



79th Street Elementary School

Sheila Smith, Principal



PARENT HANDBOOK

2021-22

Home of the STARS!

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Street Elementary School

Sheila Smith, Principal

September 2021



Dear Parents & Guardians,

79th Street Elementary School is such a special place to learn and grow. We are proud of our beautiful school and have high expectations for each and every student. Our students are kind, compassionate, and inquisitive. Together with our dedicated staff, we strive to make connections with students to help them feel valued, accepted, and safe. We commit to assure that every child feels safe, respected and a true sense of belonging, in our school environment that is welcoming and affirming. It is quintessential to the success of all students to continue to build and maintain a positive school culture, where all students feel welcomed and most valued!

We are committed in exposing our students to various learning experiences that foster creativity and curiosity, creating the skills and mindset they will need to become productive and successful members of an increasingly global society. Instructional staff attended multiple workshops and training sessions to sharpen their knowledge and skills this summer to ensure the best possible learning experiences for all. Office personnel has been enrolling students, contacting families, and making sure that we are ready for all of our students. Our maintenance and custodial staff have worked in preparing our school to make sure our environment is clean, safe, and orderly.

Some important district updates for the 2021-2022 school year:

- There has been a re-districting of the school district boundaries.
- Breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m. and concludes at 8:50 a.m.
- Early dismissal at the elementary level will occur **every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.**
- Parent/Teacher conferences days will be more flexible for parents. Check with your child's teacher(s) to schedule appointments and availability.
- A stronger emphasis will be placed on social emotional learning as a result of some students who have not physically been in school for over a year.

Also, please keep in mind, changes are subject to any COVID-19 updates and available resources, as well as direction from district, state, and federal entities. We are available to answer any questions you may have. You may contact us by calling our office at (716) 278-7900. Looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,

S. Smith

Principal

District Mission Statement

The Niagara Falls City School District's mission is to guarantee educational excellence for every student and to prepare students for successful employment, continuing education and life-long learning in an ever-changing world.

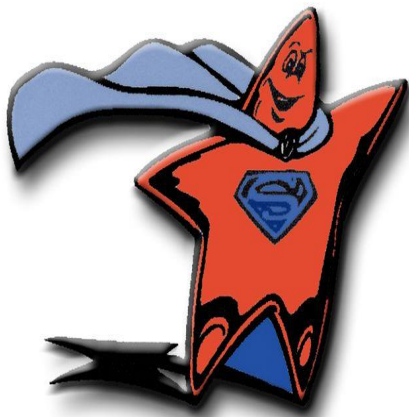


Niagara Falls Board of Education Strategic Goals

1. To exceed and continuously improve learner outcomes against academic standards.
2. To achieve the highest level of employee cooperation, trust and empowerment.
3. To effectively control financial costs while maintaining quality education.
4. To achieve the highest level of partnerships with our community.
5. To provide, integrate and promote technology throughout all facets of our organization.

The Mission of 79th Street Elementary School:

Learning for All...Whatever It Takes!



Enrolling in School

All student registration is processed in one central location. Whether registering your very young child or transferring an older child into our schools, the District has a one-stop location to get you all set. Simply visit our **CENTRAL REGISTRATION OFFICE** located inside the **Administration Building at 630-66th Street**, during regular business hours. You can complete all the paperwork and get all the information you need.

**Business Hours: Monday through Friday:
8:30am-12:30pm and 2:00pm-3:30pm**

If you need a time that does not fall between those hours, call the registration office. They will try to accommodate you.

Student Registration Office– 286-4273

Also, upon registering, a birth certificate must be presented as proof of age and proof of immunization. **A birth certificate is the only legal document accepted for proof.** A form from the hospital cannot be accepted. Verification of address must be presented at the time of registration. Utility bill, lease agreement, or a notarized statement of address from the landlord or social services verification of address is acceptable.

It is very important that we have all up-to-date information; therefore: **ALERT THE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY OF CHANGES IN YOUR CHILD'S ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER OR EMERGENCY NUMBER.**

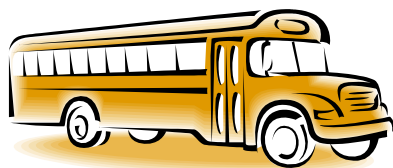
Daily Schedule

Pre-K – Grade 6

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

TRANSPORTATION



State subsidized bus transportation is provided free to all children in kindergarten through 12th grade who live more than 1.5 miles from the schools they attend. Eligibility will automatically be determined by computer registration at the student's school. All elementary special education students are transported. Parents must inform the school of any address change to ensure service.

Buses Arrive

8:45 – 8:55 am

Buses Depart

3:00 pm

*You will be notified of your child's bus stop and arrival times of the bus at that location.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

If schools must be closed because of bad weather or other emergencies, parents and students will be notified in the early morning, or if possible, the evening before by the District's All-Call system. Announcements will also be made via your local radio and television stations.

If schools are closed in the morning, they are closed all day for all activities including evening classes or special evening programs unless otherwise announced. Please make arrangements for your child's care if such an emergency should arise. There may be a time when it will be necessary to dismiss children early. Therefore, the school will need to know where your child should go in the event there is no one home.



School Directory

79th Street Elementary School
551 – 79th Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

School Telephone Number		278-7900
School Fax Number		278-7901
Health Office	Nurse	278-7907
Lunch Applications	Senior School Monitor	278-7900
Transportation Issues	Senior School Monitor	278-7900
or	Annie Carr	286-4239
Report Card problems	Your child's teacher	278-7900
Academic progress	Your child's teacher	278-7900
For a problem at school	The Principal's office	278-7900
To volunteer	Your child's teacher	278-7900
Special Education	Pupil Service Office	278-7902
or	CSE	286-4280
Curriculum questions	School office	278-7900
or	Instructional Office	286-4207
District Policy questions	Human Resources	286-4225
Custodian	Custodian Office	278-7903



2021 - 2022



**Niagara Falls
City School
District**

Learning For All...Whatever It Takes

79th Street Elementary No School Dates for 2021-2022

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11TH – Columbus Day

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND – NO SCHOOL Superintendent's Conference Day

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH - Veterans Day

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH, THRU FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH – Thanksgiving Holiday

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23RD THRU FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31ST – Winter Recess

MONDAY JANUARY 3RD – School Resumes

MONDAY, JANUARY 17TH – Dr. Martin Luther King Day

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST – President's Day – NO SCHOOL, NO STAFF

FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH – NO SCHOOL Superintendent's Conference Day

MONDAY, APRIL 11TH – NO SCHOOL

TUESDAY, APRIL 12TH THRU FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND – Spring Recess

MONDAY, APRIL 25th- RETURN TO SCHOOL FROM SPRING RECESS

MONDAY, MAY 30TH – Memorial Day

MONDAY, JUNE 20TH – Juneteenth – NO SCHOOL

THURSDAY, JUNE 23RD – **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**



Attendance Requirements

Regular attendance is important for success in school. Parents should make every effort to have their child in school, rested and ready for work. Only illness, emergency, medical or dental reasons should keep a child from attending school. A student must bring a note for the absence as required by State Attendance Policy.

Tardiness is also a serious problem since work and assignments are missed. Parents should stress with their children the importance of arriving to school on time, ready to work.

Attendance Policy

Absence:

It is expected that students will attend school daily and punctually, unless there is a serious reason.

Excused Absence

Sickness

Sickness or death in the family

Quarantine

Attendance at health clinic, etc.

Unexcused Absence

Visiting Relatives

Vacation

Baby-sitting

Oversleeping, etc.

Our Policy:

- * Call the school if your child will be absent
- * **Send in a written excuse when your child returns to school**
- * If your child has been absent more than the usual amount of times, a warning letter will be sent to you
- * If your child continues to be absent and the absences are more than twenty days (without a valid medical reason), we will not hesitate to consider this educational neglect and will report such to the appropriate agency.
- * An absence without a written excuse will be considered an illegal absence
- * If a medical appointment is necessary during the school day and the child will report to school when finished, please send in a written note the day before the appointment so your child will not be marked with an absence or tardiness.
- * Please send a note in with you child if he/she needs to be excused early for an appointment. The child will be called down to the front desk when an adult arrives to pick him/her up.

Tardy:

- * **When your child is tardy, they are to report to the Main Office for a tardy pass before going to their class.**
- * A written note must be sent to the school with an explanation for tardiness.
- * Parents will be contacted in instances of recurring tardiness.

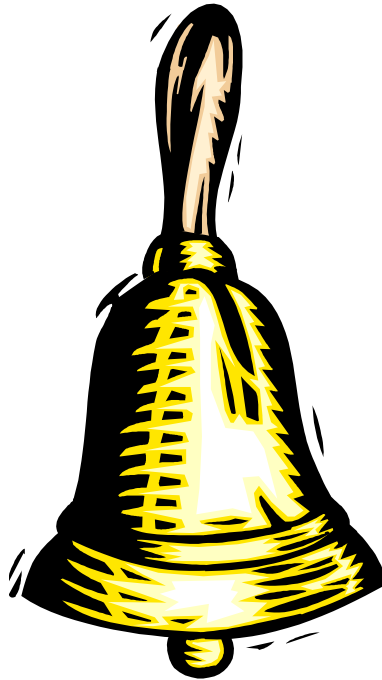
Change of Address/Telephone:

It is extremely important that every student maintain an up-to-date address and working telephone number in the school office. Notify the school immediately if you have a change of address or telephone number. Also, please let us know if your work place and work number changes.

It is also extremely important that we have an emergency name and phone number. Please call the school if your emergency contact and telephone number have changed.

Attendance/Discipline Policy for Students Attending 79th Street Elementary on Special Permission:

Students attending 79th Street Elementary School on Special Permission are expected to attend school regularly and on time, and to maintain appropriate and acceptable behavior. Special Permission is conditional. If students violate school policies, attendance codes, or school rules, their Special Permission will be **revoked** and they will be required to return to their home school immediately.



BUILDING PROCEDURES

ENTRANCE PROCEDURES

In an effort to maintain a safe and orderly environment, we have developed policies/procedures for students entering and exiting the building. This helps us to watch/control who picks up the children.

The 79th Street turn around is for **busses only****. The bus turn around is located in the front of the building and will relieve dangerous traffic congestion in the front of the building. A student drop-off & pick-up is available on the 80th St. side of the building.

Students should enter the building as follows:

Breakfast: **ALL** walkers who are **having breakfast** may enter through **either entrance** starting at 8:30 a.m.

Dismissal Procedures:

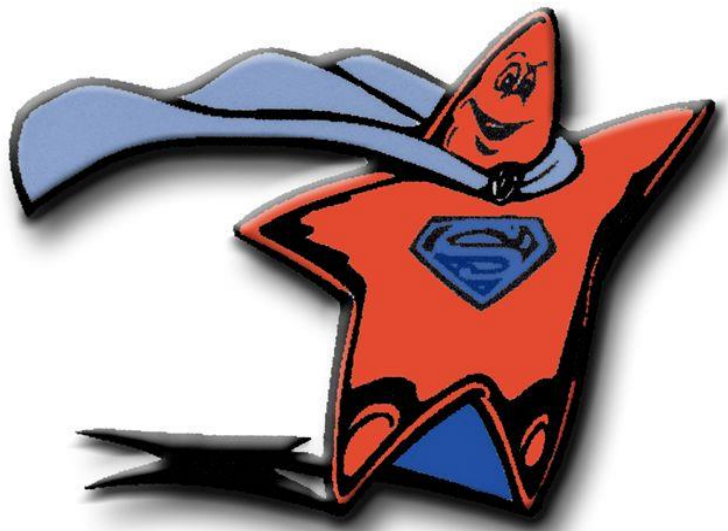
Bus Students: Dismissed at 2:55 p.m. by PA announcement as busses arrive.

Latchkey: Dismissed at 2:55 p.m. and immediately report to cafeteria. **Pre-K-2** – Will be walked by a Latchkey staff member

Teachers will escort their students to their designated exit door at 3:00 p.m.

***Parents must wait outside for all pick-ups.**

***The rear parking lot is **FOR STAFF ONLY**



Traffic Safety

Please review safe pedestrian rules with your child and insist that he or she cross only at the corners. If you are dropping off or picking up your child, please observe the **NO PARKING** regulations around the building. Also observe the handicap parking signs. Parking in the designated handicap section (unless you have a handicapped parking permit) is prohibited by law.



Drop offs can be done at the pull-off on 80th Street. **PLEASE - DO NOT DOUBLE PARK OR BLOCK CROSS WALKS!**

Drills

Each school is required to conduct 12 drills throughout the school year. There will be eight fire drills in the fall semester, and four in the spring semester. This will include “Lockdown” drills. These drills will not be announced. It is imperative that we have these practice drills in order to be prepared in the event of a real emergency! We ask that you discuss with your child the seriousness of the drills so that we will all be prepared for any emergency.



School Rules

Together the 79th Street Elementary School teachers and administrators have developed rules that are to be followed by all students in the building and on school grounds. They are as follows:

1. Obey requests and directions of all school staff the first time given
2. Take care of all personal and school property
3. Fights, weapons, stealing, and use of abusive language is not acceptable at school
4. Observe safety habits at all times

Discipline

All discipline policies are referenced in the Niagara Falls School District's "Regulations for Implementing Board Policies on School Discipline Codes in the Niagara Falls Public Schools". Anyone who does not have a copy of this handbook is welcome to stop by the school and pick up a copy.

Children must learn a number of laws (rules), procedures, and routines in order to become successful members of society. Our goal is to develop self-disciplined students. Students, parents and all school personnel must work together to obtain this goal.

Teachers will be working with students to develop class rules, procedures and routines during the first week practiced throughout the school year. Students who experience difficulty following these rules, etc. are given additional assistance in the development of self-discipline.

Additional assistance may include:

1. Discussion with student concerning rules, routines, and expectations for success.
2. Parent contact and/or conference.
3. Loss of some privileges during school time.
4. Short-term removal from classroom.
5. Referral to building administrator or STAR team for additional assistance and follow-up parent conference.
6. Chronic and/or serious problems may result in suspension from school.

SUSPENSION: Students may be suspended from school for the following reasons:

1. **If they are insubordinate (disobey school rules and/or reasonable requests of school personnel).**
2. **If they are disorderly, or if their conduct otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.**
3. **If their physical or mental condition endangers the health, safety or morals of themselves or other minors.**

STUDENT APPEARANCE CODE OF THE NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Niagara Falls School Community believes that students' appearance should at all times be neat, clean, and appropriate for school and school functions. The students' individual dress and appearance is primarily the responsibility of the student and his/her parents. The students' appearance should be clean and neat, and should not be a distraction to other members of the school community, nor a safety or health risk to the student or others.

The following minimal standards are enforced:

1. Headgear should not be worn in the building, except for a religious or medical exemption.
2. **Footwear must be worn at all times. Hazardous footwear (flip-flops, slip-ons/slides, shoes with heels, backless or open-toed shoes) will not be allowed. NO HEELIES** will be allowed.
3. All underwear must be completely covered with outer clothing, and all apparel should be fastened appropriately and worn as designed.
4. Above the waist apparel must cover all of one's person except the arms and a modest opening at the neck, and may not be of transparent materials. Blouses, shirts and sweaters are to cover shoulders, back, chest and stomach.
5. Extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, halter-tops, spaghetti straps and plunging necklines are not appropriate.
6. Sleeveless team jerseys cannot be worn, except over a t-shirt with sleeves.
7. **All fashions should be no more than three inches above the top of the knee when the student is in a standing position.**
8. If a student chooses to wear layered fashions, each and all layers should comply with the student appearance code.
9. All articles which advertise, display, or represent items depicting such themes as alcoholic beverages, tobacco, items with abusive, suggestive, controversial, or gang-related themes are prohibited.
10. All articles that carry messages that are suggestive, vulgar, obscene, libelous or denigrate others on account of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or disability are prohibited.
11. Appropriate Physical Education clothing, i.e. gym shorts, may be worn in Physical Education Classes only.
12. During the school day, all coats, hats, jackets, scarves, backpacks, gym bags, walkmans, radios, cellular telephones, beepers, and other electronic equipment of any kind are to be kept in lockers. (Exception: gym bags may be carried to and from gym class.)
13. Any other mode of dress or personal appearance not covered by the above which is dangerous, disruptive, distracting and/or disturbing to the progress of the educational program or activity is prohibited.

Students who violate the Student Appearance Code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item. Students who are unable to do so shall be retained for the remainder of the day or until a parent or designee brings an acceptable change of clothing to the school.

Students who refuse to comply with the Student Appearance Code shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the Student Appearance Code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out-of-school suspension.

STAR Team

Mrs. Sheila Smith, Principal
Ms. Chelsea Schelter, School Psychologist
Mrs. Amy Milleville, Guidance Counselor
Ms. Ariana Sneed, Pupil Service Assistant

The 79th Street School STAR Team consists of a Building Administrator, a School Psychologist, the Guidance Counselor, and the Pupil Service Assistant. Other assisting team members include consultant teachers, the school nurse, speech teachers, occupational and physical therapists, and classroom teachers as needed. The Team meets bi-weekly to discuss students experiencing academic and/or behavioral problems. Team intervention may include academic screening, psychological testing, counseling or referral to outside agencies. Conferences with the student's parents and teachers are held to discuss test results and to develop strategies to improve the child's academic performance.

A student who requires a more structured classroom setting or has severe speech problems may be referred to the Committee on Special Education. Committee meetings are held at the school with a chairperson, team members, the student's parent(s), a classroom teacher and a special education teacher.

The STAR Team also provides age-appropriate classroom guidance activities for 79th Street Elementary School students. Topics include self-esteem, development of positive social skills, problem-solving techniques, time management, study skills, and anger management.

The STAR Team encourages parent involvement and cooperation. Please call one of the individuals listed above if you have concerns or need assistance.



79th Street Elementary School Programs

Consultant Teacher Model

The Consultant Teacher Model is a special education service in which students are identified by the Committee on Special Education and then included in the regular classroom for all subjects with the direct/indirect support from a consultant teacher. In addition, a teaching assistant is available for part of each day to carry out the curriculum and test modifications planned by the consultant teacher and classroom teacher. Students in this model are taught the regular curriculum in order to develop appropriate skills and to meet the standards at their level, while working toward the goals and objectives of their Individual Education Plan.

Instrumental Music Program

The Niagara Falls City School District offers instrumental music instruction in grades four through twelve. Based upon the goals of the District's instrumental music program, the following opportunities are available for elementary students:

Students in grades four, five, and six are eligible to participate in the program based on student interest, classroom and music teacher recommendations, and instrument availability. Instruction is offered on the following musical instruments: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone horn, tuba, and percussion. Detailed information will be made available by our instrumental music instructor, Mr. Michael Quinn.

Breakfast/Lunch Program

Breakfast and lunch will continue to be offered at no charge. Parents/guardians, however, **will be required** to fill out a lunch form at the beginning of the year and return it to school.



Levels of Parent Participation

Parent/Child

- * Reads with their children and encourages natural reading and writing activities in the home.
- * Communicates regularly with their children's teachers.
- * Talks to their children about what they are learning and doing in school.
- * Encourages their children to do quality work.

Classroom Volunteers

- * Volunteers in their children's classrooms working with small groups of children.
- * Helps to prepare for class activities on school time or on your own schedule.
- * Shares your talents.
- * Supports fundraising activities.

School Level

- * Participates on the school committees.
- * Communicates with parents.
- * Gathers input and feedback.
- * Helps to plan school-wide activities and events.
- * Helps to coordinate activities between grade level.

District Level

- * Participates on the District Parent Committee to represent our school.
- * Communicates with the School Parent Committee.



Physical Education Policy

The physical education policy for the 79th Street Elementary School is as follows:

New York State law mandates that ALL students must participate in a physical education program. Therefore, all students are required to take gym and/or swim classes.

Kindergarten through sixth grade and primary Special Education receive gym twice a week

For the comfort and safety of your child, please be sure he/she wears appropriate clothing and sneakers to physical education class. Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 take showers after gym classes.

For swim instruction, **ALL** students shall wear an appropriate bathing suit, bring a towel and personal grooming items. Appropriate responsible behavior is expected during locker room changing times.

The Niagara Falls School District offers a skills progression button program. The requirements for each level will be explained to students.

GYM -

Blue - Beginner Level

Silver - Intermediate Level

Gold - Advanced Level

POOL -

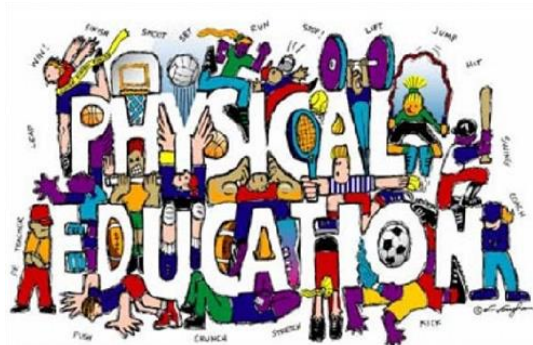
Red - Beginner Level

Yellow - Intermediate Level

Green - Advanced Level

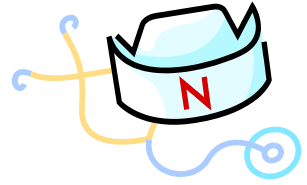
***Please do not allow your child to wear earrings, watches, bracelets, etc. to school on gym/swim days as there is not a secure place to lock them in the gym area. We cannot be responsible for lost items.

Excuses: If a child is to be excused from a swim or gym class due to minor illness or injury, please send a note stating date, reason and parent/ guardian signature, to the school nurse's office the morning he/she is to be excused. A maximum of two parental requests in succession is acceptable. Any lengthy illness or injury should be accompanied by a physician's note.



Health Services

School Nurse – Mrs. Andrea Greig, RN
Clinic Phone – 278-7907



A registered nurse is assigned to the 79th Street Elementary School full-time. When registering a new student, parents will fill out a Health Information Sheet and give it to the nurse. These records show the results of physical examinations and check of vision, hearing, etc. If a student has a special condition (allergies, chronic disorders such as diabetes, epilepsy, etc.), it should be recorded on the health form.

Medical Services Provided

1. First aid for accidents and illness occurring in school.
2. Physical examinations for students are conducted yearly and include vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings. (If a student receives a notification in the mail of a defect after having been examined, please ask the doctor or dentist to complete the lower portion of the form and return it to the clinic.)
3. Cumulative health records are maintained for each student.
4. Dispensing medications upon the prescription and recommendation of your doctor.
5. Routine screening for lice infestation.
6. Discussion with parents regarding the treatment for lice.

Medication Protocol

If a student must take any medication during the day, the following should be observed:

1. A written notice from a parent/guardian must be submitted for medication to be taken in school

AND

2. A written notice from your doctor must be submitted stating the name of the medication, dosage and time to be given. All medication must be in the pharmacy package. It will be kept in the clinic until given by the school nurse at the proper time.
3. **All medication must be brought to school by a parent/guardian.** Students are **NOT** permitted to have medication in their possession unless documented by their physician.

Notice should be given to the clinic in the event of contagious diseases (Covid 19, chicken pox, mumps measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever, strep throat, etc.)

Immunizations

All students must be immunized according to New York Public Health Law.

- Within 14 days of the first day of school or day care – children must receive the first age-appropriate dose in each immunization series to attend school or have an appointment card from their physician.

ANY STUDENT NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH NEW YORK STATE IMMUNIZATION GUIDELINES WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL.

Please contact the Health Office at 278-7907 if you have any further questions regarding immunizations.



Library Media Center

The school's Library Media Center is equipped with research materials, both print and electronic, for children of all ages. Classroom instruction is supported by a wide range of multicultural materials. Children are encouraged to visit the media center whenever they are in need of information or are looking for books for recreational reading. Books may be signed out for one week and may be renewed for a following week.

All children may sign out books. Books may be signed out for one week and may be renewed the following week. If your child does not return books on time or loses/damages a library book, she/he will be asked to keep the library book in school. Lost or damaged library materials must be paid for before your child will be allowed to sign out materials again. Kindergarten and first graders may sign out one book at a time, second and third graders may sign out two, and fourth and fifth graders may sign out three.

If your child loses or damages a book, a note will be sent home with the replacement cost. Arrangements may be made to pay in installments. Please help your child take good care of library materials and return them on time.

Research has proven that children who are read to at home every day and who have books and magazines available in their homes are more successful learners. Please read to your children every day, and have them read to you.

Technology

The Niagara Falls City School District prides itself on the technology available to the students, parents, and staff of our District. As you are probably aware, the Niagara Falls City School District has a website which may be accessed at www.nfschools.net. This site provides valuable information to students, parents and staff members regarding what is happening in the District.

Throughout the years that your child is a student of the School District, his/her principals or teachers may wish to post pictures of your child and/or work completed by your child on the website so as to be able to take advantage of the technology and share them with you and the rest of the school community. Additionally, your child's picture and/or work may be shared with you and the community through other media outlets such as cable television, local newspapers and the District's newsletter, "**Our Schools.**"

To grant the School District permission to use your child's likeness and/or work in any compilations on the School District's website and in the other forms of media mentioned in this letter during the years he/she is a student of the District, you must fill-in and sign a Parent/Guardian Permission Form and return it to your child's principal. If in the future you wish to reverse this permission, you may do so in writing. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's principal.

Clubs and Extra-Curricular Activities

Announcements regarding extra-curricular activities will be made in our monthly newsletters. Please watch for starting dates and times.

EVACUATION PLAN

In the event that 79th Street School encounters an emergency situation requiring evacuation of the students, we will clear the building using the same routes, exits, and disciplinary measures used in a Fire Drill. Class rosters and emergency information will be with the teachers. In inclement weather, students will get their coats, boots, hats, etc. before exiting school.

The emergency relocation site that the staff and students will go to is:

Riverside Presbyterian Church
815-84th Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14304



Niagara Falls Board of Education

2021 – 2022

The Niagara Falls Board of Education meets the fourth Thursday of each month (with the exceptions as publicized) with presentations at 5:30 p.m. and voting sessions at 7:00 p.m. The public is invited and welcomed at all meetings, which are held at Central Office, 630 – 66th Street.

BOARD MEMBERS

Russell Petrozzi, President

Anthony Paretto, Vice President

James Cancemi

Earl Bass

Robert Bilson

Clara Dunn

Paul Kudela

Nicholas Vilaro



Special District Programs

Focus on Families:

Focus on Families is a special school district program focusing on healthy living for students and their families. It encourages a lifestyle that promotes physical and emotional well being, and is located at the Community Education Center. The program can be reached at 286-0745.

After School Childcare

Various agencies offer childcare for students in Pre-K through Grade Six for both weekly and single day, before and after school needs. If you are a parent or guardian who needs support on Wednesdays, or any other day, please call one of the following for registration and sign-up information, fees, locations and space availability:

Niagara Falls Boys & Girls Club – 282-7181
Community Childcare Clearinghouse – 285-8572 or 284-2258

Community Services Directory

Northpoint Council (Alcoholism Council)	282-1228
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	873-5833
Boy Scouts of America	891-4073
Boys and Girls Club	282-7181
Child Abuse Hotline	1-800-342-3720
Community Mental Health Center	278-4541
Community Missions	285-3403
Department of Social Services	278-8400
Domestic Violence	433-6716 286-4570 285-6984
Drug/Suicide Hotline	285-3515
Family and Children's Services	285-6984
Girl Scouts of Niagara County	434-6212
Niagara County Health Department	439-7470 or 7430
-Immunizations	284-2134
Niagara Falls Recreation Department	286-4956
Niagara Falls Youth Bureau	286-4930
Poison Control	local 278-4511 1-800-222-1222
Runaway Hotline	local 285-7158
National	1-800-621-4000
Salvation Army	283-7697
YMCA	285-8491

Adopt-A-School

The Adopt-A-School program creates partnerships between schools and businesses or organizations. Each partnership is unique and is developed jointly by personnel from the school and its community partner. The adoption of a school can include a range of involvement, from a small classroom project, to projects encompassing the school's entire student body.

Adopt-A-School is about people. The major emphasis of the program is on human resources, *not donation of funds*. Educational experiences are enriched by interaction; the key is **personal involvement**.

Both large and small businesses or organizations can participate in the educational process and provide students in the Niagara Falls City School District knowledge and ideas not otherwise available and affordable. Adopt-A-School relationships are only limited by the resources of the adopting partners and the energy and imagination of the people involved. Adopting a school is a successful project because it creates a mutually beneficial relationship.

Partners

JA Brundage - The Drain Doctor Menchie's

Riverside Presbyterian Church Pizza Hut

Wendy's LaSalle Barber Shop

Denny's HANCI

Tropical Heating & Cooling

PRIMARY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (PEP) 2021-2022 NFCSD K-6 Response to Intervention

The following information may help you answer questions regarding the Primary Enhancement Program. Please contact Cathy Sullivan (64217) if you have further questions.

What exactly is the Primary Enhancement Program?

The Primary Enhancement Program is a program designed to support a child’s academic growth and development in the area of reading. This support is in addition to the core instruction provided by the classroom teacher.

What grade levels participate in the program?

The Primary Enhancement Program will support general education teachers in grades K – 6.

How are students selected for this program?

All students in grades K-6 will be assessed in the fall, winter and spring of the school year. The assessment that will be administered is the Achievement Improvement Monitoring System (AIMSweb). If a child falls at, or below the 24th percentile based on the programs’ national norms, he or she will be placed in an intervention group at the Tier 2 level.

What does AIMSweb assess?

The AIMSweb assessment provides teachers with early identification of reading deficiencies and leads to quick, targeted interventions that close the reading gap before they become greater. AIMSweb has the necessary components to assess all five domains of reading.

Kindergarten Fall	Kindergarten Winter	Kindergarten Spring
Letter Naming Fluency	Letter Naming Fluency	Letter Naming Fluency
	Letter Sound Fluency	Letter Sound Fluency
	Phonemic Segmentation Fluency	Phonemic Segmentation Fluency
	Nonsense Word Fluency	Nonsense Word Fluency

First Grade Fall	First Grade Winter	First Grade Spring
Letter Name Fluency	Phonemic Segmentation Fluency	Nonsense Word Fluency
Letter Sound Fluency	Nonsense Word Fluency	R-CBM (Words read correctly)
Phonemic Segmentation Fluency	R-CBM (words read correctly)	
Nonsense Word Fluency		

Second Grade Fall	Second Grade Winter	Second Grade Spring
R-CBM (Words Read Correctly)	R-CBM (Words Read Correctly)	R-CBM (Words Read Correctly)
Grades 3 – 6 Fall	Grades 3 – 6 Winter	Grades 3 – 6 Spring
R-CBM (Words Read Correctly)	R-CBM (Words Read Correctly)	R-CBM (Words Read Correctly)

Who facilitates these activities/assessments?

A PEP interventionist will administer the Universal Screening Assessment (AIMSweb Plus). The classroom teacher will then provide additional reading instruction to all identified students. The PEP Interventionist will support the classroom teacher during the Intervention Block (K-4) by working with the on or above grade level children. He or she has been provided with the necessary training to support the instruction of the classroom teacher.

When do these activities take place?

Interventions must be in addition to the core instruction. All elementary schools are in the process of implementing Intervention Blocks. The Intervention Block gives the teacher, and the interventionists (K-4), a 30 minute block of time to address the needs of all learners. ALL grades K-6 will have a 30-minute intervention block daily.

Does being involved in this program mean the child will be retained in the same grade next year?

No, actually just the opposite, the goal of the program is to provide children with the support they need early in their school career so that they will not only be successful, but confident learners.

Will students be involved in the program all year long?

Length of time in the program will depend upon the progress of each individual student. The goal of the program is to offer students the support they need early, so that they can participate in regular classroom lessons and activities without additional intervention instruction.

What materials are used for this program?

In grades K-4 classroom teachers will use the intervention component of the District’s reading program, *Journeys*. This resource provides additional instruction that is directly aligned to the classroom instruction. Other resources include, the Wilson Language *Foundations* program in grades K-2, *Foundations* provides a systematic phonics and word study structure. Skills are taught explicitly, sequentially, and systematically.

**Failure Free Reading* is the District’s newest addition to intervention menu. *Failure Free Reading* provides students with non-phonics based word attack skills. This approach has proven to be successful with students who have experienced difficulty with standard phonics instruction.

Grade 5 and 6 will have 3 days of ELA and 2 days of Math intervention. All 5th grades will use KidBiz, and all 6th grades will use TeenBiz for ELA and teacher resources for Math.