

# Parkside Penguin Press

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022



Dear Parkside Families,

News from the Principal,  
Mrs. Ellis

Welcome to a new school year! The Parkside staff would like to welcome all returning and new students. We are looking forward to working closely with our families and students to maintain the highest quality of education for our students.

Our morning arrival and dismissal procedures are going well. Getting into a morning routine can be difficult, but please keep in mind that students adjust much better to school when they arrive on time and are able to transition into the classroom with their friends. Being on-time helps students relax and alleviates any anxiety they may be feeling. The one reminder for pick-up is to remain inside your vehicle if you are in the pick-up lane. If you would like to exit your car to meet your student at the doors, please park in the lot.

We had a wonderful response from families, friends and community members in response to our indoor recess needs. While outdoor recess is always preferred, we look forward to providing the students with stem bins, interactive games, building sets and other fun activities during indoor recess. We are so grateful to our Parkside community for always supporting the needs of our Penguins.

Our school newsletter is a quarterly publication. Current happenings for our school can be found on our school Facebook page or the Parkside webpage. If questions ever come up, feel free to reach out directly to the school office.

As always, we appreciate your partnership. Looking forward to a successful 2022-2023 school year!

Hello Parkside families!

It was so great to see everyone at Open House. We are looking forward to a full year of PTO events. We have our Welcome Packet complete so please visit the Parkside Elementary School website to check it out: [https://www.unit5.org/cms/lib/IL01905100/Centricity/Domain/3242/Welcome%20Packet\\_Full\\_2022-2023.pdf](https://www.unit5.org/cms/lib/IL01905100/Centricity/Domain/3242/Welcome%20Packet_Full_2022-2023.pdf). We hope to see you at our 1st PTO meeting on September 12th!

## UPCOMING

9/8 - Staff Brunch - Link to sign up for donations - <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10c044da4ac28a7f49-back/19083359>

9/12 - 1st PTO Meeting

9/12 - Dine to Donate @ Culver's (5-8, no flyer needed)

9/19 - Party on the Playground - \*cancelled\*

10/3 - PTO meeting

10/18 - Staff Candy Day - Link to come

10/19 - Dine to Donate @ Carl's (4-8)

Questions, Comments, or information Contact [parksideptopresident@gmail.com](mailto:parksideptopresident@gmail.com)

Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/penguinPTO>

Thank you, Your PTO Board

## PTO MEETING

2022-2023 PTO Board

President Liz Tomera  
Vice-President Amanda Stenger  
Secretary Heather Jobe  
Treasurer Rachel Kullman

PTO Meetings are  
6:30-7:30 p.m. in  
the Cafeteria

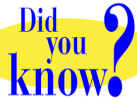
9/12  
10/3  
11/14  
12/5  
1/9  
2/6  
3/13  
4/3  
5/1

## DROP OFF & PICK UP PROCEDURES

There is only one entrance to the Parkside parking lot. **DO NOT** enter or park in the Bus Lane. Enter the parking lot in the right lane only, do not enter through the exit lane as traffic leaving the parking lot will be blocked. Do **NOT** exit your vehicle if using the Drop-Off/Pick-Up lane. If you wish to help your child exit the vehicle, get their backpack on, etc., please park in the parking lot in a spot and walk your child to the sidewalk. Children should **NOT** walk through the parking lot at drop-off or pick-up times **unattended**.

### Office Notes

If you are needing to change dismissal arrangements for your child, call the office by 2 p.m. This ensures that the message will get to the teacher and your child by dismissal. If your student will be picked up for an appointment, please call the office before 8 a.m. when possible. Then your child will be ready and waiting for you at the time you need. This avoids parents having to wait long. Thank you!



Please take note of the district policy regarding birthday treats & classroom party snacks.

**Classroom Party Snacks:** "Due to health concerns, allergies and scheduling, snacks for any occasion must be arranged in advance with the classroom teacher. All snacks must be store bought. No homemade snacks are allowed at school. Snacks are not to require refrigeration and must have a clearly printed label. We strongly encourage you to select a snack with nutritional value, such as fresh fruits and vegetables." <http://www.unit5.org/cms/lib03/IL01905100/Centricity/Domain/49/FINALelementary.pdf>

**Birthday Treats:** "Birthday Treats Unit 5 believes that birthdays are special for children. As a school district, in order to promote a healthy school environment, birthday recognitions cannot include food items. The decision will be left up to each school as to how they would like to recognize a student's birthday, but it cannot include food items." <http://www.unit5.org/cms/lib03/IL01905100/Centricity/domain/66/policies/instruction/Policy%206.50.pdf>

## Donations!

We will be doing food drives this year.

Items that would be helpful include:

Easy Mac, instant oatmeal, dry pasta, *canned* marinara, Chef Boyardee, Rice-a-Roni, Hormel Compleats, Libby's vegetable cups, pancake mix, syrup, Velveeta shells & cheese, tuna helper with canned tuna.

Items can be dropped off or sent with students the 15th of each month (if the 15th falls on a weekend the Friday or Monday works well). Thank you!

Lastly, we now have a bin located out front of our exit doors (the far left doors). It is labeled "Clothing Donations." If you have gently used or would like to purchase new *children's XS-XL elastic waist shorts, pants, leggings* we can use them! We also need *children's, boys & girls, XS-LG underpants* (only new!). Simply drop them in the bin and we will check the bin regularly for donations.

*We appreciate your support for our Penguin families!*

## School Security Procedures



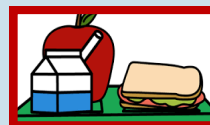
- ⇒ **ALL individuals must ring the bell to the right of the front door to be helped.**
- ⇒ **You will be asked how you can be helped. Please say your name, reason for your visit, and your student's name.**
- ⇒ **Please come to the office to sign your student in or out. If arriving after 7:50 a.m. you need to sign your student in as a late arrival.**
- ⇒ **Do not push a door open for others, even if they are a familiar face to you. You may not be privy to custody disputes, restraining orders, or other important matters. Safety is of the upmost importance.**

**Thank you for keeping our students safe!**

We are excited to have the following new certified staff members as part of our Parkside Elementary School Team!



- Mrs. Havens - 1st grade
- Ms. Wallace - 2nd grade
- Ms. Clifton - 3rd grade
- Mrs. Noel - SS 2nd-5th
- Ms. Cannon - MTSS



### 2022-2023 Lunch & Recess Times:



- K, 1st Grades: Recess 10:15 am; Lunch 10:40 am
- 2nd & 3rd Grades: Recess 10:45 am; Lunch 11:10 am
- 4th & 5th Grades: Recess 11:15 am; Lunch 11:40 am

# School Calendar

## CHECKLIST



- Monday, September 5 - **No School - Labor Day**
- Monday, September 12 - PTO meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, September 12 - Culver's Dine-to-Donate, 5-8 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 13 - **Early Release (10:45 a.m.)**
- Friday, September 16 - Outdoor Free Family Movie Night, 7 p.m.
- Friday, September 30 - **NO School - Teacher Institute Day**



# October

- Monday, October 3 - PTO meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, October 10 - **NO SCHOOL-Indigenous People's Day**
- Wednesday, October 19 - Carl's Dine-to-Donate, 4-8 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 26 - **Early Release (10:45 a.m.)**
- Monday, October 31 - Costume Parade, 12:45 p.m. (outside) \*cancelled if inclement weather\*



## Nurses Notes from Mrs. Goff

For everyone's protection, sick children must be at home, not at school. When reporting the student's absence, please report the reason for the child's absence. The school needs to be informed of any student having a special health problem or communicable disease. Children with the following conditions should not be in school:

- A fever within the last 24 hours of 100° F or higher
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- A frequent or disruptive cough or other signs of an acute respiratory infection
- Any contagious illness such as "strep throat" that requires antibiotic therapy.
- Once a student has been fever free *without* use of fever-reducing medications and on antibiotics for at least 24 hours, he/she may return to school.
- Any undiagnosed skin rash. A student with a rash may attend school upon presenting a physician's note stating the rash is not contagious.
- Pronounced lethargy or fatigue that interferes with participation in learning activities.

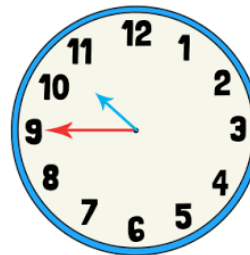


Parkside Elementary School  
1900 W. College Ave. Normal, IL 61761

Office Hours: 7:15 am-3 pm

Main Office: 309-557-4422  
Attendance Line: 309-557-4471  
Please call the attendance line  
Before 8:00 a.m. if your child is  
absent, late, or needs to leave early.

### Unit 5 Early Release Dates Elementary Dismissal time is 10:45 a.m.



- Sept. 13
- Oct. 26
- Dec. 8
- Jan. 31
- March 6
- April 7



Request for a Paper Copy of the Parkside Penguin Press  
(Return to School Office)

We would like to be more efficient with our newsletter by having you to access it electronically. You may access the newsletter at [www.unit5.org/parkside](http://www.unit5.org/parkside). We would like to significantly reduce the number of copies we produce and send home each month. This would save us money, time, & help the environment. However, if you prefer a paper copy, please complete this form and return it to the main office.

Please send home a paper copy of the school newsletter, The Parkside Penguin Press.

Parent/guardian(s)' Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name to send home with (one per family): \_\_\_\_\_

Student's grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Student Breakfast Cost \$1.55  
Student Lunch Cost \$2.45  
Cost for milk \$.55  
*Milk is NOT free or reduced  
when students bring a cold  
lunch/pack even if they qualify  
for free/reduced lunch.*



**Movie Night**

**FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**  
Friday, 9/16 at 7 p.m.  
All children must be accompanied by  
their responsible grown-up at all  
times, thank you!  
More information coming soon...

