



August 18, 2023

Welcome Class of 2036!

We are so excited to welcome our incoming kindergarten students to Riverside School in just a few short weeks. We know the first day of school can be daunting with the buzz of so many families arriving at school at once. **As a District, we recognize the first day for our kindergarteners needs to be special. As such, we have planned to begin the Kindergarten day at 9:30 am (one hour later than the regular arrival window) just for the first day of school, Friday, September 1st, to give the children a special welcome to our school community.**

You can gather outside the Riverside School Kindergarten entrance door (on the side of the school near Hendrie Ave. - to the right of the media center) with your child/children, starting at 9:30 am that day. Students will then gather with their teacher once the teachers come outside right after 9:30 am. Each Kindergarten teacher will have a small flag with her name on it. Once all students and families are met by the teachers, Mr. Weiss and Mr. Matejek will hold a brief "ringing in the new year" ceremony for Kindergarten, to welcome the parents and students to the new school year (and as we celebrate our 90th anniversary as a school). The students will then head inside with their teacher (and a school support staff member) to start their school day. We ask that parents remain outside as their children head into the school. Parents are welcome to attend the classroom visitation with their Kindergarten child/children the day before (on August 31) at 11 am to see the classroom with the teacher together.

You can park along Hendrie Avenue at any available parking space, in the main school parking lot (and walk over to the Kindergarten door), or in any other legal parking spot on one of the nearby side streets. Please do not park in the drop off lane in front of the school as this is a fire lane and no cars should be left unoccupied in that lane.

We are looking forward to meeting you and your Kindergarten child/children and wish you all the best as you enjoy these final weeks of summer!

Parents, please note that bus transportation (if your child qualifies for transportation) will only be provided on an "as needed" basis for the first day of school at this later start time for Kindergarten. If any parent requires bus transportation for their child to arrive at 9:30 am on Friday, September 1, please let Mr. Weiss know by August 28 so he can arrange for bus transportation for your child that day to come to school. Regular bus transportation (for those that take the bus) will be held at dismissal on the first day of school, for all grade levels of students, starting around 3:15 pm.

Regarding the 9:30 later start time on the first day of school for Kindergarten, if this is hardship in any way for your family, please contact us and we will absolutely make arrangements for your children to be here, and cared for, at our usual arrival time of 8:30 am that day and will have them join us, with the rest of their new classmates, for our special Kindergarten welcome at 9:30 am.

Sincerely,

Christopher Weiss
Riverside Principal

Eugene Matejek
Riverside Assistant Principal