

# **Stratford Road Elementary School**

33 Bedford Road Plainview, New York 11803 (516) 434-3389 www.pobschools.org

Alison Clark, Ph.D. *Principal* 

Lynn Winters
Assistant Principal

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# Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back! The Plainview-Old Bethpage Schools will open on Tuesday, September 4, and will be in session for a full day. Regular school hours for Stratford Road are 9:20am to 3:20pm. All children will report directly to their assigned rooms. Kindergarteners are to come to school wearing the bus passes included in the previous transportation mailing. Additionally, they will wear the enclosed stickers to be worn on their shirts for the first five days of school. Staff will be available to help children find their rooms.

#### ABSENCE:

Our district has a First Alert Program at each of the elementary schools. It is essential that the school be contacted when a student is absent. <u>PLEASE CALL THE FIRST ALERT NUMBER</u>, 434-3405, <u>BETWEEN 4:00pm and 9:30am</u> and provide your child's name, reason for absence, date, and teacher's name when you leave your message. At other times, you may call the Main Office phone number at 434-3389 with this information. Please note the number for first alert (434-3405) should only be used to report absences or late arrivals. All other calls should be directed to the school's primary telephone number (434-3389).

# TRANSPORTATION:

All K-8 students are eligible for bus transportation regardless of the distance between their home and school. Bus information is available through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Change of buses (only for emergencies) must be authorized by the Transportation Department. You may send a note now if you plan on other permanent arrangements for your child.

### ARRIVAL:

Your child should be at the bus stop about ten minutes before its planned arrival. It is essential that parents make every effort to have students take the bus the first day of school to assure proper placement on the homebound buses at dismissal.

If your child is a walker in the morning, he/she should arrive *no* earlier than 9:10am; this is for safety purposes. There is *no* staff supervision available before 9:10am. Your cooperation is expected and appreciated.

# DISMISSAL:

Walker/car dismissal will begin at 3:12pm from our main entrance. For the safety of our children, we ask parents *not* to enter the school at dismissal time. Children being picked up by car will be escorted outside first. Next, walkers will be escorted out- a few children at a time. All parents

picking up walkers are to wait behind the yellow line. No child will be released until the parent/guardian comes to the yellow line and is recognized by our staff. Once you have met your child **outside** of the building, please leave promptly as this will help our dismissal procedures.

Any changes in dismissal plans must be shared with school staff *prior to 1:30pm*. Please write a note to your child's teacher, and Child Care if necessary, to inform us of a change. Your note must specify if your child will be on the <u>car line</u> or <u>walker line</u>. We ask that you DO NOT email any request for a change to main office staff or classroom teachers. First, we have to ensure timeliness of the message getting to the classroom teacher. Second, emails occasionally have not gotten to the intended person.

To make dismissal procedures as smooth as possible, we ask that you discuss arrangements with your child so that he/she knows what to expect. Writing notes and talking with your child will help alleviate uncertainties he/she might have and will allow for buses to leave on time. Making changes during the school day often causes unnecessary stress and anxieties for a child. It is strongly recommended that you maintain consistent dismissal plans with your child.

# PLEASE NOTE - TRAFFIC PATTERNS AT STRATFORD ROAD:

Due to the number of cars in our parking lot, we ask you to honor established traffic patterns for the safety of our children, parents, and staff members. Please drive slowly as many people are walking through our parking lots.

Buses will enter from Bedford Road and cars from Essex Road. As soon as you are next to the sidewalk adjacent to the school along the green curb, have your child exit from the passenger side, along the green curb only. Do not wait until you get to the overhang. Please DO NOT leave your car unattended in front of the school or pass other vehicles. These are dangerous situations that could put the children's, as well as your, safety in jeopardy.

# **CAFETERIA SERVICE:**

A full cafeteria program will be in operation on the first day of school. The cost of lunch at the elementary level will be \$2.80. The price of milk will be \$.50. One payment option is through www.myschoolbucks.com; further information can be found on the Stratford Road webpage. Enclosed you will find an application and eligibility requirements for free and reduced lunch.

Thank you in advance for your full cooperation regarding this information. We look forward to seeing you and your child soon.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alison Clark Principal

Mrs. Lynn Winters Assistant Principal