



CHADDS FORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3 Baltimore Pike, Chadds Ford, PA 19317 ■ 610.388.1112 x3700

A community focused on educating every child, while respecting tradition and embracing innovation.

August 2021

Greetings Chadds Ford Chargers!

We've missed you! I hope that your summer has provided you the opportunity to explore new things, enjoy a more traditional summertime experience, a chance to reconnect, and experience joy. School is missing your energy and we can't wait to welcome you back to the 2021-2022 school year.

First Day of School: Monday, August 30th

It's back-to-school season, while this year may be another year of remaining flexible it is great to start school in a mostly traditional opening. The first day of school may also bring mixed emotions. The anticipation of reaching the next milestone and the reflection of our children growing a bit older adds to the emotional energy of beginning a new school year. The current times we are in leaves many of us wondering what school will be like this school year. Know that we are ready for you at Chadds Ford Elementary. We have a strong community and network of resources to support you along each step of the way. Things may adjust over the school year but our school and community are the cornerstone of what keeps us connected and energized together!

As we inch closer to our start date, August 30th, I write today to update you on some important news and information to prepare for the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Personnel Reminders and Updates:

★ Personnel Updates:

- **Colleen Miller** (formally a 5th-grade teacher at CFES) is joining the 1st-grade team.
- **Nicole Broderick** (formally a 5th-grade teacher at CFES) is joining the 3rd-grade team.
- **Nicole Anderson** will join us as our first semester-long substitute in 3rd grade for Mrs. Broderick. Nicole has been with CFES in the past and we are excited to have her back as a part of the team.
- **Michael McGarvey** will be joining CFE as our new Technology Teacher! Mike comes to us from Pocopson Elementary and has over 15 years of experience as a teacher in the UCFSD. He brings extensive teaching and technology experience in different settings to CFES.
- **Elizabeth Appelbaum** will be rejoining CFE as an additional Reading Specialist!

- **Kara Sowden** will be our new School Counselor! Kara comes to us from Pocopson Elementary, where she served as the School Counselor last school year. We are excited to have Kara as a part of the team.

To recap, below is our 2021-2022 teaching staff configuration:

| | |
|---|---|
| Kindergarten | Mrs. Robinson |
| Pre-First | Ms. Keller |
| First Grade | Miss Morettini, Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Sciecinski, and Mrs. Miller (formerly in 5th grade) |
| Second Grade | Mrs. Conover, Mrs. Gillespie, and Mr. Lapp |
| Third Grade | Mrs. DeNenno, Mrs. Hughes, and Mrs. Broderick (formerly in 5th grade) Mrs. Anderson substitute for Mrs. Broderick |
| Fourth Grade | Mrs. Bickings and Mr. Wagner |
| Fifth Grade | Mrs. Doyer and Mrs. Roberts |
| Special Education / Speech / IST /AT | Mrs. Grubb, Mrs. King, Mrs. Martens, Mrs. Gehris, Mrs. Puleo, and Mrs. Dewees |
| School Psychologist | Dr. Hottenstein |
| Social Work | Mrs. Rentschler |
| Reading Specialists | Mrs. Giovan and Mrs. Appelbaum |
| English Language Learners (ELL) | Mrs. Cappelli |
| Health / Physical Education | Mr. Judd and Miss Clark |
| Art | Mrs. Smith |
| Music / Band / Orchestra | Mr. Zumpetta, Mr. Miller, and Mrs. Eichmann |
| Library | Mrs. Price |
| Guidance | Mrs. Sowden |
| Technology | Mr. McGarvey |

★ Welcome New Support Staff Members:

- Kaitlin McCombs
- Danielle Stepanik
- Kordell Frank
- Ellen Collins
- Courtney Womack
- Rita Salmon

- Linda Cabrera
- Kim Jacome
- Judi Goebner
- Aimee Lindsay

[New Family Orientation \(click here\):](#)

We look forward to welcoming new families to the CFE community on **Wednesday, August 25th from 3:00 to 3:30 pm.** I will be sharing information with new families from 3:00 to 3:30 pm and some time will be set aside for Q & A. Parents and students will have an opportunity to greet new friends, take a tour, and our PTO will be present to provide information and share ways to get involved with our school traditions and events.

[School-Wide Sneak-A-Peek \(click here\):](#)

We will be hosting an in-person opportunity for our CFES students to meet their new teacher and greet a few classmates on **Thursday, August, 26th**

- **Students whose last name begins with letters A-L** will participate during the **11:15 am-11:45 am** time block
- **Students whose last name begins with letters M-Z** will participate during the **12:45 pm-1:15 pm** time block

Teachers will not have a formal presentation but will meet and greet the students to assist in guiding them through the transition to back to school. Details will be provided in the near future by classroom teachers.

Parent Orientation Night:

On **Tuesday, September 14th** we welcome families to participate in our orientation night. At this time you will be able to learn more about your child's teacher and the in and outs of the grade level. For families who have the challenge of visiting multiple teachers, we hope that parents can attend either Session I or Session II. We do understand that some parents may need to leave the session early to participate in another session. Again, we hope that the sessions will provide both the teacher and parents with time to learn about the upcoming school year. If you are unable to attend the orientation, please know that all presentations will be available for teachers to share with families.

Schedule:

**More details about orientation night will be provided as the event nears.*

Placement Letters:

Classroom placement assignments and important information regarding the start of school will be sent via email and will be available on the Power School portal on **Friday, August 20th.** Please

await the classroom placement details in Power School for formal classroom assignments. Teacher welcome letters will be arriving via email later next week where you will receive details about the first day of school information.

Grade Level Schedules:

Specific grade level schedules will be communicated by the classroom teacher and special area teachers. Each day will begin with a classroom meeting starting at 9:10 where we will focus on building and creating relationships.

[Transportation \(click here\):](#)

The UCFSD Transportation Department will be emailing out bus rider information in the coming days. If your child will be a car rider please see below for details about the process at CFES.

Student drop-off will take place at the K-2 wing side of the school along the curb. Please make sure all students are wearing a mask and have belongings ready before exiting the car curbside.

- When dropping off, drivers should proceed toward the main entrance and enter the CFES middle parking lot to the left if you are facing the school (look for signs).
- Students being driven to school will be dropped off in the drop-off zone indicated by cones. Please pull forward as much as possible before dropping off in the zone.
- Staff will be providing instructions to expedite this process.
- Students need to exit the vehicle curbside between the coned area.
- A staff member will be at the curb to greet the kids and escort them into the building, staff will not open car doors. Be ready to make a quick exit from the car.
- Drop-offs will begin when the doors open at **8:50 am**
- Students will exit their cars with a mask on, proceed to the gym, and wait under supervision until morning dismissal to homeroom classes begins at 8:55 am.
- Parents should remain in their cars throughout this process.
- Please exit the drop-off area as quickly as possible.

Note: Staff will need to access parking spaces to enter the building, please allow them space to park.

Student pick-up We will do our best to make this process quick and smooth. Please remain in your cars, keep moving, and follow directions given by the staff members on duty. Student Pick-Up will take place in the same place as drop-off. Students will be waiting in the gym.

- Dismissal will begin at 3:35 pm.
- When picking up, drivers will drive up the main entrance, enter the CFES middle parking lot to the left if you are facing the school (look for signs).
- Student name signs will be provided next week with your number and family last name to be displayed in your vehicle - (please make your own sign for the first day with your last name clearly labeled to display in the car window)
- A staff member will be outside to track the student's names for dismissal.

- Once the students' names have been radioed, drivers should make their way forward to the pick-up zone.
- Students will be dismissed from the gym to walk down the hallway toward the outside exit doors.
- Staff members will guide students to the curb to load their cars in the pick-up zone marked with cones.
- Staff will not open car doors.
- Once safely in the cars, parents should exit the parking lot as quickly as possible.
 - If you need to wait longer please use your flashers or pull forward off to the side to allow more traffic to move through the line.
- Parents should remain in their cars throughout this process.
- The car rider line will be paused to exit the driveway while the buses leave the bus zone. A staff member will direct this pause and resume traffic when clear.

Note: Staff may need to exit a parking space during dismissal, please assist staff by allowing space to leave as needed.

Dismissal Changes and Notes:

- We will no longer be using paper notes to share dismissal plans or changes.
- All dismissal updates or changes should be emailed to cfeattendance@ucfsd.net
- Changes to the dismissal routine must be emailed to cfeattendance@ucfsd.net by 2:30 pm.
- No dismissal changes will be allowed after 2:30 pm to allow for a safe dismissal process.

[District Health and Safety Plan](#)

The Parent Handbook, a guide for general information can be accessed through the website. [LINK HERE](#)

Parting Notes:

School is opening with a mostly traditional feel. Yes, we will still be following all our mitigation efforts to keep everyone safe and preserve our education experience but there is excitement and energy in the air about all the great opportunities ahead of us at CFES. This year was a little later than normal with communications to adjust for fluid changes, know that I appreciate your patience, partnership, and engagement with our school. The entire CFES team is looking forward to working with you and your children this school year. Together we will make this school year rewarding, engaging, and enriching for our school community. Please reach out if we can be of any assistance to you as we navigate the start of the school year.

Charge on Chargers!

Best regards,



Danielle Clark
Principal