

John Hydock Elementary School...

A Great Place to Grow!

August 21, 2018

Dear Partners in Learning,

I couldn't be more excited to write this letter. This letter means that in just a few weeks, the hallways will be filled once again with laughter, with student work, with life. John Hydock Elementary School will be abuzz with students, teachers, and staff. The building will be filled with everyone working for the same purpose. Our common purpose is to grow. To grow as educators, to grow as students, to grow as a school community.

I truly hope that you have enjoyed your summer. I hope that it was a time to be with family, to refuel and refresh and to get ready for the upcoming school year. Our teachers and staff have spent the summer preparing for your children. Not only did they have time to enjoy their families and relax, they have been busy reading the latest professional development books on education, attending workshops on various topics, participating in educational discussions with educators all across the country via Voxer (an app), and gearing up to share with your children the best practices in education. We truly have the best staff in Mansfield! We cannot wait to get started with another school year! Join us on the journey as we all work together to GROW!

I am happy to share with you some changes that have taken place at JHES:

We will have three sections of Kindergarten this year.

- Megan Gallagher/Tracy Schwartzberg
- Barbara Moore
- Rhonda Marcantonio

First Grade will have four sections.

- Kate Fehn/Amy Weinstein
- Meghan Grosse
- Debra Hart
- Shannon Feeley

Second Grade will have four sections.

- Cheryl Mastowski/Nancy Sager
- Kristina Papero
- Kristen Spieler
- Hillary Lovenduski

Basic Skills:

- Janet Strusz
- Jackie Cuccia

Music:

- Elizabeth Janney

PE:

- Ryan Brydzinski

All other specials teachers remain the same.

Class Assignments

A great deal of time, effort and thought has gone into the process of student placement for the 2018-2019 school year. Careful consideration was given to the input from staff and families as well as student learning styles. Classrooms have been balanced academically and socially. Our class lists are structured to provide equitable class sizes at each grade level. Moving students is difficult without causing imbalances and inequities.

Thank you so much for being positive with your child and helping him or her understand that it is impossible to place all students with a preferred best friend or teacher. **ALL** of our staff works hard to make school a positive experience for **ALL** students. Thank you for understanding that sometimes it can take a few weeks for a child to acclimate to a new grade, peer group and/or teacher.

First Day of School: **Thursday, September 6th HALF DAY of School**

ALL STUDENTS should wear the name tags that are included in this envelope. In an effort to ease some of the first day confusion, the name tags will match the colors of the signs our teachers will be holding on the first day. Students will easily be able to locate their teacher by matching the color of their nametag with the color of the teacher's sign. Please be sure to share this information with your children to help put any of their concerns at ease.

ALL John Hydock students will arrive at 8:40 AM (either by bus or by parent drop off) and will make their way to the front of the school. Students will be greeted by one of our wonderful, warm staff members who will guide them into the building to meet their teacher. Kindergarten

students will be walked to the cafeteria where they will meet their teacher and 1st and 2nd grade students will be guided to the gym to meet their teachers.

For the safety and security of our students, all parents must remain outside of the building.

Once all busses have arrived, teachers will walk their classes to the classroom to begin the day.

AM/PM Parent Drop-off/Pick-up Guidelines

Morning drop off is at the front door of the school. Please be sure to park your vehicle in a designated parking spot (not on the curb, please).

When maneuvering through our parking lot, please use extreme caution. Keep in mind that our little ones are entering and exiting vehicles and moving through the parking lot on their way into the building. Please drive slow and cautious.

There is a dismissal form entitled; "How Will I Go Home From School Everyday," included in your packet. Please be sure this form is completed and in your child's backpack on the first day of school.

Afternoon parent pick-up is at the east side entrance from 3:20-3:30pm, on a REGULAR school day and from 12:50-1:00pm on a HALF day of school. Please be prepared to show identification. Parents/guardians will be required to sign out their child.

I appreciate your cooperation as we strive to keep our school safe and secure.

Bus Times for the First Few Days

Please keep in mind that busses are typically not on schedule the first few days of school. Please be sure to be at your stop a few minutes before and please wait for your child at their bus stop a bit longer than the time you are told.

"The purpose is to make school amazing and to get our students excited about coming every day." -Jay Billy (from Leading with Culture)

Our goal every day is to get kids excited about learning. When kids are excited about learning, when kids *want* to be at school, more growth will take place. I am looking forward to getting back to doing what I love to do. I am excited to be your partner in education and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Thursday, September 6th**. Just a reminder that both Thursday and Friday will be Early Dismissal Days. There will be no lunches served on these days, so please provide your child with a healthy snack.

"High expectations among all members of an organization and a belief in the people--all of the people--is how you grow toward greatness." -Jay Billy

Let's work together to grow toward greatness. Happy 2018-2019 school year!

Sincerely,

Stacy Cullari

The Proud Principal of JHES; Stacy Cullari

Upcoming Important Dates:

Sept 6- First Day of School- Early Dismissal

Sept 7- Early Dismissal

Sept 27- Back to School Night at JHES