



PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Educating For Success, Inspiring Excellence.

Kernsville Elementary School

5051 Kernsville Road, Orefield, PA 18069

www.parklandsd.org



ParklandSchoolDistrict
Kernsville Elementary School



@KVCoyotes
@ParklandSchools

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August 22, 2022

Hello Returning and New Kernsville Families,

I hope you are having a nice summer and that your families are healthy. Our staff is excited to have our students back in school, and I am eager to start my 22nd year as the principal at Kernsville. The school and staff will be ready for the **first day of school on Monday, August 29, 2022**. Although it is my 28th year in public education, in some respects, it feels like my first year. I am confident in our staff, students, and families that we share common goals for a safe and healthy return. Thank you for taking the time to read this important document. If you have any questions about the information, feel free to call the main office at 610-351-5840.

Mr. Michael F. Gehringer
Principal,
Kernsville Elementary School

Get the Scoop, which is students and parents first peak at their classroom and the opportunity to meet their teacher and classmates, will be held this **Thursday, 8/25** from 10:45 to 11:30 AM.

First Day of School is **Monday, 8/29th** from 8:35 AM to 3:30 PM

Open House will be held on **Wednesday, August 31st** from 6:30 to 8 PM.

School will be closed on **Friday, 9/2** and **Monday, 9/5**

Teacher/Classroom Assignments and Bus/Transportation Information

This information is available now in [Home Access Center](#), Parkland's Online Parent Portal.

Please review your students' information in [HAC](#). **If any of this information is inaccurate please call the school office immediately.** It takes several business days to have this corrected and the volume of calls may lead to further delays.

If you need technical assistance logging in to HAC please e-mail HAC@parklandsd.org or call 610- 351-5602.

NEW KERNSVILLE STUDENTS

It is strongly suggested that NEW students in grades 1 through 5 come to school the first week with an index card containing the following information:

- Their first and last name
- Name of their homeroom teacher

Kindergarten students should utilize the "First Day of School" cards they received at Orientation in May.

We plan on having all available staff at the entrances to assist students with locating their classrooms and this will expediate the process. Please instruct your children to hold this card when entering the building. For younger students, you may want to put the card on a piece of yarn so they can wear it around their necks.

Kindergarten and 1st Grade students will receive a tag for their backpacks that will help all staff and bus drivers know what bus they are riding. This tag must remain on their backpacks for the entire school year and may not be altered

WEEKLY E-COMMUNICATIONS

- Every Friday our [Kernsville Weekly Update](#) website is updated. This page is our primary form of communication with our families. All school-wide information is posted here along with PTO news, District and Community news, school events and additional information that our families need.
- Every Friday you will receive an e-mail notification after this site has been updated. Please take a moment to visit the site to prepare for the upcoming week.
- If you do not receive these e-mail notifications, please call the office at Kernsville.

ABSENTEE REPORTING PROCEDURES

- School attendance is required and a state law. In addition, students are more likely to reach their potential when present. However, I recognize students get sick and unexpected events occur that require your student to miss school. Thank you for following our absentee procedures when this happens.
- **If your child is absent, please call the absentee hotline number at 610-351-5900 extension 27111 NO LATER than 9:00 AM or you may send an e-mail to KVAttendance@parklandsd.net by 9:00 AM. State your name, your child's name, their teacher's name and the reason for the absence.**
- By reporting your child's absence, we can ensure that all students have arrived at school safely. The office staff will keep a log of all calls and emails made before 9:00 AM and, therefore, an absence note from a parent will not be necessary.
- If your child will be absent for more than one day and you would like to pick up their homework please request it with your message or email the teacher directly. Homework requests must be received prior to 11 AM in order to allow our teachers time to gather the materials for pick-up between 3:30 and 4 PM.
- If an absence is **NOT** reported by 9:00 AM, the attendance secretary will call the designated number

to inform the parent of the child's absence. If they are unable to speak with anyone, a message will be left. Please send in an excuse note upon your child's return. If we do not receive a phone call or a note after 3 school days, the absence could be considered unexcused/illegal. A letter will be sent home for all unexcused/illegal absences. Regular illegal absences are cause for a required school improvement conference and possible court action.

CUSTODY AGREEMENTS

PLEASE ALERT OR CALL OUR MAIN OFFICE (610) 351-5840 WITH ANY NEW CUSTODY AGREEMENTS OR REVISIONS. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT. Students will only be released to their custodial parent unless written or verbal permission from the custodial parent is received to do otherwise.

KERNSVILLE BREAKFAST (Begins Tuesday, 8/30)

- We offer an OPTIONAL breakfast for our students. Breakfast begins at 8:35 in the cafeteria and is over by 8:50. **Breakfast will NOT be available on the first day of school (August 29th).** Breakfast includes a choice of cereal or a whole grain breakfast item, low fat milk, and either juice or fruit. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Jean Rappold, head cook, at 610-351-5840 ext. 27530. **Upon arrival, students may go directly to the Cafeteria for breakfast prior to going to their homerooms.**

LUNCH & BREAKFAST COSTS

- Elementary Lunch 2.70
- Elementary Breakfast 1.50
- Reduced Price Lunch .40
- Reduced Price Breakfast .30

Parkland School District has made it faster and easier for parents to apply for **free and reduced meals!** <https://www.schoolcafe.com>

This free service enables families to receive program benefits faster than using the paper application. Your application is electronically submitted directly to the child nutrition office for processing.

MYSCHOOLBUCKS

The MYSCHOOLBUCKS System can be used in our school cafeteria to assist parents and students in managing lunch money. www.myschoolbucks.com

Signing up is free, simple, and secure. You get low balance alerts and you can pay on the go.

No deposits (cash or checks) will be accepted at school. Checks made payable to PSD Cafeteria will be accepted at the food services office, located at The Troxell Building 2219 N. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown 18104.

You will be alerted when students have a low balance. If an account reaches a negative balance, a letter requesting additional money will be sent home. **Please keep your balance up to date.**

VISITING KERNSVILLE THIS YEAR

- Visitors and volunteers are by appointment only and with the authorization of administration.
- All volunteers must be comply with the District Volunteer Policy and submit all background clearances as per the District's policy available on the [District website](#).

VESTIBULE AREA

The elementary school is always locked , and all visitors are required to enter the school through the main entrance. **The Parkland School District has a security protocol, which may require all visitors, including parents, to show identification upon arrival. Be prepared to show your identification.**

After you buzz into the school and enter the school, we ask that you remain in this vestibule area. This vestibule waiting area is where you will:

- sign in a student if late or returning to school from an appointment
- sign out a student if he/she is leaving school early
- drop off papers for the school office
- drop off forgotten lunches/instruments
- drop off papers for our PTO
- pick up your student's homework
- pick up your child from the nurse
- meet the Nurse to drop off medication for your child.

If you have a meeting or a scheduled appointment inside the school, please share that with the school secretary when you first buzz in. The office staff will then buzz you through a second set of doors to gain entrance into the main office. It is a possibility you will not gain entrance into the school if no appointment was made, if there is insufficient information regarding the purpose of the visit, or you do not have an acceptable form of ID.

SCHOOL BUILDING CLOSES @ 4:00 PM - This is important to remember if you are picking up homework for your child because of an absence or if your child leaves something at school and you would like to pick it up.

IF A STUDENT NEEDS TO BE DISMISSED EARLIER THAN THE REGULAR SCHOOL DAY:

- A parent must send a written request in the morning, preferably on the "Note to Kernsville School" note paper and it should be given to the classroom teacher first thing in the morning.
- If an unplanned early leave is needed please call the school office at 610-351-5840. Do not e-mail the teacher. Be prepared to show proper identification upon arrival.

Prevent any changes after 2:30 to the greatest extent possible.

- When picking up your student, park your car in a parking spot, buzz into the school, and enter our vestibule area.
- You will sign them out in the vestibule area.
- Your student will come to the office first and then be dismissed to you. They will meet you in the vestibule area.
- In all cases, students will be released only to their custodial parent unless written or verbal permission from the custodial parent is received to do otherwise.


STUDENT CAR DROP-OFF

- In the event you are driving your child to school, do not drop off your child earlier than 8:35. The doors are not open, and we do not have supervision until 8:35.
- Parents must enter school grounds via Shankweiler Road. Parents and students must remain in their vehicle until directed by a staff member to exit on the west side of the building.
- 8:35 is when students are able to enter the school building.
- Follow the traffic flow in the main parking lot and drive very slowly.
- Several staff members are there to assist the students.
- If you arrive after 8:50, please find a parking spot, enter the Main entrance, and sign-in your child in our vestibule area. Your child is late if he/she arrives after 8:50.
- Try your best to teach your child how to get out of the vehicle independently.
- Have all materials (lunches, backpacks, etc.) prepared and ready.
- **Wait for the car in front of you before pulling away and leaving. Do not pull around a car even though your son/daughter is already out.**
- Drive slowly for the safety of our students.

STUDENT CAR PICK-UP (for students not taking the bus)

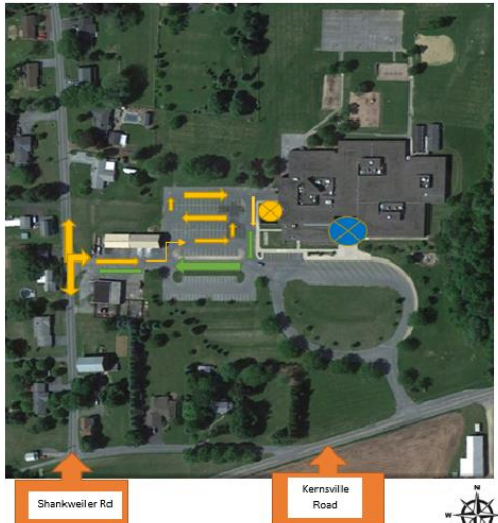
- **DISMISSAL begins at 3:30 P.M.**
- Several staff members are there to monitor the safety of the students.
- Students will wait at one of the paws on the sidewalk. You will be instructed to pull up.
- Once all the cars have come to a complete stop, your child will be able to enter your vehicle.
- For the safety of the children and a timely dismissal process, remain in your car. If your child needs assistance getting buckled, you will be asked to pull up out of the loading zone or find a parking spot to assist your child. Teach your child how to get into your vehicle safely and properly.
- Be aware of all children and drive away slowly.

KERNSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Parent Drop Off and Pick Up Instructions



Parents must enter school grounds via Shankweiler Road and follow the path indicated by the yellow arrows. Parents will remain in their vehicle and drop their child(s) off with a staff member at the drop off area and exit the school grounds via the path indicated by the green arrows.

Parent Pick Up at the end of the school day will now follow this same procedure. **Parents will no longer exit their vehicle.** As they pull up to the pick up area their child(s) will be sent to the car.




Drop Off And Pick Up Area

Main School Entrance
Students arriving late or leaving school early

Shankweiler Rd

Kernsville Road



STUDENT BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

- No parent provided treats (edible or non-edible) are permitted.
- The PSD Birthday Bag program is back. This allows parents to order Birthday Bags which are assembled and delivered by the district and contain items which are safe for all students. The order form will be available on the Food Services page.

ST MATH

Ji Ji the penguin will be at it again this year. Your child's classroom teacher will explain ST Math as it pertains to your grade level at Open House.

VACATIONS

Vacations are not encouraged during the school year. If a vacation is planned during the school year, you should complete a Vacation/Emergency Form **at least one week** before the leaving date. This allows time to inform teachers and organize their expectations of missed schoolwork. Contact the school office for this form.

- Avoid vacations/appointments during these important dates:

➤ Grade 1 and 2

Otis Lennon School Ability Assessment January 30th – February 3rd

➤ Grade 3

PSSA ELA Assessment April 25-27 PSSA Math

Assessment May 1-2

WHEN WILL MY CHILD WASH OR SANITIZE THEIR HANDS?

Students will wash their hands:

- Before eating lunch (in their classroom)
- After recess(in their classroom)
- Before and after gym class (in their classroom)
- After using the toilet
- After blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing

Students will sanitize their hands:

- Prior to and after eating breakfast (in the gym)
- After lunch and before going onto the playground (gym exit)
- Exiting the nursing suite
- As necessary within the classroom and hallways



CLEANING, SANITIZING AND DISINFECTING AT KERNSVILLE

- Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting will be performed in accordance with current CDC, and DOH guidelines. EPA approved products will be used in accordance with labeling requirements and staff will be trained on how to appropriately use these products.
- Water fountains will be closed for use in both hallways and classrooms. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle. Students will be able to use our refilling stations.

I am looking forward to seeing our students again on the first day of school; Monday, August 29th, 2022

Remember to follow our school on Twitter [@KVCoyotes](#) and Facebook [Kernsville Elementary School](#) and share with family, grandparents, and other friends. You will have the chance to see pictures across our classrooms and see what is happening inside our GREAT school.

