

THE PHIPPSBURG EXPLORER'S LOG

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We're so glad to see you!

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome Back!

I mentioned to someone the other day that waiting for the students to come back to school is like waiting for Christmas morning! I was so happy to see all the smiling familiar faces ready and eager to learn. Our two days at school have allowed us to settle in and go over our expectations and procedures for school.

I hope when you visit school again, you'll have a chance to see the improvements that the RSU 1 maintenance and paint crews did over the summer. Some classrooms, the hallways, and lobby heat register received a fresh coat of paint and look quite spiffy. Grades K, 1, 3, Music, Art, Guidance, Special Education, and Before/After Care have shifted locations, and are looking great. And, of course, we can't forget the fresh new wood-chips were delivered to the playground.

Just a reminder: students should not arrive at school before 8:20. As you may or may not know, there is not staff available to supervise students until 8:15. If you are in need of before school care, I would encourage you to reach out to Amanda Hoag, who runs the Phippsburg Before and After School Care Program, at (207) 319-9188.

Please be sure to mark you calendar for our Open House, which will be held Thursday, September 13th, at 5:30. In addition to meeting

your child's teachers, families will have the opportunity to visit the book fair and catch up with old friends.

WELCOME BACK!

Late start Wednesdays begin September 5.

Each Thursday, starting September 6, 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. Remember, if you should misplace your Log, it is also posted on the PES website.

Let us know if we can email your copy or if you intend to access it via website, in order to save paper.

DATES TO REMEMBER-

September

- 3 - Labor Day Holiday, NO SCHOOL
- 6 - PTA meeting, 8:30AM
- 10-13-Scholastic Book Fair
- 10-28-NWEA Testing (9/10-9/28/18, 1/7-1/31/19, & 5/13-5/31/19)
- 13 - Open House & Book Fair, 5:30PM
- 14 - Flower Power Fundraiser (ends Oct. 5)

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, or sick 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.

If you know you will need to pick your child up at school, we would appreciate a note or phone call that morning so that the student & teacher will be ready when you arrive. We are working on streamlining the process as much as possible, and this will help prevent putting the child on the bus list unnecessarily.

STUDENT EMERGENCY CARDS

In this first day of school packet, you will find the Census Verification or Person Summary Report sheets, used for emergency cards. **Please review them carefully, mark any changes, & return them to the office, preferably by Sept. 7, even if all the information is correct.** (If everything is correct, please initial form & send back so we know you've seen it.)

Please don't be offended if our system lists you as Secondary Guardian, or leaves you off the mailing label, as that is the way the student information system is set up (it prints only one guardian name on each of the mailing labels).



FORMS TO RETURN:

Please be sure to correct or complete & return the following forms this coming week: Census Verification /Person Summary Report (used as Student Emergency card-contains student guardian & emergency contact info), Health Questionnaire (*except for kindergarten & new students-they already did it this year*), Phippsburg Permission Form, Agreement to Publish Student Information on the RSU1 Website, Internet Access Agreement, meal signup form, and the orange Internet access questionnaire. *Only if applicable to you:* Free/Reduced Meal form, **Volunteer Form (if you even *think* you may want to accompany your child's class on a field trip-be sure to complete form now, as it can take a few days to process it)**, and Medication Authorization form. The Annual Pest Management and Asbestos Notifications are now located on the PES website under 'Parent Resources.'

STUDENT HANDBOOK AND STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Due to the size and cost of copying the Student-Parent Handbook and Student Code of Conduct, they are available on the Phippsburg Elementary School (PES) website at: www.phippsburg.rsu1.org, under 'Parent Resources >Policies' or contact Tammy Doran in the office, 389-1514.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Our website address is:
www.phippsburg.rsu1.org
 and teachers'/staff email is:
 first initial last name@rsu1.org, ie:
sgorsuch-plummer@rsu1.org.

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,
Also in the first day folder is an application for free/reduced meals, which can also be found online all year on the PES website>Food Services>under Documents, select Parent Letter, FY19, and the Application, FY19. To apply for the free/reduced meals, please fill out the form and return it to the office as soon as possible. **A new application needs to be filled out each year. (If you were receiving free/reduced meals last year, you are still at that status until the end of September, but you must be sure to send in your application ASAP, preferably by Sept. 7. If we don't have your application before the end of September, you will revert to full price.)**

New households will be notified once they are approved; however, please be sure to send in the full cost of meals and/or snack milks until you are approved. Once approved, it will be for the entire month, and your account will be credited the amount overpaid. Milk & juice not included with the meal **(such as snack milk or extra juice) costs 55 cents each, even when eligible for free/reduced meals.**

Please prepay for the week by sending money in to school on Monday or the first day of the week.

TO SIGN UP TO ACCESS NUTRIKIDS ACCOUNT:

Parents go to <https://www.myschoolbucks.com>. Put in your email address and select a password to use, then follow the prompts (you will 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. **Payments usually take 2 days to appear on the account.** There is a fee charged for on-line payments.

EXTRA CLOTHES

We don't have many extra clothes here at the school, so please be sure students are dressed for the weather, **& always have a change of clothes in their backpacks or classroom.** Clothes need to be labeled (inside) with student's initials, in case they get lost.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



Please keep sending in General Mills box tops for Education to the school. We receive 10 cents per box top; and they add up quickly! Thank you so much, Charlene Lindberg, for clipping, counting, & sorting for mailing them last year. Please contact the school if you are interested in helping to clip & sort this year.

COLLECTING ALUMINUM POP TABS AND CLEAN ALUMINUM TIN FOIL/PIE PANS

We collect clean aluminum and pop tabs to give to Ronald McDonald House each year for their fundraiser, to help provide lodging to families with children being treated at the hospital. If you have any, please drop it at the school and one of our great volunteers will bring it to Portland. Thank you.

A NOTE REGARDING INFORMATIONAL FLYERS, BROCHURES, ETC.

On the RSU1 website (www.rsu1.org), under the "Information" tab and embedded in the "Community" link, there is a page titled "Opportunities for Students" where you may find information about camps and other programs being offered that are not included in the school newsletter.

PTA NEWS:

Please join us for our first PTA meeting Thursday, September 6th, at 8:30AM in the Teachers Room. We welcome your ideas and input. If you can't make it, but have some ideas you wish to share, email Charline at thewymanfamily@comcast.net

COMMUNITY NEWS:



PHIPPSBURG BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CHILDCARE PROGRAM

Morning Care and Afternoon Care are available on-site at

Phippsburg Elementary School offering arts and crafts, creative play, outdoor activities, reading, music, homework help and more. Please call or text Amanda Hoag at [207-319-9188](tel:207-319-9188) or email phippsburgbeforeandafter@gmail.com for details or to enroll.



YMCA AFTER SCHOOL CHILDCARE

Dear Families!

Do you need After-school care (known as Y Care) for the 2018/19 school year? Did you know the Bath Area Family YMCA offers care in the RSU#1 Schools? We also offer care during half/full days and vacation weeks (at the Bath Area Family YMCA)! If you are interested or in need of care, please contact Gabbie Goodenow of the Bath Area Family YMCA at (207) 443-4112 ext. 36 or email gabbie@bathymca.org for information and registration forms.

*** NOTE: Currently there is no Y Care available at Phippsburg School, but there may be afternoon openings for Phippsburg students at Fisher-Mitchell School in Bath.**