



## Putnam Heights Elementary School

June 21, 2023

Hello Putnam Panther Kindergarten Families,

Welcome to the world of Kindergarten at Putnam Heights Elementary School! This is an exciting year for you and your child — a year defined by rapid growth and development. We are excited to have you and your family be a part of our school community. As September nears, the transition into kindergarten for five-year-old children can be filled with anticipation, excitement, and anxiety about the new experience of going to school. Kindergarten Orientation will help ease this transition.

### Kindergarten Orientation – Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup> 15-minute Individual Family Sessions

Instead of having a group orientation format, we would like to provide you and your family with a 15-minute Individual Family Session to connect with your new teacher and explore the school. In mid-August, you will receive a letter which includes your child's teacher placement and instructions on how to schedule your 15-minute Individual Family Session.

**It is important that you and your child attend one 15-minute family visit session and that you arrive on time.**

During the session, you and your child will have:

- an opportunity to meet and connect with your child's teacher
- speak meaningfully about your child and their unique learning needs
- explore the kindergarten classroom environment
- put school supplies away
- a self-guided building tour scavenger hunt

In addition to Kindergarten Orientation, the Eau Claire Area School District implemented a **"New Beginning"** for kindergarteners. The purpose of **"New Beginning"** is to provide a smooth transition into elementary school so that students can develop a positive relationship with their classroom teacher, learn classroom expectations, and practice daily routines in a small group setting.

### Kindergarten Only

- **Tuesday, September 5th** - Students with a last name that starts with **letters A through L** will attend school on Tuesday September 5th and **will not** attend on Wednesday, Sept. 6th. They will return to school on Thursday, September 7th.
- **Wednesday, September 6th** - Students with a last name that starts with **letters M through Z** will **not** attend school on Tuesday, September 5th and **will** attend on Wednesday, Sept. 6th. They will return to school on Thursday, September 7th.
- **Thursday, September 7th** - All kindergarteners attend school and follow the ECASD calendar for the remainder of the year.

Please start thinking about the childcare arrangements you will need to make for the day your child is not in school- either Tuesday, September 5th or Wednesday, September 6th.

Families, you are an important partner of our team. We hope that you will feel comfortable and welcome at Putnam Heights Elementary. If you have any questions about Putnam Heights and/or your child's education, please call me at 715-852-4210 or e-mail me at [dlesneski@ecasd.us](mailto:dlesneski@ecasd.us).

Enjoy your summer!

*Diana Lesneski*  
Principal