Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 A. Z. Kelley Elementary School year. I would like to welcome all of our new and returning families, along with our new Pre-K and Kindergarten students. I look forward to seeing everyone on the first day of school, Monday, Aug 5th.

The first day is a half-day for Pre-K and Kindergarten students. It is a full day for 1st through 4th grade students.

- Pre-K students will dismiss at 10:30 a.m. on the first day.
- Kindergarten students will dismiss at 11:30 a.m. on the first day.
- 1st – 4th grade students have a full day and will dismiss at 3:00 on the first day.

For Pre-K and Kindergarten families only, there will be a “Meet and Greet the Teacher” from 2 until 3 p.m., on Sunday, August 4th. This will be an informal, come-and-go, opportunity for our youngest students and their parents to meet the teacher and see the classroom before the first day.

After the first day all grades will have a full day:

- Pre-K students will dismiss at 2:00 from the pre-K entrance only.
- Kindergarten through 4th grade students will dismiss at 3:00. If your child is a car rider, parents must remain in the car, in the car line, to pick up their student. Do not come to the office to dismiss them.
- There are no dismissals, for any reason, between 2:30 and 3:00 daily – this is to ensure student safety.

The first day of school:
If you wish to bring your child to school and meet the teacher on the first day, I encourage you to arrive early and park (doors will open at 7:30 a.m.). We have limited parking on our campus. It is imperative that parents not block our bus lane or Marshall middle school entryways. Please come and go very quickly so that others may use your parking spot.

After August 7th, parents will not be allowed past the front doors at arrival time. Please help your child adjust. The sooner you release them with confidence, the easier it will be for them to walk in alone. They’ve got this and we are here to support them!

Students in Kindergarten through 4th grade may enter through the front doorways. Pre-K families may not enter through the front of the school unless they need assistance in the front lobby. Pre-K students and their parents are required to walk around the exterior of the building and check in/out with the teachers at the pre-k entrance. Pre-k parents may not pull up to the doors in the bus lane. You must park either on the side or up front and then walk.
During dismissal, on the **first day of school**, if you are picking your child up, please be prepared to wait a minimum of one hour to get through the car rider line. About 90% of our students are car riders on the first day of school, and many the first week of school. The car rider line, located in front of the school, will move quicker after the first week. Last year the line was eliminated by 3:15 p.m. daily and sometimes sooner. Please wait in your cars for your children, and **do not park and come up to the front** door to take them. The exception is Pre-K students. Pre-K parents are required to come to the classroom for pick up and sign out their children. For dismissal you should walk up to the pre-k doors only. We would like students to learn the dismissal procedure on the first day of school. Please be patient. The first day dismissal is an exercise in endurance for everyone.

The Standard School Attire Policy will be enforced on the first day of school. We ended the school year with special school spirit days on Friday. This will be considered again for this school year, but for the first nine weeks, students must wear Standard School Attire every day. Please refer to the handbook that will come home regarding SSA.

I am looking forward to meeting all of our new students and their families. Please know that your child is my number one customer and concern. I have worked diligently to maintain an exemplary and talented faculty and staff to serve your children and make our school, A. Z. Kelley Elementary, the pride of Nashville. I am looking forward to another great year.

Respectfully,

Heather Bethurum
Principal