

Shenandoah Valley School District
805 West Centre Street
Shenandoah, PA 17976

Shawn Welch
Elementary Principal

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome Back!

I trust you are having a great summer. As principal of Shenandoah Valley Elementary School (SVES), I am excited to welcome you to the start of another school year. The halls have been quiet without the students, and we are looking forward to their return, bringing their energy and enthusiasm back to the classrooms.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff for their hard work and preparation to ensure a smooth start to the school year. Teachers have been busy organizing their classrooms, and our office and custodial teams have been working tirelessly to prepare the school for a fantastic year ahead.

Important Dates and Information:

- Meet the Teacher Nights
 - Grades 4K & Kindergarten: Monday August 18, 2025 from 4:30-5:30 p.m.
 - Grades 1-6: Thursday August 21, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
 - Please attend to meet your child's teacher and explore their classrooms.
- First Day of School: Monday, August 25, 2025
- School Hours:
 - Students must arrive by 8:45 a.m. Breakfast for grades 1 through 6 is available from 8:15 a.m. until 8:45 a.m. Breakfast for students 4K and K is at 9:00 a.m.
 - Dismissal starts at 3:15 p.m.

New Additions to Our Staff:

We are excited to welcome several new staff members to our SVES family:

- Ms. Hopper, 4K teacher
- Ms. Papincak, 3rd grade teacher.
- Mrs. Hutko, 4th grade special education teacher.
- Ms. Finkel, 5th grade special education teacher.

Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures:

For the safety of all students, please follow these procedures during drop-off and pick-up:

- Use the ONE-WAY Coal Street Extension Road for drop-off.
- Students must exit/enter vehicles from the passenger side only.
- Parking and exiting vehicles are restricted in certain areas; please refer to the school website for detailed maps and instructions.
- Parents of car rider students will be issued two numbered cards for each of their students. One numbered card for their student (or group of students of same family) must be placed on the dash of the front windshield for staff to read during car rider pickup. Operators of vehicles without a numbered card may be required to enter the office for verification of their identification before releasing students.

Student Handbook and Communication:

Please review the updated student handbook available on our website (www.svbluedevils.org) for important policies and procedures. We will communicate school news and updates through our “Thursday Communicators,” Class DoJo App (this information will be given by your child’s homeroom teacher), monthly calendars, and the district website. Follow our PTO Facebook page (@SVEPTO) for quick updates and announcements throughout the year.

Get Involved:

Consider joining our Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) to support our school community. The first PTO meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 27, 2025, at 3:45 p.m. in the elementary cafeteria. Your involvement makes a significant difference in enriching our students’ educational experience.

Thank you for taking the time to review this information. We look forward to partnering with you for a successful and rewarding school year ahead.

Sincerely,

Shawn Welch



“Blue Devils”

Educating today’s learnerfor tomorrow’s opportunities