

# ROBBINS ELEMENTARY

3832 EAST HAMILTON AVENUE

715-852-4600



## JANUARY NEWSLETTER

### **THINKING BIG IN 2020!**

The year 2020 always seemed like a long way off. It feels like just yesterday I was in a former role educating people about "Y2K," and now in the blink of an eye it's 20 years later. I must admit, the year 2020 has a nice ring to it. It sounds like a year when big things should happen. So, in honor of its epic nature, I've been trying to think of a big resolution.

Thankfully, I work in an inspiring place, surrounded by a school-full of creative minds. A lot of our Robbins students have shared their New Year's resolutions with me or in their classes – and I was struck by both the simplicity and the enormity of one in particular.

*I want to make the world a better place for everybody.*

This is now my New Year's resolution as well.

I love the fact that a child's vision of the future shows clearly where they want to be and isn't blurred by what might get in the way. As adults we may give up early on ideas, dreams or aspirations because we calculate the obstacles, the timeline or the practicality. Sometimes it takes a child to remind us that the world (even for adults!) is full of hope and possibility.

Here at Robbins, I am lucky enough to witness the creativity, curiosity, joy and enthusiasm of 500+ young people who will influence our future world. I hope 2020 holds wonderful things for you and your family. These kids dream big, and may they inspire us all to do the same.

Happy 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, 2020***

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 2020-2021 school year is February 5 – April 30, 2020. An online application will be available to the public beginning Monday, February 5, and closing at 4:00 pm on April 30, 2020. 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.

## **2020-2021 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

### **Now Enrolling for Kindergarten!**

The Eau Claire Area School District welcomes all children turning

**5 years old** on or before September 1, 2020 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](http://www.ecasd.us)

- Click on Enrollment
- Complete an Online Application

### **Step 2:**

Visit the Enrollment Office anytime between now and March 2020 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.

## **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 breakfast or 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.

## **SUMMER SCHOOL 2020**

We are thinking about Summer School!

Robbins Summer Steam will offer Let's Play for incoming Kindergarten students, Let's Explore for incoming First graders, Let's Imagine for incoming Second Graders, Let's Grow for incoming Third Graders, Let's Discover for incoming Fourth Graders, and Let's Get in Motion for incoming Fifth graders. Please visit the ECASD Summer Programs Webpage for more information, including summer library and summer camps.

[www.ecasd.us/summer](http://www.ecasd.us/summer)

The summer session for Robbins will be held from June 15th- July 1st.

Some dates to remember:

1. February 17 – Summer Program Guide arrives at your home this week
2. February 24 – Summer Program Registration Fair from 5:00 – 8:00 pm, at North High School
3. March 2 – online registration begins at 8:00 am
4. April 17 – Summer Programs registration due

## **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 like the one we have included 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 15!** Savers 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 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](mailto:diana.rohlik@rcu.org)

### **MONTHLY EVENTS:**

**January 1<sup>st</sup>:** NO SCHOOL  
**January 20<sup>th</sup>:** 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.