

Welcome to  
**K**in**d**er**g**ar**t**en!

Jefferson Elementary School 2023–24 School Year

# OUR AGENDA FOR TONIGHT



- ▶ Welcome and Introductions
- ▶ Our current kindergarten team
  - What to expect in kindergarten
- ▶ Notes from our transportation department: Mr. Steve Connell
- ▶ News from the kitchen: Mrs. Maria Zarrillo
- ▶ Next steps
- ▶ Questions/Answers

# JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WELCOMES YOU!

## Our Team

- Dr. Reardon, Superintendent of Schalmont School District
- Mr. Joby Gifford, Principal and Ms. Ms. Aileen Ryan, Assistant Principal
- Jill Facticeau/Erika Boehkle, school nurses
- Mrs. Katie Pray, K-1 secretary
- Mrs. Brandy O'Donnell, 2-4 secretary
- Mr. Jeff Devine, security officer
- Special areas instructors, K-4 teachers, AIS providers, and teacher assistants

## Information about our school

- Our school day begins at 8:50 and ends at 3:00
- Kindergarten students attend specials that include art, physical education, music, and library
- Students eat lunch in our cafeteria and have recess everyday.

# GETTING READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

## I can:

- Zip, snap, and button
- I am learning to tie my shoes
- Take care of my own bathroom needs
- Follow directions
- Clean up after myself
- Follow verbal directions
- Share and take turns
- I am practicing my grip on pencils, crayons, and scissors
- Begin to recognize all upper/lower case letters of the alphabet
- Practice writing my name with a capital letter
- Follow words from left to right
- Begin to read high frequency sight words (Ex. the, of, to)
- Count and write numbers to 20

# TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

- We look forward to meeting your children! Always an exciting time.
- The Safety of your child is our highest priority.
- Please fill out Transportation forms either way, bus times mailed to all in mid-late August
- Bus Scanner tags
- “Here Comes The Bus” APP
- Be ready 5 minutes early



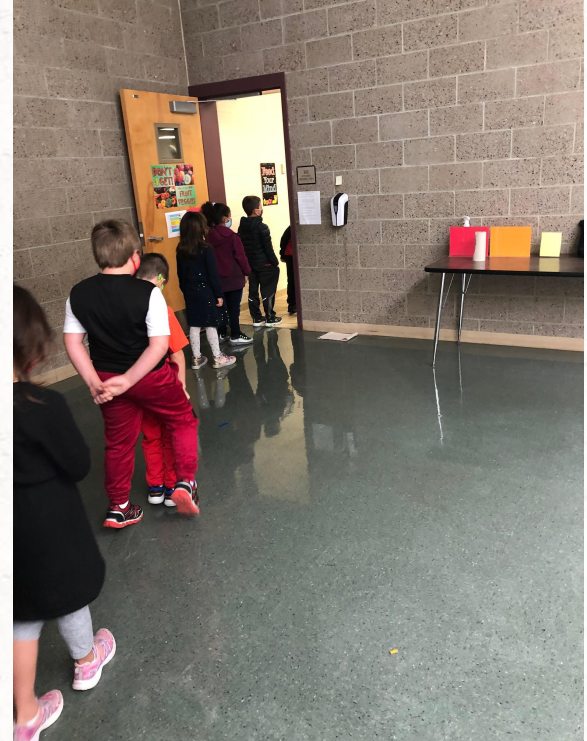
# TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

- Safety rules: Stay in seat, hands to self, quiet voice, listen to driver.
- Bus Safety Training in Fall by class
- Transportation Office Phone is (518) 356-1889
- Please call anytime with questions or concerns
- Bus Drivers and Bus Attendants needed!  
PAID Training!



# NOTES FROM OUR KITCHEN

- ▶ **Breakfast served daily - 8:30AM**
- ▶ **Lunch served daily - 11:00-1:00**
- ▶ **All students eat lunch in the cafeteria**
- ▶ **Additional support at both times to help students.**
- ▶ **Menu changes monthly-available online**
- ▶ **Any allergies/diet restrictions require a note by the nurse**
- ▶ **Birthday Snack Program information on website**
- ▶ **My School Bucks**



# Health Information

## Notes From The Nurse

**Immunization Requirements:** New York State law requires that all children entering school must have all of their required vaccines. Please see this site for a complete list of required vaccines: <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2370.pdf>

**PLEASE NOTE:** If your child turns 5 **AFTER** the start of school, or if they have not yet had their 5 year physical before starting school, they will likely need to be seen for a vaccine appointment before school starts in order to be considered up to date for Kindergarten. Please contact your child's doctor to make an appointment.

**Physical Form:** New York State law also requires that all Kindergarten students must have a physical exam. A physical exam is acceptable if it is administered within 12 months prior to the first day of the school year. (For the 2023/2024 school year, that would be an exam that was done any time **AFTER** September 8, 2023). You can find the physical exam form here: [https://www.schalmont.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/NYS\\_Health\\_Examination\\_Form.pdf](https://www.schalmont.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/NYS_Health_Examination_Form.pdf)  
A dental exam is also recommended. That form can be found here: <http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/dent/dental-health-certificate.pdf>

**School Health Services Form (emergency card):** This form will be sent home by your child's teacher the first day of school. Please fill this form out and return it immediately. It provides the nurse with pertinent information regarding your child as well as parent/guardian and emergency contact information.

**Gym excuses:** If your child cannot participate in gym due to illness or injury, please provide the nurse with a written excuse. If your child needs to be out of gym for an extended period of time, a note from the doctor is required. A follow up doctor's note is needed for them to return to gym.



## Notes From The Nurse

**Reporting an absence:** Please call 518–355–1342 to report an absence. Include your child’s name, teacher, and reason for the absence.

**If your child is ill:** If your child has ANY symptom of an illness, please keep them home and call the school to notify us. You will receive information on when your child will be able to return to school.

**Dispensing medications:** Administration of prescription and nonprescription medications can only occur with a written order from a doctor, a permission note from the parent, AND the medication provided in its original container. These items are to be brought to the Health Office by an adult. Never let a child bring any medication to school.

**Allergies:** If your child has a food, latex, insect, or environmental allergy requiring medication such as an EpiPen or Benadryl please contact the school nurse regarding additional paperwork needed.

**Please see the Schalmont website for more information:** <https://www.schalmont.org/departments-services/health-safety/>

**As always, please feel free to reach out to the school nurse with any questions.**

**Jill Facteau– 518–355–1342 ext 5036 or [jfacteau@schalmont.net](mailto:jfacteau@schalmont.net)**

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION!

## Jefferson YMCA Program

For more info please contact:

Eileen McGuire, site director, [emcguire@cdymca.org](mailto:emcguire@cdymca.org)

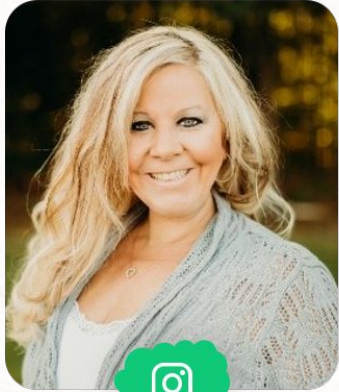
Jessey Adkins, Child Care Coordinator, [jadkins@cdymca.org](mailto:jadkins@cdymca.org)  
518-881-0117 extension 4421

- Morning and Afternoon childcare offered from 7:00 AM - 8:45 AM and 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- Children may enroll full time or part time and schedules can be changed throughout the school year
- All staff are OCFS trained and CPR/First AID certified and maintain all state regulated trainings
- Each age group is split into pods (ex: Kindergarten, 1st - 2nd, 3rd - 6th) to ensure a safe COVID friendly environment
- Snack is provided for each child every day!

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION!

## Jefferson PTO

Julie Dion 518-892-7495;  
Heather Reid 518-598-9425



**Julie Dion**

*President*



**Heather Reid**

*VP/Treasurer*

- We put on many of the fun events like Trunk or Treat in the Fall, Lunch with Santa, Turn off the TV, and the upcoming Color Run
- PTO Meetings are usually scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month
- PTO information throughout the school year can be found online at [jeffersonelementarypto.com](http://jeffersonelementarypto.com) or at [facebook.com/groups/jeffersonelementarypto](https://facebook.com/groups/jeffersonelementarypto)
- We are looking for help with fundraising, the book fair, craft fair and many other events!
- Look for signups before school starts for signing up to help with Kindergarten lunch!!
- Journey to Jefferson's last night is Thursday!
- Stop by and visit Mrs. Lawrence to hear more about the 1,000 book club
- Our School community thrives because of our dedicated families and volunteers; without YOU none of this would be possible!!

**THANKS!**



**any  
questions  
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[jgifford@schalmont.net](mailto:jgifford@schalmont.net)

[aryan@schalmont.net](mailto:aryan@schalmont.net)



## ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION



Jefferson Elementary School(Schalmont Central School District)  
100 Princetown Road, Schenectady, NY 12306  
Phone: 518 355 1342 Fax: 518 357 0296 or 518 357 0293

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Mr. Joby Gifford, Principal	ext 5002
Ms. Aileen Ryan, Assistant Principal	ext 5072
Mrs. Catherine Pray, Primary(K-1) Secretary	ext 5080
Mrs. Brandy O'Donnell, Intermediate (2-4) Secretary	ext 5001
Mrs. Maria Zarrillo, Director, Food Service	ext 5069
Mrs. Jill Facticeau/Miss Erika Boehlke, School nurses	ext 5036
Mr. Steve Connell, Transportation Director	518 356 1889