

Columbia Elementary

August 2023

WELCOME
BACK TO
SCHOOL



Welcome to Columbia School 2023-2024.docx

[Download](#)

34.2 KB

- **July 31st, Monday, 5:00-6:30pm** - Columbia Open House - Come with your student to meet their teacher, see their classroom, and drop off school supplies.
- **August 2nd, Wednesday** - First Day of School - This is late start Wednesday. Doors open at 7:45am, students may go to the gym or breakfast. At 8:20am students may go to their classroom and are marked tardy at 8:45am.

- **August 24th, Thursday** - School Picture Day (ordering details below)

August Breakfast and Lunch Menus

Columbia K- 1st Carline Video



Columbia All-Day Preschool drop off video



**Just a
reminder...**



- Please be patient with our transportation team in regard to pickup and drop off times in this first week. They are ironing out the schedule. Thank you in advance for your understanding.
- Any change of transportation needs to be communicated with the office. You can send a note with your student or call us, 574-223-2501, before 1:00pm. Melisa or Natalie will be more than happy to let you know if you a change can be made for that day. We **DO NOT** allow bus passes and bus route changes do take require 48 hours.

- Make sure your student wears tennis shoes on their gym day!

Columbia Elementary PTO

What is PTO? Parent Teacher Organization - Our objective is to encourage the interaction between family and school, support school operations and enhance school spirit. PTO works closely with the admin team at Columbia as well as our teachers and staff.

Who can join Columbia PTO? Anyone!

When does PTO meet? Our first meeting will be on August 15th at 6pm in the Columbia Elementary Library. There will be childcare available during the meeting for children ages 6 months and up. We will plan some exciting things for this year and discuss our first fundraiser.

What is the first PTO fundraiser? We are trying a new fundraiser, Krispy Cream, which will be going home August 14th. Sales will end August 25th, with an estimated pickup date of Friday September 8th. We will still be holding our annual LaBraid sales, but that will be closer to Thanksgiving Break.

How do I reach the PTO? Please feel free to email Michelle Jaeger, the PTO President, with any questions or concerns. michelle.jaeger@zebras.net



A note from Nurse Butler

Just a friendly reminder that every child residing in Indiana who is enrolled in an accredited school must be immunized as determined by the Indiana State Department of Health (SEA 461). These immunizations are required by the first day of school for the Academic year of 2022-2023 and by not being in compliance, may put your child at risk for exclusion.

Parents/guardians must bring in ALL medications and complete a Permission to Administer Medication Form. Medication's must be in the original bottle/container along with the pharmacy label or doctor's order with the child's name, name of medication, the correct dosage and the instructions for administration. Students may NOT transport medication to school, this includes OTC (Over The Counter) medications such as cough drops & etc.



If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out at 574-223-2501 X2010 or at Samantha.butler@zebras.net

Picture day is August 24th - click here to order - code 78829YF

We will not be sending order flyers home with students, online ordering is the only way to get your student's pictures.

Counselor Corner

Hi friends! My name is Mrs. McClain and I am the school counselor here at Columbia Elementary. In my role I typically visit each classroom 2x a month and teach lessons on safety using the Safer Smarter Kids curriculum as well as our monthly "Big Idea" using the Core Essentials curriculum. In addition to bi-weekly classroom lessons I am available to work with students individually and in small groups (with parent permission), assist during times of emotional need, work with teachers and staff to monitor student progress, link families with community resources and serve as the building High Ability coordinator. I look forward to getting to know each of our students and families and working together to make this an awesome year!

Steps to Easing Kindergarten Jitters

The beginning years of school often come with a mixture of emotions and transitioning from a flexible schedule into a more structured schedule can be difficult for students and parents alike. Edutopia posted an article providing tips on helping to make the transition to school a bit easier. While a few of those tips are listed below, we encourage you to read the full article at:

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/4-steps-to-easing-kindergarten-jitters-michele-borba>

1. Practice saying goodbye- Try creating a special handshake or hug to use each morning
2. Learn the lay of the land- Visit your child's classroom on open house night to become familiar with the classroom location, meet the teacher and classmates. For Columbia this is Monday August 1st from 5:30-7:00pm.
3. Address your child's concerns directly- It is normal to have worries; reassure your child it is normal to have some jitters and other students are feeling the same way. Brainstorm solutions together.

Establish a goodbye ritual- The first goodbyes can be tough for children **and** parents; children will take cues from their parents. Even though it can be difficult and your child may be emotional, it is important to not draw out the goodbye as this can increase anxiety. This is the perfect time to insert a special goodbye suggested in step 1. Hold back your tears till you are out of sight. Know our staff will help your child through the transition with kindness and love.

Pay Preschool Tuition

Columbia Elementary School

The Littlest Zebras In The Herd

1502 Elm Street, Rochester, IN 46975

574-223-2501

<https://www.zebras.net/columbia-home>



Natalie Leslie

Natalie is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

