

## Back-To-School Edition

Dear Central Elementary Families,

At the end of March, I had the opportunity to visit a number of national parks out west. One of my favorite parks was Zion National Park in Utah. During our time there, my daughter Lane and I decided to climb a 1,488 foot rock formation to a place called Angel's Landing which is at an elevation of 5,790 feet. The climb was strenuous, but well worth the views from the top!

As I began preparing for my 32nd year in education, I recognized the journey during a school year has many similarities to the mountain climb I experienced at Zion. The journey can sometimes seem overwhelming, but if you focus on taking one step at a time you'll be amazed at how much you'll achieve. The views at the top are spectacular, but you'll never experience them unless you put the effort in (the greater the challenge the greater the reward). Always keep a positive attitude. During a long hike, you start to wonder if you'll ever reach the destination, but if you keep a positive attitude the climb is so much more enjoyable. Be grateful during the journey. During the climb I had to stop and enjoy the beauty that surrounded me, and how thankful I was to be able to experience it with our daughter. Finally, reaching the top of a mountain takes teamwork. There were many supports we received from others along the journey...words of encouragement, chains installed in the mountainside to grab ahold of, and people making the journey with us.

I look forward to partnering with you during the "mountain climb" ahead called a school year. By working together, we'll accomplish great things! A productive partnership begins with communication. I believe this is truly key to a successful educational experience. Along with our traditional communication avenues, I'll be using text messaging to provide weekly updates as to what is happening at Central Elementary. I would invite you to sign up for Central Families Remind Text Messages by texting @petcentral to the number 81010 (if you haven't done so already).

On behalf of the amazing Central staff, I offer a warm welcome to an exciting journey ahead. My door is always open and I would encourage you to contact me if you ever need anything. I look forward to seeing all of you during our Open House on August 28. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Warm Regards,  
 Cal Prins, Principal  
 231-348-2110  
 prins.cx.m@petoskeyschools.org



Lane and I after we reached Angel's Landing.

August, 2019

### Breakfast & Lunch Prices for 2019:

- ◆ Breakfast: \$1.50
- ◆ Reduced Breakfast: \$.30
- ◆ Lunch: \$2.75
- ◆ Reduced Lunch \$.40
- ◆ A la carte milk \$.45

Apply for Free & Reduced Breakfast and Lunch Meals On-Line:  
[www.lunchapp.com](http://www.lunchapp.com)

**Sept. 3rd ...1st Day of School! It will be a 1/2 day with dismissal at 11:40 a.m.**

### Daily Schedule:

- 7:50 a.m. Breakfast is being served
- 8:00 a.m. Students travel to classrooms
- 8:10 a.m. Classes Begin—please be on time
- 3:05 p.m. All Students Dismissed

## Safe and Orderly Start and End of Day

A few reminders regarding our start and end of the day routines:



- ◆ **All Entrances will be locked during the school day**

- ◆ **State Street Entrance**

Morning: A staff member will greet and open the door for students arriving between 7:50 and 8:10 a.m. We ask that you say good bye outside or in the lobby area, and allow your student to travel to their locker/classroom on their own.

Afternoon: The door will open at 3:05 p.m. for you to enter the building to get your student. The doors will lock back down at 3:15 p.m.

- ◆ **Grove Street Entrance**

Morning: A staff member will greet and open the door for students arriving between 8:00 and 8:10 a.m. We ask that you allow your student to enter the building on their own.

Afternoon: The door will open at 3:05 p.m. for you to enter the building, and will lock back down at 3:15 p.m.

If your student arrives after 8:10 a.m., they'll be asked to enter at our main entrance on State Street. During the school day (8:10 a.m. until 3:05 p.m.), **all parents and other visitors will be asked to enter through the main entrance, located on State Street, only.** We would also like to remind you that when you come to Central Elementary for any purpose you must check in at the main office, where we will be able to assist you. Thank you for supporting our efforts to make our school a safe place for students, yet welcoming to our guests and family members.

### New To Our Team!

Please welcome Stephanie Mallory to our team at Central! Stephanie will be teaching second grade this coming year. As a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, she did her student teaching five years ago with Mrs. Gudmunsen and has taught second grade in Boyne Falls the past four years. Welcome, Mrs. Mallory!!



### A Great Start To The Day!

August is a great time to start getting your student into a routine to avoid a rough transition when school begins. How we begin our day often impacts the rest of our day. Here are a few tips from Dr. Kristen Race that will help make mornings more blissful:

- ◆ Get organized the night before...clothes picked out, backpacks organized, and lunches planned.
- ◆ Wake up early to allow for some quiet time prior to the beginning of your day.
- ◆ Create a routine: who makes breakfast, who drives to school, and what time you wake up each day.

Mornings don't need to be stressful. When we create a calm and predictable morning routine, we set ourselves, and our kids, up for a happy and productive day!

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

August 28, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.



Your entire family is invited to attend a special **Open House** from 5:00 pm until 6:30 pm on **Wednesday, August 28**. The Open House gives you and your student a chance to meet the teachers, see the classroom, and get to know other students before our first day.

Our school's P.T.O. will have important information to share with you in the gym during the Open House. The PTO is making plans for many fun activities designed to enhance student learning and encourage parent involvement. Officers include Laura Lamp, Erin Luckhardt, Allen Fauser, Abby Schroer, Jen Hoig, Jessica Berg, Jenny Greer, and Lauren Scriven. Our Central families appreciate their extra time, effort, and talents!

We sincerely hope that your family can attend our Open House on August 28th, and look forward to seeing you soon.

### Please Join Us!

Are you a parent of a kindergarten student, or new to our school? Please stop by the cafeteria after dropping your student off on the first day of school (8:10-9:00 a.m.). Our PTO is sponsoring a time to connect with other parents! Refreshments, coffee, and lots of support will be provided. We hope you can join us, and discover the wonderful group of parents and families at Central Elementary!



### Get Involved with Central's Parent Organization

Check out Central's PTO Facebook page (*you can find it at... Petoskey Central Elementary PTO*). It is here that we will provide our parents and families with ongoing information about what is happening at our school and PTO.

If you are looking for a great way to get involved and be informed as to what is taking place at Central, you might want to consider attending one of our PTO meetings. Meeting times and locations will be posted on facebook, our building calendar, and monthly newsletters.



If you would like to gather more information about how you can be involved, please contact our school office, or one of our PTO presidents:

- Laura Lamp            231-675-5690
- Allen Fauser           231-445-1999
- Erin Luckhardt        989-906-6202