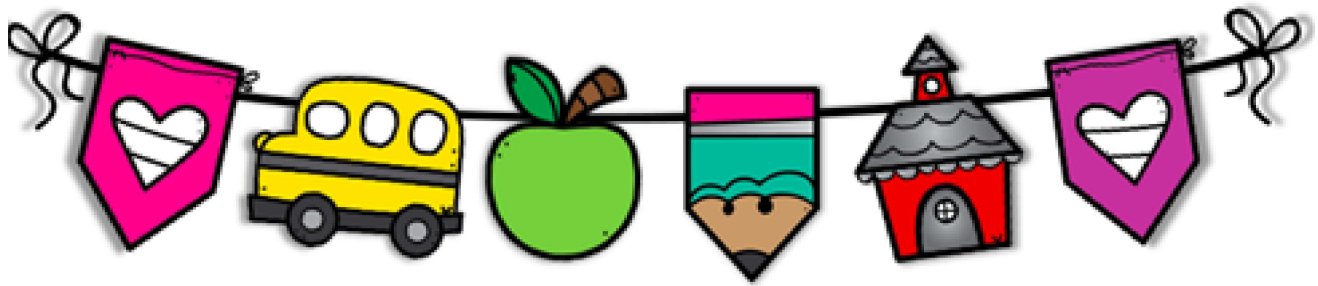


WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN!



KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION GUIDE 2026-2027



EXPECT THE BEST!

PARMA | PARMA HEIGHTS | SEVEN HILLS

WELCOME TO PARMA CITY SCHOOLS!

Dear Parent or Guardian,

This guide is designed to support you and your child as you begin your educational journey in Parma City Schools. It provides helpful information about our kindergarten program, daily routines, learning expectations, and ways families can support early learning at home.

Kindergarten is an important first step in building a strong foundation for future academic success. During this year, students develop essential skills in reading, writing, mathematics, social development, and problem-solving, while learning how to work independently and collaboratively in a school setting.

We encourage families to review this guide together and talk with your child about what to expect in kindergarten. Working closely with teachers and school staff helps ensure that each student feels confident, supported, and excited about learning. Our kindergarten team is committed to creating a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment where every child can grow.

If you have questions about our kindergarten program or your child's transition to school, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school. We view this experience as a partnership between families and educators, working together to help every child thrive.

Sincerely,



Dr. Scott J. Hunt
Superintendent

The Parma City School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or age in its programs and activities.



OUR SCHOOLS

ELEMENTARY | KINDERGARTEN-4TH GRADE

SCHOOL DAY | 9:25 AM-3:40 PM

DENTZLER

3600 DENTZLER ROAD
PARMA, OHIO 44134
440.843.3860

PLEASANT VALLEY

9906 W PLEASANT VALLEY ROAD
PARMA, OHIO 44130
440.843.3867

THOREAU PARK

5401 WEST 54TH STREET
PARMA, OHIO 44129
440.885.2351

RIDGE-BROOK

7915 MANHATTAN AVENUE
PARMA, OHIO 44129
440.885.2347

JOHN MUIR

5531 WEST 24TH STREET
PARMA, OHIO 44134
440.885.2424

GREEN VALLEY

2401 W PLEASANT VALLEY
PARMA, OHIO 44134
440.885.2433

MIDDLE | 5-8TH GRADE

SCHOOL DAY | 8:00 AM- 2:50 PM

GREENBRIAR MIDDLE

11810 HUFFMAN ROAD
PARMA, OHIO 44130
440.885.2370

SHILOH MIDDLE

2303 GRANTWOOD DRIVE
PARMA, OHIO 44134
440.885.8485

HILLSIDE MIDDLE

1 EDUCATIONAL PARK DRIVE
SEVEN HILLS, OHIO 44131
440.885.2373

HIGH | 9-12TH GRADE

SCHOOL DAY | 7:30 AM- 2:10 PM

NORMANDY HIGH

2500 W. PLEASANT VALLEY
PARMA, OHIO 44134
440.885.2400

VALLEY FORGE HIGH

9999 INDEPENDENCE BLVD.
PARMA HEIGHTS, OHIO 44130
440.885.2330

PRESCHOOL

FIRST STEP | PLEASANTVIEW

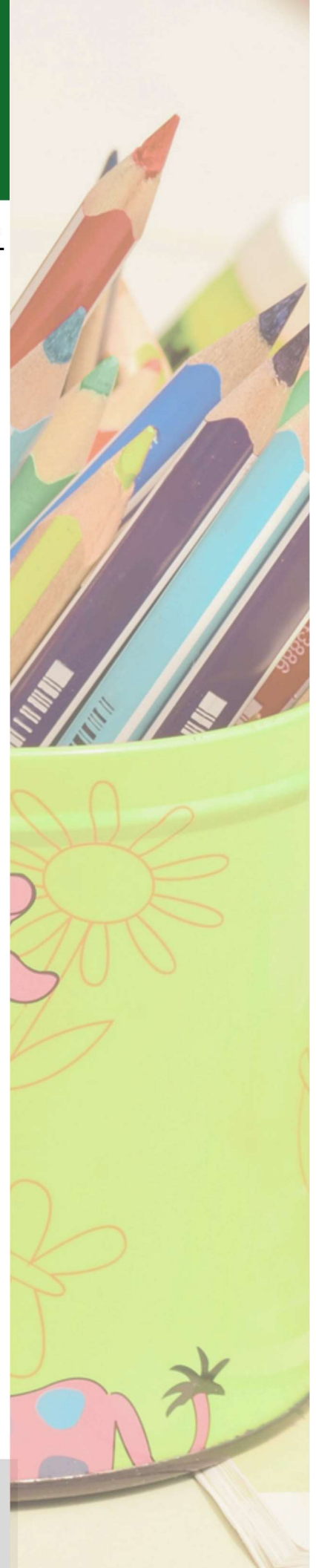
7700 MALIBU DRIVE
PARMA, OHIO 44130
440.885.8645

REGISTRATION

PCSD MAIN REGISTRATION OFFICE

7377 CHATEAU DRIVE
PARMA, OHIO 44134
440.885.8334

The Parma City School District is proud to serve the communities of
Parma, Parma Heights and Seven Hills, Ohio.





KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENTS

KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENTS

At the beginning of each school year, children in public school kindergarten programs are assessed using Ohio's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Revised (KRA-R). The KRA-R is aligned to Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards and measures a child's readiness for engaging with kindergarten standards-based instruction. The assessment results provide a starting point for each child and are not to be used to prohibit any child from entering kindergarten.

The KRA-R is required to be administered within the first few weeks of kindergarten. We have two options for our students to complete the assessment.

Option 1: Families can call their child's school to schedule an assessment appointment in August, for August 25th, 26th, or 27th, 2026. These occur during school day hours.

Option 2: Our teachers will complete the assessment while students are in session and work to minimize disruption during the school day

The results provide a measure of a child's level of readiness for instruction in kindergarten standards. The results, coupled with other information inform decisions about instruction in kindergarten.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION AND FIRST DAY

WHAT IS ORIENTATION?

All PCSD elementary schools host kindergarten orientations for incoming kindergarten students and families. We invite you to join us as we welcome your student! During orientation, you and your child will meet the kindergarten teacher and learn more about elementary school and classroom routines. Please bring your student's classroom supplies at this time.

ORIENTATION DATES AND TIMES:

**STUDENT'S LAST NAME BEGINNING WITH A-L:
FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2026**

**STUDENT'S LAST NAME BEGINNING WITH M-Z:
MONDAY, AUGUST 31ST, 2026**

Parents/guardians should plan to arrive with children by 9:25 AM. The orientation will begin at 9:30 AM and conclude for parents or guardians at approximately 10:15 AM. Students will remain at school for the rest of the day until the regular dismissal time, 3:40 PM. Parents or guardians should expect to pick up children at this time unless bus transportation eligibility (greater than 2 miles from home school) and you have confirmed bus stop locations in the Home Access Center. Extended Day Child Care is **not** available for kindergarten students on orientation day.

WHEN IS THE FIRST REGULAR DAY OF KINDERGARTEN?

We look forward to greeting all PCSD kindergarteners on:

Tuesday, September 1st, 2026!

This day will follow the regular school schedule:
9:25 AM-3:40 PM.

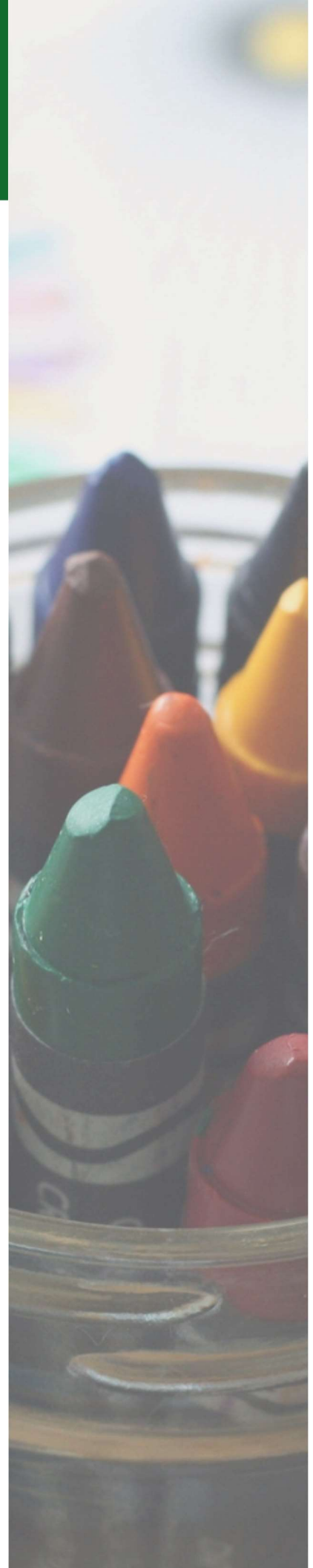


READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

To prepare for kindergarten, children need to be supported and nurtured in all areas of development. It is also important that your child is physically, socially and emotionally ready to participate in school. This list provided by Ready for Kindergarten Ohio can serve as a guide as you and your child prepare for the exciting transition to kindergarten!

- **CAN YOUR CHILD SEPARATE FROM THE PRIMARY CAREGIVER WITHOUT ANXIETY?**
- **USE SELF-CONTROL?**
 - Keeping hands to self
 - Sharing and taking turns
 - Cooperating and playing with other children
 - Using classroom supplies appropriately
- **COOPERATE WITH AUTHORITY FIGURES?**
 - Following directions
 - Communicating needs effectively
- **DEMONSTRATE SELF-HELP SKILLS?**
 - Using the restroom independently
 - Putting on and zipping own coat
 - Tying shoes
- **USE CLASSROOM TOOLS AND TOYS EFFICIENTLY?**
 - Cutting with scissors
 - Holding and using a pencil, crayon or marker
 - Building with blocks or Legos
- **EXPRESS SELF-AWARENESS IN A VARIETY OF WAYS?**
 - Knowing first and last name
 - Writing first name
 - Naming the letters in first name
 - Knowing name of primary caregiver(s)

If your child is currently on an IEP and you have questions or need additional support with kindergarten transition considerations, please contact Megan McCaskey, Director of Exceptional Students, at mccaskeym@parmacityschools.org, or Beth Carter, PCSD Parent Mentor, at cartereb@parmacityschools.org.





EXTENDED DAY CHILD CARE

WHAT IS EDC?

Our Extended Day Child Care program is staffed by trained, nurturing caregivers in order to provide a safe environment for our children before and after the school day. Students enrolled in our EDC program will have opportunities to engage in small and large muscle activities, social activities, arts and crafts projects, enrichment programs, and academic enhancement activities, including homework time.

Our Extended Day Child Care Program is licensed by the Ohio Department of Education and staffing is 1:18 ratio. Children must be capable of functioning safely within the stated ratio. The EDC program does not provide one-on-one care.

HOURS/LOCATIONS/TUITION

K-4 Before School: Opens at 7:00 AM

K-4 After School: Closes at 6:00 PM

5-6 After School: Closes at 6:00 PM

Locations for 2026-27

Dentzler, Green Valley, John Muir, Pleasant Valley, Thoreau Park, Ridge-Brook transported to/from Thoreau Park, Shiloh, Greenbriar (transported to Shiloh)

Tuition

\$30 Registration Fee (non-refundable)

Refer to parmacityschools.org/edc for 2026-27 tuition rates

Registration fees are non-refundable and paid annually. Tuition for our program is prepaid. You will receive monthly invoices on the 5th of each month PRIOR to the month of service and payment is due on the 15th of each month prior to service.

A family discount plan of 10% is applied for families that have more than one child enrolled in EDC on a full-time basis (full-time being 4-5 days per week). Parents will be required to pay the full price for the youngest child enrolled. All other enrolled children will receive the 10% discount.

HOW DO I ENROLL MY CHILD IN EXTENDED DAY CHILD CARE?

Parents wishing to enroll new children into the program must complete an Inquiry Form for the school year you are looking to enroll at www.parmacityschools.org/edc. If space is available, you will be directed to complete our online Registration/Enrollment form. Once the completed form is submitted you will receive an invoice with your Registration Fee and First months tuition. Payment must be received in order for your student to begin the program.

TRANSPORTATION

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR BUSING?

Students who are in grades K-12 are eligible for transportation if their residence is more than 2.0 miles from their school of residence.

DO I HAVE TO REGISTER FOR BUSSING?

When you enroll your child in the district, a report is sent to the Transportation Office which is used to determine eligibility. Close to the start of the school year, families can access bus route information through their Home Access Center (HAC) account.

WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD IS NOT BUSED, BUT I BELIEVE HE/SHE IS ELIGIBLE?

Mileage verification is available by calling (440) 885-2326.

HOW FAR CAN A CHILD WALK TO A BUS STOP?

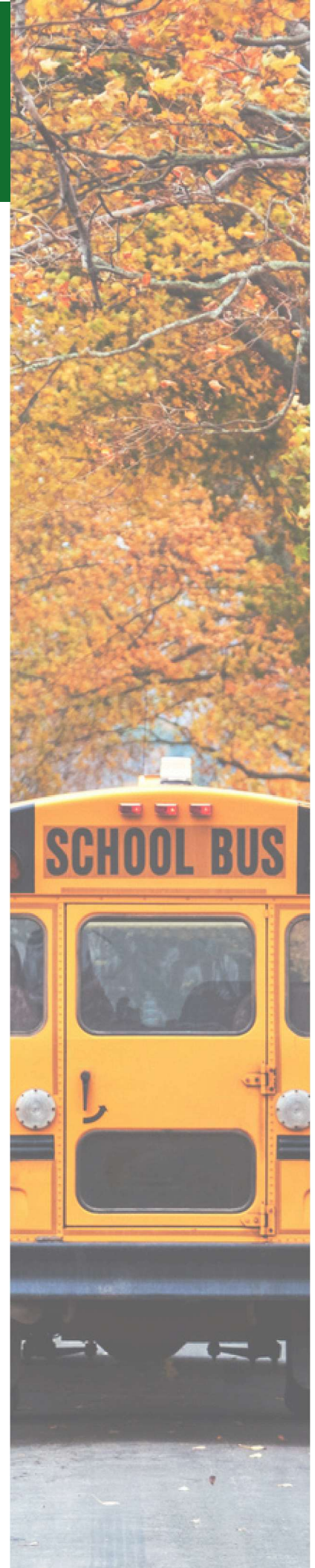
Ohio law states pupils in grades kindergarten through eight may be required to walk up to one-half mile to a designated bus stop.

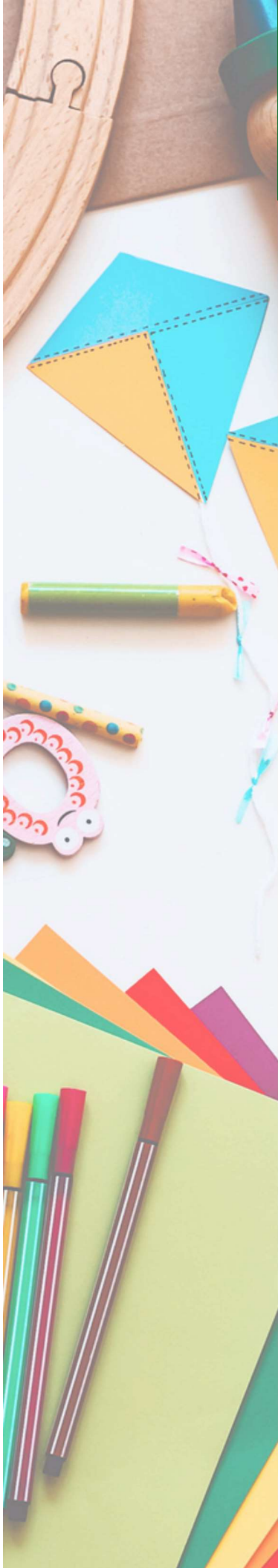
WHY WAS THE BUS LATE TODAY?

Many factors can affect the bus running behind schedule. A bus may be delayed to an unexpected mechanical problem, traffic, or weather conditions.

WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVE A QUESTION OR SUGGESTION?

The Transportation Department can be reached at (440) 885-2326, Monday through Friday between 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM. All emails should be directed to Brett Campbell at campbellb@parmacityschools.org.





PCSD CALENDAR 2026-2027

Coming Soon!

KEEPING UP WITH SCHOOL EVENTS

Each school building has its own event calendar that will be handed out at the beginning of the school year.

The best way to keep up with school events is to visit our website www.parmacityschools.org and through the Principal Newsletters.

NUTRITION SERVICES

ABOUT NUTRITION SERVICES



Mission - To nourish our students with fresh, wholesome foods and the educational resources they need to make smart decisions about what they eat.

Vision - We believe that fresh foods are the foundation to a healthy future.

We provide nutritious meals to students year-round and lunch to children 18 and under in summer. Our Nutrition Services follow a farm-to-school model, emphasizing local foods, supporting school gardens, and teaching students where their food comes from.

Free Meals For All

All students enrolled in Parma City Schools will receive nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost every school day during the 2026-2027 academic year.

What does this mean for you and your child(ren)?

- **No cost:** Meals will be provided free of charge.
- **No applications:** There is no need to submit any paperwork to participate.
- **No signup required:** Students can choose from a variety of menu offerings.
- **Know Your PIN Number:** students must know their 5-digit PIN. The PIN, found in the Home Access Center, is the last five digits of their student ID and stays with them throughout school. We encourage learning it in Kindergarten.

MENUS & A LA CARTE PURCHASES

Visit <https://www.parmacityschools.org/our-district/departments/nutrition-services/menus> to view our online breakfast, lunch, and snack menus! Detailed school menus via our My School Menus platform provide a breakdown of what is being served, including nutritional information and allergen details for all items.

Keep track of what your child is eating at www.myschoolbucks.com. Sign up and conveniently add funds to your student's account for à la carte items. For pricing details, visit our district webpage.

School Fee Waiver - Ohio Income Form

To determine eligibility for various school fee waivers your child may qualify for, please complete an Ohio Income Form linked on the PCSD webpage under Nutrition Services. Contact the Treasurer's Office for more information on school fees.

Questions?

Contact 440-843-1304 or email Emily Gladish at gladishe@parmacityschools.org



HEALTH AND CLINIC INFORMATION

Health and Clinic Information for 2025 Kindergartners

Immunizations: Immunization records must be provided to the school. After records are reviewed, you will be contacted if additional vaccines are required. Students without documentation of all required immunizations by the 15th school day will be excluded from school until the appropriate vaccinations are obtained and documentation submitted to the school health clinic.

Minimum Immunization Requirements for Kindergarten Students in Ohio

- DTAP(diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis): Four (4) doses if the 4th dose was before the 4th birthday, a 5th dose is required.
- Polio: Three (3) or more doses of IPV. The final dose must be administered on or after the 4th birthday.
- MMR(measles, mumps and rubella) Two (2) doses of MMR.
- Hepatitis B: Three(3) doses.
- Varicella(chicken pox): Two(2) doses of varicella vaccine must be administered prior to entry.

(Please note must meet dosing interval requirements to be considered valid)

Medical Conditions: If your child has a medical condition that may require interventions at school (ie asthma, allergies, seizures, medication administration, diabetes, tube feedings ect) you will need to complete additional forms that will need to be signed by your child's Health Care Provider. Please contact the school nurse prior to or at the beginning of the school year if your child has a serious medical condition or concern, to ensure your child's medical needs are met at school.

Medication Procedure:

- All medications to be administered by the school, including non-prescription/over the counter medications, require a parent/guardian signature AND an Ohio licensed prescribers signature. New paperwork must be completed and on file each school year for each medication.
- Parent/ guardian must provide medication to the clinic and it must be transported to and from the clinic by an adult.
- All medication to be administered must be in the original container as dispensed by a physician, pharmacist, or manufacturer and will be stored in a locked compartment in the school clinic.
- All medications must be picked up on or before the last day of school. Any medication left in the clinic will be discarded.

All medication forms, information regarding school health and illness can be located at

<https://www.parmacityschools.org/academics/exceptional-students/school-health>



COMMUNICATION

ESCHOOLPLUS FAMILY APP

Download the new eSchoolPlus Family app that links to Home Access Center and allows you to obtain information right from your mobile phone. The eSchoolPlus Family App is available for iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch, for Android™ devices, and for Kindle™.

STAY CONNECTED

As parents or guardians there are many ways for you to stay connected with Parma Schools. In the event of a school closing and for general information purposes, you will receive a phone call from our automated system. Additionally, information can always be found on our website and social media.



follow us on Facebook
@parmaschools



follow us on Instagram
@parmaschools



visit our website
parmacityschools.org

Every effort has been made to provide an accurate and complete document. This document is in alignment with the Parma City School District Board of Education policies at the time of publication. Policies, procedures, rules, information, and guidelines in this document are subject to changes in Board of Education Policy, Ohio Department of Education and Workforce policy, Ohio Revised Code, United States federal law, changes to which may be beyond the scope of the PCSD to control. Phone numbers, website information, and other information is current at the time of publication and may change without notice. In the event that any inaccuracies are present in this document, the administration reserves the right to act in good faith to ensure all school functions are successfully administered.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE

The Board of Education requires all students enrolled in the schools of this District to attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of the State. The District's educational program is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. The regular contact of students with one another in the classroom and their participation in a well-planned instructional activity under the tutelage of a competent teacher are vital to this purpose.

HOME ACCESS CENTER

Home Access Center is the District's official grade book for both parent and student use. It allows parents to stay connected to their child's class schedules, grades, assignments, attendance, and teachers. As soon as teachers post items to their grade books, parents can access the information using the HAC portal through the District's website.

Many of our communication tools are tied to the Home Access Center, so it is crucial that your contact information is kept up-to-date in the registration section of HAC.

Attendance Tips

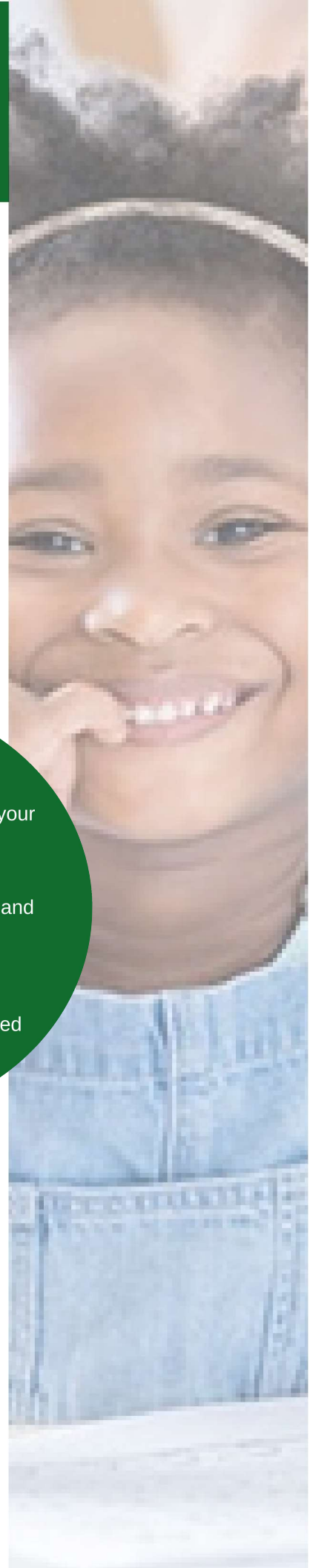
- Always contact the school when your child is absent.
- Submit any necessary medical documentation
- Support education by monitoring and discouraging absences.
- Update your child's teacher of changes that may be impacting attendance.
- Good attendance habits are formed at an early age, start today!

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The Parma City School District is committed to protecting the safety and well-being of our students and staff. We believe that students learn best when they can attend classes in a secure and welcoming environment. Our Safety and Security staff are at work diligently protecting our school buildings, Central Office, and Byers Field.

The District presently has surveillance cameras in operation to support its security efforts. In addition, the Safety and Security Supervisor works closely with the Police and Fire Departments in the cities of Parma, Parma Heights, and Seven Hills.

SAFETY HOTLINE- 844-SAFEROH; 24 hours a day, 7 days a week





ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Dentzler Principal

Renee Dzurnak
440-885-1815
dzurnakr@parmacityschools.org

Green Valley Principal

Rashelle Porter
(440) 885-8464
porterra@parmacityschools.org

John Muir Principal

Emily McKim
(440) 885-2422
mckime@parmacityschools.org

Pleasant Valley Principal

Stephanie Boka
(440) 885-2480
bokas@parmacityschools.org

Ridge-Brook Principal

Wendy Jewell
(440) 843-3623
jewellw@parmacityschools.org

Thoreau Park Principal

Ted Bickley
(440) 843-3527
bickleyt@parmacityschools.org

Curriculum & Instruction

Amy Szeremet
440-843-3874
szeremeta@parmacityschools.org

English Learners

Amy Szeremet
440-843-3874
szeremeta@parmacityschools.org

Special Education

Megan McCaskey
440-885-8308
mccaskeym@parmacityschools.org

Home Access Center (HAC)

Milissa Manco
440-885-8769
homeaccesscenter@parmacityschools.org

Extended Day Care

Nicole Filippelli
440-885-8309
filippellin@parmacityschools.org

First Step Preschool

Lara Svihlik
440-885-8665
svihlikl@parmacityschools.org

Gifted and Talented Education

Tiffany Buchanan
440-885-2418
buchanant@parmacityschools.org

Health Services (District Nurse)

Jen Balawender
440-885-8643
balawender@parmacityschools.org

**Homeless Services/
Home Liaisons**

Brittney Henry
440-842-7022
henryb@parmacityschools.org

Nutrition

Emily Gladish
440-885-2453
gladishe@parmacityschools.org

Parent Mentor/Liaison

Beth Carter
440-843-3940
cartere@parmacityschools.org

**Registration, Enrollment &
Community Engagement**

Jennifer Nance
440-885-8334
nancej@parmamcityschools.org

Testing & Assessment

Brad Leyrer
440-842-7951
leyrerb@parmacityschools.org

Transportation

Brett Campbell
440-886-1866
campbellb@parmacityschools.org



BOARD OF EDUCATION

LEAH EUERLE, PRESIDENT

euerlel@parmacityschools.org

TAMMIE SEBASTIAN, VICE PRESIDENT

sebastian@parmacityschools.org

NICK REYES

reyesn@parmacityschools.org

BRITTANY KURPIK

kurpikb@parmacityschools.org

ASHLEY MCTAGGART

mctaggarta@parmacityschools.org



BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education of the Parma City School District will regularly meet to conduct all business. Board of Education meetings are held at the Normandy High School Media Center located at 2500 W Pleasant Valley Road in Parma (unless noted). The Board Meeting schedule can be found at parmacityschools.org. If you are unable to attend a meeting, all regular meetings are video recorded and are on the PCSD YouTube Channel.

Information and documents regarding Regular and Special Meetings are also posted on the district website.

