

Linden Public Schools

School Nine

Back To School Guide

2023-2024

T-I-G-E-R
Pledge



Together we learn
In a safe and happy place
Growing everyday
Each in our own way
Respecting one another
Striving always to do our best

Mrs. Angela A. Principato

Principal

(908) 486-5164

*This is a fluid document. At any point information can change, which will be communicated to parents as applicable.

OUR VISION:

At Deerfield School Nine,

Students will become lifelong, global learners as they acquire,
demonstrate and practice the core values of our school:
respect, tolerance, inclusion, and excellence.



OUR MISSION:

We will provide equal access to high-quality education in a safe,
respectful, caring, and inclusive learning environment
where everyone feels a sense of belonging.

OUR GOAL:

We will inspire students to be successful by transferring their knowledge
and skills to create meaningful contributions
beyond the walls of our school.



Principal's Message

Greetings to our parents and families! As the new school year approaches, we would like to continue working together to provide meaningful educational opportunities to our students. It is imperative that collectively, we continue to support each other. Your cooperation with and support of all district and school policies are paramount to ensuring the health and safety of all students, faculty, and staff. With your help, we will maintain the excellence of our instructional program and continue to strive for the achievement of our students.

Emergency Contact Information

It is of the utmost importance that we have current parent/guardian and emergency contact information. If any of your information changes throughout the year, you must notify the school as soon as possible. This is the only means by which we can communicate with you at a moment's notice. An Emergency Verification Form has been sent home in the summer mailing. Please review, complete the Health Information section, make any updates directly on the form, and return it on the first day of school on **Thursday, September 7th**.

Academic Plan

All elementary students' first day of school is **Thursday, September 7th, 2023**. School begins at 8:45 a.m. and concludes at 3:20 p.m. Doors will open for students eating breakfast at 8:15 a.m. Those students are to enter through Door #1. The remaining students will be granted entry into the building at 8:30 a.m. Please be aware that there is no supervision on school grounds prior to doors opening. Even in inclement weather, students will not be granted early access to the building. The district does offer a Before Care program for a fee.

Teachers and students will follow their schedules on the six-day cycle. The six-day rotation calendar will be sent home with your child, as well as their Specials schedule. Students in grades 3-5 will follow a departmentalized learning model for the core subjects. They will have a team of teachers for their core academic subjects. Whether they have two or three teachers for those subjects will depend on the total size of the grade level.

*Parents and students are encouraged to reach out to their teachers for support if needed via Class Dojo or email.

First Day Procedures


All parents will receive communication mailed home, including their child's teacher, drop-off procedures, and other pertinent information. Please note, aside from Pre-K and Kindergarten parents allowed to enter for orientation, no other parents will be granted entry into the building.

On Thursday, September 7th, 2023. All grades 1-5 students will report to the back playground area at 8:30 a.m.

Kindergarten parents and students will line up by the Main Entrance, Door #1, at 9:00 a.m. Kindergarten Teachers will meet you and escort you to the classroom with your child for a brief orientation. After orientation, Kindergarten parents will depart and pick up their children at 3:20 p.m. dismissal time.

Pre-K parents and students will meet at the Main Entrance Door#1 at 9:45 a.m. Teachers will greet you and escort you and your child to the classroom. Pre-K students and their parents will attend the hour orientation and be dismissed for the day. Pre-K students will start their school year on Friday, September 8th, at 8:45 a.m. Please note that no siblings or other relatives are allowed into the building due to limited space in the classroom.

School Supply Lists

Deerfield School No. 9 Student Supply List - 2023-2024		
Pre-Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Grade 1
Bike helmet Sleeping bag for cot in tote bag Painting smock Change of Clothes/Shoes Tissues Hand wipes/Clorox Wipes Hand sanitizer Paper Towels Small and Large Baggies <u>Please label all items with your child's name</u>	Backpack (large enough to fit a 9x12 folder) 1 Box of crayons Pencils 1 Pair of small blunt tip scissors 2 Large glue sticks A pack of BLACK dry erase markers 1 Composition Notebook 2 Boxes of tissues 1 Container of hand sanitizer 1 Box of washable markers Box of sealable sandwich bags Change of clothes in a bag labeled Please label your child's name on their backpack AND change of clothes	1 Pencil Box 2 Dry Erase Markers 1 Box of 24 count crayons 1 Box #2 Pencils 2 jumbo glue sticks 1 pair of scissors 2 two- pocket folders 2 marble notebooks (wide- ruled) 1 box of tissues 1 Container of Clorox Wipes Please Send in all supplies labeled with your child's name on the first day of school.
Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
(1) Backpack (no wheels) (2) Folders (3) Hardcover composition books (2) 30 ct. packs of sharpened pencils with erasers (1) Box of crayons (24 colors or more) (3) Glue sticks (2) Boxes of tissues (1) Pencil Box (1) Bottle of hand sanitizer (1) Container of Lysol wipes (1) Pair student scissors (1) Handheld sharpener (1) Pair of ear buds or headphones in a Ziploc bag "LABEL EVERYTHING"	(1) backpack that can fit in locker (no wheels) (1) red folder with two pockets (1) yellow folder with two pockets (1) green folder with two pockets (2) 30 ct. packs of <u>sharpened</u> pencils with erasers (1) Small Box of crayons - no more than 10 in a box (1) Box of thin markers - no more than 10 in a box. (1) Box of tissues (1) Sanitizer (1) Ear buds (no headphones) in a <u>labeled Ziploc bag</u> (5) <u>Hardcover</u> marble notebooks (4) glue sticks (1) soft pencil case (1) Container of antibacterial wipes (1) Pair of student scissors (1) pack of 100 count size 3x5 index cards Please label all items with first and last name.	(1) Zipper pencil pouch (no boxes) (1) 12 pack of sharpened pencils (2) blue pens (2) red pens (1) 12 pack of colored pencils (2) black dry erase markers (2) boxes of tissues (2) large glue sticks (no liquid) (1) tub of Clorox wipes (no bleach) (1) Handheld Pencil Sharpener (3) marble Composition notebooks (2) 1-subject notebooks (5) pocket on the bottom folders (1) pair of earbuds or headphones in a labeled Ziplock bag
Grade 5	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	
General Homeroom Supplies - Dry Erase Markers Highlighters Pencils Glue Sticks Crayons Tissue boxes Hand sanitizer Lysol Wipes Ziploc Bags (Quart and Gallon Size) Clean Sock or white board eraser 3 folders w. pockets ***Earbuds/headphones- no Bluetooth Language Arts - (2) marble notebooks Math - (2) marble notebook Science- (2) marble notebooks Social Studies - (1) marble notebook	Note: This is a basic supply list for your child's grade level. You may be asked to purchase a few additional supplies from your individual teacher after the first day of school. Please try to have all supplies ready for the first day of school. -Deerfield School #9 Teachers	

This is a **suggested** supply list. These materials will support your child's learning. Please label your child's personal belongings.

***Pre-K students must keep a spare set of clothing in their classroom.**

Breakfast and Lunch

The 2023-2024 Electronic Free/Reduced Meal Applications are available online as of 8/09/23. In addition, parents can prepay for meals online using a credit card, debit card, or checking account via *My School Bucks*. There are links under the Parents tab of the Linden Public Schools website at <https://lindenps.org> The website to complete a lunch application is <https://lindenps.nlappscloud.com>

Families are only required to complete one application per household for ALL students enrolled in the district. IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOU MUST REAPPLY EVERY YEAR.

Student Price List:

	FULL PRICE			REDUCED PRICE		
	Elementary	Middle	High	Elementary	Middle	High
National School Lunch	\$2.75	\$2.85	\$2.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
School Breakfast	\$1.45	\$1.70	\$1.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
After School Snack	N/A	\$0.00	N/A	N/A	\$0.00	N/A
Special Milk Program	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Split Session Milk Program	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A - Not Applicable						

Before Care/After Care

Linden Public Schools has a before and after care program for a fee. The program starts on Monday, September 11, 2023 – The last Full Day of School (To be determined by the end-of-school-year schedule)

Before Care Hours: 7:00 a.m. until the start of school breakfast.

After Care Hours: Dismissal until 6:00 pm*

For more information visit *The Program Guidelines* located on our website -

<https://lindenps.org/before-aftercare/>

Student Drop-Off Procedures

School begins promptly at 8:45 a.m. Students will not be granted entry into the building prior to 8:30 a.m., regardless of the weather. All classes will be assigned to specific doors for entry. Parents and guardians are encouraged to plan and allow more time for student drop-off to ensure a prompt arrival at school. Your child's assigned drop-off door is noted below.

Student Entry Door Assignments:

Door 1: Huff (Breakfast, 4th Grade)

Door 5: Olsen (Pre-K)

Door 6: Edwards (Pre-K)

Door 7: Marcus, Techera-Duarte/Reis (Pre-K Lukko, Pre-K McGhee, Kindergarten, 1st Grade)

Door 10: Wilson, Posy/Waldens (2nd Grade and 3rd Grade))

Door 11: Kohut and Gorbunoff (5th Grade)

***To ensure the health and safety of all students and staff, it is imperative that you adhere to this procedure. Students attempting to enter through the incorrect door will be redirected to their assigned door.**

Tardy Students

Please make every effort to arrive at school on time, as tardiness disrupts the educational process. Instruction begins promptly at 8:45 a.m. Any student who is not in their homeroom by 8:45 a.m. will be considered tardy.

***Tardy students must enter through Door #1 to obtain a tardy slip.**

Student Dismissal Procedures

The school day concludes promptly at 3:20 p.m. All classes will be assigned to specific doors for dismissal. Students must exit the building with their class. Parents and guardians are being asked to have their children picked up immediately upon the conclusion of each school day. Please refrain from calling your child out of the line and allow the teacher to dismiss the students individually. This is also not the time to engage in conferences with the teacher as he/she needs to focus on dismissing the class.

To stress the importance of timely pickups, please understand that if you repeatedly fail to pick up your child(ren) accordingly, we will be forced to contact the appropriate and necessary authorities (i.e., Linden Police Department or DCP&P).

A dismissal form was emailed home; please fill it out and return it on the first day of school. This form will also be posted on the school's website. Additionally, please make sure your child's

***Note that your child will NOT be released to anyone NOT listed on the form. Any changes that need to be made must be done in writing.**

Dismissal Door Assignments:

Door #1: Reidy, Lorenzetti, Rogakos

Door #5: Olsen (3:15 pm)

Door #6: Edwards (3:15 pm)

Door #7: Lukko (3:15 pm), McGhee (3:15 pm), Scherer (3:17 pm), Wisniewski (3:17 pm), Howlett (3:20 pm), Large (3:20 pm)

Door #10: Condon (3:17 pm), Delapa (3:17 pm), Dipietro (3:17 pm), Andersen (3:20 pm) Gallo (3:20 pm) Mulroe (3:20 pm)

Door #11: Hill, Dollard, Pereira, Bus Students

School Security

SCHOOL ENTRY PROTOCOL:

For the safety of our students and staff, the district has implemented a new school entry protocol. They are listed below for your reference.

1. All visitors to our schools will need to have an appointment (advanced notice) to enter the building.
2. No visitors will be granted building access (unless they have a scheduled appointment) between the following times: **8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** and **3:05 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.**
3. Any parent/guardian, who needs to pick up a child early, must notify the office in writing/email prior to dismissal. If it is an emergency, the parent/guardian must call the office and notify the school.

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4. If a visitor must drop off an item for a student (lunch, homework, etc.), they will be directed to deposit that item in a bin outside the main entry. All items must be clearly labeled with the student's name, grade, and teacher and will be retrieved by office staff. Entry into the school building is not permitted.
 5. It is imperative that visitors do not hold the door open for others behind them. Each visitor must be acknowledged individually through the intercom system.
 6. Through the intercom, all visitors must state the purpose of their visit and specify with whom they have an appointment before entering the building.
 - a) If the appointment is verified, the visitor will be buzzed in and immediately report directly to the main office or designated sign-in area.
 - b) All visitors will be required to show photo identification when signing into the building and to wear a visitor's pass while in the building.
 - c) Front-office secretaries must call 911 and notify school administrators if the visitor is uncooperative, does not adhere to the procedures, or becomes threatening.

7. Failure to follow these procedures may result in a lockdown for the safety of students and staff, and the Linden Police Department may be notified that an intruder is in the building.

You are still welcome in our schools but with parameters. Please try to schedule appointments to see a teacher or the principal. Of course, emergencies arise, but we intend that upon arrival, we can give you the proper attention and dedication your concern deserves while still upholding the integrity of our safety protocol.

***Large-scale events will adhere to the same protocol; however, specific guidelines will be communicated.**

Birthday/Holiday Celebrations

We do not celebrate individual student birthday celebrations in school. Holiday classroom parties and PTA-sponsored events are permissible and will be handled separately.

Technology

All students in Pre-K through 5th grade have been provided with iPads. Pre-K and Kindergarten students will use their iPads in school. Students in 1-5 grade will take their iPads home. They are expected to return to school fully charged (with a charger) and ready to use the following day. Parents are STRONGLY encouraged to enroll in the district Tech Care accidental coverage program for the iPads. This will cover damages (cracked screens, water damage) that may occur. Otherwise, you will be responsible for paying the full cost. Please log on to www.myschoolbucks.com to create an account if you do not already have one. All payments for

Tech Care must be made online. If you have any questions about the enrollment process, please contact LaTonya Brown in the Technology Department at lbrown@lindenps.org or (908) 587-3263 ext. 8345.

Teacher Communication

Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teacher via email, phone, or Class Dojo. Impromptu visits to the school to speak to your child's teacher will not be granted. A staff directory with email addresses is attached.

***For the health and safety of your child, it is EXTREMELY important that the Dismissal Permission Slip and Emergency Information Verification Form be completed and turned in on the First Day of School, Thursday, September 7th.**

Making these procedures part of your family's routine throughout the year will benefit the Deerfield School Nine community. As always, we aim to have each child reach their full academic potential. Please know our students' health and safety is our priority. If you have any questions, email me at apricipato@lindenps.org or contact the school.

Sincerely,

Angela A. Príncipe

Principal

2023-2024
Teacher Directory

Pre-K

Ms. Toni Edwards

Ms. Christine Lukko

Ms. Melody Olsen

Mr. Laurence McGhee

email:

tedwards@lindenps.org

clukko@lindenps.org

molsen@lindenps.org

lmcghee@lindenps.org

Kindergarten

Ms. Kate Scherer

Ms. Robyn Wisniewski

kscherer@lindenps.org

rwisniewski@lindenps.org

1st Grade

Ms. Lisa Howlett

Ms. Dana Large

lhowlett@lindenps.org

dlarge@lindenps.org

2nd Grade

Ms. Meredith Delapa

Ms. Jill DiPietro

Ms. Mallory Condon

mdelapa@lindenps.org

jdipietro@lindenps.org

mbaker@lindenps.org

3rd Grade

Ms. Holly Andersen

Ms. Maria Gallo

Ms. Casey Mulroe

handersen@lindenps.org

mgallo@lindenps.org

cmulroe@lindenps.org

4th Grade

Ms. Danielle Lorenzetti	dlorenzetti@lindenps.org
Ms. Alexis Reidy	areidy@lindenps.org
Ms. Theresa Rogakos	trogakos@lindenps.org

5th Grade

Ms. Aubrey Dollard	adollard@lindenps.org
Ms. Emily Hill	ehill@lindenps.org
Ms. Amy Pereira	apereira@lindenps.org

Specials and Support

Art	Mark Kohut	mkohut@lindenps.org
G&T	Stephanie Webb	swebb@lindenps.org
Inst. Music	Michael Clark	mclark@lindenps.org
Music	Melanie Reis	mreis@lindenps.org
P.E.	Brian Marcus	bmarcus@lindenps.org
Spanish	Ana Techera-Duarte	atechera-duarte@lindenps.org
Technology	Mitchell Gorbunoff	mgorbunoff@lindenps.org
ELA Coach	Laura Venezia	lvenezio@lindenps.org
ESL	Alphonse Waldens.	awaldens@lindenps.org
ESL	Sabine Posy-Stewart	sposev@lindenps.org
Math Coach	Frank Minniti	fminniti@lindenps.org
Reading Spec.	Gina DiVito	gdivito@lindenps.org
Resource	Patricia Huff	phuff@lindenps.org
Resource	Brittany Wilson	bwilson@lindenps.org
Speech	Kelly McGovern-Drejaj	kmcgovern@lindenps.org
Social Worker	Marissa Ruchalski	mhudak@lindenps.org
School Nurse	Stella Zatko	szatko@lindenps.org

School Nine Time Schedule

For your convenience, please find below the School Nine schedule. Please arrange an alternate pick-up plan in cases of early dismissals, emergency closings, and any other unforeseen circumstances that may affect your ability to pick up your child on time. Be sure the adults you may use in times of emergency, or such cases are listed on the emergency form and the dismissal form for your child.

Door 1 Opens for Breakfast Students Only	8:15 a.m.
All Doors Open for Class (all students report)	8:30 a.m.
Class Begins	8:45 a.m.
Students Considered Tardy	8:46 a.m.
Classes Dismissed	3:20 p.m.
Delayed Opening Start Time	10:45 a.m. (Breakfast canceled in the event of a delayed opening)
Early Dismissal Without Lunch Served	12:45 p.m.
Early Dismissal With Lunch Served	1:15 p.m.

***Good attendance and timely arrival to school are essential. Every minute of instruction counts, and it is imperative that parents and students alike make every effort to arrive on time every day!**