

Welcome Wildcats!

2020-2021 – Here We Come!

It's time to launch into a new school year, and we are so excited to welcome returning friends and new ones. I know that our start looks very different this year, but many things remain the same. There are new supplies just waiting to be used, teachers eager to meet new students and establish strong relationships, books ready to be read, excitement mixed with apprehension, and the anticipation of all we can learn and explore together in the coming year.

We will continue to ride the waves of change together, and do all we can to create positive and challenging learning environments for each and every Wildcat. While it's easy to get caught up in what might have been, I know our staff is embracing change, and ready to adapt and be there to support our students. While there is so much right now we cannot control, we do know we can control our reactions. With that in mind, we are dedicated to moving forward, utilizing our strengths, and continuing to do what is best for students. Staff has been busy with professional development and are eager to put purposeful strategies in place, incorporate new programs, and build a classroom culture where each student feels valued and ready to learn. This year will definitely be a true test to our No Excuses philosophy, but we are up for the challenge!

Whether we can be in our Launch Lab or not, our work on helping students discover their personal strengths will continue. We want each Wildcat to understand, develop, and use their strengths as they learn and show what they have learned. This work will also include the connections to possible career fields, as we ensure our students know the many amazing possibilities that lie ahead of them. We often ask our children what they learned, but also need to include time to stop and ask, "What did you learn about yourself?"

Social/emotional pieces will always go hand in hand with academic learning. Our students must feel safe, included, and valued to be available to learn. Monthly Kind Cats lessons will continue, as well as lessons on working together, supporting each other, and taking responsibility for our work and actions. We are fortunate to have our counselor working with us 5 days a week, whether we are virtual or on site. With technology so much a part of our lives, understanding digital citizenship will also play an important role.

Thank you for allowing us to work with your children this year. We do not take this gift lightly, and we are ready to teach, support, encourage, explore, learn, and laugh with each student. Like you, I am not sure of many things that lie ahead of us this school year. However, I am sure – without a doubt – that our Pomerado family will work together, look out for each other, stay positive, and keep our students as our center focus. Work Hard, Be Kind, No Excuses may take on new meanings and look different this year, but they will remain our guiding lights, and I'm confident they will take us to new heights.

Mrs. Crow