



The Elias Howe School

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Ryan Bourke, Principal

Dana Goldberg, Assistant Principal

August 22nd, 2017

Dear Parents and Families of P.S. 51:

It is a great honor to introduce myself as the new principal of P.S. 51. I have had the pleasure of meeting some families over the month of August and I look forward to getting to know all of you over the weeks and months ahead. If you haven't had a chance to meet me, please feel welcome to stop by or call. P.S. 51 is an incredible school and I am thrilled to be a part of this wonderful community!

Now that the start of the 2017/18 school year is just around the corner, I want to take a minute to give you some important information about the beginning of school. I'm sure you've had a great summer and I want to make sure that the transition back to school is as equally stress-free and enjoyable for you and your child! Shortly, all the staff and teachers will be in the building preparing for the return of students. They too, are committed to welcoming everyone back to what is sure to be an exciting year. We can't wait to have all students here!

For your convenience, I've included some important information below. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school at (212) 315-7160.

- The first day of school is **Thursday, September 7th**.
- School begins promptly at **8:15am and dismisses at 2:30pm** for all students in Kindergarten to 5th grade.
- **Pre-K students will attend school for 1 hour on September 7th (with their parent) and for half a day (8:15-11:30am) on September 8th**. Please refer to the letter you received in July or August for the exact times for the September 7th sessions. If you didn't receive a letter with this information, please contact the school.
- **Abundant Waters** afterschool questions should be directed to Marlie Buehler at marliebuehler@rcn.com or Roxy McCarroll at roxy.mccarroll@gmail.com. *Page Turners*, *PAL* (Police Athletic League) and *Hartley House* provide off-campus programs. Contact Giselle Leon (GLEon2@schools.nyc.gov) with questions.
- School supply lists were sent home in June with report cards. If you did not receive one, your child's teacher will provide this information once school begins.
- **Class assignment information will be made available to families at 9:00am on Wednesday, September 6th**. Large posters with students' first names will be posted on the windows at the main entrance. In addition, on the first day of school we will have school personnel available to help your child locate her/his teacher.
- I will hold **Coffee and Conversation** meetings with parents on the following dates: Parents of children in grades Pre-K to 2nd (Sept. 20th at 8:30); parents of children in grades 3rd to 5th (Sept. 21st at 8:30). More information will come.

Finally, please begin having school-related conversations with your child. The summer-to-school transition can be challenging; however, the more you are able to prepare for this time, the easier it will be.

Thank you! I look forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Best regards,

Ryan Bourke