

# Harding Elementary Newsletter

Back to School 2021

## Letter from the principal:

We are close to that time of year! School is just around the corner! I hope you are all soaking up every last bit of summer, enjoying time with family and relaxing! The Brunsvold clan has spent much of their summer enjoying the outdoors exploring Iowa and Minnesota!



In this newsletter you will find helpful information to make sure your child is all set for a successful school year! We are looking forward to (hopefully) a more normal school year. We will continue to implement enhanced cleaning procedures and practicing good hygiene to help our students to stay healthy.

This school year Harding will continue to focus on math and literacy work in the building. We will take a close look at how our students are doing in literacy and better align our supports for individual need. We will be in year two of implementing our new math program and are looking forward to digging deeper into the materials. In addition to the building wide use of PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports), we will be implementing a program called Zones of Regulation. Zones is a curriculum geared toward helping students gain skills in consciously regulating their actions. Students explore calming techniques, strategies and sensory supports so they will have a toolbox of methods to move between zones.

I can't wait for our hallways to once again be filled with the sounds of children! We are looking forward to a successful 2021-2022 school year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Brunsvold

## School Supply Lists

- 3 boxes of crayons (24 count)
- 2 boxes of 8 washable markers ("classic" colors - wide, not narrow)
- 12 (no. 2) wooden pencils
- 1 pencil box (approx. 5"x8")
- 1 large eraser
- 1 two-pocket folder
- 1 bottle of washable glue
- 8 glue sticks
- 1 package EXPO dry erase markers
- Large backpack or school bag
- Over the ear headphones

## Kindergarten

- 1 box of crayons (24 count)
- 2 boxes of 8 washable markers ("classic" colors - wide, not narrow)
- 12 (no. 2) wooden pencils
- 1 pencil box (approx. 5"x8")
- 1 box colored pencils (16 count)
- 1 large eraser
- 3 plain two-pocket folders
- 2 wide-ruled spiral notebooks (70 pages)
- 6 glue sticks
- 1 package thin, black EXPO dry erase markers (4 count)
- 1 pair scissors (fiskars recommended)
- Large backpack or school bag
- Over the ear headphones

## 1st Grade

- 1 box of crayons (24 count)
- 2 boxes of 8 washable markers ("classic" colors - wide, not narrow)
- 24 (no. 2) wooden pencils
- 1 pencil box (approx. 5"x8")
- 2 large erasers
- 4 plain two-pocket folders
- 3 wide-ruled spiral notebooks (70 pages)
- 2 glue sticks
- 1 package thin, black EXPO dry erase markers
- 1 package thick, black EXPO dry erase markers
- 1 child scissor (fiskars recommended)
- Large backpack or school bag
- Over the ear headphones

## 2nd Grade

- 1 box of 8 washable markers ("classic" colors - wide, not narrow)
- 24 (no. 2) plain, wooden pencils
- 1 small pencil box (5 X 8)
- 1 large eraser or pkg. pencil top erasers
- 5 plain two-pocket folders
- 4 wide-ruled, plain spiral notebooks (70 pages)
- 1 glue stick
- 1 scissors (fiskars recommended)
- 1 package EXPO dry erase markers
- Large backpack or school bag
- Over the ear headphones (not Bluetooth)

## 3rd grade

- 24 (no. 2) wooden pencils
- 1 small box of colored pencils
- 1 small pencil box (5 X 8)
- 5 two-pocket folders
- 5 wide-ruled, plain spiral notebooks (70 pages)
- 2 glue sticks
- 1 package of wide-lined, loose leaf paper
- 1 package EXPO dry erase markers
- 1 highlighter
- Over the ear headphones (not Bluetooth)
- Large backpack or school bag

## 4th grade

\*These lists are for students attending all public elementary schools in Mason City (Harding, Hoover, Jefferson, Roosevelt). Please purchase **only** the supplies listed for your child's grade level.

*Supplies provided remain the property of the student and not general classroom supplies.*

\*Please purchase tennis shoes for PE if your child does not normally wear them to school

# Back to School Open House

When

Thursday, Aug. 19th, 4-6pm

Where

1239 North Rhode Island Avenue  
Mason City, IA

More information

A back to school open house will be held at Harding in place of back to school conferences. This will be an opportunity for parents and students to meet classroom teachers and drop off school supplies!

## New Staff!

We have lots of new faces at Harding this year! Welcome to the following staff:

Kindergarten Teacher: **Lydia Paulson**

3rd grade Teacher: **Joy Cronbaugh**

4th grade Teacher: **Devin Womochil**

4th grade Teacher: **Austin Moore**

Paraprofessional: **Sydney Flynn**



## School Pictures

Picture Day is scheduled for Thursday, September 16.

Picture retakes will be on Thursday, October 28.

## Upcoming dates:

- Back to School Open House- Thursday, August 19 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- First Day of School- Monday, August 23
- Wednesday, August 25 1:40 p.m. dismissal
- Wednesday, September 1 1:40 p.m. dismissal
- No School- Monday, September 6- Labor Day
- Wednesday, September 8 1:40 p.m. dismissal
- September PTO Mtg. September 8 at 5:30 p.m. in Harding Learning Center
- Wednesday, September 15 1:40 p.m. dismissal
- Wednesday, September 22 1:40 p.m. dismissal
- Wednesday, September 29, 1:40 p.m. dismissal

# School Day

School starts daily at 8:05 a.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday school dismisses at 3:00.

**Wednesday's dismissal is at 1:40 p.m. for teacher professional development.**

Arrival: The building is open at 7:45 a.m. (Students will not be allowed in the building prior unless attending the Before School Program) Breakfast is served daily 7:45-8:05 a.m.

Dismissal: 3:00 p.m. (Students should bus, walk or be picked up. We ask that students not play on the playground after school as there is no supervision).



## Join the PTO!

The Harding PTO is a great parent-based organization that supports the students and facilities at Harding. This group meets once a month to talk about events, fundraising and other supports for the building!

Meetings will be held this year on the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Harding Learning Center.

If you have any questions or have an interest in being a part of this group feel free to reach out to the PTO president, Amber Kratz at [harding@pto.masoncityschools.org](mailto:harding@pto.masoncityschools.org)

### **PTO Board-**

President- Amber Kratz

Vice President- Cassandra Galsim

Treasurer- Kira Graf

Secretary- Kerry Stricker

## Harding Music Program Dates

Mark your calendars! All programs begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Harding gymnasium.



- **4th Grade:** May 12, 2022
- **3rd Grade:** November 11, 2021
- **2nd Grade:** January 13, 2022
- **1st Grade:** February 10, 2022
- **Kindergarten:** April 21, 2022

# Beginning of Year Reminders

- **Arrival-** Supervision is provided in the building beginning at 7:45 a.m. **Children should not arrive to school prior to this time as there is NOT supervision in the building.** If your child is dropped off early you will be contacted to pick them up.
- **Building Safety-** Please plan to drop your child off at the main entrance. Staff will be at the doors to greet students and get them where they need to go. All parents and visitors to Harding are expected to check in at the office and put on a visitors badge. Thank you for helping to keep the students at Harding safe. \*Parents of preschool students will receive preschool specific communication from the Early Childhood teachers.
- **Student Absence-** Please call the attendance number at **421-4406** if your child will be absent from school. You will be contacted if we do not hear from you to be sure your child is safe. Students arriving to school late must check-in at the office before going to the classroom.
- **Bus Loading Zone-** To ensure the safety of our students, we ask that you do not park in the bus loading zones designated by the yellow curb and posted signs. This area is very busy from 7:30-8:15 a.m. and again from 2:45-3:30 p.m.
- **Personal Property-** Students are encouraged to leave personal items at home. Equipment for recess will be provided by the school.

## COVID-19 Information

As of August 9, 2021 the Mason City School District will follow these updated health and safety guidelines/rules related to COVID-19



- All water bottle filling stations and drinking fountains will be operational.
- Signage regarding checking for symptoms will remain in the building.
- Entrance doors will remain locked and visitors should make an appointment or call at the door for admittance.
- Hand sanitizer and face coverings will be available at entry doors.
- Sanitizing stations will remain throughout each building.
- Building cleaning routines, schedules and procedures will remain in effect.
- Face coverings are recommended for all staff and students who are not vaccinated. It is not appropriate to ask people their vaccination status.
- Contact tracing and other related procedures related to a positive COVID test of staff and or students will continue.

\*The status of COVID-19 continues to evolve in our nation, state and our community. These guidelines will continue to change as needed. Please watch for any further updates.

