

Babylon Union Free School District



Travis Davey
Principal

Linda J. Rozzi
Superintendent of Schools

Elementary School
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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year! I hope that all of our Babylon families have experienced a summer full of swimming and playing, fireflies and bike rides. We have all learned over the first part of 2020 to be creative in our planning, flexible in reaction to the unexpected, and adaptable to new norms. Our lessons learned in reaction to life will serve us well as we approach the new school year. I invite all of us to approach this year with optimism and a growth mindset—that is a belief that the year ahead will present opportunities for us to learn and grow as individuals as well as a school community.

An energetic spirit of togetherness carries us into this school year as a result of the work of the BES Implementation Team. This team, comprised of parents and district staff members, tackled tough questions and devised solutions to open the school year with the health and safety and social emotional wellness of our students as top priorities. The Team generated a number of helpful resources for families that will help bring clarity to the unique opening of the school year while supporting an ongoing communication system that will help us adapt to the needs of our students and families as the year develops. I sincerely thank the parents who volunteered their time, talents, and vision to our Team during the precious days of summer.

As we approach the start of our year together, I want to provide you with a series of daily emails that offer an overview of our approach to the reopening of Babylon Elementary School and the start of our school year. Traditionally, this information is included with our summer mailing in one, comprehensive newsletter. With the volume of information that we are all trying to digest and understand related to COVID-19 and school opening, we want to make sure that we are communicating to you in a simplified and direct manner allowing you time to process the important details related to both in-person school and remote learning.

Below is the schedule of topics that I intend to cover through daily email correspondence. This information will coincide with additional resources and guidance shared on our school website in the coming days (http://babylon.k12.ny.us/our_schools/babylon_elementary_school).

Monday, 8/31: Welcome Information and First Days of School

Tuesday, 9/1: Daily Health Survey / Arrival & Dismissal

Wednesday, 9/2: Community Norms: Face Coverings, Daily Hygiene, Health and Safety Protocols

Thursday, 9/3: Technology Updates, 1:1 Device Distribution, and Remote Learning

Friday, 9/4: Social Emotional Wellness

Welcome Information and First Days of School

K-6 Summer Mailing & Class Placements: Scheduled to go out Friday, September 4th

First Days of School

- 1st Grade and 2nd Grade: Thursday, September 10th – Full Day
- Kindergarten Orientation: September 10th and 11th as scheduled (*details to arrive in summer mailing*)
- Kindergarten First Full Day: Monday, September 14th

School Hours: 8:50 a.m. – 3:05 p.m. (School doors open at 8:40 a.m.)

Breakfast Program: 8:35 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.

Transportation: If your child is eligible for busing, a bus tag will be included in the summer mailing packet. This year, Babylon Elementary School students will ride separately from Babylon Memorial Grade School

students. Students will be seated socially distant on buses unless sitting with family members. Kindergarten students will be seated closest to the front of the bus, followed by first graders, and then second graders. Older siblings will be permitted to sit with their younger siblings nearer to the front of the bus.

Our journey through the new school year is about to begin. I am continuously reminded of the power of this community and believe whole-heartedly that our partnership will bring wonderful opportunities for the children, whether they are with us here at school or learning at home remotely. All of us at BES remain committed to learning and growing along with you and your children throughout this year. Let us all remain optimistic that our work together will bring the smiles and growth in the children that has come to characterize the education offered here in Babylon Schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Travis Davey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'T'.

Travis Davey
Principal
Babylon Elementary School