



Fort Meigs Elementary
26431 Fort Meigs Road
Perrysburg, Ohio 43551
419.872.8822

***Fort Meigs Elementary School - 2024-2025
Welcome Back Letter and Informational Material
August 2, 2024***

Greetings Fort Meigs Families,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year!

I hope this letter finds you well and that you have been enjoying the summer so far. It is my honor and privilege to return to Fort Meigs Elementary as principal. Having previously served from 2016 to 2019, it feels wonderful to come back home.

First and foremost, I want to warmly welcome all our Fort Meigs families. We are excited to have you as part of our school community and eagerly look forward to seeing you throughout the school year. Your continued support and partnership is invaluable, and we appreciate the opportunity to work together to provide the best education possible for your child(ren). Throughout the school year I encourage you to stay connected with us through our school website and weekly updates.

I am a former elementary teacher and have served as an administrator at both the elementary and high school levels, as well as a director of human resources. I hold master's degrees in both education and business. Both of my children, Liya (now in 10th grade) and Owen (now in 7th grade), attended Fort Meigs Elementary, and I am committed to ensuring that all students here have the same positive experience they did throughout their elementary school years.

As we embark on this new school year, our dedication to academic excellence, safety, and creating a positive school environment remains unchanged. Thank you for entrusting us with your child(ren)'s education. We are honored to partner with you in their academic journey and look forward to a successful and rewarding school year ahead.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kellie Johnson, Principal
kjohnson@perrysburgschools.net
419.872.8822, ext. 3702

Fort Meigs Elementary School - 2024-2025 Opening School Year Information

Opening School Year - Important Dates:

- Friday, August 2 (today):
 - Class lists will be **EMAILED ONLY** to families at 4 p.m. In the very unlikely event that you do not see your child(ren)'s name, please contact me directly. Jacket Jump Start conference links will also be included in the email at 4 p.m. (see below for further details).
- Monday, August 12:
 - New Kids on the Block, 5-6 p.m.
 - This program is for students new to Fort Meigs in grades 1-4. Mrs. Davis, Fort Meigs Counselor, will be in contact with these families.
- August 13, 14, 15:
 - Jacket Jump Start Conferences.
 - Families will attend one thirty-minute (30-minute) conference on the day they select from the email on August 2 (see below for further details).
- Friday, August 16:
 - First day for all students
 - You can find the school district's calendar here: [24-25 School Year Calendar](#)

2024-2025 Class lists:

- It's always an exciting time when class lists and new year information arrives. Class lists will be **EMAILED ONLY** to families at 4 p.m on August 2 (today).
- In the event that you do not see your child's name, please contact the school office at 419.872.8822 and we will iron out the details.

2024-2025 Supply lists:

- Our school supply list can be found here: [24-25 School Supply List](#)

Perrysburg Schools Student and Family Handbook:

- As you prepare for the school year, it may be best to reference the [Student and Family Handbook](#).
- While the following information is a general idea of our daily routines, the above handbook does serve as a great reference for all families, as needed. The handbook can also be found on our district website at www.perrysburgschools.net under the "Schools" tab.

Jacket Jump Start Conferences:

- In lieu of a separate preparation day and building preview night, Jacket Jump Start Conferences provide an opportunity for K-4th grade homeroom teachers to meet with families individually and assess students during 30-minute appointments. This will give families and students a special time to get to know teachers, see the classroom, drop off supplies, and tour the building.
- Directions on signing up for the conference will accompany the email on August 2nd at 4 p.m. Should you have any questions please contact your teacher or the office directly.
- Jacket Jump Start Conferences will be held on August 13, 14, and 15 and there is no school for students on these days. Stay tuned for more details via the August 2nd email.

Final Forms Material:

- All back to school forms are to be completed through FinalForms. Please review and/or update your information as soon as possible to ensure accuracy and sign annual back to school consent forms for the 2024-2025 school year. Changes in custody or residency will require supporting documentation to be uploaded in FinalForms or emailed to a school secretary. FinalForms may be accessed through the Parents tab on the school district website or via this direct link: <https://perrysburg-oh.finalforms.com/>.
- If you have any questions regarding this material please contact Enrollment Specialist, Patty Haar, at phaar@perrysburgschools.net.

Arrival:

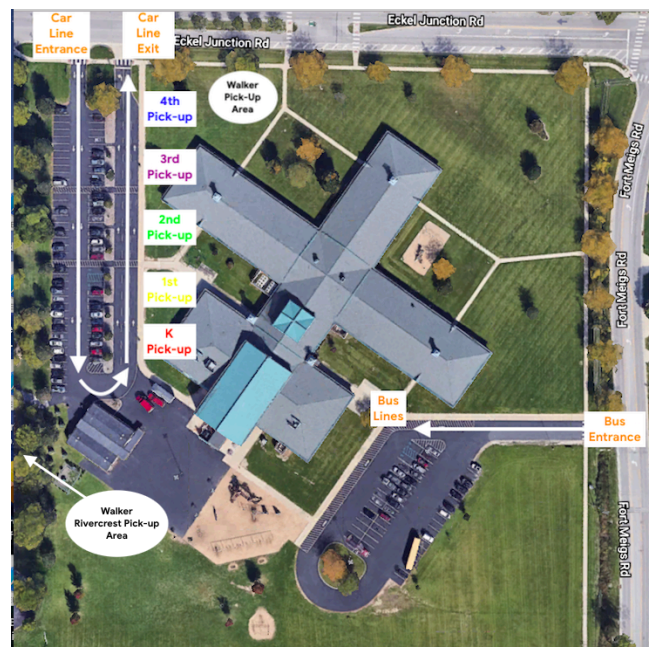
- Our building doors open at 8:50 a.m. with school beginning at 9:05.
- Please note that students who are dropped off prior to 8:50 a.m. will be unsupervised outside. Our staff will be on duty daily beginning at 8:50.
- Upon arrival at school, students should immediately enter the building and begin to report to their homerooms. The exception would be if a student purchases a school breakfast. Breakfast is available for students between 8:50 a.m. - 9:03 a.m. daily in the cafeteria. Pricing can be found at [Child Nutrition Services Link](#).
- Parents should note that students should ***NOT*** be dropped off in the parking lot on Fort Meigs Road. Our buses use this parking lot for quick and efficient drop off for our students who ride buses and dropping students off in this parking lot creates a significant safety concern. Please use the parking lot on Eckel Junction Road for dropping off students who are brought to school in a vehicle by families or caretakers. Thank you for your understanding.

August 16th - First Day - Parent Drop-off Information:

- At the elementary level the first day of school can be an exciting (and anxious) time for all students and their families. Though we want to be mindful of this excitement (and anxiety) we wanted to make sure that families were aware that we are only allowing families to walk their child (if desired or needed) to their classrooms on August 16th. We strongly encourage parents and family members to say their goodbyes outside of the school building on the first day to help set a routine and develop good habits.

Dismissal:

- Please be patient during our dismissal times.
- We are a school building of nearly 600 elementary students on a daily basis! During dismissal please understand that we will have walkers, car riders, and bus riders that will be learning a new routine and often need many reminders about safety. Thanks for your understanding.
- The pick-up line will continue to be the same as it has been in the past. This year, 4th grade will line up closest to Eckel Junction Road, then 3rd, 2nd, 1st, and Kindergarten. The attached map indicates the pick-up line area and where families should plan to pick their children up. **Adults should not exit their vehicles while in the car line.**
- Car riders should only enter their vehicles through the car door closest to the sidewalk. **We are asking that drivers who are picking up students please place a sign in your front windshield that indicates your child(ren)'s name(s) and the grade the child attends for the first two weeks of school.** For example, a sign that says "Jim Smith, First Grade" on the dashboard will allow our car



pick-up line to move more smoothly and decrease the amount of time it takes to get through the pick-up line as we begin the new year.

- For those parents who pick their student(s) up to walk home with them, please be mindful and plan ahead with your child(ren) regarding the general area where you will pick them up after school. This will create efficiency in dismissal. On the attached map, you will see an area designated as “Walker Pick-Up Area”. Staff will be directing students to this area to begin walking home.
- Bus riders, as indicated on the map, will continue to be in the same area as in the past on the east side of the building.
- Parents should note that students should ***NOT*** be picked-up in the parking lot on Fort Meigs Road. Our buses use this parking lot for quick and efficient dismissal procedures for our students who ride buses and picking-up students in this parking lot creates a significant safety concern. Please use the parking lot on Eckel Junction Road or Rivercrest Park for picking up students at the end of the day.

Family Updates/Communication:

- This year we will continue to send family updates to all families on Friday mornings. Our first family update will be on August 23.
- It is vital that your contact information is up-to-date in our office. Should you need to update your information, please contact Mrs. Garver (sgarver@perrysburgschools.net) or Mrs. Morgan (kmorgan@perrysburgschools.net) in our main office. Further, please reach out to Mrs. Morgan or Mrs. Garver if you are not receiving emails and important school information via email.
- Please always feel free to reach out to me via email or phone.
 - Email: kjohnson@perrysburgschools.net
 - Phone: 419.872.8822, ext. 3702

Use of Personal Communication Devices

- If possible, please leave any personal communication devices at home (phones, watches, tablets, etc). If a device is brought to school, it will need to be silenced and placed in the student’s locker. Please keep in mind that our elementary lockers do not have locks.

New ELA Curriculum, Wit & Wisdom:

- This year Perrysburg Schools will implement a new ELA curriculum in alignment with the Science of Reading titled, Wit & Wisdom. This curriculum adoption will take place in grades K-6. More information is available in the [Wit & Wisdom FM Building Letter](#).

Parties:

- Three school parties are typically scheduled each school year. They are scheduled for Halloween, Winter Holiday and Valentine’s Day. These parties will be held at a time determined by the classroom teacher. In addition, we will also celebrate our year’s accomplishments by having an end-of-the-year party. Parent/guardian participation will be limited to those who sign-up to volunteer prior to the classroom party.

Distribution of Edible Treats:

- In an effort to nurture healthy food choices as well as protecting an increasing number of students with food allergies, we will continue to not distribute edible treats inside of our school building. This year the practice will occur in all Perrysburg elementary buildings. We appreciate your partnership as we continue to implement this practice. Additionally, please do not send gifts to school. The school day will not be interrupted to deliver gifts (balloons, flowers, etc.).

Safety Information:

- School and student safety continues to be paramount inside of our daily routines. As is required by law we will conduct monthly drills that involve fire, tornado (spring), and lockdown drills throughout the school year. Our staff works closely with our students to discuss safety and what to do if an emergency arises. We discuss the social story “I’m Not Scared, I’m Prepared” with our students and consistently revisit safety measures that are put in place to keep our students familiar and comfortable with our procedures. Throughout the year we will remind families of upcoming or completed drills and we always encourage conversations with our young people regarding safety.

“The Jacket Way”:

- The Perrysburg Schools are committed to The Jacket Way. The Jacket Way at Fort Meigs Elementary is based upon the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) model which sets out student and adult expectations to create a culture best suited for students to be academically, emotionally, and socially successful. The Jacket Way encompasses the three R's:
 - Respectful
 - Responsible
 - Ready
- Please read more about The Jacket Way at Fort Meigs by clicking on our Jacket Way Matrix on our school website here: [Fort Meigs Elementary School Homepage](#)
- Students are expected to be Respectful, Responsible, and Ready throughout the building. Behavior expectations have been created and are taught to students so they understand these expectations over the course of the first few weeks of school and throughout the school year.

Transportation:

- Transportation information will be sent to families approximately one week before school starts through the StopFinder app. If you have questions regarding transportation, please contact Courtney Parr, Director of Transportation: cparr@perrysburgschools.net.
- Per our transportation guidelines, students are not permitted to ride buses to which they are not assigned.

School Health Aide:

- Fort Meigs is lucky to have Mrs. Corinna Lintner, RN, as our School Health Aide. Mrs. Lintner can be reached at 419-872-8822 ext. 3708 or via email at clintner@perrysburgschools.net. Please refer to the district’s Student and Family Handbook ([24-25 Student and Family Handbook](#)) for information regarding medication at school and the necessary parameters in administering such medications. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Lintner directly. Mrs. Lintner returns to the office on August 12.

Encore classes:

- Our Encore classes are Library, Art, Music, STEM, and Physical Education.
- Encore classes will take place daily. Encore teachers will be teaching students their content inside of a 45-minute period within the students’ homeroom classes.
- Encore classes may, weather permitting, head outside for their classes and will return to their homeroom classes at the end of the Encore period. Please plan to dress accordingly for each respective Encore class.
- Attention 3rd and 4th grade families:
 - Students in Mr. George’s music class will need to have a recorder. They can be purchased in the music room for \$5 during Jacket Jump Start (except August 15th) or during the first week of school. Students will begin using recorders in class the 3rd week of school.

Recess:

- Students will have a daily thirty-minute (30) recess.
- As with Encore classes above, recess will provide a time for a break from the general education classroom. Please be mindful of the weather and have your child(ren) dress appropriately each day. As you know, the weather of northwest Ohio can, and often does, change throughout the day. We will do our best to ensure that students get outside as much as possible for recess.
- Oftentimes a class may use an “additional” recess based on the schedule and/or class rewards. When these occur, a specific schedule will be developed.

Weather:

- We will do our best to ensure that students get outside as much as possible for recess. Students should be dressed appropriately in their daily attendance and plan to be outside as long as the temperature is above 15 degrees.

Attendance:

- In the event that you need to call your child(ren) off of school, please report your absence prior to the start of the day. Our building doors open at 8:50 a.m. with school beginning at 9:05. If your child arrives after 9:05, please enter the main office (off of Fort Meigs Road) and complete the sign-in sheet to receive a pass to class.
- Perrysburg Schools does have a [Pre-planned Absence Form](#) for those situations when families know, in advance, that they will be away from school.

Picture Day- August 28, 2024

- Please mark your calendars for picture day. School pictures will take place on August 28th, 2024.
- Pre-order information attached here: [FM Picture Day 2024](#)

Breakfast and Lunch information:

- Please go to Payschools Central (<https://payschoolscentral.com/>) to add money to student lunch accounts.
- Pricing for the 2024-2025 school year can be found at [Child Nutrition Services Link](#).

Lunch Prices:

K-8: \$3.25

9-12: \$3.50

Reduced Price: \$.40

Breakfast Prices:

K-4: \$2.00

5-8: \$2.25

9-12: \$2.50

Reduced Price: \$.30

- We will follow regular food and beverage guidance as outlined in our school handbooks. Our menus may be accessed online at the following link (<https://myschoolmenus.com/organizations/1561>) or by clicking on Child Nutrition Services under the Parents tab of our website. Printed menus are also available in the cafeteria for grades K-12 for those who prefer a hard copy. School lunch menus will be posted online at least one week before the first of each month throughout the school year. Other important information may be accessed here: [Child Nutrition Services Link](#).
- Students will be permitted to bring their own water bottles for daily use.
- As a reminder we do not allow outside restaurant food to be delivered inside of our cafeteria. Further, please try to limit carbonated beverages that your child brings to school with their lunches. Lunch time can be an excellent time for students to socialize and be with their classmates. We do not encourage families to attend lunch with their child(ren) for this purpose and ask that you limit attending lunch with your child(ren) to an extremely limited basis. In the event of a special occasion (birthday, military family member returning home, out of town relative, etc.) arrangements may be made to eat with your child away from the cafeteria setting. Please contact Mrs.

Johnson directly with these types of occasions.

- If you think you may qualify for the federal Free and Reduced Meal Program, we encourage you to fill out an application at this link: [Free or Reduced Meals Link](#).
- Please note that our “Fee Waiver Application & Free or Reduced-Price School Meal Application” is also used for the consideration of the waiving of fees/assessments for Perrysburg Schools, including waiving ACT fees, laptop assessments and gaining access to the Full Experience Fund ([Full Experience Fund PDF](#)), so those who may qualify should submit this application for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Should you have any questions or need further information please contact Denise Zielske, Child Nutrition Director, 419-874-9131 extension 2121 or dzielske@perrysburgschools.net.

Fort Meigs Parent Boosters:

- Our school building is blessed to have such an incredible group of parents that run our Booster Club.
- Special thank you to our Booster officers:
 - President: Stacy Zilliox
 - Vice President: Stephany Miles
 - Treasurer: Tara Zechman
 - Secretary: Amanda Tesznar
- Please be on the lookout for several school activities such as fundraisers and Booster led events that will come from the school including our upcoming annual Mumkin sale.

Website and Social Media:

- Mrs. Joanne Cook, Fort Meigs Art Teacher, posts student work and accomplishments on this Facebook page: [Mrs. Cook Facebook Page](#)
- You can also access our school page via the district’s website here: [Fort Meigs Elementary School](#)
 - On this website, you will find links to past family updates, supply lists, and contact information.

Y-Care:

- We are happy to announce that “Y-Care” will return to Fort Meigs for the 2024-2025 school year!
- If you are interested in signing-up for “Y-Care” please contact Melissa Wargo at mwargo@ymcatoledo.org. You can find more information below.
 - [24-25 - Y-Care](#)