

# September Newsletter

## Reminder: Complete Forms Online

Our Annual Student Information Update takes the place of the paper forms originally sent home in the take home folders at the Elementary. This can be completed through your Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Instructions on how to complete the update are on the school website.

If you do not have a parent portal account created, please contact: Janet Kinjerski at Kinjersj@denmark.k12.wi.us or 920-863-4041

Please complete the Annual Student Information Update as soon as possible. It is crucial to complete these online forms so that we have the most up-to-date information for your student and your family.

## DIAL "1" for the Attendance Line

When you call the Elementary School (920-863-4050) to report your child's absence, simply press "1" to leave us a message on our attendance voicemail.

You can dial 1 for attendance in all buildings and leave a detailed message on the attendance line. This message should include:

- Your child's name
- Reason for the absence
- Date of the absence
- Parent name and phone number

Thank you for reporting your students' absences.



### Newsletter Procedures:

- All newsletters will be sent via email and are also accessible on the Elementary website under the "Families" tab



## Elementary Contact Information

| Elementary School Office       | Principal, Angela Hager      | School Nurse, Amber Kapinos, RN | Guidance Counselor, Jocelyn Ehlert | Social Worker, Lindsey Reckelberg | Bus Information            |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 920-863-4050                   | 920-863-4051                 | 920-863-4032                    | 920-863-4085                       | 920-863-4024                      | 920-367-2075 ext. 13211    |
| Office Hours:<br>7:30am-3:30pm | hagera<br>@denmark.k12.wi.us | Kapinosa<br>@denmark.k12.wi.us  | Ehlertj<br>@denmark.k12.wi.us      | Reckelbergl<br>@denmark.k12.wi.us | 32groupSB@golamer<br>s.com |

## Parents/Visitors

Parents will not be allowed in the building again this year, unless you have scheduled an appointment ahead of time. We welcome volunteers, as long as you have a scheduled time and have an approved background check on file. Background checks can be found on the district website under the “community” tab.

If you need to pick up your child early, please call the ES Office at 920-863-4050 ahead of time so that we can have your child ready at the designated time. When you arrive for pickup, please call or press the button on the outside of the front door. Our front doors will remain locked at all times. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Save the Date for Our Music Concerts!

December 2nd- 3rd grade concert 7pm at the PAC

December 21st- 1st grade 6pm/ 2nd grade 7pm at the PAC

February 24th- 5th Grade concert- PAC 7pm

March 24th- 4th Grade concert- PAC 7pm

### Please Leave Toys At Home

Please make sure your students are leaving all toys, balls, trading cards (Pokemon cards), and fidget's at home. Toys that come to school end up as a distraction, lost, broken, or fought over by their classmates. Thank you for leaving toys at home.

### Volunteer Background Check/Chaperoning

If you plan on volunteering at school, we will need a current volunteer background check on file. In addition, please complete our Chaperone Agreement form if you plan to attend field trips during the school year.

You can find these forms on the “Families” tab of the Denmark Elementary website. Please complete and return them to the Elementary Office.

### Student Fees

Please remember that the student fees are \$10 per student. This fee is payable by September 17th and payments can easily be made online via your Infinite Campus Portal.

If you would like to send cash or check, please make sure the envelope is clearly labeled with your student's full name.



# September

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

|           |                                           |                                     |                                                                                                                                             |           |           |           |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|           |                                           |                                     | <i>1 First<br/>Day of<br/>School</i>                                                                                                        | <i>2</i>  | <i>3</i>  | <i>4</i>  |
| <i>5</i>  | <i>6 No<br/>School-<br/>Labor<br/>Day</i> | <i>7</i>                            | <i>8</i>                                                                                                                                    | <i>9</i>  | <i>10</i> | <i>11</i> |
| <i>12</i> | <i>13</i>                                 | <i>14</i>                           | <i>15</i>                                                                                                                                   | <i>16</i> | <i>17</i> | <i>18</i> |
| <i>19</i> | <i>20</i>                                 | <i>21</i>                           | <i>22</i><br>4th Grade Heritage Hill<br>Field Trip (1/2 of grade<br>goes each day) More details<br>coming from your child's<br>teacher soon | <i>23</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>25</i> |
| <i>26</i> | <i>27</i>                                 | <i>28</i><br><i>Picture<br/>Day</i> | <i>29</i>                                                                                                                                   | <i>30</i> |           |           |

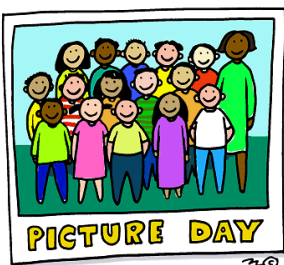
## Welcome New Staff!

- \* Kelsey Ackley → Reading Teacher
- \* Lindsay Frelich → 1st Grade Teacher
- \* Marry Her → Resource Teacher
- \* Carrie Hassemer → ELL Paraprofessional
- \* Amber Kapinos → School Nurse
- \* Devin Michel-Klug → Spanish Teacher
- \* Lauren Kowalczyk → Speech Therapist
- \* Kristin LeClair → 4th Grade Teacher
- \* Amy Noth → Math Interventionist
- \* Heather Novak → 2nd Grade Teacher
- \* Nicole Rabas → Paraprofessional
- \* Deanna Ringheim → Paraprofessional
- \* Heather Roberts → 3rd Grade Teacher
- \* Melissah Schwoerer → Paraprofessional



### Picture Day

A representative from Harmann studios will be at the Elementary school on Tuesday, September 28th to take pictures.



### Contacting Your Child's Teacher

Teachers will not be answering their telephones during school hours, except in the case of an emergency. Parents may leave a message and ask the teacher call them back as soon as possible.

Ask your child's teacher if they have a preferred method of contact (phone, email, Seesaw message, etc. ).

### Safety Tip:



The speed limit in school zones is 15 mph. Please remember to slow down!

### Birthday Treats

**All birthday treats must be store-bought, with a store label on it.** This is due to food allergies, among other reasons. We appreciate your understanding.

## Message From Food Service,

Great news! All enrolled students of the School District of Denmark are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school for FREE each day of the 2021-22 school year or until funding is exhausted. Your child(ren) will be able to participate in these meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit a meal application. This is possible through the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. Milk Break is a separate program and is based on free, reduced and paid status. Milk cost is \$.45 per carton. Milk with Lunch and Breakfast is part of the meal. Extra milk or milk with lunch from home is \$.45.



School meal participation goes beyond helping students with their nutrition. Our food and nutrition program provides real funding beyond the cafeteria into the classrooms.

We still encourage families to fill out meal applications! When we receive free and reduced meal applications we are eligible for more federal funds. The free and reduced eligibility that is initially used for free or reduced meal participation is also used to determine our district's eligibility for other funding such as Title 1, E-rate, and funds other programs across the district.

In the event funding becomes exhausted in SY 21-22 meal rates are as follows:

Breakfast All Schools: \$1.70, Reduced \$.30 Adults \$2.15

Elementary/ECC Lunch \$2.60, Reduced \$.40

Middle School/ High School \$3.00, Reduced \$.40 \*\* Premium Meal \$3.50,  
Adult \$4.15

**\*\* Free/Reduced Meal Applications are accepted July 1st 2021 thru June 2022**

**Parent Communication: New Payment Processing Vendor** Dear Parents, This will have minimal impact on you. However, any payment methods you've set up for your credit cards or eCheck accounts will be deleted to ensure the security and confidentiality of your data. After we make the switch, you will be asked to enter your payment methods into the Parent Portal. Any Recurring Payments you may have set up (if you intend to continue making payments this way), will also need to be updated to use the new payment methods you create. There are no other changes in the way you will experience online payments. This change will improve financial reporting efficiency for the district, as well as the support experienced by district staff when researching reported issues.



Greetings Denmark Elementary School and ECC Families ~

I want to welcome you all back and introduce myself to those of you who may be new. My name is Kristin Olsen. I am a 3rd grade teacher at the Elementary School. I became involved in the PTO when my kids started school and eventually fell into the President role. Even though my kids are now in High school and Middle school, I have continued to work as the PTO President because I feel passionately about supporting our students and staff. However, I can not do it alone, and that is where you come in!

We are an organization that is involved in some fundraising and more importantly hosting school activities for children at both schools. The PTO sponsors school activities such as the Santa's Secret Shoppe, visiting authors, the Scholastic Book Fair, Spirit wear sales, providing meals for our staff and many others. It is a GREAT opportunity to become part of your child's school and participate in many activities with them. Fundraising benefits the school for classroom items, and all grade levels for books, resources and tools for learning. Last year we were able to give each teacher \$100 for use in their classrooms! And in the past we have given each grade level \$750.

As you know the pandemic did not allow us to hold activities and it certainly affected our fundraising as well. I am not 100% sure what this year will bring, but I do encourage you to participate when and where you can. We will be sending out a survey in hopes that some of these activities will go on, however we may have to make changes and adjustments as the school year progresses. Watch for the survey in the coming weeks.

Parent involvement is vital to the success of our fundraisers and school activities. We may not be able to hold meetings as in years past, so please watch the newsletter for dates and more information. All newsletters will be included in the monthly school newsletters.

*Kristin Olsen ~ PTO President*



**LIKE "DENMARK PTO" ON FACEBOOK!**

## 2021-22 Parent and Bus Student Drop Off

To begin the new school year, we are going to have one designated bus drop off area. The goal is to make our morning drop off as smooth and as safe as possible. Please take time to read the following:

### Bus Drop Off 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade:

All buses will be entering entrance **B** and dropping off all 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> students directly in front of the Elementary School.

### Elementary and Middle School Parent Drop Off:

All parents dropping off their elementary and middle school students will enter entrance **A** and drop off in front of the Middle School or Elementary playground. After drop off, all cars will exit **B** or possibly **D** IF you are dropping off a student at the high school too.

### High School Parent Drop Off only:

Enter entrance **C** to drop off students in front of the High School and Exit **D**.



Where the red star is on the map, there is an additional crosswalk this year at the Elementary.

# School Counselor's Corner

Dear Families,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself! My name is Jocelyn Ehlert and I am the 1st-5th Elementary School Counselor. I am so excited to be part of the Denmark Elementary family. I love how close-knit and welcoming the Denmark community is, I feel very lucky to be part of it!

My passion for school counseling began during my time as a student at UWGB where I received my Bachelors of Science degree in Psychology and then at Lakeland University where I earned my Masters degree in School Counseling. I have 3 years combined school counseling experience at the elementary level. What I love most about the elementary level is the genuine curiosity students have in their learning and the world around them, as well as the opportunity for early intervention support that can have a lifetime positive impact on a child.

As a School Counselor, my primary responsibility is to promote the academic, career, and social/emotional development of all students. Many times I get puzzled looks when I say I provide career development at the elementary level, but it is never too early for children to be exposed to the opportunities their futures will hold! We discuss what we like to do, what makes us happy, and what we are good at! I will be meeting with students individually and in small groups, conducting classroom counseling lessons, meeting with parents, collaborating with teachers and staff, and consulting with community organizations to benefit and meet the needs of ALL Denmark students.

You may have noticed above that I put in bold and underlined the word, "all" students. Sometimes when the term "counselor" is heard, some may perceive that a counselor may only work with a select few students in a 1:1 counseling capacity, but that is not the case! School Counseling programs reach and meet the needs of all students in a school through many various ways, including those listed above. I am here to advocate for all students. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call 920-863-4085 or email me [ehlertj@denmark.k12.wi.us](mailto:ehlertj@denmark.k12.wi.us) at any time.

I am so excited to work with your children and get to know you throughout the school year!

All the best,

Jocelyn Ehlert

1-5 School Counselor

Going back to school after the long summer is always a time of excitement. While your children may be overly excited or even a little bit worried about new teachers, new subjects and meeting their friends, the days before starting school again are always busy and stressful. Instead of rolling in to school with no plan, we have compiled ten tips that will help to keep organized, create routines and support children to be their best at school.

## 1. Use a calendar

Your children will be better prepared for school when they can visually see when school will start again. A good idea is to hang a calendar in their room and let them mark off each day with a colorful pen until the new school year starts.

## 2. Start bedtime routines early

Children will need some time to get back to the sleeping pattern that they had before the summer holidays started. In order to make it easier for the kids to be awake early in the morning, parents can introduce the school sleep routine two weeks before school starts.



### **3. Back-to-school shopping**

Pick a date to go school shopping with your children. This date should be set and organized some time in advance to have a relaxed shopping experience. Choosing their own school supplies, clothes, a backpack or lunch boxes will engage children to take part in the activity and may increase their excitement about going back to school and using all the new things.

### **4. Make the unknown environment more familiar**

If your children are worried about the fact that they will start school in a new environment such as having a new classroom or being taught by a new teacher, ask the school if you can go on a tour. Let your child see the new classroom and ask if it is possible to meet the new teachers. Going on a tour will help the kids to become more familiar with the new place. It is also a good idea to have a conversation with them about all the positive aspects at school such as their favorite subject and the activities they love at school.

### **5. Prepare lunch boxes and keep them easy**

Studies show that pupils who have breakfast function better at school and have more energy. In advance, ask your children about healthy food that they like to take to school. Maybe your child likes particular fruits or vegetables which you can pack as well as a healthy sandwich. You can also have a look at the school's cafeteria and see if it offers healthy snack options.

### **6. Find a 'go-to-school friend'**

If your child walks or takes the bus to school and there are other children in the neighborhood who go to the same school, talk to the parents and ask them if the kids can walk or take the bus together. This way the kids will have more fun on their way to school and may share their worries and help each other to feel more comfortable going back to school.

### **7. Talk about homework**

Children who understand the topics at school properly have more fun at school. Usually, good quality homework is key to understanding topics and achieving good grades. Review the environment where your child does his or her homework: Is it quiet enough? Is there enough space? Besides the environment, it is also important to think about activities and Internet or TV usage. Do your children have enough time to do their homework and are they not distracted?

### **8. Deal with expectations**

Older children will already have set themselves expectations they want to fulfill at school. Therefore, it is helpful to ask them what they expect about returning to school. It can help to read a story about children who go to school in order to start the conversation and to make it easier for kids to talk about their feelings. It is also important to ask kids if they have any questions or are unsure about anything. Let them know that other kids will be nervous as well and that teachers will help them to feel more comfortable.

### **9. Show them that you think about them**

When getting lunch or a snack ready for school, include a little note in the lunchbox to show your kids that you care and that you think about them during the day even if they are away.

### **10. Child care after school**

A parent should be at home to help the kids get ready for school in the morning and supervise them when they return. If this is not possible, talk to your children that it is important to follow rules and listen to the adult supervising them.

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B a c k



English: If you need this information in your native language, please contact Deb Kralovetz at [kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us](mailto:kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us) or 920-863-4034.

Spanish: Si necesita esta información en su idioma materno, póngase en contacto con Deb Kralovetz en [kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us](mailto:kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us) o 920-863-4034.

Hmong: Yog tias koj xav tau cov ntaub ntawv no ua koj hom lus, thov hu Deb Kralovetz ntawm [kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us](mailto:kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us) los sis 920-863-4034.

Mandarin Chinese: 如果您需要使用母语提供的这些信息，请联系Deb Kralovetz，电子邮件地址为 [kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us](mailto:kraloved@denmark.k12.wi.us) 或 920-863-4034。

#### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the School District of Denmark that no person may be denied admission to any public school or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's gender, color, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, gender orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.