



Wanamassa Elementary School

Office of the Principal

901 Bendermere Avenue
Ocean, NJ 07712

jbosmans@oceanschools.org
(732) 531-5700 ext. 4000

John Bosmans
Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you and your child to [Wanamassa Elementary School](#) for the 2026–2027 school year. We look forward to a productive and successful year, working together to provide the best possible educational experience for your child. As the first and most influential teacher in your child's life, your involvement and support are essential. At Wanamassa Elementary School, we continually encourage and value your partnership. Together, as "Partners in Learning," we can make the 2026–2027 school year a great success.

The following is provided for your information and use.

The first day of school will be Thursday, September 3, 2026.

- ★ The Township of Ocean School District uses [Genesis](#) as our Student Information System and Parent and Student Portal provider. Please access the Parent Portal throughout the school year to complete required online forms and documents, access your child's teacher assignment, class schedule, and report cards. If you do not have a Parent Portal account, please contact the main office. The Genesis Parent Portal for elementary schools will open on August 24, 2026.

School Hours

Grades K to 4	8:45 am - 3:15 pm
Preschool	9:30 am - 3:30 pm

School Phone Numbers

Main Office, Mrs. Tracie Gatta, Secretary: 732-531-5700, Extension 4000
Nurse, Mrs. Chelsea Yi: 732-531-5700, Extension 4010
Supervisor. of Transportation, Ms. Daile Stapienski: 732-531-5600, Ext. 1951/1954

School Calendar

Please review the 2026-2027 [School Calendar](#) for pertinent information regarding early dismissals and school closures.

Student Handbook

Please review the [Elementary School Handbook](#) with your child. It provides specific information around protocols, procedures, and expectations for our school. **Please note that procedures and protocols for cellular devices have been updated.**

Home of the Spartans!

#SpartanLegacy



Wanamassa Elementary School

Office of the Principal

901 Bendermere Avenue
Ocean, NJ 07712

jbosmans@oceanschools.org
(732) 531-5700 ext. 4000

John Bosmans
Principal

Preschool and Kindergarten Orientation for Parents and Students

You and your child are invited to our Orientation Program on Wednesday, September 2, 2026.

- Preschool Orientation (9:00 am)
- Kindergarten Orientation (10:00 am)

We encourage you to attend our orientation in order to eliminate any concerns associated with the first day of school. Parents will have the opportunity to ask questions, while the children visit their classrooms and meet their teacher. This meeting will give your child the chance to become familiar with the school environment prior to the excitement of opening day, Thursday, September 3, 2026.

Bus Information

Your child's bus pass will be available in Genesis after **August 28, 2026**.

Please check the bus stop and have your child there **10 minutes** prior to the time indicated. If you have any questions concerning transportation, call Ms. Daile Stapienski, Supervisor of Transportation at **732-531-5600 Extension 1951/1954**. **Transportation Directive:** Students **will not be permitted** to change buses for babysitting, parties, play dates, etc. **Bus drivers will not leave a pre-k-kindergarten child at a stop unless there is someone to take him/her home.**

First Day Information

Additional staff will be on hand to assist preschool, kindergarten and first graders as the buses arrive, and direct them to the proper classrooms. Preschool and kindergarten students will receive bus tags at orientation. First grade students will receive bus tags on the first day of school. **The bus tag should be attached firmly to your child's backpack everyday.**

Second, Third, and Fourth grade students will report directly to their classrooms upon arrival to school. Please make sure your child knows his/her teacher's name and room number.

Open House

Our Open House will take place on Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 6:45 pm (Grades Preschool - 4). Please make every effort to attend. At this time you will become familiar with bus safety, our school's goals, rules, policies, procedures and hear from your child's teacher(s). Although we prefer that children do not attend, we do realize that there may be extenuating circumstances. If this is the case, children must remain with their parents at all times.

School Pictures

Home of the Spartans!

#SpartanLegacy





Wanamassa Elementary School

Office of the Principal

901 Bendermere Avenue
Ocean, NJ 07712

jbosmans@oceanschools.org
(732) 531-5700 ext. 4000

John Bosmans
Principal

Pictures will be taken on Friday, September 18, 2026. More information will be forthcoming.

Entering the Building – Building Security

All persons entering the school building must present identification and report to the front office, to receive a visitor's pass, prior to being escorted to another area of the building.

Morning Drop-Off Procedures

Please be advised that students **MAY NOT** be dropped off at school prior to 8:30 am, as there is no supervision. Students may be dropped off in the front of the school building. For the children's safety please do not pick up or drop off in the staff parking lot.

The Ocean Township Department of Community Services Project Extend will offer childcare from 7:00 am - 8:45 am and 3:15 pm – 6:00 pm. For further information please call 732-531-2600. **Please write a note on the first day of school informing us that your child will be staying after school for Project Extend.**

Student Pick-up

- If your child is to be picked up early, or at the regular dismissal time, you **MUST** send the teacher a note with specific details indicating who will pick him/her up and the exact time he/she should be dismissed. **Photo identification is required for students being picked up.**
- **If your child is being picked up early, you must come to the main office and sign out for them.**
- **If your child is being picked up at dismissal time, you must go to the tents located in the front of the building and see a staff member for student sign out.**

Release of Students

If there are any changes to your child's daily schedule, such as leaving school early, not riding the bus, etc., **written notification must be provided to the office that morning. Please notify the office in writing if there are any restrictions pertaining to the release of your child. Students will not be released to another adult without a note from a parent or guardian. Photo identification is required for students being picked up.** The school **MUST** be notified in writing any time there is a change to your child's dismissal procedure. If we do not receive a note, your child will follow normal dismissal procedures.

Student Absences

When a student is absent, the parent **must** call the main office, 732-531-5700 (select #1) by 9:00 am. If you are calling outside of school hours, you may leave a message on voicemail. A note is required

Home of the Spartans!

#SpartanLegacy



Wanamassa Elementary School

Office of the Principal

901 Bendermere Avenue
Ocean, NJ 07712

jbosmans@oceanschools.org
(732) 531-5700 ext. 4000

John Bosmans
Principal

on the child's first day back indicating the reason for the absence. If your child is going to be absent for more than one day and you would like to request schoolwork, please call the office before 10:00am.

Student Tardiness

All students are expected to arrive at school on time. **If a child is tardy, parents are to escort their child to the main office for a late pass.**

Conferences/Early Dismissal Dates (Dates, noted below, are subject to change)

November 17th-20th – Early Dismissal (Grades Preschool - 4)

- Preschool (1:35 pm) / Grades K-4 (1:05 pm)
- November 19-Evening Conferences 6:00pm-8:00pm

November 25-Day Before Thanksgiving-Early Dismissal (Grades Preschool - 4)

- Preschool (1:35 pm) / Grades K-4 (1:05 pm)

December 23 - Day Before Winter Break - Early Dismissal (Grades Preschool - 4)

- Preschool (1:35 pm) / Grades K-4 (1:05 pm)

June 15, 16, 17, 18 – End of School Year – Early Dismissal (Grades Preschool - 4)

- Preschool (1:35 pm) / Grades K-4 (1:05 pm)

Delayed School Openings & School Closings

Weather conditions or other circumstances are reasons for school closings. A two hour "Delayed Opening" may go into effect when it seems likely that conditions will improve later in the morning.

As a general practice, the District avoids an "Emergency Early Dismissal" because of the risk. Sending young children home to uncertain supervision can be more dangerous than remaining in school. Currently, if it snows after the start of school, students will remain in school until the regular dismissal time. This action will provide more time for roads to be plowed, salted and sanded. In this circumstance, concerned parents are free to pick up their children from school at any time, however, we do recognize that there may be an extraordinary condition that might warrant an early dismissal. This action would be warranted only if children were unsafe in the school building or if the Office of Emergency Management directed us to do so.

When schools are closed, our district will not provide transportation to those students who attend private or parochial schools. In addition, when schools are closed, all athletic and co-curricular

Home of the Spartans!

#SpartanLegacy



Wanamassa Elementary School

Office of the Principal

901 Bendermere Avenue
Ocean, NJ 07712

jbosmans@oceanschools.org
(732) 531-5700 ext. 4000

John Bosmans
Principal

activities will be canceled. Because buildings will be closed, facilities will not be available for public use.

Continue checking after a delayed opening is announced. An initial decision to delay opening may be changed to a school closing. That decision will also be announced.

During inclement weather, parents can obtain information about the schools in the following ways:

- Visit www.oceanschools.org
- Township of Ocean School District Electronic Messaging System.

In case of a delayed opening or early dismissal, district Elementary Schools will operate on the following schedule:

	<u>Delayed Opening</u>	<u>Early Dismissal</u>
Grades K-4	10:45 am - 3:15 pm	8:45 am – 1:05 pm
Preschool	11:30 am - 3:30 pm	9:30 am – 1:35 pm

Bus schedules will also be delayed two hours (i.e. if your child gets the bus at 8:10 am they will be picked up at 10:10 am). Students will return home at the regular time.

Delayed Opening: Lunch will be served; breakfast will not

Early Dismissal: Breakfast and Lunch will be served

If school is dismissed early, without advance notice, every effort is made to contact the home of all our students. Many times the parent cannot be reached. We urge you to instruct your child where he/she is to go if they arrive home and no one is there. Also, be sure we have the name, address and phone number of child care providers. Please be sure to advise the office of any phone number changes or emergency number changes as they occur.

Additional Information

Electronics - Cell phones, tablets, watches equipped with Wi-Fi or cellular service, and electronic games are not permitted in school. Valuable items should not be sent to school with your child as we cannot be responsible for them.

Home of the Spartans!

#SpartanLegacy



Wanamassa Elementary School

Office of the Principal

901 Bendermere Avenue
Ocean, NJ 07712

jbosmans@oceanschools.org
(732) 531-5700 ext. 4000

John Bosmans
Principal

Label clothing and lunchboxes - Clothing such as jackets should be labeled so that lost articles can be identified and returned promptly. Make sure to label your child's lunchbox.

Medication – All medication in school **MUST** be administered by the school nurse. Students are not to have medication in their possession at any time during school hours. **Medication must be brought to school and picked up by the parent.** It must be contained in the pharmacist's package, providing proper instructions and the physician's name.

Parent-Teacher Association – Our PTA meets regularly. A newsletter is sent out monthly informing you of meetings and other PTA and school activities. Stay involved and join the PTA. You may contact Brenna Barker, PTA President, via email - president@wanamassapta.org for more information regarding the PTA.

Recess - Students are requested to bring only nerf type balls for use on the playground. Bats, footballs, baseballs or any other hard balls are not permitted.

2026-2027 District Activities Calendar – The District Calendar may be found on our District website at www.oceanschools.org. Select the Calendar link located on the main page/red ribbon.

Again, I would like to welcome you and your child to [Wanamassa Elementary School](#), and I look forward to a successful school year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. P. Bosmans".

John P. Bosmans, Jr.

Enclosures: NJ Family Care

Home of the Spartans!

#SpartanLegacy

