



Bridge School

55 Middleby Road, Lexington, Massachusetts 02421

Meg Colella
Principal

(781) 861-2510
email: mcolella@lexingtonma.org
fax: (781) 861-9257

August 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It seems as though it was just yesterday that we ended school and yet here we are, almost ready to return to Bridge! Although the summer went by fast, I am glad to welcome you all back and I hope that your vacation has provided you the opportunity to rest and enjoy time with family and friends.

It has been a busy and productive summer at Bridge. We have hired three new classroom teachers: Ms. Meghan Mulrenan (grade 2), Ms. Christyl Skelton (grade 3), and Ms. Tracey McGarvey (grade 5). In addition we have hired a long-term substitute for Ms. Murphy's (grade K) maternity leave (she returns in late November). We look forward to welcoming these new staff members to Bridge.

Elementary Classrooms 2018/2019

Please note these classes are listed by classroom teacher and their room numbers.

Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
Ashley Murphy (Room 16) - Brie Trudeau (LTS) Lindsey Day (Room 17) Zeba McGibbon (Room 15) Dianne Werbeloff (Room 18)	Joanna Santos (Room 23) Allison Gullingsrud (Room 21) Paige Hall (Room 22) Betty Yee (Room 20)	Shannon Gallagher (Room 14) Beth McAlduff (Room 13) Meghan Mulrenan (Room 11) Jo Hannah Katz (Room 10)
Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
Allison Cavalieri (Room 8) Todd Nichols (Room 7) Chris Cavatorta (Room 6) Michaela Arthur (Room 5) Christyl Skelton (Room 19)	Pam Michael (Room 24) David Pittman (Room 25) M-L Bean (Room 27) Cate Campbell (Room 28) Molly Watkins (Mills) (Room 29)	Susan Arena (Room 4) Dan Garland (Room 3) Catherine Farley (Room 2) Tracey McGarvey (Room 1) Kallie Nixon (Room 32)

Summer Mailing

As the summer draws to a close, it is time to prepare for the start of the new school year. This year, Bridge has moved to an electronic summer mailing system. This electronic mail holds important information and news to start the school year. Included in the Electronic Mailing:

1. Teacher Welcome Letter, letting you and your child know who his/her teacher is for the 2018/2019 school year, along with a list of supplies the teacher is requesting your child bring the first day, and two links for you to verify your child's dismissal information and emergency contact information.
2. Welcome and back to school information from the PTA
3. Bridge Drop Off and Pick Up Information
4. Directions for changing family information in ASPEN

Placement

Placement is a long, thoughtful, multi-step process (beginning in April) that the staff and I have completed with your child's best interest in mind. The criteria we considered include reading and math levels, student learning styles, diverse cultural backgrounds, gender, and behavioral and learning needs.

If you have concerns regarding your child's assignment, this protocol should be followed.

First, e-mail or call me to let me know about the issue. There will be a six-week period of adjustment that will be enforced. If, after that time period, a change needs to be considered, please *put in writing* your concerns. I will consult with the sending and receiving teachers and specialists that instruct your child, and will request a meeting with you to gather any additional information. Please be advised that students will not be arbitrarily removed and added to classes without the risk of jeopardizing the original grouping that was carefully and deliberately designed.

I encourage you to help your child prepare for the upcoming school year. Please help him/her to maintain a positive and motivated frame of mind, let him/her see the advantages of new experiences and friendships, help him/her adjust to new styles and expectations, and support him/her in any way possible.

First Day Logistics: August 28th (1/2 day for all students)

Bridge Staff will be on the playground at 8:15am to supervise. School officially starts at 8:45am but students are encouraged to arrive by 8:30am to acclimate themselves for the day. Starting at 8:30am, all students should line up with his/her teacher (teachers will be stationed at the below areas holding signs with their names in order for you to locate them):

- Grades K-2 form lines at the top of the playground
- Grades 3-5 form lines on the hardtop near the "Back Door"

*If it rains, K-2 meet in the cafeteria, grades 3-5 in the gym

Parents are invited to the cafeteria at 8:30am for a PTA welcome coffee. If it rains, the coffee will begin at 8:45am.

August 29-30th: (The 29th is a ½ day for K students, Grades 1-5 full day. The 30th is a ½ day for all students)

Classroom teachers will meet students at the grade level designated door (see below). Starting after Labor Day, students will be supervised by support staff on the playground and will be directed into the building to walk to their classrooms.

Designated Door Entry

K Door 1 (outside of Ms. McGibbon's Room)

- Grade K Sections: McGibbons, Murphy
- Grade 2 Sections: McAlduff, Gallagher, Mulrenan, Katz

K Door 2 (outside of Ms. Werbeloff's Room)

- Grade K Sections: Day, Werbeloff
- Grade 3 Section: Skelton
- Grade 1 Sections: Yee, Gullingsrud, Hall, Santos

Back Door (on hardtop behind school, near Live Drop off/Pick Up)

- Grade 3 (except for Skelton), 4, and 5 students

*Students dropped off after 8:45am MUST come to the Front Door (next to the Main Office) and sign in.

Drop Off/Dismissal Procedures

Enclosed you will find detailed information regarding our Bridge School Drop Off and Dismissal Procedures. In order to ensure safety, it is paramount that you review these documents closely. Included is also a visual depiction of the layout and parking information. We ask that you place your family (or carpool name) in the front passenger side window during “Live Pick Up” as we communicate the names of cars into the cafeteria for the students to be dismissed.

Save The Date: Curriculum Night: Thursday, September 27, 2018

(ADULT ONLY EVENING-NO CHILDREN PLEASE)

*Doors Open 5:45pm

6:00 - 6:30 pm Grades K-2 Presentations (in classrooms)

6:30 - 7:00 pm Transition

Specialists will be available to meet & greet parents in the library and cafeteria

7:00-7:30 pm Grades 3-5 Presentations (in classrooms)

*Teachers will present grade level curriculum and various classroom related information

As the summer nears an end, I hope you have time to relax and rejuvenate. We look forward to seeing all our students – new and returning – on the first day of school. Please enjoy the rest of your summer vacation and feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ms. Meg Colella
Principal