Welcome Back! What an amazingly warm summer we have been enjoying. The summer is a great opportunity to relax, rejuvenate, and prepare for a great school year and that’s what we have been doing. We can’t wait to see everyone. We continue with our mantra of 180 days and 180 chances to inspire because it speaks to the excitement and opportunity that we have each year with the children. The school goal for teachers will be around increasing opportunities for student curiosity and inquiry in and out of the classroom. I encourage students to get involved in leadership and other clubs throughout the year. Likewise, I invite all parents to get involved with the many volunteering opportunities that are available through the school and the PTA this year.

We wanted to update you on a few staff changes. Please welcome:
- Ali Kessler, 5th Grade Teacher
- Jacqui Kiley, 2nd Grade Teacher
- Ashley Ruocco, Special Education Teacher
- Julie Riley, Speech Pathologist
- Amy Davy, Para Educator
- Stacy Gonyea, Kindergarten Instructional Assistant

Some reminders: Drop-off in the morning starts after 8:15a.m. Please note that there is no supervision prior to 8:15a.m. A staff member will be on duty to signal it is safe for students to be dropped off and enter the building. We then start with morning routines at 8:45a.m. We ask that you please make sure your student arrives to school within this window of time each day to ensure their successful transition into the classroom.

Drop-off in the morning is in the front parking lot (visitor parking). Parent pick-up in the afternoon will be in the parking lot with the basketball courts (playground side). Please park your car in a parking space. Our staff members will bring the students out the gym doors by grade level. Please check out my YouTube videos (same videos as last year’s) on the Barron website for further details regarding these procedures.

At Barron School security is paramount to ensure the safe care and keeping of students. I would like to take a moment to remind you of a few important procedures: During school hours, all doors are locked, so you will need to show proper identification to be granted permission to be buzzed in through the front office. In order to expedite this process, it is exceedingly helpful if you keep the office updated regarding changes to your child’s daily routine. The Student-Parent Handbook will be on the website for reference should you require more detailed information on these and other procedures.

We would like you to be aware that a substantial amount of information will be coming home during the first few days of school. Additionally, bus routes will be posted on the Salem School District Website – www.sau57.org, school lunch will be available for purchase for $2.30 ($.55 for milk if your child has a bag lunch) and breakfast will be offered for $1.20 each day. It is also recommended that students bring in a healthy snack each day. We also recommend that parents/guardians label your child’s lunchbox, as well as all of his/her belongings, with their first and last name.
Relative to parent/guardian communication, we will send notices and information home electronically through Infinite Campus & the Salem School District App. If you do not have access to the internet, please let your child’s teacher know so we can send home hard copies of all notices.

Our Back to School Gathering is scheduled for August 27th from 5:00-6:30 p.m. (5:00-6:00p.m. if it is raining). Students will go to the cafeteria to meet their teacher and have a treat provided by the PTA. Students can then go outside and enjoy family and friends. If there is inclement weather, we will put the tarp down in the gym and have that be the gathering site. This will be the first day back for teachers, so their classrooms will not be prepared for visits. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Class Assignments:
Class assignments will be distributed electronically. Parents will participate in a small scavenger hunt to find the class assignments. The purpose of this scavenger hunt is to encourage you to utilize the District’s social media tools, which are very important for school-to-home communication. We will send out more information later this week on what you will need to do and when the link will be live.

Kindergarten and Grade 1 Parents Only – First Day of School Option
Predicting students’ significant excitement for the first day of school, I invite you to accompany your child to Barron School on the first day of classes (August 30th). If you plan to be here, please arrive on the playground between 8:30-8:45a.m. Older students will enter the building at 8:45a.m. Our staff will be available to demonstrate the morning routines on the playground and at 9:00a.m. parents and students will be directed to each child’s classroom where they will be greeted by their teacher. All parents will be dismissed from the classrooms by 9:10 a.m., so that the children and teachers can begin their day. If you are unable to attend, and your child will arrive by bus, we will welcome and direct him/her to the playground and then to their classroom, as we will on each day thereafter.

After the first day, students should arrive between 8:15 – 8:45a.m. For safety purposes, only students and staff will be allowed on the playground after the 1st day. At 8:45a.m. each day, students will enter the building to begin their day.


Mark Your Calendar:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 27th</td>
<td>Back to School Gathering 5:00-6:30p.m. (5:00-6:00 if raining)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 30th</td>
<td>1st Day of School</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 3rd</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday-No School</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 13th</td>
<td>PTA Meeting 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12th</td>
<td>Open House</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 20th</td>
<td>Picture Day</td>
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<td>October 5th</td>
<td>Grandparents Day</td>
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We are looking forward to another great year! Anna