

Elmwood News

August/September 2017

Principal, Leigh Daily dailyl@limashawnee.com

Guidance Counselor, Shannon O'Connor shannono@limashawnee.com

Office: 419-998-8090

Attendance: 419-222-6384

Guidance: 419-998-8079

Welcome Back!

As always, I hope you had a fun and relaxing summer. Open House for first and second grade starts at 4:30 on Tuesday, August 22nd. Don't forget to stop in the cafeteria before or after you visit your teacher. You will have the opportunity to shop the garage sale, have a sweet snack, sign up for Girl/Boy Scouts, talk to bus personnel, pay school/lunch fees and view spirit wear items.

Please join us as we continue our developmental approach to learning at Elmwood Primary. This year there will be much discussion and reflection on how well we execute the 3 Rs- Rigor, Relevance and Relationships. I welcome any suggestions you may have for me-have a great year!

***Transportation Information**

Track your child's bus / information: How?

Go to Shawnee's website www.limashawnee.com and login using the username (student i.d. number) and password (student date of birth) which will be unique to your child's bus. When entering the date of birth, it must be 8 digits. For example, 1/2/08 would be 01022080 and 11/18/15 would be 11182015.

Bus stops:

As stated in the Ohio Pupil Transportation Operation and Safety Rules: 3301.83.08 pupil transportation management policies C-1, your child is still expected to be at the designated stop prior to the arrival of the bus.

Contact information:

Should you have any questions, please contact the Transportation Department at 419-998-8034.

**Once school begins, if you need to change your busing arrangements on any given day or week, you must call Elmwood's main office before 2:30 p.m. We will not make any changes to your child's arrangements after that.*

Communication and Contact Information

Companion Site: Communication between home and school is essential to student success, so please keep an open line of communication with your child's teacher. I encourage you to visit Elmwood teacher companion sites for current information about your particular classroom. This will also be a place where you can ask questions and the teacher will respond for all to read. Teachers are expected to have these updated biweekly and can be found on Elmwood's homepage. If there are suggestions you have for the companion sites or Elmwood's homepage, please be sure to let me know at daily@limashawnee.com.

School-wide communication: Elmwood continues in its effort to go paperless as much as possible. **All** newsletters and communication packets (including local advertisements) will be transmitted using the School Messenger system. If you have not signed up for receiving alerts via voicemail, text, or email, please visit the Shawnee homepage at www.limashawnee.com to do so. If you do not have access to email, please notify the secretary within two weeks of the start of school so we can send a hard copy home with your child.

Chain of command: In an effort to serve family needs quickly, it is important to contact your classroom teacher immediately for any and all concerns regarding your child. If your child is struggling socially and/or emotionally, please don't hesitate to set up an appointment directly with Ms. O'Connor as well. Of course I am available for all needs; however if you have a conflict with a particular teacher it is important to discuss the issues with him/her first. Then if you still feel your needs are not being met or heard, I will be more than happy to facilitate the communication and resolution to the conflict.

Parent-Student Handbook: The handbook is posted on-line. Please be sure to review policies and procedures with your child. Also, a list of contact information will also be available, such as food services, transportation, special education and technology.

Attendance

In order to provide high quality education and learning, as well as discipline and responsibility, please inform the school of all absences. The attendance line is available to report absences 24 hours a day (419-222-6384). Parents (or emergency contacts) must sign a student in after 9:00 a.m. or sign him or her out before leaving the building. Excessive absences will result in the requirement of a parent/guardian to provide a certificate from a physician to have an absence excused. Consequences are outlined below for students who have excessive absences.

3 Unexcused absences and/or tardies: c ourtesy phone call from the office.

5 Unexcused absences and/or tardies: Letter from the principal informing the family that future unexcused absences or tardies may result in a required doctor's excuse.

7 Unexcused absences: Special Referral meeting with the school and Truancy Officer.

12 Unexcused absences: A truancy complaint may be signed at the Prosecutor's Office.

New Staff

Please join Elmwood in welcoming Shannon O'Connor-Guidance Counselor, Jenaye Schwartz-2nd grade Intervention Specialist and Regina Lyons-permanent substitute. All come to us enthusiastically and ready to share in a new year of learning at the primary level.

Parking

Please do NOT park in the fire lanes. There is additional parking in the back as well as the south parking lot. All vehicles will be asked to move if found in the fire zones at any time during the school day. Thank you for your cooperation! ☺

Student Drop Off/Pick Up

Drop off for students is behind the school. Mrs. O'Connor, guidance counselor, will be directing students into the building starting at 8:30. At drop off students are expected to pull all the way up to the turn around area so that multiple parents can let their children out of vehicles at the same time. Please know that children that come between 8:30-8:40 will sit in the cafeteria until they are dismissed to their classrooms at 8:40. Parents have the option to park in the parking lot and walk students to the door for goodbyes as well; however walking students to their classrooms is prohibited.

If your child is being picked up at the end of the day, you will need to park in the back parking lot and enter through the gymnasium entrance. Students will be waiting in line (by grade level) with one staff member. Parents and/or authorized pick up persons are expected to get in line with their child, waiting to sign out with staff. In order for the process to run smoothly, it will be extremely important that cars are NOT parked along the sidewalk or on the playground. We have spent much time brainstorming ways to ease the process without compromising safety. With almost 1/3 of our population being picked up each day and approximately 75 parking spaces, it is not ever going to be a perfect transition. I appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

Lunch

Lunches can be paid for by sending a check to school with your child but we prefer parents pay by using the EZPay system online. Although this services costs \$1.00 to utilize, I find it to be beneficial to parents as it serves as a good tracking device for your child's cafeteria purchases. We do NOT recommend sending cash. Lunch menus can also be found on the website. If your child packs his or her lunch, please do not pack soda as this is against our school policy as is fast food. We welcome Elmwood parents to eat lunch throughout the school year; however with limited space (and for growth in social development and independence) we feel that one time a month is adequate. Student cost for student lunches is \$2.50 and adult purchases are \$3.25. Should you have any questions about school lunches, please contact Sally Allen, Director of Food Services, at 419-998-8036.

School Fees

School fees can also be paid online through the Shawnee website using the EZPay system. I encourage parents to do this so that there is a clear record of payment. Quarterly grade cards will be held until fees are paid.

Kindergarten-\$45.00

First Grade-\$70.00

Second Grade-\$75.00

Separation Anxiety

The first days of school may be difficult for some of the students resulting in tears and separation anxiety. Although your hearts may be breaking, we find that immediate separation allows for your child to get acclimated to the classroom and it allows the teacher to maximize instructional time.

Intervention Volunteer

At Elmwood we believe that partnering with parents allows us to achieve optimal academic excellence among all our students. I am looking for parent volunteers for 30-45 minutes, one day a week, to provide one on one intervention in three classrooms (15 minutes per classroom). It would be great if we could find five people, (one each day of the week), in order to help some of our students close an achievement gap. If you are interested in doing this, please contact Kelly Wimmers (2nd grade), Jen Steidl (1st grade) or Tiffany Looney (Kindergarten) as soon as possible. Contact information can be found on the webpage. THANK YOU!

Football Games

While supervising your children at the football games please recognize the safety rules below.

1. No footballs will be permitted in the fenced-in areas of the stadium.
2. No football playing or game playing will be permitted in the area from the home ticket booths to the pass gate area at the west end of the stadium.
3. It will be expected that students will be seated in the stadium with either their parents or classmates except when going to the rest rooms or the concession stands.

Reminder: there have been changes made to the fall sports schedule. Please see the webpage or athletic office for a list of these changes.

Teacher Qualifications

You have the right to know about the teaching qualifications of your child's classroom teacher in a school receiving Title I funds. The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires that any local school district receiving Title I funds must notify parents that they may ask about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher. These qualifications include:

1. Whether the teacher has met the Ohio teacher licensing criteria for the grade level and subject areas in which the teacher provides your child instruction.

2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or temporary status that waives state licensing requirements.

3. The undergraduate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate degree or certification (such as National Board Certification) held by the teacher and the field of discipline of certification or degree.

4. Whether your child is provided services by instructional paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Should you have any further questions, please contact Jennie Hefner, Director of Special Services at 419-998-8038.

Upcoming Events

August 22	Open House 1 st and 2 nd Grades only at 4:30 Happy Birthday Miss Wilson & Mr. Rick!
August 23-24	Kindergarten Screening (@ Shawnee Alliance Church)
August 25	Kindergarten Class Lists Posted at 1:00
August 28	Kindergarten Orientation-Boys @ 9:30 Girls @ 12:30
August 29	1 st full day of school for all kindergarten students
September 4	No School-Labor Day
September 6	2 nd Grade DIBELS testing Happy Birthday Mrs. Eickholt!
September 7	1 st Grade DIBELS Testing
September 17	Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally-4:00
September 19	Board Meeting @ 6:00
September 20	2 Hour Delay-Teacher Professional Development
September 21	Kindergarten DIBELS Testing
September 26	Happy Birthday Mrs. Hutchison!
October 1	Happy Birthday Mrs. Myers!
October 5	Fall Picture Day
October 6	Fire Safety Day

October 9	No School-Professional Development Day
October 10	Happy Birthday Mrs. Wohlgamuth and Mrs. Lyons!
October 13	Happy Birthday Mrs. Knott!
October 16	Happy Birthday Mrs. Rosado & Mrs. Daily!
October 17	Board Meeting @ 6:00
October 16 -20	Book Fair
October 16	PTC Meeting @ 6:00
October 18	Donuts with Dads-2 nd grade only
October 19	Family Night-Book Fair
October 23-27	Red Ribbon Week
October 23-27	Bus Driver Appreciation Week
October 27	End of 1 st Quarter
	Happy Birthday Mr. Anthony!