

# Dragon Dispatch

Russell Jones Education Center

8/31/2016

Edition 1, Volume 1

## *Welcome to a school new year!*

We are very excited to start the school year and see all our Russell Jones Dragons having fun and learning together. I would like to welcome you back for the 2016-2017 school year! I hope your summer has gone well and you are excited for the beginning of the new school year.

I anticipate an exciting year as we collectively strive to foster a culture of learning. I feel extremely fortunate to be working with such an exceptional group of students, families, and staff members. Research shows that parental involvement in a child's education benefits the child. These benefits are higher levels of academic achievement, positive attitudes, and greater maturity and responsibility. Because the benefits are so solid, I urge you to take part as much as possible in the life of our school. It does take an entire village to raise a child. Your assistance would be extremely valuable to our students. Our staff is committed to working with students and their families as a team.

The curriculum is directly aligned with the Park Hill School District curriculum, and to help each child achieve to his/her fullest potential, the school provides both enrichment and intervention supports for students. We believe in

knowing each child extremely well, and working to help our students reach their goals.

For the 2016-2017 school year, we have added some new Dragons to our Russell Jones Family. Please help me welcome the following staff:  
Bailey Moorehead – Elementary Teacher  
Angela Korte – High School Teacher  
Jamie Murray – Middle School Teacher  
Joanie Lipscomb – Elementary Teacher Assistant  
Staci Capranica – Elementary Teacher Assistant  
Susi Hedrick – Cafeteria Manager  
Don Hensley – Night Custodian

We welcome all our families back to another exciting, challenging year. Please know that I am always available to meet with you in person or talk to you over the telephone to discuss any concerns you may have. As the Principal of this campus, I am responsible for all decisions made in the best interest of your children. I look forward to a great year and to meeting all our new children and their families.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lance Miller, Principal

## **Russell Jones Education Center**

**Mission: Through expertise and commitment, the Russell Jones Education Center provides a therapeutic learning environment to prepare each student with skills to enjoy success in life.**

## New Technology

Infinite Campus, Raptor, Schoology, SchoolCafe

By now, it is probable that you have seen some of the new technology tools and resources that the Park Hill School District has implemented this year.

While we know that everyone is not technology-savvy or may not have computer and internet access at home, we hope that you take an opportunity to utilize these new technology tools whenever possible.

**Infinite Campus** is our student information system. The Parent Portal gives parents or guardians immediate access to important student info such as grades, schedules, and attendance. It also allows you to view your household contact information and student emergency contacts, and you can request updates to this information directly from the parent portal.

**Raptor** is our new visitor sign in/out system. Please remember that you (or whomever is picking up your student) must have a driver's license in order to complete the check in/out process.

**Schoology** is the classroom student learning module. Teachers will be using this tool for a variety of purposes within their classroom instructions.

**SchoolCafe** is the new food service online payment program. This system replaces Meal Pay or MyPaymentsPlus. Parents must sign up for an account with the simple online registration.

If you have questions or need assistance with any of these programs, please be sure to contact the school office at (816) 359-4510 or the district technology helpdesk at (816) 359-5000.

Do you have a talent or career skill that you would like to share? We would like to provide our students with additional opportunities to have first-hand experience with fine arts and career skills. This could be in music, dance, foreign language, vo-tech, technology or other types of non-core subject areas.

If you are interested or know a person, an organization or business that might enjoy doing a presentation for us, please have them contact Dr. Miller at (816) 359-4510.

### IMPORTANT DATES

September 1	Parent Advisory Committee	5:00 pm
September 5	NO SCHOOL	Labor Day
September 6	NO SCHOOL	Teacher Professional Development Day
September 14	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr Mid-term	Progress Report Distribution
September 22	PTA Meeting	5:00 pm
September 28	School Pictures	During school
September 28	Parent/Teacher Conferences	5:00-8:00 pm
September 29	Parent/Teacher Conferences	5:00-8:00 pm
September 30	NO SCHOOL	