

Columbus Elementary School

Mt. Pleasant Central School District

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August, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back! The 2018.2019 school year is fast approaching. I hope that you and your family are enjoying a happy and restful summer.

If you haven't already done so, you can view your child's schedule in the *Parent Portal*. You can see all of the teachers your child will be working with, as well as the subject areas that they teach. Our classes are heterogeneously grouped and every effort is made to create balanced groups. A great deal of thought and consideration go into the planning and placement of your child. Therefore, changes *cannot* be made, as it would impact the composition of the other classes. My professional staff and I review many factors beforehand. These include your child's academic profile, learning style, social and emotional needs, along with the input provided from the questionnaire.

Also, please note that entry into the building is not allowed until the Meet and Greet on Thursday, August 30th at 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Please also note the addition of the following new staff members to Columbus this year:

- Mrs. Maureen Valvano - *Grade 5 Teacher*
- Ms. Jaclyn Gabriele - *Technology Teacher CES and HES*
- Ms. Heather Raniolo - *Physical Ed Teacher*
- Ms. Keri Vaquero - *Reading Specialist*

The following teachers have moved to different grades this year:

- Mrs. Kerry Dockett – *Grade 4 to Grade 3*
- Ms. Lenora Rudovic – *Grade 4 to Grade 3*
- Mr. Tom Lisa – *Grade 5 to Grade 4*

Please join me in congratulating Ms. Loredana Uguccioni (Grade 4 teacher), who is now *Mrs. Loredana Coughlan*. She was married this past July. Also, please welcome Mrs. Michele Rush in her new title as *Secretary to Principal* here in the main office. Mrs. Rush was a Teacher's Aide at Columbus Elementary for 10 years. And, Mr. Frank Ungaro is now the CES Senior Custodian. He, along with his custodial team, are working diligently to ready the building for our opening day!

Please see the schedule for you and your children listed below:

MEET and GREET: Parents and children are invited to Columbus on *August 30th from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.* to meet their assigned teacher(s) and see their classrooms.

FIRST DAY of SCHOOL: Tuesday, September 4, 2018

SCHOOL HOURS: 8:00 a.m. – 2:55 p.m.

BACK to SCHOOL NIGHT: Thursday, September 6, 2018

MORNING ARRIVALS: *If you choose to drive your child to school, parent drop off is from 7:30 a.m.-7:50 a.m. (READ BELOW FOR NEW PROCEDURES)*

EARLY DROP OFF PROCEDURES:

- We are very excited to have a new student drop off location this year. As part of our parking lot renovations, a drop off circle was added at the far end of the building (near the field).

- Upon entering the campus, turn left into the parking area, go through the parking area (**not the bus lane please**), and then turn right at the end of the lot.
- Proceed to the drop off area.
- Pull around the circle to drop off your child near the **LIBRARY** entrance.

Mr. Adam Yaeger (*Home and Careers teacher*) will supervise the children in the **LIBRARY** from 7:30 a.m.- 8:00 a.m. Students *will not* be able to enter the building *prior to* the 7:30 a.m. drop off time, as there will be no personnel available to provide student supervision.

- Also between 7:55 a.m. and 8:05 a.m., students **cannot** be dropped off at the front entrance of the school. This action is for **STUDENT SAFETY**. The driveway is blocked off and cars are not allowed to pass through between 7:55 a.m. and 8:05 a.m. Students may be dropped off **after 8:05 a.m.**, *once all of the busses have arrived*. At this time, they may enter the building through the main entrance. Please adhere to this important rule.
- Children should **never** be dropped off on Columbus Avenue.

AFTERNOON PICK-UPS/DISMISSAL:

NOTE: Student pick-up is in the **LIBRARY** – ***no longer in the cafeteria, nor the main lobby.*** All students being picked up will report to the **LIBRARY** at 2:55. You may enter the **LIBRARY** directly through the outside door (on the side of the building) beginning at 2:45 to sign your child out.

If you need to pick your child up **before 2:45**, you will then need to come to the front entrance of the building to sign them out. *Thank you in advance for your cooperation.*

NOTE: Please park in the lower lot and walk up to the **LIBRARY**.

We ask that you kindly adhere to the new drop-off and pick-up locations and procedures. The safety of the children is the utmost importance.

BUS INFORMATION/TRANSPORTATION:

- Your child's bus information can be viewed in the *Parent Portal*. We strongly encourage you to have your child ride the bus on the first day of school, *Tuesday, September 4, 2018*, so that the bus driver will immediately become accustomed to stopping for your child. If you have any questions regarding these routes, you may call the ***Business Office (769-5500)***.
- We also ask that if your child will not be riding his or her bus on a particular day (for a play date, babysitter, etc.), that you send a note with your child to give to the teacher for that given day.

The *District School Calendar* will be available on the District Website and will be distributed to the *youngest* child in each family attending the school system. Please visit our school website on a daily basis to be kept up to date on any news, information, school supply lists, etc.

Let me say in closing that we are delighted to have you and your child as members of our school community. It is our foremost goal this year - *and every year* - to make your child's learning experience at Columbus Elementary School a truly meaningful one!

Sincerely,

Michael Cunzio
Michael Cunzio, Principal

Theresa Outhouse
Theresa Outhouse, Assistant Principal

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