

Dear Talala Elementary Families,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! My first year at Talala Elementary School as the Principal was one of the most rewarding experiences of my educational career. As I enter my 25th year in education, I am so excited to see what this new year brings for our students and families.

Our theme this year will continue to be Superheroes. We will be having a strong focus on using restorative practices to help our students develop strong social and interpersonal skills. Through building character traits such as those listed in the picture above coupled with educational experiences that have strong academic rigor, our goal is to have students prepared to achieve their dreams and while also being productive members of their communities. We are excited to create a strong home-school bond and work together so your child is successful at Talala Elementary School.

The staff have worked hard to prepare for the first day of school on August 21st. This will be a 12:15PM dismissal. Breakfast will be served however lunch will not. All early dismissals will be at 12:15PM this year. Please note breakfast will be served but lunch will not be provided.

We look forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting our new families to welcome them to the Talala Family at our upcoming **Back to School Night** which will be held on Monday, August 19th from 5:00PM – 7:00 PM. **Back to School Night** is an opportunity for parents to meet their child's teacher and to drop off school supplies. There will be more formal presentations pertaining to academics, schedules, and organizational systems during our curriculum night

which will take place during the opening weeks of school. Here are a few reminders that will be helpful for parents for the beginning of the school year:

**School hours are 9:00 AM - 3:35 PM. School doors open at 8:40 AM.
Please make sure you arrive by 3:35PM to pick up your child.**

- **August 16- Class Lists posted at 4:00PM on the front doors of the school.**
- **August 19- Back to School Night- 5:00PM-7:00PM**
- **August 21- First Day of School - Early Dismissal 12:15PM**
- **August 21- Kindergarten Round Orientation at 9:30AM. A separate letter that includes more information.**
- **September 2- Labor Day - No School**
- **September 11- Early Dismissal 12:15PM**
- **September 11- Talala Curriculum Night 6:00PM-7:30PM**

Families are reminded to check the school website for information regarding grade level supply lists. Please also check out the Crete Monee School District #201U Facebook page for exciting updates on events and activities happening throughout the district and at Talala Elementary School.

Additionally, we would like to remind all of our families that the beginning of the school year always provides challenges with transportation. We plan on doing everything to ensure that our students are transported to and from school safely and efficiently, but there may be some delays with morning pick-up and afternoon arrivals. Please be patient with us during these opening weeks of school if your child is a bus rider.

We look forward to a wonderful 2019-2020 school year. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to building a great partnership with your family.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristin Elliott – Principal

Mr. Derrick Watson- Assistant Principal