

BELL AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PARENT & STUDENT HANDBOOK

2025-2026



1000 Bell Avenue, Yeadon, PA 19050 Phone Number: 610-284-6100

Fax Number: 610-284-2257



Bell Avenue Welcomes You!

Title 1 School

Dr. Eric J. Becoats, Superintendent

Dr. Kim Evans-Johnson, Principal

School Hours: 8:40am-3:30pm

Building Exceptional Lifelong Learners

William Penn School District

Our Vision

The William Penn School District will nurture and empower all students to become career and/or college ready.

Our Mission

The William Penn School District will:

- Support all staff in providing rigorous, data-driven, student centered, differentiated instruction aligned with the academic standards of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Ensure all staff, in partnership with their communities, will create a positive, nurturing, and supportive school climate that encourages all students to discover and pursue their passion for learning.
- Secure and retain dedicated professionals committed to the academic success of all students.

Our Goals

- The William Penn School District will ensure the consistent implementation of effective instructional practices across all classrooms in each school.
- The William Penn School District will ensure barriers to student learning are addressed in order to increase student achievement and graduation rates.
- The William Penn School District will ensure that each member of the district community promotes, enhances, and sustains a shared vision of positive school climate and ensures family and community support of student participation in the learning process.

Shared Values

We believe

- Every individual has worth
- Every individual can learn
- Education is a right as well as a privilege
- Students, parents, and community working in partnership promote lifelong learning
- Every individual in the learning community is entitled to a safe and healthy environment
- Every individual is entitled access to opportunities that develop one's potential
- Our community's diversity is a strength
- Knowledge is the result of active and purposeful learning
- Students have a responsibility for their learning
- Teachers have a responsibility for their students' learning
- The community has a responsibility for educating its youth

Building Exceptional Lifelong Learners

Bell Avenue Elementary School

Our Mission

At Bell Avenue Elementary School, we strive to build an exceptional lifelong learning community. Within our school, you will find a warm, caring, supportive team where teachers empower students to learn through engaging and challenging academics while everyone works collectively towards the goal of raising student achievement. We celebrate school diversity within a positive school environment that fosters empathy and self-esteem through meaningful relevant relationships. All parents are respected as a vital part of our learning community and are encouraged to be active participants within a collaborative culture. All stakeholders are committed to developing students who are resilient and adaptable with a disposition to continue their education and become socially responsible members of society.

At Bell Avenue Elementary School, we believe:

1. All children have the right to learn.
2. All teachers have the right to teach.
3. All students can achieve at high levels.
4. Learning should occur in a safe and nurturing environment.
5. Students must become responsible decision makers and reflective problem-solvers.
6. The total education of a child is the responsibility of the student, family, school and community.

EXPECTATIONS FOR TEACHERS

1. To teach in a safe organized manner, providing high quality instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment.
2. To model organizational practices and strategies to assist students in their academic endeavors.
3. To provide students with opportunities to learn that are diversified and responsive to individual educational needs.
4. To implement and maintain all school policies.
5. To define appropriate discipline procedures and apply fair consequences.
6. To provide parents with frequent reports on their child's learning progress and behavior.
7. To be positive role models.

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS

1. To come to school in uniform, on time, ready to learn and to work hard.
2. To bring materials and complete homework assignments and projects.
3. To complete all in-school assignments.
4. To learn and perform to the best of his/her ability.
5. To know and follow all class and school rules.
6. To be responsible for his/her actions.
7. To respect all members of the Bell Avenue community.

EXPECTATIONS FOR PARENTS

1. To support all school policies.
2. To ensure your child attends school every day with adequate rest and proper nutrition.
3. To participate in decisions related to your child's education.
4. To have and express a positive attitude towards the school.
5. To praise your child each day for something he or she has done.
6. To participate in school activities (ie: home and school meetings, parent/teacher conferences.)
7. To monitor your child's progress regularly.
8. To keep the lines of communication open with your child's teacher.



A Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Bell Avenue Elementary School! I am delighted to welcome you to the 2023-2024 school year! As Principal of Bell Avenue Elementary School, I am honored to serve you. Our Bell Avenue staff is excited about the positive and engaging learning experiences that will take place in every classroom. We are committed to ensuring every child is safe, nurtured and achieving. We are equally determined to partner with you as we jointly aim towards the shared vision and mission of our school and the William Penn School District: ***Focus Forward 2025***.

The Bell Avenue Community is dedicated to the 3 priority areas of the Focus Forward Plan: *Academic Excellence, Cohesiveness, and Efficiency, Effectiveness and Equity*. We will utilize academic, attendance and climate data to determine our effectiveness and to improve our instructional decisions and methods. Our PSSA Targets are: ELA: 54% Math: 39% Science: 48% Attendance: 95%. Your input and perspective is vitally important to the success of your child's educational experience.

It is my goal to build cohesive relationships with each parent. I believe that collaboration fosters positive learning experiences and cultivates a strong school culture, resulting in school pride and ownership. We invite you to become an active participant in our Home and School Association. We will meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm..

We look forward to a positive, engaging, and thrilling school year. Our goal is for every student to thrive, excel and become exceptional lifelong learners. We need every student to:

1. Attend school daily and on time.
2. Complete all homework assignments given by their teachers.
3. Read daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills.
4. Maximize every learning moment.
5. Ask for help from their teachers.
6. Share their learning experiences with you!

I encourage every student to work hard and do their very best. I anticipate celebrating your success. Thank you for your support and your partnership in education.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Kim Evans- Johnson Principal

Building Exceptional Lifelong Learners

**Bell Avenue Elementary School
Staff Directory**

Location	First Name	Last Name	Position
Office	Dr. Kim	Evans-Johnson	Principal
Office	Abria	Coulibaly	Secretary
103	Sarah	Poplawski	Special Education Teacher
103	Brian	McCarry	Special Education Teacher
202	Adeline	Fraser	Academic Interventionist-Math
201	Maria	Thompson	Facilitator
Main Hallway	Amir	Jackson	School Security Officer
Auditorium	Kristen	Salvato	Counselor
205	TBD	TBD	School Psychologist (W)
203	Nicole	Heilmann	Social Worker (M,T,F)
125	Paula	McNamara	Occupational Therapist
B103	Leah	Burns	Speech Therapist
104	Shafonia	Willis-Rogers	Nurse
105	Rita	Capaldi	Kindergarten
107	Lia	Wilson	Kindergarten
111	Alyssa	Villanueva	First Grade
113	Hallie	Mitchell	First Grade
B-4	Jennifer	Locher	Second Grade
B-5	Kelly	Penman	Second Grade
206	Lauren	Clark	Third Grade
208	Melissa	Washburn	Third Grade
213	Jennifer	Kurko	Fourth Grade (Head Teacher)
215	Meghan	Koleda	Fourth Grade
209	Donna	Regan	Fifth Grade
211	Nicole	Wiehsner	Fifth Grade
202	Afia	Lewis	Sixth Grade
204	Chelsea	Jones	Sixth Grade
101	TBD	TBD	Art
101	TBD	TBD	Music
GYM	Tyler	Dunn	Physical Education
B-105	Rachel	Slaughter	Librarian
B-105	Lucille	Paige	Library Assistant
B-104	Aneisha	Lawrence	Special Education
	Brenda	Fontroy	Instructional Assistant
	Rosetta	Jenkins	Instructional Assistant
	Antoinette	Moregrass	Instructional Assistant
	Amy	Hostetter	Gifted
Custodian	Yolanda	Porter	Head Custodian (Day)
Custodian	Linchy	Pizzaro	Custodian (Evening)
Cafeteria	Rhonda	Ollison	Cafeteria Supervisor

Important Information for Bell Avenue Families

SCHOOL HOURS

Arrival Time: 8:40 a.m.

Dismissal Time: 3:30 p.m.

1. Please do not send your child to school before 8:30am as we keep safety as our top priority.
2. Entrance doors for students will open at 8:40am until 8:50am. Late students will be buzzed in from the Bell Avenue doors. Students are considered late at 8:55am.
3. Parent/Visitor Entry: All visitors will be buzzed in from the door on McDade Blvd.

Procedures for Arrival and Dismissal

1. BUS RIDERS:

Arrival: Bus students will exit the bus on Duff Street onto the blacktop and line up on their assigned lines. Students are monitored by staff on duty and the security officer until 8:40am. Teachers will meet and greet their students by 8:40am and will escort them into the building through the Bell Avenue doors in an orderly manner.

Dismissal: Children who ride a school bus will exit the building through the Bell Avenue doors to board the bus. The security officer will monitor students as they board the bus.

Staying After School: Teachers may keep children after school for extra help, makeup work, or detention. Teachers must get parental permission in advance for participation in after school activities. Parents are responsible for picking up their child from any and all after school activities.

2. WALKERS:

Arrival: Walkers should follow the same route to and from school and cross only at the corners following the directions of crossing guards.

Dismissal: Teachers will escort the walkers and car riders to their assigned lines on the blacktop. Walkers will be dismissed at 3:30pm from their assigned lines. Students are encouraged to go directly home.

3. **CAR RIDERS**: Parents can retrieve their child from the assigned lines by 3:45pm. All students waiting to be picked up after 3:45pm will be escorted to the main office by the officer and head teachers to call his/her parents. Students who are car riders will wait in the auditorium. We request that our parents wait for their children **outside** of the auditorium doors.

Attendance

Regular attendance and punctuality are essential traits for every successful student. It is the responsibility of each student's parent(s) to ensure the student attends school daily and is punctual at all times.

When a child is late to school, the classroom routine is disrupted and the child misses assignments and instruction. Chronic lateness to school can become a serious problem, interfering with academic success. Students who are late to school must immediately report to the office for a late slip.

Parents or guardians should notify the school by telephone in the event that a student is to be absent from school. These calls should be received by the school before starting time on the day of the absence.

Upon return to school following an absence, all students must present a written explanation of the absence. Failure to provide written explanation of absence within three (3) school days of return to school will result in that absence being considered unexcused or unlawful, and Pennsylvania school attendance laws will be applied accordingly.

Any absence of five (5) or more consecutive school days requires a written explanation from a doctor or appropriate health practitioner. In instances where the school believes that absences due to illness are chronic and irregular, the school may request a doctor's statement justifying such absences. A maximum of ten days of cumulative lawful absences verified by parental notification may be permitted during a school year. All absences beyond ten cumulative days should require an excuse from a physician.

Students shall be permitted to make-up, without penalty, exams and class work missed during any excused absences from school.

Medical and other appointments should be scheduled outside of school hours. Parents desiring an early dismissal for a student must submit a written request for such to the school.

State law establishes conditions under which students may be excused from attending school. The principal is responsible for enforcing the attendance laws of the state and is the person who may excuse a child for necessary and legal absence, subject to the provisions of the law. In keeping with these statutes and recommendations of the State Department of Education, students may be temporarily excused from school attendance for the following reasons:

1. Illness
2. Quarantine
3. Death in the immediate family
4. Weather so inclement as to endanger the health of the child or make roads impassable
5. A Farm or Domestic Service Emergency Permit
6. Observance of a major religious holidays
7. Religious education
8. Other exceptional reasons with the approval of the administration

Absences for other reasons are classified as unexcused or unlawful.

Absent notes can be emailed to bellattend@wpsd.k12.pa.us.

In accordance with Pennsylvania state law regarding compulsory (mandatory) attendance:

Should your student have three unexcused absences, you will receive a letter informing you of the absences and possible consequences, and you will be invited to attend a School Attendance Improvement Plan meeting at the school in coordination with the school social worker and principal.

When a child is absent unexcused 6 or more times, the school **MUST** refer the child to either a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program or CYS for services or possible disposition as a dependent child under the Juvenile Act. Additionally, the school **MAY** file a citation against the parent of a habitually truant child in a magisterial court.

Bell Avenue wants to help you get your child to school on-time, and we are more than willing to help you in any way we can. ***Please support us in our message that students must be in school, on-time, every single day!***

Birthdays

Bell Avenue will recognize your child's birthday on the morning announcements. **We do not permit classroom birthday celebrations** for which parents bring and/or send cake, cupcakes, ice cream, presents, etc, to school. We want to avoid disruption of instruction and focus on the quality educational program that we provide our students. In addition, there are increasing numbers of students with food allergies, as well as a federal policy that mandates the limiting of sugary items in school.

Early Dismissals Requested by Parents

When requesting an early dismissal due to an emergency or appointment that cannot be made for after school, parents must:

1. Send a written request, the day of the early dismissal, stating the time of the dismissal as well as who will be picking up the student. Please include a phone number where you can be reached.
2. The parent must report to the school office to sign out the child at the appropriate time.
3. A parent must notify the office (preferably one hour before dismissal time) if another individual is picking up the child. That individual must present proper identification.

There are no early dismissals after 3:15PM.

Gradebook Online Access (Grades 4-6)

You will be receiving a Username and Password so that you can access your child's grades at any time throughout the year. To locate the site, please visit www.williamspennsd.org, and click on eSchool Home Access under Site Shortcuts on the right side of the page.

Grading Policy:

A=100-90

B=89-80

C=79-70

D=69-60

F-Below 60

Homework

Homework is an extension of the learning that takes place in school. Homework provides practice that reinforces classroom learning and can provide opportunities for independent study, research, and creative thinking. Parents can help their child by arranging a quiet, comfortable place for the child to work, by ensuring that time is set aside for homework, and by checking to see that assignments are completed.

Communication Wednesday Folder

Communication is the key to a successful home/school relationship. In order to keep you informed we will send home a **Communicator Folder** every **Wednesday** which will have important notices, announcements, and your child's school work. We ask that you look for this folder each Wednesday evening and examine its contents.

Dress Code

MALE STUDENTS

- Solid colored Navy Blue or Tan uniform or dress slacks or shorts of the appropriate size for the student. Shorts should be at the knee or no more than one inch (approximately) above the knees.
- No baggy or cargo-type pants will be permitted.
- Solid colored dark or light Blue or White shirt with collar, either short or long sleeve.
- In cold weather, a solid colored pullover, vest, or cardigan sweater may also be worn. No logos on shirts. No sweatshirts, fleece, or hoodies will be permitted.
- Enclosed shoes, boots, or black sneakers will be permitted. Socks must be worn. All laces must be tied.

FEMALE STUDENTS

- Solid colored Navy Blue or Tan uniform pants,
- Jumper, shorts, skorts, or skirt of the appropriate size for the student. Skirts, shorts, skorts, and jumpers should not be more than one inch (approximately) above the knees. No baggy or cargo-type pants will be permitted.
- Solid colored dark or light Blue or White shirt, or blouse, either long or short sleeve.
- In cold weather, a solid button-down sweater, pullover sweater, vest, or a cardigan sweater may also be worn.
- No logos on shirts or tops. No sweatshirts, fleece, or hoodies will be permitted.
- Enclosed shoes, flat boots, or black sneakers will be permitted. Students must wear solid colored socks, tights, or stockings. All laces must be tied.

Emergency Closing or Delayed Openings

Bell Avenue Elementary School will follow the decision made by the William Penn School District regarding school closings or delayed openings due to inclement weather conditions. Such announcements will be made on KYW and other local news websites and TV stations, and posted on the WPSD website – williampensd.org. In addition, we will make every effort to notify parents via the phone network. Our school closing number is 467. When there is a delayed school opening, afternoon dismissal will occur at the regular time. Parents are responsible for following the weather and news, and making plans for their children in the event of an early closing or delayed opening.

Emergency Contact Information

Please complete and return the emergency contact information form. It is extremely important that the school has CURRENT emergency information, including the telephone numbers of parents/guardians at home and at work, in addition to the name and telephone number of other adults who will respond in the

event of an emergency. Please notify the Main office IMMEDIATELY with any changes. Students will not be released to people who are not on the emergency cards without consent of parents/guardians.

Important Dates: Conferences/Progress Reports/Report Cards

1st Marking Period	Interim Progress Reports Issued Marking Period Ends Report Cards Issued Parent Conferences	October 2, 2024 November 6, 2024 November 15, 2024 November 26-27, 2024
2nd Marking Period	Interim Progress Reports Issued Marking Period Ends Report Cards Issues Parent Conferences	December 10, 2024 January 27, 2025 February 7, 2025 February 18-19, 2025
3rd Marking Period	Interim Progress Reports Issued Marking Period Ends Report Cards Issued Parent Conferences	February 27, 2025 April 2, 2025 April 11, 2025
4th Marking Period	Interim Progress Reports Issued Marking Period Ends/Report Cards	May 13, 2025 June , 2025

Medication Administration

The school nurse and the student's teachers must be informed of any medication that a student is required to take at school. Medication shall include all over the counter medication and medication prescribed by a physician for the particular student. To dispense medication to students, the school must receive a written order from the student's physician and a permission slip from the student's parent/guardian. All medication should be brought to the school nurse in the original container, labeled with the student's name, the name of the medication, the date of expiration and the proper dosage.

Student/Parent Rights and Responsibilities

A full description of student and parent rights and responsibilities can be found in our Student Code of Conduct for 2024-2025. Please read, sign the forms at the end, and return to Bell Avenue. Feel free to reach out at any time with questions or concerns, as we are always here to help.

Telephone/Cell Phone Usage

School telephones are to be used by students only in an emergency situation. A student's personal cell phone is not to be used in school, and may be confiscated by the teacher or sent to the office for parent pick up if out during school hours. If you need to reach your child emergently, please contact the office and we will be happy to assist you.

Visitors

All visitors must wear a mask upon entering the building. All visitors must state the reason for your visit prior to entering the building.

Building Exceptional Lifelong Learners

Bell Avenue Elementary School

Parent Involvement...

**Parent involvement in schools is key to a successful student experience.
Are you able to help Bell Ave? We have a number of opportunities available...**

Volunteers

The school encourages volunteers to participate in school-related activities. Such volunteering may include:

- Accompanying the class on a field trip
- Serving on school committees
- Contacting community resources

Volunteers who regularly work in the actual school must successfully complete a criminal background check and child abuse screening.

Speakers of Multiple Languages...

Do you speak multiple languages? Are you interested in being placed on a list of Bell Avenue community members who are willing to help translate for Bell Avenue families when needed? (Example: When a parent comes in for a conference but speaks little English, we might call someone to translate over the phone.) If you are willing to be put on a reference list, please let Dr. Evans-Johnson know!

Participation in Revising Our School Improvement Plan or Title 1 Policy

Please consider working with our staff, community members and local business representatives in revising our official policies related to school improvement and Title 1 responsibilities. We value your input!

Home and School Association

- Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm at Bell Avenue.

Join our Home and School Association! Our school encourages your involvement and welcomes your support for:

1. Fund raising;
2. Recruiting of parent volunteers to assist staff and students;
3. Planning special programs and events around the school;
4. Providing workshops designed to enhance the ability of parents, who in turn, share their time and expertise with the school; and organizing community outreach programs for students.
5. Exercise parent voice to help the school make achievement goals.

Please contact Home and School President: Ms. Mshinda at <mailto:mmshinda@ymail.com>

Bell Avenue Elementary School Events and Activities

- ❖ Academic Honors Assemblies
- ❖ Academic Open Houses
- ❖ After school programs & clubs (Girl Scouts, yoga, Girls on the Run)
- ❖ Anti-Bullying Assemblies
- ❖ Attendance Recognition
- ❖ Band Concerts
- ❖ Black History Month Assembly
- ❖ Book Fair
- ❖ Career Series/Guest Speakers
- ❖ Community Involvement Activities
- ❖ Community Outreach
- ❖ Cool Kid of the Week
- ❖ Dances
- ❖ Dancing Classrooms Philly
- ❖ Home & School Sponsored Activities
- ❖ Kindness Incentives and Recognition
- ❖ Parent Appreciation Events
- ❖ PBIS
- ❖ PBIS-Bell Avenue Pride Events
- ❖ Student Achievement Assembly (Honor Roll & Perfect Attendance)
- ❖ Student of the Month



... AND MANY MORE!

Bell Avenue Elementary School

Building Exceptional Lifelong Learners

PBIS-Monthly Themes 2024-2025

September	Active Listening
October	Getting Along Together (Bully Prevention Month)
November	Engaged Learner
December	Positive Attitude
January	Showing Respect
February	Displaying Kindness
March	Making Good Choices
April	Inspiring Others
May	Leadership Qualities

Cool Kids-Scholars are chosen weekly to reward and celebrate positive classroom behavior.

Cool Class of the Week-A class is chosen weekly to reward and celebrate positive behavior in the cafeteria.

Scholars of the Month-Scholars are chosen monthly to reward scholars who demonstrate these attributes. Parents are invited to the assemblies.

PBIS Monthly Activities-Scholars will participate in end of the month school-wide activities to celebrate positive behaviors.

Bell Avenue Elementary School

Building Exceptional Lifelong Learners

Curriculum Programming



A Comprehensive Pre-K–6 Literacy Curriculum for All Learners

Wonders, a comprehensive Pre-K–6 literacy solution, is designed to meet the challenges of today's classroom and reach all learners. A wealth of research-based print and digital resources provide unmatched support for building strong literacy foundations, accessing complex fiction and nonfiction texts, writing to sources, and building social emotional learning skills. Whether in the core classroom, an English language learner, or benefiting from intervention support, *Wonders* provides students equity of access to rich texts and rigorous instruction



Social Emotional Learning: Second Step

Second Step is a program rooted in social-emotional learning (SEL) that helps transform schools into supportive, successful learning environments uniquely equipped to encourage children to thrive. More than just a classroom curriculum, Second Step's holistic approach helps create a more empathetic society by providing education professionals, families, and the larger community with tools to enable them to take an active role in the social-emotional growth and safety of today's children.



New K-5 **enVision**® Mathematics is the only math program that combines problem-based learning and visual learning to deepen students' conceptual understanding. **enVision** is used by classrooms across the country and around the world. Now **enVision** is even better with over 200 new lessons, a newly redesigned Teacher's Edition, and new instructional strategies like 3-Act Math modeling tasks. This is our best **enVision** ever.

Building **E**xceptional **L**ifelong **L**earners



Twig Science Tools is designed to supplement your science teaching, and to save you time. With award-winning resources including short videos, activities and visuals, all aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards Twig Science Tools is designed to supplement your science teaching, and to save you time. With award-winning resources including short videos, activities and visuals, all aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards



elevateScience™ middle school science curriculum

Building Exceptional Lifelong Learners

WILLIAM PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT ELEMENTARY CALENDAR 2024-2025

August 22-23	New Hire Induction
August 26-August 29	Teacher Inservice Days
August 30	No School for Teachers
September 2	Labor Day No School
September 3	Act 80 Day-No School for Students
September 4	First Day of School 1-12
September 5-6	Kindergarten Orientation
September 9	First Day for Kindergarten Students
October 2	Interim Progress Reports
October 3	Rosh Hashanah - School and Offices Closed
October 16	Act 80 Day-No School for Students
October 14	Indigenous People Day - No school for students
October 23	Half Day-Early Dismissal for Students
November 5	Act 80 Day-No School for Students
November 6	End of First Quarter
November 11	Veterans Day-All Schools and Admin Offices Closed
November 15	Report Cards Distributed
November 20	Half Day-Early Dismissal for Students
November 26-27	Parent Conference/No School for Students
November 28-29	Thanksgiving Holiday-Schools Closed
December 10	Interim Progress Reports
December 11	Half Day-Early Dismissal for Students
December 23-31	Winter Recess
January 1	New Year's Day (Observed) All Schools and Admin Offices Closed
January 2-3	Act 80 Day-No School for Students
January 6	Students return from Winter Break
January 15	Half Day-Early Dismissal for Students
January 20	Dr. Martin Luther King Day - No school for students
January 27	End of Second Quarter
February 3	Act 80 County Inservice Day-No School for Students
February 7	Report Cards Distributed
February 12	Half Day-Early Dismissal for Students
February 17	President's Day-All School and Admin Office Closed
February 18-19	Parent Conferences
February 27	Interim Progress Reports
March 3	Act 80 County Inservice Day-No School for Students
March 12	Half Day-Early Dismissal for Students
March 31	Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)- All Schools and Admin Office Closed
April 2	End of Third Quarter
April 2	Half Day-Early Dismissal for Students
April 11	Report Cards Distributed
April 14-18	Spring Recess- All School Closed
April 21	Contracted Act 80 In-Service Day-No School for Students
April 22-25	PSSA Exams ELA Grades 3-8
April 28- May 2	PSSA Exams Mathematics Grades 3-6
May 5-9	PSSA Exams Mathematics/Science/Make-ups
May 13	Interim Progress Report
May 14	Half Day-Early Dismissal for Students
May 20	Act 80 County Inservice Day-No School for Students
May 26	Memorial Day Holiday-All Schools Admin Office Closed
June 17	End of 4th Quarter/Last Day of School for Students
June 17	Half Day-Early Dismissal for Students
June 18	High School Graduation
June 18	Teacher In-Service/Last Day for Teachers
June 19	Juneteenth National Independence Day-Non-Working Holiday

Common Core Academic Standards

The Pennsylvania State Board of Education has adopted academic standards in 12 subject areas. The academic standards are benchmark measures that define what students should know and be able to do at specified grade levels beginning in grade 3. The standards are official and known as state regulations. As such, they must be used as the basis for curriculum and instruction in Pennsylvania's public schools. As part of new regulations that became official in 2014, Pennsylvania's Core Standards offer a set of rigorous, high-quality academic expectations in English Language Arts and Mathematics that all students should master by the end of each grade level. The PA Core Standards are robust and relevant to the real world and reflect the knowledge and skills our young people need to succeed in life after high school, in both post-secondary education and a globally competitive workforce. Please visit PDESAS.org to view PA State and Core Standards.

Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA)

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) includes assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics which are taken by students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. Students in grades 4 and 8 are administered the Science PSSA. The English Language Arts and Mathematics PSSAs include items that are consistent with the Assessment Anchors/Eligible Content aligned to the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics. The Science PSSA includes items that are aligned to the Assessment Anchors/Eligible Content aligned to the Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Science, Technology, Environment and Ecology.

Bell Avenue Elementary School

Parent/Family Tips for Academic Success

We are looking forward to working together with you this year! Some tips and suggestions about how parents and families can help ensure their students' success at school...

- ❖ Attend Back to School Night, Parent-Teacher conferences, academic and social events at Bell.
- ❖ Maintain a strong relationship with your child's teachers. Expect and support ongoing communication throughout the year. Communicate any areas of concern as soon as possible, and work together for a resolution.
- ❖ Support homework expectations. Homework is assigned to reinforce and extend classroom learning. Make sure your child understands that you view homework as a priority. Create an effective study area at home.
- ❖ Send your children to school ready to learn. A solid night of sleep, consistent routine and healthy breakfast will help your child be ready to start the day!
- ❖ Teach and model organizational skills. Check your student's assignment book and folder every night. Make a simple "To Do" list for your child. Talk to them about maintaining an orderly desk, book bag, and study area at home. Create a study area that is free of distractions, and monitor your child's work at home.
- ❖ Monitor television and internet sites that your child is visiting, as much is inappropriate for their age. Many problems between students occur from behavior that happens between students over the internet. If your child knows you are monitoring their viewing and interactions with others, they are much less likely to engage in these behaviors.
- ❖ Get involved at Bell Avenue! Please see opportunities in this packet.
- ❖ Take daily, on-time school attendance seriously. Chronic absenteeism causes a decrease in academic performance, and puts your child at-risk of falling behind their classmates. If you need resources or guidance in getting your child to school on-time every day, please ask us!
- ❖ Make time to talk about your child's school day. When students know that parents are interested in their academic lives, they will take school as seriously as you do!
- ❖ Find ways to show your child how important a solid educational foundation is for their future success! Read together, and let them catch you reading on your own! Explain your career and how education helped you to get there! Demonstrate how the skills they are learning in school apply in the real world!

Bell Avenue Elementary School

Resources

Your local library is a resource for great reading material, family programs and internet access...and it's free!

Darby Free Library

1001 Main Street

Darby, PA 19023

610.586.7310

www.darbylibrary.org

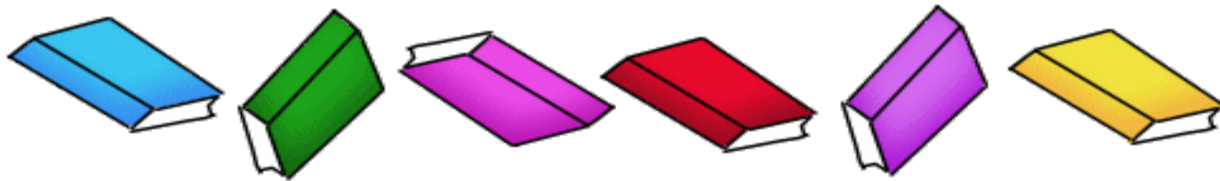
Yeadon Public Library

809 Longacre Blvd

Yeadon, PA 19050

610.623.4090

<http://www.yeadonlibrary.org/>



Delaware County Intermediate Unit

200 Yale Avenue, Morton, PA 19070

Phone: 610-938-9000

- ❖ Offers education, information, training, and support services for families.
- ❖ Offers adult education services.

Christ Lutheran Community Church

7240 Walnut St., Upper Darby, PA 19082

Phone: 610-352-1610

Provides a number of community programs, including...

- ❖ Adult English Language Learner Classes
- ❖ Financial Literacy

African Cultural Alliance of North America

5530 Chester Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19143

Phone: 215-729-8225

www.acanaus.org

Provides a number of services, including...

- ❖ Adult training
- ❖ Youth based training

Building Exceptional Lifelong Learners

Multicultural Community Family Services
7016 Terminal Square, Suite IA, Upper Darby, PA 19082
Phone: 484-461-8660
www.mcfsorg.com

Provides a number of services, including...

- ❖ Adult literacy classes, GED classes, Citizenship classes and English as Second Language (ESL) classes
- ❖ Social advocacy for immigrant populations, youths and seniors
- ❖ Employment assistance (resume writing, job interviewing practice skills, and job referrals)
- ❖ Recreational programs (Multicultural United Soccer Club and Building Bridges Cultural Ambassadors)
- ❖ Individual counseling, support group counseling and non-medical personal care assistance.

Knowledge Points Learning Academy
Located at Bell Avenue Elementary School
Phone: 610-626-3100

- ❖ Before (7:00 am-8:50 am) and After School (3:30 pm-6:00 pm) Tutoring and Enrichment Program
- ❖ Follows school schedule
- ❖ Serves grades K-6

William Penn School District Social Worker: Nikole Heilmann
nhielman@wpsd.k12.pa.us
484-802-1184

Provides a number of services, including...

- ❖ Case management services with linkage to community agency resources to benefit both student and family (ex: housing, food & clothing, mental health)
- ❖ Liaison with Children and Youth Services, Juvenile Court, Outside Service Providers
- ❖ Truancy prevention/reduction
- ❖ Provision of evidence-based education, behavior, and mental health services
- ❖ Maximization of access to school based and community based resources

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT:

The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program is authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.) (McKinney-Vento Act). The McKinney-Vento Act was originally authorized in 1987 and most recently reauthorized in December 2015 by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).¹ The McKinney-Vento Act is designed to address the challenges that homeless children and youths have faced in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

Under the McKinney-Vento Act, educational agencies must ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children and youths. Homeless children and youths must have access to the educational and related services that they need to enable them to meet the same challenging State academic standards to which all students are held. In addition, homeless students may not be separated from the mainstream school environment. Local Educational Agencies are required to review and undertake steps to revise laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as barriers to the identification, enrollment, attendance, or success in school of homeless children and youths.

The law indicates that the LEA liaison shall ensure that all homeless children, youth and families are identified through coordinated activities with other entities.

DEFINITION OF HOMELESS (MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT SEC. 725(2); 42 U.S.C 11435(2)): CHILDREN WHO LACK A FIXED, REGULAR, AND ADEQUATE NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE:

"Doubled up" - Sharing the housing of others due to the loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reasons.

Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camping grounds, due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations.

Living in emergency or transitional shelters.

Living in a public or private place not designed for humans to live.

Migratory children living in above circumstances

Living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings

Unaccompanied Youth - Children or youth who meet the definition of homeless and not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

Residency and Educational Rights:

Students who are in temporary, inadequate and homeless living situations have the following rights:

Immediate enrollment in the school they last attended or the school in whose attendance area they are currently staying even if they do not have all of the documents normally required at the time of enrollment;

Access to free meals and textbooks, Title I and other educational programs and other comparable services including transportation;

Attendance in the same classes and activities that students in other living situations also participate in without fear of being separated or treated differently due to their housing situations.

When a student is identified as being McKinney-Vento eligible, staff will:

Assist with enrollment, monitor school attendance and arrange transportation (preK-8 students)

Provide school supplies and other school related materials as needed

Advocate for and support students and families through school and home visits

Set clear expectations for student behavior, attendance and academic performance

Assist students/families access with community services

Assist students/families with access to tutoring, special education, and English language learner resources

Assist students so they can participate in sports, field trips, and school activities regardless of their ability to pay or to provide their own transportation.

For additional information, contact LEA Homeless Liaison, the Executive Director of Student Services, at 610-284-8005 x1242.

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William Penn School District Website: www.wpsd.k12.pa.us

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