



ATKINSON ACADEMY

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Through the process of learning, we value and build:
Knowledge * Respect * Community

August 14, 2015

Dear Parents,

Our teachers and staff join me in welcoming you and your child to our school for the upcoming year. We are hard at work getting ready to begin the new school year, 2015-2016. I am pleased to inform you that _____ will be your child's teacher for this school year.

We have had many new changes this year. I'm excited to welcome Patrice Liff who will be joining the administrative team as Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator. Shelley Michaud will assume the new fulltime position of intervention specialist. She will be available to work in grades pre-k through grade 3 with strategic groups in both reading and math. Maureen McArdle will be taking over as the pre-k teacher. Erin Lozowski, Rachel Proulx and Nicole Habib are excited to work with Cathy Riley an experienced fifth grade teacher formerly from Sandown Central who will be joining the team. We also are delighted to welcome back Barbara Gallant as our new guidance counselor replacing Zachary Champion who has returned to the Middle School. As an aside, Zachary and his wife, Amy welcomed a new baby boy, Jackson, this summer. How exciting! Pre k, kindergarten and 1st grade will be speaking Spanish this year with new staff member, Stefani Diskin. Stefani is happy to join the staff after hearing so many wonderful things about the Academy from her cousins, former students. We also welcome back our colleague, Beth Fenderson who is feeling much better and can't wait to be back.

In order to ensure a smooth transition between school and home, we will be hosting an Open House for students and parents on Tuesday, August 25th. Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades will be held from 2-3pm, and grades 3-5th will be from 3:00-4:30pm. Please join us to meet your child's teacher, see their classroom and meet other classmates. We hope this time will allow your child to feel comfortable in their new classroom surroundings which will result in a super successful school year. All the teachers, nurse and the specialists will be available to answer any questions you may have. No formal presentations will be made. We hope that you will join us for this exciting event.

The first day of school will be Wednesday, August 26th. School begins at 8:30 am and ends at 3:10 pm. AM Pre-K and Kindergarten is dismissed at 11:10 am and PM Kindergarten begins at 12:40 pm. Full day kindergarten students may ride the bus both ways. Pre-K and Kindergarten students may ride the bus to school and pm students may ride the bus home. Bus monitors will ride the buses the first week to make sure that everyone makes it home safely. First Student will have a bus available for your child to visit during the Open House.

You will find information concerning the bus routes and schedules on the school website, www.atkinsonacademy.com or our district website, www.timberlane.net under transportation/bus routes, you will see a link for Edulog Web Query. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that your child report to the bus stop nearest to their home. The pickup and drop off times are approximate.

NOTE: Bus routes may change from year to year, so be sure to check for any updates. Please have your child ready at least five minutes prior to the actual pickup time for the first few days of school. After that you should be able to judge the actual pickup time and adjust your schedule accordingly. If you drive your child to school, you may drop them off at the front entrance between

8:15 – 8:25 am. Staff members will be there to greet the students. **Please note that school begins promptly at 8:30 am. Children arriving after 8:30 am will be considered tardy.** Mid day Pre-k and kindergarten dismissal and drop-off will be at the front entrance. Please line up along the front circle no earlier than 11:00 am for AM pickup and no earlier than 12:30 for PM drop off. Unless your child is late, PLEASE don't park your car and walk your child into the building. Staff will be available to assist your child in and out of the cars. The end of the day pickup begins at 3:10pm. Please let the classroom teacher know in writing if there is a change in going home procedure otherwise your child will take the bus home as usual. Please call Sandra Hodgkins (transportation coordinator) at 382-6119 ext 2229, if you have bus questions.

The cost of hot lunch is \$12.50 for the week (\$2.50 per day.) Your child can eat all five days or just one day a week. If your child wishes to purchase milk to drink with a bagged lunch, it is \$.50 per day or \$2.50 per week. All students may bring a water bottle and snack for breaks. Whitson's Culinary Group will be sending home more information regarding payment options. Always feel free to send in a check or cash to cover lunch money payments.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to join us August 25th. We believe that your child's first day of school should be an enjoyable one. Our teachers are looking forward with great enthusiasm to meeting your child. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 362-5521 ext 6301 or e-mail me at Kathleen.dayotis@timberlane.net. Mrs. Patrice Liff joins me in wishing your child a wonderful new school year.

Sincerely,

Kathie Dayotis