

**WALT DISNEY MAGNET SCHOOL**  
4140 North Marine Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60613  
Phone: (773) 534-5840 Fax: (773) 534-5714



Kathleen Hagstrom, Ed. D., Principal  
Abbie Meyers – Assistant Principal  
Sandra Caudill – Asst. Principal/ Early Childhood Director/  
Paul Riskus – Assistant Principal/Upper Level Director  
Anna Trilla – Intermediate Level Director  
Joe Pellegrino – Chief Engineer

To: Disney Parents  
From: Kathleen Hagstrom, Principal  
Re: Assorted Matters

October 2, 2019

***"Back to School Night Open House" – Wednesday, October 2: 6-7:00 p.m.***

**-Back to School Night Open House** –We remind everyone that our Back to School Open House is tonight, October 2, beginning at 6:00 p.m. You will be able to meet your child's teachers and hear their presentation about plans for your child's school year curriculum, class culture, special events, etc. We will start promptly at 6:00 and parking will be tight, so please allow extra time in your schedule. Parents in grades 3, 6, and 8 will also have presentations about the promotion policy which is important for you to understand in these benchmark grades.

**-Local School Council** – The next LSC meeting is **Monday, October 7**, at 5:30 p.m. All parents are welcome. There is a vacancy for Parent Representative; if you are interested, applications are available in the office and are due Tuesday, October 1. Candidates will be asked to participate in Parent Candidate Forum **Monday, October 7**.

**-Parent Teacher Association** – The Walt Disney School PTA welcomes all new families and thanks everyone who came out for the back to school Movie in the Park. PTA plans to hold more community building events throughout the year, so stay tuned! The Yankee Candle Fundraiser kicked off September 28; orders are due Monday, October 14. Any checks should be made payable to Disney Magnet PTA. The next General Meeting is **Tuesday, October 8**, at 7:45 a.m. All parents are welcome and PTA hopes to see you there. The next Movie Night is **Friday, October 18**, in the CAC. All children must be accompanied and supervised by the parent/guardian during Movie Night. PTA hopes all families will support the PTA and all its endeavors. If you have questions about an event or want more information on how you can become involved; you can reach the PTA at [info@disneyschoolpta.org](mailto:info@disneyschoolpta.org)

**-Volunteering at School** – If you want to chaperone a field trip this year, or if you are a new parent to Disney, we encourage you to apply now for approval as a CPS volunteer. The CPS volunteer site can be accessed at [cpsvolunteers.org](http://cpsvolunteers.org) If you were an approved volunteer last year, you will need to reach out to the school to confirm your interest in being a volunteer again this year; you can reach out via email or stop in the main office. Ms. Miller Brown will need to update your record in the CPS data system.

**-School Hours/Tardiness** – Our **school day begins promptly at 7:30; the school day ends at 2:30 p.m.** Parents please make every effort to get your child to school on time, and help set the tone for a successful school day. If you arrive late, students enter the SW door of the CAC until 8:00 a.m. From 8:00 – 8:45 a.m., tardy students enter school via Door 6 near the back playgrounds and receive a tardy pass in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor cafeteria. Late students after 8:45 enter via the main office on Marine Drive.

**-Early Dismissal/Attendance** – We want to make all parents aware that students need to be in school for 300 minutes of instruction in order to get credit for a full day's attendance. Students who leave early cannot receive credit for a full day. If you pick your child up before 1:30 p.m., they can only be credited for ½ day attendance. Students who are picked up before 10:30 are considered a full day absent. Early dismissal is highly discouraged, as your child misses valuable instruction time.

**-Conversations About School**- Volunteering to help in your child's classroom is one way to help; research shows that supporting your child's education at home is even more important. Try one of these for conversation starters that will help you stay involved:  
1) *"Let's see what you brought home today"*: Look at completed work, respond to notes from the teacher and sign the weekly folder or daily planner if required.  
2) *"Show me what you have for homework"*: It is your child's job to do their homework, you can help by asking the child to explain the assignment so they are clear on what they need to do. Once finished, glance at the work to make sure it is complete.  
3) *"Describe a book you enjoyed today"*: You learn your child's preferences; encourage reading & listening skills by reading together.  
4) *"Tell me what you learned that you'd like to know more about"*: Use that interest as a jumping off point for activities to share.

Disney is a safe, happy learning environment. Diversity is a hallmark of the school, that we celebrate daily.