

September 9, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,



Welcome back to another exciting year at Andrew Carnegie Elementary School. For families new to Carnegie a cheerful "Welcome" to Andrew Carnegie. We are off to a successful start of the new academic year. Our Kindergarten students are settling into their school routines and our returning students are excited about their new classes. Congratulations parents and students! We achieved 100% attendance on the first day of school. Our attendance goal for this year is 97%, and we cannot reach this goal without your help. It is critical that students attend school on a daily basis. Attendance has a direct correlation with student achievement.

For the 2016-17 school year we will continue to focus our efforts to improve instruction through use of technology by implementing Coding and Programming into our curriculum. Students will learn how to code and program a number of robotic devices and drones. Computer coding teaches students problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, math and teamwork

Parents we need your help to make "**Coding at Carnegie**" possible for all students. Each class will need approximately 5 to 6 devices (for small groups). The coding gaming sets and devices range from \$50.00 to \$200.00. We are asking parents to make a donation to your child's class. Parents can donate to their child's classroom via <https://www.donorschoose.org>. Type "**Coding at Carnegie**" or input the school's zip code 60637. Find and select your child's teacher. Input the amount of your donation, click proceed to checkout and follow the remaining directions. Once your child's class has been fully funded all items will be shipped to the school directly and "Coding at Carnegie" will begin! Your friends, family and employer can also make a donation. You may access <http://www.matchinggifts.com/donorschoose> to find out if your employer match gifts/funds. Your generosity and support is needed to bring "**Coding at Carnegie**" curriculum to our school.

Below are a few reminders and Important Dates:

- Please be advised that our school hours are from 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. There is no supervision prior to 8:45 a.m. and students will not be permitted in the building. Please, consider the safety and well-being of your child and DO NOT drop-off your child prior to 8:45 a.m. These are very busy times and safety is our utmost priority.
During inclement weather students may be dropped off at 8:30 a.m. **All students must enter through the main entry and directed to the cafeteria and/or gym.**
- All student immunizations and physical examinations must be up to date. A copy of your child's immunization must be submitted to the school nurse. All new students entering CPS will need physical, vision and dental exams. The Chicago Board of Education recognizes the relationship between academic achievement and healthy students. However, children must provide proof of required immunizations and health exams before **October 15, 2016**, or they will face exclusion from school.

Important Dates:

- **September 13th** -LSC Meeting 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria
- **September 14th** - 8th Grade Parent Meeting at 4:30 p.m.
- **September 22nd**-Parent Open House from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The General Session will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the gym with the "State of School Address".
- **September 28th** - Kindergarten Parent Meeting 5:00 p.m. in the cafeteria
- **September 29th**-Title 1 Parent Meeting 9:30 a.m. in the cafeteria
- **September 30th**-Back to School Dance & Out-of-Uniform Day for all students. Admission FREE with the return of the Media Release, Immunization Records, Emergency and Lunch Forms (forthcoming).

We are looking forward to an extraordinary year at Carnegie School and seeing you on September 22nd.

Principal Pollard