



THE HAPPY HOLLOW HOLLER

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HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL & PTO NEWSLETTER

August 17, 2017

“The goal of education is not to increase the amount of knowledge but to create the possibilities for a child to invent and discover, to create women/men who are capable of doing new things.”

-Jean Piaget



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

August, 2017

Dear Happy Hollow Families:

Welcome everyone! Jean Piaget's quote (seen above if you missed it), was given to me on the occasion of my very first day in college ~ sitting in my very first class, which was Philosophy of Education 101. ~ Needless to say, a few years have passed since that day... However, because it was given to all in the class as a stand-alone slip of paper, and because it was given with the message that there would never be a deeper way to encapsulate the spirit of why we educate ~ I saved it. Finding its way to the top drawer of my dorm desk, then my next dorm desk, into my Resident Assistant desk, onto my first teaching job desk, in and out of every job after that ~ top drawer of my desk ~ it came to its permanent home in the top drawer of my home desk.

Yesterday, when I had at least a million things on my mind, I reached for my stapler located in the top draw of my home desk, and in the whirlwind of being already too late, I managed to unleash Piaget's paper quote, unintentionally letting it flutter to the floor with the style of a maple tree "helicopter" ~ twisting and turning toward the ground, it beckoned by proudly showing off the color of its years and curled posture of its edges.

I had to smile. I had to slow down and I had to pick it up and read it ~ and I most certainly had to share it with all of you. For me, these words are part of my professional "True North". ~ Whenever, I want to consider why I remain so very passionate about education and the whole, process of teaching and learning, this is my "go-to" quote. Of course it doesn't preclude the growth of knowledge ~ inherent in its core is the secret of how to impart knowledge. ~ When we invent, when we discover, we find the inspiration that leads to the path of new things. ~

So, without knowing it, I have been referring to this quote in almost all of my summer newsletters. I usually invite you to rediscover the world through a child's eyes ~ to walk beside our learners as they embark on their journey through the elementary school years ~ to observe first-hand how they build competencies and gain knowledge all through the process of discovery...

Our wonderful world of an elementary school offers the opportunity to create the scaffolding that will enable our young learners to discover the world ~ to rediscover it with their own lenses. And that is the phenomena that occur each and every school day.

The journey is like no other and it is about to begin once again. If you are traveling with us for the first time ~ you can expect a trip that will overflow with opportunity, adventure, wonder and a great deal of fun. Not every part of the journey will be easy and sometimes we hit the travel trials that can be bumpy like turbulence in the sky ~ but we weather those times and the overall trip leaves us recalling each year as one that offered serious learning ~ positive, pensive and productive times and the memories that last a lifetime. ~ If you are an adult, you know that to be true as everyone seems to recall who they had for the elementary grades and at least one, two or many stories to tell.

As happens every year during the hot summer months, the school has been cleaned and readied, staff have met throughout the summer to work on curriculum and complete summer studies together. The PTO has been planning ways to make our opening fun and easy. Bus routes are nearing finish and that means we are almost ready... but not quite. ~ On top of that, you still have many more days to relax and enjoy summer while reading this newsletter to help make your transition from summer to the school year happy and as easy as possible.

To all the families who are joining us for the first time ~ our new kindergarten friends, and new students, we wish you a sincere, special and warm welcome. I feel at this point, I can promise you that soon you will feel at home and a part of the Happy Hollow Community ~ a family of sorts. I can tell you that with confidence because I am in my eleventh year as principal of the school and I have seen it happen every year. It is also my twenty-sixth year in Wayland ~ and because my journey included many years as a teacher, I know firsthand this is a uniquely awe-inspiring community ~ one I am so proud in every way possible to continue to serve as an educator.

At the Happy Hollow School, we work to take care of each other and we strive to bring kindness alive in all we do! Our longstanding motto is "Kindness matters." ~ And we all work to bring it alive and well each day. If you are returning, you know why we chose it and how we continue to make it come alive. I tell the students and firmly believe that our motto is powerful enough that it could bring peace to the world. ~ However, as we can't directly reach the world, we can reach our sphere of influence. So remember, as a community, we know if every member is constantly working to be kind, then all things fall into place.

If all of us are trying to be kind ~ everything that is good matters as well. If one is being kind, one cannot be mean. ~ If one cannot be mean, words are nicer, mistakes are fewer, owned and made right, apologies are a natural part of the course ~ positive play and learning cannot be purposefully interrupted... If one is being kind to one's teacher and one's classmates one must pay attention, follow directions, listen to others' ideas, be serious and hardworking about learning, act in a way so that everyone can learn and follow the classroom rules and routines. ~ If kindness matters ~ we are set to build the strongest of learning postures. If effective effort is part of being kind and respectful to the community, then everyone works his/her best and tries to help others to do the same.

To that end, we use K.I.N.D. as an acronym for remembering our core values made simple. We all worked to come up with the meaning behind each letter and Ms. Pohl, our amazing music teacher put it all together in a Happy Hollow rap. It works like this:

K~ /K/ is for kind. We make kindness matter.
I ~ /I/ is for invest. We invest in learning.
N ~ /N/ is for need. We need to include everyone!
D ~ /D/ is for do. We do our Best.

Kindness matters at Happy Hollow! That is the motto that we all follow!"



Our motto/model in action is one behind which we can stand proudly ~ building strong expectations around learning while also building the character that sets our students on the path for life success. We all know that more than ever, our world depends upon workers that can collaborate respectfully, accept others, consider all ideas and compete for the common good.

At the core of all of these salient work habits is a foundation of kindness. When we say, "Kindness matters." at Happy Hollow, we mean it far beyond a vision seen solely through the eyes of dreamers and wishful thinkers. Our kindness is strong in learning, strong in virtue and it is, most importantly, strong in achievement. ~ Powerful like all of our students and families!

When we say, "Kindness matters.", we are not saying it as a title. It is a ***full sentence*** and its power has the implications to solve most of what falls short in any society. In this way, I know we will have a fantastic year together.

Now to get everyone ready for the start of school, the following is, hopefully, a helpful message, followed by some things you should know about our school. I included it last school year and believe its message is still relevant and a great way to prepare.

A Message to Consider:

Drs. Laurie and Fred Zelinger are a husband and wife team of licensed psychologists with more than 70 years of combined experience working in schools. I included them in this letter during the past two years because their message about reentry or entry to a new school is timeless and invaluable for the start of a productive new year. Thus, I am including it again this year and hope it helps.

Dr. Laurie Zelinger is the author of [Please Explain Anxiety to Me!](#), which is designed to help children learn to manage their worries and fears. Together, the Zelingers told us how to best handle moments when the back-to-school-anxiety monster rears its ugly head for parents and children alike.

The Zelingers' Top 5 Tips for Dealing with Back-to-School Anxiety:

1. Learn as much as you can about the new school. "The more information you get about what you're going to be experiencing, the better," Dr. Laurie Zelinger says. "Having information ahead of time tends to help you figure out what the sources of anxiety are." Find out as much about your child's new school as possible, such as what your child's typical class day looks like, or what the classroom rules or expectations are. Many elementary schools distribute parent handbooks before school with this information. If you're well-informed, you will be less anxious and more able to ease your child's worries.
2. Plan your morning in advance. "What's more stressful for the child than having a parent running around the house in the morning, screaming, 'You're gonna miss your bus!!!'" Dr. Fred Zelinger notes, figure out logistics at least 2 weeks in advance, earlier if possible. "When and where is drop-off? How does pick-up work? What does the child need to bring with them every day? How much time does my child need to get ready? Knowing the answers to these simple questions ahead of time can reduce anxiety significantly in both parents and children," Dr. Laurie Zelinger adds.
3. Familiarize yourselves with the school. "Try to give your child as much exposure to school as you can in a non-threatening, playful way," says Dr. Laurie Zelinger. The Zelingers recommend spending as much time on the school grounds as possible in the summer. Something as simple as taking a walk around the buildings or eating a snack at the school playground can help familiarize the space to children.
4. Play school at home. According to the Zelingers, a role play game of school is a great way to introduce the concept. Use a whiteboard and have your child play teacher, and you play the student. Come up with ideas for your "school rules" together as a way of introducing this potentially new world to your child.

5. Watch for signs. "There are three things parents should pay attention to: the frequency, intensity, and duration of any symptoms of anxiety," Dr. Fred Zelinger says. It's normal to be nervous, but when the nervousness interferes with the child's daily sleeping and eating patterns, it might be a sign of something more serious. If your child exhibits significant symptoms of distress for two consecutive days, and if you know this is not typical behavior for your child, it's time to seek assistance. A call to a pediatrician, doing some research, or contacting a child specialist, will help determine the right type of intervention.

Read the full interview with Drs. Laurie and Fred Zelinger below for more detailed tips on dealing with back-to-school anxiety. You can also find more resources on [Dr. Laurie Zelinger's Website](#).

I also like to remind every child and adult that as a new school year begins, you may all be feeling a bit nervous. It is natural and part of the nervousness is the excitement of the unknown. Everyone who has ever attended a school or even a college, has a touch of nervousness and excitement when each new school year begins. It is a perfectly natural way to feel. However, try to remember that once we are all together and you sit with your new class and teacher, all those feelings will melt away. Remember and know that you are so important to me and to our school. ~Your teachers and our whole staff join me in telling you that we really want you to arrive. We can't wait until you are here!

Elementary school is that distinctive time when there is an enchantment to the opening of school ~ a magic ~ an enthusiasm for growing up. Students gather new school supplies, put on new clothes when the smaller sizes no longer fit. Whatever they pack to bring, the most important part of the day's outfit happens when they enter the school. They try on their new grade as if wearing a gold medal around their necks and at that very moment, every single child expects that he/she will be successful ~ that this will be the best year ever! They are ready and it is our job to keep that spirit alive and well for 180 days. To that end, we are also prepared.

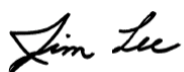
In order to meet the needs of every child, we will continue our practice of having staff gather once a week as grade level teams in meetings called Professional Learning Communities to plan for our Response to Intervention (RTI) work. We know our RTI model supports our learners so they can challenge their minds academically ~ move to next levels of proficiency and find the comfortable challenge that makes learning interesting, exciting and ongoing.

Assembly meetings, concerts, open houses, field trips, cultural enrichment programs, a talent show and so much more will round out the learning, so that the journey is set for the serious student growth that crosses curricular, social and emotional development and becomes the optimal educational program that considers the needs of the whole child.

With our highly professional, competent and dedicated faculty, an active, committed and supportive parent community and students who are well cared for, loved and set to learn, we are definitely prepared for the year's journey. For those of you who know me well, you know the journey of which I speak. It is the one I mention every year and includes: possibility, challenge, inspires curiosity, takes all to new levels of academic and affective growth and it most importantly implies that there will be others along the way ~ our collaborators. Welcome one and all! You are all a part of the 2017-18 Happy Hollow School family ~ As you walk through the arched mural that holds the doors of our school ~ remember its message invites you to a "Community of learning ~ friendship, respect and scholarship."

Please read and save the rest of this letter. There is important information on procedures, dates and opportunities ~ refer to it as often as you need. ~ It is not to be read in one sitting. I am looking forward to seeing all of my old friends ~ from the grandparents to the youngest members that define the Happy Hollow community. If you're new or just beginning at the Happy Hollow School, I can't wait to have the honor of meeting you. All are welcome in this place!

All best,



Principal's List of Things to Bring to School

(My list is the same every year and so far I've had a really good response!):

You may pack these in your back pack, put them in your pocket or carry them in your hand... Once you are here, you should take them out and put them in your hearts and minds. They become the recipe for success. We'll mix it and create the end product as the year moves along.

1. Bring a positive attitude.
2. Bring an endless capacity to be willing to challenge your many capabilities.
3. Bring a strong sense of fun lightly wrapped so as not to crush it in any way.
4. Bring boxes of a readiness to develop your many talents.
5. Bring an ongoing supply of imagination and lots.
6. Bring respect and kindness for others.
7. Bring a smile that you can pull out of your pocket at a moment's notice.



Note: You may replenish each supply as often as necessary. The whole staff and I will help to keep them full, on hand and ready for use at all times.

Schedule for the opening Days:

Kindergarten Screening: You should have received your appointment for Tuesday, September 5th and Wednesday, September 6th. Our kindergarten friends will come to school only for kindergarten screening ~ a special time to meet the classroom teacher and to help us to get to know all of the students a bit better. This is not an assessment for placement, or one that in any way marks your child. It is simply a chance for our staff to meet you and to better understand where to begin with whom as the school year commences. All kindergarten students will begin classes on Wednesday, September 7th.

Thursday, August 31st: A time for all kindergarten families and those new to our school to meet, greet and go on a scavenger hunt to better know the school...

*1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

~New Family, Kindergarten, will participate in

2:00 p.m. ~ Outside PTO
the back fun!

a scavenger hunt, classroom visits and PTO activities follow outside on
playground.

Monday, September 4th

~ No School Labor Day

Tuesday, September 5th

~ First Day of Classes for Grades 1-5

Thursday, September 7th

~First Day of Classes for Kindergarten Students

Staffing Additions and Building Updates:

***Kimberly Coleman (Building Substitute).** Kimberly has finished her pre-requisite studies in Speech-Language Pathology at Northwestern University. She will also be sitting for the tests to qualify as a Massachusetts certified reading specialist. She brings a great deal of expertise to the job and will partner well with Anita and Anne! Welcome Kimberly!

***Latoya Downs (METCO Coordinator)** will work across the three elementary schools, just as Latisha Dukes Pearson did in the past. She has a Bachelor of Science in psychology from Boston University and a Masters of Social Work from Sommons with much related experience. She brings the experience and qualifications that make her an extremely positive addition to the METCO staff and our Happy Hollow faculty. Welcome aboard, Latoya!

Our TAs and special educators move grade levels and work with classes on a two-year rotating basis, so there may be some familiar faces and new ones as children meet those who support their learning throughout every day!

*****As our Happy Hollow faculty/family continues to grow and change, so too, does the excellence that makes us who we are!

Around the halls of Happy Hollow:

- Rooms ~ 3 (Miriam Morrison), 9 (Kori Rogers) and 10 (Trang Aronian) ~ and the strip of flooring in the hallway between the cafeteria and room have all had the flooring replaced with shiny new tile!
- Room 1A (Deede Bergeron) had the deep sink from when it was formally an art room removed. Shelving will replace the sink area! ~ More space! Yes!
- The lockers in Room 9 (Kori Rogers) have been removed and will be replaced with shelving for storage! ~ More space! Yes, again!
- The staff work room will be moved back to its original space. It has been tiled, painted and all the hook-ups are in place to resume using the copiers to scan and copy as we did prior to last year's temporary move. Shelving will be installed.
- The nurse's office is set to be complete, but due to the final work, we will keep her in the main office for the first two weeks of school so she can set up before school opens and be ready to service students when school opens.
- The staff room will be extended to its new size ~ minus the shower and bathroom. The cabinets and sink will be installed by September 11th.
- The former men's handicapped bathroom will be a unisex handicapped bathroom and open to all ~ complete with tile and new fixtures.
- Our extraordinary custodial staff, which this summer consisted of Willie, Jim and Ricardo, have painted many areas of the building, stripped and waxed floors, shampooed rugs ~ old and new until they are as clean as they can get and did this while working around the asbestos removal, tiling and in tandem with outside workers. They have made the building sparkle as they do every year and I know you join me in wishing them many, many thanks!
- The book room will remain between the female restroom and Mr. O'Connor's office.

In Progress:

- The completion of the staff room ~
- A conference room space in the office where the nurse's office has been ~

Toward that end, there are many unsung heroes who worked so hard over the summer ~ It is time to sing their praises:

Thank you to the Exceptional Summer Staff:

Willie Hernandez, Ricardo Henriquez and Jim Myers were the summer custodial team. There were so many things for them to do this summer due to all of the building projects that I mentioned earlier in this letter. As always, they went out-of-their way to paint, clean and do many things that often go unnoticed but make a big difference in the maintenance of our building. Any work to support the projects including painting the work room, the nurse's office and cafeteria line, were done before anyone could ask. I am so very grateful! **Pat Morris** worked to advocate for our projects to be completed in a timely manner and I know we are all grateful to him for his work toward that end and for all of our facility-related projects.

Gwenne Foreman's sixth year as our lead administrative assistant for the summer season ~ ran like a well-oiled machine ~ She did a great deal of work to ensure that we can move to our new Student Information System ~ eSchool Plus. We are so very fortunate that she returns to us each year and cares for the opening of our school both personally and professionally. I know you all join me in sending her the heartfelt thanks she deserves so well.

Leslie Corner ~ Leslie was in working this summer as well. Often helping from her home-computer and covering the office when Gwenne was on vacation. She emails from her vacation destination and never has Happy Hollow far from her heart and mind ~ always working! We are all so very grateful ~ for all she does all year as well!

Lynn Kennedy ~ Lynn did all of the receiving for our ordering this summer. She worked tirelessly in the hot cafeteria unpacking orders and checking to make sure everything was there and ready to go. We would not be ready to go without Lynn's fine work! Many thanks, Lynn!

Beth Crozier and Walter Rockwell ~ Scheduling is an art and a puzzle. It requires great concentration, skill and a multitude of patience. The task is daunting at best and becomes more-so with each year. This year, they even had to do work for the eSchool set up. The job is huge and they did an extraordinary job in all aspects of creating the schedule. Thank you barely covers the amount of gratitude I feel toward them and I know you join me in sending the same thanks.

Summer Collages for Our Halls:

PLEASE participate! We want all students represented.

It has become a Happy Hollow tradition to decorate our halls with your summer experiences and we want that to continue this year too. Therefore, I am asking you to take a piece of white 8 1/2" x 11" paper. Use markers, make a collage, use paints, photos, write a poem or anything that represents the best part(s) of your summer.



*Remember, good times don't have to be fancy vacations or big events; they might be fun times playing in your neighborhood or a relaxing day of swimming. You may even post a favorite photo of you, your family or friends.

*You might want to include how you continued your service learning projects or community service endeavors.

*Show how kindness matters if you'd like ~ that always brings our school alive as that is our motto!

*You might show the right way to play a game such as soccer.

*You might show helping behaviors.

*You might show friends eating lunch together ~anything that shows our community at its best.

It can be as simple as one or two photos or as detailed as you would like.

Again, you may use markers, make a collage, use paints, a photo or write a poem. We will collect your work by grade level in boxes that will be labeled in the front lobby. Your memories will be mounted on colored paper and proudly displayed in our halls. Please try to bring your finished product to the school before September 2nd so that we can hang up as many as possible before school officially begins. Let's show our school spirit and try for a summer piece from everyone! (We had one from almost every child last year.) Wouldn't it be great if we had one from every single student this year?

Added information you'll want to know:

Important Information for the first day of school and for knowing the weekly time schedule:

*Our school doors will open Tuesday, September 5th at 8:30 a.m. and dismissal is at 3:15 p.m. Please remember, our school day is now extended by 15 minutes.

*Wednesday, September 6th begins our Wednesday schedule, where students are dismissed so staff may attend in service training. This means students are dismissed at 2:05 p.m. each Wednesday ~ for all children in grades K – 5.

*Kindergarten screening will be held by appointment on Tuesday, September 5th and Wednesday, September 6th.

*Kindergarten students will begin their first day of school at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 7th.

Our doors to the school open at 8:30 a.m. **This is important to note because if you drop your child or children off prior to that time, they may not enter the building and we cannot provide outside supervision.** We request that you work to arrive a bit before 8:45 a.m. (and most certainly not after) as school begins right at 8:45 a.m. and it is always best for students to have time to get ready and organized for their day prior to the official start.

School hours are:

8:45 a.m. to 2:05 p.m. Wednesdays

8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. (M, T, TH, F)



Sign up for Listserv and opt-out:

The HH Listserv and district Listserv are the ways through which newsletters and all other important messages are communicated. You must sign up. If you are unable to do so for any reason, please contact our office so we know to contact you and get information to you via an alternate route. Thank you.

Opt out is your opportunity to request how your family's information is shared within the Happy Hollow School community and media

Listserv:



https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001shuT2XU7mN9dS2wPtYspuqR5dsbuRSY1yRbqbl a5DruzWtBV6aePZ8EvDoKqgcUiycVv_2MG9QQvPjqUw7Xa7w%3D%3D

Opt out:



<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfoLw4rshsoR60xLK0Y2D0XHrdd6HCYOOONEwjgQ8ozHOqm Sw/viewform>

We will have two Curriculum Nights once again:

These are meetings where classroom teachers share the curriculum and classroom procedures and expectations for the school year. You don't want to miss them!

Grades 3, 4 & 5 from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 7th
Grades K, 1 & 2 from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 14th

*Curriculum nights are an adult event and we respectfully ask that you not bring any children

School Meeting Assemblies:

Assemblies run from 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. two times a month on Monday mornings! This is a change for this year. Instead of meeting every week, we will meet every other. We will let you know the rotation prior to the first assembly. Everyone is always welcome! Join us when you can or when your child and/or his/her class is presenting something extra special!

A Reminder from the Food Service Department:

Students are not allowed to go back into the kitchen after making their lunch purchase. They should choose everything they want when they go through the line. I appreciate your help in reminding your children of this practice and guiding them to plan their meal choices.



DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES FOR HAPPY HOLLOW SCHOOL

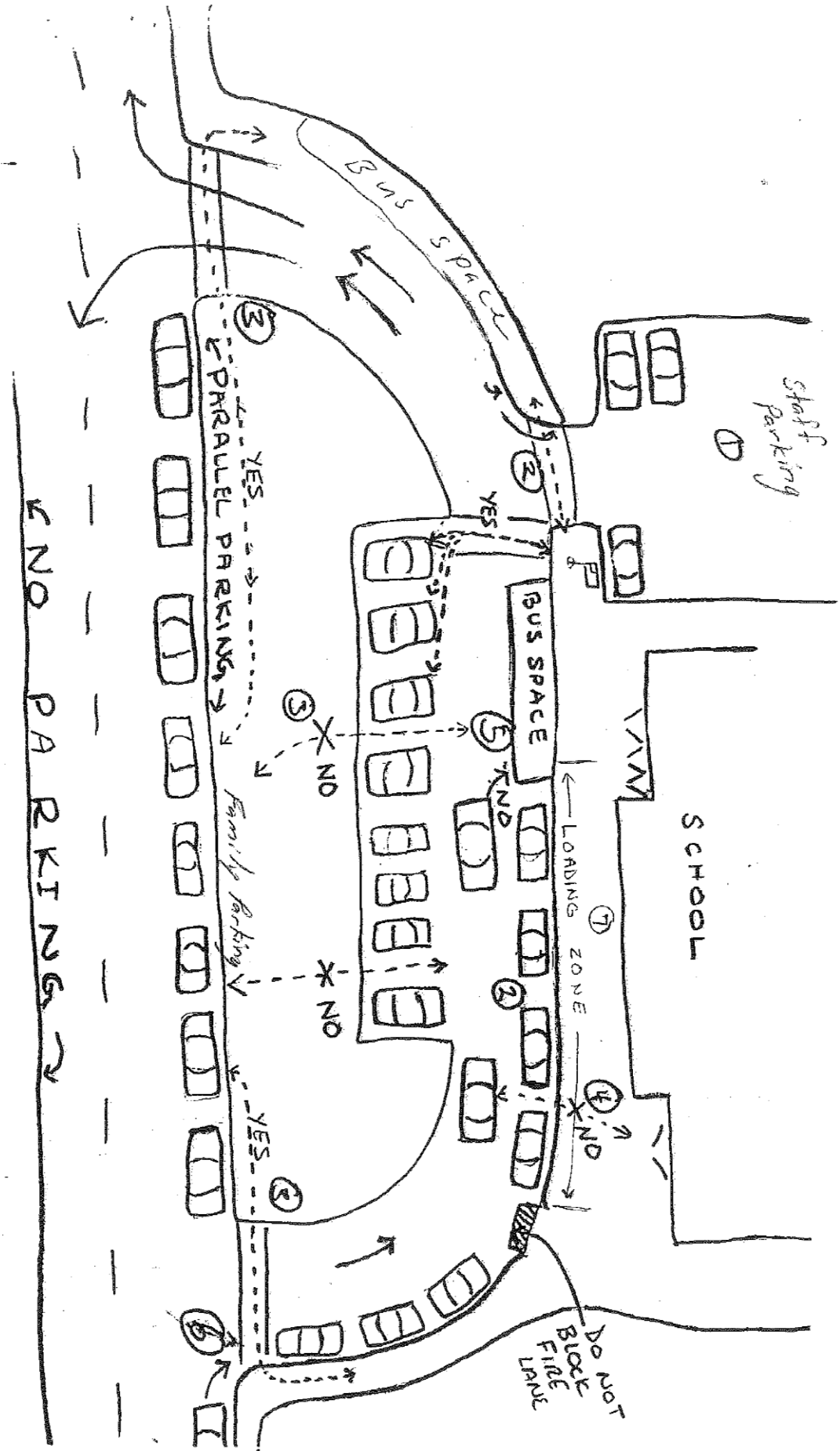
1. There are two lanes of traffic in front of our school. The one closest to the building is the drop off line. The other is a live lane where traffic will pull out from the drop off line to exit or they may be driving through to park in the parking lot. (The parking spaces in front of the building are for staff only. No one may pull out of those spaces during drop off or pick up as it forces the driver to back into the live lane of traffic.)
2. Please drive slowly and be aware that cars will be moving in and out of the traffic area. There is a period of congestion, but if everyone remains aware and patient, the whole process takes 15 minutes or less from beginning to end. This is to admit and dismiss over 400 children. It is impressive and moves smoothly when everyone cooperates.
3. There is no left-hand turn when exiting our driveway M-F from 8:00 a.m. - 8:40 a.m. and from 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. on M,T,Th and F. ~
4. **Wednesday dismissal is from 2:05 p.m. - until 2:20 p.m. at the latest.**
5. Please pull all the way up to the end of the sidewalk in front of the school when you are unloading children. The line slows down when all the spaces to the end of the sidewalk are not filled.
6. No one is allowed to pass a bus with flashing red lights. (Yellow flashing lights are warnings and you may pass a bus with yellow flashing lights.) If you are in the live lane and a bus is unloading, you must wait behind the bus.
7. The drop off lane in front of the school in the morning is a live lane of moving traffic. You may not park or leave your car in this lane. School personnel will help your child exit your car safely. Make sure the children are seated on the right side or passenger's side of the car. They may not exit the driver's side of the car as this is the live lane and very dangerous.
8. At drop off time, if you would like to park and say good-bye to your child at the front door, you may park in the side parking lot and use the sidewalk to safely proceed to the doors.
9. If students arrive after 8:45 a.m., they are officially late for school and they must stop in the office to report that they are present and to receive a tardy slip.
10. Watch for pedestrians in crosswalks and on the sides of the road.
11. At dismissal: No child should be exiting the side door into the side parking lot. This is not a pick-up area and is very dangerous. It also slows things down because staff exits from this lot and when we add those trying to avoid the pick-up lane, it slows things down for everyone. Please cooperate and help your child to see you following the rules just as he/she is expected to do during his/her school day. Nothing sends a stronger message to a child than the actions of the adults around him/her.
12. Pets: By state law, no animals are allowed on school property without specific permission from the principal. In such cases, precautions are taken and arrangements made to ensure that there are no allergies to the animals and that the environment is safe. These times would include show and tell or the like, not drop off or dismissal times.
13. Wayland Police will be out in full force looking for those who do not honor the speed limits on the roads around our schools and neighborhoods... You do not want a note from them! Those notes linger long!

Thank you for your cooperation in all of these matters... they really do matter!



Key

1. Park only in designated areas.
2. Remain in vehicle when in fire lane.
3. Use crosswalks at all times.
4. Load and unload students only at the curb.
5. Preserve open bus loading area.
6. Maintain single file line for pick-up and drop-off.
7. Children must be picked up in loading zone area only.



Dates to Get the Year Started:

Thursday August 31	Scavenger Hunt	1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Happy Hollow
Friday, September 1 Monday, September 4	No School Labor Day weekend	
Tuesday, September 5	First Day of Classes grade 1-5	All day Happy Hollow
Tuesday, September 5 and Wednesday, September 6	Kindergarten Screening by appointment	By appointment Happy Hollow
Thursday, September 7	First Day of Classes for all Kindergarten Students	
Thursday, September 7	PTO Welcome Back Coffee	8:30 a.m. in front of the school Rain location: Happy Hollow café
Thursday, September 7	Curriculum Night Grades 3,4 & 5 adults only please	7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Happy Hollow
Thursday, September 14	Curriculum Night Grades K, 1 & 2 adults only please	7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Happy Hollow
Thursday, September 14	Picture Day all grade levels	
Thursday, September 21	No School Rosh Hashanah	
Monday, October 9	No School Columbus Day	

This and That from the Principal's Office:

Follow us on Twitter! [@HappyHollow1778](https://twitter.com/HappyHollow1778)

Transportation:

*Please direct your questions to the business office regarding payments, payment assistance and route related information.

*You can visit the student transportation website or contact the transportation coordinator Dianne Potter at :Dianne_Potter@wayland.k12.ma.us to learn more about the transportation program.

*Bus transportation may not be used for setting up play-dates. All play-dates and transportation to them must be made privately. You may arrange to have your child picked up by another parent by writing to his/her teacher granting that permission.

*Students are not allowed to bring friends home on their buses unless the student already rides on that same bus. In that case, the student who is getting off at a different stop must present written notification to his/her teacher indicating that he/she has permission to get off at a different stop. No changes in stops may be made during the first two weeks of school.



Safety, Safety, Safety!

- All doors to the school will remain locked during the school day and visitors will be required to ring the buzzer, identify themselves and state their business to gain access to the building. Each person should buzz in individually. **Please do not hold the door open for a person entering behind you. Please do not let anyone into the building as you leave or wait in the lobby. Students should never open the door for anyone (even their own parent).**
- All visitors must report to the office to sign-in **and wear a visitor's badge** while in the building.
- Everyone who walks the halls of our building must be CORIed or escorted. Please fill out one early so you are cleared to participate in all school-related and volunteer activities. CORIs remain valid for three years. If you do not know if your CORI is still valid, our office staff is happy to look it up for you.
- If you are dismissing your child early, you must sign him/her out at the office before he/she can be dismissed. Children will be dismissed to the office, please do not go down to their classroom during instructional time.
- Help us keep the phone lines open, and allow your children to focus on their learning by making all play dates and travel arrangements before arriving to school. Thanks!
- Please call the school if your child is going to be absent. Our Safe to Schools Program only works well if we have timely information.

Safe To School Program Procedures for ALL Happy Hollow Families:

- **All tardies and absences must be reported to the front office.**
- **Families phone the school (508-358-8641 option#1) or email hh_attendance@wayland.k12.ma.us before 8:45 AM** and leave a message stating that their child(ren) will be absent or tardy. Message should include: child's name, teacher's name, date(s) of absence and reason. Anticipated future absences or late arrivals can also be called or emailed in ahead of time.
- The office staff keeps a log of all calls and emails.
- Classroom attendance is sent to the office and cross checked with the messages at 8:45 AM

If a child is *still* unaccounted for, the office staff then:

- Rechecks the child's classroom
- Contacts the parents/guardians at all phone numbers on file
- Phones emergency contacts
- Principal or designee drives to child's home
- Police are contacted



Phones, Related Phone Information and Use of Electronic Devices During School Hours:

- **It is imperative that parents are accessible by telephone at all times that their child is in our care! The school must have your proper contact information for this purpose.**



- Cell phones and electronic devices are not allowed to be visible during school hours ~ they may not be used at any time. This includes all areas that are school property. Students must store cell phones and electronic devices in their book bags upon arriving on school property and may not take them out until they have left the property at the end of the day. They may not store them in their pockets or desks. Any such items that are visible to a staff member will be confiscated and stored in the principal's office until a parent or guardian comes to retrieve them. Please remind your child of this important rule if he/she uses a cell phone on the way to school or on the way home after school.



- Texting is never allowed during the school day.
- Help us keep the phone lines open by making **travel/dismissal arrangements** and play dates before arriving to school. Students are not allowed to set up play dates during the day.

Permission to Put Your Family Names and Address in the HH Student/Family:

Each year, we print a Happy Hollow Student/Family Directory that lists all of our students as part of a class list. A student listing includes the student's name, address, city, zip code, parent/guardian names and a phone number.

If you do not wish to be listed in this directory:

If you do not wish to be listed in this directory or if you would like to exclude any of the above mentioned information from being listed, please indicate which section(s) you would like to omit by filling out the [opt-out form](#). **If we do not hear from you, all of the information listed above will be included in our directory**

Lost and Found:

We will continue to use the bins located outside the resource room area and clearly marked to easily sort items. Please visit them as soon as you know an item is missing. We will make periodic donations throughout the year to those in need and this will keep our hall tidy.



Please help! Remind others if they did not receive this letter to sign up for our Listserv.

Please visit our [school home page](#). There you will find a [link to sign up for our E-News](#). This Listserv is our main means of communication with you. Our newsletters and other pertinent information are sent on-line. You will also find information on our website such as the school calendar, our staff roster, lunch menus, our school handbooks and much more. Hard copies are only sent to you if you are unable to access information via the Internet and you must request them from our head administrative assistant, Leslie Corner (508) 358-8641. Otherwise, our district is working to go green whenever possible.

[click here to sign up for our enews](#)



PTO News and Events

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR MySchoolAnywhere!

If you are new to Happy Hollow, don't forget to register your family for the **FREE PTO online, district-wide, family directory** through MySchoolAnywhere. Parents can enter and manage their own data and an email address is the only requirement to register.

Go to: join.myschoolanywhere.com

Enter the invitation code: wayland (all lower case) and follow the prompts to enter your information.

When you register, you will be given the opportunity to contribute to Gift Your Child. If you do not want to contribute at that time, just exit the screen. (Be on the lookout for more information about Gift Your Child coming soon.)

After you register, you will receive a confirmation e-mail stating your registration was received. You will receive a second email once the administrator approves and accepts your account. (For security purposes, the administrator will be confirming that anyone who applies to be included in the directory is, in fact, a family in our school district.)

Please contact Happy Hollow's administrator, [Jennifer Pearlman](mailto:jenpearlman00@gmail.com) at jenpearlman00@gmail.com if you have questions.

DONT FORGET: If you have already signed up and are a part of the My School Anywhere online family/student directory, it's time to "graduate" your child! Go into your account and select your child's teacher for the 2017-2018 school year. (They have already been bumped up a grade in the system. We just need you to update their teacher.)

GET THE MySchoolAnywhere APP FOR YOUR PHONE



SCAVENGER HUNT FOR KINDERGARTENERS and STUDENTS THAT ARE NEW TO THE SCHOOL – Siblings Welcome!

Date: Thursday, August 31st

Time: 1-2 p.m. (Please arrive between 12:45 and 1:00 PM)

Location: The Scavenger Hunts starts at the front entrance of the Happy Hollow School

All kindergarteners, as well as students that are new to the school, are invited to a scavenger hunt at the Happy Hollow school. Parents and students follow clues to learn their way around the building. (Children may also be accompanied by grandparents, babysitters or other caregivers if parents are unavailable on this date.) The last stop will be a visit to your child's classroom to say hello to their teacher. Stay for popsicles and some playtime with fellow classmates on the playground.

Please reach out to [Sheetal Acharya](mailto:Sheetal.Acharya@happyhollowpto@gmail.com) at happyhollowpto@gmail.com with questions.

WELCOME BACK COFFEE on the first full day for kindergarteners
- Everyone welcome

Date: Thursday, September 7th

Time: 8:30 AM, at morning drop-off by the kindergarten entrance

Please join us to greet your old friends and meet some new ones at our annual back-to-school coffee.

SMILE FOR SCHOOL PICTURE DAY!

Date: Thursday, September 14th

Provides a great memory for your family and gives back to the school, as well.

Photo envelopes and package information will be sent home in your child's backpack in early September. Please fill it out and return it in the backpack to your teacher *even if you do not wish to purchase any photos*. EVERY CHILD WILL BE PHOTOGRAPHED whether you purchase them or not.

We will have a Re-Take Day for any absent students or if you are not pleased with the photos. Re-takes and the opportunity to have your Happy Hollow Siblings Photo taken will happen in November. For more information, please contact Carla Stafford cgstafford@staffordboys.com or Daniela Vinci vincid2004@yahoo.com

* Scholarships are available. Please see Mr. Lee or your child's teacher.

KICK-OFF PTO BOARD MEETING – All are welcome!

Tuesday, September 12th at 8:45 AM in the Happy Hollow cafeteria

Meetings are open to the entire membership and everyone is encouraged to attend with any questions, ideas or suggestions. Little ones in tow are always welcome!

JOIN the HAPPY HOLLOW PTO on FACEBOOK

We'll keep you informed about future events and let you know what the PTO has going on around the school. We'll publish photos so you feel like you were there and can talk to your child about their experience.

It's a closed group, so an administrator will add you as a member. We will only add people that we have verified are members of the Happy Hollow PTO community.



PTO Volunteer Needs

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE WELCOME BACK COFFEE ON SEPT. 7TH!

To volunteer through [SignUp.com](http://signup.com) go to: <http://signup.com/go/JnVukgj>

Happy Hollow PTO EVENTS CALENDAR 2017-2018

EVENT	DATE	TIME	CONTACT
Gift Your Child Campaign: Part 1	August – November	N/A	Tarrah Zedower
Scavenger Hunt for all kindergarteners and new students (parents and/or caregivers participate; siblings welcome)	Thursday, Aug. 31,	12:45 PM – Check in 1:00 – 2:00 PM – Hunt 2:00 – 2:30 PM – Meet/Greet	Sheetal Acharya
Welcome Back Coffee for Parents	Thursday, Sept.	8:30 AM	Sheetal Acharya
Curriculum Night: Grades 3-5	Thursday, Sept. 7	7:00 – 7:45 PM	Sheetal Acharya
School Picture Day	Thursday, Sept. 14	9:00 – 11:00 AM	Daniela Vinci
Curriculum Night: Grades K-2	Thursday, Sept. 14	7:00 – 7:45 PM	Sheetal Acharya
Teacher and Staff Appreciation Breakfast	September	TBD	Debbie Bressler
PTO Board Meeting	September	TBD	Sheetal Acharya
Quarterly Town-wide PTO Meeting 1	Friday, Sept. 22	9:00 AM	Jennifer Pearlman
Book Fair	Wednesday, Oct. 25 – Friday, Oct. 27	All Day	Brooke Stein
Happy Hollow Movie Night	Friday, Oct. 27	5:50 PM – Doors open 6:30 PM – Movie	Melissa Hartford
Toy Drive for Foster Children	Nov. – Dec.	N/A	Beth Rothschild
Teacher and Staff Appreciation Event	December	TBD	Debbie Bressler
Quarterly Town-wide PTO Meeting 2	Friday, Dec. 8	9:00 AM	Jennifer Pearlman
Gift Your Child Campaign: Part 2 – Backpack Auction	Spring	N/A	Sam Richter
Quarterly Town-wide PTO Meeting 3	Friday, Mar. 9	9:00 AM	Jennifer Pearlman
All Elementary Bingo Night	Spring	TBD	Julie Suratt
Happy Hollow Talent Show	Spring	TBD	Christine Walsh
Teacher and Staff Appreciation Event	Spring	TBD	Debbie Bressler
Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast	Spring	TBD	Debbie Bressler
Book Fair	Spring	All Day	Brooke Stein
Quarterly Town-wide PTO Meeting 4	Friday, Jun. 8	9:00 AM	Jennifer Pearlman
PTO Board Meeting & Annual Thank You Brkfst	June	TBD	Sheetal Acharya
End of Year Picnic	June 2018	5:30 – 7:30 PM	Sheetal Acharya

The 2017-2018 Calendar of Events is also available on the Happy Hollow PTO Website (*Thanks Divya Ranjan!!!*)

<http://waylandpto.org/happy-hollow-ptu/happy-hollow-events>