

Ashbrook Compass



September 10, 2021

Dear Ashbrook Family,

What a GLORIOUS first day of school! I was especially impressed by the willingness of the 8th graders to assume the role of Welcoming Committee, coming to campus a few days early to create posters and committing to waking up earlier than otherwise necessary to help usher in our new year!

The vibe on campus was electric and I, for one, will never again take “in person instruction” for granted! As Mrs. Sechler and I walked through the classrooms towards the end of our half-day, I was moved by the warm smiles (yes, I could tell they were smiling), focus, and great listening skills of our students: on day one, no less (at one point, I wondered if maybe Mrs. Sechler was making rabbit ears over my head)!

I hope it was obvious to you and to our students how excited our fabulous staff was to connect with you and your children. Following our week of in-service preparation (see photos below), the building and classrooms were looking terrific. But the “bricks and mortar” are not the school: WE, together, are the school. Our partnership (*please* complete the survey linked below), and the summer work the entire staff did in the areas of identity formation; social emotional learning; and diversity, equity, and inclusion, helped us to reconnect with each other; preparing a meal together sweetened the pot and helped us get ready for our year of “cultivating a challenging and nurturing community, together.”

As we head into the first weekend of the school year with so much joy in our hearts, let’s also take a moment to remember the families who are mourning the anniversary of those they lost on 9-11, twenty years ago, this Saturday.

Be well, Doc

Dr. Christopher A. Schoberl

Head of School



Next Week:

September 13 -- First day of hot lunch program

September 14 -- K-4 Back to School Night

September 15 -- PTO meeting via Zoom at 9 am (link below)

September 16 -- 5-8 Back to School Night

September 17 -- Picture Day

[2021-22 School Year Event Calendar](#)

Back to School Nights This Week

We are looking forward to seeing all of our families at the Back to School Nights! The detailed schedule including Zoom links for each of the sessions will be emailed to families the day before the Back to School Night.

Lower School - Grades K-4 September 14th via Zoom

Middle School - Grades 5-8 September 16th via Zoom

New Family Session begins at 4:30

Head of School Welcome at 5:00

Classroom Teacher Sessions to follow

PTO Meeting Wednesday

Come one, come all to the next PTO meeting! We'd love to have you join us and learn more about the PTO. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 9:00 am on Zoom.

When: Wednesday, September 15, at 9 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8932204776?pwd=ZIRFakpKNG4xVUZ4WUJkK3g3dGcydz09>

Meeting ID: 893 220 4776

Passcode: PTO

Front Door Safety Reminder

In order to maintain a secure campus, the main front doors of Ashbrook will be locked from the outside every morning at 8:30 am. Anyone inside the building can easily exit, but no one can enter without office approval. Please drop off items for your student on the tables provided outside, or if you are picking up your student, please wait outside the front doors and Miss Elaine or Miss Rachael will escort your student to the door.

Thank you for your understanding!

Picture Day is next Friday

Picture Day is September 17. Please click [HERE](#) for the flyer. You will need to order your school pictures at mylifetouch.com and enter Picture Day ID: **EVTXVM3S2**.

Parents as Partners Survey

In an effort to continue building community, and in response to the overwhelming generosity of parents who have offered to make presentations to our students, lead clubs, share their interests and passions, or introduce our Explorers to their professions, I offer the [Parent Partner Survey](#) as a way to better understand the resources our parents might bring to the table. This information will be shared with our teachers, who may reach out to arrange a connection. WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

Please complete the survey by Friday, October 1. Thank you!

COVID Reminder to All Parents

Please remember to screen your child each morning before coming to school. This includes asking your student how they are feeling, doing a symptom check, as well as checking their temperature. If your child is experiencing any of the symptoms on [this list](#), do not send them to school.

Free Weekly COVID screening tests coming soon

There is a cost-free, confidential, opt-in COVID screening program for asymptomatic students, sponsored by Ashbrook, to ensure that the members of our community remain as safe as possible during the ongoing pandemic.

Parents are invited to pick up a test kit every Friday, from a box outside the main entrance (students who have tested positive for COVID within 90 days should not participate in this screening until after the 90-day mark). After administering the test as close to Monday morning as possible, parents will return the test kit to the school on Monday before noon, by depositing it in the box outside the main entrance, for results within 24 hours (accessed directly by you). We are currently awaiting these test kits and instructions, and will be in touch as soon as we receive them.

If your child tests positive, please inform Ashbrook immediately, and then follow the protocol set forth in the recent mailing home ([When Should I Keep my Student Home?](#)). In the case of a student testing positive, we will work closely with Benton County health authorities to determine next steps.

Please be in touch with Doc at cschoberl@ashbrookscool.org if you have any questions.

COVID Advisor Position

Are you a medical professional who could help Ashbrook administration by providing feedback on drafting school COVID policy and practices? This would involve little more than providing feedback on mailings home to families as the school works to update our community according to emerging State and Department of Education guidelines. Ideally, we would have access to two or three health care professionals, so if this could be you, please reach out to Doc for talk or text at (508) 826-0039 or cschoberl@ashbrookscool.org.

Have you seen the new Ashbrook video yet? Click [HERE](#) to watch our newest promotional video on Ashbrook, now on our website and social media!