

Monthly Family Newsletter

September 2020



Greetings Cummings families,

We are so excited to begin this school year with you! The staff at Cummings Great Expectations has been working throughout the summer preparing policies, procedures and classrooms to make sure our children and families have the safest and best learning environment possible.

Spring of 2020 has challenged staff, students and parents to find a new normal for learning, connected us in a new ways and required our teachers to teach from afar. What I learned the most through this process is how much I appreciate the expertise our teachers bring to Cummings, our parents support during this process and most importantly even under circumstances we have never experienced we are still a learning and caring community.

Normal is such a simple word and it is our goal at Cummings to not only find our new normal, but to use this time as a learning experience that will forever impact the learning environment at Cummings. Our fall may not be the "normal," but our learning will continue. Please be patient concerning the changes that are required. I assure you there has been a lot of time and consideration involved in each and every decision and we are doing our best to do what is right for every child and family.

The staff and I are excited and ready to start the new school year. Please contact us: Monday-Friday from 9:00-3:00 for any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Michelle Townsend - Site Coordinator
Cummings Great Expectations
810-600-5461



Meet The Cummings Family!

Pamela Rutherford is an Early Head Start Associate Teacher and has worked at Cummings Great Expectations for a year and a half. Her favorite color is orange, she loves fried catfish and coleslaw and watching basketball. Her favorite team is the Detroit Pistons. She likes to read and hope to one day write Children's Books, she also likes to go camping and to concerts.

"The best thing I like about working at Cummings is the little people, they are a joy and inspiration to work with, and having a positive relationship with parents in my class lets me know how the family is doing as a whole not just the children in my class. My role as a Teacher is to give 100% of myself to teaching the children in my class."

From our Executive Director

JA'NEL JAMERSON

We are excited for another school year and want you to know that we are doing everything we possibly can to make sure your child is safe and healthy. We are offering a 4-day school week as well as having a virtual option. Our school sessions will be held Mon-Thursdays with Fridays off, devoted to deep cleaning. Here are 7 ways to help kids transition to get back to school: Help kids create a designated workspace (for virtual learning or homework time). Remember to read with them! (this helps in every aspect of learning growth!). Be there to ease transitions and keep the communication lines open (talk to them about what they are learning and what they like). Support homework (make time to learn with them). Pack healthy lunches (healthy food helps them learn). Stay active and focus on physical activity (their brains need movement). Try a new extracurricular activity (something else to focus on)

Check out this article to learn more:

www.parents.com/kids/education/ways-to-better-prepare-kids-for-virtual-learning

CUMMINGS GREAT EXPECTATIONS

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Mark Your Calendars:

Important Dates



- Sep 1,2,3: HOME VISITS(VIRTUAL)
- Sep 7th - closed (Labor day)
- Sep 8-11 Virtual Learning Week

PARENT ORIENTATIONS: Here are the links for the parent orientations: Please register to attend one of the Parent Orientation sessions.

- Sep 9th 10:00-11:00: tinyurl.com/CummingsParent1
- Sep 9th 3:00-4:00: tinyurl.com/CummingsParent2
- Sep 10th 5:00-6:00: tinyurl.com/CummingsParent3
- Sep 21st: All Students go back!

From our Family Engagement Coordinator

MIKE KILDEE

Hello Cummings Families!

On behalf of the Cummings Family Engagement Team, I would like to welcome all of our students and their families back for another exciting and slightly different school year at Cummings. Regardless if your child is attending school face to face in the classroom or virtually, we want you to know that we are here to support your child and family through these uncertain times. The Family Engagement Team at Cummings is always ready to lend their support if you have questions, concerns or you are in need of resources for your family. Please join us this year as we plan to stay connected with families through virtual parent meetings and other parent education opportunities. Thank you and have a great year!!

Mike Kildee - Family Engagement Coordinator

Ways to Promote Resilience In Young Children

"Resilience"- the ability to bounce back when faced with adversity. The Center for Resilient Children recommends tips for families on three factors that promote resiliency.

Build Relationships - Hug and cuddle together. Showing your child that they are safe and secure can help them cope with outside experiences. **Talk with your child** about what he or she does well. Children like to hear about their strengths. Try telling your child each day several things you saw or heard that were positive. **Redirect children.** Gently guide your child to a better choice. Little ones often need redirection for their own safety.

Promote Initiative - Involve your child in doing simple daily tasks. This will help grow your child's ability to be independent. **Have family time.** Having regular family routines and activities helps children participate. Knowing what comes next helps children be prepared. **Show your joy.** Show pleasure in your child's accomplishments by celebrating his or her efforts.

Develop Self-Regulation - Accept mistakes. Mistakes are how we learn and grow. Talk through mistakes with children. **Practice taking turns.** Build in turn taking as part of family life. Use warnings to help your child get ready for change. Some children have a hard time going from one thing to the next, try giving a warning to help your child prepare.

Don't Forget to Check Text Messages From Child Plus

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO BE A PART OF YOUR FAMILY!