



August 2021

**First day of school is  
Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**

First bell rings at 8:40am  
School begins at 8:50am

### **Calendar:**

August 31

Open House

September 8

First Day of School

PTO Tears and Cheers

for Kindergarten parents only

September 21 – 30

PTO Apex Fun Run Program

October 4

No School – staff workshop day

PTO Kindness in Chalk

PTO General Meeting

October 12, 14 & 18

Parent Teacher Conferences

October 21 & 22

No School

Conference Release Days

October 26

Picture Day

October 27 & 28

Pumpkin Run in Phy Ed

November 10

PTO General Meeting

November 19

PTO BINGO

November 26 & 27

No School

Thanksgiving Holiday

November 30

Picture Re-take Day

# Elm Creek News

Dear Elm Creek Families,

Welcome back to a new school year! Thank you for your partnership and patience throughout the 2020-21 school year. I do not know what this school year will bring, but I do know I am grateful for you and our strong community.

I am excited to see families in the building again! You will finally get to see the updates made during the summer of 2020. The western half of our building had heating, cooling and lighting updates and the bathrooms outside of the gym were also updated. The gym and cafeteria were painted and had sound panels added. Make sure to check it out during Open House on Tuesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Please join me in welcoming our new staff:

**Angela Adelman**-0.2 School Social Worker

**Alten Bahn**-SOAR/Lunch/Recess/Skills Prep ESP

**Kendall Edstrom**-Resource/Lunch/Recess ESP

**Alexis Feig**-Nutrition Assistant

**Ryan Hassett**-0.4 School Psychologist

**Rebecca Lee**-0.5 Elementary ADSIS Interventionist

**Sandy Lindberg**-Resource Manager

**Megan Monette**-0.4 School Psychologist

**Kamden Traverse**-Academic Intervention/Lunch/Recess ESP

**Aleta Williams**-K-3 Minnesota Reading Corps tutor

I am committed to ensuring your child experiences a safe, challenging and nurturing environment at Elm Creek Elementary. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns throughout the year. I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

Beth Ness

Principal, Elm Creek Elementary



### **Did you move over the summer?**

Address changes need to be done through the Enrollment Center. All forms are available on the district website under enrollment to complete and send electronically. You may contact them with questions at: [Enrollmentcenter@district279.org](mailto:Enrollmentcenter@district279.org) or 763-585-7350

### **Have a change in phone numbers or email?**

Please update your contact information in ParentVue or call the school office and we will be happy to update the information for you. It is important that we have accurate information to ensure that you are receiving all communication from the school

## **Elm Creek Open House for all K – 5 students and families**

I would like to invite you to attend Elm Creek Open House on Tuesday, August 31, 2021, 4:30 – 6:00pm. This is an exciting time for you and your child to meet your child's teacher, visit the classroom and learn more about the Elm Creek community. We do ask that families do a [daily health screening](#) prior to attending and stay home if not feeling well.

Classroom teachers will be sending an email prior to Open House to notify you of your child's classroom placement. Please make sure you have an updated email on file in ParentVue. If you need assistance updating your email or accessing ParentVue please contact Staci in the office at 763-425-0577 or email at [jness@district279.org](mailto:jness@district279.org).

You can do the following at Open House

- Visit the Nurse to discuss health concerns and to drop off medications, if needed.
- Visit the office for ParentVue and SmartSchoolK12 information, if interested.
- Visit the cashier to put money into your child's lunch account, avoid standing in line by paying online with SmartSchoolK12.
- Visit the Kidstop Room, if interested (located in Room B-1).
- Visit the PTO team, they will be available to share information.
- Visit Community groups in the cafeteria.
- Bring school supplies to place in desk
- Purchase student planner, grades 4 and 5 only

### **Student Entrances**

KINDERGARTEN - Door #14 - walkers & drop-offs & Door #13 - bussers

GRADES 1 & 2 - Grade level doors- walkers, bussers & drop-offs

GRADES 3 - 5 - Door #1 - walkers, bussers & drop-offs

Breakfast - Door #12

Students eating breakfast will enter Door 12 beginning at 8:40. Please do not drive into the bus lot to drop students off at the breakfast door. Please park in the main parking lot and walk the sidewalk to door 12. We are planning to offer a grab and go breakfast that the students will pick up and take to their classroom.

All student walkers & pickups exit through their grade level door for dismissal.

The school supply list is posted on the EC website  
<https://ec.district279.org/info-center/handbook>

The school calendar and lunch menus can be found on the district website.  
<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1623877845/district279org/frwdy114semxp8o2jtnu/21-22CalendarEnglish.pdf>  
<https://schools.mealviewer.com/school/OsseolSElementarySchools>

School information is communicated to all families through email and PeachJar. Watch the PeachJar emails for school and community communication.

### **NEW: Back-to-school forms online starting Aug. 9**

This year, back-to-school forms will be filled out online via ParentVUE. Forms that are a part of this process include emergency cards, family contact information updates (including address changes) and photo/military denial releases.

In preparation, families that have not yet used ParentVUE received login information via email on Tuesday, Aug. 3. Please note that if you have not used this system before and did not receive an email with login information on Aug. 3, it likely means there is not an email address on file for you. In this case, reach out to the school office to update your information.

### **Medication Policy**

All medication given at school will be dispensed by our nurse and must be in a prescription bottle with the written directions specified by the doctor. Minnesota law requires students be up to date with immunizations before the first day of school. Please notify the Nurse of any food allergies. Contact Nurse Marta at [Hertlem@district279.org](mailto:Hertlem@district279.org) to arrange medication drop off and discuss concerns.

### **Elm Creek Phone Numbers/Direct lines**

Main Office -----	763/425-0577
Attendance Line Reporting Before or After School -	763/315-7692
Attendance Reporting During School -	763/425-0577
PreK -	763/315-7699
Cashier -----	763/315-7695
FAX -----	763/315-7690
Kidstop Program -----	763/315-7353
Media Center -----	763/315-7693
Nurse -	763/315-7696

## Please

take the time to fill out a free and reduced lunch application. This can help increase funding for our school!

Apply now at <https://fma.district279.org/fma/>



<https://schools.mealviewer.com/school/OsseoSDElementarySchools>

## NEWS FROM THE EAGLES NEST CAFÉ

We encourage you to apply for free or reduced lunch prices to see if you qualify. Applications are available on the district website and in the school office. The number of free and reduced students we have in our school determines a certain level of funding for our school. If you think you may qualify, please take the time to fill out an application. The on-line application is quick and easy.

Apply now at <https://fma.district279.org/fma/>

School meals are free again this school year for all students. Please note that if your child brings a lunch from home and would like to purchase a beverage, there will be a charge for that.

Online meal account payments may be made by using SmartSchoolK12. If you do not have a SmartSchoolK12 account, visit the district website <https://district279h.cf.affinitysolutions.com/> for instructions on how to set up an account or contact the school office for assistance.

When sending lunch money to school please put your child's name or lunch account number and room number on your check to avoid having the money credited to the wrong account. If you have more than one child at Elm Creek, you can write one check with a note as to how you would like the money divided.

If you have questions, please contact the School Nutrition Cashier at your child's school.

Wendy Isler—Cashier

Cindy Christensen—Food Service Manager



## Parking Lot Safety Procedures:

We continue to make safety in the parking lot a priority at Elm Creek. We would like to remind you of the pathway painted between the center parking area for students to walk to the crosswalks. Cars will not be allowed to pull through the pathway to get to the line to exit the school parking lot. Please see map below.

The parking lot is a very congested area, and it is important that we keep student safety as our priority, even if it means a slower experience for the driver. Please stay patient and follow the procedures noted in the map below. Thank you for your patience and support!

**WALKERS:** Students are not to arrive before 8:40 AM. There is no supervision prior to that time. Students will enter the building at 8:40 AM. Students must cross with the patrols using designated walkways. There are no patrols on 99th Avenue by the path leading to school.

**BUS:** Schedules are mailed from the Transportation Department in late August. Please remember that students are only allowed to ride on their designated bus. Please review the bus safety information with your child prior to the start of school. Riding the school bus is a privilege.

**CARS:** Students are to be dropped off and picked up in the front parking lot only. Please do not enter the bus area. Children should enter and exit the vehicle using the curbside door. If you desire, you may park your vehicle in the parking lot, meet your child at their outside door, and escort them across the parking lot crosswalks. At no time should children be walking through the parking lot unescorted. This is extremely important for the safety of each child. Maple Grove Police/Fire Department will ticket cars parked in the NO PARKING zones. Due to space limitations, cars must continue moving around the circle when dropping off or picking up. Courtesy to pedestrians and busses is a top priority, providing safety to all. Please yield to busses at the entrance to the school parking lot and let them in first.

Thank you!



### New Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures

- Drop off and pick up your students at the white curb. NO WAITING!
- There is no longer drop off or pick up in the yellow curb area.
- Cross the parking lot at either of the marked crosswalks with the student patrols only.