



Central School

“Where Excellence Begins”

September 23, 2021

Dear Parents,

Central School is ready to welcome you to the new gem of the Glen Ridge School District. We join the successful track records set at Forest and Linden Avenue Schools and the legacy of excellence found in Glen Ridge Public Schools. The new classrooms are outfitted with brand new furniture and the teachers are eager to begin the school year. School opens on September 1, 2021 and the daily schedule is as follows:

Preschool/Pre-Kindergarten Schedule

	<u>PreK – Half Day</u>	<u>PreK- Full Day</u>	<u>PreSchool</u>
Regular Session	8:30-12:30	8:30 – 3:00	8:45 – 2:45
Early Dismissal Days	8:30-12:30	8:30-12:30	8:45-12:30
Delayed Openings	10:00 -12:30	10:00-3:00	10:15-2:30

On the first day of school, the teachers and aides will be outside to assist your children as they arrive. Please plan to have your children arrive no earlier than 8:30 AM and no later than 8:40 AM. Should we encounter inclement weather, please escort your child to the side door near the playground and we will help escort him or her into the building. Parents, please do not enter the building unless you have a scheduled appointment.

Should the need arise for your child to arrive at school prior to the normal 8:30 AM arrival time, parents might consider enrolling their child in the Before-Care Program. Please contact Alphabest Child Care Program at: <https://www.alphabest.org/glenridgenj>

Arrival

Supervision begins at 8:30 AM and students enter the building as they arrive; they are met by their classroom teachers. Students arriving to school after 8:40 AM are considered tardy should report to the main office to be signed in by their parent. Pupils who are late to school or to class, miss essential portions of the instructional program and create disruptions in the academic process for themselves and other pupils.

We ask that you inform the main office by 8:45 AM, Beth Wall at EWall@glenridge.org, if your child will be absent for the day. A written note from the parent or guardian stating the reason for the absence and the date of the absence is required and must be presented to the main office.

If a child is to be excused early, a note must be sent to school with the child explaining the reason for the premature dismissal. A parent must pick the child up in the office. All children leaving early must be signed out by a parent/guardian in the office.

Dismissal

Preschool/PreKindergarten children are dismissed at 2:45 PM. Students must be dismissed to parents or caregivers. If your child has a playdate and is going home with another parent or caregiver, this must be arranged prior to arrival. A note stating the change in dismissal must be given to your child's teacher at arrival. Students are not permitted to play unsupervised on the playground.

Early Dismissal

This year, school will be dismissed at 12:00 or 12:30 PM on November 14th and 15th for Parent Conferences; November 27th for the Thanksgiving holiday; December 20th for the holiday recess; February 13th for winter recess; March 16th for a professional day for staff and March 26th and March 27th for the Spring Parent Conferences.

Fall Holidays

A board approved version of the 2021-2022 school calendar is posted on our [district website](#).

Visitors/Volunteers

Our school both welcomes and depends upon parent volunteers who come to the building every day. At this time, parents and visitors are to be limited as we follow the directives of the Bloomfield Board of Health and state COVID-19 directives.

However, when we are able to host visitors more freely, we ask that you sign in at the main office to receive the proper identification badge. If you need to speak with a teacher, please arrange a mutually agreed upon time to do so. All visitors will be required to have a driver's license or a government issued identification to enter the building.

Back To School Night

Back to School Night will be held virtually on Tuesday, September 23 from 7-8:30 PM at Central School. Parents will receive notice soon after school begins advising them of the Back to School Night schedule. This is an opportunity for parents to meet teachers and learn about the classroom setting and expectations of students for the school year.

Birthday Celebrations

State law prevents the serving or distribution of food or candy during the school day. Birthday celebrations in school will be **non-food** events or activities. The classroom teacher should be contacted prior to the birthday. Party invitations may be distributed in school only if every child in the class is included.

Snack

A snack time will be scheduled for the students. Teachers and class parents will be responsible for arranging for the provision of nutritious snacks for Pre-Kindergarten students. Teachers at other grade levels will allow time for a daily snack. **Peanut butter or foods containing peanuts or nuts are not permitted in the classroom for snack or for special occasions.**

Emergency Closings

Emergency closing of the Glen Ridge Public Schools will be based on the health and safety of students and staff, and in the case of winter or other severe storm conditions, on the reasonable ability of the staff to travel. Any decisions for an emergency school closing will be made by the Superintendent of Schools, or, in his/her absence, by his/her designee.

Closing will fall into two major categories:

1. Full-day shutdown: Call **429-8300** for information relative to a full-day shutdown.
2. Delayed opening: Call **429-8300** for information relative to a delayed opening.

Early Closing: When the decision is made to close, the information will be relayed to each Principal and the SkyAlert system will be activated.

Family Access

All families must re-register each child through Family Access on our website. Please complete this process for each child(ren) in school. This is necessary to verify information regarding emergency contacts; publicity permission; review of form notifications and school handbooks. New families please email the technology department at abooth@glenridge.org for a username and password.

Horseshoe Driveway and Drop-Off Zone

The horseshoe driveway on High Street is closed to vehicular traffic. **Please do not use this driveway for any reason.** It is a designated fire lane and is used for the school bus. The Drop-Off Zone is located along the sidewalk in front of the playground. PreK aides will assist children as they get out of the car. Parents may also find a parking spot in the lot closest to Hillside Avenue.

We are looking forward to seeing you and your child(ren) in September for a great year at Central School.

Sincerely

Dr. Keisha L. Harris, Principal

