



TRITON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Greetings, Triton Families!

I hope your summer has been relaxing, enjoyable, and you've been able to take advantage of the amazing weather we've had. With only a little over two weeks before we begin another school year, I wanted to briefly announce some exciting changes to systems within the district. I will keep this brief as there will be more specific information coming home about many of these systems once the school year has begun.

Over the past months, we've been working diligently to build a new website. Through the extensive efforts of Jeremy Hamond, our Coordinator of Technology, and others, I'm very happy to announce that this site will be going live next Wednesday, August 18th. The site has been moved to an entirely new system which allows us greater flexibility in the way information is shared. There will be no change in the web address. You will simply go to the same www.trsd.net address and you'll be connected to the new site when the cut over has been completed on the 18th. I trust that you will find the new site useful and helpful, and welcome your feedback on the changes we've made.

When the website goes live next Wednesday, the main district site at the above address will be fully developed. This will include current updated information for the new 2010/2011 school year such as **calendars**, **bus routes**, **food services**, **registration information**, **contact information**, etc. If you use the connections to visit the school sites, you will notice that they are not as fully developed. All contact information, parent information, principal's corner, etc will be up to date and current, however the "meat" of the site will develop as the year progresses. We want the school sites to be a living, breathing reflection of what's happening at the schools, which is hard to replicate when the students are not there.

In regards to the bus routes that will be posted as of next Wednesday, North Reading Transportation will now be providing all transportation for the district. One of the many benefits of this change over has been the introduction of Transfinder GPS enabled routing software. This process will provide the safest bus stops in the most efficient, consistent, and cost effective manner. We're fortunate that many of the same faces will be continuing as drivers. However, there will be some stops that change due to the new routing process, as well as the change in enrollment of students. If you have concerns about bus routes, please be sure to use the links on the new website and contact me directly by email, not the bus company.

There are two sections of the district website that include links for newly implemented processes:

1. **Food Services**: I notified you at the end of last year of the new cafeteria Point of Sale system that will allow for fully automated cafeteria sales, as well as online payment/tracking of students' usage. We've made great progress over the summer under the direction of Lucinda Ward, our new Food Services Director, and we've heard from so many parents who are thrilled about this change. You will find links on the website to the **MyNutriKids** portal which will allow you access to the pre-payment options. More information will be coming home as we get closer to the projected Go-Live date for the cafeteria sales on September 15th and 16th. Prior to that date, the **MyNutriKids** portal will be updated, allowing you to easily activate your online account.

2. **X2 Family Portal:** We will be opening up the **X2** (student information system) **Parent Portal** at the start of school. To begin, we will be giving Middle and High School parents access to the portal, with the intent to open the elementary portal once we've perfected the process. The **X2 Parent Portal** will give parents/guardians real time access to their child(ren)'s biographical information, daily attendance, conduct reporting, and quarterly grades. This is a significant advancement for school to home communications at the Middle and High Schools. Instructions on establishing usernames and passwords will be sent home at the start of the school year and be coordinated by the school offices.

These are changes that we're very excited about as it further opens the lines of communication between school and home. A great deal of effort has been made on the part of district staff, and I want to publically thank them for their efforts as these changes provide progress on achieving our established vision of "open and ongoing communication [that] encourages high performance." We look forward to meeting that challenge together in the coming school year.

Enjoy the remaining days of summer.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Forget", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian L. Forget,
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