



VALLEY PARK
SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Developing students today in preparation
for tomorrow*

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December 18, 2020

Dear Valley Park Families:

We have nearly completed the first half of the 2020-2021 school year! THANK YOU to every member of our school community for your flexibility, patience, and grace. Your support and commitment to health and wellness and your willingness to work together through the uncertainty and challenges of the pandemic are greatly appreciated. The changes and challenges we have encountered in 2020 are incredible and unimaginable. Thank you for adjusting quickly, being resilient, and partnering with us. The reality is that the learning experiences that have taken place this year could not have happened without a great deal of commitment and teamwork from the staff, parents, and students. Your commitment to our schools is paramount to the success of all students, and we sincerely appreciate your partnership.

I know some of our holiday traditions and the way we celebrate the season will look and feel very different this year as we continue to adapt to help keep our families and community safe. While change can be a challenge, and it can certainly test us, I hope we all can find time to pause and remember what's most important this holiday season--our families and our relationships with one another.

Before we go our various ways for the holidays, I want to sincerely thank each of you for the contribution you make to our school district's success and the success of our learners. Together we are making a difference in the learning experiences and opportunities of our students.

Our last days of school before Winter Break are December 21st and 22nd. Please continue to screen your child EACH day before sending them to school. It takes less than 2 minutes to do a fever check and review the [Healthy Hawk Checklist](#). If your child is sick, please do not send them to school. When school resumes on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, we will continue to [educate all k-12 in-person learners](#) four days a week (Monday-Thursday) through the end of the 3rd quarter (March 18). Fridays will continue to be a virtual learning day.

In addition to our students and families, I am thankful for our Valley Park faculty and staff. They are to be applauded for how they have embraced the rewards and challenges of educating students during a pandemic. I am privileged to be a part of a district with competent and committed teachers and support staff. There has never been a time when being a teacher has been more demanding or challenging or important! To our teachers and support staff, thank-you for your energy, passion, persistence, and enthusiasm. There is no denying that this has been a tough year for us all. Yet, you continue to inspire us with your ingenuity, commitment, and hard work.

May the Holiday Season ahead be peaceful and enjoyable, and may the new year bring each of you an abundance of health and happiness!

Dr. Tim Dilg
Superintendent



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IMPORTANT UPDATES

BE THE MATCH

One of our Middle School students has been diagnosed with Leukemia and is in need of a bone marrow donor! Join us this **Saturday, December 19th, from 10AM-2PM** in the Main Parking Lot of the Valley Park School District where the [Be The Match Organization](#) will be on-site swabbing for matches. We would love to see a huge turnout. You can help!

CURBSIDE MEALS--WINTER BREAK

Valley Park School District will offer curbside meal pick up over Winter Break. Meals for 12/23-12/25 & 12/28 can be picked up on **Wednesday, December 23 from 10:30-Noon**. Students will be provided with 4 lunches and 4 breakfasts on that day. On **Tuesday, December 29 from 10:30-Noon**, meals for 12/29-1/1 & 1/4-1/5 will be provided with 6 lunches and 6 breakfasts. Visit www.vp.k12.mo.us/wintermeals to sign up. Regular curbside meal service will resume on January 6, 2021.

DIGITAL THANK YOU CARD

We know that this year has been difficult for everyone and there have been many changes to navigate. I continue to hear our teachers have been a bright light during this time. If you would like to send someone a quick note of gratitude, here is a [digital Valley Park thank you card](#).

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL ANNOUNCED

Valley Park School District is proud to announce that Dr. Kelly Sollberger will serve as our new Valley Park Middle School principal effective July 1, 2021! Visit www.vp.k12.mo.us/sollberger to read all about Valley Park's newest educational leader!

TRICIA CWIKLOWSKI--NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHER

Elementary Reading Specialist, Tricia Cwiklowski has been recognized by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards as a National Board Certified teacher! National Board Certification is a rigorous, advanced teaching credential that acknowledges effective and accomplished teachers across the country. Achieving National Board certification marks a high level of professional distinction, and ultimately gives our students an even richer educational experience. More information about National Board Certification may be found at www.nbpts.org. Congratulations, Tricia!

WINTER BREAK

The Valley Park School District will observe Winter Break from **December 23rd-January 3rd**. In-person learning will resume for students on **Tuesday, January 5, 2021**.

WINTER WEATHER ANNOUNCEMENTS & SNOW DAY PLAN

We are heading into the season of inclement weather. If you would like to receive a weather/emergency announcement from the school, please make sure that your information is updated in [Infinite Campus](#). Text and email announcements are sent through Infinite Campus. School closures are also announced on local television news outlets, and on our website and social media channels.