

Hello Ryan School Families,

As we welcome the new school year, I wanted to share some important information. We have worked hard this summer to prepare the school building, grounds, and, of course, the classrooms, and are excited to have our students join us next week.

Please know that there is a new website for the district and our school, so please be patient as we update and polish the Ryan's page. In the meantime, I have included numerous important links for you. It is advisable that you log in to these accounts to ensure you have access. If not, contact information is provided.

Aspen Brochure to access team, homeroom, and grades:

<https://www.tewksbury.k12.ma.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Aspen-Student-Portal-Brochure-3-1-2017.pdf>

If your Aspen account is deactivated, please email mmclaughlin@tewksbury.k12.ma.us or call the office (978) 640-7880 ext. 306 or 307.

Food Services to pre-pay or make payments towards the breakfast and lunch programs:

<https://paypams.com/>

Community Pass to complete **required paperwork** (this is new for us and I have attached a letter to provide further information):

<https://register.communitypass.net/TewksburyPublicSchools>

Bus ridership is strongly encouraged since our current traffic pattern is not ideal for such a large volume of drop-offs and pick-ups. Please consider having your student ride the bus if it is possible. The bus routes are posted at <https://www.tewksbury.k12.ma.us/general/bus-routes/>. If you are planning on picking up your student every day, please send a note to the main office and your student will then just need to check out with one of the two Administrative Assistants. Drop off is at 8:00 AM and pick up is at 2:30 PM. Please remind your child to give absent and dismissal notes to their homeroom teacher.

The following is from our Instrumental Music teacher:

My name is Tim Olevsky, and I direct the Ryan Band. Band is a great chance for students not only to learn about music, but also to learn about teamwork, social skills, language skills, and more. In the next couple of weeks, your child will get a chance to try out an instrument, and to learn about the Ryan Band. Interested students can sign up for more information (for them and you). If you want to make sure your child is on the Band info list, feel free to email me directly at tolevsky@tewksbury.k12.ma.us.

The Ryan School will be open for "self-guided tours" of the building on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week (August 23, 24 and 25) from 3:00-5:00 PM. The classrooms will not be open but the building itself will be and it may help ease anxiety for some as we rapidly approach Day One!

During the course of the school year, please be sure to always start with the teacher if you have any questions or concerns. Ninety-nine percent of the time, areas of concern are best addressed with the teacher directly. If that is not a viable option, please contact the school

psychologists: Grade 5~Mrs. Meeker and Grade 6~ Mrs. Clark. They will be able to assist you on most other issues.

Ryan School Open Houses will be on Monday, Sept. 11, 2017 for Grade 5 and Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017 for Grade 6. Both will begin promptly at 6:30 PM in the Ryan School cafeteria. You will have an opportunity to meet your student's teacher and see the classrooms.

Free/Reduced Lunch forms will be distributed to every student on the first day of school. Please complete the form and have your student return it to the main office if this applies for your student. Otherwise, please be aware of the balances on your student's account. It takes valuable time away from the educational process when I have to call or send letters home for outstanding balances.

We have a Lost and Found centrally located in the back of our cafeteria should anything go missing. Typically, each team and/or teacher has a Lost and Found in his/her classroom as well and any valuable items found at school will be in the main office. Please encourage your student to retrieve any lost items.

And remember to follow us on Twitter @johnfryanschool to see video and pictures of our scholars at work.

We are looking forward to a successful year!

Best,
Judi McInnes, Principal