

Week of July 26, 2021

Good Evening, Pearisontown Family...This is Rod Teal, calling with a #PandaNation update for this week...

We had a wonderful opening of school this week!! The Great Pearisontown Comeback is off to a grand start. A Huge Ptown Pride Shout-out to everyone who made it so successful from the students, parent, and entire Pearisontown staff. We can't be stopped, and if the beginning is an indication of how this year will be, we are in for a treat!!

Our biggest challenge is always carpool, especially the afternoon dismissal, but as the days went on, we got our timing down so things will continually get better. A couple of things you should know as it relates to carpool this year...

- *Bus ridership is down so there are many more cars in carpool than ever before.*
- *Please make sure your child knows that when their names are called, they need to scurry along and get to their rides as quickly as they can.*
- *Lining up in carpool early doesn't mean that you will get through it any quicker. It only backs up traffic on Barbee Rd.*
- *Please make sure your child knows daily how they will be picked up in the afternoon. We spend a lot of time running kids to their dismissal points during dismissal.*
- *If you are asked to move your car to the front circle or in a bus parking lane, please do so as to not slow or stall the movement in the carpool lane.*

As most of you have heard, I announced my retirement this week from Durham Public Schools. This was one of the hardest decisions to make because I have so much love and respect for the #PandaNation!! I have been at this school longer than any other Principal assignment and the relationships and bond I have developed over the years with this entire community has been the ultimate highlight of my career. I want to thank you all for trusting me with your child and challenging me to be the best at leading this school community. Even as I am saying these words, it is extremely emotional because I have truly grown to love you all and truly believe we are a family in every sense of the word. Although we have had some tough times, we pulled through it together and that shows that our bond can withstand anything, and that is what being a family is all about. I take with me all the wonderful memories we've created and will use them as fuel as I begin to write the next chapter of my life. My last official day is Friday. So if by chance our paths don't cross, I wish all of you nothing but the best for the 2021-2022 school year and beyond!!

Those are all the announcements for the evening...Now for my very last time...I need everyone to say it loud and proud...You Just Can't Hide that Pearisontown Pride...Everyone, continue to safe and #Brilliant and have a restful evening!!