

August 10, 2020

Pioneer families and friends,

Welcome to another school year at Pioneer! Due to the significant impact the coronavirus pandemic is having on schools, we know it will be a different year, one filled with challenges. We also know challenges bring opportunities, and you can rest assured the Pioneer staff is determined to do all in our power to make this a good year filled with creative learning opportunities for our students.

At Pioneer, our mission is to provide *“a safe and nurturing community where every child is known and empowered to reach their highest potential in academic and character development.”* Though we’ll have to approach that mission in a much different manner this year, ensuring that every child feels known and cared for, is challenged to learn at grade level and above, and becomes a person of strong character will continue to be what drives our work.

Strong partnerships with parents and families are critical to achieving this mission. Those partnerships, too, will feel different this year due to the restrictions temporarily necessary to maintain a safe environment, but we will continue to reach out to you so that you are meaningfully involved in your child’s education. This year more than ever a strong parent voice is needed to help us navigate these difficult times. Please contact me if you are interested in participating in our Building Accountability Committee (BAC) and/or our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). To partner effectively with you, it is imperative that you keep your contact information updated in Infinite Campus through the Parent Portal.

Pioneer continues to be a Title I school, which means we receive generous financial support from the federal government to support us in meeting the varied needs of our students. We use those funds to decrease class sizes in our primary grades, to hire interventionists who support our goals of ensuring all students learn at high levels, and to offer parent education events so that you are better able to support your child’s learning. We employ a Title I Paraprofessional who supports some families with additional needed resources. **Please complete the electronic Free and Reduced Lunch form.** The percentage of families that qualify for this program is what determines the level of support we receive from the Title I program.

Due to coronavirus restrictions, many forms contained in the First Day packet that in the past have been paper and pencil are now electronic. Please read these documents carefully and keep them handy for easy access throughout the year. You can find additional information about Pioneer on our website, <https://pioneer.asd20.org>.

Please reach out to me or our assistant principal, Ms. Zook, if we can assist you or your child in any way.

Sincerely,

Brian Casebeer  
Principal  
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