

## Fort Barton News Summer 2019

Welcome to Fort Barton School!

→ Here's some basic information:

- ◆ Address: 99 Lawton Avenue Tiverton, RI 02878 Phone 624-6114  
FAX 624-2927
- ◆ Principal: Suzette Wordell Secretary: Mrs. Cabral Nurse: Mrs. Frain  
Guidance: A big welcome to our new guidance counselor, Mr. Ian Maher. Fort Barton shares our new counselor with Tiverton High School. A full faculty listing will be uploaded on our District website: [www.tivertonschools.org](http://www.tivertonschools.org) by our district web master shortly. If you wish to contact by email any Tiverton District faculty member, just email their first initial, last name, then [@tivertonschools.org](mailto:@tivertonschools.org) ([swordell@tivertonschools.org](mailto:swordell@tivertonschools.org)).

School Hours of Operation:

- Breakfast only is at 8:20 am. School begins at 8:30 am this year!! Students are marked late (tardy) at 8:37 am. School walkers are dismissed at 3:05 pm out the back door (not the Main Office). Regular Bus Dismissal is at 3:10 pm.

Office Hours: 8:10 am - 3:40 pm

Principal's Hours: 7:45 am—4:00 pm

- ◆ Student Supervision begins at 8:20 am. There is no adult supervision at Fort Barton School earlier. Thank you!

→ School Begins on Thursday, August 29, 2019:

- ◆ We have put together the following First Day of School procedure to help alleviate "First Day of School Anxiety" that a few children experience:
  1. For all students: Please line up according to teacher and grade level signs on the outside lawn, across from the Main Entrance. Families are welcome!
  2. In case of rain: All students will go into the Gym, and find their teacher and grade level signs, beginning at 8:30 am.
  3. Once the class lines have been formed, at approximately 8:45 am, we ask all parents to kiss your children goodbye outside of the building so your children can enter the classroom with their new teacher and classmates only.
  4. If any children do experience anxiety, Mrs. Wordell (School Principal) and our administrative team (guidance, school psychologist, school social worker,

nurse) will be available to meet with students, and will contact parents individually if a problem occurs.

We look forward to having a successful school year with you!

→ Kindergarten and New Student Orientations:

- ◆ Thursday, August 22 9:30-10:30 – ALL KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS
- ◆ Thursday, August 22 11:00-11:30 – ALL NEW STUDENTS GR. 1-4 (Optional if your child is transferring from another Tiverton school)

This will include a tour of our building, and some quick facts about Fort Barton/Tiverton School District, and our Parent-Teacher Organization. I hope to see you then!

→ Upcoming Important Dates:

- ◆ Sunday, August 18 - 1pm Fort Barton PTO Landscaping Day!! Calling all gardeners!! Come and help beautify our lovely school!! The more people we get, the more and quicker we can get done - let's all make our school shine before the start of the school year!! Thank you in advance for all your help!! :)
- ◆ Monday, September 2 – No School
- ◆ Thursday, September 5 - First PTO Meeting of the Year - 6:30 pm in the School Library (Air Conditioned!!) Babysitting will be provided - please come and join us! Membership is free - all families are automatically members of our awesome Fort Barton PTO!! Hope to see you there!
- ◆ Thursday, September 12 - 6-7 pm Open House! Come meet and greet your child's teachers for this school year, and tour our school building!! We do a very informal Open House, so your child will bring you to their classroom, introduce you to their teacher, and show you around their classroom. Afterwards, please come outside and join in a Fort Barton School family tradition - Open House family playtime on our playground until dark where you can meet new families and friends!! Also, we will have a few tables set up when you enter our school featuring our great PTO and have a BCI check station available for volunteering in our schools!! More information to follow!!
- ◆ Tuesday, September 17 – Lifetouch School Picture Day. All students will receive picture information, and we will take all student and staff pictures on September 17. Thank you!
- ◆ Wednesday, September 18 - Early Release Day. All Elementary students are released at 11:45, after lunches are served.

## → Optional Student Supplies List:

I have attached an Optional Student Supplies List. Many children want to buy supplies for the new school year, but we don't want parents to spend money on items that won't be used – so we created this optional list instead. The list is posted on our website at [www.tivertonschools.org/fortbarton](http://www.tivertonschools.org/fortbarton). If you can't access it, please feel free to contact me at [swordell@tivertonschools.org](mailto:swordell@tivertonschools.org) or my secretary Mrs. Cabral at [ccabral@tivertonschools.org](mailto:ccabral@tivertonschools.org). Thanks!

## → Kindergarten and Gr. 1 Student Identification Cards:

- ◆ Parents of students in grades K and 1, as per Tiverton School Department Policy, are required to have Tiverton School Department Identification Cards to pick up their children from school or from the bus daily. If your child is entering 1st grade, please use the same ID card as last year.
- ◆ Students will not be released to the custody of an adult who is not listed on the child's emergency list, and does not have proper identification.
- ◆ If your child who is entering grades K or 1 does not have a photo identification card, please contact our office at 624-6114, and set up a meeting time with Mrs. Cabral, school secretary, to have a picture taken.

## Early Risers Program:

### **Hours of Operation**

7:00 AM until the start of elementary school (K-4).

6:30 AM until the start of middle school (5-8)

Early Risers is open every day that school is open.

### **Days of Operation**

All regularly scheduled school days, including the mornings of early release days.

### **Snow Days**

If Tiverton Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, Early Risers is closed.

### **Tuition**

A one time deposit of \$75.00 will be collected through our MySchoolBucks feature is currently in progress. Once registered you will receive information that will assist you in submitting your \$75 deposit. Tuition is billed monthly in advance. Tuition for the first child in a family is \$15.00/daily. Tuition for additional siblings within a family is \$10.00/daily. A sibling is defined as a child or foster child that resides at the same home of record or that shares at least one parent.

The following scheduling options are available:

- Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays
- Tuesdays and Thursdays or
- Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays

Registration for the Early Risers program can be found at [www.tivertonschools.org](http://www.tivertonschools.org).

→ Busing:

- ◆ Our transportation is provided by First Student Transportation, on Main Road, in Tiverton. Their phone number is 625-5562. If you have any questions about the arrival time of buses, or items your child may have left on the bus, please contact the bus company directly. If you are moving or have a telephone number change, please also contact the Bus Company.
- ◆ The 2019-2020 Tiverton Schools Bus Schedule will be printed in the Sakonnet Times, and at [www.tivertonschools.org](http://www.tivertonschools.org) ONE WEEK before school begins.

→ Morning Car Drop-Off for Walkers:

If you choose to drop off your child in the morning, please enter our school parking lot along Lawton Avenue and pull your car up to the end of the sidewalk. This is important for school safety, because we have cars backed up on Lawton Avenue each morning, and buses are prevented from entering our school lot. Thank you for cooperating.

→ Parking at Fort Barton School:

All cars MUST park in the lot to the West of the Building, directly off of Lawton Avenue. NO CARS will be allowed to park in the bus drop-off area of the building, due to student safety. Please adhere to the signage throughout the property to help us ensure the safety of all at our building. Thank you!!!

→ Dismissal Procedures at Fort Barton School:

- ◆ Students are dismissed 2 ways at Fort Barton School:
  1. Walkers
  2. Bus Riders
- ◆ The Dismissal Procedure for Walkers is as follows:
  1. Have your child bring in either a note the day of the walker dismissal, or a PERMANENT WALKER NOTE if your child will always be a walker on certain days of the week. Address the note to your child's teacher.

2. This note will be sent to the Office after the teacher notates the dismissal. Ms. Wordell will sign each walker note, and will keep a copy of the note in the Office. For student safety, we will be placing phone calls to verify walker notes.
3. At 3:05 pm, students will be dismissed in the following order: grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, out the back (South) entrance to the building. There will be a teacher on duty, who will have a Student Sign-Out Log. You must sign your child out every day. You must have Identification (a license or state picture ID card), and specifically if your child is in grades K & 1, you must have your child's Tiverton Student ID, in order for us to release your child. If you don't have Identification with you, please come to the Front Office.

- ◆ The Dismissal Procedure for Bus Riders is as follows:
- ◆ Students will be called from their classrooms as each bus arrives.
- ◆ Students will line up in grades K,1,2,3,4 order.
- ◆ Mrs. Wordell or another designated faculty member will escort the bus line outside to make sure the children are getting on the bus.

→ **School Breakfast & Lunch: PRICES MAY CHANGE FOR 2019-2020**

- ◆ Breakfast & Lunch will be offered daily for students from Chartwells Lunch Services. Each day, children have 3 choices for lunch: 1. a hot meal, which consists of a hot entrée (such as one slice of pizza), a side dish of vegetables or fruit, and a milk; 2. a cold meal, which consists of a cold entrée (such as a cold-cuts sandwich or salad plate), a side dish of vegetables or fruit, and a milk; or 3. a sandwich option, a side dish of vegetables or fruit, and a milk.
- ◆ To apply for free or reduce lunches or breakfasts, please fill out the Federal Free/Reduced Lunch Eligibility form that will be sent home on the first day of school, and send it in directly to the Superintendent's Office. No applications are processed at Fort Barton School. This information is confidential. With the cost of lunch rising, we are encouraging as many families as possible who may qualify for reduced or free pricing to do so. If your family does not qualify in September, and your family situation changes during the year (loss of employment, separation/divorce, etc.), you can feel free to either apply or reapply for benefits.

→ **E-mail Communications:**

The Tiverton Public Schools and Fort Barton School send as many communications as possible through e-mail, including all emergency notifications, such as early dismissals and snow

cancellations. If your e-mail address changes, please contact Ms. Wordell or Mrs. Cabral as soon as possible. Thank you!

→ Medications for Students:

- ◆ If your child is in need of any medications during the school day, please bring them into Fort Barton School prior to the start of school. Please make sure that your child's medicine is labeled in a bottle with the original prescription label visible.
- ◆ Our school nurse, Mrs. Frain, will contact you with any additional information that may be needed. Thank you for your cooperation.

→ Visiting or Volunteering in our Building:

- ◆ We would love to have as many people volunteer in our building as possible and work with our students and in our classrooms. In order to do that, every adult who comes into our school and interacts with children must have a RI State BCI check completed (this is RI State Law and Tiverton School Committee Policy).

We understand that this may pose an inconvenience to families, so we will be hosting a BCI clinic during our Open House (to be scheduled in September), in our Main Office. You can visit your child's teacher and classroom, then come right into the office, fill out the paperwork and pay the minimal fee (\$5). Tiverton Police Department works with our School Department in processing these requests very quickly, so families can begin volunteering at Fort Barton School and at PTO events soon after.

→ Fort Barton Elementary School Student Directory (sponsored by PTO):

- ◆ On the first day of school, you will receive a notice regarding the Fort Barton Elementary School Student Directory. Participation in this book is voluntary.
- ◆ However, since we will no longer allow students to hand out birthday invites in class (it causes too many hurt feelings, arguments, fights, etc.), since this listing will contain every student's home address for you to mail out the invitations.
- ◆ We'd appreciate if you could send in the information required by Friday, September 13, 2019. Thank you to the PTO for coordinating this important booklet.

→ Student Classroom Assignments:

- ◆ Students in grades 1-4 will be receiving a Post Card with their child's teacher named by the end of the first week of August.

- ◆ Please do not call the office and request to change your child's teacher after receiving the Post Card. Students may want to be in a class with their friends, but we create class assignments based on what would be the best educational placement for your child. Children in both classes have combined daily recess, so they can play together daily, even if they are not in the same class. Thank you!

→ Alternate Bus Drop-Off/Pick-Up Form (for First Student Bus Company):

- ◆ Please fill out the attached form if needed and send it in to Fort Barton School prior to August 15 for all students who may not be picked up or dropped off at their home addresses (this includes if your child is being picked up or dropped off at a daycare like SELC, etc.). The bus company MUST have this paperwork on file for you by August 15. The reason the bus company needs this information now is because they are trying to develop accurate bus lists for the first day of school. Thank you for your cooperation.

I'm looking forward to a terrific school year with each of you! Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks!

Suzette Wordell, Principal

[swordell@tivertonschools.org](mailto:swordell@tivertonschools.org)