



## D. Newlin Fell Elementary School

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Omahr Ashe  
*Principal*

**August 24, 2020**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of D. Newlin Fell Elementary School, I would like to welcome you back to another year of teaching and learning. My name is *Mr. Omahr Ashe*, and I am the proud principal of Fell Elementary. As we begin this unprecedented time in educational history, this school year will be like no other. We know that the unpredictability of COVID-19 and the ongoing guidance regarding school openings/school closures from city, state and federal health authorities sets forth many challenges for our school community. However, this is our new “*virtual reality*.” We must be flexible and prepared but we must also embrace it.

It is our responsibility to you and your child/children to be unwavering in our commitment to their academic excellence and providing high-quality instruction. I am confident that our daily work with students, whether in a classroom setting or virtual learning setting will remain the same. As always, it will focus on the core values of our mission and vision statement, and this school year **our primary goal is to provide you with a safe, supportive and successful school year.**

During the course of the 2020-2021 school year, more than ever, we will ensure that our students are exposed to the best the district has to offer and that they learn at advanced levels regardless of the school setting. Over the past 8 years, “Teamwork makes the dream work,” is the foundation that our successes have been built upon and with your help, I am certain that every student that attends our school will continue to make significant growth and we will continue to exceed all school goals, metrics and district expectations.

We know that strong partnerships with parents/guardians are fundamental to the educational success of our students. I am looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure that our students can continue to achieve at their highest potential. As partners, we share the responsibility for the success of our students, and we ask that you support your child’s learning by maintaining high standards for student attendance, participation, behavior and academic achievement.

***“Excellence Is The Standard”***

Please make sure that your child follows our school’s Virtual Instruction Expectations and Virtual Instructional Schedule below:

### **Virtual Instruction Expectations**

**All Fell students are required to –**

- Attend all of their daily online classes on time (synchronous & asynchronous) per their instructional schedule.
- Limit outside distractions while online (no cell phone use, watching television, eating, playing with family members etc...).
- Pay attention to their teacher during online instruction.
- Actively participate during online instruction.
- Complete all required learning assignments and tasks assigned by their teacher(s) in a timely manner.

### **Virtual Instruction Schedule**

<u>Homeroom</u>	8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	
<u>Morning Meeting</u>	9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	
<u>First Period</u>	9:30 AM – 10:10 AM	
<u>Second Period</u>	10:10 AM – 10:50 AM	
<u>Third Period</u>	10:50 AM – 11:30AM	
<u>Fourth Period</u>	11:30 AM – 12:15 PM	
<u>Fifth Period</u>	12:15 PM – 1:00 PM	
<u>Sixth Period</u>	1:00 PM – 1:45 PM	
<u>Seventh Period</u>	1:45 PM – 2:25 PM	
<u>Eighth Period</u>	2:25 PM – 3:05 PM	
<u>Homeroom/End of day Checkout</u>	3:05 PM – 3:09 PM	
<b><u>First Lunch</u></b>	11:30 AM – 12:15 PM	<b><i>Grades K-2</i></b>
<b><u>Second Lunch</u></b>	12:15 PM – 1:00 PM	<b><i>Grades 3-5</i></b>
<b><u>Third Lunch</u></b>	1:00 PM – 1:45 PM	<b><i>Grades 6-8</i></b>

There are also various important dates throughout the school year, which will be announced in the monthly school calendar. Each month the school calendar will be posted on our school’s website. It will provide information about meetings, school activities and events. Additionally, the Student/Family Handbook and Fell School Year at a Glance will also contain a list of important dates, including information on school closures and report card conferences. You can find these important documents and resources at (<https://fell.philasd.org/>).

In addition to your child’s classroom teacher(s), should you have questions and/or concerns regarding your child’s academic performance, behavior and overall success at school, myself, as well as the persons listed below can help you:

***“Excellence Is The Standard”***

- Mrs. Deprince, School Secretary, can provide support with student registration, enrollment and other student demographic information.
- Mrs. Ward, School Nurse, should be consulted about medications and related health issues.
- Mrs. Bruno, School Counselor, can address absences, truancy, high school admissions process and social emotional learning,
- Mr. Matthews, Dean of Students, can address concerns regarding student safety, harassment and bullying,
- Mrs. Maiorano, SPECM/Special Education Teacher, can address inquiries regarding special education policies and procedures, and;
- Mrs. Sosangelis, Lead Teacher/ESOL Teacher, can address support services for all students including English learners.

**Next, please review the current roster of teachers for the 2020 – 2021 school year:**

- **Kindergarten:** Mrs. Wilson (100) and Mrs. Vendetti (107)
- **Grade 1:** Mrs. Abernethy (103), and Mrs. Murzyn (104)
- **Grade 2:** Mrs. Raddi (106) and Ms. Basso (108)
- **Grade 3:** Mrs. Denardo (203), and Mrs. Sivertsen (201)
- **Grade 4:** Mrs. Matteo (204) and Mrs. Magee (209)
- **Grade 5:** Mrs. Markowicz (208) and Mrs. Corcoran (207)
- **Grade 6:** Mrs. Lark (304), Mrs. Cirillo (305), and Mrs. Pietrazsko (310)
- **Grade 7:** Mrs. Lee (306), Mrs. Grafa (308) and Mr. Swantek (309)
- **Grade 8:** Mr. Palmerio (307), Mr. Wagenborg (301), Mrs. Giedemann (300) and Mr. Ricci (302)
- **Specialists:** Mr. Washington (Physical Education/Health), Mr. Lewis (Music), Mr. Geraci (Computer Technology), and Mrs. O'Malley (Art)
- **Special Education:** Mrs. Maiorano (LS), Mrs. Passerello (LS), Mrs. Connolly (LS), Mrs. Romansky (AS) and Mrs. Bonanno (ES)
- **ESOL:** Mrs. Sosangelis (K-2), Mrs. Busch (3-5), Mr. Perkins (6-8) and Mr. Brodman

Lastly, I encourage you to become involved in our Home and School Association. We need your ongoing support. More information will be posted on our school website regarding membership opportunities, parent/guardian workshops and monthly meetings.

Once again, I welcome you back to an engaging and enriching school year at Fell Elementary. I look forward to seeing you at our Virtual Back to School Night on Wednesday September 16, 2020 at 5:00 PM. *Excellence remains our standard!!*

Sincerely,

Mr. Omahr Ashe, Principal

***“Excellence Is The Standard”***