



## Lena Whitmore Elementary School

110 South Blaine St., Moscow, ID 83843  
208-882-2621 FAX: 208-892-1202  
<https://lena.msd281.org>

### Parent Bulletin, August 25, 2019

Class Lists - They are posted on our front windows as well as on our webpage under the "student and parent info" tab.

Back-To-School Night - We hope you can join us on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 5 - 6 p.m. for Back-to-School Night! This is a great time to meet your child's teacher, drop off school supplies, find out where they sit, where to line up on the first day, and pick up the beginning of the year paperwork. Parents can also pre-pay for the breakfast/lunch program in the gym with KaCee our cook. We'll be serving cookies in there and PAT will have Lena t-shirts on sale in the gym as well! I look forward to seeing you!

First Day of School! - Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> is the first day of school! School begins at 8:15 a.m. and unless eating breakfast, we would love for the kids to play outside on the playground until the bell rings at 8:15 a.m. so we can finish our last minute preparations for the big day! School ends at 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 2:15 p.m. on Fridays. Please make sure your child knows how they are going to get home. Please feel free to send a note (particularly for kindergarten and first grade students) with your child stating bus, walk home, Adventure Club, pick up, etc. Please contact the bus garage directly (882-3933) to determine bus stop and time. Many times the way students get home on the first day of school is different than a typical school day. It is imperative, particularly for our primary grade teachers, to know where to send your child at the end of the school day.

Busing - If you plan to have your child ride the bus to or from Lena each day, please be sure and contact Jim or Greg at the bus garage at 882-3933 before the first day of school. Please also

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give your child's teacher and/or the office a heads up that they are riding so we make sure they get on the bus!

K-3<sup>rd</sup> Ride the Bus Day - If your child is in kindergarten through third grade and is going to ride the bus they have the opportunity to do a practice run a day early! If you would like your child to participate, please call Jim or Greg at the bus garage at 882-3933.

Staffing Changes - There are a few new faces at our school this year and some staff in new places! We are excited to welcome Kaelyn Yandt as our new intermediate level Exceptional Child Teacher. Shannon Davies will be joining the Lena family as our new Music Teacher. Kate Roll moved to the big kid hallway and is going to teach 5<sup>th</sup> grade and we welcome Jayne Wang to first grade. Lastly, Vickie Green will be joining our staff as School Psychologist!

School Supply Lists - All our school supply lists are available here at Lena and online on our website under the "parent and student info" tab. As a reminder, these items are suggested and not mandatory for students to bring. We also have donated school supplies available for families in our gym that are up for grabs. Please stop by the school in the next two days to pick them up!

Wednesday Folder - Each Wednesday your child will come home with a black and white folder filled with information from school. This typically gives you information about the work your child completed during the week. It is also the avenue in which the school disperses information about upcoming events. On the first day of school your child will receive their folder with **IMPORTANT forms** that need to be filled out and returned quickly. In order to save on paper and staff time to stuff each folder throughout the school year, the district has now made community flyers available on-line as:

[https://www.msd281.org/community\\_interest/community\\_event\\_flyers](https://www.msd281.org/community_interest/community_event_flyers)

Student Immunizations - All students must meet the state of Idaho immunization requirements. If immunization requirements are not met, by state law, we are not allowed to

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have those students in attendance. Please call the office or your doctor if you have any questions.

Security and Safety - Our number one job, above anything else, is ensuring your child's safety. In addition to establishing common internal safety protocols a few years ago, Moscow School District completed a systemic security overhaul. The overall goal of that project was to improve the safety and security of our students and staff through improved control of access into our facilities and video monitoring of transitional areas in and around each building. These improvements include interior and exterior security cameras, electronic door access controls, and the replacement of most all exterior doors and door locks.

Just like in the past, after the school day begins, all visitors will be required to communicate with the school office via intercom and camera systems located at the main entrance of the school before being allowed entry. We recognize that this may be an additional step to get into the building, but it is necessary to stay up to date with current trends in school safety and security.

Please refrain from knocking on doors/windows or motioning to others inside the building to let you in. We train both staff and students to not open locked doors for safety reasons.

Please remind your child(ren) that **no weapons** can ever come on campus. This includes items brought intended to be used as weapons or play weapons. Our district policy is very strict and suspension or expulsion is part of the policy. I sincerely want every student and staff member to feel safe.

Student-Parent Handbook/Calendar - At the beginning of the school year each family will receive their own Lena Whitmore Handbook/Calendar. This is full of essential information. Please take time to go over it with your child and refer to it to understand policies and procedures. Our website is a valuable source of information. Our handbook is also posted under the "Parent & Student Info" section of our website at <https://lena.ms281.org>.

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Up-coming events:

8/27 - Back-to-school night, 5-6 p.m.

8/28 - First day of school!

9/2 - No school, Labor Day

9/5 - PAT meeting, 6 p.m. in our gym

10/3 & 10/4 - No School, Professional Development Days

10/15 - individual picture day