



July 28, 2022

Cario Parents and Guardians:

I hope this letter finds your family enjoying all your favorite summer activities. We are getting more and more excited with each passing day to welcome our students back to school for what should be an amazing year. Cario has enjoyed continued success and remains one of the highest achieving middle schools in both the Charleston County School District and South Carolina. These results have not materialized by accident. It has been through hard work, dedication, and partnerships between school staff, parents, community members, and our students.

The summer has been very busy for CMS. Given the recent leadership change and my appointment of interim principal, I want to express how grateful I am for the opportunity to lead this school. I've been at Cario for 15 years and have worked with thousands of families in my time. Please know that I LOVE this school. I love our students, faculty, and community, and accept this role with the greatest sense of responsibility. I'm determined to create a wonderful middle school experience for kids, support our faculty and staff endlessly, and build the most open and trusting relationship with our community that we've seen yet. I look forward to the journey with your partnership.

Please see important information and upcoming event dates below:

2022-2023 STUDENT FEES ONLINE PAYMENT OPTION:

The online option for paying the 2022-2023 student fees, for your convenience, will be available as of **8:00 AM Wednesday, AUGUST 3rd**. All major credit and debit cards are accepted through the secure site on our Web Store page. Fees are \$60 per student. Please use this link to make payment <https://cario.revtrak.net/>. At this time we GREATLY encourage you to sign up for PTSO membership as well. If you use this online method to pay fees, you may do the following to receive a copy of your student's schedule:

Email cario_2023@charleston.k12.sc.us with a copy of your receipt attached and we will email your student's schedule back to you within three business days.

2022-2023 STUDENT FEES IN PERSON OPTION:

We will also offer a session for payment in person at Cario Middle School. This is optional, in case you did not pay online. All payments made in person MUST be in the form of cash or check. If you pay by check, please make it out to Thomas C. Cario Middle School.

This in person payment session is scheduled for August 8th from 3:00-6:00 PM in Cario's Media Center. Once fees have been paid, you will receive a copy of your student's schedule.

NOTE: District nurses will be onsite at this time to give T-dap vaccine and Covid vaccination shots for those whose parents want this option.

CAMP CARIO:

Our annual Camp Cario will be held on Thursday, August 11th, for any incoming **6th grade** student. **NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT.** This

Thomas C. Cario Middle School

Donald R. Kennedy, Sr.
Superintendent of Schools

Karolyn Belcher
Chief Academic Officer

Joseph Williams, Ed.D.
Associate Superintendent of
Secondary Learning Community

Bryan Coleman
Interim Principal

special orientation runs from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM. During this time, all 6th grade students will participate in an abbreviated day where they will meet their teachers and get the feel for how the first day of school will run. Parents will not be going with your student as this is the best way for your student to get used to the flow of middle school. Parents are welcomed, *but not required*, to meet with me, Bryan Coleman, in the Media Center for Q&A time from 8:30-9:30 AM on this date. ALL students report Wednesday, August 17, for the first official school day of the year.

NEW TO CARIO UPPERCLASSMEN ORIENTATION:

Any **7th or 8th grade** student who is new to Cario is invited to come to a Cario Orientation on Monday, August 15 from 1:00-2:30 PM in the Media Center. These new upper class students will get an overview of Cario and some resources to make this transition to a new school a little easier. Parents are welcome to attend this orientation.

FALL OPEN HOUSES:

6th Grade Open House: Wednesday, August 24 from 5:30-7:30 PM

7th Grade Open House: Thursday, August 25 from 5:30-7:30 PM

8th Grade Open House: Thursday, August 25 from 5:30-7:30 PM

STUDENT ENTRY/EXIT AND TRAFFIC PATTERNS:

AM Cars – Arrive in the front of the school facing Pinckney

PM Cars – Wrap through the bus lot and gym parking lot

AM Buses – Arrive in the gym parking lot

PM Buses – Pickup in the front of the school facing Pinckney

***No students should be dropped off prior to 8:00am**

***Early outs stop at 3:00pm so as not to disrupt the dismissal process**

If you need First Student bus route or Bus Pick-Up information, please visit <https://www.ccsdschools.com/Page/213>. This will be accurate on 8/8/22.

T-DAP VACCINE REQUIREMENT FOR ALL 7th GRADE STUDENTS:

Per SC law, all incoming 7th graders need to have record of their T-Dap vaccine on file by 8/27/22. At that point any child without that record will be excluded from school.

CELL PHONE POLICY:

Cario will operate cell phone free from the hours of 8:00am-3:30pm. Permission to use phones to call parents may be granted when needed, but otherwise phones need to be locked up in lockers for the school day. This policy is in place for the following reasons.

- Cell phones decrease engagement and are a distraction to learning
- We cannot regulate accessible content on private phone plans
- The opportunity for negative social interactions decreases without phones

Finally, for the most up-to-date information and announcements, please visit Cario's website and social media accounts. We are excited for the upcoming school year and look forward to partnering with you to support the success of your child.

Sincerely,

Bryan T. Coleman, Interim Principal