Little Falls School No. 1

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Dear Hornet Families,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you've had a wonderful summer filled with rest, family time, and plenty of opportunities to recharge! As the days of summer begin to wind down, I want to officially welcome you back for the start of the 2025–2026 school year at School No. 1. A new school year always brings with it a sense of excitement, anticipation, and opportunity—and I cannot wait to see the energy and spirit our Hornets will bring back into the building!

Each year, we choose a theme that sets the tone for the months ahead, and this year we are embracing *The Hive Effect*. Much like the way every bee contributes to the strength of the hive, every member of our school community plays a role in shaping the positive ripple effects that define our school culture, climate, work ethic, and attitude. Together, we make up a community built on collaboration, care, and determination. This sense of unity and teamwork is what creates the amazing environment our students thrive in, and it is something we can all take pride in. That's Hornet Pride at its best!

As our students prepare for the start of 2025-2026, here are a few important updates and reminders:

- FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:
  - The first day of school takes place on Tuesday, September 2nd and is a SINGLE SESSION day.
  - Students can be dropped off on the School No. 1 playground starting at 8:10AM. The first entry bell will sound at 8:20AM. The 1st block bell (signaling the start of instruction) will sound at 8:25AM.
  - All your child needs to do is report to their first period block of DAY 1. An example of how to locate this block is attached to this letter.
  - Chromebooks must be brought to school on the first day FULLY CHARGED.
  - Students should come prepared with school supplies as described on their grade level school supply list located on our school website www.lfschools.us/school1.
  - School will be dismissed at 12:47PM on the first day of school. (Dismissal time for regular full school days is 2:57PM.)
  - Please have a discussion with your child about arrangements for leaving school at the end of each day. School No.1 students (grades 5-8) are dismissed from their classrooms to go home. Whether your child walks home, is picked up, or takes the bus, all children should know your expectations before leaving the building.

- New Bell Schedule! – Please take time to review the updated schedule attached to this letter. We have adjusted our start time for instruction to begin a few minutes earlier and added an extra minute for transition time between classes so students have ample time to visit their lockers. Our entry bell time (8:20AM) has NOT changed, however class now begins promptly at 8:25AM.

- SCHEDULES: Student schedules are available and located in Realtime. When possible, please log on to your Parent Portal account with your child to view their schedule prior to the start of school. Lunch will not be listed with their courses on the portal due to our rotating/drop schedule. All students will receive

their full copy of their schedule (inclusive of lunch) on the first day of school. At this point in time, any student(s) inquiring about elective changes will be handled by our school counselors during the lunch blocks.

- Hive Effect Activity – As mentioned in Superintendent Marinelli's summer letter, please remember to bring your completed honeycomb and submit it to Mrs. DeFeo in the main office. These honeycombs will be displayed on the main office bulletin board as a powerful symbol of how each of us contributes to the Hive Effect. Participation in this activity is optional, but we'd love to showcase as many honeycombs as possible!

Additionally, I would like to WELCOME all of our incoming School No. 1 Hornet families! Whether you are a 5th grade parent/student or have just moved into the Little Falls community, we are so happy to have you as part of our amazing School No. 1 Family!

Finally, as we step into a new year, let's carry forward the excitement of fresh beginnings and the pride we share in being part of this hive. I am confident that 2025–2026 will be filled with growth, learning, and many moments to celebrate.

I look forward to seeing everyone on September 2nd and to another year of Hornet Pride!

Warmly,

Ms. Dana A. Sprague
Principal

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