

TAFT EARLY LEARNING CENTER

16 Granite Street · Uxbridge, Massachusetts 01569

Phone 508-278-8643



TAFT UPDATE - 9/5

We are excited to welcome students back to Taft this week! Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we always work out those first day routines.

Our staff members have planned a deliberately slow start to academic instruction to provide ample time to orient students to the building, our safety protocols, and the technology being used in class. Please know that students are not falling behind in these opening days as we ensure that the tools and protocols needed for success are implemented with fidelity.

This week at Taft:

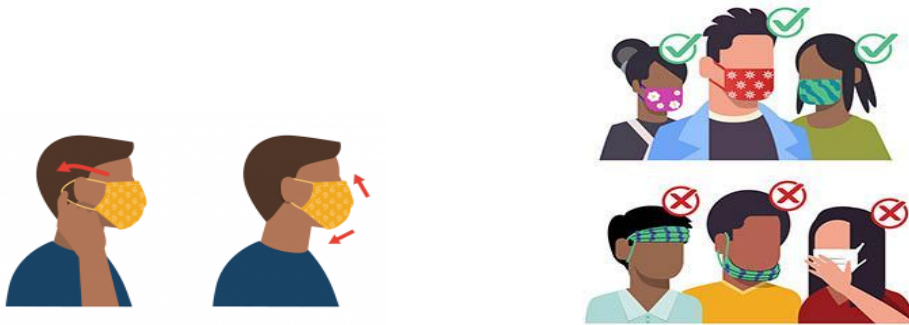
- Tuesday, September 7th - Grades 1-3 start school
- Tuesday, September 7th - Kindergarten Orientation: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. for all students with the last name beginning A-K and 1:30-2:30 p.m. for all students with the last name L-Z
- Tuesday, September 7th - PTO Popsicles for Kindergarten: 4:30-5:30 pm
- Wednesday, September 8th - Kindergarten starts school
- Wednesday, September 8th - PreK Orientation - 9:00 a.m. - (Russell AM, Churchill AM, Lannigan) and 1:30 pm- (Russell PM, Churchill PM, and Ryan)
- Thursday, September 9th - PreK starts school
- Friday, September 10th - Black and Orange Day

This week look for information regarding the [Taft Student-Parent Handbook](#). A signature page will be sent home with all students that will need to be returned to your child's teacher.

MASKS:

The CDC recommends the following:

- Wash your hands before putting on your mask
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- CDC does not recommend use of masks or cloth masks for source control if they have an exhalation valve or vent



Wear a Mask to Protect Others

- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth to help protect others in case you're infected with COVID-19 but don't have symptoms
- Wear a mask in public settings when around people who don't live in your household, especially when it may be difficult for you to stay six feet apart
- Wear a mask correctly for maximum protection
- **Don't** put the mask around your neck or up on your forehead
- **Don't** touch the mask, and, if you do, wash your hands or use hand sanitizer to disinfect

- In some cases, an individual may have health or disability-related circumstances that prevent him or her from safely wearing a mask. These will be decided on an individual basis and in consultation with that individual's medical or educational providers/team and family.

Neck gaiters and bandanas **are discouraged unless they are made of two-ply fabric.**

It is strongly recommended that you send your children to school with surgical or cloth masks and extras in case they are needed. Additional masks will be available at school if a student forgets or dirties his/her mask.

Survey:

Dear Parents, Guardians, Families, and Community Members,

Our school district is eligible for funds as part of the Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ESSER) Act. The funding is designed to support school districts with the challenges due to the impact of COVID-19, especially the unfinished learning that occurred. The ESSER funds can be used in specific areas of education. We have listed those areas in the attached survey.

The Uxbridge Public Schools insures equal employment and educational opportunities for its employees and students and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability, or sexual orientation in compliance with Title VI, Title IX, section 504/ADA and G.L. c 151b and 157c.

To obtain the funding, the United States Department of Education, in collaboration with our state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, requires Uxbridge Public Schools to submit a detailed application. As part of that application, we have created [a brief survey](#) to provide an opportunity for all of the educators and families in the district to have input on how the ESSER funding is spent. This ensures that the ESSER funds align with community needs and values. Responses to this survey should be completed no later than Friday, September 10, 2021. These funds have a positive impact on the needs of our students, staff, and school communities and we thank you in advance for your input.

Again, the survey can be accessed at [this link](#).

Warmly,

The Uxbridge Leadership Team

Dr. Pat Dillon, Superintendent

Dr. Karen Dwyer, Interim Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Michael Rubin, Principal, Uxbridge High School

Ms. Leanne DeMarco, Principal, Whitin Intermediate School

Ms. Jennifer Bellville, Principal, Taft Early Learning Center

Ms. Jennifer Ramsdell, Director of Pupil Services

Mr. Brian Hyde, Business Manager

My door is always open and I welcome your input. Please feel free to call or email, jbelle@uxbridge.k12.ma.us, to discuss any concerns throughout the year or stop by to say hello. I am looking forward to working with you as a team to help each student at Taft Early Learning Center meet their goals and have a successful school year!

Have a great week!

Principal Bellville

The Uxbridge Public Schools insures equal employment and educational opportunities for its employees and students and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, gender identity, disability, or sexual orientation in compliance with Title VI, Title IX, section 504/ADA and G.L. c 151b and 157c.