



Cynthia A. Ford
Superintendent
Director of Pupil Services
860-429-1927
FAX 860-429-3651
cford@ashfordct.org

Polly A. Borysevicz
Principal
860-429-6419
FAX 860-487-4393
pborysevicz@ashfordct.org

David L. Eichorn
Assistant Principal
860-429-6419
FAX 860-487-4393
deichorn@ashfordct.org

August 5, 2024

Dear Ashford School Families,

I hope you are enjoying the summer and have found the time to relax and recharge. We are looking forward to seeing everyone and getting the 2024-2025 school year started. Here are some reminders and updates for the upcoming school year.

We are asking that for all who may qualify for free/reduced meals, please complete the form on our website. The qualification requirements have changed so although you may not have not qualified in the past, this year may be different as the threshold has been expanded. We anticipate that our meal prices will be increasing for this school year: \$3.00 for lunch, \$1.50 for breakfast, but milk will stay the same at \$0.50.

Ashford School's district and school-wide communication platform has changed and we will be using ParentSquare. We will no longer be using the K12 alert system. Communications regarding the up-coming school year, such as bus routes, will be sent via ParentSquare notifications and posted on our website. All weekly school communication and emergency notifications will come through ParentSquare as well. Please note that teachers may use different platforms for their classroom/parent communication.

Please remember that students are expected to complete summer work involving reading and math, as well as other activities. Students will have opportunities to share their summer learning at the beginning of the year. The link can be found on our website: school.ashfordct.org
A list of school supplies can also be found on our website.

Student drop off and pick up will remain the same as last year. Students in grades K-8, who are driven to and from school, enter and exit the building from the back of the school. For grades K-3, vehicles pull into the back circle. For grades 4-8, vehicles drive around the perimeter of the back parking lot and stop beside the basketball court. PreK A.M. student drop off is in the back circle between 8:10 and 8:25 and pick up is in front of the school at 11:10. PreK P.M. drop off is in the front at 12:15 and pick up in the back circle at 3:05-3:10. **If picking up your child(ren), please do not arrive at the school prior to 3:15, as it causes unsafe traffic issues.** Busses will continue to drop off and pick up students at the front of the school. Students may not enter school before 8:10 a.m. Prior to that time parents are responsible for their child(ren).

We are looking forward to offering after school programs/clubs again this year. More information will be communicated once the school year begins. Additionally, we are continuing our after school



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care program which is free this year. For further information, you can email afterschoolcare@ashfordct.org with any questions. A link for registration will be on the Ashford School website.

We have many exciting things to look forward to this year including new teachers and new programming. Mrs. Hill will be our new Technology Education teacher who will see students in grades 1-8. Mrs. Estrada will be teaching Spanish in grades 7&8. Mrs. Sullivan will be our 6th grade ELA teacher and Mrs. Tomanelli is our new school psychologist.

Save the date for **OPEN HOUSE**: Thursday, September 26th 6:30-7:30 Grades 1-8

Reminder: The Ashford School PTO is a great way to be involved to support our students and school. If you have the time and are interested in joining the PTO in any capacity, please see our website for more information or email ashfordschoolpto@gmail.com.

I am truly looking forward to seeing our K-8 students and families on August 29th and our PreK students on September ~~2~~ ^{3rd}. Our custodial staff have been hard at work in preparation for your arrival. Our staff have been preparing their spaces in anticipation of your return. Ashford School is polished and ready for the 2024-2025 school year!

Fondly,


Polly A. Borysevicz



Ashford School District
Office of the Superintendent
440 Westford Rd. Ashford, CT 06278
860-429-1927 Phone 860-429-3651 Fax

website: www.ashfordct.org

August 5, 2024

Ashford Families,

We look forward to seeing all of our students later this month!!! Listed below are some important notices and information for the coming school year.

Introducing ParentSquare

We are pleased to share that we have a new form of school-to-home communication called ParentSquare. This is a unified communications platform designed to keep parents and guardians informed, and to encourage greater engagement and connection with Ashford School.

Invitations to register for ParentSquare were emailed to all families enrolled in Ashford School last week, if you have not received this invitation or have questions about ParentSquare, please contact Jen Truax by email at jtruax@ashfordct.org.

Ashford School Food Services

Based on federal and state reviews of school meal pricing, Ashford School will need to increase the full price cost of student meals for the 2024-2025 school year as follows:

Breakfast: \$1.50
Lunch: \$ 3.00

The cost of milk remains at \$0.50/carton.

Important News:

- As of this date, application packets for Free and Reduced meals for the 2024-2025 school year have not been distributed by the School Nutrition Program. Once we have been notified the packet is available, it will be posted to the Ashford School website at www.school.ashfordct.org
- Students who were eligible to receive free or reduced meals in the 2023-2024 school year remain eligible in the new school year for a period of 30 school days, however, if your child(ren) were determined to be eligible last school year, you will need to file an application on or before October 11, 2024 for eligibility redetermination.
- Legislation was passed that will enable Connecticut National School Lunch and Breakfast Program participating schools to allow students who are determined eligible for reduced-price meals to have **free** breakfast and one lunch per student, per day in school year 2024-25.

We strongly encourage all families to submit an application for free or reduced meals. Applications are confidential and can be submitted at any time during the school year.

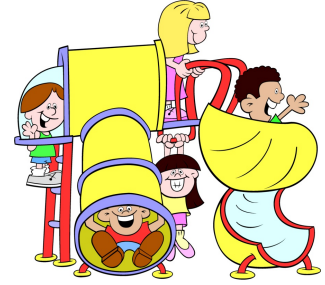
If you have any questions about the food service program, please contact Karen Samperi, Food Service Manager by email at ksamperi@ashfordct.org.

Ashford School Health Office

If your child is interested in participating in a school sport this school year, the health office **MUST** have a current physical on file. Ashford is a member of the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC). This league requires a pre-participation physical within 13 months of the season. If you have any questions, please contact the health office at 860-429-6419 x357 or by email at msibleyjett@ashfordct.org.



Preschool



Meet and Greet

Monday, August 26, 2024

AM class: 4:00- 5:00 pm

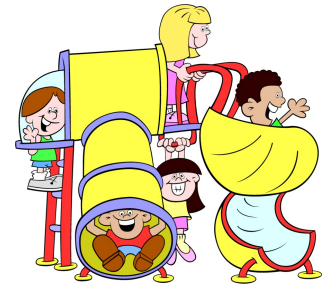
PM class: 5:00-6:00 pm

Meet your child's classroom teacher, other children and their families, go for a bus ride and play on the playground.

We hope to see you there!

(We will meet in the preschool playground area)





Kindergarten Open House

Monday, August 26, 2024

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

This is a great chance to...

- Meet your child's teacher and visit the classroom
- Meet other families and students that will be in your child's class
- Play on the playground
- Maybe even practice riding the bus with your child

We hope to see you there!





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August 2024

New Student Tour Grades 1-8

Welcome to Ashford School! We invite you to our New Student Tour. You will have an opportunity to drop off necessary paperwork to the office/nurse and, of course, ask any questions you or your child(ren) may have. We hope that you can join us!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20TH at 10:00 a.m. OR 5:00 p.m.

Please email Suzanne Schillinger at sschillinger@ashfordct.org or call the office at 860-429- 6419 x317, to let us know what time works best for you.

We look forward to seeing you soon!