



Dear Rock Creek Grant School Families,

***WE ARE BACK.....***

Welcome to the REST of 2020 - 2021 school year! I am thrilled to welcome you back to school. It is truly an honor for me to be your Acting Principal of Rock Creek Grant School. I am so privileged to work with an outstanding staff to make it a smooth transition for our students during this uncertain time. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new group of teachers, Ms. Myla Inocian (K-1<sup>st</sup>), Ms. Maria Chabel Yongco (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>), Ms. Bernadette Borja (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>), Mr. Douglas Johnson (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup>), Ms. Theresa Labayen (SPED), Mr. Patrick Yellow Earrings (Janitorial), and back for more Ms. Dorothy Larson (SPED) to Rock Creek Grant School. And who can forget the wonderful staff you had in place when we all got here, Ms. Karen Montana (Administrative Assistant), Ms. Edith Running Hawk (Para), Ms. Jessica Porrás (Para), Mr. Kenny Comeau (Head Maintenance), Mr. Timothy Iceman Steele (Janitorial/Bus Driver), and Connie Comeau (Now the Head Cook). We are so excited to work closely with you to ensure the success and well-being of all of our students.

We have been working hard all summer for some, and later on for the rest, to plan for a SAFE OPENING of school and to implement best practices to mitigate the risks associated with Covid-19. Our classrooms have been modified to increase social distancing, signage has been installed throughout the building to guide students, and our schedule has been modified to allow for more time for mask breaks, hand washing, and opportunities to access outdoor learning spaces. A stronger emphasis will be placed on social emotional learning as we implement the Second Step in all of our K-5 classrooms.

We want to make Rock Creek Grant School such a special place to learn and grow. We are proud of how well kept our school has been and have high expectations for each and every student. What we learned with our On-line classes was that our students are kind, compassionate, and inquisitive. Together with our dedicated staff, we strive to make connections with students to help them feel valued, accepted, and safe. Our new Rock Creek motto of "Forward Thinking, Fostering Passions, Developing Responsible Citizens, and Preparing for Tomorrow's Opportunities" will continue to guide our mission to provide a rigorous and joyful school environment. Whether we are learning in person or remotely at home, our goal is to encourage active student engagement to foster a lifetime love for learning.

Partnering with families will be crucial this year as we face many obstacles due to the global pandemic. We appreciate your support as you work with students at home to practice safety protocols such as wearing a mask and washing hands. We encourage families to stay connected and informed by following our district website for important updates and information regarding our reopening plans.

You can find Rock Creek Grant School's Covid-19 Information site at <https://rockcreekgrantschool.us>

Please refer to the district calendar for updates: <https://rockcreekgrantschool.us/calendar>



**SAVE THE DATE!**

Tuesday February 16, 2021: ***Opening Day for ALL students.***

Classes will run from 8:30 – 3:15 (Monday – Thursday)

Culture Classes will run from 8:30 – 12:00 (Every Friday On-line)

Make-up day and/or Tutoring will run from 8:30 – 12:00 (Every Friday)

February 22, 2021: First Day for the Book Club (Ms. Inocian and Ms. Yongco)

First Day for the Weird Science Club (Mr. Johnson)

First Day for the Crazy Math Club (Ms. Borja)

These clubs and more will run from 3:30 – 4:45 (Snack will be provided)

Bus will run from 7:00 to 8:15 (Please have your child ready to go)

**Mask will be required by all who are in the building or enter the building. (Will be provided)**

Also keep in mind, because of the Pandemic, CDC guidelines (For a Mini Bus) only allow us to pick-up 7 students at a time. Please be patient with our bus driver and remember, he only has a few minutes at each stop so, again, have your child ready to go. It may take a few days to get it right.

Please look for procedural updates communicated to you from Rock Creek Grant School. We value our partnership with families as we navigate these challenging times together. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with questions or concerns. Stay safe!

Sincerely,

**Mr. Andrew DeCoteau  
Acting Supt / Principal**