



***Blythe Park School***  
**735 Leesley Road**  
**Riverside, Illinois 60546**  
**[www.district96.org/blythe/](http://www.district96.org/blythe/)**  
**Telephone: 708-447-2168 ♦ Fax: 708-447-1703**

August 2010

Dear Blythe Park Families,

Welcome to the new school year! I hope you are enjoying your summer and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, August 24 for our first day of school. Whether you are a new Blythe family or a returning family, the year ahead will be a rewarding experience for your child. Our strong partnership working with you and your child is one of the primary reasons that Blythe Park School is such a wonderful place for children to learn and grow.

For the upcoming school year, I would like to welcome our new 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Mr. Kurt Preble. Mr. Preble has multiple years experience teaching all grade levels from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>. He also served as an instructional technology facilitator in his previous district. He will join Ms. Roberts on the 5<sup>th</sup> grade team. Please help me in welcoming Mr. Preble to the Blythe Park community.

The Blythe Park office will reopen on Monday, August 9 with regular office hours of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday.

A registration window for returning Blythe families was offered before we left for the summer. If you have not yet registered your child, you will need to bring in all necessary forms (available at [www.district96.org](http://www.district96.org)) and fees to the Blythe office on **Friday, August 13 (late registration day) between 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM. Children will not be assigned to a class until all registration materials and fees have been submitted.**

The remaining pages in this packet contain a host of important items related to the upcoming school year. Please save this as a reference throughout the course of the school year. It won't be long before the classrooms are once again booming with the sound of learning! Until then, have a wonderful remainder of the summer.

Sincerely,

Bob Chleboun  
Principal- Blythe Park School

# **Blythe Park School 2010-2011**

## **First Day of School**

Tuesday, August 24

8:25 AM-11:30 AM (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade)

Kindergarten- By appointment times listed:

### **Kindergarten 1<sup>st</sup> Day Schedule – All Schools**

Last Name beginning with A-D 8:30-9:00AM

Last Name beginning with E-H 9:00-9:30AM

Last Name beginning with I-L 9:30-10:00AM

Last Name beginning with M-P 10:00-10:30AM

Last Name beginning with Q-T 10:30-11:00AM

Last Name beginning with U-Z 11:00-11:30AM

## **Daily School Schedule (Starting Wednesday, August 25)**

**All Grades:** Please have your child at school no earlier than 8:10 when supervision begins.

- 8:15 AM Entrance bell rings. All students enter.

### **Kindergarten Instructional Day**

- 8:25-11:20AM

### **Grades 1-5 Instructional Day**

- 8:25 AM Instruction starts (students should be in their classrooms by this time)
- 11:35 AM- 12:25 PM- lunch and recess
- 12:35 PM- Afternoon instruction begins
- 3:05 PM- School day ends

## **Morning Arrival**

Students should be in their classroom by the 8:25 bell. This bell announces the start of instructional time. Children who enter the room after this time are marked tardy. Please ensure that your child arrives with ample time to be in the classroom by 8:25. Late arrivals lead to lost instruction time and become disruptive to learning.

We understand that it is sometimes hard to say goodbye to our children at the start of a new school year. To help foster independence, to help monitor school safety, and to facilitate a smooth transition into the new school year, we ask that parents not accompany children into the school after the first day of class.

**Line Up/Exit Procedures** - Students enter/exit at these doors:

- Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders enter at south front entrance doors.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders enter at north front entrance doors.

### End of Day

Please make all after school arrangements before the school day begins to avoid disruptions during the school day.

Kindergarten and first grade students are dismissed from the building upon viewing an adult or older sibling that will be accompanying the child home. Please wait for your child outside of the building.

An after school supervisor is on site in front of the school for a limited time. Any children not picked up by 3:10 will be sent to the office and a phone call will be made. A new procedure this year will require adults who arrive **after supervision has ended** to sign his/her child out in the office.

### Communication

Communication between school and home is very important. To find out about current happenings, District 96 offers the electronic Wednesday E-Backpack for the district ([www.district96.org](http://www.district96.org)) and each of its schools. The E-Backpack will be updated every Wednesday; please review the latest flyers and teacher home page updates as they are made available. Please note that all teacher pages will be updated on the first Wednesday of the month, but may be updated on additional Wednesdays as needed.

The Blythe page is located at: <http://www.district96.org/blythe/links/>.

### Safety

Your child's safety is our highest priority. We emphasize, "Being Safe" as one of our Blythe Park School expectations. Please help us in the following areas:

- When driving to school, drop children off on the school side of Leesley. This prevents children from crossing in front of moving traffic.
- If you must park your car or are walking your child to school, use one of the two crosswalk areas located at the north and south end of Leesley in front of the school.
- Please drive with caution in front of the school and in the Blythe Park vicinity.
- Please refrain from parking in front of neighboring driveways and crosswalks.
- For the safety of our children at drop off and pick up time, we ask that dogs be kept off school property and remain on the parkway areas only.
- Sign in at the office and wear a visitor's badge whenever visiting/volunteering in our school.
- Students in Grades 3-5 may ride bicycles to school as long as they obey the safety rules and use the bicycle rack near the Kindergarten room.
- Scooters or wheeled shoes should not be used on school property.

In the name of safety, I encourage you to help us all work together to keep Blythe Park a safe environment to send our children. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

### District Wellness Policy

Please note that per the Parent Handbook, “Parents are asked not to send cake, cookies, or toys or any type of treat on a child’s birthday or on holidays throughout the school year” (p. 13-School Parties).

The District 96 School Discipline Code states “Candy, gum, and soda pop will not be allowed in school “ (p.3, Part A. Item 5).

If food is brought into our building for children we ask that it be of a healthy nature. Your support and cooperation with this policy is greatly appreciated.

### Lunchtime

<b>11:35-12:00</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup>- 2<sup>nd</sup> eat</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> recess</b>
<b>12:00-12:25</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup>- 2<sup>nd</sup> recess</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> eat</b>

Students have the option of staying for lunch or going home. For supervision purposes, students who go home for lunch **should not return to school until shortly before 12:25** when the first bell rings. To alleviate confusion with the number of students we supervise each day at lunch, children who go home should not join the recess groups on the playground as they return to school. Instead they should go directly to the front doors to wait for the entrance bell.

School policy regarding students staying for lunch indicates that any student may be denied the privilege of remaining at school for lunch if he/she fails to comply with the regulations for lunchroom behavior. These procedures are shared with all students during the first week of school.

Per the wellness policy, **fast food lunches and soda pop are not allowed in the lunchroom** and should not be sent in with students. Please try to pack a lunch that offers healthy alternatives. These guidelines are also in place for foods brought into all other areas of the school.

Milk is available at the cost of ten cents a carton. Students may purchase milk tickets in the school office.

### Supervision

#### *Before School*

- Supervision is provided in front of the school starting at 8:10 AM. Students should not be on the school grounds prior to this time.

#### *Lunch Time*

- Students going home for lunch are dismissed at the 11:35 AM bell. Upon returning they should go directly to their entrance door shortly before the 12:25 PM bell. For supervision purposes, **only children who are staying at school for lunch may participate in lunchtime playground activities.**

#### *After School*

- Students should leave the school grounds promptly at 3:05 PM.

### Dressing for the Weather

Children should dress for the weather. Students will be outside in the morning and during lunch recess unless the temperature falls below 10 degrees.

### Getting Messages to Students and Teachers

Please help us avoid classroom distractions that impact student learning by **making all after school plans before the school day begins**. Phone call reminders to children lead to interruptions of the instructional day.

- If you have items or messages to give your child, please drop them off in the office. Someone will deliver the message/item to the classroom.
- If you need to speak with a teacher during the school day, you may either leave a phone message with the office (708-447-2168) or you can email the teacher (last name followed by first initial @district96.org) and they will get back to you. We ask that staff respond to emails within a 24 hour window on weekdays.

### Student Absence/Tardiness

Student absences should be **phoned into the school office (447-2168) by 9:00 AM**. We ask that family vacations not occur during student attendance days.

**It is very important that students be at school on time.** Punctuality helps get the school day off to a good start. Students should be in their classrooms no later than the 8:25 late bell. Students who enter the building after this bell will be marked tardy. Our office staff monitors student attendance reports frequently. Please help your child arrive to school on time every day.

### Parent and School Discipline Handbooks

The School Discipline Code and Parent Handbook are accessible at [www.district96.org](http://www.district96.org). A check box verification indicating you have read the handbooks with your child is incorporated into the registration form.

### School Parties

It is customary in District 96 Schools to limit parties during the school year to those that will not interfere with the educational program.

Per the Student Handbook and the District 96 Wellness Policy, **“Parents are asked not to send cakes, cookies, toys or any type of treat on a child’s birthday or on holidays through the school year.”** Although the desire to supply these treats may be motivated by a very commendable attitude on the part of the parents, they lead to obvious difficulties should the practice become general and repeated many times during the school year.

**All foods brought into the school should be of a healthy nature preferred, or contain healthy alternatives, per the District 96 Wellness Policy.**

Invitations to parties held outside the school may be distributed in school only if each child in a class has been invited.

### **School Supplies**

Please purchase the materials listed on the school supply list found on the District 96 web site for your child's school.

### **Instrumental Music**

The Board of Education provides string instrumental instruction and wind instrumental instruction beginning in the fifth grade and continuing through the eighth grade. These lessons are optional. The only cost to the parents is the instrument. Information regarding this program will be sent out later.

### **School Records**

The law governing student school records requires us to advise you annually that no person outside of the district may see any of the material in your child's file without a permission form signed by you (parent or legal guardian). This ruling also affects the transfer of records for those children moving from our district. Your child's file is always open to you whenever you wish to make an appointment with the principal for the purpose of examining the materials in the record file.

### **Parent Night**

On Thursday, September 16 at 7:00 PM you will have the opportunity to attend our Fall Parent Night. To accommodate parents, there will be two teacher presentations occurring on this evening. More details will follow. **This evening is for parents only.**

### **School Pictures**

Student pictures will be on Thursday, September 9.

### **Students New to the District**

If you know of a family new to our district with school age children, please inform them to stop by their home school office to register. District 96 school offices reopen on Monday, August 9. Hours are 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

### **Before/After School Program**

The PAV YMCA before/after school program offers programs at each District 96 school. For more information on this fee-based program, please contact the PAV YMCA at 708-749-0606.