

WELCOME BACK TO MID VALLEY ELEMENTARY!

We would like to extend warmest greetings to you as we embark on this busy and exciting school year. I would like to extend a special welcome to our new parents/guardians as you join the Mid Valley family. We look forward to an exciting school year, one in which quality education, as always, is our focus. Our goal is to provide our students with the best education in a safe learning environment.

We look forward to teaching your children and have only the highest expectations for their performance. Our students will participate in a comprehensive curriculum, which emphasizes reading, writing, problem solving and respect for themselves and all others.

Joining the Elementary Center...

Mrs. Renee Tomcho – 6th Grade Science
Mr. Matthew Skrobiszewski - 4th Grade Learning Support
Ms. Karen Senkow – Para-Educator w/Mrs. Celuck
Ms. Rebecca Ruane – Para-Educator w/Mrs. Sheridan
Mrs. Jill Liparulo – LT Sub for Mrs. Moraski
Mrs. Tara Karmol – LT Sub for Mrs. Eboli
Ms. Breanne Cole – LT Sub for Mrs. Cantafio
Ms. Toni Mullen – Head Start Teacher
Ms. Marilyn Kaminski - Para-Educator - Head Start
Ms. Jean Simonson - Family Engagement Worker - Head Start
Ms. Tina Wilson – Para-Educator/Bus Aide – Head Start

The following staff members have taken on new assignments this school year:

Mrs. Wasp – 3rd Grade
Mrs. Keegan – 3rd Grade Learning Support
Ms. Mayer – 3rd Grade
Mrs. Caines – 5th Grade Math
Mrs. Dempsey – 5th Grade Language Arts
Mrs. Giovagnoli – 5th Grade Language Arts
Mrs. Kraky – 5th Grade Science/Social Studies
Mr. Mishura – 5th Grade Math
Mrs. Schumacher – K-6 Emotional Support
Mr. Helcoski – 6th Grade Study Island Math
Mrs. Rabel – 6th Grade Art
Mrs. Petrini – 6th Grade Foreign Language



Mid Valley School District Appoints New Elementary Assistant Principal

We would like to welcome Mr. Piercy back this year as our new assistant principal.

Mr. Piercy has stepped in as the Dean of Students at the elementary center for the past three years. Prior to becoming Dean of Students he taught second grade for six years and sixth grade for two years. He has now taken on the duties of assistant principal and everyone at the elementary center is looking forward to working with him in his new role. We are honored to have an assistant principal who has exhibited an untiring work ethic, charismatic personality and devotion to every student and staff member at the elementary center. We are excited to have Mr. Piercy join the administrative team and we look forward to working together to continue to provide our students with a quality education. If you need to reach him with any questions or concerns please call 570-307-3241.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, October 2nd - School Wide Dress Down to Benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Monday, October 12th - No School

October 28th - PTA Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Library

October 30th - Early Dismissal at 12:00 p.m.



STUDENT DROP OFF PROCEDURE

Parents are asked to follow the left lane down into the elementary parking lot. At that point you will encounter a traffic guard to guide you in the right direction. Please do not block any parking entryways.

For everyone's safety and in order to keep the car line moving, adults **MUST** remain in their cars. Students will be marked tardy after 8:45 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE: FACULTY MEMBERS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO OPEN CAR DOORS.

We would like to thank you for your cooperation.



End of Day Dismissal Procedures

Walkers will begin dismissal at 3:15 p.m. from the front of the building. All buses will be staged in the bus circle area. Children leaving by district transportation will board their buses in this area.

Parents who are picking up their children at the end of the school day will be asked to **PLEASE REMAIN IN THEIR CARS** and follow the left lane down into the elementary parking lot. **Please do not arrive at the school before 3:00 p.m. Students will not be dismissed until 3:15 p.m.**

Arriving earlier than 3:00 p.m. will cause our parking lot to become congested. This area cannot be blocked in case of an emergency situation or evacuation.

As always we thank you in advance for your cooperation in this very important matter. As we are all aware, accidents can happen in the blink of an eye and the better we are at avoiding potentially dangerous situations the safer our children will be.

Drop Off and Dismissal

Parents are reminded that during the drop off and dismissal of our students please be careful in the parking areas. One thing we must all do is learn to be a little more patient and follow the traffic patterns as they develop in the parking lots. If we all follow the patterns we will have a shorter, safer and less stressful experience when picking up our children. Right now it is taking about ten minutes to load the cars in the front of the building and exit the parking area.

We thank everyone for their cooperation in this effort to keep our school safe and running smoothly. **WE CANNOT DO THIS WITHOUT EVERYONE'S COOPERATION.**

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS LEAVING BEFORE THE END OF THE DAY

Parents please note if a student will be leaving the elementary center during their lunch period try to arrange a pick up before or after their scheduled lunch period. Many times in the past students have entered the lunch room and just sat down to begin eating their lunch and they are called to the office because they are being excused. When this occurs at times they eat their lunch at a rapid pace or simply throw the entire meal in the trash. We would like to avoid this situation if at all possible. Listed below are the times that the various grade levels have lunch every day.

10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Grade K
11:05 a.m. to 11:35 p.m.	Grades 1 & 2
11:40 p.m. to 12:10 p.m.	Grades 3 & 4
12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Grades 5 & 6

Again, we realize that sometimes these situations cannot be avoided however; if we plan ahead our children will not be put under unnecessary pressure to finish their lunch too quickly or to waste their lunch by putting it in the trash. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation in this matter.



Notes to the School

Whenever a note is sent into the school please be sure all the necessary information is included so we can accurately fulfill your request. The note should have the following information contained in it:

- *Student's Full Name
- *Teacher's name
- *Date of the note
- *If a bus change is desired the bus number and stop should be indicated
- *Contact number if needed

Please note: Parents will be asked for picture identification when they pick up a student without prior notice.

Attendance

Research shows that children who are in school most of the time do better on state tests. Studies also show that kids who are absent more often score lower on state tests.

Being late for school hurts a child's learning, too. A student who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the year.

Children can copy notes or make up an assignment, but they can never get back what's most important; the discussions, the questions, the explanations by the teacher and the thinking that makes learning come alive. Your child's success in school depends on having a solid educational background— one that can only be gained through regular school attendance.

Busing

All bus issues should be directed to the school office 570-307-3241. In many cases the school may not have immediate answers concerning bus stops, late buses or children who have boarded the wrong bus, etc.

Please note: Crossing guards cannot wait with children for parents to arrive! Please arrive at your child's bus stop early!

Bus News As the new school year begins it is time for students, parents and the district to review procedures in relation to the transportation of students to and from school.

* Please do not allow students to arrive at the bus stop too early. Students should not have to wait longer than five to ten minutes before they are picked up at their stop.

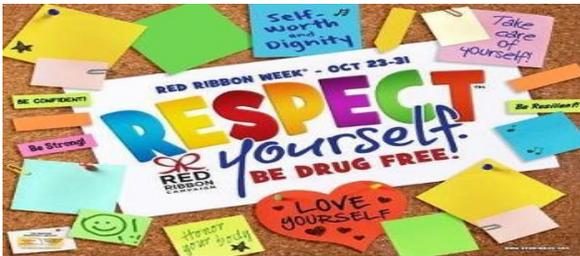
*Also, please reinforce with your children that they must behave at the bus stop, and respect the rights of the property owner where the bus stop is located.

*The bus stop should not be used as a play area, because as we all know children at play do not always see the dangers that are around them.

Every year a certain number of students have their bus riding privileges suspended for one reason or another. Bus suspensions can be avoided if we would reinforce with our children that they should follow the directions of the bus driver. The driver of your child's school bus shoulders a great deal of responsibility every day and needs the cooperation of everyone on that bus to complete the assigned route safely.

Again, this year we will be relying on the cameras in the various buses to monitor behavior. However, if the driver is having problems with your child, he/she will file a report with the office. We will investigate the report and if the report is substantiated disciplinary action can be taken as per the Mid Valley School District Policy with regards to bus transportation.

Finally, remember when a student is suspended from bus transportation, it falls to the parent to arrange for transportation for the child to and from school.



Red Ribbon Week



Our school is going to take part in “Red Ribbon Week”, a national anti-drug campaign. It will be celebrated October 23rd – October 29th. As we have in the past several years, our students will participate in a variety of activities that will enhance their awareness of drug abuse and the problems associated with it.

Events for the Week:

October 23rd- “Let’s Team Up Against Drugs” wear your favorite team attire.

October 26th - “Turn Your Back on Drugs”, wear your shirt backwards.

October 27th - “Put a Cap on Drugs”, wear a crazy hat.

October 28th - “Sock It to Drugs”, wear crazy socks.

October 29th - “Red Day”, Red Ribbon Day, wear a red shirt with a uniform bottom.

Grades K, 1, 2, Mrs. Havran, Mrs. Celuck, and Mrs. Sheridan sign a brick with their names to “Build a Wall Against Drugs!”

Grade 3 will write and present drug free messages to the school during morning announcements and at the end of the school day.

Grades 4, 5, 6 Mrs. Suvoek’s, Mr. Skrobiszewski’s, Mrs. Chafin, and Mrs. Watson’s classes will decorate the hallways with drug free messages.

Additional information will be sent home with your child.

A banner will be placed in the cafeteria pledging the Mid Valley Elementary School will be Drug Free. All of the students will sign the pledge.