



Tussing Elementary School

5501 Conduit Road • Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834 • Phone: (804) 524-3440 • Fax: (804) 526-7938

Remus J. James
Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I want to officially welcome everyone back and hope that you have had a wonderful summer. The 2017-2018 school year will be simply awesome. For those of you who are new to our school, the Tiger Nation wants you to know that you are coming to an absolutely wonderful place. Our teachers and staff are passionate, caring, hardworking, and always learning something new for the benefit of your children. We are a driven group of people who take learning seriously while also making personal connections that help our kids succeed.

I am excited to start a new year here at Tussing. This school is where my heart lies, and I consider it the perfect opportunity and place to do the most important work in the world. It is a great time to be a Tussing Tiger.

I am thrilled at the opportunity to get to know the new Tigers and to see those who are returning. I also believe that building strong relationships between home and school is a key factor in increasing student achievement. As Principal, my door is always open and I welcome your input. I strongly believe that parental involvement is an essential component to student success, as research continues to show; there is a strong correlation between increased involvement and high student success.

Below is information that will help us with some procedural parts of our school day. Please take a few minutes to review the items below. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the office at 524-3440.

Once again, I am excited and looking forward to seeing our returning Tigers and getting to know our new ones. Enjoy the remainder of your break.

School Day

In order for us to ensure proper supervision and safety for all of our students, please make note of the following procedures regarding student arrival and departure.

- Mornings: Students are welcomed into the building between 8:00 AM and 8:25 AM. Because supervision may not be in place, students arriving prior to 8:00 AM will not be allowed to enter the building; therefore, please do not drop off any unattended student(s) prior to 8:00 AM.
- Dismissal (3:05 PM): School hours are 8:25 AM- 3:05 PM. If you have to pick up a student for an appointment, etc. please come to the office prior to 2:45 PM and provide a picture ID in order to checkout a student. To ensure proper supervision of all students, no student will be released during the dismissal process between 3:00 PM - 3:05 PM.
- Teacher Conferences: Teachers are happy to conference with parents after school. Please schedule conferences by calling the school and/or emailing the teachers.
- We will continue to offer a daily hot meal program. Lunch will be \$2.65 per student and breakfast will be \$1.55. Ice Cream is \$0.75 for small items and \$1.00 for bars.
- To be consistent with the other elementary schools, we will not have microwaves available for student use in the cafeteria. Please make sure that your child's lunch will not need to be heated. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Strategies to help your student(s) have a successful school year

- Get to know your child's teacher and work with him/her collaboratively to support your student. If you and the teacher are working together, then student success is inevitable.

- Understand that Tussing Elementary School and its staff are devoted to ensuring your child's academic and social success.
- Attendance is extremely important, please make sure that your student is here on time every day. There is a direct connection between attendance and student success. Being tardy interferes with valuable classroom instructional time between your child and his/her teacher. Please refrain from excessive early checkouts for the same reason.
- Please consider joining the PTO. You will receive information at orientation. Again, we would like to meet the goal of having every parent volunteer in some way this year. The school and PTO look forward to the opportunity to meet and further partner with you.

Important Dates

- Open House for 1st - 5th grade students is scheduled for parents and students on Thursday, August 31, 2017 3pm- 6pm.
- Orientation for Kindergarten students is scheduled for parents and students on Friday, September 1, 2017 beginning at 10:00 am.

The first day of school for all students is on Tuesday, September 5th.

We will have teachers and staff located in various places (wearing staff shirts), both before and after school, to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you for your support and adherence to these procedures. Your assistance will ensure proper supervision, safety and a great school year for all of our students. We want all students to have a smooth start and conclusion to each and every day here at Tussing Elementary. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at school.

Sincerely



Remus J. James
Principal