



Callahan Elementary School
200 O'Callaghan Way
Lynn, Massachusetts 01905

Tel. 781.477.7340
Dr. Brian T. Fay
Principal

"Soaring to New Heights"

Fax 781.581.9248
Deborah DeMala M. Ed.
Program Specialist

Hello Callahan Families!

Welcome to a new school year! We hope you have had a wonderful summer filled with many fond memories. As the first day of school draws near, we wanted to remind you of a few details to assist with a smooth transition back to school.

➤ **The first day of school**

- **Students in grades 1-5 start Wednesday, September 6th, 2017.**
- **Students in kindergarten start Monday, September 11th**
- School begins promptly at 7:45 and ends at 1:45
- It would be helpful if doctor's/dentists appointments are scheduled for after school hours, as one of our educational goals at Callahan is to increase attendance to every day ALL DAY!

➤ **Kindergarten**

- Screenings will take place on Wednesday, September 6th and Thursday, September 7th. Parents will receive a confirmation phone call prior to their appointment.
- Kindergarten parents are also invited to a 'boohoo' breakfast in the school library immediately after dropping students off in line on 9/11/17.

➤ **School Uniforms ; (not mandatory)**

- **Uniforms** are a choice and are not mandatory. Callahan is part of a pilot program along with Aborn Elementary. A survey will go out in January to determine the mid-year success of the program. Uniforms may be worn Monday through Thursday. Fridays are 'Free Fashion Fridays'.
- **Full uniforms consist of:**
 - Callahan logo polo shirt (tucked in)
 - Khaki pants/shorts/skirts/skorts
 - Belt
 - Dark colored shoes or sneakers (sneakers are to be worn on gym day)
- **Partial uniform consists of:**
 - Callahan logo polo shirt
 - Dungarees/jeans
 - Dark colored shoes or sneakers are recommended (sneakers must be worn on gym day)
- **Gym uniform:**
 - Previously it was stated that students would wear sweat pants with a white t-shirts for gym. After parent feedback, this has been changed. On gym day students are encouraged to wear the Callahan logo polo shirt with either sweat pants or jeans with sneakers.

- **Uniforms may be ordered on-line on specific dates throughout the year.** Once your orders are placed, it will take 2-3 for delivery. All orders will be distributed by the school once they arrive. If there is a problem with the order, please contact the school office.

➤ **Forms**

- During the first few days of school students will receive health, lunch and Title One Compact forms...please fill these forms out and return to school the next day, or as soon as possible.
- The emergency forms are extremely important and should be returned the next school day.
- Please contact the school with any special circumstances that apply to your individual family needs.
- Lunch information and payment methods will be available on the website.

➤ **Going Paperless/digital**

- Callahan is going paperless...Please go to lynnschools.org, click on 'our schools', click on **Callahan**
- On the school website you will find important information
- The lunch menu can also be found on the school website
- Additionally, we will be using our call system for important information. Please be sure that we have your correct phone number in order for you to receive these important messages.

➤ **Buses**

- Many students take buses after school to home or after school programs. Speak with your child about where he/she is going so they understand where they are supposed to go. It is important to us that all students arrive at their afterschool destination safely. Please send a written note on the first day of school stating what bus your child is taking, the program he/she is going. Also, please send a note if your child will be a 'pick up' or 'walker'. A 'walker' is a student that has permission to walk home alone. A 'pick up' is a student in which a parent or guardian will be picking up the student. Please also state who will be picking up your student on a regular basis and send a note in if that person changes.
- In order to maintain the safety of all students, students must bring in a **written note** when there are changes to their bus routine. **If we do not have a written note, for security reasons, we must put the student on their designated bus.**
- The office needs to have **notice of bus changes before 11:00 AM** to ensure that our bus lists are accurate and that teachers are notified of any changes before dismissal. This is to keep all children safe and accounted for. We thank you in advance for your cooperation!

➤ **Dismissals**

- Because we are located between the middle and high schools, there is a lot of traffic before and after school. Please account for this time by leaving home early and arriving early for pick ups
- Parents often want to 'dismiss' students late in the day to 'avoid traffic'. However, this is a disruption to our dismissal process and your child's academic progress. In an effort to keep everyone safe, we ask that students not be dismissed after 1:15. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us keep all of our students safe and accounted for.

➤ **Room Assignments**

- Room assignments will be posted outside on the parent bulletin board on Tuesday, September 5th after 3PM.
- Room assignments are carefully crafted to provide the best learning environment for all students. All of our teachers are highly qualified, hard-working, and dedicated professionals.

We look forward to working with you and wish everyone a rewarding and productive school year.
Enjoy the last days of summer!

Sincerely,

Dr. Fay

Dr. Fay, Principal

Mrs. Demala

Mrs. DeMala, Program Specialist