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Melanie Vancol
Principal
Thomas Cornell Academy

August 25, 2023

Dear Thomas Cornell Academy Families,

Welcome back to the 2023-2024 School Year. I am writing to introduce myself as your new principal. My name is Mrs. Melanie Vancol, and I am honored to have this opportunity to serve you and your children alongside Assistant Principal, Dr. Andrea Vazquez.

I have been in education for over 15 years, and most recently served as Assistant Principal at Yonkers Middle High School for 10 years. I have a deep passion for education, and I believe that every child deserves a high-quality education.

As a school community, the collaboration and partnership we have with our parents and families is essential to the success of our scholars and the achievement of our entire school. Parents are encouraged to get involved in school events and to support the school by joining our amazing PTSA led by President Mrs. Tiffanie Ostrander. The support of PTSA directly benefits our entire school community and enhances the learning experience of students. Please become a member. For additional information about the PTSA, please visit the TCA webpage and select the tab marked Family.

Student's first day of school is September 7, 2023. It is important from the beginning of the school year to have a clear routine to get to school on time, every day.

Arrival:

All students should arrive and enter the gymnasium at 8:30 a.m. Students who would like to participate in breakfast will go to the cafeteria at 8:15 a.m. Teachers will escort students to their classrooms at 8:35am.

Dismissal:

Students will be dismissed from their grade level doors. Grades Pre-K and K are dismissed from the main doors. Grades 1, 2, and 3 are dismissed from side cafeteria doors and Grades 4, 5, and 6 are dismissed from the side door by the grass area.

Early dismissal:

Early dismissal is not advisable. Any parent who needs to pick up their child before the end of the school day because of an emergency must call and alert the main office before 11:00a.m. and send in a written note. Parents are asked to make appointments after school hours to optimize instructional time. No student will be dismissed after 2:30pm as it interferes with dismissal.

Vaccinations:

All students are required by New York State and Board of Health to have their childhood vaccinations before entering school and all medical records updated. Any student who is not in compliance may be removed from school until they comply.

Uniforms:

We support the District Uniform policy. TCA's uniform is a white top and navy bottom.

Buses:

Students who are eligible for bus service must comply with all bus rules for the safety of everyone. **If there is a day that your child will not be taking the bus, you must contact the school to inform the office staff before 11:00a.m. and send a note.** Students will not be removed at last minute as it interferes with the arrival of each student to their bus stops during the designated times.

Breakfast and Lunch:

All students will be receiving breakfast and lunch. All parents are asked to complete the lunch survey form and return it to the school.

Emergency Cards and Forms:

All families must fill out and return three emergency forms and include emergency contacts.

Supplies:

Each grade has a supply list on our school webpage <https://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/Domain/10484>. Pre-K and K should also send in a change of clothing in a zip lock bag labeled with the child's first and last name.

As I enter into my first year as Principal of Thomas Cornell Academy, I am honored and thankful for the opportunity to continue to serve the Yonkers school community. Feel free to contact me at 914-376-8315 or mvancol@yonkerspublicschools.org.

Please be advised that your TCA student is assigned to:
for the upcoming school year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Melanie Vancol