

East Fairhaven School September Newsletter



WELCOME BACK

Can you believe it? Yes, the start of another new school year. Every year I still look around in amazement at how lucky we are to have such a beautiful school with all that it can offer. As I took some new families on a tour I found myself commenting, "Now, the library is really my favorite place in the whole school." But with an art room, project room, music room and an unbelievable gym what is not to like? But a school is not great just because of the building. What makes a school great is the staff, students and parents working together as a community to help all children succeed. Success is measured not only by academic achievement but the growth of the whole child academically, socially, and emotionally.

So as we begin this new school year I invite you to be partners with your child's teacher, our staff and myself in making this the best year ever for your child and all the children of East Fairhaven.

Open House

This year we are trying something a little different for Open House. I am planning to open the doors @ 5:30PM. Parents will be asked to join me in the gym for a brief Welcome Address including new information about programming and resources at the school. At 6:00PM parents will then be able to proceed to classrooms to meet their child's teacher. Open House is your opportunity to go into your child's classroom, see the work that they are doing, and meet the teacher. Remember it is not the best time for conferences about your child. We do encourage you to sign-up for conferences which will be held in November. Each teacher will have a sign-up sheet in their classroom.

Volunteering

We have many volunteers coming into the building to help us in the classroom, library and lunchroom. There are so many ways that volunteers help and support our programs, the children and the staff. If you would like to try volunteering for even an hour a week you just need to complete a CORI form with a copy of your driver's license.

Clip and Return

Yes, I want to volunteer for: (Circle One) Cafeteria Library

I am available: Day _____ Time: _____

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____ Child's classroom: _____

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School Council-I am always looking for a few parents to be members of the East Fairhaven School Council. The School Council members consist of teachers and two representatives from the business community. Meetings are usually held once a month at 3:15PM on either Tuesdays or Wednesdays. The council is charged with establishing goals for the school, monitoring our progress and developing the School Improvement Plan. Please call me at 508-979-4058 or email at glucas@fairhavenps.org if you are interested.

Alert Now System

At the beginning of the year we sent home emergency form sheets that we asked each household to update. The purpose of course is having the most accurate information about how to contact you and others who may pick up your child at school. Please continue to inform us if there are any changes. Our secretaries are busy updating all files in the computer, anticipating that we will be using the Alert Now system to notify you in the future about such things as closing of school due to weather, delays in opening or unplanned early dismissals.

Peace Builders

Peace Builders is our proactive school wide program used as a school community to teach, practice and encourage positive social interactions. September's theme is, "What is Peace?" and . Every classroom will be engaging in activities and discussions around the central theme for the month.

Dismissal Times and Procedures:

**Please do not call after 2:15 to change your child's bus or walker status.

- Walkers in grades 1-5 are dismissed from the front door beginning at 2:50. We ask parents to be waiting in front.
- We do not allow children to go into the parking lot to meet parents in their car for obvious safety reasons.
- Busses begin dismissing at 2:50 and continue until 3:10. Children are escorted up the hallways by staff and they are escorted onto the busses.

Most of the time the busses are on schedule. However, there are times when a particular bus is late and therefore it leaves our school later than usual. We will not be able to call parents when this occurs but please feel free to contact the office if you have any questions.

Important Dates:

- Half Days/ Noon Dismissal
September 15th
October 20th
- Open House-5:30-7:00 PM
Tuesday, September 20th grades 3-5
Wednesday, September 21st - grades prk-2
- Conferences
November

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