

August 4, 2023

Dear Parents or Guardians:

Welcome to a new school year at Portales Municipal Schools. It is always a pleasure to welcome your children back to school. We hope this will be the best school year you and your children have ever experienced. Administrators and teachers have been working hard to be prepared for this coming school year. There will be some exciting changes coming this year in the classrooms and outside the classrooms.

This year, the school day will be 35 minutes longer. School will start at 8:00 a.m. and will end at 3:30 p.m. each afternoon except on early release Fridays when school will begin at 8:00 a.m. and release at 1:00 p.m. after lunch.

Please note that Open House will be held at all schools on Wednesday, August 9th from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. School will begin on **August 10th for 7th through 12th grades**. Students in grades **PreK to 6th** will start on **Wednesday, August 16th**. Schools will be contacting parents or guardians for those students in grades PK-6 to set up appointments for beginning of year assessments prior to their first day of school. We hope that you will attend Open House at your child's school where you can meet with your child's teacher and set up an appointment at that time.

If you have not registered your child for the 2023-2024 school year, please do so today. All students, even those returning from last year, must register for the new school year. You can do that online at www.portaleschools.com and then click the appropriate link for a new student to the District or returning students who attended a school in this District last year. You can register all of your children and complete all necessary forms for all of your children with one visit to the site. If you have any difficulty, please call or drop by your child's school and someone will assist you. Each school will also have computers and assistance available during Open House.

Again, welcome to the 2023-2024 School Year!!! It's Great to Be a Ram!