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August 11, 2025

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 2025-2026 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: \$3.25 for lunch, \$1.75 for breakfast, but milk will stay the same at \$0.50.

Ashford School's district and school-wide communication platform will continue to be ParentSquare. 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.

Student drop off will remain the same as last year, but our **student pick up procedure has changed.** Students in grades K-8, who are driven to and from school, continue to enter and exit the building from the back of the school.

Drop off: 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 is 3:10.

Pick up: All PreK-8 students will be dismissed to the cafeteria at 3:05. Parents will park in the back parking lot and walk up to the back entrance at the circle. At 3:10, parents can enter the building and proceed to the cafeteria with their IDs where students will be signed out.

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



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The link for school supplies can be found on our website, school.ashfordct.org

We would like to welcome our new staff member, Ms. Connors, who will be our 6th grade ELA teacher.

Save the date for **OPEN HOUSE:** Thursday, September 25th 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 excited to see our K-8 students and families on August 28th and our PreK students on September 2nd. Our custodial staff have worked hard over the summer in anticipation of your arrival. Our staff have been preparing their spaces in anticipation of your return. Ashford School is looking good and ready for the 2025-2026 school year!

Fondly,

Polly A. Borysevicz