



Farmingdale Public School

Together **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore

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www.farmingdaleschool.com

August 30, 2022

Dear Farmingdale Students and Families,

I hope you have been able to soak up the summer and that this letter finds you relaxed, renewed, and ready for the 2022-23 school year. We have been working hard to get ready for the start of school and have been able to make some improvements to our parking lots, drainage, sidewalks and outside areas. We are excited to welcome back all of our Farmingdale students and families on **Tuesday, September 6th**. Please meet us on the Academy Street side near the flagpole at 8:35 am and have students line up with their class, weather permitting. Our staff will be waiting for you. Parents are welcome to stay for our opening exercises, which should last about 10 minutes. In case of rain, students will meet in the gymnasium and unfortunately, we will only have space for students and staff. We have a **shortened day on Tuesday, September 6th** with dismissal at 12:45 pm. Please have your student(s) bring a healthy snack. Our first full day of school will be Wednesday, September 7th, with dismissal at 3:15 pm.

Please join me in welcoming the new staff members below to our Farmingdale Family:

Ms. Laura Carroll - 4th Grade Teacher

Mrs. Michelle Rivera - Educational Assistant

Mrs. Amanda De Simone - Special Education Teacher

Ms. Julia Mager - First Grade Leave Replacement

Mr. John Begen - STEAM/In Class Support Leave Replacement

I would also like to share that Mrs. Rebecca Swamy will be our 5th grade teacher and Mrs. Galuppo will be continuing as our Art Teacher through the end of December.

1. **Emergency Contact Updates**

Our One Call Now notification system enables us to provide you with school information using email, text message, or telephone instead of paper copies. The notification will include school closing and late start or early dismissal information during inclement weather. Please provide the district with the following on the

OneCallNow update form that will be sent home: cell phone numbers, work numbers, email address, and other contact information so the system can keep you well-informed.

In addition, please update emergency forms that you receive at the beginning of the year with the BEST numbers to reach you or an emergency contact of your choosing, in the event your child will need to be picked up from school. It is expected that a parent/guardian or emergency contact will pick up an ill student within 30 minutes of contact.

2. Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

Your child's safety is our number one priority. In order to ensure a safe and effective arrival and dismissal each day, please review the following procedures:

Driving, dropping off, and picking up students:

- Drive cautiously and with patience.
- **All students are expected to exit the car only in the "Kiss and Ride" section in our back parking lot area ONLY (off Southard Avenue).** Please be mindful of others behind and in front of you and quickly drop off your child. Have your child(ren) exit the car on the curb side only. If you wish to walk your children to the door each day, you are welcome to park in the parking lot assigned for visitors. **Please do NOT drop your students off in front of the school on Academy Street or in any other area.**
- In an effort to ensure the safety of both students and guardians, the State Police will be on hand to monitor area traffic in the Borough of Farmingdale as students arrive to and from school. Please be mindful of speed limits.
- When you pick up your K-5 grade student at the end of the day, you are required to park, get out of your car, and meet your student at the area designated by his/her teacher.
- **In addition, all K-5 parents will be required to complete a Farmingdale Dismissal Procedures Form indicating whether their child can walk home unescorted or will be picked up each day.** This form will be due back immediately. Please adhere to these rules as they ensure student safety in our parking lot at dismissal. If your child is expected to be picked up by a person not on your form on a given day, please call the main office as soon as possible to notify us and then email our school secretary, Mrs. Governale, at kathleen.governale@farmingdaleschool.com so the request is in writing.
- **Helmets:** All students in 3rd grade and up who choose to ride their bike, skateboard, or rollerblade to school must wear a helmet. Bikers must secure their bike with a lock. Bike racks are available. Also, a permission form must be filled out and returned to the main office.
- No changes have been made to the bell schedule for the 22-23 school year. Students need to arrive prior to 8:35 or they will be considered late. Doors open for arrival at 8:25 am.

Arrival and Dismissal Locations:

Please see the table below for your child's grade and entrance/exit door:

Grades	Entrance	Exit
PreK & K	Their classroom doors	Same classroom doors
Grades 1-5	Blue gym door	1st Grade = 1st Grade side door 2nd Grade = Library door 3rd Grade = Breezeway door 4th Grade = Blue gym door 5th Grade = Blue gym door
Grades 6-8	Blue gym door	Main entrance (by the school office)

3. At Home Technology Request

All students in grades 2-8 will be allowed to use a district device at home for homework ONLY if needed. If your child needs to borrow a chromebook (2-8) to utilize for homework ONLY, please complete this form below.

<https://forms.gle/rq269QW2mgokG35s9>

Students will be required to travel back and forth to school with their fully-charged device each day as they will also utilize the device in the classroom.

4. Visiting the School

When visiting our school, please call ahead to notify us that you will be stopping by, and remember to state your name, your child's name, and present ID after ringing the doorbell in order to gain access to the building. A bin will also be provided for easy drop-off of items.

Our student/parent handbook will be provided to students on the first day of school. Please review this handbook carefully with your student(s) and promptly sign and return the form that acknowledges that you reviewed it.

Please take the time to view our school website at www.farmingdaleschool.com, our Twitter page @FSDVikings, and our Facebook page @FarmingdaleSchool. Our goal is to provide you with information that you can access at all times. Please feel free to let us know if there are additional items that you would like to see added to the website or events and/or activities you would like us to share via social media.

Farmingdale School District is fortunate to have an active Parent/Teacher Association that works with our staff to ensure that all students are provided with valuable learning opportunities as well as resources. Please help support our school by joining the PTA. Information will be sent home on how to join.

This year's school theme is **"TEAM Farmingdale: Together Everyone Achieves More."** This theme truly embodies what our school community is all about! If you look up the definition of T.E.A.M., these are some of the responses that pop up:"

Effective teamwork consists of a committed group of people working together in a synergised manner, working towards a shared goal.

The spirit of a group that makes the members want to succeed. There is a sense of unity, of enthusiasm shared in common interests and responsibilities. This means encouraging a high regard of things such as team spirit, respecting others, and valuing their contributions.

Our collective commitment to our students, families, and each other is evident in the work that we do each day! We are honored that our parents and families partner with us. Thank you for being a valuable member of our TEAM.

Providing an education rooted in best practices and research, while honoring students' interests, curiosities, and opinions, is at the heart of Farmingdale's student-centered learning experience. Your continued feedback is appreciated, and you are welcome to email your child's teacher or myself at any time.

We are looking forward to an amazing year filled with educational opportunities and adventures!

In education,
Edith Conroy, Ed. D.