

Welcome to the 2011-2012 School Year!



August 24, 2011

Dear Hollywood Families,

I hope this letter finds you enjoying your summer vacation. As the days of summer are quickly drawing to a close, you will find a wealth of information in this letter to help you prepare for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year.

Start Dates and School Hours

Finalized class lists will be posted on the front door of Hollywood School on Friday, August 26th at 9:00am. School begins on Tuesday, August 30th, with a half day (8:20-11:25am), for students in 1st through 5th grade. Please bring all supplies on this first day of school. Supply lists can be found on the District 96 website. Regular school hours for first through fifth grades are 8:20am-3:00pm, and will begin on Wednesday, August 31st.

Please note that the first day schedule for kindergarten students is different than the schedule for students in grades 1-5. On Tuesday, August 30th, all kindergarten students are asked to come to the "Kindergarten Open House" with a parent/guardian anytime between the hours of 8:20-11:25am. Kindergarten students will spend approximately 15-30 minutes at school on Tuesday, during which they will have an opportunity to meet the teacher, explore the room, and drop off supplies. Regular school hours for kindergarten students are 8:20-11:15am, and will begin on Wednesday, August 31st.

The Early Childhood Program will begin with a "Meet and Greet" on Tuesday, September 6th. For the "Meet and Greet," children and parents/guardians are asked to come to school during the following hours:

AM Session: 9:00-11:00am

PM Session: 12:30-2:30pm

The first full day of ECE is Wednesday, September 7th. Transportation will begin on this day. Regular school hours for the ECE program, beginning Wednesday, September 7th, are as follows:

AM Session: 8:45-11:15am

PM Session: 12:20-2:50pm

Staff Information:

The Hollywood School staff has been hard at work preparing for an engaging and exciting school year! We are pleased to welcome some new faces to Hollywood School this year. Mrs. Barbara Johnson will be joining the Hollywood staff as our Special Education Resource Teacher. Mrs. Johnson is transferring to Hollywood from Central School, where she most recently worked as the Primary Fully-Supported Classroom Teacher. She brings 27 years of experience in teaching special education students. Mrs. Nancy Catrambone will be joining the Hollywood staff as our new School Secretary. Mrs. Catrambone is transferring from Ames School, where she worked as a Paraprofessional for the past six years. Some families may already be familiar with Mrs. Catrambone, as she has also served as the District 96 Summer School Secretary for the past four years. Due to increasing enrollment district-wide, our special area teachers are servicing more students than ever, so a few special area staffing changes have been made. Mrs. Dost, Mrs. Mathis, and Mrs. Howes will remain at Hollywood School, and will now service students in grades 1-5. Mrs. Gail Goletz, who currently teaches P.E. at Ames and Blythe, will begin teaching P.E. to kindergarten students at Hollywood School. In addition, Ms. Candy Ekstrom, who currently teaches art at Ames and Blythe, will begin teaching art to kindergarten students at Hollywood School. Also, Mrs. Jane Lauritsen, who currently teaches music at Ames and Blythe, will begin teaching music to kindergarten students at Hollywood School. Please join me in welcoming all of our new staff members! The staff assignments for the 2011-2012 school year are as follows:

CLASSROOM TEACHERS:

Ms. Michelle Myers, Early Childhood Education
Ms. Stephanie Becker, AM Kindergarten / KITE
Mrs. Jenny Barhorst, 1st grade
Mrs. Janice Johnson, 2nd grade
Ms. Danielle Mrazek, 3rd grade
Mr. Ryan Bookler, 4th grade
Mr. Brian Trimmer, 5th grade

PARAPROFESSIONALS:

Mrs. Kristen Taber, Paraprofessional
Mrs. Sharon Tomecek, Paraprofessional
Mrs. Kelly Zeleny, Paraprofessional
Mrs. Debbie Kwilas, Paraprofessional
Mrs. Amanda Neal, Paraprofessional
Mrs. Mary Potts, Paraprofessional

SUPPORT TEAM:

Mrs. Nancy Catrambone, School Secretary
Mrs. Marie Rerucha, Mid-Day Assistant
Mrs. Deborah Czubik, Mid-Day Assistant
Mrs. Judy Dalton, Nurse

SPECIALS:

Mr. Bill Howes, 1st - 5th Grade Music
Mrs. Jane Lauritsen, Kindergarten Music
Ms. Jean Mathis, 1st - 5th Grade Art
Ms. Candy Ekstrom, Kindergarten Art
Mrs. Patty Dost, 1st - 5th Grade Physical Education
Mrs. Gail Goletz, Kindergarten Physical Education
Mr. Jim Colombo, Band
Ms. Patty Gill, Orchestra
Ms. Penny Loulousis, Librarian
Mrs. Patty Prodanich, Library Aide

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

Mrs. Barbara Johnson, Resource Teacher
Ms. Liz Shabel, Quest
Ms. Halina Pliwko, TPI
Ms. Renee Lebegue, Reading Specialist
Ms. Carrie Levin, Social Worker
Ms. Leanne Pender, Speech Therapist
Mrs. Elizabeth Whaley, Laptops for Learning Project Mgr.

CUSTODIANS:

Mr. Ken Krozel, AM Custodian
Mr. Ricardo Vega, PM Custodian

*Additional changes may still be made to this staff list



Returning Student Registration

If you have not yet turned in all registration paperwork and paid school fees, it is considered late at this time. If you still plan to return to District 96 and have not yet turned in all registration paperwork, please download forms from the District 96 website at <http://www.district96.org/resources/2011-12-registration-returning-students/>. Please note that students will not be assigned to a class until all registration materials have been submitted.

New Student Registration

If you know of any families new to District 96, please tell them that registration materials are located online, at <http://www.district96.org/resources/2011-2012-registration-new-students/>. The parent or legal guardian must register their child in person at the District Office. The District Office is located at 2400 S. 10th Avenue in North Riverside. The entrance is at the south end of Mater Christi Catholic School.

Fall Parent Night

The Hollywood Elementary School Fall Parent Night will be held on Tuesday, September 13, from 7:00-8:30pm. This evening is designed for parents to learn about curriculum information, instructional goals, special initiatives, classroom procedures, and much more. This is an excellent opportunity to establish and continue partnerships with your child's teacher, which form an important link between home and school. Please be sure to mark your calendar for this important event.

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 materials in your child's file without a signed permission slip from you. 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 your child's record file.



School Pictures:

School pictures will be taken on Thursday, September 8th. More information will be coming soon regarding the cost of various photo packages.

F. A. Q. Handbook

Much more detailed information related to the upcoming school year can be found in the “Frequently Asked Questions Handbook,” located on this week’s e-backpack. This handbook is also posted on Miss Keller’s website and the PTA website. The FAQ handbook was created collaboratively with the support of the staff at Hollywood School and the PTA. This handbook is designed to address answers to frequently asked questions about Hollywood School procedures, processes, classroom activities, etc. We are hopeful that this handbook will help new parents make a smooth transition to Hollywood School, as well as serving as a helpful resource to all parents. All families are encouraged to review this “Frequently Asked Questions Handbook” prior to the start of the school year.

PTA Welcome Reception

The Hollywood School Parent Teacher Association will be hosting a “Welcome Reception” for all parents on Tuesday, August 30th from 8:20-11:25 in the Hollywood Library. Parents are encouraged to stop by this reception to learn more about the PTA, become a member of the PTA, sign up for committees, or simply enjoy time connecting with other parents while having some refreshments!

On behalf of the entire Hollywood School staff, we are looking forward to a wonderful 2011-2012 school year! We are excited to welcome back all of our returning students, and we are also thrilled to extend a warm welcome to our new Hollywood students. Please do not hesitate to contact the school at any time if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing all students next week, and embarking upon a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,
Miss Mindy Keller
Principal, Hollywood School

