

The Maltby Messenger

Maltby Elementary School

Margie Rodriguez, Interim Principal

Tammy Gregory, Secretary ~ Assist. Secretary Tara Bjornsen

360-804-3500 or 800-282-7818 ~ FAX 360-804-3599 ~ www.monroe.wednet.edu

August 24, 2009

From the Principal's Desk

Welcome back to the 2009-10 school year! It will be a year of continuous discovery and exceptional teaching and learning. I am honored to be Maltby Elementary School's interim principal until the holidays. Mrs. Hoeft, Principal, is on maternity leave and will return in January. She and her new son are doing well. Henry Christopher was born July 10th. Please let me introduce myself. My name is Margie Rodriguez I have been an educator for 30 years and 18 of those years were in Texas. I moved to Washington in 1997 and lived and worked in Mount Vernon until five years ago. I then moved to Monroe when I was hired as an assistant principal at Monroe High School. Two years ago, I had the opportunity to move to the elementary level as an assistant principal at Frank Wagner Elementary where I will return in January. I am very excited to be part of the "Mustangs" and to experience the Maltby community-teachers, students, and parents!

If you are new to Maltby, I welcome and assure you that this school has dedicated teachers and staff who care about the success of **all** students. Maltby has an exceptional reputation because of the caring staff, the very active and professional PTO, and an involved community of parents that volunteer frequently in our school.

The first day of school is **September 9th for 1st through 5th grade**. Your child's classroom placement is included with this newsletter. Please keep in mind that student enrollment fluctuates from now through September. Therefore, staffing changes may occur which could affect student assignments. Because of this, it will be very difficult to honor teacher change requests. September 9th will be an orientation day for Kindergarten students.

I would like to invite all students with their parents to an Ice Cream Social the day before school begins, **Tuesday, September 8th, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Classroom visits will be from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.** This is a wonderful way for your child to see their class ahead of time, and reduce any anxiety they may have before the following morning. I look forward to meeting you at this event.

If you have questions, please call our office at **(360) 804-3500**. Currently we are operating on summer hours, **8:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:00-3:00 p.m.**

I know that each of you has something special to offer that will make my Maltby journey unforgettable. Please come and visit me and if you have not had a tour of the

building, I will be happy to show you what makes Maltby Elementary such a special place. Also don't ever hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns. My email is rodriguez@monroe.wednet.edu and my phone number is (360) 804 3500.

**Margie Rodriguez
Interim Principal**

Welcome Back Ice Cream Social

Our generous PTO is hosting a "Back to School" Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, September 8th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Students will have an opportunity to meet their teacher and drop off their school supplies. We hope to see you there!

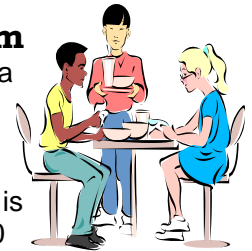
Attendance

Regular attendance is expected at Maltby. If your child is absent, there is a 24-hour attendance hotline to notify us. State law requires that **parents notify the school** with the reason **each day** your child is absent.

24 hour Attendance Hotline ~ 360-804-3501

Breakfast/Lunch Program

We feature the *Kids' Way Café*, a menu consisting of several entrée selections on a daily basis. Chartwell is the new food service provider for the district. Breakfast is \$1.25 and is served starting at 8:40 a.m. Lunch with a beverage costs \$2.50, milk or juice may be purchased separately for 40¢.



Bus Zone/Fire Lane



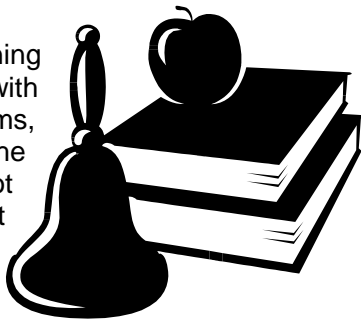
Please do not park or drop students off in the bus zone/fire lane located on the east side of the school.

This prevents us from safely unloading and loading students on our buses. Parents using the bus lane will be asked to move. Our parent pick up area is in the front of the school. Additional information regarding car drop and pick up is in this mailing.

A crossing guard will assist our students who walk home in the afternoon. Students should wait in the supervised Car Drop area until they are directed to cross the street by our crossing guard.

Curriculum Night

Curriculum Night is an evening for parents to meet with teachers, see the classrooms, and hear about the curriculum. A date has not been assigned to this event. Watch future Maltby Messengers for more information.



Health Issues

Generally, any child who is able to attend school should plan on participating in recess and other physical activities. Parents need to provide a note **from their physician** if a child is unable to participate in school activities. We will make every effort to accommodate any special health needs.

If you know your child is ill, we ask that you please keep him or her home. (A general rule is that a child may return to school 24 hours **after** his or her temperature has returned to normal.) Thank you for helping us all stay healthy.



When a child becomes sick at school, a parent or designated emergency person will be contacted and arrangements will be made to send the child home promptly.

Pick Up/Drop Off of Students

Our car drop location is right in front of the school. Supervision begins at 8:40 a.m. in the morning. For student safety do not drop students off prior to that time. School is dismissed at 3:25 p.m. If you are picking your student up please plan to be here by 3:25. I strongly encourage you to have your child ride our school buses this year to ensure they arrive on time and enjoy the experience of riding a bus.

PTO

The Maltby Parent Teacher Organization welcomes your participation. There is no membership fee. The first meeting will be Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. If you have questions, please contact president, Crista Langston @ (360) 668-2931 or visit their website at www.maltbypto.org.

Volunteers

We welcome and encourage your participation in our school. The completion of a volunteer packet is required **each year** from every adult helping at school or chaperoning a field trip. Please contact a classroom teacher or the office for a volunteer packet.



Riding the Bus

We encourage all children to ride the bus the first day of school so they get used to the routine and learn important safety information. **A note from home is required when a child is to ride a different bus home, be picked by someone other than a parent or guardian, or walk to someone's house.** Please make sure your child's full name, their teacher's name, and date are on each note.



If a note is not sent, your help is appreciated in notifying our office **no later than 2:00 p.m.** when there is a change in your child's schedule.

When a child gets on the wrong bus or misses his/her bus stop on the way home, the transportation department contacts parents and arrangements are made to meet the bus. If a parent is unavailable, the child will be returned to school or the bus garage until safe arrangements can be made. The phone number for transportation is (360) 804-2650.

School Hours

School operating hours are 8:55 a.m.- 3:25 p.m. **We ask that children do not arrive before 8:40 a.m., as supervision is not provided.**

The first bell rings at 8:53 a.m.. Children are to line up at their exterior classroom doors. Parent helpers will be on hand to assist students to their rooms the 1st few days of school. Morning kindergarten is dismissed at 11:37 a.m.



School Pictures

School pictures will be taken on **Wednesday, September 30th**. Both individual and classroom group pictures will be taken that day. Picture order information will be sent home with a future Messenger. Retakes will be Tuesday, November 17th.

District Information Packet

In the past families were mailed a packet of information from the district office. Due to budget constraints the school board decided to forgo printing and mailing of these packets to direct funding to student learning in our classrooms. All information normally mailed can be found on line at www.monroe.wednet.edu. Bus information can be found on Family Access. (How to sign up included is in this mailing.)



Lost and Found

We ask families to please clearly label their child's clothes, books etc...with the students name or classroom number. Each year we donate several bags of unclaimed coats etc... to a local charity because they are not labeled. Thank you for your help.