

9/4/23

Dear School #4 Families,

The first day of school is approaching, and we look forward to seeing your child(ren) on **Tuesday, September 5th. Due to the extreme temperatures, 9/5-9/8 will be early dismissal and school will end at 1:15.** I will use our School Messaging System to communicate with you throughout the school year. At times you will receive a recorded message from me, but most often, I will send you an email since this proves to be the most successful way to reach families. Text messaging is also being offered, and you can access information for this at:

https://school4.winslow-schools.com/apps/news/show_news.jsp?REC_ID=803223&id=0

You should have received information regarding your child's teacher and bus. If you live in a "walker" assigned area, you will not be assigned a bus. If you registered Thursday, 8/31, or after and live in an area where busing is provided, you will be notified of your child's bus soon enough and, in the meantime, will need to transport your child to and from school.

Procedures for arrival and dismissal can be found by clicking the link:

https://school4.winslow-schools.com/apps/news/show_news.jsp?REC_ID=803093&id=0

Any resistance to the stated procedures interferes with the safe, orderly operation of the school, and we ask that you refrain from creating your own procedures. All parents dropping off students **MUST** enter the parking lot in the car rider lane. Attempting to avoid the car rider lane is prohibited. Parents are urged not to park in the parking lot or the street and walk their children to the building. **ALL** students being dropped off as car riders **MUST** enter the building via the main entrance (not the gym entrance).

The first few days of school can be a bit of a challenge as we all become accustomed to the routines and procedures. To help with this process, I ask:

- Send your child to and from school according to what will be his/her normal mode of transportation.
- Your child will be provided with a dismissal tag on his/her bookbag. This tag needs to remain on the bookbag for the entire school year.
- Limit changes to your child's mode of dismissal. If a change is needed, the link will provide you with the proper procedures and needed form to do so:
https://school4.winslow-schools.com/apps/news/show_news.jsp?REC_ID=469076&id=0
- Take your first day of school photos at home (if posting on social media, it is recommended that you limit identifying information).
- Understand that *no one* other than staff and students will be permitted to enter the building during arrival and dismissal.
- If your child struggles with separation, please allow us to gently take your child and we will follow up with a phone call to update his/her progress.
- Buses may not be on time for the first few days. **BE PATIENT.** It is recommended that you are at the bus stop by 3:35 in the afternoon until the route and procedures become

routine. Students will never be dropped off at a bus stop unless a parent or guardian is at the stop to receive them.

- Ensure that all contact information is up to date.
- Send in emergency contact forms, transportation methods forms, and pick-up authorization forms within the first two days of school.

Local Upcoming Construction and Transportation

Please be advised that we have received notification that an upcoming road construction project may interfere with timely bus transportation. As additional information is provided, it will be shared with the School #4 community.

Lunch Accounts

If you feel you qualify for free or reduced, you **MUST** complete the form and be approved. Until approved, you are obligated to pay. Any person who qualifies for free or reduced meals after starting the school year is still obligated to settle all accounts.

You can set up a Mealtime account by accessing:

<https://www.mymealtime.com/>

You will also need your child's student ID, which was sent home in the welcome letter at the end of August. Students are offered the opportunity to purchase a snack during lunch. Please refer to the following recommendations for lunch:

- Teach your child independence (opening juice box, thermos, banana, condiment packs, pre-packaged items, etc.)
 - Yes, we will help, but it's best when your child is independent.
 - We do not reheat food. A thermos works great.
- If you send your child to school with cash, it must be in an envelope and labeled.
- Teach your child to eat his/her meal first, then a snack.
- If you don't want your child to purchase a snack or you want to limit the amount of snacks you want your child to purchase, you can contact:
<https://winslow.sodexomyway.com/contact/index>
- Students are never permitted to share food.

Emergency/Safety Drills

The safety and well-being of your child will remain my number one priority. We will conduct emergency drills and fire drills once per month. If you have any questions, I ask that you present them to the Administration of School #4 and not your child's teacher. Notification of an emergency drill will be posted on the School #4 website.

Special Areas

Students in K-3 will attend Art, Computers, Physical Education, and Music. This will occur on a rotating day basis. Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, and Day 4 will always be noted on the monthly calendar that is sent home each month. Your child's teacher will identify the special for each day. It is imperative that your child is dressed appropriately for Physical Education class (**sneakers must be worn**) to participate. If your child is not prepared for Physical Education,

he/she will not be able to participate in the amazing lessons and experiences provided by Ms. Chillari.

Important information such as the school supply list, student handbook, dress code policy, and upcoming events can be found on our website:

<https://school4.winslow-schools.com/>

Please consider being a member of our HSA. The first meeting is scheduled for 9/21 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you at Back to School Night on Thursday, September 7th at 6:30. If this date is postponed due to the heat-related early dismissal schedule, you will be notified.

Sincerely,
Lori S. Kelly
Principal