



MILLSIDE MAGAZINE

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Welcome Back

A Message from the Principal:

Welcome to a new school year. It's always an exciting time for children to meet their teachers, form new relationships and learn new skills. On behalf of the entire staff of Millside Elementary, I'd like to welcome all the new families to our school and extend a warm welcome back to those who have attended Algonac Community Schools in the past.

This year we are very fortunate to welcome new staff to Millside Elementary.



Please stop by and say "hello" to Mary Gillis in Kindergarten, Tiffany Dawson in First Grade and Angela Berube in the Great Start Readiness Program. We have been working diligently on our school improvement process and are very excited for the upcoming school year!

Enclosed in this mailing is your child's teacher assignment, classroom newsletter as well as beginning of the year school information. Your student's transportation information has been scheduled by the address in this mailing. If you have bussing concerns, please call 810-794-3555 ext. 1803.

I encourage you to join us whenever possible. Providing time for your child here at school and at home conveys the message that their education is important and we are all in this together. Investing the time now truly makes for a better tomorrow.

- Melissa Hanners

Open House



Our open house has been scheduled for **Wednesday, August 29.**

It will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

This is the perfect time to meet your child's teacher(s), visit the classrooms and tour the building. We are looking forward to seeing everyone!

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

PTO is the parent/teacher organization that actively supports Algonac Community Schools throughout the year with its fundraising and volunteer support for many special activities in the school. School assemblies and field trips are supported by this group. Our first PTO meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 5 at 6:00 p.m.**

Hope to see everyone there!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **September 4**-First Day of School
- **September 5**- First Parent Teacher meeting (PTO) at 6:00 pm in the Algonquin library
- **September 6**- Picture Day
- **September 28**- Half Day-Dismissal at 12:10pm

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is important for the success of a child. Unnecessary absences make it hard for a child to achieve academic progress. Twelve absences a year, by truancy standards, is considered excessive.

Tardies not only affect the child involved, but the entire classroom. We ask, therefore, that you help keep interruptions to a minimum by having your child arrive at school at 8:30 a.m. each morning. Remember: Three tardies equals an absence.

Your child's attitude toward school is determined by yours. If you treat attendance lightly, so will your child.

To report an absence, please call 810-794-8880 prior to 8:00 AM. Enter "5" to get the absence voice mailbox. Provide the following information: Your name, the reason for the absence, the child's name, grade and teacher.



SCHOOL HOURS

School begins at **8:35 a.m.**
School dismisses at **3:22 p.m.**

Please do not bring your child to school earlier than 8:25 a.m., unless you have made arrangements with Latchkey.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Registration Information Forms will be distributed on the first day of school. Please help us by providing as much information about your child as possible and return the next day:

- **Include** at least **two local numbers** for us to call in case of an emergency. These can include home phones, cell phones, neighbors or relatives.
- **Note** any medical conditions/treatments, allergies, and medications your child currently takes.
- **Sign** the form. Please remember to sign at the Permission Box and at the bottom of the Registration Form.



For the safety of our students:

- Changes to a student's transportation arrangements **MUST BE IN WRITING.** (Phone calls will not be accepted.) Include the child's name, destination address, bus route number and parent's signature. The child will then be issued a Bus Pass when capacity allows.
- No child will be removed from a bus unless a note from the office is issued or under the supervision of the principal.
- Car riders will meet their parents in front of Millside or Algonquin in the loop. (Please see last page for car rider procedures) Parents need to stay in their cars and students will be brought out and loaded into the vehicles. Please wait outside until children are dismissed.
- Bike riders are *strongly* urged to wear their helmets.
- All visitors **MUST** check in with the office upon entering the building.



Specials

All students are scheduled to have the following specials year round:

Art: K-1 Music: K-1

Physical Education: K-1

STEM:(science, technology, engineering and math) K-1

Students are required, by the State of Michigan, to wear tennis shoes to participate in Physical Education.



MEDICATION & THE SCHOOL DAY



The number of medications dispensed to students increases each year. Some are extremely important and others are for illnesses, such as, cold or flu.

We hope that you understand our desire to restrict dispensing medications to those that **must** be taken during the school day.

Before requesting that the school dispense medication, we ask you to follow the district's policy:

1. All medication, including over-the-counter (Tylenol, etc.) must be accompanied by the school **required** medication form.
2. New forms are required to be filled out at the beginning of each school year and are available in the office.
3. **All medication must be delivered to the school office by an adult.** Under no circumstance can medication be brought on the bus.
4. Medication, including over-the-counter, must be kept in the school office.

BUS INFORMATION

Buses have been scheduled using the address on this mailing.

If your child is not going to be at this address, please notify transportation at 794-3555 immediately.

The Transportation Department needs enough time to make the necessary changes. No deviation from the schedule will be accepted the first two weeks of school.



Breakfast and lunch will be served on the first day of school. Parents are encouraged to send a personal check for deposit into the student's lunch account (made payable to *Algonac Food service.*) Please note there will be a \$25 service fee for any returned checks. Pay Schools is also available online to deposit funds into your student's lunch account. Money must be deposited in the account prior to making any purchases.

Students eligible for free or reduced benefits during the 2017-18 school year will be eligible for the first thirty (30) days of school. **New applications for the 2018-19 school year must be completed and returned as soon as possible.**

Your child's school meals and balance information will be available for your re-

view within the Skyward Information system. Notices of meal balance will be sent home on a regular basis

If you have any questions, please call Steve Bellante of Chartwells Food Service at 794-8875.

2018-19 Student Lunch Prices

Student Breakfast	\$1.50
Reduced Breakfast	\$.30
Elementary Student Lunch	\$2.50
Reduced Lunch	\$.40
Milk	\$.60

Student/Parent Handbook

Handbooks are available on the school website. Parents can also request a paper copy be sent home at any time. Please read over the information with your child. Students will also receive a code of conduct booklet in class the first day. If you need additional information, please contact the school.

2018-2019 School Calendar

- September 4** First day for students
- October 10-12** Parent Teacher Conferences
- November 6** No School
- November 21-23** Thanksgiving Break
- December 24- January 4** Christmas Break
- January 7** Classes resume
- February 15-18** Mid-Winter Break
- March 25-29** Spring Break
- April 1** Classes Resume
- April 19-22** Easter Break
- May 27** Memorial Day
- June 14** Last day for students and staff (a.m. only)



Elementary Half Days 2018-2019

September 28	January 24
October 10	January 25
October 11	March 1
October 12	April 5
October 31	***Dismissal 12:10pm



Dismissal Procedures

At Millside Elementary the safety of our students is the utmost importance at all times. In order to have the students exit the building in a safe manner the following procedures will be in place.

**** Dismissal of K-1 car riders only** will be in the front loop of Millside Elementary. Parents should pull up and form a line closest to the building. Please do not park and leave your car unattended. All car riders will be brought out by staff members and loaded into cars. The line must keep moving so the dismissal will be as efficient as possible. If you need to speak with a teacher or enter the building, please park in the side lot and enter the building.

**** Dismissal of K-1 car riders who have siblings at Algonquin Elementary** will be escorted by staff members over to Algonquin to join their siblings. Both students will be picked up directly in front of Algonquin in the loop. (Shared Car Rider)

**** All buses will line up in the lot between Millside and Algonquin.** Staff members will walk students directly to their buses. *Cars may not enter this area during arrival or dismissal.*

We would like to thank everyone in advance for your patience as we start the new school year. Student safety is our first priority and thank you for your patience.