Farmingdale Public School

Blazing Trails And Building Bright Futures

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Howdy Farmingdale Families,

Welcome to the **2026–2027 school year!** I hope you and your families had a wonderful summer filled with time to relax, make memories, and enjoy the sunshine.

This year, we are excited to embrace a new school theme:

Farmingdale School: Blazing Trails and Building Bright Futures!

Our Western theme is more than just cowboy hats and boots! It represents the spirit of adventure, courage, perseverance, and discovery that we want to inspire in every Farmingdale student. As we blaze new trails together, we will encourage our students to take on challenges, try new things, learn from their experiences, and believe in all that they are capable of accomplishing.

Most importantly, we will continue working together to build bright futures for every child in our school community. I look forward to watching our students grow throughout the year.

Welcome to Our New Staff!

We are thrilled to welcome several new members to our Farmingdale family. Please join me in giving a very warm welcome to:

- **Ms. Erica Dalm – Special Education Teacher**
- **Mr. Andrew Valentino – Fourth Grade Teacher**
- **Ms. Victoria Santomarco – Math Teacher**
- **Ms. Nicole Bottone – Educational Assistant**
- **Ms. Sloane Coran – Educational Assistant**
- **Mrs. Elise Dressel- School Counselor Leave Replacement**
- **Mr. Danny Savage – Business Administrator**

We also have two wonderful staff members taking on new roles this year. A special shout-out goes to **Mrs. Sarah Faiola**, who will be teaching first grade, and **Ms. Bedore**, who will be teaching Special Education.

We are so fortunate to have such a dedicated group of educators and staff members working together on behalf of our students. I am excited for you to get to know our newest members and for them to become part of our school community.

The First Day of School

We are excited to welcome our students and families back to school on **Tuesday, September 8, 2026**.

Pre-K

All Pre-K students will be dropped off at **Mrs. Connell's exterior classroom door at 8:25 a.m.** Both Fireflies and Honeybees will enter through that door on the **first** day.

After the first day, Ms. Guardino's Honeybees class will enter the door inside the black gate opposite the media center, and exit through the media center.

Kindergarten–Grade 8

Students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 will meet us on the **Academy Street side of the school near the flagpole at 8:35 a.m.**, weather permitting. Students will line up with their classes, and our staff will be there to greet them and help everyone get settled.

Parents are welcome to stay for our opening exercises, which should last approximately 10 minutes.

In the event of rain, students will meet in the gymnasium. Unfortunately, due to space limitations, we will only be able to accommodate students and staff inside the gym.

Tuesday, September 8th will be a shortened day, with dismissal at 12:45 p.m. Please have your child bring a healthy snack.

Wednesday, September 9th will be a regular full school day, with dismissal at 3:15 p.m.

OnCourse Connect Annual Registration

Please be on the lookout for a separate email regarding **OnCourse Connect Annual Registration**.

OnCourse Connect is our parent portal, and each family is required to complete the Annual Registration process. This includes acknowledging an understanding of important school and district documents and verifying that the information we have on file for your family is accurate and up to date.

The person previously designated as the **primary contact** will receive an email with personalized login information.

Please complete the Annual Registration process as soon as possible after receiving the email. Until the process is completed, access to certain OnCourse features will be restricted.

If you have difficulty completing the registration process, please contact the main office. We are happy to help!

Other Important Information

1. Emergency Contact Updates

Our **One Call Now** notification system allows us to provide important school information by email, text message, and telephone rather than relying on paper notices. This system is used for important announcements, including school closings, delayed openings, and early dismissals due to inclement weather.

Please make sure we have your most current:

- Cell phone numbers
- Work numbers
- Email address
- Emergency contact information

It is especially important that we have the **best numbers to reach you or an emergency contact** should your child become ill or need to be picked up from school.

Please remember that a parent/guardian or designated emergency contact is expected to pick up an ill student **within 30 minutes of being contacted by the school.**

2. Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Your child's safety is always our number one priority. In order to ensure a safe and efficient arrival and dismissal process, please carefully review the following procedures.

Driving, Dropping Off, and Picking Up Students

- Please drive cautiously and patiently.
- All students being dropped off by car must exit the vehicle **only in the designated Kiss & Ride area in the rear parking lot, accessed from Southard Avenue.**
- Please have your child exit the vehicle on the **curb side only**.
- Please be mindful of the families behind and in front of you and move through the drop-off area efficiently.
- If you would like to walk your child to the school entrance, you are welcome to park in the designated visitor parking area or on Walnut Street.
- Students may **not** be dropped off in front of the school on Academy Street or in any other unauthorized area.
- Please follow all posted speed limits and be particularly mindful of speed bumps and pedestrian traffic throughout the area.
- When picking up a **K–5 student**, parents/guardians are required to park, exit their vehicle, and meet their child in the area designated by the child's teacher.
- Students and families who walk to and from school must obey crossing guards and use only designated crosswalks.

All K–5 parents/guardians are required to complete the **Farmingdale Dismissal Procedures Form**, indicating whether their child may walk home independently or will be picked up each day.

If your child will be picked up by someone who is not listed on the dismissal form on a particular day, please call the main office as soon as possible and then provide written notification to the school secretary.

Bicycles, Skateboards, and Rollerblades

Students in **Grade 3 and above** who ride a bicycle, skateboard, scooter or rollerblades to school must wear a helmet. **Please note e-bikes are NOT permitted on school grounds.**

Students riding bicycles must secure their bicycles with a lock. Bike racks are available.

Permission must also be granted through the **Permissions** section of the OnCourse Annual Registration module.

Bell Schedule

There are **no changes to the bell schedule for the 2026–2027 school year.**

Students should arrive **before 8:35 a.m.** in order to be ready for the start of the school day. Doors open for arrival at **8:25 a.m.**

Arrival and Dismissal Locations

Please review the entrance and dismissal locations for your child's grade:

Grades	Entrance	Exit
Pre-K – Fireflies	Classroom door	Same classroom door
Pre-K – Honeybees	Across from Library door*	Library door
K, 1, & 2	Classroom doors	Same classroom doors
Grades 3	Blue gym door	Breezeway door
Grades 4 & 5	Blue gym door	Blue gym door
Grades 6–8	Blue gym door	School Entrance/Main Office doors

*Please refer to the information provided by your child's teacher regarding the first-day procedures for Pre-K Honeybees.

3. At-Home Technology Requests

Students in **Grades 3–8** may use a district device at home for **homework purposes only**, if needed.

If your child needs to borrow a Chromebook for homework, please make the request through the **Technology** section of the OnCourse Annual Registration portal and acknowledge the accompanying documents.

Students who are assigned a district device will be expected to bring their **fully charged device to and from school each day**, as the device will also be used for classroom learning.

4. Visiting Our School

For the safety of our students and staff, all visitors must follow our school visitor procedures.

When visiting the school:

- Please call ahead whenever possible to let us know that you will be stopping by.
- Ring the doorbell at the main entrance.
- Be prepared to state your name and your child's name.
- Please present identification when requested.
- All visitors must sign in according to our school procedures.

5. Visitor Parking

When visiting the school, please park in the designated visitor parking area and walk to the school entrance.

Visitors may **not** park in the fire lane in front of the main office and leave their vehicle unattended at any time.

Student and Parent Handbooks

Our student and parent handbooks are available through **OnCourse**. Please take the time to review the handbooks with your child and acknowledge that you have reviewed the information.

These handbooks contain important information regarding school procedures, expectations, and policies.

Stay Connected!

Please take some time to visit our school website at **www.farmingdaleschool.com**. Our goal is to provide families with information that is easily accessible throughout the year.

We also welcome your feedback. If there is information you would like to see added to our website, please let us know!

Join Our PTA!

Farmingdale School is fortunate to have an active and dedicated **Parent/Teacher Association** that works closely with our staff to provide students with valuable learning experiences, special events, and additional resources.

We hope you will consider becoming involved and supporting our PTA. Information about joining will be shared with families at the beginning of the school year.

Let's Blaze Some Trails!

As we begin this new school year, I am reminded that some of the most meaningful journeys are the ones we take together.

I am so excited to welcome everyone back to Farmingdale School. Let's **saddle up,** and encourage our students to **blaze new trails, embrace challenges, discover their strengths, and dream about the bright futures ahead of them.** With our families, staff, and students working together, I know that 2026–2027 will be a wonderful year filled with learning, growth, laughter, and plenty of new adventures.

Here's to an incredible 2026–2027 school year!

In education,

Edith Conroy, Ed.D.
Superintendent/Principal
Farmingdale School