

Ella P. Burr School Newsletter

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Principal: Peter J. Loiselle
School Website: <https://www.rsu67.org/o/ella-burr-school>



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2019-20 Concerts

Kindergarten: Feb. 6
First Grade: March 5
Second Grade: April 2
Third Grade: May 7

Snow dates are one
week later.

Principal's News

It's hard to believe the school year is one month old already! I'm proud of the work everyone has put into getting the school year off so successfully, from the custodians, teachers, educational technicians, front office personnel, volunteers, parents and guardians, and the students. October brings the beautiful fall season, apples and pumpkins and the continuation of the learning that has started. Please work with us in reading with your child, encouraging them to do their best, staying rested, and attending school daily. If all those things happen, your child will be the best they can be. It takes teamwork to make success happen. Together we can!

Mr. Loiselle

Attendance Matters

Welcome back to the start of another great year! We welcome you as our partners and value your involvement in your child's education. We know you have hopes and dreams for your child's success in school and beyond. Making sure your child attends school every day possible this year will help those hopes and dreams happen.

The evidence is clear. Good attendance is key to keeping students on track academically and engaging them in all aspects of school life. This is true at any age and in all grades. Missing just one or two school days a month can add up to missing 4 to 5 weeks of the school year.

School is a place for learning and also for making new friendships, discovering new interests, and building confidence/self-esteem. All these positive experiences support long-term academic success in school and future job success.

Some absences cannot be avoided. Students must stay home when they are unwell.

Families should avoid extended vacations that require students to miss school. Kindly try to line up vacations with the school's schedule. We also encourage you to avoid scheduling medical appointments during school time whenever possible.

Let's work together to support your child(ren) getting to school on time every day this year.

We want your child to be successful in school!

RSU 67 Phone App

Have you downloaded the new RSU #67 App? It's available for both IOS and Android and it is a great resource for information. Just like most apps, you can get notifications regarding upcoming events, emergent issues, and other announcement and there is an abundance of information on the app itself. Please consider downloading it on your phone, you won't be sorry.

Pre-K News Ms. Sherman and Ms. Tash

We just started our first Opening the World of Learning (OWL) unit on Families. Children will be exploring and talking about families and the many different ways families help one another. Through Story Time books, children will learn about different dynamics of families and taking care of one another. We will be beginning to discuss the initial sounds in words, building vocabulary and comprehension and identifying rhyming words. We will also be participating in a variety of music, poetry, mathematics, science and art activities during Center Time and Small Groups.

Early K/Kindergarten News

Mrs. McCarthy, Miss. Crockett, Mrs. Edwards, Miss. Croce, Mrs. Olsen, and Mrs. Peters

EK/K has started the year smoothly with all the transitions. Learners and teachers have been smiling and enjoying the cooler weather. The EK/K classes have been learning about classroom/school rules and routines. This year Kindergarten has started a new science program with Foss. Learners are excited about having science journals to record their observations of trees. Throughout the year they will have a new vocabulary with each unit and recording new information in their journals. Be sure to ask your child what their new science words are.

First-Grade News Mrs. Cuccinello, Mrs. Harper, and Miss Croce

We have had a wonderful start to the school year! First-grade has had some adjustments with the team. We hired a new teacher, Ms. Croce, to join us and Mrs. Larlee moved to kindergarten for the year because the kindergarten teachers had such high numbers in their classrooms. It has been a smooth transition and everyone is working together to make a strong team. The first-grade students have been working very hard completing a few assessments, they are, the BAS and STAR (math, early literacy, and reading). Now that we have completed these tests the first-grade teachers can group students in a way that will allow them to grow and excel.

Second-Grade News Mrs. Hallett, Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Gardner, and Mrs. Himes

We're off to a great start here in 2nd grade. We've been busy learning all about the routines and procedures in our classrooms, the hallways, the lunchroom, and the playground. We're working hard to learn how reading and math groups work, and how to be a great listener! In Reading, we're working on identifying inside and outside traits (how a character feels and acts vs. how they look) for characters in our stories. In Writing, we're working on rules for capitalization and will be starting personal narratives soon. In Math, we're working on addition math facts (+0, +1, and +2). In Social Studies, we're learning all about National Symbols. We've also learned about how to use a laptop and explored some pretty cool programs and sites specially geared towards our young learners. Ask them about Kids A-Z and Prodigy if they haven't told you yet! Here's to a great year. Thanks for all your support at home!

Third-Grade News Ms. Tolman, Mrs. Thornton, Mrs. Manzo, and Mrs. Brawn

Third-grade learners have been working on third-grade routines and are settling in nicely! We have been busy working on place value in Math; reading centers, nouns, and personal narratives in ELA; and continents and landforms in Social Studies. We are just beginning our Science unit on animals and habitats, as well as our math unit on addition and subtraction with larger numbers.

Morning Math Club Mrs. Gulesian

Morning Math Club started the second day of school. The students have settled into the routine and are working hard. They are doing word problems, and are playing games with addition and subtraction. Attendance has been wonderful and the students are enjoying themselves while still learning some math strategies that they can take back to the classroom.

Building Reading Skills Mrs. Crane and Ms. Murchison

Twenty minutes a day is all it takes to build key reading skills. Here are ways to help your child become a better reader.

- Create reading routines and read together every day.
- Snuggle up close with a book.
- Talk about the pictures and ask questions.
- Share different kinds of books.
- Read with expression.
- Read favorite books again and again.

Physical Education/Health Mr. Lindsay

We are off to the races! In PE we have been exploring the gym with Kindergarten and EK and trying to get used to the routines of gym class. We have been doing lots of movement-based activities to both give the students a chance to burn off some energy and even learn some new games, all while working on locomotor movements.

Our 1st -3rd graders have just finished up our soccer unit in which we learned some basic skills of dribbling and passing. We are now moving on to our Frisbee unit, which will have us learning different Frisbee skills and working toward some disc golf!

Also, please try to remember which days your student has PE and make sure they wear or bring proper gym shoes. It makes the class much safer if everyone is in proper shoes.

Art and Music Mrs. York

It's been busy in the Art Room and loud in the Music Room. All good things! Musically we are getting used to the flow of class and practicing loud and soft (Dynamics) sounds along with the special music words (Italian) that are used in music. Up next is Tempo, which is speed. So if you have heard the "Forte, Piano" song in your home, be prepared for "Presto, Largo". Art has been all about practice. Practicing lines, shapes, getting supplies, and now painting with watercolor. Coming soon will be all about color.

Grades two and three have some special opportunities at recess coming in October. There will be an Art Club for both grades once a week at recess. This is optional and carries with it some responsibility to come when assigned and persist in trying something a bit more difficult.

Grade three also will start having Recess Choir. An extra chance to sing and learn some harder songs to perform in addition to full classroom concert songs, as well as a second performance for the school. Again, this is optional and carries some responsibility to come every week in order to learn the songs.



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**Empowering
Learners, Today
and Tomorrow.**

*"A child without
education is like a
bird without
wings."*

Tibetan Proverb

From the Clinic Mrs. McIntyre

Parents, this is a friendly reminder that medication cannot be brought in my students. All medication needs to be brought in by a parent or designated person and signed in appropriately with the clinic. Also, medication cannot be packed and go back and forth. Once a medication is at the school, a parent or a designated person needs to come and take it out. On another note, we are headed into flu season. If your child has had a fever or vomited please keep them home for 24 hours until they are feeling better. Thank you, Mrs. McIntyre!

Family Support Mrs. Turner

The Ella P. Burr School Pantry is currently serving 63 families so we are really busy! Thank you to a generous donor that helped us with some funds. Machias Bank also gave us some canvas bags we can use to send the food home in. Walmart sent in school supplies and backpack and so did the Congregational Church! The Darling's Ice Cream for a Cause also provided us with some financial assistance. We are so grateful for all the community support!

Our Ella P. Burr Fuel Fund is going well. Every Friday children and staff are encouraged to wear hats and/or sunglasses and bring in 50 cents towards the fuel fund! Later we will have Fridays we will wear pajamas too! Students PK-3 are receiving guidance lessons every week. We have been learning about how to be a good listener to our teacher, parents, and friends and also how to encourage ourselves with positive self-talk.

Our school-wide Fill-a Bucket Program is also going well to help us all to remember to be safe, respectful, responsible and above all kind!

Enjoy this great weather!

Meet Our New First-Grade Teacher Allison Croce

Hello! My name is Allison Croce and this past August, I was hired as a first grade teacher at Ella. P. Burr. I graduated from college this past spring, which makes me a first year teacher! I have 3 younger siblings and have wanted to be a teacher for as long as I can remember. I am a very family oriented person and love spending time with my family whenever possible. I am engaged to my lovely partner Kelley and we are hoping to get married next summer. My favorite season is fall and I adore Halloween and all things spooky. I also love the holiday season and going skiing when it snows. Being hired here at Ella P. Burr was one of the biggest blessings that I could have been given and I am so thankful that I get to work with such a wonderful community of school staff and students every single day.

October Book Fair Takes Place October 21-25!