WELCOME PARENTS!

School No. 1
Back To School Night

Presenter: Dana Sprague, Principal

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

- Don’t forget to sign in!
- Enjoy staff presentations!
- Please remember we are on a tight schedule. If you have any additional questions, feel free to email your child’s teacher after the evening is over.

WHAT TO DO DURING LUNCH BLOCKS AND DOUBLE BLOCKS

- VISIT THE CAFETERIA
  - MEET YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL COUNSELOR
  - MEET THE CHILD STUDY TEAM
  - MEET NURSE PEROTTA
  - SIGN UP FOR THE PTA!!!
  - MEET THE LFEF!!
- TRAVEL ABOUT THE BUILDING AND LOCATE YOUR CHILD'S CLASSES
- VISIT YOUR CHILD'S LOCKER (6th-8th)

Morning Announcements & SEL (Social Emotional Learning)

PRINCIPAL'S MORNING MESSAGE

- Birthdays
- General Announcements
- Shoutouts/Accolades
- Student Presentations

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

- ACADEMIC WELL-BEING
  - Academic accountability check-ins
  - Weekly review of student portals
- SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING
  - Social Awareness
  - Responsible Decision Making
  - Improve Peer Relationships
  - Teach Pillars of Good Character (Portrait of a Hornet Attributes)

SCHOOL DAY REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

- 8:10AM - Entry Bell
- 8:15AM - Class Begins
- **ATTENDANCE, TARDIES, & LEAVING EARLY:**
  - Please see our attendance policy in our Hornet Pride guide (pages 3-5).
- **LATE STUDENTS:**
  - Parents must sign & escort students into the building after 8:25AM.
- **REPORTING ABSENCES:**
  - Please report your child's absence ON REALTIME no later than 8:25AM.
  - For any upcoming absences you would like to report ahead of time, please email Nurse Perotta.
- **BREAKFAST:** Breakfast is available for all students each and every morning at a cost of $2.65.
  - Times: 8:00-8:15AM; students should enter through the main doors on Stevens Avenue

SCHOOL DAY REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

Important Arrival & Dismissal Reminders

- Late Arrival: Students arriving 10 minutes or more after instruction begins (8:25 AM) must be signed in by a parent/guardian in the main office.
- Traffic & Drop-Off: The Little Falls Police Department reminds families that rolling drop-off is not permitted on Stevens Avenue in front of the school. Please follow all posted traffic and parking signs and use the drop-off route via Ridge Road and Walnut Street to help keep our students safe.
- Early Dismissal: If you need to pick up your child early, please plan to do so before 2:25 PM to help avoid the end-of-day rush. We appreciate advance notification when possible, so please call the Main Office to let us know.

SCHOOL DAY REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

Student Device Reminder

New Jersey law requires public schools to have a bell-to-bell policy limiting student use of personal internet-enabled devices during the school day beginning in the 2026–27 school year. Cell phones and personal internet-enabled devices are not permitted for student use during the school day.

- This includes cell phones, smartwatches, smart glasses, and Bluetooth earbuds/headphones.
- Please remind your child to follow the school's required storage procedures.

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD THRIVE...

STAY CONNECTED

- Check the parent/student portal weekly to monitor progress.
- Reach out to teachers (and encourage your child to do so!) anytime if you feel a meeting is needed.
- Parent conferences can be scheduled during our team meeting cycle (every 8 days), in person or via Zoom.

SUPPORT ATTENDANCE & RESPONSIBILITY

- Help bring students to school on time and maintain strong attendance.
- We understand illness and emergencies happen, but students are responsible for making up missed work.
- Remind your child to take care of their Chromebook—charged nightly, stored safely, and used responsibly per the District Computer Agreement.

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD THRIVE...

PARTNER WITH US

- If a call comes home for behavioral, academic, or emotional concerns, please know it's part of middle school growth—lots of feelings and changes.
- Help us work together to find solutions and support your child through challenges.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITIES/SUPPORT

- Students are given an opportunity to check their portal weekly to ensure they are on target with their studies and assignments.
- We expect our students to be in the driver seat of their learning and progress. (Being an Active Learner)
- If any child is academically struggling, the teachers, principal, parents, & school counselors will work together to develop an academic plan.
  - Academic Office Hours
  - Core Support Block
  - GOLD Before/After School Program

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

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Philosophy: Mistakes are accepted here at School No. 1. Learning from mistakes and making better choices is what is MOST important to us. We believe every conflict or issue can be solved with conversations, guidance, & encouragement to make better choices.

- When mistakes become frequent, consequences may include:
  - Behavioral Referral (logged in Realtime for student and parent review)
  - Peer Mediation
  - Restorative Practices (Hornet Reflection)
    - An approach that helps students to strengthen relationships, build community, and prevent conflict
  - Loss of privileges or school/grade level events
    - 3 OR MORE Referrals
  - For more in depth descriptions of consequences, please review our Hornet Pride Guide (pages 5-11)

Top 10 soft skills that are in demand by today's employers...

1. *Resilience*
2. *Empathy*
3. *Collaboration*
4. *Problem Solving*
5. *Curiosity*
6. *Ethics*
7. *Positivity*
8. *Loyalty*
9. *Patient Persistence*
10. *Leadership*

Forbes Magazine; 10 Essential Soft Skills (With Examples) September 10th, 2026

“No significant learning occurs without a significant relationship.”

-Dr. James Comer

My door is always open!

I am looking forward to a great year with all families of Little Falls!

Contact Info:
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Follow me! @lfprincipal1