

FYI August 14, 2020 Welcome Back!!

WE ARE OFF TO A GREAT START! . . . Thank you for your cooperation as we learn procedures and routines for 2020-2021. We appreciate all students, staff, and families working together.

FORMS . . . PLEASE COMPLETE THE FIRST DAY PACKET FORMS AND RETURN THEM ASAP!

SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS . . . will once again be sent via Bright Arrow. Please update the information card stapled to the front of your packet and return ASAP and all the other forms. If you wish to receive a paper copy, please check the appropriate place on the forms to provide a paper copy.

PLEASE . . . be sure that your student has a mask and water bottle each school day.

BUS SAFETY . . . All students are subject to the following rules when riding on a Raymond Central School's bus:

1. When leaving the bus, students should cross the street from in front of the bus after carefully checking traffic.
2. The bus driver is responsible for controlling the behavior on the bus; students must obey the drivers as they would a teacher or administrator.
3. Students must always be seated and facing forward when the bus is moving. The driver is authorized to assign seats.
4. Students should not put arms, hands, etc. outside of windows. The aisle must be kept clear at all times.
5. Students should assist in keeping the bus clean by using the trash receptacles available in each of the buses.
6. Students should be courteous and use no profane language.
7. Electronic device use on the bus will be at the discretion of the bus driver. School policy will continue to be followed for appropriate use on the bus.
8. While waiting for the bus at a designated bus stop, all school rules and regulations will apply and appropriate behavior is expected.
9. If your child is not riding the bus home as usual, written notes **MUST** be sent to the school regarding the change. Parents/guardians are asked to inform your bus driver(s) also. Riding a different bus is **NOT** an option. Also, students who are having one guest coming to their house or going to another student's house, must have two (2) notes, one from their parents and one from their guest's parents. If more than one guest is coming to their house, parents need to provide transportation. They will not be allowed to ride without the notes. Last minute phone calls are also discouraged.
10. Riding the bus is a **privilege**. The bus is an extension of the school day. All rules and regulations will apply. If students choose not to follow the rules, appropriate discipline will be administered. If a student violates a rule, the bus driver will file a Discipline Report. The first offense will be a warning. The second offense will be a 2-day bus suspension. The third offense will be a 5-day bus suspension. The fourth offense will be a 20-day bus suspension. The fifth offense will result in bus suspension for the remainder of the school year. If the offense is of a severe nature, bus privileges may be suspended immediately. If this occurs, parents will be contacted to arrange alternate transportation prior to the initiation of the suspension.

BUS LOADING ZONES . . . **Valparaiso**-The bus-loading zone is located in the loop on the southeast side of the school facility. Third street is designated as **ONE WAY** access going west during bus loading times. Parents are asked to drop off or pickup students along the sidewalk located on the east side of the loop or in the diagonal parking located west of the loop; private vehicles are **NOT** to be in the loop during bus loading

and unloading times. If parents need to visit with school staff or escort their students, they should park the vehicle in one of the designated areas. For safety, students should exit vehicles on the passenger side of the vehicle. Buses are **NOT** to be passed when dropping off or loading students. This is against the law and charges may be filed.

SPECIALS CALENDAR . . . Just a reminder for parents. The specials listed on the ABCDE Day calendar are for which specialists are in the building. It does not necessarily mean your student has that special on that day, but some class in the building does. Classroom teachers will be sending home the classroom rules/schedules so you will know which special your student has that day. Please be sure that students wear tennis shoes for PEH days. Thank you.

CAFETERIA NEWS . . . Lunch prices for the 2020-2021 school year are \$1.65 for breakfast and \$2.65 for lunch. Grab and Go Breakfast will be served for the foreseeable future. Extra milk is \$.50 and is not covered under the Federal free and reduced lunch program since this is an option. It is important that students keep a positive balance in their lunch account. The Federal free and reduced lunch program provides an opportunity for families to apply for free/reduced meal rate. Please request an application form from either elementary office. See the application for the income guidelines. We encourage all families who may be eligible to apply.

BREAKFAST TIME . . . Just a reminder to parents, we are still serving breakfast at school, but breakfast is Grab and Go. Doors do not open until the first bell rings @ 8:10AM to allow students in after their temp is taken and hands are sanitized. Students that choose to have breakfast can pick a sack with breakfast in it and are handed a milk of their choice.

SMILE . . . Elementary school pictures will be taken on Wednesday, September 2 in both elementary schools. More information will be coming home with students.

FOOD BANK BACKPACK PROGRAM . . . Any family whose student attends Raymond Central is eligible to apply. The application form is attached with this FYI. First priority will be given to student families who qualify for free/reduced lunch. Thank you to all the volunteers who pack the bags each week, and to all who donate to the fund each year.

SPIRIT SHIRT DAY . . . Most spirit shirt days will be the last Friday of each month. Your student may wear spirit shirts from previous years. There are some exceptions with days that we have a party day or no school. Thank you PTO for designing the shirt and making them available at a reasonable price. Keep checking the FYI for the specific dates; students may wear their spirit shirt whenever they like. The first spirit shirt day will be Friday, August 28th.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF . . . Lori Morgan, Technology; Kathleen Cooper and Amy Ziegler both in 5th grade classrooms in Valparaiso.

ASTHMA/ALLERGY/HEALTH PLANS . . . It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to submit a medical statement each school year. An Emergency Care Plan, Asthma Action Plan, Allergy Action Plan or Diabetes Medical Management Plan must be completed and on file for students known to have one of the previously stated conditions. It is required that parents submit a medical statement each year. Parent's notes or telephone calls are not adequate documentation., Only licensed health care providers may sign

the medical statement forms (in most cases, a short note from a physician on a prescription pad does not contain the required information), and these must be kept on file for all students who require individualized medical treatment(s) or diet modifications. Please see your medical provider for the forms.

THANK YOU PTO . . . FOR PROVIDING WATER FOR US ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. What a great way to start a new school year!

FOLLOW PTO . . . on Facebook for updates. Just click "like" so news and reminders will be sent to you. A strong and active PTO is a key contributing factor to the success of our students.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER . . @ RC_Elementary

Upcoming Dates . . .

Aug 26 PTO Fundraiser kickoff

Aug 28 Spirit T-Shirt Day

Sept 2 Elementary School Picture Day-both schools