

OXHEAD ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

144 Oxhead Road
Centereach, NY 11720
(631) 285-8700
Phyllis L. Saltz, Principal

Middle Country Central School District
8-43rd Street
Centereach NY 11720

Dr. Roberta A. Gerold, Superintendent
Francine McMahon, Deputy Superintendent for Instruction
Dr. Beth Rella, Assistant Superintendent for Business
James G. Donovan, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

August 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is with great enthusiasm that I introduce myself to you as the new principal of Oxhead Road Elementary School and that I welcome you to Oxhead for the 2023-2024 school year. I first came to the Middle Country Central School District in July 2014 as the assistant principal of New Lane Memorial Elementary School, and I subsequently served as the principal of New Lane from April 2019 through this past June. I am really looking forward to getting to know you and to becoming a member of the Oxhead Road Elementary School family!

The entire staff at Oxhead is busy preparing for a year full of learning, growth, and fun! We look forward to welcoming back our returning students and to meeting our new students. Please read the information below to familiarize yourself with some of our procedures.

First Day of School and School Hours

The first day of school will be **Wednesday, September 6, 2023**. The school doors open at 9:10 a.m. and the school day officially begins at 9:20 a.m. Any students who arrive after 9:30 a.m. will receive a late pass at the front desk. Dismissal begins at 3:30 p.m., when buses begin to arrive at the building.

First Grade Name Tags

Name tags will be enclosed in the summer mailing packet for all first grade students. If you are the parent/guardian of a first grader, please be sure that the name tag is clearly labeled with your child's name, address, school, grade, and bus number. First grade name tags should be worn for at least the first week of school. This will help our staff assist students in getting to their correct classrooms and buses.

Walkers

Please review safety rules regarding crossing streets, etc. with your child. Be sure that your child is familiar with the route to/from school. Walkers will be dismissed after the buses have left. Parents/guardians who walk to pick up their children should remain outside during dismissal. In order to ensure safety and efficiency, **early dismissal will not be permitted after 3:15 p.m.**, except in emergency situations.

Car Riders

We encourage all students who are eligible for Middle Country transportation to ride the school bus to and from school. However, we understand that some families are not eligible for busing and that others choose to drive their children to and from school. Students who are driven to school should be **dropped off in the back parking lot and enter through the rear doors**. A school staff member will be there to assist students who are being dropped off. **At no time should cars enter the bus lane**. Be sure to observe the flashing

lights of buses at all times. It is a violation of the law to pass any school bus that displays flashing red lights.

Parents/guardians picking up car riders at dismissal time should **line up along the curb in the back parking lot and wait to be directed to move forward**. Car riders will be dismissed after all buses have left and will exit through the side of the building. For the safety of all students and staff, **please do not wait or park in the bus loading area at any time**.

Teacher Assignments

Your child's teacher assignment will be available on the PowerSchool Parent Portal beginning on Friday, August 4th. Once you retrieve the name of your child's teacher, please click the "Student and Parent Info" tab on the Oxhead Road Elementary School website for a welcome letter and supply list from your child's teacher. If you do not already have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, please create one at this time. For directions on how to do this, go to www.mccsd.net and click on "Students and Parents" at the top of the page. Click on "PowerSchool Parent and Student Portal" and then click on "Help/More Info" under the icon for "Parent and Student Login."

Please be aware that we take great care in creating carefully balanced classes and that our professional staff gives the utmost thought and consideration when making decisions regarding each child's placement. As such, **no changes in teacher assignments will be made**. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Summer Mailing Packet

You will receive a packet of information at the end of August. The following items will be included in the packet:

- Emergency Contact Forms (**please complete both forms**)
- NYS School Health Examination Form
- Administration of Medication in School Form
- Dental Health Certificate Form
- PTA Membership Form
- Meal Information Flyer
- Name Tag (Grade 1 Only)

Important School Resource Information

The following information can be accessed on the District's website (www.mccsd.net) in the "Important School Resource Information" section:

Attendance Awareness Information	Student Accident Claims Information
Code of Conduct	District-Wide School Safety Plan
SCOPE Before/After Care Information	Building-Level School Safety Plan
Food and Nutrition Services Information	Pesticide Neighbor Notification Law
Health Services Information	School Bus Safety Information
Allergy Aware Letter	Request for Bus Stop Change Form
School Vaccination Requirements	

The Oxhead Road Elementary School staff and I look forward to working with you to ensure that your child has a successful school year. I strongly encourage you to closely monitor your child's progress, to keep in contact with your child's teacher, and to become involved in school activities and events. If I can ever be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 631-285-8700 or at psaltz@mccsd.net. Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

Phyllis L. Saltz

Phyllis L. Saltz
Principal