



Main Street Elementary

704 Main Street
Upland, PA 19015

www.chesteruplandsd.org



Ms. Darnell Medley, Principal
Mrs. Christina Edmondson, Assistant Principal

610-447-3685 OFFICE
610-499-1485 FAX

July 31, 2026

Greetings Main Street Families,

It is with great excitement that I welcome you to the 2026–2027 school year at Main Street Elementary School! As Principal, I am honored and privileged to serve our students, families, staff, and community. Together, we will continue to build a nurturing, engaging, and academically rich learning environment where every child is encouraged to reach their fullest potential.

This year, we are excited to introduce our school theme, **"Launching Toward Success!"** Throughout the year, we will inspire our students to dream big, work hard, and soar to new heights both academically and socially. We believe every child has the ability to achieve success, and we look forward to partnering with you as we embark on this exciting journey together.

I am also pleased to recognize Mrs. Christina Edmondson, who joined our administrative team in March as Assistant Principal. Mrs. Edmondson has already made a positive impact on our school community, and we are excited to have her leadership and dedication as we continue working together to support the success of every student.

From curriculum to daily operations, our staff has been working diligently throughout the summer to prepare for a successful school year filled with opportunities for growth, achievement, and celebration. We invite you to become an active partner in your child's education by supporting learning at home, maintaining regular communication with your child's teacher, and becoming involved in our school community. Please consider joining our Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO). Your ideas, support, and involvement are invaluable as we continue making Main Street Elementary stronger than ever.

Communication and family engagement remain top priorities. We will continue to keep families informed through electronic newsletters, robocalls, and other school communications regarding important events, early dismissals, emergency closings, and school updates. Additional information can also be found on the Chester Upland School District website. It is essential that we have your most current home address, email address, telephone numbers, and emergency contact information to ensure your child's safety. If your contact information has changed,

Learn - Lead - Succeed - Together



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please contact our school secretary, **Ms. Donna West-Islam**, at (610) 447-3685 or
dwest@chesteruplandsd.org.

We are looking forward to welcoming our students on the **first day of school, Monday, August 31, 2026**. Students in **Kindergarten through Grade 5** will gather in front of the school beginning at **8:30 a.m.** **Pre-K students** will report to the cafeteria at **10:00 a.m.**

Daily attendance and punctuality are essential to student success, and we appreciate your partnership in ensuring that every child arrives at school on time and ready to learn.

Enclosed in this mailing, you will find important information, including school hours, arrival and dismissal procedures, attendance guidelines, uniform expectations, a suggested school supply list, important dates, and the 2026–2027 school calendar.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we will make this a remarkable year as we **Launch Toward Success!**

Educationally Yours,

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Principal

Mrs. Christina Edmondson

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School Hours

8:45am – 3:45pm

Monday – Friday

8:45am – 11:45am

Half-Day Early Dismissal

Early Dismissals End @ 2:45pm.

Arrival & Dismissal

Parents, to help your child achieve academic success, it is very important that your child attend school each day. Your child should arrive on time and be prepared to start their school day. Students are encouraged to remain in school for a full day of learning.

Student Arrival

- Students who desire breakfast must enter through the cafeteria doors beginning at 8:30am. Breakfast is served until 8:55am.
- Weather permitting, all students will line up outside of their classroom doors beginning at 8:30am. Teachers will open the door will close at 8:45am.
- Students will be marked tardy after 9:00am. If your child arrives after 9:00am, they must enter school through the front doors and parents are required to sign them into school.

Dismissal

- Students will be dismissed at 3:45pm.
- If your child needs to leave school early, the parent/guardian or designee should report to the front office before 2:45pm. Your child will be called to the front office for an early dismissal.
- Parents are not permitted to go directly to their child's classroom.
- Students will not be permitted to leave school grounds with an adult that's not listed on their child's application or emergency contact list. If you need to update your child's contacts and emergency contact list, please contact Ms. Donna West-Islam at dwest@chesteruplandsd.org , or you may call or visit our front office.

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Absence Procedures

Pennsylvania State law requires that students must attend school daily. When a student is absent from school, upon returning, a note from the parent or official note from the doctor/hospital must be submitted explaining why the student was absent. The note will be kept by the school.

The following are considered **Excused/Legal Absences**:

- Illness (three or more consecutive days requires a physicians note upon students return)
- Death of an immediate family member
- Quarantine established by a medical doctor
- Medical and dental appointments during the school day which could not be arranged after school hours
- Court appearances
- Suspension from school
- An exceptionally urgent situation that directly affects the child such as the effects of a natural disaster

The following are considered **Unexcused/Illegal Absences**

- Babysitting
- Car Troubles
- Vacations
- Oversleeping
- Participation in extracurricular activities and hobbies

Excessive Absences

- After three (3) days of cumulative unexcused absences, a warning letter will be mailed home.
- After five (5) days of cumulative unexcused absences, a letter will be mailed home and a parent conference will be scheduled at the school.
- After ten (10) days of cumulative unexcused absences, the truancy department will be notified.

The website below has further information on Compulsory School Attendance and Unlawful Absences in the state of Pennsylvania.

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Policy-Funding/BECS/Purdons/Pages/CompulsorySchoolAttendance.aspx>

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Important Dates to Remember

Monday, August 31st, 2026	<u>First Day of School</u> • K-5 8:45am – 3:45pm • PreK 10:00am-3:45pm
Monday, September 7, 2026	School closed in observance of Labor Day
Wednesday, September 9, 2026	11:45 am Dismissal for Students
Wednesday, September 17, 2026	Back to School Night 4:30pm -6:00pm
Monday, September 21, 2026	School Closed in Observance of Yom Kippur
Monday, October 5, 2026	Picture Day