Dear Parents,

Thank you for ensuring that your child arrives to school on time and that his/her dismissal plan is consistent. Children are most comfortable when their "world" is structured and predictable. However, if you ever do need to make a change to your child's plan, please adhere to our guidelines.

Guidelines for making a change to your child's dismissal plan:
- Send a note on the yellow **Change of Transportation form** on the morning of the change.
- Include the **DATE** on every note.
- Provide the **name and phone number of the adult** you are authorizing to pick your child up at school or meet him/her at the bus stop.
- If picking your child up from school, include the **TIME**. (1:50 for K. 2:50 for Gr. 1)
- Please note, **we cannot accommodate early pick-ups** between the following hours: 1:30-1:45 or 2:30-2:45.
- **If another parent is picking your child up**—please double-check that morning that the other child will be in school that day (i.e. is not unexpectedly absent) and that the other parent has also sent in a note.
- Remember, a child may get off the bus at a friend's stop ONLY if the child is on the **same afternoon bus route**. You must send in a note naming the child and adult at whose stop your child will be released.
- **We can NOT accommodate bus stop changes on HALF DAYS** of school, as the bus routes are different on half days.

Next Friday, October 6th is a half day of school. There will be no lunch served in school. Please send your child to school with a snack.

As part of our District Safety Plan, all elementary schools will conduct an **early dismissal drill** that day. This means we will gather the children in one location (the gymnasium) and dismiss them ten minutes early.

Kindergarten AND first grade students will be dismissed together at 11:50 a.m.

Pick-ups: If your child must be a pick-up on Friday 10/6, please send a note to school on the yellow change of transportation form that morning. Please park your car and meet your child **in the cafeteria at 11:50**.

Please note: We will be unable to accept dismissal changes after the start of the school day on Friday.

The early dismissal drill is one component of our comprehensive safety plan. We conduct a variety of drills in school, including evacuation and lockdown drills. One requires that children know how to exit the building quickly and quietly with their class. The other requires that they remain seated and quiet in their locked classroom. We explain to the children that we practice different ways of being safe. We are careful not to alarm them and keep our discussions very matter-of-fact. The children know that safety drills are just one of many things we *practice* in school.

Yesterday was our first Spirit Day! We gathered the children together for a discussion about kindness. We focused on our words of the month: **Belonging and Accepted** and emphasized ways to help everyone feel included and happy. We reviewed how to use our **Buddy Bench** and watched videos of some of our own students showing how to invite others to play. (see them on our school website!) Mrs. Katz's class sang the song "*A New Friend*" for us and we ended with our school song. Thank you for sending your child to school wearing red, white, blue or Goosehill School apparel! Our next Spirit Day will be October 19th when we will have an assembly called *Force Field for Good,* courtesy of the GPFA and CSH Cultural Arts.

Author visit Our Library-Media Specialist, Ms. Urso, arranged for author/illustrator **Richard Torrey** to visit our school on November 6th. Look for the flyer in your child's backpack if you would like to order an autographed copy of one of his books.

Photo Retakes- October 5th- Please send a note to your child's teacher if you would like your child's photo retaken.

Have a wonderful weekend with your families! To our families observing Yom Kippur, we wish you an easy fast.

Warm regards,

Lynn Herschlein