



SMITH SPECTACULAR EXPRESS

September 11, 2026

Snacks

We are fortunate in Maine to offer free BREAKFAST and free LUNCH to all students, but we do ask parents to send in a **daily snack, please**. If you need support in supplying a daily snack, please let us know. We appreciate your support.

Lunch and Tardies

If your child arrives after 10:00 AM, we will only be able to offer a choice lunch - PB&J (rather than the main hot meal) because of the additional prep time needed for the main entree. Please note the only difference is the entree — all students will still have access to the salad bar. Thank you.

Dismissal Reminder/Change of plans

If your child will have a change in their after-school plans, the office must be notified no later than 1:00 PM. This will ensure that your child's updated schedule reaches their classroom teacher on time. Thank you for your cooperation. Please send all changes to afternoon plans to:

Smithoffice@rsu22.us.

Drop Off & Pick Up

Thank you all for your patience and cooperation at drop-off and pick-up times. We appreciate your support in the morning by helping students exit the car and head directly to the sidewalk between the white line and the building, whether they're dropped off from the car line or you've parked and walked to the drop-off area.

Thank you for exiting your vehicle at pick-up time and waving/acknowledging your child when they exit the building. We appreciate you!

PIE

Our parent organization (PIE: Partners In Education) will hold its monthly meetings on the second Monday of each month (the only exception is October; it will be the first Monday). PIE is always looking for more members. Meetings take place in the Smith School staff room from 5:00-6:00. We hope to see you there!

Smith School Gear

[Click here to see what you can purchase](#)

ATTENDANCE

Smith School Attendance Update:

Last year at Smith School, 18% of students were considered chronically absent. (Missing 10% or more of school days during the year). This year, our goal is to reduce this number to 15% or less!

Even missing a couple of days each month can add up fast.

Here are some tips for helping your child be here at school every day!

Top 10 Reasons To Come to School Every Day👉

1. Reading on Grade Level 📖

Studies show that consistent attendance from Pre-K gives the best start for early literacy development. Students who aren't reading on grade level by 3rd grade have a lower chance of graduating. It starts that early!

2. Joining Classmates on Exciting Field Trips 🚌

Don't miss out on hands-on learning experiences outside the classroom, like visits to museums, nature centers, science centers, parks, and performances of all kinds. These enriching experiences help students figure out their passions.

3. Forming Lasting Friendships 🥰

Attending daily allows students to foster strong social bonds and an inclusive peer network. Even if not all friendships work out, developing the skills is only possible with ongoing interaction. Students who develop their social skills through school attendance have more positive relationships overall.

4. Developing Effective Study Habits Early 📅

Good attendance instills vital skills like punctuality, time management and self-discipline. A big part of succeeding is learning how to learn. Daily attendance from elementary onwards helps students build their toolbox of strategies for success.

5. Demonstrating Responsibility and Commitment 🙏

Employers value established patterns of dedication and follow-through. Whether students are getting after school jobs in high school or securing employment after graduation, good work habits are formed by consistent school attendance. It's also how students get teachers to serve as references!

6. Maximizing Instructional Time with Teachers 📅

Fewer disruptions mean more personalized learning and academic support. Sometimes, students don't come to school because they're struggling with the material in class and staying home is a way to avoid it. But the better choice is to come to school – that's where the support is. The more time students have with their teachers, the more successful they will be.

7. Greater Self-Esteem and Confidence 😊

Not having to play catch-up reduces stress and boosts self-assurance. This is exactly what will carry students successfully through graduation and beyond.

8. Higher Grade Point Averages 📊

Abundant research links stellar attendance to higher GPAs and test scores. In fact, one study shows that the #1 reason students fail a course is from being absent.

9. More Scholarship and College Opportunities 🎓

Colleges want applicants whose attendance records show perseverance. And it's not just colleges! If you're choosing a new school for middle school or high school, students must demonstrate good attendance above all.

10. Increased Lifetime Earnings and Success 💰

Excellent attendance correlates with higher career achievement and earnings potential. And not just that! It correlates to better physical and mental health, healthier relationships, and a happier quality of life. Something we want for every child!

Plan Ahead 2026-2027



RSU 22 greatly values instructional time, and our students benefit from consistent attendance. When looking ahead to the 26-27 school year, please consider these dates when planning holidays, appointments, and vacations.

HOLIDAYS & IN-SERVICE DAYS	VACATIONS
LABOR DAY	THANKSGIVING
NO SCHOOL MONDAY, 9/7/26	EARLY DISMISSAL TUESDAY, 11/24/26
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY	NO SCHOOL 11/25 - 11/27/26
EARLY DISMISSAL FRIDAY, 10/9/26	WINTER BREAK
NO SCHOOL MONDAY, 10/12/26	NO SCHOOL 12/23/26 - 1/1/27
VETERANS' DAY	FEBRUARY BREAK
NO SCHOOL WEDNESDAY, 11/11/26	EARLY DISMISSAL FRIDAY, 2/12/27
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY	NO SCHOOL 2/15-2/19/27
NO SCHOOL MONDAY, 1/18/27	APRIL BREAK
IN-SERVICE DAY - NO SCHOOL FRIDAY, 3/12/26	EARLY DISMISSAL FRIDAY, 4/16/27
MEMORIAL DAY	NO SCHOOL 4/19-4/23/27
EARLY DISMISSAL FRIDAY, 5/28/27	EARLY DISMISSAL & TENTATIVE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FRIDAY, 6/11/27
NO SCHOOL MONDAY, 5/31/27	

Parent notification of Planned Absence

This must be filled out and turned in to the office for planned absences of 3 or more days. Thank you.

- Too many absences in preschool and elementary school can cause children to struggle socially and academically.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Missing 10% of school (2 days each month) can make it harder to learn to read and do basic math.



- Set a **regular** bedtime and morning **routine**.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks **the night before**.
- **Keep** your child **healthy** and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Develop **backup plans** for getting to school if something comes up.
- **Monitor** your child's **absences**.
- Try to schedule **nonurgent medical appointments** and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems **anxious** about going to school, **talk to teachers**, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are **concerned** that your child may have a contagious illness, **call** your school nurse or health-care provider **for advice**. Ask the teacher for ideas to support missed learning time.

[illegible]

Visit Attendance Works at www.attendanceworks.org for free downloadable resources and tools!

Kindness Kick-off Newsletter

WELLNESS



Subject: Important Update Regarding Unsolicited Food at RSU #22

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The health, safety, and well-being of our students is our top priority. We are writing to inform you that, according to the RSU #22 Wellness Regulation, we will "Not allow unsolicited food for children in the schools during the school day".

In order to maintain a safe environment for students with severe food allergies and to ensure equitable practices during celebrations we will be adhering to this "no outside food" rule for all classrooms and school events.

Going forward, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- No Outside Food: Only snacks and home lunches for your student are permissible.
- No Homemade Treats: Homemade cakes, cupcakes, or baked goods are no longer permitted to be brought in and shared with the class.
- Celebrations and Birthdays: If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday or a special milestone, please consider non-food alternatives such as donating a book to the classroom library, handing out stickers, or bringing in pencils.

Please note that this policy helps us protect children with life-threatening allergies and ensures that all students are included equally in classroom activities.

If your child has specific dietary restrictions, medical conditions, or requires accommodations, please contact the school nurse or main office so we can make the necessary arrangements.

Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and partnership in keeping our school a safe and healthy place to learn.

Incredible 5-Point Scale

At Smith School, we use the Incredible 5-Point Scale to help your child understand and express their emotions. This simple tool teaches students to recognize how they're feeling and gives them strategies to manage their emotions in healthy ways. By learning to identify their feelings, students can make better choices about how to respond and stay calm throughout their day.

	Looks Like	Feels Like	Looks & Sounds Like
5		Super Mad	Screaming Yelling Throwing things
4		Frustrated	Face is hot Say mean things Do things without thinking
3		Upset / Over Excited	Bothered Annoyed I don't want to talk about it
2		Ok	I will try I will listen I will feel good about it when I'm done!
1		Good to Go!	Interested I can do this Calm Happy

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, September 18: Picture Day

Friday, September 25: No School for PreK only.

Wednesday, September 30: All-School Share at 8:00 AM; Parents welcome!

We are always looking for volunteers to help with photocopying and laminating. If you are interested, please fill out a volunteer form, and we'll be in touch. [Volunteer Form](#)

"BELL TO BELL LAW"



Leroy H. Smith School
319 South Main Street
Winterport, ME 04496
Tel: (207) 223-4282 Fax: (207) 223-2267



Dawn Moore, Principal

dmoore@rsu22.us

Dear Smith School Community,

In alignment with Maine's new "bell-to-bell" law, RSU 22 will implement a new personal electronic device policy at the start of the 2026-2027 school year, restricting device use in all district schools. This supports student learning, minimizes distractions, and promotes positive social interaction.

The policy covers all personal electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, personal laptops, and other devices with internet or cellular capability.

At Smith:

We strongly encourage students to leave smart devices at home to avoid damage or loss. If brought to school:

- **Cell phones and smartwatches** must be off and stored in backpacks from arrival through dismissal.
- **Smart glasses** may not be used at all, due to state and federal privacy laws.
- **Personal laptops, tablets, and gaming devices** may not be used during the school day.

Non-compliance with this policy will be addressed as follows:

1. **1st instance:** Parents notified; device held until dismissal, then returned to student.
2. **2nd instance:** Parents notified; device held for parent/guardian pickup only.
3. **Repeated/ongoing violations:** Family meeting to problem-solve, with an individualized support plan as needed.

Our goal is to help students build healthy device habits, stay engaged in learning, and ensure consistent expectations at school and at home.

Thank you for your partnership as we implement this law and support student focus and well-being.

Sincerely,

Dawn Moore

Dawn Moore

Principal, Smith School

Community Events

This website will provide you with information about events, sign-ups for clubs, etc., available to your children. Please check often. We will be putting flyers, etc., directly into this folder.

Parent Handbook

[View the Parent Handbook](#)

SCHOOL LETTER DAYS



September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A	1 B	2 C	3 D	4 E
7 Labor Day	8 F	9 A	10 B	11 C
12 D	13 E	14 F	15 A	16 B
19 C	20 D	21 E	22 F	23 A
28 B	29 C	30 D		

SEPTEMBER MENU

SEPTEMBER		LEROY SMITH SCHOOL		2026	
BREAKFAST					
Includes Juice, Milk, Fruit, Grains, & More. Each day of the week has a feature that rotates monthly.					
Banana Bread	Fresh Baked Muffins	Warm Donuts	Yogurt Parfait	Cinnamon Roll	
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
LUNCH					
Includes Milk, Fruit, and Salad Bar each day. Check the cafeteria menu board for Chef's Specials and Peanut Butter & Jelly Meal.					
8/31	1	2	3	4	
Chicken Nuggets with Dipping Sauces Seasoned French Fries Dinner Roll	Walking Tacos Served with seasoned beef, cheese, salsa, and toppings Mexican Street Corn	Chicken BLT Pasta Salad All white chicken tossed with Ranch sauce, bacon, tomato spinach, & whole grain pasta Breadstick	Waffles Baked whole grain waffles served with syrup, Maine Blueberries, and Sausage	Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
7	8	9	10	11	
LABOR DAY  NO SCHOOL	Egg McSmith English Muffin Sandwich loaded with Egg, Ham, & Cheese Hashbrown Potato	Hamburger USDA Beef Patty on a whole grain bun with choice of American Cheese and toppings French Fries	Pasta & Meat Sauce Our spaghetti sauce is made in house with herbs, spices, and ground beef Dinner Roll	Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
14	15	16	17	18	
French Toast Sticks Baked whole grain french toast served with syrup, Maine Blueberries, and Sausage Hashbrown Potato	Hot Dog Steamed frankfurter in a toasted bun Italian Veggie Pasta Salad	Vanilla Yogurt Parfait with Maine Blueberries, Strawberries, & Granola Fresh Baked Muffin	DELI SANDWICHES choice of Ham, Turkey, Cheese & Veggie toppings Chips Gluten Free Bread Available	Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
21	22	23	24	25	
Pancakes Fluffy whole grain pancakes served with syrup, Maine Blueberries, and Sausage	Thai Salad with Chicken Fresh salad mix with sliced veggies and chicken and scratch made Sweet Chili Dressing Breadstick	Hamburger USDA Beef Patty on a whole grain bun with choice of American Cheese and toppings Pasta Salad	Crispy Chicken Drumstick with mashed potato and roasted vegetables Dinner Roll	Pizza Cheese, Pepperoni, & Special 	
28	29	30			
Cheesy Breadstick Dippers Savory baked whole grain sticks with Tomato Marinara Dipping Sauce	Chicken Tenders with Dipping Sauces Roasted Potatoes Buttered Corn	Irish Beef & Noodles Savory USDA ground beef with egg noodles and gravy Roasted Carrots Dinner Roll		SALAD & FRUIT BAR Offered at Lunch Every Day 	
Menu Subject to Change. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.					

2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August

M	T	W	Th	F
17	18	19	20 Sped	21 NT
24	25 Ed Techs TP	26 M	27 I	28 I
31 Gr. 1-9				

40
1 1
5 1

September

M	T	W	Th	F
	1 Gr 1-12 UTC	2	3	4
7 H	8 (Pre-K - K 1st day)	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

4 4
4 4
5 5
5 5
3 3
21 21
(26,22)

October

M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9 ED
12 H	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

2 2
5 5
4 4
5 5
5 5
21 21
(47,43)

November

M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11 H	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24 ED	25 C	26 H	27 V
30				

5 5 Q
4 4
5 5
3 2 T
1 1
15 15
(65,60)

December

M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23 V	24 V	25 H
28 V	29 V	30 V	31 V	

4 4
5 5
5 5
2 2
16 16
(61,76)

January

M	T	W	Th	F
				1 H
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18 H	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

0 0
5 5
5 5
4 4 Q
5 5
19 19
(100,95)

February

M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12 ED
15 H	16 V	17 V	18 V	19 V
22	23	24	25	26

5 5
5 5
0 0
5 5
15 15
(115,110)

March

M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12 I
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

5 5
5 4 T
5 5
5 5
3 3
22 22
(136,132)

April

M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16 ED
19 H	20 V	21 V	22 V	23 V
26	27	28	29	30

2 2 Q
5 5
5 5
0 0
5 5
17 17
(155,149)

May

M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28 ED
31 H				

5 5
5 5
5 5
5 5
0 0
20 20
(175,169)

June

M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11 ED
14 I	15	16	17	18

4 4
5 5 Q T
1 0
19 9
185/178
T S

School Year

178* Student Days
1 Management Day
1 Teacher Preparation Day
4 Inservice Days
1 Teacher Comp Day
(* 3 storm days included)

August

August 17
August 20, 21, 24
August 25
August 26
August 27
August 28
August 31
September 1
September 1
September 8
September 25
10/9, 11/24, 21/2, 4/16, 5/28, 6/11
8/26, 8/27, 8/28, 3/12, 6/14
June 11
June 14

Fall Sports:

Teacher Orientation (8/20 Sped only)
Educational Technicians start date
Teacher Prep
Management Day
Staff Inservice



Email: dmoore@rsu22.us

Website: <http://smith.rsu22.us/>

Location: [319 South Main Street, Winterport, ME, USA](#)

Phone: [207-223-4282](tel:207-223-4282)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/smithschoolwinterportfrankfort>



Dawn Moore

Dawn is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters