



The Clark-Wilkins Villager
September 7, 2018
[Clark-Wilkins Website](#)

REMINDER – Thank you to our families who have completed their online registration! If you have not yet updated records, please do so now. It is critical that we have **updated contact information and that our school nurses have pertinent health information. Permissions to treat, administer medications, etc. must be signed off on each year.** Parents access their student’s information through their parent portal account. Details of this process were emailed to parents and can be found [here](#). Please contact us at kjohnson@sprise.com if you have questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS – [Click here for the 2018-2019 SAU39 Calendar](#)

- September 7 – PTA Ice Cream Social – Wilkins Playground, 4:00 PM- 6:00 PM
- September 8 – [Amherst Old Home Day Festival](#)
- September 11 – Late Start
- **September 14 – Community Flyer Day (Please contact school offices for distribution details)**
- September 15 – Amherst Library Friends of Book Sale
- September 18 – Godin/Chazanoff Hike
- September 19 – Vaupel/Wright Hike
- September 20 – Alger/Kidder Hike
- September 24 - Open House – Grades 1 & 2, 6:15
- September 25 – Open House – Preschool, 5:30, Kindergarten, 6:15, Grades 3 & 4, 6:45
- September 26 – School Pictures
- October 8 – Columbus Day – no School
- November 5 – Teacher In-Service Day – no school
- November 6 – Election Day – no school

PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR [COMMUNITY NEWS PAGE](#) FOR INFORMATION ON:

- [Amherst Old Home Day!](#)
- [Amherst Library Programs – Friends of the Library Book Sale](#)
- [Amherst Soccer Club](#)
- [Scouting in Amherst](#)

WELCOME BACK

Thank you to all of our staff, students, and families for making it such a successful first week of school. Mother Nature seems to have been conspiring against us with high temperatures and

extreme humidity, but everyone made a smooth transition from summer vacation to the routines and expectations of the new school year. Even a power outage at Clark and the relocation of Kindergarteners to Wilkins in the middle of their first day of school did not put a damper on our first week. I believe many of the Kindergarten students thought that it was quite a treat to take a middle of the day bus ride and enjoy a popsicle at Wilkins. The teachers and staff are hoping that it was a “once in a lifetime” experience.

During our first four days, the classroom teachers, specialists, and service providers have been working with the children throughout the school to establish routines, build relationships, and get to know one another. These activities and assignments will continue through the first weeks of school. It is essential to take time at the beginning of the year to build safe and supportive classroom environments where children feel physically and emotionally comfortable to be themselves, challenge themselves, grow, and succeed.

Our end of day dismissal routine is beginning to settle into a groove, and we are noticing that dismissal is taking a little less time each day. Many families have updated their student information in PUP (Pick Up Patrol), thank you. If you need help accessing PUP, please reach out to Karen Canning at Wilkins or Katherine McNally at Clark. We would be more than happy to walk you through the process. Thank you also for your continued patience and for the valuable feedback that we have received regarding our dismissal process. In the coming days, we will have four “pick-up” car bays painted out front at Wilkins. The bays will provide drivers with a clearer picture of where to stop. Once the bays have been painted, we will take an aerial photograph and develop a map that illustrates the pick-up process.

The CW math and reading interventionists have already been hard at work administering our fall AIMSweb assessments. At the lower grades, children complete the tasks one on one with a trained adult. The data from these assessments help teachers to develop instruction groups within the classroom, plan for differentiating instruction, and also, to identify which students may benefit from additional academic supports. In addition to AIMSweb, classroom teachers conduct other formal and informal assessments that help them to create a thorough picture of your child’s strengths and areas for focus across a range of subjects.

The dates and times have been set for our Open House Nights, which take place on Monday, September 24th for grades one and two, and Tuesday, September 25th for preschool, Kindergarten, grade three, and grade four. Your child’s classroom teacher will also be sending out reminders about Open House Nights. Open House Nights provide families with an opportunity to meet the staff, visit classrooms and learning spaces, and see the school through your child’s eyes. We hope that you can join us.

The PTA is hosting an [Ice Cream Social](#) for all Clark-Wilkins families, students, and staff today, September 7. Please join us on the Wilkins playground between 4:00-6:00 PM to share a treat, meet new staff, and connect with CW families and friends.

Respectfully submitted by Nicola Fraley, Principal

