Spirit Day Festivities in May

We are already gearing up for an incredible new school year. Our teachers have attended training sessions to better help all students learn and grow. Our front office team is updating student files and ordering new materials. Our hard-working custodians have spent the summer cleaning our school. And, our cafeteria workers are preparing to serve your children delicious, healthy and free breakfast and lunch each school day.

We're also delighted to welcome a few new additions to our staff:

- *Mrs. Carmen Paternoster, Kindergarten and First Grade ESOL Teacher*
- *Ms. Lisa Kim, 3rd Grade Teacher*
- *Ms. Lisa Yuk Kuen Yau, 4th Grade Teacher*

In addition, Key School is currently undergoing lead remediation and all areas with lead-positive damaged paint are being removed, stabilized, and repainted. Full painting of the areas of the treated areas will be conducted throughout the year.

There was an installation of a new hydration station on the 3rd floor, which now gives us a total of 5 hydration stations in the school.

All 6th grade classrooms will be receiving new tables and chairs to enhance the learning environment for our middle school students.

Four classrooms received 4 new Smart Panels

Most exciting however, is that Key School has been chosen for the next round of classroom modernizations for the 2019-2020 SY for all K-3 classrooms. All K-3 classrooms will be outfitted with new paint, furniture, electrical upgrades to outfit air conditioners, and technology upgrades. We just have to wait one more year as we are entering the design phase this school year.

Be sure to visit www.philasd.org for important back-to-school information such as how to get a Philadelphia School TransPass and a list of vaccines your child will need to attend school. In addition, please visit <https://key.philasd.org> for supply lists and updates for the school year.

I also want to invite you to attend our **Back-to-School Night Thursday, September 26th, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.** This will be a great time to meet teachers and other families, and learn more about the new school year.

All of us at Key School look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday, September 3rd, and working with our families and community to support high-level learning. Together, we can make this school year our best one yet!

In Partnership,

Pauline Cheung
Principal