



## Watsessing School

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Dear Families,

Welcome back! We hope this letter finds you well and that you have had a wonderful summer filled with joyful memories and relaxation. As we prepare to embark on a new academic year, we are thrilled to welcome you and your children back to Watsessing School.

The start of a new school year is always a time of anticipation and excitement. It's a time for new beginnings, reuniting with friends, and embracing new challenges. Our dedicated team of educators and staff have been working tirelessly over the summer to create a warm, safe, and engaging environment where your children can learn, grow, and thrive.

Our first day of school will be September 6, 2023. This will be a full day for all students. Teachers and staff will be on the blacktop and in front of the school the first week of school to assist students and parents. Your child's homeroom placement should be available to view through PowerSchool.

Please extend a warm welcome to our newest staff members:

- Kara Mackin, ELA & Social Studies, 6th Grade
- Sara Morley, Special Education, 3-4th Grade
- Sage DelCioppio, Special Education, 4th Grade
- Melissa Adams, General Education, 1st Grade
- Shanae Pritchett, School Psychologist

For your reference, here are some of our school procedures that we would like to inform you of to support both you and child throughout the school year. In addition, please utilize our website for all district and school information [www.bloomfield.k12.nj.us](http://www.bloomfield.k12.nj.us).

### **Arrival and Dismissal:**

- Your child should arrive at the designated arrival door between 8:25 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Dismissal will be from the same location at 3:30pm and we are asking families or the pick-up designee to arrive by 3:20 p.m.
- **Arrival/Dismissal Locations:**
  - Kindergarten/ERI-Front Entrance or Door #1
  - 1st grade-(1st floor) Breezeway Front Entrance or Door # 2
  - Grades 2, 3, and 4 (2nd floor)-Back Playground doors or Door #9
  - Grades 5 and 6-Back playground doors or Door #11

### **Technology/Chromebooks:**

- Students in grades 2-4 should plan to send their child with his or her district issued device and charger on the first day of school. Students in grades 5 and 6 should come to school with their chromebook only and leave their charger at home. We ask them to come to school with their chromebook charged. If you have not received a chromebook, one will be assigned to your child on the first day of school. Google classroom will be a platform utilized and classroom codes will be distributed to students.

### **Visitor Policy:**

- Our main entrance is equipped with cameras, an intercom system and door buzzer, which allows our school personnel to screen each visitor and make sure that the reason for your visit is valid. We take security very seriously and need to make sure that each visitor belongs in the building. A valid driver's license will be required to enter the school building via our new T-Pass system. **Please note that only those designated individuals who you have listed as emergency contacts via Emergency Contact Cards will be allowed to pick up your child.** In order to ensure safety and accuracy, please notify your child's teacher, **via written note or email**, about changes to your dismissal plans prior to 2:30pm.

### **Attendance:**

- Student attendance is required each day. If your child will be absent for the day, please email/contact Mrs. McKnight at [hmcknight@bloomfield.k12.nj.us](mailto:hmcknight@bloomfield.k12.nj.us) or 973-680-8570 ext. 2801. Indicate your child's full name, grade, teacher, and reason for absence.

### **Breakfast/Lunch:**

Every day our students will receive breakfast after the bell in their classrooms. Lunch will also be available for purchase daily in our cafeteria. There is no charge for lunch for students who qualify for free/reduced meals.

- Money can be loaded into student accounts [here](#).
- Back to School Lunch Applications can be completed online [here](#).

### **Events and Activities:**

- The first Home & School Meeting will be held in-person on September 11 at 7:00 pm.
- Back to School Night will be in-person on September 21 at 7:00 pm. Teachers will be presenting in their classrooms. Parents/Guardians will be able to interact with the teachers and be able to ask questions.

We are confident that this school year will be one of growth, discovery, and achievement for all of our students at Watsessing School. Let's work together to create an environment where each child feels valued, inspired, and motivated to reach their full potential.

Sincerely,



Shamshadeen Mayers | Principal