August 1, 2019

Dear Scots!

It is hard to believe that we are already busily preparing for the 2019/2020 school year! Whether you will be new to the Robert O. Gibson Leadership Academy family in August, or you are returning after a well-deserved summer break, I want to welcome you to Team Gibson! Each of you is an essential member of our community, and together we can ensure that our school continues to provide an exceptional educational experience for every student! In looking forward to next school year, we want to share some important news and information that will help our families plan for a successful school year!

As you may already be aware, Gibson Leadership Academy is a Standard Student Attire school; therefore, we have a very specific dress code that may differ from other school sites in Clark County. Please check out the school dress code on our website to assist you with your back-to-school shopping! You can review the dress code at rogibson.org. Select the “STUDENTS” tab from the home screen and “Standard Student Attire” from the dropdown menu. Additionally, to promote student safety, every student will be issued a locker for the 2019/2020 school year, and Gibson MS will continue its no backpack policy during the school day. Students will be allowed to carry their belongings to and from school in a backpack. However, once they arrive on campus, students will be required to store backpacks in their lockers and carry only those items needed for instruction. To assist with organization, we ask that each student utilize a three ring binder with dividers to maintain their class assignments/supplies. We also suggest the use of a pencil pouch that attaches inside the binder to carry personal items. If needed, students may carry small purses/bags, but they should be the same size or smaller than this sheet of paper (8.5” x 11”), and backpack purses (of any size) will not be allowed.

“Gibson’s Great 8” expectations continue to set the standard for our school. These eight rules establish guidelines for behavior that focus on manners and respect, and every person on our campus is tasked with modeling the Great 8 every day. These rules require that students, staff, and community members address each other respectfully, use exemplary manners, take pride in our school, and “own our journey.” Through the implementation of the Great 8 rules, we have seen our campus transform into a more positive environment, and we can’t wait to see this transformation continue with our incoming sixth graders. During the first week of school, we will review each of the rules, and we expect all our returning Scots to lead the way by modeling the Great 8 for our new students. You can check out our Gibson’s Great 8 expectations on our website as well! Select the “ABOUT US” tab from the home screen and “Gibson’s Great 8” from the dropdown menu.

In 2019/2020, we will also continue our focus on the Gibson House Reward System, in which every student and staff member is sorted into one of four houses: Amizade, the House of Friendship; Ispirato, the House of Creativity; Sahasa, the House of Courage; and Ubuntu, the House of Selflessness. Last year students were awarded over 16,000 house points for exhibiting Gibson’s Great 8 expectations, embodying the values of their house, or demonstrating academic excellence! It was truly amazing to see students and staff come together to support their houses and to celebrate the positive contributions of our students! All the houses worked hard, and in May we crowned the 2019 Gibson Leadership Academy house champion, AMIZADE HOUSE! Way to go, House of Friendship!!!

Students, the administration, teachers, and support staff cannot wait to welcome you on August 12th! We believe that Gibson students are special. We believe that you each hold unique talents and abilities, and all you have to do is believe in yourself! The staff and I will work every day to see that you meet and even exceed your personal potential.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Jaeger
Principal