

CHROMEBOOKS FOR EVERY PARIS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

PARIS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ... Rich in Tradition, Focused on the Future

Paris Pride permeates the air we breathe at Paris Independent. Coupled with our focus on the future, there is no better place to be when school begins August 20 than among the teachers and students at Paris Elementary, Middle, and High schools. We are preparing for our 150th Anniversary celebration this year; one hundred and fifty years of a rich tradition of positively impacting our community and the students we serve. If the halls of our schools could only talk, the stories they tell would keep us grinning and bursting with pride for the next 150 years!

To support our system of Personalized Learning at Paris Independent with high expectations tailored to individual needs, ***every Paris High School student will receive a Chromebook when they return to school this fall.*** Technology has become a necessary tool for all of our students' toolbox. The focus is not on having a Chromebook, but how our students will use this technology to enhance and engage them in learning. Students are already savvy technology consumers and the staff is eager to become their collaborative partners.

An informational session for parents and students is planned for Tuesday, September 8, at 6:30 p.m. in the Siwicki Center for Fine Arts where students will receive their Chromebook. Students have access to their Chromebooks 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We believe learning should take place anytime, anywhere. In addition to Chromebooks in every high school student's hands, Paris Elementary and Paris Middle School students have access to iPads during the day to support their learning. Technology is not a new thing in our students' lives. However, it is here to stay and has changed the way students and adults communicate and learn. It is important to us that our students have every tool they need to communicate, learn, compete, and cooperate in a global society. We wish to thank Kentucky Bank and Traditional Bank for their generous donations toward the purchase of Chromebooks for our students.

We can hardly wait to share the changes and excitement with our students and parents. *Success One by One* is not only our mission, but our passion and

promise to personalize learning for each one of our students. We have partnered with the University of Kentucky's Next Generation Learning Academy by embracing the six design principles of the National Center for Innovation in Education, a recognized leader in innovation in schools across our country. We are simply engaged with learning from the best.

We believe school is a happy place, a place where students and parents feel safe, academically challenged, own their learning and are focused on the future by creating more dreams than memories. Students at all levels will return to school this fall to a rigorous curriculum designed to prepare them with options and the confidence to act on their hopes and dreams, not only now but for the rest of their lives.

Paris Pre-school is moving from our West Seventh Street location to Paris Elementary. We are all excited about this positive change for the newest and youngest members of our school community. Paris Elementary has adopted a new math and language arts program that has the entire staff engaged in professional learning in early August to skillfully implement activities and lessons designed to engage our kids in taking ownership of their learning when school begins. Paris Middle and High School has adopted College Board's Pre-AP curriculum in math and English/language arts for grades 6 – 12, designed to place all of our students on a pathway to become FUTURE READY while students at Paris. Teachers have trained this summer with nationally certified College Board trainers and created collaborative partners with other districts using SpringBoard. SpringBoard's mission is aligned with Paris Independent: Prepare to Succeed. Not every student will take an Advanced Placement course in high school, but through SpringBoard students can acquire the knowledge and skills they will need to be successful if they do decide to enroll in AP courses. More importantly, students will become Future Ready for the next step in their journey of life-long learning when they leave us.

Schools at all levels will return to new master schedules designed to provide students with more opportunities for the time and support students need to be successful and move ahead at their own pace. Elementary students will enjoy classrooms where math, reading, writing, science, social studies, and related arts are more easily integrated, providing opportunities for students to

explore Project-based learning using student voice and choice as the guiding principles. Middle and high school students return to a master schedule that includes extended time for math and English/language arts for all students in grades 6 – 9, iTime for grades 6-12, and a place called FUSION for our high school students. Every day from 10:00 – 10:30 students attend iTime with a focus on reading, goal-setting, student voice, academic time, and flex time that includes clubs and time to explore possibilities in areas of interest. iTime is prime time at Paris middle and high school; time and support for every student built into our daily schedule.

A place called FUSION is transforming our high school in every way. Located in our library media center, the Fusion teacher will collaborate with students and staff members at Paris High School to provide students personalized learning within a broad range of experiences inside and outside of the classroom designed to prepare all students for their future endeavors. FUSION is the new heartbeat of our high school...anything is possible!

We are excited to celebrate 150 years of excellence in education at Paris Independent Schools. We are excited to share the vision for our students becoming Future Ready. Paris Independent is Rich with Tradition and Focused on the Future.