



FOLSOM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1357 MAYS LANDING ROAD

FOLSOM, NJ 08037

Phone: 609-561-8666 / Fax: 609-567-8751

www.folsomschool.org

Matthew Mazzoni, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Christopher R. Veneziani

Business Administrator

Michele L. Hetzel

Director of Curriculum & Instruction

August 25, 2021

Dear Folsom Families,

It is with excitement that the Folsom staff welcomes your child and family back to school for the 2021-2022 school year. This year, we are eager to meet the 48 new students that will soon be recognized as Falcons and become a part of this special school-community. The school theme for this year is ***Kicking It Old School***. The school theme represents all of us taking a step back from all the challenges faced in the last 18 months – looking at this September as a reboot to school life prior to COVID-19. Now, it may seem that we cannot shake it off and get back to school as we remember it pre-covid. However, we open the school doors on September 2nd with the goal of creating a safe and loving learning environment for all of our students. It is our mission to foster a learning environment in which every student has the maximum opportunity to achieve academic excellence. We also understand the importance of creating an environment that is welcoming and inviting, accessible, safe, and secure for students, staff, and families.

First Day of School

The first day of school for all students is **Thursday, September 2, 2021**. Students are able to enter the school starting at 8:20 am. The first day of school is a full day. Dismissal time for students begins at 3:10 pm.

Schedule

Your child's homeroom teacher and schedule for the upcoming school year can be viewed in the Realtime Parent Portal. Parents/Guardians have required paperwork to complete through the Parent Portal prior to seeing your child's teacher and/or schedule. The Parent Portal can be found on the upper right-hand side of the school's website at

<http://www.folsomschool.org>.

New users to the Realtime Parent Portal were emailed a welcome letter on August 24th with information necessary to access the portal. Please contact Mr. Patrick Ward in the IT Department if you are having difficulties with the portal. He can be reached via email at pward@folsomschool.org or by phone at 609.561.8666 ext. 115.

Breakfast and Lunch Programs

The breakfast and lunch programs will be in operation on the first day of school. There is NO COST to students for breakfast and lunches during the 2021-2022 school year. Schools such as Folsom that use the U.S. Department of Agriculture programs receive meal reimbursements for every meal they serve, which allows us to serve nutritious meals while managing increased costs associated with operational and supply chain challenges due to COVID-19.

We strongly encourage all families to complete the free and reduced meal application to ensure Folsom School District is entitled to funding and/or grant opportunities in the near future that benefit our families. Families only need to submit one application per household. Free and reduced lunch applications are available in the Realtime Parent Portal. In addition, your child will receive a hard copy application on the first day of school to take home.

COVID-19 Reminders

School staff, students, and visitors are required to wear face coverings on the bus and in the school building unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health.



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Students shall bring their own water bottles to school each day. Water bottle fillers are accessible to students throughout the building.

Student drop-off /pick-up will continue to be in the same designated areas from last school year. This will reduce the number of students congregating in one area during these times.

Parents/caregivers are strongly encouraged to monitor their children for signs of illness every day as you are the front line for assessing illness in your children. Students who are sick should not attend school.

Please refer to [The Road Forward Plan](#) for further information regarding district procedures for a safe return to school.

Busing

Bus postcards detailing the time and stop location will be mailed to families in the near future. Please contact Mrs. Lori Abruzzese in the District Office at 609-561-8666, ext. 114 for further information.

SACC Program

The School Age Child Care (SACC) program will be available on the first day of school in the morning and afternoon. Students registered for the SACC program can be signed into the program beginning at 6:30 am. Please contact Mrs. Michele Hetzel at 609-561-8666 ext. 120 for further information about the SACC program.

Upcoming Events

- First Day of School for Students is Thursday, September 2, 2021
- Pre-K & K Orientation is Thursday, August 26, 2021 starting at 9 am
- New Student Orientation (Grades 1-8) is Thursday, August 26, 2021 starting at 11:00 am
 - Please plan to attend with your child so that he/she can become acquainted with the school and expectations
- Back to School Night for ALL Grades is Thursday, September 16, 2021 starting at 6:30 pm

We look forward to educating your child(ren) this school year. As always, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher and/or administrator for any assistance throughout the school year. Also, please refer to the school website at www.folsomschool.org for essential up-to-date information such as the following:

- The Road Forward Plan
- Parent & Student Handbook
- Student Code of Conduct
- Calendar of Events
- Online Lunch Payment Portal

In addition, please follow the school's official Facebook page Folsom Falcons for upcoming events and to see all the great things happening at Folsom!

Go Falcons!

Respectfully,

Matthew Mazzoni, Ed.D.
Superintendent