

CAYUGA SCHOOL

WELCOME BACK!

SCHOOL STARTS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH!

Dear Cayuga Families,

I sincerely hope this communication finds you all happy, healthy and well rested as our summer vacation comes to a close. The clerical, custodial and grounds staff have been working hard these past months to prepare the building for the return of your children! New outdoor learning spaces and our 1:1 chromebook initiative for all students K-5 (yes - each child will receive their own chromebook!!!) are sure to add to the excitement of the start of school!

Please be advised that all Sachem Elementary Schools had their start times adjusted and our day will begin *and end* 5 minutes later than last year. This means our school day will now officially run from 8:50-3:20. With a built in grace period, students are marked late after 9am.

Our Curriculum Nights will be held on Monday, September 19th for Kindergarten - 2nd Grade and Tuesday, September 20th for 3rd through 5th Grade. More detailed information will come on these events in the next week.

The eSchool parent portal is live - please log on to retrieve your child's teacher name, classroom number, bus route and stop, etc. Be advised that a tremendous amount of work goes into making class placements each year starting in the spring and for many reasons requests for changes will not be accommodated. While you are in the parent portal, please take a moment to review your emergency contact information so that we can reach you if it becomes necessary.

For those of you who ordered school supplies through our PTA in the spring, they have arrived and have been distributed to your child's new classroom by our PTA President, Mrs. Finamore. For anyone who did not order in this fashion, please understand that supplies can be brought into school by your child over the course of the first week. There is no need to overload their backpacks with everything on the first day. Our PTA is a wonderful organization that works hard to bring all sorts of cultural arts programming to our students. Please consider joining and supporting them at <https://cayugaschool.memberhub.com/store/items/753792>.

For our walkers and those students who are dropped off and picked up by car, please follow the posted traffic signs and adhere to the instructions of our necessarily cautious staff who are on duty. Safety is my number one priority and we all need to work together to ensure the safety of all during our extremely busy arrival and dismissal times. As many of you know, the layout of our parking lot requires significant caution due to the large amount of traffic we encounter each day. Therefore, we appreciate your patience and cooperation with respect to these procedures.

It is important to make clear that during the pandemic, breakfast and lunch was made available free of charge to all students. This benefit has ended. These meals will not be denied to any students who ask for them but you will be charged. If you believe that you are entitled to continued free/reduced lunch benefits, more information can be found on the Sachem website.

To say we have all been through a lot these past few years is an understatement. I look forward to a new fresh start with more of a return to "normal" and a significant focus on the positive energy we all have inside. I look forward to an exciting school year and hope that you make an effort to attend many of the wonderful events we will get back to hosting. Please be assured that your child's teachers and I are always available to answer any questions you may have. Feel free to email or call at any time.

As I look forward to an exciting school year, I hope that you all make an effort to attend many of our wonderful events. Please also be assured that I am always available to answer any questions you may have. Feel free to call the office at (631) 471-1800 at any time.

Sincerely,
Matthew Wells
Principal

TIPS FOR THE FIRST DAY

- Get up early and have a healthy breakfast
- Talk to your child about their feelings about school
- Include a note with your child's lunch or snack
- Plan to take whatever will be the regular mode of transportation on the first day
- Arrive at school/bus stop 5 minutes early until the routine is set
- Model a positive attitude about starting school




CAYUGA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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