

Around the Round!

September 8, 2009

Round School Family!

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Round Elementary. The staff is looking forward to helping our students grow, develop, and succeed throughout the year. I certainly hope you all had a fun and relaxing summer. Mine was busy with my daughter's softball team and spending time with family. We are all eager to spend quality education time with our entire Round School Family.

I would like to welcome a new addition to our staff this year. Mrs. Christine Griffon joins us to teach kindergarten. She comes to us from Village Elementary. Mrs. Griffon was a member of the Round staff three years ago as a kindergarten teacher and we feel extremely fortunate to have her back.

The last two years brought many building improvements and renovations. With our building looking fantastic, we have had a quieter summer in that regard. The pavilion received a fresh coat of paint, the floors were stripped and waxed, and rooms were cleaned. The district added a storage building next to the west portable to free up storage room in the building and a gate was added to the wooden fence on the east side of the property. In addition, each classroom received a student computer for students to use. This adds a little more technology to our building and will make our AR program easier to manage. The program was so successful last year the media center was busting at the seams. This is a great problem to have but the computers will allow students to take the tests in the classrooms. I'm excited about the potential of that program and many others that will take place at Round this year.

Round Elementary School is dedicated to providing a safe environment conducive to learning. We will also ensure that all students acquire and use the knowledge, skills, and behaviors necessary to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. We are looking forward to working with you to achieve those goals. Round Elementary is a wonderful place to learn and work, and I'm excited to be a part of such a special place!!! Please read through the following information so you can become familiar with a few of our policies, guidelines, and dates of upcoming events. A newsletter will be sent home electronically each month. Again, welcome to the school year and thank you for your positive involvement in your child's education.

Respectfully,

Dave Minsker
Principal



School Phone Numbers

Main office: (810) 626-2800

Absence Line: (810) 626-2805

***Please note that all calls concerning absences must be called in to the Absence Line, not the main office**



School Hours

School Hours: 8:55 – 3:45

Half Day Dismissal: 12:10

***Please note that students are not permitted in the building until 8:50. For parents who drop off their children in the morning, there will not be supervision outside the doors until 8:40.**

Sign-In Procedure

Parents entrust their most prized possession, their children, to us during the school year and we must do everything possible to keep our building safe. These guidelines are an important part of ensuring a safe environment for our children. They must be followed consistently and without exception.

- *After the bell at 8:55, parents must walk their child into the office and sign them in.
- *If you are picking your child up during the school day, please sign them out in the main office. You may wait in the hallway outside the office doors for your child.
- *During school hours, all parents and visitors must sign in at the office upon entering the building. Please do not walk through the building without signing in.
- *Instructional time is extremely important to the education of our children. Disruptions to that instructional time decreases the time your children are learning. **We ask that if you are dropping off items for your child during the school day, that you leave them with the office and we will take them to the classroom.** It is important that your child's teacher not be interrupted. Thank you for your understanding.

Beginning of School Day Reminder

We understand the excitement and anxiety parents can have regarding their children starting a new school year, especially those in the younger grades. The first few days of school (Sept. 8-11) parents are allowed to walk their children to class. Starting Monday the 14th, parents are not permitted to walk the hallways when students are let into the building in the morning. Please check in at the office if you plan on entering the hallways in the morning for specific school business. Parents may walk their children into the building just not down the hallways. Safety of our students is extremely important to us at Round Elementary. We need to monitor who is entering the building for your children's safety, as well as allowing teachers to begin the day without interruption. Instructional time is important. We also want to teach our students to be self-reliant and be able to do things for themselves. Thank you for your understanding.

School Bus Stop Reminders

A reminder to all parents, it is required that parents wait at the bus stop with their child in the morning. Supervision is extremely important at the bus stop. Please understand that the bus stop is considered school property, so negative behaviors that warrant consequences at school are also in effect at the bus stop. Every classroom will be addressed about negative behaviors at the bus stop and what could happen if school rules are broken there. Please reiterate that message to your children as we work together to make our bus stops a safe place to be.

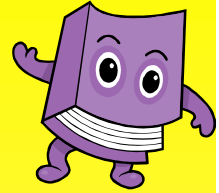
Parking

As in years past, parking is limited to the two parking lots as you immediately enter school property. The drive directly in front of the building is reserved only for busses. For the safety of our children, please do not drive or park in the area in front of the building. At the front of the east and west lots are reserved parking spots. Those parking spots are reserved for last year's auction winners. The west parking spot is reserved for the Bester family and the east parking spot is reserved for the Waldron family. Please refrain from parking in those spots. Thank you for your understanding.



PTO / Book Fair

The Round Elementary School PTO plays a vital role in the education of our students. We feel extremely fortunate to have a caring, energetic group of parents that volunteer their time and efforts to give our students the best experience possible. There are few new initiatives this year that the PTO will be involved in. It's an exciting time to be a volunteer in the school. Please consider volunteering for the PTO this school year. The next scheduled PTO meeting is September 21st at 7:00 pm at Round. Also mark your calendars that the fall Book Fair will be from September 14 – 18.



Open House / First Grade Curriculum Night

Round Elementary School's Open House is on Monday, September 14th from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. This is for grades 2 through 4 only and you may arrive at any time between 7:00 and 8:00 and visit your child's classroom. The first grade curriculum night is on Tuesday, September 15th from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Parents will be given information pertaining to curriculum taught in first grade and get a glimpse of what your child's day looks like. There will also be information on the importance of reading and strategies will be shared as well. A reminder that both these nights are not Parent/Teacher Conferences. It is a time for you to see your child's classroom and school, and meet his/her teacher. Specific questions about your child can be addressed at another time. Thank you for your understanding and we hope to see you there!

Picture Day

Round Elementary School is using a new picture company this year, School Pictures. We are excited about this change because picture packets will cost less for parents and the building will make more money to put back in the classrooms for our students. This year's picture day is Monday, October 5th. Another great feature is on-line ordering. You do not need to pay for pictures up front. Parents can look at the pictures on-line and order your child's picture and packets right from your home computer. More details will be sent to you as the picture day approaches. There will be a retake day that will be announced at a later date. Please note that there will not be a spring picture day this year.

Student Lunches

Student lunches cost \$2.00 and include milk, fruit, and vegetable. Milk bought separately now costs .50 cents. Please do not send in cash or coins without putting the child's name on the envelope or baggie. All lunch money must be placed in the locked blue box outside the office. If you have any questions about lunches or your child's account, please contact Teri Sincock at Food Service.



Recycling at Round to Continue

Last year, Round started a paper recycling initiative. As most of you know, we lost the recycling bin last spring. We believe it is important that we continue recycling for the educational value for our students. Thanks to Village Elementary, we are now able to use their recycling bin. We will continue to collect paper in the classrooms and will take the paper to Village on a weekly basis. If parents choose to recycle at home and bring the paper in, please take the paper directly to the Village recycling bin. **This is for paper only.** Village will not be able to keep the recycling program if anything but paper is placed in the bin.

Here is a list of rules for the recycling bin: Paper only, no cardboard, no phone books, no construction paper, and paper can be in plastic bags



We would encourage you to recycle paper at home to reinforce the educational value of recycling here at school. We thank you for your cooperation in stressing the value of recycling.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

The "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974" is published in the September issue of *Community Life*. Student pictures and names are published in *Community Life* to show off the wonderful things happening in our building and district, such as activities, artwork, awards, etc. Guidelines will be given for how to opt out of using pictures in *Community Life* if you choose.