

Bulldog Families,

We are looking forward to the start of the new school year! Here are some important things you will want to know for next week:

Back to School Night - 6:00-7:00pm on Monday, August 15th - Bring your supplies, meet our staff, and visit with other families at the PTO table in the front of the school.

Bus Cards/Bungees - All students will receive a Bus Card with a bungee to attach it to their backpack. Students who do not ride the bus normally will use it for our evacuation drill, field trips, etc... As a safety measure for any bus ride, all Unit 5 students are to scan their bus card each time they enter and exit a Unit 5 bus. Please help remind your child(ren) of this.

Bus routes will be posted in Infinite Campus on Monday, August 15th.

Parents are encouraged to download the <https://www.firstviewapp.com> for bus tracking and notifications about delays.

Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures

Please see [Towanda Pick Up/Drop Off Map](#) for information on pick-up and drop-off procedures here at Towanda Elementary. With your help, we can make this procedure as safe and efficient as possible.

DROP OFF:

Remember-- Students are not allowed to be dropped off any earlier than 7:25am, as we do not have Towanda Staff on duty until that time.

Please DO NOT PARK IN THE BUS LANE UNTIL AFTER 7:40am. Our bus lane is short, and bus drivers are not able to pull into the lane when parents are parked there to drop off students. Our buses do not arrive at the same time, so the lane may be empty for a few minutes, but a bus might be arriving soon! For a quick drop off before 7:40am, please drop students to the South of the bus lane (along the playground) or to the North of the lane (past the alleyway).

If students arrive between 7:25-7:40am, they may play on the playground (wood chip) area or the blacktop on outside mornings. On inside mornings, students will go to the gym during this time.

PICK UP:

No one may park in the bus lane until all buses have exited. At that point, parents who wish to pick up students from the comfort of their vehicle can pull forward (in order) from the line of cars

that will line up along the playground. Please pull as far forward as possible (to the alleyway) so that we can efficiently help your children to your car.

If you want to park and walk up to pick up your child(ren), park in the lot directly across from the school or to the NORTH of the alleyway along the street.

Thank you for helping to keep our students safe!

1st Day of School - School starts on Wednesday, August 17th. Our hours are 7:45am-2:30pm. The first day is exciting and fun, but it can also bring about first day jitters or uncertainty at times for both students and parents. To help our students get the best start, please say your goodbyes before our students enter the school for the day. Even if they are nervous or sad, most students are okay once they come inside and the day starts. If needed, we will reach out to you if a student is still struggling, but this is very rarely needed. Thank you so much for your support of your child(ren) in this way. We know you will be encouraging to them.

We look forward to seeing you Monday night at Back to School!

Sincerely,

Marlys Bennington
Principal

TOWANDA ELEMENTARY DROP OFF & PICK UP PROCEDURE

DROP OFF: No cars are allowed in the Bus Lane until 7:40 or after all buses have pulled out of the Bus Lane.

PICK UP: Parents exiting cars to walk up and pick up students should park in the parking lot or along East Street to the North of the Bus Lane (see yellow boxes.) Parents pulling up to pick up students should line up along East Street to the South of the Bus Lane (see blue box.) Parents parked to the South of the Bus Lane should NOT exit vehicles and should be prepared to pull forward in a line to the Bus Lane (pink box) once all buses have pulled away.

