

Dear Plainville Families,

I am writing with some additional information about the opening of the 2022-2023 school year. Our schools are ready, I bet our parents are ready, and by this point, our kids are ready even if they don't want to admit it! In my own home, my daughter, who is a college sophomore, was very eager to get back to campus (I'll try not to take it personally!). My son, a high school junior, is also ready to get the year up and running. I suppose that could be somewhat related to his August 29th driving test which will (fingers crossed!) enable him to drive himself to school for the first time. I remember fondly the days of preparing my children with backpacks, sneakers and crayons to start the year. Now the school supply list includes a AAA membership and car insurance!

**As Jackson and Wood Schools gear up for next week, please be aware of a few important updates and reminders:**

**1. All student walkers (and the adults who accompany them!) who need to cross route 106 must use the crosswalk closest to the Wood School.** We have one crossing guard, and that will be his area of oversight, just as it has been in the past. Keeping pedestrian activity at the crosswalk area also allows vehicles at the Jackson School driveway to focus exclusively on car traffic without walkers in the area. We appreciate that in some cases, this will mean some extra steps for people who live closer to the Jackson School than to the Wood School, but 106 is just too busy to have people crossing at multiple locations and without a crossing guard at the very busy arrival and dismissal times. Thank you for your assistance with this.

2. Bus routes have been posted and are on the school district website; they can be accessed using [this link](#).

3. If you have not yet completed the [transportation survey](#), please do so at this time. It remains open, and we need the most current information from all families. For the most part, students who live within a mile of the school are considered walkers and will not have access to a bus. If your street (or the area closest to your home) is not listed on any of the bus routes, this is likely because your child lives too close to take a bus. **There is no option for individual students to be walkers AND bus riders.** Students who are not included on a bus route will need an alternate means of transportation (walker, car rider, or Champions after school care). If your child is a walker, there is no option to select "bus rider" on a periodic basis. Likewise, "bus riders" may not periodically switch to be walkers. We recognize that there are times when dismissal changes need to happen due to appointments, etc., and in those cases, students with parent/guardian permission may become car riders for the day. If you have questions about your child's daily transportation, please contact your child's school or [Dr. Ann Dargon](#). (508-699-1309).

4. In regards to Covid-19 protocols, the short summary is that for the most part, we are functioning in the same manner as we did last spring. For more detailed information, including a form allowing the school to administer a rapid Covid-19 test as needed, please check the email from the school district that was sent on Monday, August 22nd.

5. Teacher Meet and Greet will be held at both schools on Tuesday, August 30th. 11:00-12:00 at Jackson School, and 12:00-1:00 at Wood School. We look forward to seeing you and your students!

6. The first day of school for students varies by grade:

Wednesday, August 31st for grades 1-6

Thursday, September 1st for kindergartners

Wednesday, September 7th for preschool students

7. There is no school on Friday, September 2nd and Monday, September 5th. If you have not marked your calendars for days off and for early release days, please take some time to review and note important dates on the [PPS calendar](#).

8. You are likely aware that lunch and breakfast will be offered at no cost to families again this year. Lunch menus for September can be accessed at: [Lunch Menus for Jackson and Wood Schools](#). There is no specific breakfast menu posted, but breakfast options include grains, fruit, and milk in a "grab and go" manner each day.

### **FROM OUR SCHOOL NURSES:**

#### **Updated Physicals:**

In compliance with regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, please provide an updated **PHYSICAL EXAM** for new students entering Plainville Public School **AND** First Grade & 4th Grade students.

- Please provide this documentation to the school as soon as possible. You can provide a paper copy, email, or upload the physical exam and immunizations into the SNAP Health Portal: <https://link.cumulusglobal.com/u/c9fe17de/tl-GtTol7RGqzNv4CmwmKA?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.studentehr.com%2F>
- While in the portal, you can also give permission for selected medications.

#### **Medication in School:**

If your student will need Medication during the school day, please complete the following forms and bring in the medication to the school. Without the forms completed, the nurses will not be able to administer the medication.

1. Parent consent: [Parent/Guardian Authorization For Medication Administration In School](#)
2. Physician Order: [Medication Order](#) You can also ask the physician to fax an order for the medication to the school nurse.

Thank you for your attention to all of the details included here, and in the emails sent directly from your children's principals. I appreciate that there may be overlap and some redundancies in information, but I also know that when I wear my parent hat, I am generally grateful to have information available, especially at this very busy time of year.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Truly,  
Jennifer Parson