

May 10, 2018

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We are excited to announce a new event to start the next school year! On August 29th, all three elementary schools will be hosting an Open House in the afternoon so that students and their families can visit the schools and meet their teachers before school officially starts. The schedule has been developed with families in multiple schools and siblings in mind. It will be split into two sessions to accommodate the parking needed for this new event. We look forward to starting the school year with our students, families, and all teachers!

The schedule for the Open House on August 29th will be:

Bethel Springs Elementary

12PM-1PM - Students with last names from N-Z

2PM-3PM - Students with last names from A-M

Concord Elementary

12PM-1PM - Students with last names from A-M

2PM-3PM - Students with last names from N-Z

Garnet Valley Elementary

12PM-1PM - Students with last names from A-M

2PM-3PM - Students with last names from N-Z

- Concord and Garnet Valley Elementary Schools are on the same schedule so that families may visit both schools in proximity during their assigned times. The Bethel Springs times are assigned opposite of Concord to accommodate families who will need to drive between schools. The time between sessions is to give families a chance to conclude their visits and depart before the next group arrives.

The new Open House will take the place of our previous Sneak a Peek events. We have seen changes in Sneak a Peek in recent years with class lists now being posted online and school supplies being delivered to classrooms. An LEA Committee of parents, teachers, and administrators worked through the Sneak a Peek Survey data to create this new event. Other transition activities like the opening schedule for kindergarten, transition activities for students going from Concord to Bethel Springs after kindergarten and Concord to GVES after second grade, transition camp for GVES third grade, and new family orientations will all continue. We will also continue with traditional Back to School Nights in the fall. Our Home & School Associations will run their usual activities from Sneak a Peek during the Open House times.

We realize that creating a new summer event can create difficulties for families who already have vacations planned or cannot change work commitments. For this reason, we will also be

offering tours on Thursday, August 23rd, from 5:00-7:00PM. This day and time would have been one of the traditional Sneak a Peek times. The building principals will host these tours. Please call your school's office to set up a tour. These tours will be offered this year with the intention of having the Open House on the Wednesday before Labor Day weekend being the only activity in the summer of 2019.

We had 400 people participate in our survey and many offered comments and suggestions as well. Our committee reviewed all of this information and used it to create this exciting new event. While every request could never be honored, we did our best to enhance the opening of school with our priority being finding a way to have all teachers included in the Open House to welcome everyone back for another school year. Thank you.