

# Bingham & Downing Elementary Schools



August 11, 2023

Dear Bingham & Downing Families,

Welcome Back! I hope you had a fun summer and are excited for the school year to begin.

Our incoming **pre-kindergarten** students and parents (Bingham only) are encouraged to visit their classroom and [meet the pre-k teaching staff](#) on Wednesday, 8/30, from 5:30-6:00 PM. Our Back to School BBQ is at Volz on 8/30 from 6:00-7:30 PM. We hope to see you there! Our incoming **kindergarten** students and parents are encouraged to visit their classrooms and [meet the kindergarten teaching staff](#) on Thursday, 8/31. Please try to arrive five minutes prior to the start time. The times are as follows:

**Bingham: 10:30 - 11:45 AM**

**Downing: 1:00 - 2:15 PM**

On the first day of school, Tuesday, 9/5, all of our staff will greet the students on the blacktop outside at 8:15 AM. If you need help locating a teacher or have any questions, see a staff member. **All staff members will have a badge.** On Wednesday, 9/6, students will enter the building and the teachers will greet them inside. We have ample staff at the entry doors and throughout the building to help our students get to their classrooms. **Our students will walk the red carpet into the building this year!**

Below lists some information worth sharing:

- Within the next week, you will receive an email that will require you to update all of your information in our parent portal (Realtime) before you are able to view your child's homeroom teacher.
- Arrival & Dismissal:
  - **K-3rd:** Doors are open for arrival from 8:15 - 8:30 AM. Once the doors close at 8:30, students must go to the main entrance. *Please make every effort to arrive by 8:20 AM. Students who arrive after 8:30 will be marked tardy.* Dismissal is 2:55 - 3:00 PM - The first few days will take longer than usual.
  - **Pre K at Bingham:** Doors are open for arrival from 8:35-8:45 AM. Dismissal is 2:35-2:45 PM.

- **Bingham:** Students will enter in the front of the building near the playground (Entrance B). Dismissal will be in front of the school (Pre K, K, & 3 - Entrance B, 1st & 2nd - Entrance A). **Downing:** Students will enter and exit in the back of the building.
- Parking will be limited, so please consider walking to school to avoid any inconvenience. The drop off zones are clearly identified in various areas around the perimeter of the school. Parking lots are for staff only.
- No parents are permitted in the building beyond the drop-off stations. If you forget to send your child with his/her backpack, lunch, etc...the main office staff will buzz you in the main entrance and you will leave the items at the drop off station (preferably 9:30 - 2:30).
- Back to School Night for parents is on Monday, 9/18, from 6:00-7:30 PM. We strongly recommend that students do **not** participate in this event. The schedule is as follows:

5:50 - 6:00	Doors open for arrival
6:00 - 6:40	<b>Homeroom Teacher Presentation #1</b>
6:45 - 7:25	<b>Homeroom Teacher Presentation #2</b> <i>In an effort to accommodate parents with more than one child, this is a repeat of the same presentation.</i>
7:30	Doors will be secured for the evening

We encourage parents to visit the library and STEAM lab to meet our intervention specialists, special subject area teachers, and additional staff members at any time between 6:00 - 7:15 PM.

Lastly, we are [bucket filling schools](#)! Each and every classroom will integrate the philosophy into his/her classroom. I am very excited to see the students on the first day of school!

Sincerely,

Jade A. Yezzi, Principal

**Misc. Information:**

- Students should wear sneakers or comfortable closed-toe shoes to school.
- Check out our website, [www.runnemedeschools.org](http://www.runnemedeschools.org), for information about before/after care, supply lists, our food service program, and teacher websites.
- If you have any general questions, please do not hesitate to contact our main office:
  - Bingham - 856-939-3192 or [srost@runnemedeschools.org](mailto:srost@runnemedeschools.org)
  - Downing - 856-939-4036 or [dclark@runnemedeschools.org](mailto:dclark@runnemedeschools.org)
- Please make regular school attendance a priority. In the event your child is sick, please call the school and leave a message on our 24 hour attendance line (prompt #1).
- No dogs are permitted on school property.
- Our school nurses can assist you with health/medical matters. Email is the best way to communicate during the summer months.
  - Bingham - Mrs. Shapiro [lshapiro@runnemedeschools.org](mailto:lshapiro@runnemedeschools.org)
  - Downing - Mrs. Feldman [kfeldman@runnemedeschools.org](mailto:kfeldman@runnemedeschools.org)
- A monthly newsletter will be sent in an email that lists various school happenings and general reminders. There are various links that you should view so you're kept informed.