

VENTNOR EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY COMPLEX

"We Think...Achievement"

VENTNOR CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Principal Carmela Somershoe

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August, 2019

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the staff and administration, welcome to the Ventnor Elementary School for the 2019-2020 school year! As the principal, my goals are to provide your children with a safe environment, to build and maintain a positive relationship with each of you, and to make sure that your children get the best education possible. The faculty has been working hard to get everything ready to make this school year excellent. Please read the following important information in preparation for September:

School Opening/ Hours: School will open for students on Thursday, September 5th on a **full day schedule for grades PK-4 from 8:15-3:15**. All K-4 teachers will meet their students on the **side** of the building by the green canopy. Each teacher will have a sign with their name and homeroom written on it. Please know the name of your child's teacher. Our time schedule allows for one drop off and pick up time for parents of students in both elementary and middle school. To ensure safe drop off and pick up, please review the enclosed arrival and dismissal procedures carefully. On a full day of school dismissal ends at 3:15. Students in grades K-4 not picked up by 3:15 will be sent to aftercare where a fee will be charged.

Curriculum: This year we will continue to implement the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in all content areas to meet our school goals of improving student growth in ELA and Math. Students will be leveled in reading to measure growth and encouraged to read books that are just right for them. New this school year, Fountas and Pinnell Classroom will be used in 3rd and 4th grade and Really Great Reading will enhance our program in kindergarten and 1st grades. We are very excited to continue to provide all students with access to technology through tablets to increase their skill proficiency in reading and math through smartys.com, raz-kids.com, kidbiz.com, and Freckle.com. A focus on social emotional learning will continue through Skill Streaming/ Second Step to help students develop social skills to handle day-to-day concerns in a positive way.

Attendance: School Attendance Matters (SAM) - SAM is our incentive program to reward classes and individuals for meeting our school attendance goals. Students looked forward to daily recognition updates on the morning announcements. **Student daily attendance is extremely important.** Please make every effort to make sure that your child attends school daily. All students are encouraged to be a VES HERO!

H- Here

E- Everyday

R- Ready to learn & do my best

O- On time

Parent Involvement: Please join us for Back to School Night September 18th at 6 PM. Follow us on Instagram@ventnorcity schooldistrict for a window into what is happening daily. Interested in volunteering? Any parent that volunteered last year can now login to Safe Schools with the same username to complete the two modules required for this year. Please note you will also need to go online to view the HIB power point

presentation and sign the statement of assurance. If you would like to volunteer and have not in the past, please contact Vicki Cahill at extension 5290.

Paperwork: Please review the beginning of the year paperwork carefully and return all required forms. Please be sure to provide all contact information and your **email address** on the emergency card to ensure that you receive all important communications. Our student handbook is located on veccnj.org for your review.

Student Assignments/ Supplies: Homeroom lists will be posted on the Main Entrance of the Elementary School located in the front of the building after 1:00 pm on Friday, August 30th. The Board of Education will be providing student school supplies for this school year. Parents are asked to provide only a sturdy backpack.

Summer Reading and Math: Summer reading and math is due on Friday September 8th. Voluntary summer reading special recognition is planned for students entering grades 1-4 who have read and documented the reading by completing the entire Summer Reading BINGO board including parent signature. Students who participate will be rewarded with a pizza party. Please submit sheets to your Language Arts teacher by Friday, September 8th.

Identification Cards/Bus Passes: All students will be issued identification cards to be worn to school every day. If applicable, enclosed is a letter from the Middle School Principal and Transportation Coordinator, Mr. Baker, along with each child's bus pass.

Visitors: Visitors to the building must report to the security window and provide a driver's license, name of the child, and nature of the visit. A badge will be created for your admittance. Badges must be worn while in the building and returned to security upon departure.

It takes a team to help all students reach their potential. Throughout the year, it is my hope that we will all work together to provide the students of Ventnor the best possible opportunities. It is my expectation that all students will show good character and work hard. I hope that you enjoy every minute of the remaining summer vacation. I can't wait to see all the smiling students in September, ready to do their best!

Sincerely,

Carmela Somershoe
Principal

