

Jayhawk Journal



Week of August 26-30

Principal's Corner

This has been an amazing week to watch all of our staff come back and begin to do what they love. We are eagerly waiting for the halls to be filled with our students who make this a wonderful place to be. As we begin this week, just a reminder that no parents will be allowed in building. We will have extra staff in the halls to guide students to where they need to be for their rooms.

-Mr. Traub

IChat Forms Needed for Volunteers

Planning to volunteer this year? Fill out the iChat form now and you'll be all set for the year! Just enter today's date (or a day next week) for when you plan to begin volunteering. Then, you'll be all set when it comes time to help with Holiday Shop, Field Day, and other events.

Parking Lot

Parents/Guardians,

In order to be ready for the school year, we would like you to look over the Johnson Car Loop drop-off and pick-up map that is attached in this newsletter. We value the safety and well-being of all students, staff, and community members. If you see, we have an additional "snake lane" that allows us to house more cars in the parking lot that keeps them off of Hix Road. We ask that all parents are patient the first week as new 5th grade families learn this new procedure. On average we are done loading the car line within 8 minutes after dismissal (this may be longer in week 1). We will be going over the map during our presentation at Open House.

Upcoming Dates

8/26 - First Day of School

1/2 Day Dismissal at 11:45
a.m. (No lunch)

8/27 - Full Day of School Dismissal at
3:30 p.m.

8/30 - No School Labor Day Weekend

9/2 - No School Labor Day Weekend

9/10 - PTA Meeting

9/13 - Picture Day

9/19 - Virtual Curriculum Night

Open House Night

Thank you to our amazing community for coming out and showing your support for Open House last week. We would like to once again apologize for the technical issues we had during the 5th grade presentation. Thank you for being flexible, it was a great night for all involved!

Week At A Glance

Monday 8/26 Half Day

Tuesday 8/27 Full Day

Wednesday 8/28

Thursday 8/29

Friday 8/30 No School

Our Mission: Johnson Upper Elementary School is committed to providing a safe, respectful environment that supports the academic and socio-emotional needs of every student as they develop the necessary skills to become capable, confident, life-long learners.

Keep soaring Jayhawks!

Important Reminders

Week of August 26th



Johnson Upper Elementary School

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

8400 Hix Rd. Westland, MI 48185 Phone: (734) 744-2740

Thomas Traub, Principal • Kim Samouelian, Assistant Principal

August 16, 2024

Hello Jayhawk Family:

Words cannot describe how excited and honored I am to be a part of this amazing school, once again. I have had the pleasure of being the assistant principal of this building for my first 3 years, and I will be starting my 4th year as the building principal. Over the past 7 years, I have been surrounded by a great staff, great students, and an amazing community.

I attended the University of Central Florida where I obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education, and then finished my Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from UCF, as well. I spent my first ten years in education working for Orange County Public Schools in Orlando, Florida. While with Orange County, I worked as an elementary teacher, an instructional coach, and was an assistant principal at an elementary building.

In the summer of 2018, I returned home to Livonia Public Schools. As a former graduate of Churchill High School, I am familiar with every neighborhood that feeds into Johnson Upper Elementary and take great pride in knowing that our students will attend Frost Middle School and Churchill, just like I did. I believe in the vision and mission of Livonia Public Schools so much that I am not only an employee, I am also a parent. My wife and I are committed to sending our three children through the same school system that you have chosen for yours.

I am here to serve the students, staff, parents, PTA, and members of this community. It is my personal mission to make this building a place where your students will make positive memories that will last a lifetime. I value collaboration between staff, students, and parents, as we are a team, and this will be essential for our students to be successful. I truly believe that every child is one positive relationship away from becoming a success story.

I promise to always do what is best for students and will always work towards building a positive school culture and climate where all stakeholders feel accepted and valued. Please know that this is a great school and your students are going to have amazing opportunities here to learn and grow. I look forward to giving back to the great community that made me who I am!

Keep SOARING Jayhawks!

Tom Traub
Principal
Johnson Upper Elementary

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August 16, 2024

Dear Johnson Community,

It is with great excitement that I write this letter to introduce myself, Kim Samouelian, as your assistant principal of Johnson Upper Elementary. I am so honored to begin my second year working with this community and I am looking forward to the 2024-2025 school year.

I began my educational career in 2005 as a 7th grade Language Arts teacher in Palos Park, Illinois. I served as a Team Leader and Director of Student Interventions during my time as a teacher there. After teaching, my career took me into administration and I was an Assistant Principal in Palos Park, IL and in Schaumburg, IL. Most of my career has been in Junior High. It wasn't until my move to Michigan in 2019 that I adventured to the land of Upper Elementary where I served as the assistant principal of Cooper Upper Elementary for four years.

The 2024-2025 school year will be filled with exciting learning opportunities, positive and memorable life experiences, personal and academic growth, and high levels of learning. The Johnson community has a dedicated, talented staff committed to doing what is in the best interest of our students. Alongside Mr. Traub, we will continue to put students first and work diligently to ensure their success. I look forward to keeping the momentum and positivity going at Johnson and partnering with each member of our parent-family community to make sure our Jayhawks receive a rich, well-rounded education.

All the best,

Kim Samouelian
Assistant Principal
Johnson Upper Elementary



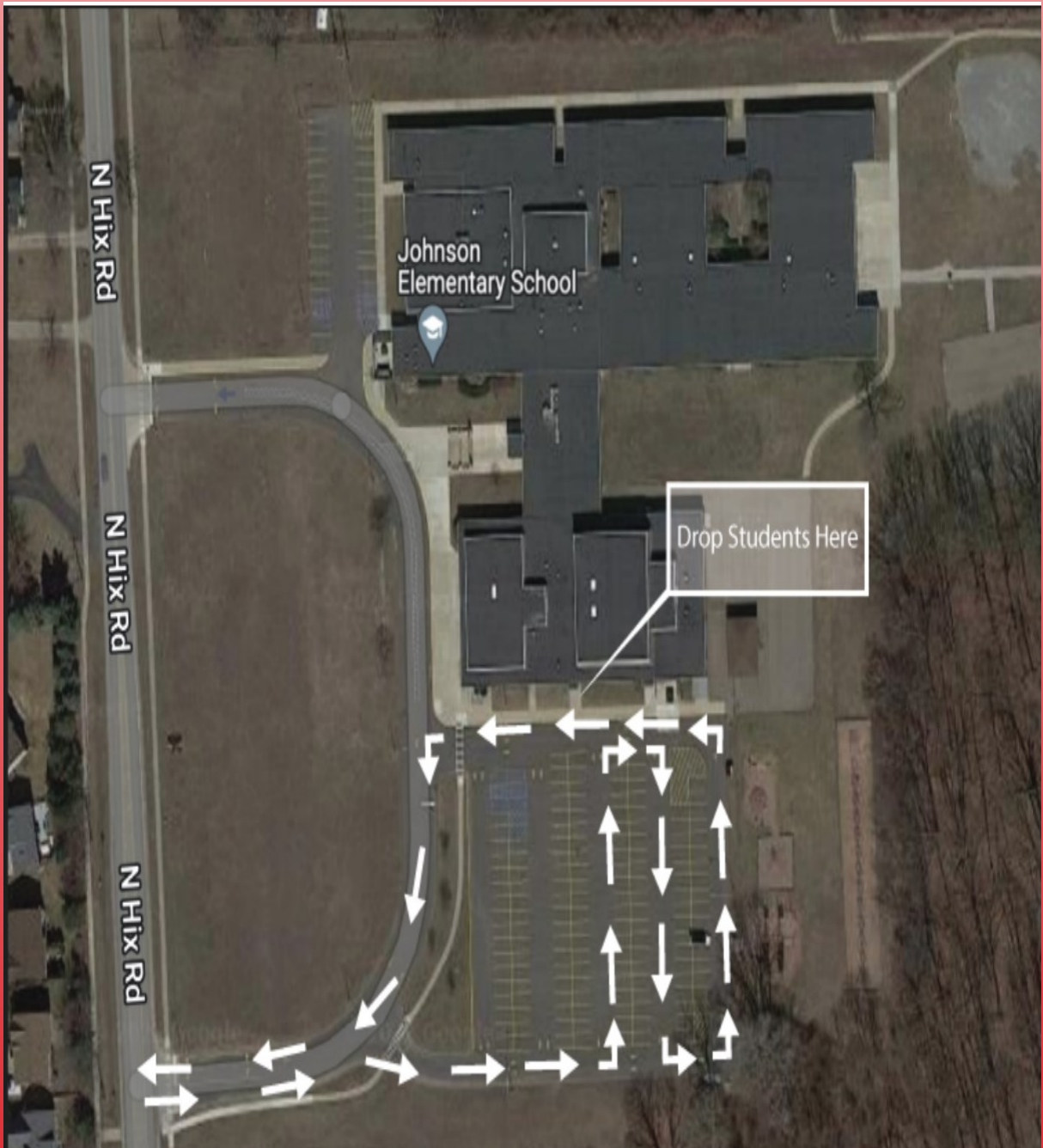
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Johnson Car Loop



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WELCOME BACK to our sixth grade Jayhawks and WELCOME to our new fifth grade families. The Jayhawk Community Newsletter is sent out weekly. We put all pertinent information in our newsletter and encourage families to check out the district website at www.livoniapublicschools.org and be sure to check out our school website by clicking on the link for Johnson Upper Elementary contained there.

EMERGENCY CARD INFORMATION - It is required that each family review the emergency contact information that is on file at Johnson. You can view this information in parent connect. **WHY?** in the event of an emergency, sick child, severe weather, we may need to reach you. The process to verify your emergency contact information is correct is simple. Simply log into Parent Connect and follow the prompts.

DROPOFF AND PICKUP TIMES - Students cannot be dropped off for school in the morning prior to 8:15am. This is when the doors open for breakfast and when staff is available to supervise students. Prior to this time, all school doors are locked. Students are not to be left unattended, arrangements must be made. Also, dismissal is at 3:30pm daily and at 11:45am on half days. It is required that all students who are picked up in the car loop be picked up no later than 3:45pm. Staff is not available to supervise students beyond that time. The district offers a SACC program for those students that cannot be picked up by 3:45pm. Please contact SACC at (734)744-2966 to make arrangements.

COMMUNICATION - The beginning of the day and the end of the day are always busy times in the school office. At Johnson, we realize there are always unexpected circumstances that arise and we will do everything in our power to accommodate unplanned interruptions. We also ask parents to call the office after 9:00am and prior to 3:00pm if they are making alternate transportation arrangements for their students' trip home. Teachers frequently use the end of the day time for classroom reorganization, recess and/or specials and catching up to a class can be a challenge. We appreciate your help. The office phone number is (734)744-2740.

OFFICE HOURS - Mr. Traub, Principal and Mrs. Samouelian, Assistant Principal, are available via email, telephone and in person. If you have any questions or concerns, please set an appointment to discuss your situation privately with one of our Administrators. The Johnson school office is open M-F from 7:45am to 4:15pm. Teachers are generally unavailable during the day as they are teaching. If you have a concern, please reach out to teachers via email or contact the office directly at (734) 744-2740. Students will not be permitted back into the building for forgotten items once the office is closed for the day!

SCHOOL BREAKFAST/LUNCH - Breakfast and Hot Lunch will be provided for free for all students this year. More information will be sent with flyers in our upcoming newsletters.

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ATTENDANCE LINE - It is vital for academic success that your student be in attendance daily, ready to learn. If your student is absent on any given day, please contact the school office and let them know. This helps reduce phone calls home to verify a student's absence and it helps keep accurate attendance records. A reminder, if a student has a fever or has vomited, they are not to return to school for 24 hours once the fever is gone and/or vomiting has stopped. In this time of concern over congested or cold/coughing students still coming to school, we will leave this judgment to the parents. We simply ask you to make sure your student is healthy and not a distraction to the learning environment. Thank you for your cooperation. The attendance line is available at (734) 744-2740 ext 1.

MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL - Oftentimes a student will come to the office with a medical need. The office staff is able to dispense medication as needed as long as the medication is: 1) Delivered to school by a parent in the original unopened package or prescription container, {NO MEDICATION can be brought to school by students} 2) As long as there is an individual, signed medical authorization on file for each medication {form available in the office and online} Medication includes but is not limited to cough drops, aspirin, Tylenol, Advil, prescription drugs, creams, lotions, vitamins, inhalers, EpiPens, etc.... We cannot administer any medication that is not listed on file in the office. Please reach out to Jill Jablonski in the office to set up a time to bring in medications and to review your student's medical needs when they are in the building.

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK (BIAB) - We work in conjunction with BIAB to provide weekend meals to those families in need of food assistance. If this is something you would like to participate in, all you have to do is fill out the form that came home with students today or simply contact the office at (734) 744-2740 and we will sign you up. Delivery will begin the following week.

SOCIAL MEDIA - JOHNSON has a Facebook page filled with stories of our daily student activities/projects/concerts and general shenanigans. Be sure to like our page to see our students and staff in action! In addition, Johnson is fortunate to have an amazing PTA and they have a facebook as well! Information about how to join the PTA, events, volunteering, contributing and general information are included in the welcome packet.

"Today is the beginning." - Anonymous

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