



RAMBLERS RISE

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Welcome to Nathan Hale School! Your Home Away From Home for Learning and Growth

Dear Nathan Hale School Families,

My heart is absolutely bursting with joy as I welcome you to what I know will be an extraordinary 2025-2026 school year at Nathan Hale School! There's something truly magical that happens within these walls, and as your child's principal, I feel incredibly privileged to witness it every single day. Our phenomenal team of educators doesn't just teach—they inspire, nurture, and believe in the limitless potential of every child who enters our doors.

Nathan Hale School is more than an educational setting; we're a tight-knit family where every student's success story begins. This year promises to be filled with breakthrough moments, joyful discoveries, and the kind of meaningful connections that last a lifetime. As we prepare to launch into this incredible adventure together, I'm excited to share the essential information that will help make your back-to-school transition seamless and stress-free.

 **SAVE THE DATE: Back to School Night - Thursday, September 18th**

This is going to be a wonderful evening you won't want to miss!

There's a new smiling face in the main office!

I'm absolutely delighted to introduce **Ms. Nathasha Baez**, our fabulous new Administrative Assistant/School Secretary! Ms. Baez has brought such incredible warmth, professionalism, and positive energy to our Nathan Hale family. Her dedication to supporting our students and families has already made such a difference in our school community. If you haven't had the pleasure of meeting her yet, you're in for a treat! She can be reached at the main office extension (732) 541-8960 x 5002.

First Days of School

 **First Day for Students:** Wednesday, September 3rd

- **Abbreviated session**
- **Arrival:** 8:30 AM
- **Dismissal:** 1:10 PM sharp (*please make pickup arrangements*)

 **Regular School Hours** (*starting Thursday, September 4th*):

- **8:30 AM - 2:45 PM**


Important: Check our [2025-2026 School Calendar](#) for holidays, special dates, and abbreviated sessions so you can plan ahead!

Please Note: Students will only be released to the adults you list in the Parent Portal Emergency Contacts. Identification must match the name in Realtime.

Parent Portal - ACTION REQUIRED!

This is **ESSENTIAL** for a smooth start! Please log into the Parent Portal at carteretschools.org **BEFORE** the first day to:

- ✓ Update emergency contact information
- ✓ Complete required questionnaires
- ✓ Access your child's teacher assignment
- ✓ Complete the annual lunch application

 **Important Note:** Students cannot and will not be released without completed Parent Portal information. ***This must be filled out!*** While our staff will assist on the first day, please expect potentially long wait times if you haven't completed this beforehand.

Safety & Security - Keeping Our Kids Safe

Visitor/Pick Up Requirements:

- Valid photo ID required for ALL building entry
- Sign in at the security desk and display your building pass at all times
- Students **will only** be released to adults listed in Parent Portal with identification- if an adult comes to pick up a child and is not listed, or does not have identification, your child WILL NOT be released. This is for your child's safety. We appreciate your understanding and patience!

- Remember to use crosswalks to cross all streets at all times
- Parking and stopping in front of the school on the yellow curb is not permitted

School Hours:

- Students should not arrive before **8:30 am** unless enrolled in the Before Care or Breakfast Program. Students in the breakfast program may arrive as early as **8:00 am**
- Before and after-school care is available as an additional paid service. Please contact Kimberly Androvich at ext. 6005 for more information.

Arrival & Dismissal Made Simple

Look for the colors on the chart below on the first day of school. Our teachers will have flags that match their grade level color and have their names listed to help you find your way!

Drop-off and Pick-up Locations by Grade:

Grade	Arrival
Pre-Kindergarten (Elkin, Gomm, Mayan)	Door 4 (ramp by Hayward Ave.)
Kindergarten (Lesniak & Tierney)	Door 4 (ramp by Hayward Ave.)
Kindergarten (Bernstein & LeLievre)	Door 3 (Hayward Ave.)
1 (Kapinos, Collazo, Ciamarra, Peguero)	Playground (Door 5 near Lincoln Ave.)
2 (Green, Dazzo, Munoz, Rodriguez)	Playground (Door 5 near Lincoln Ave.)
3 (Silva/Ryan, Nemati, Mendes)	Playground (Door 6 near Roosevelt Ave.)
4 (Horzepa, Dalina/Rooney, Elysee, McIntosh, Massella)	Door 1 (main entrance on Roosevelt Ave.)

Dismissal Safety Reminder:

- Students will stand with their teacher at dismissal (Please wait until the teacher dismisses your child.) For safety reasons, do not call students over to you or remove them directly from the line without the teacher's awareness.

 **Bus Riders:** All bus students use Door 4 for both arrival and dismissal

Late Arrival Policy:

Students arriving after 8:45 AM must be escorted into the building by an adult with a valid photo ID and signed in at the main office.

Nutrition Programs

Breakfast Program

- **Time:** 8:00 AM - 8:25 AM
- **Entry:** Door 4
- **Cost:** \$1.10

Lunch Program

- **Cost:** \$3.00
- **Complete lunch application on Parent Portal** (required annually, regardless of previous status)

****PLEASE NOTE for the School Year****

Birthdays parties: Edible treats and snacks are not permitted for birthdays. If you choose to send something to school, you may send goodie bags with non-edible items such as pencils, erasers, small toys, etc. (candy, cake, cupcakes, and donuts are not permitted). You may also donate a book to the class library in your child's name or come to read. I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Uniform Policy

Our district maintains a mandatory uniform policy, including appropriate footwear (sneakers or black/brown school shoes). Please review the [Elementary Uniform Policy](#) to ensure your child is properly dressed for success each day!

Transportation Information

- Bus information available on Parent Portal
- Bus tags must be visible on backpacks
- Students must ride their assigned bus and be met by an adult at the stop
- Stops cannot be adjusted

Safety Reminders:

- Use designated crosswalks and crossing guards
 - **NO parking, stopping, or drop-off on the school side of Roosevelt Avenue**
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Join Our Parent Community!

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

- **Cost:** Only \$5 per family for the entire year
- **First Meeting:** September (date TBA)

Your partnership in your child's education is the cornerstone of everything we do! Together, we create the supportive community that makes Nathan Hale School such a special place. Check out some [upcoming events](#) and look out for future sign-up details.

Looking Ahead with Pure Excitement!

As summer comes to a close, I'm filled with anticipation for the incredible journey we're about to begin together. This year at Nathan Hale School will be marked by rich, quality learning experiences that challenge and inspire every single one of our students.

The privilege of working with your children—watching them grow, learn, and discover their unique talents—is something I treasure deeply. Thank you for trusting us with what matters most to you. I promise we'll approach this responsibility with the dedication, care, and enthusiasm it deserves.

Please know that my door is always open, and I'm here to support you and your family throughout this amazing year. Don't hesitate to reach out at (732) 541-8960 ext. 5002, whenever you need anything.

Here's to a fantastic year of learning, growth, and partnership!

With immense pride and excitement,

Ms. Erika Barrett

Ms. Erika Barrett

Principal, Nathan Hale School

P.S. Don't forget - Back to School Night is Thursday, September 18th! 