

WELCOME BACK! I hope you all had a wonderful summer! Harper staff are SO excited to see OUR students! We are beginning the year with approximately 410 students!

- Teacher names were emailed on Monday, August 21st. They go out in batches, so everyone did not receive their email at the same time. If you have not received an email, please call Harper's office (ext. 6200) and they can assist you.
- Don't forget to go to Harper's homepage to view/print ALL of the VERY important back-to-school information!! It is located under "parents" and then "back to school". <http://harper.wilmette39.org/>
- Make sure to complete the Friday 2:15 dismissal form IF your 1st-4th grade child will be staying on Fridays from 2:15-3:15. Please know that this form is due BY 8/31 for planning purposes. [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfN-KtL0eA2KDUKE4jkpkWTwTmh5hYxmpTJJ\\_OskdqotN8vLg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfN-KtL0eA2KDUKE4jkpkWTwTmh5hYxmpTJJ_OskdqotN8vLg/viewform)
- Please read the District 39 Handbook and Harper Handbook addendum! Make note of student discipline guidelines. <http://www.wilmette39.org/cms/one.aspx?portalid=360930&pageid=898951>
- Go through the Student Handbook with your child. <http://harper.wilmette39.org/cms/one.aspx?portalid=361219&pageid=2857233>
- Our **NEW** school hours are:  
1st-4th 8:35-3:15 Monday-Thursday and 8:35-2:15 Friday  
Kindergarten AM 8:35-11:10, PM 12:40-3:15
- Before school supervision will begin at 8:20 and the first bell is at 8:30. Also, please refer to Harper's and D39's calendar for important dates/holidays.
- September 5th is an early release day of school (8:35-11:55) for 1st-4th graders; parents may walk their child to class and then proceed to the cafeteria for coffee and multiple PTO sign-ups! Kindergarten students have the following schedule:  
September 5th: Kindergarten students attend with a parent/adult:

8:40 - 9:25 AM	Morning kindergarten students with the last names A-K
10:25 -1:10 AM	Morning kindergarten students with the last names L-Z
1:00 - 1:45 PM	Afternoon kindergarten students with the last names A-K
2:15 - 3:00 PM	Afternoon kindergarten students with the last names L-Z

**September 6th is a regular attendance day for ALL grades.**

- New lunch times: 1st/3rd 11:15-11:40 (lunch), 11:40-12:05 (recess); 2nd/4th 11:15-11:40 (recess), 11:40-12:05 (lunch)
- Curriculum Nights: 9/12 Kindergarten AM 6:30-7:15, PM 7:15-8:00  
9/13 Third Grade 7:15-8:00, Fourth Grade 6:30-7:15  
9/19 First Grade 7:15-8:00, Second Grade 6:30-7:15

**\*NEW/CHANGING STAFF:**

- Eileen Molitor will be leaving Harper in mid-September to help care for aging parents. I know how much everyone will miss her smiling face in the front office.
- Elena Ryan will be our new assistant principal! Elena will be at Harper on Tuesdays, Thursdays and every other Friday.
- Lauren Levinson will be our part-time AM kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Levine will be at Romona full-time.
- Susana Beien will be our new 2nd grade teacher. Mrs. Divis relocated to California.
- Monica Brown will be our second full-time Spanish teacher.
- Frank Theodorakakis (Mr. T) will be our second full-time PE teacher.
- Natalie Haase will be our shared ELL (English Language Learner) teacher.
- Kelly Mack will be our fourth Learning Behavior Specialist.
- Nicole Shamis will be our new Occupational Therapist. Mrs. Frandsen will be full-time at Central.
- Laura Resis will be a new special education paraprofessional.
- We are hiring a new, full-time kindergarten paraprofessional. Holly Zimmerman obtained a teaching position.
- The following paras will continue to be at Harper: Joanna Topolinski (kindergarten and special ed.), Polly Breen (reading), Lynn Mestanas (learning

commons), Maggie Donner (building), Caroline Cerrone (special ed.), John Jacobs (special ed.) and Donna Eckert (special ed.).

- Math packets and reading logs are located on the Harper homepage under the heading “students” “summer learning”. All 1st-4th grade students who completed them will sign their name on large math/reading signs in the cafeteria.
- Summer reading picture-Don't forget to take and print/send in a picture of your child reading in their favorite summer location! We will hang the pictures in the school!
- During the first week of school we will have multiple safety drills. They are required, routine and very important so students understand the procedures.
- Again this year, only fruits and veggies will be allowed for snacks. This best practice truly protects the many students with food allergies and promotes healthy eating.
- Before returning to school, please check your child for head lice. The late summer is a common time for this nuisance to occur. We appreciate your assistance.