

Good afternoon, Bates Community!

We are closely monitoring how the weather could impact tomorrow's Back-to-School BBQ. We will provide an update to all families tomorrow morning. Mark your calendars for our make-up date on Thursday September 15th.

Welcome Back Letters

By now, you should have received a mailing that included a letter from your child's teachers. Please contact the school or e-mail me directly if you did not receive a letter. We are in the office from 9am to 3pm next week if you would like to stop by or call.

Welcome Back BBQ

Our **Back-to-School BBQ** will take place before school starts this year. Please join us on **September 6th from 5-7pm**. For the first time, all classrooms will be open from 6:00-6:30pm so you can meet teachers and students can see their classrooms prior to the first day of school. **We are currently asking for volunteers to help with cooking and serving food. Please let me know if you are willing to do so. Additionally, we are asking that all families bring a side dish to share.**

First Days of School

We are so excited to welcome our students back to the Bates!

Grades 1-5

For the first day of school (Thursday, Sept 8th) all staff will be on the playground to greet students at 9:15am. There will be markers along the fence with teacher names and homerooms where students will line up.

- Principal will welcome classes at 9:30am, we will recite the Pledge of Allegiance and the Bates School Pledge and we will file into the building.

Please do not leave your child unattended on the playground. Bus students and walkers will be greeted by Bates staff.

The cafeteria will be open for breakfast at 9:15, which will conclude at 9:30.

K0/K1 and K2

Staff will meet students on the playground on the first day of school--Monday, September 12th at 9:15am. There will be markers along the fence with teacher names and homerooms where students will line up.

- A selected group of 5th grade students will come out to the playground to welcome the K0/K1/K2 students and recite the Pledge of Allegiance and the Bates School Pledge for children and families. Please report to the playground at 9:20am.
- Families may walk with the lines inside the building to classrooms. **While we know this can be a very stressful and emotional time, we ask that you leave the classroom immediately after dropping of your child.**
- Kindergarten families will be invited to have any remaining questions answered in the main hallway.

Please do not leave your child unattended on the playground. Bus students and walkers will be greeted by Bates staff.

School Site and Parent Council

Our **School Site and Parent Council** elections will take place on Wednesday September 14th with the first meeting headed by the new officers on Wednesday September 28th. Both meetings are from 5:30-7:00pm with free food and childcare provided. If you have questions, please contact one of our co-chairs: Heather McCormick (hlmccormick@gmail.com) or Courtney Barth (barth@rogerson.org)

Bates Attire Online Ordering

We are pleased to debut our online ordering form for official Bates attire. [this website](#) to order Bates gear, which will arrive in late September/early October. Please write you child's name in the text box above the "place order" button upon checking out so we can make sure the right student receives the attire.

Bates attire is NOT a mandatory component of the uniform. Any khaki or navy bottom with any white, navy, or light blue top is acceptable.

Become a Bates Classroom Parent!!!

During the 2016-2017 school year the Bates community will be strengthening communication between home and school. To aid in this process, the Bates Parent Council will be reinstating the Class Parent program. Each grade level will be looking for parents to take on the following responsibilities:

- v. Create a classroom family contact sheet
- v. Act as a liaison between classroom parents and the Bates Parent Council, attending monthly parent council meetings when possible.
- v. Solicit parent volunteers for classroom (field trips, special projects) and school-wide events (Book Fair, Fox Fest, Talent Show, Field Day, etc.

If you are interested, please e-mail batesclassroomparents@gmail.com if you are interested. Please be sure to include your child's teacher and room number. You can also reach out to me directly.

Online/Social Media Presence

Our new website is <https://thephineasbates.org/>.

We'll continue to use social media as another way to share our news. You can follow us on [Twitter](#) at @BatesSchoolBPS and "Like" our OFFICIAL [Facebook Page](#) to get the latest news and information about events.

One of our major goals this year is to streamline and improve our communication with parents. It is through collaboration with our community that we can make the Bates a truly amazing place to learn and grow!