

THE TWAIN TIMES

Mark Twain Elementary

SEPTEMBER 2021

Attendance: 797-7213
Office: 797-7200

Vicki Moss Principal
Susan Kaul Secretary
Kelley Knapp Attendance
Jenna Martin School Nurse
Feven Woldeab Health Aide
Serena Casale School Counselor



Important Dates To Remember...

Labor Day NO SCHOOL	09/06
Family Fun Night	09/09
Interims Available	09/15
PTA Walk-A-THON	09/17
Early Release @2:30 pm	09/23
Fall Picture Day	09/24
PTA Meeting @ 7:00 P.M.	09/28

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Due to the increased number of food allergies we can no longer accept birthday treats to share with the class. Instead, we highly recommend alternative celebration items such as a birthday pencil or donating a book to the classroom library in your child's name.



If you have not already done so, please complete your student information ONLINE Student Emergency Medical Information & Parental Consent Forms including but not limited to: Walking Field Trips and Publicity Opportunities Log into PowerSchool Parent Portal for each student & click on the "Forms" located on the left. If these are not complete your child may be excluded from participation. If you have any questions please call don't hesitate to call the office at: 797-7200



WELCOME BACK

Principal: Vicki Moss
Secretary: Susan Kaul Attendance Clerk: Kelley Knapp
Nurse: Jenna Martin Health Aide: Feven Woldeab
Guidance: Serena Casale and Madison Seabury
Psychologist: Tasha Stoll-Juredine
Media Specialist: Pam Todd
Cafeteria Staff: Kathy Chiero and Lee Wood
Custodians: John Clark and Thomas Thompson
Duty Aides: Barbie Pabst, Lindsey Marsolo, Ashley Berry, Jillian Lang, Kevin Martin, and Kemily Palmer
Crossing Guard: Kevin Martin
Instructional Coach: Amber Case
Reading Specialist: Monica Roberts, Elyson Gerton
Speech and Hearing: Alison Miller
ESL Chelsie Lakeman, Donna Dixius, and Ifrah Hosh
Success Coach: Kristen Buckley and Lance Hudnell
Art: Bob Kowalski
Music: Ian Murphy
Physical Education: Kim Hunter
Kindergarten: David Walker, Heather Ivery and Breanna Garrett
Grade 1: Natalie Hostetler, Judith Strain, Carol Loudon, Caroline Ey, and Erika Boehm
Grade 2: Lizzy Hafner, Natalie Martin, Amanda Matchack, Kelly Calhoun, and Erika Hines
Grade 3: Jenn Frashier, Alyssa Burkhart, Rachel Lysaght and Amanda Breckenridge
Grade 4: Kim Glaser, Angie Lee, Cindy Campbell, and Amy McCoy
Grade 5: , Shelley Seabury, April Hynes, Linda Amici, and Greg Manten-
ieks



The Mark Twain Staff would like to extend a sincere welcome to all of our parents and students. Our goals this year include continuing to improve upon student achievement and helping each child to have a successful and enjoyable school year. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting year!

MARK TWAIN ATTENDANCE

797-7213



ATTENDANCE LINE

If your child is going to be tardy or absent from school please remember to use our SafeArrival System or call the attendance line 614-797-7213. This line is available 24 hours a day. Please report all absences by 9:00 a.m.



WELCOME BACK!

The 2021-2022 school year has begun and the Westerville School District staff has exciting learning opportunities planned and high academic expectations for all students. Westerville School District staff will support all students to achieve their hopes and dreams to experience an excellent 2021-2022 school year.

I am seeking your commitment to making sure child attends school every day possible this year.

The evidence is clear: **children with good attendance are more likely to be successful in school.** High attendance rates correlate to high student achievement. This is true for every grade. Regular school attendance is essential to successful learning:

Every day counts. Missing school even 10% of the time has a significant negative impact on academic achievement as children progress through school. Students with good attendance perform better academically. Good attendance starts early. Research has shown that the attendance habits established early have lasting effects on students throughout their education. Your child needs to be in school and engaged in learning to reach his or her full potential.

We realize that every family faces challenges. **Please let your child's principal know if you are dealing with a challenge affecting your child's good school attendance.** Your school family will help you ensure that your child's school attendance stays on track.

Thank you for all you do to support your child's school success and well-being. I look forward to working with you this year and to having your child learn and grow. Best wishes for a safe, respectful, responsible and successful school year.

New for the 2021-2022 School Year!



SAFEARRIVAL ATTENDANCE REPORTING

This school year, all WCSD families will report student absences through a secure system called **SafeArrival**. In addition to reducing the time it takes to verify student attendance, this system gives families more options to report a child's absence and allows our staff to immediately investigate discrepancies. This is especially important when a child is reported absent during attendance and the office has not been notified that the student would be missing school that day.

Beginning in August, families will be able to report and/or schedule absences through any of the following options:

- An app on their mobile device,
- A secure website, or
- A toll-free telephone number.

If a parent/guardian forgets to report their student's absence, they will begin to receive automated notifications once the child is marked absent at school. The notification process ends when the parent/guardian confirms the absence through SafeArrival. Safe-guards are in place to prevent students from reporting their own absence.

These absence reporting options will be available to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Future absences, such as known medical appointments, can be scheduled at any time.

The app is convenient, the toll-free number is districtwide, and the dedicated website also provides access to an archive of messages sent to families through the district's notification system.

MARK TWAIN REMINDERS AND REALLY USEFUL INFORMATION!

ALL STUDENTS WILL EAT FREE for the 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR



The United States Department of Agriculture has extended free meal benefits to all students through the end of the 2021-22 school year. That means breakfast and lunch school meals available to students to eat at school will be free for the entire school year. The "**Meal Deal**" is required to qualify for free meals. All individual items, A la Carte, and additional entrees will have an additional fee.

Breakfast Meal Deal consists of a grain and up to 2 choices of fruit

Lunch Meal Deal consists of a protein/grain (main course), choice of up to 2 veggies and/or a fruit. 1% milk is included with all meals.

Lunch Applications for the 2021-22 School Year are not required to qualify for free school lunches. However there are several District and External Benefits that you may qualify for by filling out the lunch application. To begin the application process, please visit www.LunchApplication.com. Once you have agreed to the terms and conditions, select OH for Ohio and then choose Westerville City Schools. Paper applications are available at school buildings, the Enrollment Center, and at the district Food Service office located at 125 E. Walnut St. For more information

Food Services are accepting 2021-2022 Free/Reduced Lunch Applications. Please note that lunch will be free for all students for the 2021-22 school year but applications provide other benefits to these students.

Refunds of Lunch Money: If you are moving out of the district, or if you have a student who has graduated, you may request a refund of any monies left in their lunch account. Please complete the Refund/Donation of Lunch Account Balance form and send into the Food Service Department. The form can be found in the documents on this page.

Last Day Checks Accepted: Checks, Cash & Money Orders will continue to be accepted in the cafeteria. **Last day for checks is May 13, 2022**

School Closings: School closings due to inclement weather cause a change in the lunch menu. Please note that the day of return after a snow day, the snow day's menu will be used. If we have school closed for successive days because of bad weather, the lunch menu on the returning day will still be that of the first snow day. The following day the school lunch menu will return to the printed menu.

TODAY
is the day to
learn something
NEW

River Pilot Pledge

I will be the best that I can be
by:

Respecting myself and others,
listening and following directions,
keeping hands, feet, and objects
to myself, using positive words
and actions, and being prepared
to learn. I choose to be a leader
at all times.


**bee
kind**

NEWS AND INFORMATION



School Fees are Due!

Fees can be paid online through your student's EZPay account; (a nominal fee is charged for online payments). You can also pay fees with a check, cash or money order. If you are unable to pay fees on line, please contact the Mark Twain office for other payment options. Make checks payable to WBOE

Kindergarten	\$18.50
First	\$32.00
Second	\$32.00
Third	\$28.00
Fourth	\$30.00

FACIAL COVERINGS

- When in-person instruction, policy/guidelines require staff to wear face coverings/shields (permitted exceptions identified).
- Policy/guidelines also require students in grades PK-12 to wear face coverings when in halls/common areas and classrooms. "Mask breaks" will be built into the school day per a district protocol under the direction of a staff member.
- Recommendation is for staff and students provide own facial mask; district will have supply on hand.
- Facial masks are required for anyone coming onto school property during the day and/or for school functions.
- Clinic staff will be provided appropriate PPE.



Please accept this as a gentle reminder that if something is going on with your child that makes you question their education (in any way) please start by communicating with your child's teacher. The teacher is the one that spends the most time with your child and can offer more insight. If more intervention is needed then the situation will be further addressed and re-directed as needed. We are a "team" staff here and encourage open communication between parents and members of the teaching staff.



EARLY RELEASE DAYS FOR STUDENTS

The mission of Westerville City Schools is to prepare students to contribute to the competitive and changing world in which we live. To accomplish this, the district has scheduled four "Early Release" days during the 2021-2022 school year for the purpose of staff professional development. These times will be used to focus on meeting the goals of the Continuous Improvement Plan. During an "Early Release" the elementary school student day will be shortened by one hour, with dismissal at 2:30. Bus schedules for elementary school students will be one hour earlier for dismissal only.

Dates of Early Release

September 23rd
November 18th
January 27th
March 17th



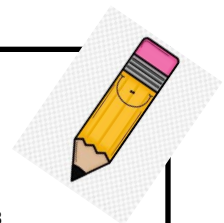
FALL PICTURES

FRIDAY, September 24th

REMINDERS!

LABOR DAY SEPTEMBER 6TH
NO SCHOOL

EARLY RELEASE SEPTEMBER 23
Students released at 2:30 pm



PTA NEWS AND INFORMATION



WAYS TO SUPPORT MARK TWAIN

BOX TOPS

- Go to the APP store.
- Download the app for Box Tops for Education
- Create an account.
- Find and select our school.



app.

After shopping, scan any grocery receipt that includes Box Tops products. Box Tops for Education will donate 10¢ to Mark Twain for each Box Top.

AMAZON

Amazon Shoppers- You can support Mark Twain. Shop Amazon Smile.

Amazon Smile is a website operated by Amazon. It features the same products at the same prices as the standard Amazon site. The only difference is, when you shop on Amazon Smile, the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the cost of all eligible products to your chosen charity, Mark Twain.

Go to www.smile.amazon.com



Log in to your Amazon account.

Search "Mark Twain Westerville" to find: PTA Ohio Congress Mark Twain PTA

Select our school and accept the terms.

Remember: You must shop from Amazon Smile for Mark Twain to get a donation.

KROGER

Kroger Shoppers- You can support Mark Twain while you shop. Here's how.

Go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards



Log in or create a digital account.

Link your Shopper card to Mark Twain Elementary School.

Search "Mark Twain Elem PTA". Our # is 84372.

Shop at Kroger, enter your Shopper's Card # at checkout, and Kroger donates a percent of sales to Mark Twain.

Join Us!

Sign up for a PTA Membership today!

The Mark Twain PTA strives to build strong working relationships among parents, teachers and our school, in support of students.

- Go to <https://marktwain.memberhub.com/store>
- Click "PTA Every child One voice Mark Twain PTA household membership".
- Complete the Form. Click "Add to Cart".
- Click "Cart". Complete your order.

\$10 Family Membership. Optional Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each Month. Questions? marktwainwestervillepta@gmail.com

Mark Twain Elementary Annual Walk-A-Thon September 17th!!!

This will be our only fundraiser. 100% of donations directly benefit all students by providing classroom materials & supplies, playground equipment, enrichment programs, spirit wear, field trips, assemblies, clubs, family events, and more!

Before the event: Students seek donations from family and/or close friends up until September 15th. Donations should be a flat rate, not per lap total, and students should not approach strangers. Please note that to be eligible for prizes, donations are due on or before September 15th. (2 days prior to the event). All prizes will be awarded the day of the event! Please return donations to your teacher in the envelope provided.

During the event: Each grade will have a designated time to walk/run and participate in other fitness activities.

School Goal: \$10,000 = \$25-\$50 per student

Every student who brings in a minimum of \$25 will be entered in a drawing to win a raffle prize. (Each \$25.00 increment will earn an additional raffle ticket.) Top 5 students will receive a Wendy's picnic lunch with Mrs. Moss! Top classroom per grade will be awarded an extra recess.

Raffle Prizes include: Lego sets, Columbus Zoo passes, Columbus Clippers tickets, art supplies, sports balls, gift certificates & more!



2021-2021

Mark Twain Elementary School

PTA Board Members

President:	Jessica Linek
Vice President:	Katie Simon
Co-Treasurer:	Kris Shear
Co-Treasurer:	Judie Barsch
Financial Secretary:	Abbey Gibson
Recording Secretary:	Shawna Hess

GENERAL PTA MAIL is:

marktwainwesterville@gmail.com

PTA MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29TH
7:00 P.M.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Thursday, September 9th

4:00 - 7:00

Food trucks and Inflatables

Note: Due to COVID, masks are mandatory while walking around.

Social Distancing will also be in place.