



PRIMROSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Forward in Excellence

Katie Winter, *Principal*
Meg Benedetto, *Assistant Principal*

Welcome to the 2026-27 School Year

Dear Primrose Families,

Welcome to the 2026-27 school year! We hope you and your children are enjoying a wonderful and restful summer, full of adventure, relaxation, and cherished memories. As we embark on this new academic year, we have been working diligently over the summer to ensure that our classrooms and programs are prepared to offer an engaging and enriching experience for all students.

We wanted to take a moment to share some important information to be ready for the opening of school.

Main Office Support

Our Main Office is here to support you and answer your questions. You can reach the main office at 248-8888. Our office staff members include:

- Giovanna Cross, Office Assistant
- Barbara Haggerty, Office Assistant
- Ana Lopes, Secretary to the Principal

Health Office

The health office will continue to be led by **Toni Anne Hirsch, RN**. Please be sure your child's health information is up to date. This includes:

- Current physical exams for Grades PreK, Kindergarten, 1 and all new entrants (must be dated after 9/1/2025)
- Current immunization records
- Current doctor's orders for medical excuses, conditions and medications.

Please visit our [Health Services](#) webpage for more information.

Your school nurses also need to be made aware of the following:

- Broken bones
- Injuries that require crutches, wheelchairs, slings, casts, or any other assistance device.
- Lacerations that required stitches or staples
- Concussions
- Contagious diseases-Covid-19, RSV, flu, strep throat, fifth disease and other illnesses.
- Serious medical conditions-diabetes, heart disease, asthma, anaphylaxis, seizures and other concerns.

Please email thirsch@somersschools.org if you have any questions.

Typical School Day Schedule

Students may enter the building at 7:55AM. School begins at 8AM and buses depart Primrose School at 2:25PM. Any student arriving after 8:15AM is marked late. There is a lot of important learning that begins at 8AM. Please make every opportunity to arrive on time. **Due to NYS construction in town (culvert replacement), it may be necessary to move up the start time of the school day to 7:45AM. More information to follow.**

Distraction Free Schools

In NYS Schools, students are not allowed to have any personal **Internet Enabled devices during** the school day. At Primrose, students will continue to follow the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), and **no personal** Internet Enabled Devices (personal computers, personal iPads, smart phones, smart watches) will be allowed. Please do not allow your child to bring a personal cell phone or smart watch to school. Any personal devices that are brought to school will be held in the main office for parent pick-up.

Parent Square

Our main form of communication is Parent Square to communicate district and school wide messages to families. Communication might include weather-related announcements, classroom news, and school wide newsletters. You will receive email messages to your inbox and/or download the App to your phone to be able to access new and previous communications in one place. You can also change the settings to receive messages in the language of your choice.

Placement Information

Class placement information will be available in the [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#) on **August 21st after 10 AM**. Once logged in, click on "Schedule," then choose September 2, 2026, on the calendar (first day of school), and find HR/FLEX GR - teacher's name. This is the name of your child's teacher. The HR/FLEX room number is the location of your child's classroom. Placement into classes is a professional responsibility of the staff and classroom assignments will not be changed.

Welcome Letters

After placement information is released, you will receive a Parent Square notification with your teacher's welcome letter.

Class Lists

Families do not receive a list of students in the class. As a school district, we may not share names and contact information for the class for reasons of confidentiality. Please do not ask our office staff to share the names of classmates with you. Please see below for PTA directory sign up.

School Supply Lists

The grade level supply lists are available via hyperlink in this communication and will be available on the webpage. Teachers may ask for a few additional supplies in their welcome letter. Supplies may be brought in gradually over the first week of school.

Professional Learning Days - August 31st and September 1st

Staff will be engaged in meetings, workshops, and classroom set up on August 31st and September 1st. Please refrain from coming to the building between the hours of 8AM -3PM on these days unless you have a prescheduled appointment.

Student Devices

All students will receive a district issued iPad with a Bluetooth keyboard, **after the family has completed the district Personal Learning Device (PLD) agreement. Please refer to the Parent Square message to complete the agreement.** These are the only devices students may use during the school day.

First Day of School

The first day of school for all students is **Wednesday, September 2nd**. This will be a regular school day. There will be plenty of staff members in all locations to guide students and help them find their classrooms. It would be helpful if students **wear a name tag** with identifying information on shirt and backpack so that guidance is seamless.

Kindergarten

There will be **NO SCHOOL for Kindergarten students on Friday, September 4th**. Kindergarten students will be invited for a screening with his/her teacher on September 1st or September 4th.

Parent AM Drop-Off and PM Pick-Up

We anticipate that most students will take the bus to and from school, but in case work obligations or after school activities make taking the bus difficult, we would like to review our parent drop-off and pick-up procedures. We also want to take this opportunity to review some basic bus guidelines.

Student Drop-off

Student Drop-off begins at **7:55AM** in the rear of the building and concludes at **8:05AM**. As you enter Primrose School parking lot, proceed past the bus circle, and stay right around to the rear of the building and enter the coned off area.

- The first car should pull all the way forward to make room for others. Children should sit on the right side of the car, backpack on, and be **ready to exit** or you may be asked to rejoin the car line.
- A staff member will open the door of each arriving car.
- Parents are expected to stay in the car.
- If you require more time to drop your child off, please park in a designated spot and walk your child to the front of the building.
- After the buses depart from the front circle, car traffic may be redirected to the bus circle. In the front circle, parents should pull forward along the curb and ensure that children exit safely to the sidewalk.
- Please continue to be courteous and alert as there may be many cars and pedestrians helping with arrival.

Student Pick-up - end of day

Student Pick-up takes place at the rear of the building at **Door 6**.

- Park in a legal space or wait for one to become available. Parking is available at SHS.
- Exit your car and proceed to the double doors by the garden (Door 6) to meet your child(ren).
- Assemble outside the **Outdoor Classroom**.
- Dismissal begins at **2:15PM**
- Sign out your child(ren) with a Primrose Staff member.
- Please be prepared to show your ID every time you come.
- Parent pick-up will conclude at 2:25PM.
- Cars are advised to exit through Somers High School.

School Dismissal Manager

Elementary schools use a computer program called School Dismissal Manager to handle all student dismissal plans. Please look for a separate email regarding this. All dismissal plans must be entered into the School Dismissal Manager program. For the safety and security of students, we will not accept any paper notes or emails regarding dismissal. Some families find it helpful to download the SDM app to their phones.

Bus

We will be reviewing bus safety and basic behavioral expectations with all students at the start of the school year. We appreciate you taking the time to remind your child to use an inside voice and keep hands, feet, and belongings out of the aisles while on the bus. All students are required to wear seat belts. NO PERSONAL ELECTRONICS are allowed in school. School devices need to remain secured and in backpacks at all times.

Calendar

[2026-27 Calendar](#)

Please become familiar with this document and pay close attention to Professional Learning Days, half and full days.

Security Procedures

Upon visiting Primrose School (and any of the Somers schools) you will need to ring the bell at the main entrance to access the lobby. You may only come to school if you have an appointment. Please have your Driver's License to obtain a visitor badge. If you need to drop off an item for your child, you may leave it in the Welcome Center. Please label the item with the child's name and homeroom teacher for delivery to classroom.

Food Services

For the **2026-27** school year, New York State is **covering the cost of one breakfast and one lunch per student per day** regardless of eligibility. This program aims to combat food insecurity, improve student health, boost academic performance and ease the financial burden on families.

To meet eligibility, students **MUST** take a complete meal.

- A complete breakfast consists of 4 components: 2 grains, one cup fruit/juice or vegetable, one cup milk. **Students must take 3 components, and one must be a fruit/juice or vegetable to count as a reimbursable meal and be free.**

- A complete lunch consists of 5 components: protein, grain, fruit, vegetables and milk. **Students must take at least 3 components, and one must be a fruit/juice or vegetable to count as a reimbursable meal and be free.**
- Single items (Ala carte items) are NOT FREE. This includes items like water, milk, drinks, snacks, ice cream, incomplete meals and second entrees. There needs to be funds in the students' account, or they must have cash to purchase these ala carte items. All students must always maintain a positive account balance. You can replenish your child's account through [My School Bucks](#).
- **Breakfast is "Grab and Go".** Students stop by the cafeteria, select breakfast items and bring it to his/her classroom to eat.
- Lunch will be available for all students beginning September 2nd. As students transition to school, it is often helpful for them to begin by bringing lunch from home until they are comfortable with buying and enjoying the school options.

Breakfast at Primrose

Breakfast is available each morning as a "Grab and Go" in the cafeteria. Students who choose breakfast, stop by the cafeteria to select a meal and then bring it to their classroom to eat.

Because **breakfast is part of the instructional day**, the time available to eat is limited and can take away from valuable classroom learning time. Please reinforce with your child whether they should be stopping by the cafeteria for breakfast each morning.

It is also helpful to let your child's classroom teacher know your family's preference, as some students are expected to pick up breakfast while others are not.

Lunch Menu

The September lunch menu will soon be available on our website. Students ordering lunch will place their order in class each morning.

Free and Reduced Lunch Application

Please look for a separate email regarding this application. We will need ALL families to complete this form to comply with the NYS program for universal free lunch.

Absences

It is a continued building goal for the 2026-27 school year to build awareness of the importance of **daily school attendance**. Student Absences should be reported through [SDM](#) or by calling the health office absence line **914-248-8020** before 8AM.

Transportation

Primrose Bus Routes are available on the [parent portal](#). Log in to your student's account, select your student and the Transportation link will be on left side. For additional information, visit the Transportation section of the district webpage.

Back to School Nights - Save the dates! - 6PM NEW TIME

[Back to School Night Agenda](#)

These evenings are classroom based and for Parents ONLY.

Kindergarten:	Thursday, September 3 rd @ 6PM
First Grade:	Wednesday, September 16 th @ 6PM
Second Grade:	Wednesday, September 23 rd @ 6PM

Join the Primrose PTA

The Primrose PTA is looking forward to another great school year and we cannot do it without your membership. You can join for \$15.

PTA Newsletter

[Sign up](#) for the PTA newsletter to keep up to date on Primrose PTA happenings.

Join SEPTA

Please join our Special Education PTA who run programs all year to support all learners across the entire district. They rely on membership funds to accomplish this goal. Please join [SEPTA](#) for \$10.

Please feel free to contact us or the office staff if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to welcoming you and your family back to school.

Sincerely,
Katie Winter & Meg Benedetto