

East Syracuse Elementary School



NEWSLETTER

August 31, 2021

It's a great day to be a Spartan!

We continue to prepare for our school opening on September 7, 2021. Construction on the main office continues. We will need to route students through the school to avoid the construction areas. We will have staff to help guide our students until they get the hang of it. Mrs. Krizman sent classroom assignments out via email to all families last week. Contact the office if you did not receive your notice. As stated previously, we are planning for in-person learning only. Our school will not offer a remote option.

As we continue planning for our reopening, I can share with you that all students will need to wear masks. All staff will wear masks as well. But we do expect that our students will be able to sing together and play musical instruments together this year. We will require students to be 3' apart in all classrooms and in the cafeteria. We are planning our K orientation to be in person on September 2 at 2:30p in the gym. We will organize the gym so that we maintain 3' between everyone. In addition, everyone must wear a protective mask while in the school building. But beware, this guidance can change with a moment's notice.

If you haven't signed up for our new communication tool, Parent Square, please do so now. I find it to be an easier tool for exchanging information with our staff and our school community. I think you will like it as well.

We have more additions to our staff for the coming year. Mrs. Catherine Petrocci is an ENL teacher who will be with us full time this year. She and Mrs. Tamilya are a great ENL team. Kaitlyn Brown will join our 5th grade team. She worked at Fremont last year. Ms. Heather Brown is assuming a new position in our school as an Instructional Coach. Mrs. Jennifer Mawson is a new teaching assistant. While she is new to us this year, she has worked in our building previously. Please join me in welcoming these staff members. I will have a few more staff announcements in our next newsletter.

The front of the building is for buses only until after the last bus departs at approximately 8:25am. Students depart the buses at 8:05am and will go straight to their classrooms for breakfast. We post staff at door #7 at the rear of the building to allow students to enter the building beginning at 8:05am. We lock door #7 at 8:25am. If you arrive after 8:25am, you will

need to have your child enter at the main entrance. Please be safe and do not move your car if there is someone on the driveway.

We are happy to announce that once again breakfast and lunch is free for ALL students at ESE. Students will eat breakfast in the classroom and lunch in the cafeteria.

We will need to limit visitors to the building due to the pandemic.

ESE is a great place for students to learn. Our staff believes that ALL students can learn at high levels. We will deploy every resource we have available to help accelerate learning for ALL of our students. Our staff also believes strongly that students require a healthy dose of Social Emotional Learning (SEL). We will have additional staff available to help as needed in this area. We use Positive Behavior Interventions and Success (see below for more information). All classrooms employ Responsive Classroom practices to teach students good character skills in school.

Our main office number is 315-434-3850. Please call if you have any questions we have not yet answered.

PBIS Newsletter-September

P ositive B ehavior I nterventions & S uccess

What is PBIS? It is a process for creating school environments that are more predictable and effective for achieving academic and social goals. The goal is to enhance the current systems and practices, and to change the school culture for the better. Teachers and staff instruct and practice the school's Paw Laws: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible. This creates a consistent set of behavioral expectations and rules throughout the building. When a student does not respond to the teaching of behavioral rules, this is looked at as an opportunity to re-teach, not *just* punishment.

What is the parents' role? Parents are an important piece of implementing PBIS. We encourage parents to use the same expectations and rules that school teaches. Common language will help with consistency and shows that home and school are working together. Children thrive when they have consistent, predictable expectations and consequences.

Here's what's happening in September with PBIS...

Hello and welcome to the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Here at East Syracuse Elementary, we have been busy preparing to help your children learn about various PBIS character traits. Each month we will introduce a new trait and learn to apply them. Starting with **Responsibility and Digital Citizenship**- which involves making decisions, being trusted, and learning to take credit for one's actions, whether online or in person. Learning happens best when it is done both at school and at home. Below are many ways that you can help your child continue to learn about the theme of responsibility through reading about it, talking about it, and practicing it! We look forward to exploring this topic at school, and we hope your family will enjoy it just as much!

Read About It!

Here are some books to help you learn more about responsibility:

- I Just Forgot by Mercer Mayer
- But It's Not My Fault by Julia Cook
- The Paperboy by Dav Pilkey
- The Pigsty by Mark Teague

Practice It!

Help your child practice responsibility by giving him/her special jobs! Let your child pick a special chore each week that they can be responsible for. (Let them carry the groceries, wipe the counters or even feed the pet!) And even work with them to develop an online schedule to help them balance work and play.

Talk About It!

Here are some discussion points to help you talk about responsibility with your child:

- What do you think responsibility means and why is it important?
 - Tell me about a time when it was hard to be responsible.
- What is a way you would like to have more responsibility at home?
 - Why is it important to balance time online and in play?
- What are your responsibilities in the classroom and in our community?

Meet Mrs. Amy Shields

Hello, my name is Amy Shields and I am the new First Grade teacher here at East Syracuse Elementary. I have been teaching first grade at Fremont for the last 8 years and I am excited to be joining the staff and community here at ESE. I have experience at all different grade levels and a Reading degree as well. I am also the mother of 4 teenagers!

I am looking forward to getting to know everyone here at ESE and establishing a relationship with the staff, students and families. I am fortunate to be able to work with such an amazing staff and community.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and I will see you all in September.