



# Watertown Public Schools

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TO: Watertown Tab and Press

FROM: Ann Koufman-Frederick *A.K.F.*  
Superintendent

RE: **NEWS RELEASE: WEEKS OF** August 21, 2009  
August 28, 2009  
September 4, 2009

DATE: August 5, 2009

Please print the enclosed news release pertaining to the opening of schools in Watertown for the 2009-10 school year.

We are requesting that the article run for three weeks (dates indicated above).

Thank you very much.

AKF:jmj

Enc.

## SCHOOL OPENING – SEPTEMBER 8, 2009

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ann Koufman-Frederick announces that students in the Watertown Public Schools begin the 2009-10 school year on Tuesday, September 8, 2009.

### STUDENT REGISTRATION

For registration at the appropriate school, new students should bring their birth certificate, school records or report cards (if records from their previous school were not already transferred), complete health records indicating all required immunizations were received, and proof of residency (e.g. lease or utility bill). These immunizations are a requirement of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and must be received before the student may attend school or be enrolled. A parent or guardian should accompany the child to school. The Principal or Assistant Principal will be available for consultation. Parents or guardians of students entering either elementary school or Watertown High School for the first time should call 617-926-7736 for an appointment to register their child, and students entering Watertown Middle School for the first time should call 617-926-7786 x 1005 for an appointment.

Watertown High School. Registration for new students is on Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Watertown Middle School. Registration for new students is on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.  
*Registrations is done by appointment only.*

Cunniff, Hosmer and Lowell Schools. Registration for new students is on Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

### STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

School bus transportation is available for Hosmer School and Watertown Middle School students only. To be eligible for transportation, students must live .75 or more miles from their school. Parents of eligible students requiring transportation must register for the bus through the School Business Office, 30 Common Street, Watertown and are processed on a first come, first served bases. The fee is \$180 per year with a \$250 maximum per family. Elementary students who live 1.5 miles or more from the Hosmer School and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who live 2 or more miles from the Middle School are not required to pay the fee, but must register. Parents may be eligible for a waiver or reduction of the transportation fee due to financial hardship. Registration forms were issued in June 2009 to current eligible students. For further information, please call 617-926-7716.

A FY '10 Student Bus Pass will be issued to all students that completed a FY '10 registration form. No student will be admitted to the bus without the current FY '10 Bus Pass. A Watertown Public Schools Bus Schedule will be mailed with a student's FY '10 Bus Pass by August 28, 2009. In addition, a copy of the rules and regulations for all transported students will be included with the bus pass. All students riding on school busses are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will not interfere with the safe operation of the bus and/or the safety of other passengers.

Students attending Minuteman Technical High School will receive by mail a FY '10 registration form by August 3, 2009. The registration must be returned to the Transportation Office at 30 Common Street by August 24, 2009. Unregistered students will not be permitted to ride the bus to Minuteman.

Any questions regarding school bus transportation should be directed to the Transportation Office by calling 617-926-7716.

## STUDENT SCHEDULES

### WATERTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

All Freshman students report to the High School Cafeteria at 7:55 a.m. on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Students in grades 10, 11 and 12 will report to school at 9:55 a.m. (homeroom) on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. This will be a full day of school for all students. If a student has scheduling problems, faculty are available for assistance, by appointment. Lunch will be available for all students. Dismissal is at 2:30 p.m.

### WATERTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 6, 7, and 8 students report to school on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. Students begin class at 7:40 a.m. and are dismissed at 2:10 p.m.

### CUNNIFF SCHOOL

Students in Grades 1 to 5 at the Cunniff School report to school on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at 8:15 a.m. Dismissal is at 2:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, PreKindergarten/Kindergarten teachers meet with parents and children according to appointments assigned to each child in their placement letter. PreK and Kindergarten classes begin on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> according to the following schedule. Please note arrival and departure times for each day.

Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. No lunch or extended day programs.

Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Lunch will be served. No extended day programs.

Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m. arrival and 2:35 p.m. dismissal. Extended day programs begin for registered students.

### HOSMER SCHOOL

Students in Grades 1 to 5 at the Hosmer School report to school on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at 8:20 a.m. Dismissal is at 2:35 p.m.

On Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, PreKindergarten/Kindergarten teachers meet with parents and children according to appointments assigned to each child in their placement letter. PreK and Kindergarten classes begin on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> according to the following schedule. Please note arrival and departure times for each day.

Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:20 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. No lunch, transportation or extended day programs.

Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:20 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Lunch served. No transportation or extended day programs.

Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 8:20 a.m. arrival and 2:35 p.m. dismissal. Extended day programs and transportation begin for registered students.

## LOWELL SCHOOL

All students in Grades 1 to 5 at the Lowell School will report to school on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at 8:15 a.m. Dismissal is at 2:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, PreKindergarten/Kindergarten teachers meet with parents and children according to appointments assigned to each child in their placement letter. PreK and Kindergarten classes begin on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> according to the following schedule. Please note arrival and departure times for each day.

Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. No lunch or extended day programs.

Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Lunch served. No extended day programs.

Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 8:15 a.m. arrival and 2:30 p.m. dismissal. Extended day programs begin for registered students.

## WATERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

On Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> Early Steps Integrated Preschool Teachers meet with parents and children. Morning classes meet from 10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and afternoon classes meet from 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Classes begin on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> according to your child's class assignment.

## WATERTOWN COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Before and After School Programs for Grades 1-5 at the Cunniff, Hosmer and Lowell Elementary Schools begin on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. Before School Programs start at 7:15 a.m. and Extended Day Programs start at the close of the school day. PreK/Kindergarten Before and After School Programs begin on Friday, September 11, 2009. For further information, please contact Ms. Beth Sahakian at 617-923-7653.

## MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTERING SCHOOL

### MEASLES VACCINE

All students entering Kindergarten are required to have a second dose of Measles Vaccine.

It is recommended that the combination Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccine be used to maximize protection from all three diseases.

### HEPATITIS B VACCINE

In addition to the other medical requirements, students entering Kindergarten are required to have proof that they have had the Hepatitis B Vaccine.

### TD BOOSTER

All Grade 7 students are required to have a TD booster within five years.

## VARICELLA (Chicken Pox)

All students entering Preschool, Kindergarten and Grade 7 must have the Varicella Vaccine or proof of having had Chicken Pox from their doctor.

## PHYSICAL EXAM

Students entering Kindergarten must have a recent physical exam (since September 2008) by a licensed practitioner. They must also provide a certificate that they had a recent eye exam. Proof of the physical and eye exam must be given to the school nurse on or before the first day of school.

Grade 4, Grade 7 and Grade 10 students must have a physical (since September 2008). Proof of the physical must be given to the school nurse on or before the first day of school.

New students entering the system must provide proof of a recent physical (since September 2008) to the school nurse.

## **STUDENTS ATTENDING MINUTEMAN REGIONAL VOCATION TECHNICAL SCHOOL:**

### FIRST TIME STUDENTS

The first day of school for new students attending Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School in Lexington is Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Transportation to Minuteman is provided by the Watertown Public Schools. (Students enrolled in Minuteman will receive a bus schedule in the mail.)

### ALL OTHER MINUTEMAN STUDENTS

The first day of school for other students attending Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School is Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. Normal school hours are 7:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

## **BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM**

The School Breakfast/Lunch Program for both the elementary and secondary students begins at all schools on Tuesday, September 8, 2009, which is the first day of school. A full lunch will be available. Lunch prices are:

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM

Breakfast	\$1.25 /day; (\$.30 reduced; and free to eligible students)
Lunch	\$3.00/day or \$15.00 week; (\$.40 reduced; and free to eligible students)
Milk (white & chocolate)*	\$.55/carton

Whole, lowfat, skim, or lowfat chocolate milk is included with school lunch.

(Elementary students may purchase meal or milk tickets by the day or in any quantity.)

## SECONDARY SCHOOLS BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM

### Breakfast

Watertown High School \$1.75 /day (\$.30 reduced; and free to eligible students)

Watertown Middle School \$1.25 /day (\$.40 reduced; and free to eligible students)

Lunch-Watertown High \$3.50/day (\$.40 reduced; and free to eligible students)

deli sub sandwich meal \$3.50 each

salad bar (WHS only) \$ .25 ounce

milk (white & chocolate) \$ .55 carton

Lunch-Middle School \$ 3.50/day (.40 reduced; and free to eligible students)

salad bar \$3.50

milk (white & chocolate) \$ .55/carton

Milk is included with a school lunch.

A-la-carte items may be purchased at various prices.

PLEASE NOTE: Prices may change due to federal regulations.

Free and/or reduced price meals program, subsidized by the Federal Government, is available to eligible families. Forms for the subsidized program can be obtained in the main office at your child's school.

### OPENING DAYS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The opening of schools for students is preceded by two days, September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, of professional development for faculty. Faculty meet at Watertown High School on Wednesday, September 2, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. for a "Welcome Back" continental breakfast and meeting followed by professional development over the two days, in each school.

### WALKING TO/FROM SCHOOL AND DROP OFFS

Road construction in some areas of the town may require children to adapt to changing local traffic patterns. Parents should review the waking route to school with their child before the start of school and, whenever road construction projects change the walking route.

Please observe the changes to traffic patterns which the Watertown Police Department and the School Department post.

### NO SMOKING ORDINANCE

The Watertown Town Council passed a Public Health Ordinance regarding no smoking in public buildings in the town. Students were never permitted to smoke in school buildings. They are now advised that there is a fine for noncompliance with the no smoking ordinance.

### FEES

The following is a schedule of fees and general information for FY '09 – FY '10 school programs as voted by the Watertown School Committee. Specific details for each program will be distributed to students and parents in conjunction with registration for participation. All fees must be paid by check or money order and made payable to “Watertown Public Schools”.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Fee Per Student</b>	<b>Family Maximum</b>
Transportation	\$ 180/student	\$ 250/family

MBTA Student Bus Passes are also available through the Transportation Office. MBTA Passes are presently \$20.00 per month payable to the Watertown Public Schools by the 30<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. To obtain a MBTA Student Bus Pass or for more information, contact the Transportation Office at 617-926-7716.

Prekindergarten	\$ 6,500/student	
Integrated Preschool	<b>Morning Session (3 Hrs.)</b>	
	\$ 2,300/student (3 days)	
	\$ 2,600/student (4 days)	
	<b>Afternoon Session (2.5 Hrs.)</b>	
	\$ 1,930/student (3 days)	
	\$ 2,400/student (4 days)	
	<b>Extended Day Session (5 Hrs.)</b>	
	\$ 5,500/student (5 days)	

High School Athletics \$ 175/student per school year for unlimited sports and clubs

Middle School Activity Fee \$ 25.00/student per school year for unlimited extra-curricular sports and activities

High School Activity Fee \$ 25.00/student per school year for unlimited clubs and extra-curricular activities  
 If a student paid \$175 for Athletics, then the \$25 activity fee does not apply.