



**Discovery
Elementary**
BHM SCHOOLS

The Discovery Connections

A newsletter for parents of Discovery Elementary students

August/September 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Dr. Mathew Nelson

Welcome back to Discovery Elementary!

I hope everyone had a great summer and now find yourself excited to start the upcoming school year. I know we are very excited to start the 2018-2019 school year. There is such an awesome excitement in the air here, brought in by the students as we begin another school year together at Discovery!

For the second summer in a row, we experienced the excitement of another major remodel with the conversion of our old office area into a new Kindergarten classroom and new carpet in Commons A. A special thanks to Sharon Uttke, Randy Klatt and our custodial staff for all their work in helping us get the entire school, including the commons areas, ready for another school year. We all work so hard to make Discovery a positive place for kids, and it's nice that we are continuing to take steps from a physical standpoint to have our spaces look as warm and inviting as the staff and students that reside in them. As I have said many times in the past and every year in this introduction newsletter, there is just something special about Discovery Elementary. When we are in the middle of the school year and working so hard for the students we serve, we do not often take time to reflect on and appreciate all the great things about our school family and culture, but we have a GREAT thing going here! I appreciate our amazing team and our strong commitment to doing what is best for our students. It is hard to pinpoint exactly what it is that makes us so different and special, however I do believe the quote below really gets at the core of what we are all about in what we strive to do for kids every day.

*They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how
you made them feel.*

~Carl W. Buechner

“Together We’re Better!” continues to resonate in my mind whenever I think about the great school community we have at Discovery Elementary. It is clear that we all work together to establish a positive school culture with a focus on the 5 C’s: Care, Cooperate, Collaborate, Contribute, and Celebrate. The staff is committed to helping students reach their full potential and they work hard to implement research-based, data-driven instructional techniques aimed to increase individual student learning outcomes.

We are looking forward to a great 2018-2019 school year TOGETHER!
If you ever have any questions please feel free to contact me at any time.

“Together We’re Better!”

Welcome

Back to School

Fall Open House at Discovery.....August 29th

Over the summer, we have been working together to present the many programs here at Discovery. Our Fall Open House night is a very busy evening. Parents and students can meet with their teachers, fill out the necessary contact and information forms, find your lockers, deliver school supplies to your classroom, set up lunch accounts, as well as let you know that we are here to help. This is also an evening that the parents can sign up for the many Discovery Volunteer opportunities.

Open House Wednesday August 29th
5:00-7:00 p.m.

I Scream -You Scream-We All Scream for Ice Cream!

Please join us for an
Ice Cream Social during Open House on
Wednesday, August 29th 5:00-6:30 p.m. (serving time).





7:45 Tardy Reminder



We have enjoyed having our new entrance at Discovery Elementary and the added security it provides for our students. To be in compliance with School District policy and the Minnesota Department of Education, **we are now required to mark students who arrive after 7:45 a.m. as tardy.** In the past (without the secure entrance) we had no good way to track student tardiness.

To summarize, at 7:25 students may arrive through the main entrance. The double doors in the inner vestibule will be open. At 7:45 the double doors lock and any student arriving after that must enter through the office and at that point they will have to be marked as tardy. We had many years of being “loose” with this policy, but now that we have our secure entrance we are able to more accurately comply with district policy that the other elementary school with secure entrances follow. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

“Together We’re Better!”



5 C's
CARE-COOPERATE-CONTRIBUTE
CELEBRATE-COLLABORATE



We would like to Welcome, Ms. Haley Nelson, 3-4-5 Grade Teacher to our staff. Ms. Nelson will take Mrs. Koopmans position as Mrs. Koopman retired this past June.

Welcome Ms. Nelson

Join Our Parent Volunteer Network.....we need you!




Molly Pool is our Discovery Volunteer Coordinator. Many of you already know her. In order for you to be fully informed about the volunteer opportunities at school, and to simplify Molly's efforts in contacting volunteers, we are asking that you email Molly at her email address: poolfamily06@gmail.com or call her directly 612-202-9713 so that your name can be added to the volunteer list. If you do not wish to have your email included or do not have email, you may call the DES Office at 682-8400 and your name can be passed on to Molly. Many volunteer opportunities are for one-time events that may last from a few minutes to a couple of hours, or might involve work that can be completed at home. If you are interested and available to help, you can easily respond to Molly.

Here are just a few of volunteer opportunities: Art Adventure, Book Fairs, Bus Safety Supervision, Classroom helpers, Enrichments, FFN Carnival, Field Trips, Fundraisers, 5th Grade Celebration, Toys for Tots, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Track and Field events and much more.....Thank you for being willing to partner with us!



Report Cards

All student report cards will be posted on the Parent Portal. If you have already signed up you do not need to redo. If you have not registered yet for the Parent Portal, there is a one-time permission form that needs to be signed and verified to get your login credentials. Please stop in the office to sign off and we will help you get set up. There is plenty of time before the first report card, so stop in anytime or at the evening conferences.



Picture Day is Coming

PICTURE DAY IS: Discovery Elementary School
Thursday, September 14, 2017

Order before Picture Day at mylifetouch.com


FREE digital image with online purchase when you join myFamily Rewards® program.


1 VISIT: mylifetouch.com

2 ENTER your Picture Day ID: MI217079Y0

3 ORDER your perfect package—and don't worry about returning anything on Picture Day!

QUESTIONS? Call LIFETOUCH: 1-866-955-4342
Picture Day: Thursday, October 25, 2017





Picture Day is Coming!
Lifetouch School Portrait will be here for students pictures on Thursday, September 13th. Informational order packets will be coming home with your child/ren the first day/week of school. Informative information printed on your order forms. Option available to order on line with a credit card before portrait taken.

- ◆ No need to send cash or flyer back to school when you place your order on line
- ◆ See more options available on line
- ◆ Use credit card or Pay Pal on the Lifetouch secure site

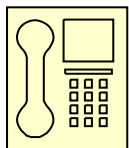
WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Transportation Update

You will receive the necessary information from the bus company, Vision Transportation regarding your bus number and route information. Please be aware of these transportation policies:

- Students eligible for bus transportation who will be going to an alternate destination on regular basis will need to have an Alternate Destination Form on file. These will take 5 working days to process at the beginning of the school year (parents are responsible for transportation during these 5 days) and will decrease to 2 working days two weeks after school begins.
- *Complete and return these forms to Vision Transportation or the Discovery Office.*
- Transportation to an alternate (i.e. daycare) is only allowed for drop off on a *regular, consistent* basis. Requests for multiple location pick-ups and/or drop offs (i.e. two days here, two days there) are discouraged and may be denied by the District.
- Students will not be allowed to change routes for parties, after-school play dates, meetings, or other short-term events.
- *Last minute changes to a regular schedule of drop off and pick up will not be allowed.* A 48 hour notice is required for changing to another bus stop, and a completed parental permission form (available in the school office and District Website) must be turned in to the principal's office 48 hours before the requested change.
- Last minute changes can only be made for *extreme* emergencies.

Please do not call teachers' voice mail during the day to leave a change of plans for your child at the end of the day. Teachers often don't check their voice mail until after students have been dismissed. Any changes must go through the DES Office (682-8400) and are subject to the transportation policy. *Please try to make these arrangements as early in the day as possible to assure that we get the message delivered in time and to avoid any end of the day bus confusion.* Thank you for your cooperation in helping us to transport your child in a safe and timely manner.



Please call the DES attendance 763-682-8401 line if your child is going to be absent or tardy from school. The attendance line will call to verify your absence if we do not hear from you.

All other early releases, bus and transportation changes should be directed to the main office 763-682-8400.



K-2 Students-Change of Clothing

Please remember to send a complete change of clothing to school (pants, shirt, socks, underwear) for your K-2 student to keep in his/her locker for the school year. Students often need to change clothes due to accidents, spills, wet slides and puddles on the playground.

Help Earn Cash for our School by supporting Box Tops for Education

Discovery Elementary has collected Box Tops for Education for many years and we will continue to do so. You can help your school earn money from Box Tops for Education and the money raised directly impacts our students through funding special projects, field trips, buses, and additional technology.

There is a good chance that many of the food products you purchase have the Box Tops for Education label on the package. If you would like to help your school you can collect and clip the Box Top label on the dotted edges and tape or glue to the student form that will come home with your child. Please note that the company will not take any out dated expirations! Start saving those Box Tops! Thank you for helping your school!





**OFFICE OF
WRIGHT COUNTY ATTORNEY**
Thomas N. Kelly

Wright County Government Center
10 2nd Street NW, Room 400
Buffalo, Minnesota 55313-1189

Assistants
Scott M. Sandberg
Mark A. Erickson
Elizabeth M. Larson
Aaron D. Duis
Karen L. Wolff
Shane E. Simonds
Thomera R. Karvel
Kari L. Willis
Greg T. Kryzer
John A. Bowen
Kristy L. Cariveau
Jennifer K. Hendricks

Phone: (763) 682-7340
Toll Free: 1-800-362-3667 Fax: (763) 682-7700

Chief Deputy Attorney
Brian J. Asleson
Chief of Criminal Division
Brian A. Lutes
Victim/Witness
Assistance Coordinator
Jenny Paripovich
Paralegal
Michelle Sandquist
Office Manager
Cindy Hohl

June 27, 2018

Dear Parents:

In 2007 the Wright County Attorney's Office participated in creating a truancy diversion program by collaborating with Wright County Schools, Social Services, Court Services, and the courts to assist families facing truancy issues. The goal of the truancy diversion program is to help families facilitate successful completion of their children's education. The program has been a success, reducing the amount of truancy cases filed with the Court in Wright County by 75% again this year.

If your child, has been identified by his or her school as a truant you will be asked to participate in the Wright County Truancy Program. This program is designed to present information to parents and children about the effects of truancy on a child's future, what can happen if the child remains truant and services that can be offered to help ensure that your child gets the education he or she deserves.

The Wright County Program is held at the Wright County Government Center at 5:00 p.m. on the first Monday from September to June, excluding holidays. If your son or daughter has been identified as a truant you will receive an invitation to meet with representatives of the County during one of these meetings.

In the State of Minnesota, all children should attend school until the age of 18 and **must** attend school until the age of 17. Minn. Stat. §120A.22, Subd. 8. **Continuing Truant**...means a child who is under 17 years who is absent from attendance at school without lawful excuse for three days if the child is in elementary school or for three or more class periods on three days if the child is in middle school, junior high, or high school. Minn. Stat. §260A.02, Subd. 3. **Habitual Truant**...means a child under the age of 17 years who is absent from attendance at school without lawful excuse for seven school days if the child is in elementary school or for one or more class periods on seven school days if the child is in middle school, junior high, or high school, or the above or the child is 17 years old and has not lawfully withdrawn from school. Minn. Stat. §260C.007, Subd. 19.

It is important to understand that a CHIPS Truancy Petition may be filed before or after the meeting if your child continues to be absent from school without lawful excuse. If you have questions about your child's attendance, please contact your child's school.

Let us work together to reduce the truancy rate in Wright County. We owe it to our children. I ask for your help. I ask for your support. I thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

Thomas N. Kelly
Wright County Attorney