

PEQUENAKONCK ELEMENTARY

NORTH SALEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mary K. Johnson
Principal

Stephanie Bell, Ed.D.
Assistant Principal

August 2019

Dear PQ Families:

We hope you are all continuing to enjoy this beautiful weather along with fun-filled activities. While summer provides a less hectic pace at PQ, we are very busy preparing for the new school year.

Once again this year, you will access your child's teacher assignment on the Parent Portal in eSchool. You will be able to view your child's teacher placement the evening of Friday, August 16th. **Earlier this summer, we asked that you update your contact information in the Parent Portal. If you have not done this yet, you will be required to do this before you access your child's teacher assignment. Feel free to do this prior to August 16th.** Below is a reminder of what you need to do in order to access the Parent Portal:

1. If you accessed your child's information in eSchool last year, you do not need to do anything. You log-in as you normally would to see information about your PQ student.
2. For those of you who did not set up an account last year or are NEW to PQ, you will need to create an account. To do this, you will need your child's student ID number. **That number is enclosed in this packet if you are a kindergarten parent or new to the school.** To create your account, go to the PQ homepage. There is a link to Parent Log-in Resources at the top of the page. The Parent Portal Tutorial is a link on the left side of that page. I suggest you print the tutorial and then click on the Parent Portal link and follow the directions. We encourage you to do this in advance of August 16th. Please call the office if we can help you.

We continue to watch our **kindergarten enrollment** number. Because we are very close to meeting the threshold for a fourth section of kindergarten, we may hold kindergarten teacher assignments for a bit longer so that we do not have to change the original placements at the last minute. While this may be a little inconvenient, I think we would all agree that receiving this information once would be less confusing. We appreciate your understanding and patience. We will keep you updated on this situation through Tuesday Newsday.

If we add an additional kindergarten, **first grade placements** will also be impacted. Mrs. Ulrich is currently a first grade teacher. If we add a kindergarten, Mrs. Ulrich will return to kindergarten and Mrs. Sharon deLuca will be the first grade teacher. We will notify you directly if this happens but thought it best to share this information with you in advance.

September is full of many events for students and parents. We would like to highlight some of those so you can get them on your calendar!

PQ Family Open House will be held on Wednesday, September 4th from 3-5 pm. Your children will be able to meet their teachers and new classmates. If you ordered school supplies through the PTO, you can collect them in the cafeteria during Open House. If you purchased other school supplies, you are welcome to bring them with you to the Open House. We look forward to welcoming you all to the new school year.

Curriculum Nights are important evenings for parents to hear more about the year ahead for their children. The instructional day, curriculum information, expectations and special activities are shared. It is also an opportunity to meet the parents of the children in your child's class. **These are parent evenings.** However, the Girl Scouts will be providing babysitting. Please watch the Tuesday Newsday for more information.

Wednesday, September 11th	Thursday, September 12th	Thursday, September 19th
<p style="text-align: center;">Kindergarten</p> 6:30 - Welcome/What's New at PQ 6:45 - Classroom	<p style="text-align: center;">Grade 2</p> 6:30 - Welcome/What's New at PQ 6:45 - Classroom	<p style="text-align: center;">Grade 4</p> 6:00 - Band Information Meeting 6:30 - Welcome/What's New at PQ 6:45 - Classroom
<p style="text-align: center;">Grade 1</p> 7:30 - Welcome/What's New at PQ 7:45 - Classroom	<p style="text-align: center;">Grade 3</p> 7:30 - Welcome/What's New at PQ 7:45 - Classroom	<p style="text-align: center;">Grade 5</p> 7:30 - Welcome/What's New at PQ 7:45 - Classroom

Tuesday Newsday began on August 6th. We strongly encourage all parents to review Tuesday Newsday each week as it has important up-to-date information. If you do not receive Tuesday Newsday, please make sure we have your current email addresses through the Parent Portal. You can also contact Jean Jerussi (x3056) to assist you. Tuesday Newsday can also be viewed from the District homepage.

With many weeks of summer left, we hope you will continue to encourage your children to read! Be sure to have your child complete the summer reading bingo board and bring it to his/her teacher during the first few days of school. Here is the link for those forms: <https://sites.google.com/a/northsalem schools.org/pqlibrary/summer-reading-2017>

Enclosed with this letter, you will find:

- **REVISED** North Salem Emergency Guide for Parents and Reunification Pamphlet
- Information regarding payment service for the school lunch program
- Application for free and reduced lunch program
- A message from PQ PTO
- A message from the North Salem Foundation for Learning

School begins on Thursday, September 5th! We're looking forward to an exciting year.

Kindly,

Mary K. Johnson
Principal



Stephanie Bell, Ed.D.
Asst. Principal

Over the past year, the North Salem Central School District created a new website as well as a District app in an effort to streamline communication. In this world of technology and apps, we know how complicated it can be to use a number of different apps to stay connected to different resources in the school district. Below is a table of those resources to help you. All of these resources are available on the district website as well as on the district app.

District Website: www.northsalemsschools.org

District App Information: <https://www.northsalemsschools.org/domain/1357>

<p><u>Parent Portal-REQUIRED</u></p>	<p>This provides parents access to their child's teacher in August as well as report cards in January and June. Parents can update phone numbers and email addresses as well throughout the school year. .</p>	<p>Click here to link to Parent Portal Click here to link to Parent Portal Tutorial</p>
<p><u>Superintendent's News Service - IMPORTANT</u></p>	<p>E-mail notification for emergency situations, such as a delayed opening or closing, is sent as soon as possible after a decision is reached.</p>	<p>Click here to sign up for the Superintendent's News Service</p>
<p><u>Family ID - REQUIRED- New Information</u></p>	<p>A service to help parents sign-off annually on required district policies like attendance, the Code of Conduct, permission for photos and computer acceptable use. <u>New this year</u> - We will be piloting Family ID for field trip permission slips in conjunction with MySchoolBucks where you can pay for field trips. You will learn more about this in the fall.</p>	<p>Click here to link to Family ID Click here to link to Family ID Directions</p>
<p><u>School Dismissal Manager - REQUIRED</u></p>	<p>This is a REQUIRED service for school safety. This app lets you notify the school about your child's dismissal plan each day as well as the way to report absences and late arrivals. All families will receive an email in late August to get started using this service for the 19-20 school year.</p>	<p>Click here to link to School Dismissal Manager</p>
<p><u>PTC Wizard - Required to sign up for conferences</u></p>	<p>A service to sign up for parent/teacher conferences in November and April.</p>	<p>Click here to link to PTC Wizard Click here for PTC Wizard Directions</p>
<p><u>My SchoolBucks - New Information</u></p>	<p>A service for paying for breakfast, lunch, milk or a snack. Please be sure to look at setting up alerts to remind you when your account gets low. In addition, there are controls to help you manage what you would like your child to purchase or not purchase. You need your child's ID number for this service as well. We</p>	<p>Click here to link to My SchoolBucks</p>

	will be piloting using My SchoolBucks as a way to pay for field trips in conjunction with Family ID and field trip permissions. You will learn more about this during the year.	
<u>Class Dojo</u>	Used by teachers to update parents on classroom information. Link can be found on the website and app.	Link sent by the classroom teacher.
<u>Membership Toolkit- PTO Information NEW</u>	PTO activities and services as well as the School Directory for PTO Members	Click here to link to Membership Toolkit