

VENTNOR EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY COMPLEX

"We Think...Achievement"

VENTNOR CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Principal Carmela Somershoe

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August, 2016

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the staff and administration, I welcome you to the Ventnor Elementary School for the 2016-2017 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 an exciting school year. Please read the important information to prepare you for September:

School Opening: School will open for students on Tuesday, September 6th on a **full day schedule for grades K-4 from 8:15-3:15**. All teachers will meet their students on the **side** of the building. Each teacher will have a sign with their name and homeroom written on it. Please know the name of your child's teacher.

School Hours: 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 not picked up by 3:15 will be sent to aftercare where a fee will be charged.

Regular Sessions

Preschool (AM) 8:15-11:00
Preschool (PM) 12:30-3:15
Kindergarten - 8 8:15-3:15

Early Dismissal

Preschool (AM and PM) 8:15-11:00 ***
*** alternating days
Kindergarten-8 8:15-12:15

Curriculum: This year we will continue to implement the Common Core Curriculum Standards in Math and English/Language Arts as well as the NJ Standards in all other content areas. Students will be leveled in reading to measure growth and encouraged to read books that are just right for them. 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 raz-kids.com, kidbiz.com, ixl.com, firstinmath.com, and nesy.com.

Attendance: School Attendance Matters (SAM) - SAM is our incentive program to reward classes and individuals for meeting 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.

Parent Involvement: Interested in volunteering? Any parent that volunteered last year can now log in 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 the signed 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: 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 26th.

Required Summer Reading and Math: All students entering **grades 1-4** are required to read the book sent home in the reading packet and complete the assignment provided. Students will receive a prize for completing the summer reading. Mandatory reading books need to be returned. Replacement costs will be charged for books not returned. Submit book report sheets to your Language Arts teacher no later than Wednesday, September 7th. Packets were sent home in June and can also be found online at ves.veccnj.org.

Voluntary Reading and Math Incentives: Students are encouraged to read throughout the summer. Special recognition is planned for students entering grades 1-2 who have read and documented 20 pages a day 4 days a week and for students entering grades 3-4 who have read and documented 40 pages a day 4 days a week. Students who participate will be rewarded with a pizza party. Please submit sheets to your Language Arts teacher by Wednesday, September 7th. Practicing math is equally important. Our First in Math contest will award top sticker winners.

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.

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. 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

