

ROBBINS ELEMENTARY

3832 EAST HAMILTON AVENUE

715-852-4600



JANUARY NEWSLETTER

HAPPY 2019!

As a child I always struggled making New Year's Resolutions. Either I'd make them unreachable (THIS is the year I will learn invisibility!), or I'd cave by January 2nd (no TV, pop or candy at all, ever!).

This year, I'm making two resolutions that I consider necessary, reasonable and -- hopefully -- reachable. I share this because I'm pretty sure I'm not the only parent with these improvements in mind:

1. More talk at home with my kids about school

My go-to question when I see my kids at the end of the day has always been, "How was your day?" "Fine" is the typical response. When my eldest son asked me this same question about my work day, I realized what a tough question it is. With that in mind, making a point to ask more specific questions (like the ones below) might spark a more meaningful conversation.

- a. What made you smile today?
- b. Did anything surprise you today?
- c. Did you run into any problems that were tough to solve today?
- d. What was the best part of your day?

2. Less screen time, more real time

This one goes for the parents *and* the kids in my home. My phone connects me to work, shopping, friends, professional resources, games... on and on. But it does NOT connect me with my kids who are living with me under the same roof for this far-too-fleeting amount of time. While I know my kids would never complain if they could watch videos all day of people narrating their own video game adventures or making slime, it's probably not adding much to their quality of life or their options for the future.

I'm a big fan of technology, and there's certainly a time and a place for it -- but it's so easy for us to get caught up in the aptly-named "web" and posts from people we barely know. Instead, I hope to busy ourselves more with the amazing world of actual people and real-world stuff around us. Screen-free options abound! So, let's play outside, play inside, play sports, play music, play board games, cook, make crafts, make conversation, make jokes and read books that force us to use our good "old-fashioned" imaginations. (Wish me luck!)

Let's make it a great new year --
Jake Donze, Robbins Elementary Principal

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Depending on the severity and timing of the inclement weather, a variety of options may be used to close or delay school.

- ❖ **School may close early** – regular bus transportation would be provided. For students not riding the bus, we will follow the procedure that you stated on Welcome Back Day. If we close school early, Robbins would dismiss at 1:45 pm.
- ❖ **School start may be delayed by two hours.** In this case, if you have children who ride the school bus, they should plan to be picked up approximately two hours later than the normally scheduled time. If your children walk or get a ride to school, they should plan to arrive two hours later. At Robbins, school would start at 10:55 am.
- ❖ **School may be closed for the entire day.**
- ❖ *Please listen to and/or watch local radio and TV stations for school closings/delays. Phone calls home will not be made. Decisions to close school will be made between 6:00 and 6:30 am.*

INDOOR VS. OUTDOOR RECESS

District policy requires us to keep students indoors for recess if the actual air temperature is below zero or if the wind chill is below -10. At all other times, students will be outdoors for recess. The decision on indoor vs. outdoor recess will be made at approximately 11:00 am. Please send your child to school with appropriate clothes for the weather. Warm winter coats, snow pants, hats, boots, and mittens are essential.

Reminder for restricted physical activity:

If a child must stay inside from recess or sit out from Physical Education class for medical reasons, parents are required to send a note from a health care provider detailing the period of time of restricted activity.

If you have any questions about these guidelines, please contact your child's school nurse for further direction.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Public School Open Enrollment: February 5 – April 30, 2019

Wisconsin residents in grades 4K -12 may apply to attend school in a school district other than the one in which they live. For example: a child that lives in the Altoona School District could apply to attend the Eau Claire Area School District (ECASD). Students in pre-kindergarten may participate in limited circumstances; parents should call Student Services at 715-852-3003 to find out if their preschool-aged child(ren) qualify.

Students who are currently attending the ECASD through open enrollment DO NOT need to reapply.

The open enrollment application for the 2019-2020 school year is February 5 – April 30, 2019. An online application will be available to the public beginning Monday, February 5, and closing at 4:00 pm on April 30, 2019. For more information about open enrollment, please go to: <http://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment>.

Have you moved outside of the Eau Claire School District this year? If so, you need to complete a **Tuition Waiver** form. Contact Student Services for more information at 715-852-3003.

2019-2020 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Now Enrolling for Kindergarten!

The Eau Claire Area School District welcomes all children turning

5 years old on or before September 1, 2019 to enroll in Kindergarten.

(NOTE: Students already enrolled in the EC4T program do not need to reapply.)

Step 1:

Visit our website — www.ecasd.us

- Click on Enrollment
- Complete an Online Application

Step 2:

Visit the Enrollment Office anytime between now and March 2019 to provide:

- Proof of address
- Proof of your child's age

Please note that the enrollment process is not complete until steps 1 and 2 are complete. If you are unable to access the application or have difficulties submitting it, please contact the Enrollment Office at (715) 852-3063 or visit **500 Main St. 54701 Downtown, Eau Claire**

Enrollment Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

SCHOOL NURSE UPDATE

Whether winter brings severe storms, light dustings or just cold temperatures, the

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has some valuable tips on how to keep your children safe and warm.

What to Wear

- Dress **infants** and **children** warmly for outdoor activities. Several thin layers will keep them dry and warm. Don't forget warm boots, gloves or mittens, and a hat.
- The rule of thumb for older babies and young children is to dress them in one more layer of clothing than an adult would wear in the same conditions.

Hypothermia

- Hypothermia develops when a child's temperature falls below normal due to **exposure to colder temperatures**. It often happens when a youngster is **playing**

outdoors in extremely cold weather without wearing proper clothing or when clothes get wet. It can occur more quickly in children than in adults.

- As hypothermia sets in, the child may shiver and become lethargic and clumsy. Speech may become slurred and body temperature will decline in more severe cases.
- If you suspect your child is hypothermic, **call 911** at once. Until help arrives, take the child indoors, remove any wet clothing, and wrap him in blankets or warm clothes.

Frostbite

- **Frostbite** happens when the skin and outer tissues become frozen. This condition tends to happen on extremities like the fingers, toes, ears and nose. They may become pale, gray and blistered. At the same time, the child may complain that his/her skin burns or has become numb.
- If frostbite occurs, bring the child indoors and place the frostbitten parts of her body in warm (not hot) water. 104° Fahrenheit (about the temperature of most hot tubs) is recommended. Warm washcloths may be applied to frostbitten nose, ears and lips.
- Do not rub the frozen areas.
- After a few minutes, dry and cover the child with clothing or blankets. Give him/her something warm to drink.
- If the numbness continues for more than a few minutes, call your doctor.

Winter Health

- If your child suffers from winter **nosebleeds**, try using a cold air humidifier in the child's room at night. Saline nose drops or petroleum may help keep nasal tissues moist. If bleeding is severe or recurrent, consult your pediatrician.
- Cold weather does not cause **colds** or **flu**. But the viruses that cause colds and flu tend to be more common in the winter, when children are in school and are in closer contact with each other. Frequent **hand washing** and teaching your child to sneeze or cough into the bend of her elbow may help reduce the spread of colds and flu.
- Children 6 months of age and up should get the **influenza vaccine** to reduce their risk of catching the flu.

Winter Sports and Activities

- Set reasonable time limits on outdoor play to prevent hypothermia and frostbite. Have children come inside periodically to warm up.
- Using **alcohol** or **drugs** before any winter activity, like snowmobiling or skiing, is dangerous and should not be permitted in any situation.

K-KIDS CORNER

Welcome to 2019! The K-Kids continue to make a difference One Community, One Child at a Time.

Thanks so much for helping with the 4th and 5th grade book exchanges. Thank you also for making book marks for The Boys' and Girls' Club. We will finish organizing our book donations in January.

Tuesday, January 8, K-Kid Board Meeting 12:30-1:20, Fish Bowl Room

Tuesday, January 15, Grade 4 Meeting 12:30-1:10, Mr. Kressin's Room

Tuesday, January 22, Grade 5 Meeting 12:40-1:20, Mrs. Judnic's Room

Tuesday, January 29, K-Kid Board Mtg. 12:30-1:20, Fish Bowl Room

Tuesday, January 29, Service Project 6:00-7:00 PM, Chippewa Valley Museum to work on the Community Table Valentine's Day Project with Memorial Key Club and South Builders Club

If you are interested in donating any more books to The Boys' and Girls' Club bring them to your grade level meeting. We will deliver them at the end of January. The Builders Club and Key Club are also helping us.

MORNING PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION

Adult supervision on our playground begins at 8:35 am. For obvious safety reasons, students may not arrive at school before 8:35 am, unless they are eating school breakfast, which begins at 8:20. When students arrive on the bus, they enter the school and go to their assigned locker. Once there, they hang up their backpack, dress in whatever clothes the weather dictates, and then walk outside to the playground. Students will get to spend about 10 minutes outside, depending on their bus arrival time.

Families dropping off can continue to pull up along the curb so your student(s) can join the others on the playground.

Students participating in the Y program or eating breakfast at school should go to those activities first instead of going outside.

Our entry bell rings at 8:45 am and classroom instruction begins at 8:55.

Thanks for your cooperation!

RECAP:

- Robbins' staff begins playground supervision at 8:35.
- Students cannot be dropped off prior to 8:35 unless they are going to the breakfast program, which starts at 8:20. Safety Patrol members should not be here before 8:30. Families who use the YMCA Day Care have received directions from them.
- Bussed students not eating breakfast go to the playground before school begins
- The commons area will be open at 8:35 for inclement weather and will be supervised.
- Robbins' dismissal bell is at 3:45. Robbins' staff is not able to supervise kids after 3:50 so please plan accordingly. All students who are being picked up at the end of the day must be picked up by 3:50, no exceptions.

RCU SCHOOL \$ENSE

Happy New Year from your Royal School \$ense Team!

The beginning of a new year is a great time to work on further developing good habits and setting goals. One goal that is great to set and work towards is an **"I'm saving for..."** goal. It can be a challenge that's fun to work on and enjoy as a family. Using a goal chart can provide a visual that helps encourage your Super Saver as they save money each week.

As an extra incentive, we will have a **Double-Stamp Day** on **January 16!** Savers will receive **two** stamps on their Super Saver cards instead of one, helping them earn prizes more quickly!

Remember that Royal donates \$250 to Robbins for every 500 deposits made. Your Royal School \$ense location is open on Wednesday each week to help your child get excited about saving and helping their school.

If you have questions or want to know how to start saving at school with Royal School \$ense, please contact Diana Rohlik at 715-855-5471 or diana.rohlik@rcu.org

MONTHLY EVENTS:

January 1st: NO SCHOOL
January 21st: NO SCHOOL – Staff Development

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Check out our website for more information!

<http://www.ecasd.us/Robbins-Elementary/Home>

Robbins Facebook Page can be accessed by clicking on the Facebook Icon on Robbins School webpage. It's a great way to see what Robbins students are learning so "Like Us" on Facebook and see the great things our students are doing.

Nondiscrimination Clause

The Eau Claire Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability.