



Hanlon School Newsletters

August 2016

From the Desk of Mrs. Cronin:

August 16, 2016

On behalf of the Hanlon School community, I would like to welcome you and your family to another great year at Hanlon School! As summer comes to a close, I hope you are able to enjoy the last weeks of summertime fun. In addition to completing small projects here at school, I also spent time with family and friends. We traveled to RI, NH, and the Cape. My kids went away to sleep away camp for the first time, and they loved it! We also got our first puppy- a Boston Terrier named Rocco. He is so much fun! I hope that each of you were also able to spend some time relaxing with loved ones and enjoying our beautiful New England weather. This letter will provide you with the September calendar and important information regarding the start of school. The faculty and I are ready for a productive, fun, and safe new school year!

August 31- School begins for students in grades 1-5, Open House for Kindergartners 9-11AM. Extended Day Open House 10AM-12PM

September 1-Welcome Coffee for all Hanlon parents. Come join us in the cafeteria for an informal parent coffee at 8:50 after you drop your child(ren) off!

September 2 and 5- No School- Labor Day weekend

September 14- Early Release, dismissal at 11:50 (no lunch served)

September 15- Hanlon School Curriculum Night: This is always an exciting night for parents, as teachers will provide an overview of the curriculum, routines, expectations, and learning experiences your children will have this year. Classroom presentations for parents of students in grades 3-5 will be 6:00-6:45; the Principal Welcome and PTO meeting for all parents will begin at 6:45, immediately followed by classroom presentations for parents of students in grades K-2.

September 19- Picture Day- Information on school pictures will be sent home in backpacks.

September 28-Early Release, dismissal at 11:50 (no lunch served)

Staff Updates

Ms. Jessica Smith, Learning Center Teacher, will not return to Hanlon. She accepted a position at a middle school in Norwood. We wish her the very best in her new role! Ms. Emily Kessel has been hired to replace Ms. Smith. Ms. Kessel earned her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Stonehill College and her Master's Degree in Special Education from Lesley University. Ms. Kessel interned for the '15-16 school year at Hanlon and is well respected by staff and students alike.

Please join me in welcoming **additional new staff** to the Hanlon School:

Ms. Ashley Kelly- Instructional Assistant in 4th grade

Ms. Kyle Jermyn- Instructional Assistant in Learning Center

Ms. Sarah Caparotta- Lesley Intern

Mr. Dick Adams- Evening Custodian

*We are fortunate to have the following staff members **returning in different roles**:

Ms. Maryann Lavoie- Instructional Assistant in Learning Center

Ms. Maureen Reynolds- Kindergarten Assistant

Arrival and Departure

Children may arrive on school grounds at 8:30 AM when playground supervision begins. Parents are asked to stay outside of the playground fence. On rainy mornings, K-2 students gather in the lobby and students in grades 3-5 gather in the cafeteria.

The bell rings at 8:45 AM to signal the start of the school day, and students are marked tardy if they arrive in classrooms after 8:50 AM.

We allow cars to use the circular driveway to drop off their children for morning arrival only. Please pull your vehicle all the way up to the vestibule, so that two cars can unload at the same time. Children should be ready to exit the vehicle on the side of the car facing school, so they have safe access to the sidewalk.

Please arrange car seats for younger siblings to ensure that school-aged children can exit the car safely without crawling over a sibling. If this is not possible, or you need to exit the vehicle to assist with doors, bags, etc., you are encouraged to use the playground parking lot on Gay St. Morning traffic in the circular driveway must be kept moving.

No private vehicles will be allowed in the circular driveway in the afternoon (for parking or idling). The driveway is used for the bus and vans at that time. Families who pick their children up can park along Gay Street and Crofts Regis. Please do not park behind vehicles that are parked in the Gay Street lot, nor in the fire lane. This procedure is not meant to be an inconvenience, rather a means to keep everyone safe.

Please share this with other adults who may pick up your child(ren). The parking lot behind the school is for faculty and staff.

Attendance is taken in classrooms. If your child will not be in school, please be sure to call the school office at 781-326-7500 x8424 before 8:30 AM. This helps us to ensure the safety of all of our students. If we do not receive a call, Ms. Anny Goldstein, the school administrative assistant, will call home to inquire about your child's absence.

Dismissal begins at 3:10 PM on full days, and at 11:50 on early release Wednesdays. Bus and Extended Day students are dismissed first, immediately followed by carpool and walkers, exiting out the Kindergarten hallway door.

Aspen Database

In the next couple of weeks you will be receiving a letter from Superintendent John Antonucci about how to access the Aspen Student Database where you will complete the Parent Emergency Contact information as well as other forms. In his letter you will be given an ID and password for the Aspen database. Please save this ID and password, as you will need it throughout your child's school years. One important question that you will answer in Aspen has to do with Media/Internet Permissions. If you would like your child included in classroom pictures, the yearbook, in photos from special events, on school and classroom websites and bulletin boards, etc., the Media/Internet permission option must be changed to "Yes" in Aspen. Please know that when Hanlon students' photographs are used in newspapers, on websites, etc., I request that students' last names not be used. If you have any questions regarding permissions, please contact me directly.

Elementary Handbook

The Elementary Handbook, which provides additional information about our school, is available on the school webpage, under Forms and Documents. Please review it carefully. You will note that the Handbook is generic, as the information applies to all five elementary schools. Information specific to Hanlon will appear in the Principal Post, which will be published bi-monthly on the school website, with a link emailed to families. If you would prefer a paper copy of the Handbook, please call the school office at x8424. Handbook signatures and emergency contact information is collected electronically through Aspen. Information on the process will be sent from the Superintendent's Office in the near future.

Headphones- All classrooms are equipped with Chromebooks, MacBooks, or iPads for student use. Families are asked to send in an inexpensive pair of headphones or earbuds for their child to use throughout the school year. Please send the headphones in a large ziplock bag, labeled with your child's name. Keeping headphones in a bag maintains cleanliness and prevents cords from being tangled. Please contact Principal Cronin if you are in need of confidential financial assistance for headphones or any other school related costs.

PTO

As Hanlon families, you are automatically members of the Parent Teacher Organization. We have a wonderful Hanlon PTO that coordinates many parent volunteer opportunities in the school, organizes and hosts fun family and student events, and does a terrific job of fundraising to ensure that our students have access to amazing enrichment activities and other great events. Please consider becoming involved in the PTO, whether you have just a little or a lot of time to volunteer.

Please join me in thanking our custodians, Mr. Patjane and Mr. Adams; after weeks of cleaning, repairs, and polishing, our building looks beautiful! Ms. Goldstein, our Administrative Assistant, has been invaluable in getting mailings out, welcoming new families, and having supplies and materials inventoried and ordered. The teachers have been preparing their classrooms, taking courses, reviewing curricula, and getting ready for their new students. We look forward to a productive year ahead. I welcome your input, suggestions, feedback and ideas. Your partnership is critical to our success. Enjoy the final weeks of summertime fun, and feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. The Hanlon staff looks forward to greeting your child(ren), and to working with you to ensure a successful learning experience!

Warmly,
Sarah

**Hanlon Elementary School, 790 Gay Street, Westwood, MA 02090 781-325-7500 x.8424
Sarah Cronin, Principal**

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