



Home-School Connection

September 2023



Attendance Makes a Difference

Your child's teachers will do their best to help your child learn and succeed in school. But there's one thing *only you can do* - get him or her to school everyday on time.

Children who don't attend school regularly fall behind. They can have a hard time making and keeping friends - especially in elementary school.

Show your child and his/her teachers that you know attendance counts:

- Tell your child how important school is.
- Make dental and other appointments during non-school hours.
- Don't let your child skip school for reasons that wouldn't prevent you from going to work.
- Avoid taking your child out of school on exam days.
- Keep track of your child's absences. See if there are any patterns that need to be changed.
- Communicate with us if your child is expressing a worry about being in school so we can help address it.

*** Send a written excuse upon their return to school ***

EPTSO Corner

Elementary- We are so excited to welcome our students and staff back to school and are looking forward to a fun year!

Parents- Look for our table at Open House Night to learn more about who we are and how you can get involved!

Teachers- We were so happy to have been able to welcome staff back to school with a Grab-N-Go breakfast. We are continually grateful for your dedication and support of our students.

Students- Classroom snacks are once again being provided for those days when students forget to bring them in.

Organization- In order to continue providing for our students and staff we need more volunteers. Please join us for our first meeting on **Tuesday September 12th at 6pm at the Schoharie Village Library.**

All students enrolled in the Schoharie Central School District are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at no charge to your household each day of the 2023-2024 school year. If you have not already done so, please complete the Household Income Eligibility form linked here:

<https://linqconnect.com/public/income-form/new?identifier=F9ST3K>

Dates to Remember

Sept. 5 Kindergarten Orientation, 2:00-3:00 pm

Sept. 6 First Day of School for Students (Pre-K-5)

4-H Afterschool Program Begins

Christian Afterschool Program Begins

Sept. 8 Bus Safety Drill

Sept. 12 EPTSO Meeting 6:00 pm @ Schoharie Free Library

Sept. 18-22 Start with Hello Week

Sept. 19 Open House (K-5) - 6-7:30 pm

Sept. 21 BOE meeting - 7 pm

Sept. 25 Picture Day

Sept. 29 Fire Prevention Activities

Message from the Principal

We look forward to welcoming the students back on Wednesday, September 6th.

We are slated to complete a Capital Project over the next two years. This project includes the work that was done on the sports fields this summer. The next phase will provide some essentials, like new classroom doors and windows, along with a new library and cafeteria. It will allow us the space to have a gymnasium/auditorium which is big enough for our students and families to gather for celebrations comfortably without needing to trek through the high school.

We have many building-wide activities planned that will continue to send our message of kindness and no bullying here at Schoharie Elementary. This month, we'll focus on "Start with Hello" week. Start With Hello is a program developed by the Sandy Hook Promise that teaches students to be more socially inclusive and connected to each other. Although limited space does not allow us to invite families in as much as we'd like, we do have a monthly school wide celebration where students of the month are recognized and their families are invited to attend.

Communication between school and home is so important. We've developed many ways to help with this. **Parent Portal** allows you to see your child's teacher, grades, and update contact information.

School Messenger is the system we use to email/text you regarding whole building announcements and emergency closings.

Ride 360 is the tool the transportation department uses so you can track bus information. If you have not signed up for the above communication tools yet, please call the office to help you stay updated constantly. Since we can't speak with each of you individually, these tools are the way we share with you what is going on with your child's education. Please be sure to check them frequently.

Sincerely,
Andrea Polikoski



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