

# THE PHIPPSBURG EXPLORER'S LOG

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## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello again! I hope this letter welcoming you to the 2018-2019 school year finds you and your family rested and relaxed from a wonderful summer. It's been a busy summer for my family as we prepare for my daughter Patrice's wedding on August 25th. Trust me when I say your children grow, and are on their own, in the blink of an eye!

As you might recall from last spring, several classrooms have moved over the summer. The biggest change you will note are that the kindergarten and first grade classrooms have moved around the corner. This created a "pod" of classrooms with second grade. At the other end of the building, third, fourth and fifth grade is clustered in another learning pod. I hope if you have time on Monday, August 27th, you and your student will be able to drop by our Sneak-a-Peek from 4:30-5:30.

For safety and security reasons, after the first week of school, parents are reminded to say their good byes at the front door and let students walk to their classrooms on their own. Don't worry; there will be plenty of adults around to help any students who may be confused. This routine helps students to establish independence, and allows teachers to focus attention on greeting students and starting the day off in a positive way.

I hope you will join me in welcoming our new staff member, Sarah Williams, as the new third grade teacher. Mrs. Williams has worked very hard all summer setting up her new classroom, learning the RSU 1 curriculum, and attending new teacher trainings. She comes to us from St. John's School in Brunswick, where she worked with Mrs. Polizotto, Ms. Downing and Mrs. Woodbury. We are very fortunate to have such an eager, competent professional come on board.

For those who are new to PES, I encourage you to become involved in our school in any way that works for your schedule. Teachers welcome and *need* classroom volunteers, and our fabulous PTA is continually looking for an extra pair of hands. There is no need to tell you that Phippsburg is a community that is committed to its school, and making sure that your children have a wide array of learning

experiences. Everyone is welcome! Our doors are always open, and I welcome your feedback.

I know this is going to be another fantastic year. As always, if you have any questions or feedback, you may call me at (207)389-1514 or email me at [sgorsuch-plummer@rsu1.org](mailto:sgorsuch-plummer@rsu1.org).

Looking forward to seeing those smiling children on August 29th!

## WELCOME BACK!

**The first day of school is Wednesday, August 29, and will start at 8:25AM.** (Preschool starts September 4.) **Late Start Wednesdays begin September 5 (start time 9:25AM), and continue the rest of the school year.**

Each Thursday, communication from our school and other community news will be sent home via a plastic folder. We hope you'll take a moment to read the school's newsletter, *The Phippsburg Explorer's Log*, which will be included in the folder. The "Log" contains important news and information regarding school and community events.

## TIME FOR SCHOOL!!

School hours are 8:25 - 3:00; LSW 9:25-3:00  
Office hours are 7:30 - 3:30

We ask that families make every effort to have their child(ren) arrive on time and attend school every day. Recent research shows us that students who miss just two days of school each month of the school year struggle throughout their school years and into their adult lives. That doesn't seem like much time away from the classroom, but it hurts. **Missing school matters!**

Please be sure to call the school **by 9:00AM**, at 389-1514, if your child is to be absent or late. You can call & leave a message (child's name, reason out, i.e., vacation, sick, personal day), even before anyone is at the school. If you don't

call the school, a note is required upon student's return to excuse the missed time.

The earliest students can be dropped off at school is **8:20 (9:20 on Wednesdays)**.

All school buildings within RSU1 have secure front entrances. Buildings will be locked when school is in session, and visitors will be required to buzz in to the office to request to enter. Our front door will be locked at 8:30 each morning. Please be sure to accompany your child/children to the office if you arrive at school after 8:25 to assist with this process and to sign them in.

### Dates to Remember-

#### September

- 3 - Labor Day Holiday, NO SCHOOL
- 14 - Flower Power Fundraiser (ends Oct. 5)
- 10-13-Scholastic Book Fair
- 13 - Open House & Book Fair, 5:30PM



Volunteers are an important part of our school; we'd never be able to do it all without you! Anyone wishing to be a volunteer, or possibly accompany their child on a field trip, please complete and return a Volunteer Registration form (must be approved before able to volunteer), preferably at the beginning of **each school year**, as it takes a few days to process. A form will be in the first day of school folder. Thank you for everything you do for us!

### FOOD SERVICE SUBS NEEDED

RSU1 is in great need of Food Service Substitutes in all schools. If interested, please stop by the Central Office at 34 Wing Farm Parkway in Bath to complete a form. You will also need to get fingerprinted.

For more info, call Tim Harkins at 443-6601 X114 or email [tharkins@rsu1.org](mailto:tharkins@rsu1.org).

### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Keep clipping and sending in those Box Tops for Education; they really add up! For a list of participating products, visit our website, select 'This

week's newsletter,' and click on [Box Tops for Education products](#).

## BUS NEWS: SCHOOL BUS RULES

1. Remain seated.
2. Face the front of the bus.
3. Keep hands and feet to yourself and out of the aisle.
4. Use a quiet voice to talk to the person next to you.
5. No eating and drinking.
6. Keep the bus clean by cleaning up after yourself.
7. Use kind and respectful language.

Also: always remember the Danger Zone, and follow Bus Driver's direction.

Students who violate the bus rules will be sent home with a bus slip. Upon receipt of a third bus notice, the student and parents will meet with the principal to determine a corrective plan of action. The principal reserves the right to remove students from the bus for a period of time based upon rule violations at any time.

### BUS SCHEDULE\*

**We ask for your patience for the first two weeks of school as we adjust the schedule for new students. Please plan to be outside at the bus stop 5 or 10 minutes before your scheduled pickup. Remember that kindergarten students are not allowed off the bus without an adult present at the bus stop.**

#### Bus 43, Gary Wallace

7:25 a.m. Sun Kids, Route 209 South - 7:27 Hawkes Wood; 7:28 Hope Lane; 7:29 Clifford Rd; 7:33 Benjamin Lane; 7:37 Fiddler's Reach Rd; 7:37 Capt. Perry Dr; 7:47 Stoney Brook Rd.; 7:54 right on Meadowbrook Rd.; 8:00 Rader Rd; 8:00 Bright Water; 8:02 Stoney Brook Rd, Wildwood Ln; 8:02 Fuller Mountain Rd.; 8:03 Bowker Road; 8:04 Capes View Dr; 8:10 Main Rd/Basin Rd; 8:14 Sam Day Hill Rd, 8:19 Phippsburg Elementary School.

#### Bus 37, Shelley Fritz

7:18 a.m. enter Parker Head Rd.; 7:25 Sam Day Hill Rd; 7:30 Cox Head; 7:34 Small Point Rd; 7:42 Cliff Stone Rd; 7:52 Ridge Rd; 7:53 Ridley's Landing; 7:55

Black's Landing turn; 8:04 West Point Rd; 8:12 return to Main Rd; 8:25 Phippsburg Elementary School.

**\*Please check with your bus driver on approximate drop off times for your student in the afternoon. It takes a few days to adjust to a routine drop off schedule.**

If your child will be getting off the bus at a stop other than their normal stop, please be sure to send in a permission note with student's full name, the address of their destination and whether it is a one-time stop or for the rest of the school year. This note is to be given to your child's teacher.

### A NOTE FROM THE NURSE

Dear Parents,

If your child requires medication to be administered during the school day, there is a form that needs to be completed by his/her doctor and signed by you. The form (enclosed in the first day of school folder) **needs to be updated each school year.**

### NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN

Dear Parents,

As we start the new school year, there are some items in the lunch program I'd like to bring to your attention. First, we use a system for the payment and tracking of meals, a NutriKids program, called Point of Service, (POS). You are able to set up an account for your child, and access it when you want to check the balance, or even if your child has been eating! These are pre-paid accounts. You may still purchase meals on a day-to-day basis, using the meal sign-up form and provide payment. We ask that meal sign-up forms be filled out and brought to school on **Mondays**. Checks are to be made out to: RSU1. Charging of meals is not allowed.

Menu and meal sign-up forms for the next 4 weeks are attached. Please note that the breakfast price is **\$1.45** (adult breakfast is **\$2.00**), lunch price is **\$2.65**, and milk is 55 cents. Adult lunch is **\$4.75**. Reduced lunch stays the same at \$.40, and thanks to a federal grant, all children who qualify for reduced meals will receive breakfast for free! We encourage you to check out the free and reduced meal application (in the first day of school folder). Please fill it out and return it to school right away. If you need help, we'll be glad to oblige! Anyone who applies for the free or reduced meal status should be prepared to pay for the first few days. If they are approved, payment will be refunded later. A new application needs to be filled out **each year**.

As always, if you wish to eat lunch with your child, just let Mrs. Doran know by 10:30AM that morning. We love to see you, and welcome the chance to show you what a great value school meals can be!

Please feel free to let us know of any special dietary concerns your child may have, and we'll be happy to work with you to ensure that he or she receives a healthy and safe meal!

Anna Varian

### TO SIGN UP TO ACCESS NUTRIKIDS ACCOUNT:

Parents go to <https://www.myschoolbucks.com>. Enter in your email address and select a password to use, then follow the prompts (you may need to enter your child's 4 digit cafeteria PIN. If you don't know your child's PIN, you may call the school.)

After you have an account, future logins just require the email address as the username, and the password you used. There is a fee charged for on-line payments.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

4 Sheridan Road, Bath, ME. 04530 • (207) 443-8360 •  
<http://www.bathrecreation.com/>

### Here is what's happening at the Bath Parks & Recreation

**Register now before the programs fill:**

[Bath Youth Football League Grades 3-6](#) - Practices start the end of August!

[Flag Football Grades K-2](#) - Starts early September

[Soccer Grades K - 7](#) - Practices start the first week of September - Registration Deadline is August 26th for Grades 1-7

[Boston Red Sox v Houston Astros](#) - September 8 - Tickets are going fast and are limited - Transportation included

Register on line at <http://www.bathrecreation.com/>

FMI - contact the Recreation Department  
at 443-8360

### BATH YMCA PROGRAM GUIDE

Instead of a printed copy in the first day folder, check out the Fall-Winter-Spring Bath Area YMCA Program Guide at: (This week's newsletter)  
<http://www.phippsburg.rsu1.org/6/featured/1>