



# TIMBERLANE LEARNING CENTER

## AT SANDOWN CENTRAL

295 Main Street, Sandown, NH 03873 Voice: (603) 887-3648 Fax: (603) 887-3635

[SandownSchool.com](https://SandownSchool.com)

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August 12, 2022

Dear Sandown Central Families:

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! To those families new to our school and the Timberlane Regional School District, we are pleased to have you join our community and look forward to getting to know you. This summer was the first time in seven years that our school has not hosted extended school year services. This has allowed our custodial team to deep clean all of our classrooms and common areas. We are grateful to Bob Stilson and Brian McDonald for their hard work and dedication.

Please help us welcome our new staff. Megan Adams, School Nurse, Kim Dubois, Physical Therapist, Michele Parker, Kindergarten Educational Assistant and Antonia Larsen, Special Education Para Educator. We would also like to welcome Heather Sweet, our new Executive Administrative Assistant. Heather comes to us from Danville, where she has worked as a para educator and front office Administrative Assistant for the past 15 years. If you have any questions, please reach out to her.

If you've had other children attend Sandown Central, you know that our instructional focus involves learning through play opportunities. It is not just what children learn, but how they learn it that's important. Learning through play is best practice when instructing young learners and is a state mandate for all public kindergarten classrooms. Over the past two years, kindergarten teachers Mandy DeCew and Lee Anne Miller have been a part of the Early Childhood Initiative at the University of New Hampshire and have established the three systems of play in their kindergarten classroom. They have shared their learning with our kindergarten team as well as kindergarten and grade 1 teachers district wide. Play itself has three important components; Child Directed Free Play – the type you would see at recess, Mutually Directed Guided Play, which is structured by the teacher to specifically focus on social rules, developing friendships and self-regulation skills, and Teacher Directed Guided Play. This play drives specific academic learning and is designed to teach the curriculum standards required by the state and district. Play may look a bit different, depending on the age and developmental level of our students. Classroom teachers would be happy to speak with you about how play is structured in their classrooms.

Last year, the staff began to fund-raise for a Playground Improvement Project. For families who had students attending kindergarten last year, you will know that the kindergarten students designed their dream playgrounds. We would love to use some of those designs in establishing more opportunities for play around the perimeter of the existing structures. These would be areas where pretend play would be possible. If you would like to contribute to this project, please contact me or your child's teacher. Additionally, we will be hosting the Square 1 fundraiser in the fall. All proceeds will go to our playground project.

There are a few housekeeping items that are important for you to know:

- Open House will be Wednesday, August 24, 2022. There will be two sessions, coordinated with Sandown North. Sandown Central times are: last name beginning **A-M 5:00-5:45**; last name beginning **N-Z 6:00-6:45**.
- The school hours for the 2022-2023 school year are:
  - Full Day Students 8:30-3:10
  - Morning Sessions 8:30-11:10
  - Afternoon Sessions 12:30-3:10



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- Preschool students will attend either morning or afternoon sessions on a Tuesday/Thursday or Wednesday/Friday schedule.
- Pre-K students will attend either morning or afternoon sessions Tuesday-Friday.
- Kindergarten students will attend Monday-Friday for all day sessions, or a morning session. We are not offering PM kindergarten this year.
- Arrival and dismissal information:
  - At Open House you will receive two car signs with your child's name and teacher printed on it. These are to be used when you pick your child up from school. With the signs, there will be specific instructions to follow if you are transporting your child to school. We will begin to unload cars at 8:20 and 12:20, and we will begin to load cars at 11:05 and 3:05.
- PowerSchool Re-Registration Process:
  - Families of returning students will receive an email from the Timberlane Regional School District requesting the completion of the re-registration process for each child in their parent's PowerSchool account. Please take the time to complete this process before the beginning of the school year. This process asks you to update your contact information, emergency contacts and email addresses. If you need assistance, please contact the front office.
- School Pictures:
  - School Picture Days will be October 18 and 19.
- PTA: We have a very active PTA in Sandown. Please stop by the PTA table at Open House and consider joining. PTA sponsors many student events, and supports our teachers and classrooms throughout the year.

At Sandown Central School, we serve hot lunch for kindergarten students who attend full day. The price of lunch is \$3.00, and the price of milk is \$.50. Students must order lunch at the beginning of each day, so please review the menu options with your child if you are purchasing hot lunch. You will receive a printed menu for August and September when you attend the Open House. The menus are also available on all district websites for your reference. All families received a message regarding the application for free and reduced lunch. Included in this letter is that application. If you have any questions about completing it, or where to send it once completed, please reach out to our office. All conversations are confidential and we are happy to help with the process.

Please take a few minutes to review the school year calendar included in this mailing. Listed are all staff professional development days, early release days, and school vacation dates. Please note, school will be closed on Friday, September 2 and Monday, September 5 for Labor Day. It will also be closed on Wednesday, September 28 for a staff professional development day.

I hope you enjoy the remaining days of summer. We look forward to welcoming the kindergarten students back on Monday, August 29, Pre-Kindergarten students on Tuesday, August 30, Preschool Students on a T/TH schedule on Tuesday, August 30, and those on a W/F schedule on Wednesday, August 31.

Kind Regards,

Patrice L. Liff, Principal