



## Luther Elementary School Newsletter~February

Luther Families,

The reopening of Luther School on January 5th was a GREAT day for students and staff! I also observed many smiling faces on parents that day. The last month has been going really well. Students and staff are all following the new mitigation guidelines and getting down to business with academics. This is very exciting.

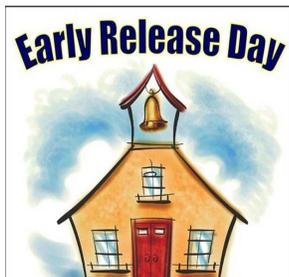
Just as a reminder, the following items are done on a regular basis as far as mitigation steps are concerned: face coverings by all students and staff, frequent use of hand sanitizer/hand washing, distancing as much as possible. Students also have a lot of their own supplies including water bottles, art supplies, their own chromebook, etc. If an item is shared then it is disinfected before and after each use. The biggest change after reopening in January is that we are operating under a strict cohorting for each classroom. This means that the main people in classrooms are the teacher and an assigned classroom aide. This group mixes with each other and really nobody else. From time to time, another staff member may work in a classroom but it is for a limited amount of time. Students in each class stay together and do not mix with other students from different classes during the day including recess and lunch. Each class has their own assigned area. This plan has been going well and will continue for sometime as long as we are still experiencing COVID cases in Jefferson County.

Above all, THANK YOU, for your support! We are very appreciative of all that Luther families have done during the virtual period and now as we reopened schools. It is a team effort.



### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

- 2/1 Early Dismissal 1:30
- 2/5 Luther Loyalty Day
- 2/8 Early Dismissal 1:30
- 2/9 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 2/11 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 2/12 Valentine's Day Parties
- 2/14 Happy Valentine's Day
- 2/15 Early Dismissal 1:30
- 2/18 Picture Retake Day  
Activity Picture Day
- 2/22 Early Dismissal 1:30



### **Early Release Days**

Each Monday during quarter #3, students will be released from school at 1:30. This allows teachers to participate in professional development and collaboratively plan with grade level teams from 1:30-4:30. Students will eat lunch as normal on these days. Please be sure to have a plan in place for the early pick up. The bus system will operate on these days picking students up at 1:30 from school.



### **Inside or Outside**

We like to have students outside for recess if possible. The fresh air and sunshine does them wonders. However, the Wisconsin weather is not always perfect so we have children inside for recess when it is raining or the windchill is below zero. If we are inside before school, the children gather in their respective areas (Board Room, Cafe or the Hallways). If it is during the school day, they remain in their classrooms doing homework, reading, playing games, etc.



### **Drop-off and Pick-up Reminders for Families**

**Before school** - Thank you for your cooperation with this new change. Again here are the options for drop-off before school starts:

- Supervision on the playground from 7:45-8:00 AM - students to line up and wait to enter the school. The drop off area for this is in the back parking lot by the playground gate.
- Breakfast is served in the cafeteria from 7:30-8:00 AM - students that eat breakfast can get dropped off by the doors where materials pick up takes place.
- Please BE PATIENT, BE CAREFUL and SLOW DOWN - do it for the children!

**After school** - If you are picking up your child after school please use the tips below:

- Family members should park in front of school on the street or on the side of the school on the street.
- Family members are welcome to walk up to the front of the school to greet their child and walk to the car together.
- At this time we are not allowing family members into the school building to pick up their child.
- **PLEASE DO NOT** park in the front parking lot! This is too small of a lot for this purpose and is designated for the administration staff that works in that wing of the school.



### **Winter Weather**

The weather is changing quickly! Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for colder temperatures. In order to play in the snow at recess students will need snowpants, boots, coat, hat, scarf and gloves.



### **Family Conferences**

The next round of conferences will be on Tuesday, February 9th and Thursday, February 11th. More information will be communicated with families in mid January. We look forward to this time as it allows us to connect with families to share the many strengths of students and areas that they can grow in during the second semester.



### **Luther Loyalty Day**

This takes place on the first Friday of each month. Students and staff are encouraged to wear their Luther spirit wear. If you do not have Luther clothes, then wear the school colors, purple and yellow. The PTO may have another spirit wear order in the spring.



### **Picture Retake Day**

This is scheduled for Thursday, February 18th. Visual Image Photography (VIP) will be at Luther this morning. They will take picture retakes for students that were absent on picture day in September. We will also be holding activity pictures on this day. This is for extracurricular groups such as safety patrol, band, orchestra and much more.



### **Valentine's Day**

These parties will be taking place on Friday, February 12th at the end of the school day. Each teacher is planning this for their classroom and it will look a bit different than previous years. Please watch for an email or note from your child's teacher. Some of the changes include no parent volunteers at this time, food brought in by students needs to be prepackaged and individually packaged items bought from a store. Thank you for your cooperation.



### **Birthday Treats**

If you choose to send in a birthday treat with your child on their birthday please make sure the items are store bought. They also need to be individually wrapped and prepackaged. An example of this would be Rice Krispie bars.



### **MAP Testing**

Students in grades 3-5 took MAP (measurement of academic progress) Exams in mid January. The second graders will take this in mid February. Each student in these grades

takes a test in math and reading. The tests are untimed but on average take about 50 minutes to complete. The tests are adaptive. This means that if a child is doing very well and answering questions correctly it will provide a more difficult question to really max out their knowledge. The same is true on the other end, that if a child is having a difficult time and answering incorrectly then the exam will provide the child with some easier questions. The Luther staff receives results within 24 hours to allow us to review the data and make educational decisions to help guide your child in their learning. We will test again in Spring and obviously want to see an increase in their score! Parents will receive results as well.

### **SDFA Employment**

The School District of Fort Atkinson has an opening for a Full-Time Custodian at the Fort Atkinson High School.

**FT High School Evening Custodian 3:30pm-Midnight / Monday-Friday (30 minute unpaid lunch)**

**\$17.36/Hour / Employee Benefits, Health Insurance, Time Off, Holidays, WRS Pension**

The desired employee must have the ability to work in a fast-paced environment, lift up to 50 pounds, and work well independently and with others, and the willingness to assume multiple duties and tasks.

#### Qualifications:

High School Diploma or Equivalency

One year of relevant work experience

Ability to lift up to 50 pounds

#### Duties:

The following duties are normal for this position. These are not to be construed as exclusive or all-inclusive. Other duties may be required and assigned.

Cleans all classrooms, restrooms and public areas.

Maintains a high standard of cleanliness through the building.

Secures building or area on a daily basis or as directed.

Moves equipment and furniture as needed.

Plows and salts sidewalks and other paving areas as required.

Clears sidewalks, parking lots and driveways of debris and snow.

#### Skills:

Ability to operate equipment including vacuums, auto scrubbers, carpet extractors, swing scrubbers, and other minor maintenance equipment.

Ability to operate snow and grounds equipment.

Ability to communicate and cooperate with colleagues, students, administrators, parents and members of the community to maintain a positive working relationship.

Ability to effectively use a variety of technologies, including but not limited to: email systems, word-processing software, internet, and ability to adapt to changes in technology.

Ability to lift 50 pounds.

Ability to work on feet for the majority of shift.

Ability to work outside, in all weather conditions as needed.

**All interested applicants must apply via WECAN (Wisconsin Education Career Access Network) at: <https://wecan.education.wisc.edu/#/>. Please include a cover letter, resume and two letters of recommendation. The School District of Fort Atkinson will only accept applications for vacant positions via WECAN. Vacancy# 95434**



Registration for the School District of Fort Atkinson 4 Year Old Kindergarten **(4K)** opens on Thursday, January 4, 2021. Children that will be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2021 are eligible for 4K.

The 4K Registration Forms are available in all of the Elementary School Offices, and all of the 4K sites; Purdy Elementary, Kids Konnection, Fort Atkinson Preschool and Day Care, Parents Cooperative Preschool, St. Joseph's Catholic School, Head Start at Purdy and Hebron Locations.

The registration form can also be downloaded at [www.fortschools.org/4k](http://www.fortschools.org/4k).

Forms should be completely filled out and **returned to:** Barrie Elementary School, Attn: 4K

1000 Harriette Street

Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

**The Deadline to return 4K Registration Form is  
Monday, March 1, 2021**

The next step in the enrollment process will be the Fort 4K Registration Day. This will take place **Wednesday, April 7th from 12:00 Noon - 5:00 pm at Luther Elementary School located at 205 Park Street**. There will be a \$15.00 registration fee, cash, or check made payable to **School District of Fort Atkinson**. No appointment is needed, but it is important that you attend. The process should take no longer than 15 minutes.

Additional On-Line 4K registration information will be mailed out to you before the **Wednesday, April 7th Registration Day at Luther Elementary**.

