



# WESTWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Honoring Tradition, Inspiring Excellence, Shaping the Future*

Kristen Evans  
Principal

August 2015

Dear Sheehan Families,

Summer greetings from the Sheehan School! I hope you and your families were able to enjoy the beautiful summer weather and were able to spend some time with family and friends.

I was able to spend some quality time with my family and friends at the beach. Although the summer has flown by, I'm looking forward to the start of the school season!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2015-2016 school year. We look forward to a successful and rewarding school year for you and your children. This letter is to provide you with the September calendar and important information regarding the start of school. You should also go onto the District website and download the Westwood Public School 2015-2016 Calendar. This calendar provides you with all early release days, vacations, and other important school dates.

## *September Schedule*

- **Wednesday, September 2nd – School Begins for Grades 1-5**
  - **Open house for Kindergarteners and Parents 9:30 – 11:30 AM**
- **Thursday, September 3rd – Kindergarten Begins**
  - **Welcome Coffee for K-parents 9:00 AM Sheehan Cafeteria**
- **Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> – No School**
- **Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> – No School – Labor Day**
- **Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> – Fall Family Picnic Night- Sheehan Playground 5:00- 6:30 PM**
- **Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> – Grade 5 Instrument Rental Night 5:00-7:00 PM**
- **Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> – Early Release Day**
- **Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> – Curriculum Night**
  - **Grades K-2 Classroom Presentations: 6:00-6:45 PM**
  - **Welcome meeting: 7:00-7:30 PM**
  - **Grades 3-5 Classroom Presentations: 7:30-8:15 PM**
  
- **Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> – Picture Day K-5 Students**
- **Monday, September 21st – Full Day Kindergarten Begins**
- **Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>- No School – Yom Kippur**
- **Thursday, September 24th – Grade 4 Instrument Night at Sheehan 5:30-7:30 PM**
- **Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> – Early Release Day**



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## ***Arrival and Departure:***

- **Children may arrive on school grounds at 8:30 AM when supervision begins.** If your child is driven to school, please park on Pond Street, the same side as the school to allow your child to exit the vehicle onto the sidewalk. When walking onto the school grounds, please be sure to walk inside the yellow fire lane.
- In inclement weather, all grades gather in the cafeteria.
- The bell rings at 8:45 AM to mark the start of the school day.
- Attendance is taken promptly in classrooms. If your child will not be in school, please be sure to call the school office attendance line at 781-326-7500 x7120 before **9:00 AM**. This helps us to ensure the safety of all our students. If we do not receive a call, Mrs. Eileen Erwin will call home to verify your child's absence.
- Dismissal begins at 3:10 PM. Extended Day students and walkers are dismissed first, immediately followed by bus students.
- **If your child's dismissal routine MUST be changed, please notify the main office by 12:00 PM.** We understand that emergencies do arise, which could require a change in the dismissal plan, but other than that there should be no reason to change your child's plan. Please keep your child's dismissal plan as consistent as possible. As always, safety is our main concern, and it is critical that ALL children arrive at their after school destination safely.
- **Students are not permitted to take an unassigned bus home to accommodate an arranged playdate.**

## ***Staff Updates:***

Join me in welcoming our new staff to the Sheehan School:

- Eve Berne – Speech Pathologist
- Lisa Fiore – Literacy Specialist
- Annie Brown Chisholm – Kindergarten Assistant to Amy Monteiro

**Please save the evening of Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> for Curriculum Night.** This is always an exciting night for parents, as teachers will provide an overview of the curriculum, routines, expectations, and the learning experiences your children will have this year. Classroom presentations for parents of students in Grades **K-2** begin at 6:00 PM, the Principal Welcome and PTA Meeting begin at 7:00 PM, and immediately following are the classroom presentations for Grades 3-5 parents.



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The *Elementary Handbook*, which provides additional information about our school, is available on the Sheehan School webpage, under “Forms and Publications”. Please review it carefully. You will note that the *Handbook* is generic, as the information applies to all five elementary schools. Information specific to Sheehan will appear in our Core 4 Chronicle.

**Again this year, we will be collecting Handbook review signatures and emergency contact information electronically through Aspen. You will be receiving updated information from the Superintendent’s office in the near future regarding this process. You must sign into Aspen and review your information and sign off on all information.**

We have a wonderful Sheehan PTA that coordinates many parent volunteer opportunities in the school, hosts fun family and student events, and does a terrific job of fundraising in order to ensure that our students have access to amazing curriculum and cultural enrichment activities. Please consider becoming involved and joining the PTA. The first PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Sheehan Library.

Please join me in thanking our custodians, Mr. Chillemi, Mr. Beaton, and Mr. Jessoe; our building looks beautiful! Mrs. Erwin has been invaluable in getting mailings out, welcoming new families, and having supplies and materials ordered. The teachers are preparing their classrooms, taking courses, reviewing curriculum, and getting ready for their new students. We look forward to a productive and positive year ahead. I welcome your input, suggestions, feedback and ideas; your partnership is critical to our success. Enjoy the closing weeks of summer, and feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing all of you on **September 2<sup>nd</sup>**!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kristen Evans  
Principal