



# From The Principal's Desk

August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear Espirito Santo School family,

I hope and pray that this email finds you well, as we enjoy the final days of summer before we return to school for another successful school year. I want to welcome back our returning students/families, and also welcome our new students/families to our school. Collectively, greetings to our Espirito Santo School family! ☺

For our new families, this is my “*From the Principal's Desk*” memo. During the school year, I will be sending these on a weekly basis via email and text message. Be sure to review it on a weekly basis, to stay up to date on news from the school. If you ever have a question or concern, please reach out to me via email at [ARaposo@es.dfrcs.org](mailto:ARaposo@es.dfrcs.org). Also, all of the memos (and other important items) are posted on the school website at <http://www.espiritosantoschool.org> under Current Families → Important Documents & Helpful Links

I want to take this opportunity to provide some updates to our school family about changes to our school over the summer, improvements and general housekeeping (like drop off/pickup procedures, etc.)

## Important Dates Coming Up:

- **Kick-Off PTO Meeting – Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm**
  - We will kick off our PTO group on 8/20 to discuss our fundraising plan for this school year. All are welcome to attend. Please enter via the front doors of the school.
- **Drop off your School Supplies - Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm**
  - All families are strongly encouraged to drop off the student school supplies ahead of time, to make the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school as seamless as possible. Please be sure to label your students items, so they go to the correct classroom. Please park in the school parking lot, and enter via the front doors of the school.
- **Popsicle Social & Pre-School/Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten Open House – Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm**
  - This year, we will host a popsicle social in our school parking lot (rain location in the cafeteria). This will be an opportunity to meet families in your students' class, catch up on the events from the summer, and make new connections ahead of the school year. This will begin at 6:00pm. (Please park in the church parking lot.)
  - For our PS/PK & K families (after the popsicle social), this will also be the open house for these grades. Please come to the school to meet your classroom teachers!
- **Drop off your School Supplies: Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm:**
  - All families are strongly encouraged to drop off the student school supplies ahead of time, to make the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school as seamless as possible. Please be sure to label your students items, so they go to the correct classroom. Please park in the school parking lot, and enter via the front doors of the school.
- **School Begins - August 27<sup>th</sup> and August 28<sup>th</sup> (1/2 Days of School):**
  - School begins on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. **The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> days of school will be a ½ day.** Dismissal is at 11:20am for Grades K-3, at 11:30am for Grades 4-8, and begins at 11:00am for PS & PK. Lunch will not be served on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school, however, lunch will be served on the 28<sup>th</sup>. The rest of the week will be full days of school. Those menus are posted later in this memo.



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- **Open Parent Night: September 3<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm:**
  - Our open parent night will begin in the church. Fr. Gauvin will lead us in a prayer service and provide greetings to our families for a successful school year. From there, I will speak to parents regarding our school year ahead. From there, we will dismiss families to the school to meet with their classroom teachers. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Enhanced Security:** The school recently enhanced our security, by adding key fob entry to our entry doors, as well as a new access control system to our PS/PK door (which is also used for morning & after-care.) We will continue to invest in security as we move forward, with more plans in the works. Thank you for your continued support of this endeavor!

**Lunch Program:** Espirito Santo School will continue to partner with the Fall River Public School Nutrition program. This means that breakfast and lunch will be made available **free** to our students. A menu will be sent to the school from FRPS, and then will be forwarded to parents. Each morning, we will take a count of students who need hot lunch, and we will notify FRPS. Here are the menus for August & September:

- August 2024 Menu:
  - <http://www.espiritosantoschool.org/wp-content/uploads/Espirito-August-2024-menu.pdf>
- September 2024 Menu:
  - <http://www.espiritosantoschool.org/wp-content/uploads/Espirito-September-2024-menu.pdf>

**Welcome to Our New Staff:** We have some new staff joining our school family!

*Ms. Sarah Rose:* Ms. Rose joins us as our new kindergarten teacher as a graduate from Salve Regina University & Providence College. For our Kindergarten families, she can be contacted at [srose@es.dfrcs.org](mailto:srose@es.dfrcs.org).

*Mrs. Patricia Smith:* Mrs. Smith joins us as our new Grade 5-8 Math teacher. Mrs. Smith is an experienced teacher with a focus in Mathematics. For our Grade 5-8 parents, she can be contacted at [psmith@es.dfrcs.org](mailto:psmith@es.dfrcs.org).

*Mrs. Margarida Pour:* In Grade 2, Mrs. Pour will be the paraprofessional alongside Ms. Duarte. Mrs. Pour also brings a wealth of knowledge and background in elementary education. For Grade 2 parents, she can be contacted at [mpour@es.dfrcs.org](mailto:mpour@es.dfrcs.org).

*Mrs. Lindsay Waite, LPN:* Mrs. Waite will be joining our nursing team, as she will be sharing the nursing responsibilities with Nurse Turcotte. She is also a school parent; as her son is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade this year. She can be contacted at [lwaite@es.dfrcs.org](mailto:lwaite@es.dfrcs.org).

**Documents to Be Returned:** On the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school, your student will receive a packet that will need to be completed, and returned to the school. Please be sure to return them to the school by the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of school. This is very important that we receive these documents in a timely manner.



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**Tuition Statements:** Tuition payments are due at the beginning of each month, per the tuition agreements that were mailed to you. You can mail your payment to the school. You can also schedule your payments with bill pay through your banking partner, where they will be mailed to the school on your behalf. ***This year, we have added the ability to process card payments, using the Square system. Please note that a convenience fee is added using this method.***

**Uniforms:** In addition to Donnelly's Clothing, we will continue to work with Advanced Embroidery in New Bedford, as another vendor that will help supply our polo uniform shirts & gym clothing. You can see the listing here: <http://www.espiritosantoschool.org/wp-content/uploads/Advanced-Embroidery-Ordering-List.pdf>. Please begin to prepare for the school year, as delays are likely due to supply chain issues. ***Please note that uniforms are only allowed from Donnelly's & Advanced Embroidery. Custom made items are not permitted.***

**School Calendar:** The school calendar has been revised to reflect the two ½ days to begin the school year. It can be found here: <https://www.espiritosantoschool.org/wp-content/uploads/Espirito-Santo-School-School-Calendar-2024-2025-Rev.-8.14.24.pdf>

**Summer Assignments & Supply Lists:** If you need additional copies of these items, please refer to the emails that were sent out during the summer months. (Returning students already received these items before the end of last school year.) Please email Mrs. Pacheco at [office@es.dfcs.org](mailto:office@es.dfcs.org), if you need another copy.

**CORIs:** If you are a new parent, or a returning parent who would like to volunteer for field trips this year, you must complete the CORI process, along with the Safe Environment Training. This forms will be made available during both open houses, but I will link them below for you. The 1<sup>st</sup> field trip will be PS/PK in October. Please provide time for these forms to be processed. They are good for one year from its approval date.

- [CORI Form](#) - Please complete the form, and provide a copy of your current License or Passport.
- [Code of Conduct](#) – Please complete the form.
- [Safe Environment Training](#) – For adults who have not been CORI'd by the school before... Please provide copies of both certificates, which include Safe Environment Training and 51a Training.
- [Rhode Island Release](#) – If you are an RI resident, you must complete this form as well.

**Drop-Off & Pickup Procedures:** In order to make drop-off and pickup as seamless as possible, please review the following information. Please share this with those who may pick up your student. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

**Drop-Off:** For students in PS/PK, they will enter via the PS/PK door, located up the brick stairs to the right of the main doors of the school. Once you arrive at the door, please ring the buzzer. A staff member will greet you and sign your child in. Parents will not be permitted to enter the building. Please park in the church parking lot, and **do not park in the rectory driveway.**

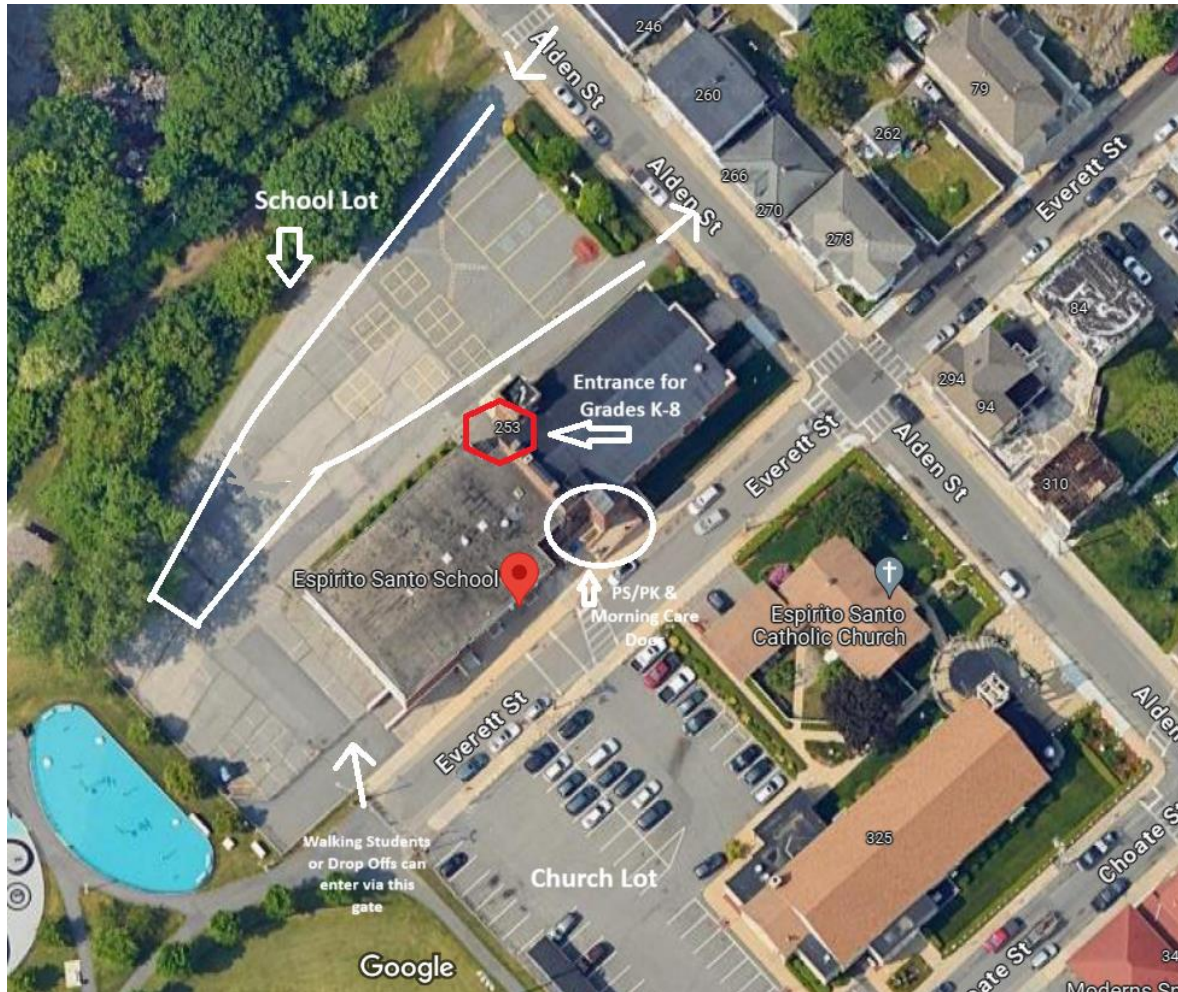
Students in Grades K-8 will continue to arrive at school via the back door in the school parking lot. The doors will open at 7:40am. Parents will enter the large gate on Alden Street, and make a U-shape car line. Once your car is along the side of the building, please allow your child to exit the vehicle and walk within the coned off area. You may exit the parking lot through the smaller gate on Alden Street. There will be





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staff present to assist students. Parents will not be permitted to enter the building. Students should not be entering via the front doors unless the student is walking to school, or is late (arriving after 8:00am). Please make every effort to be on time, so that the day begins smoothly.

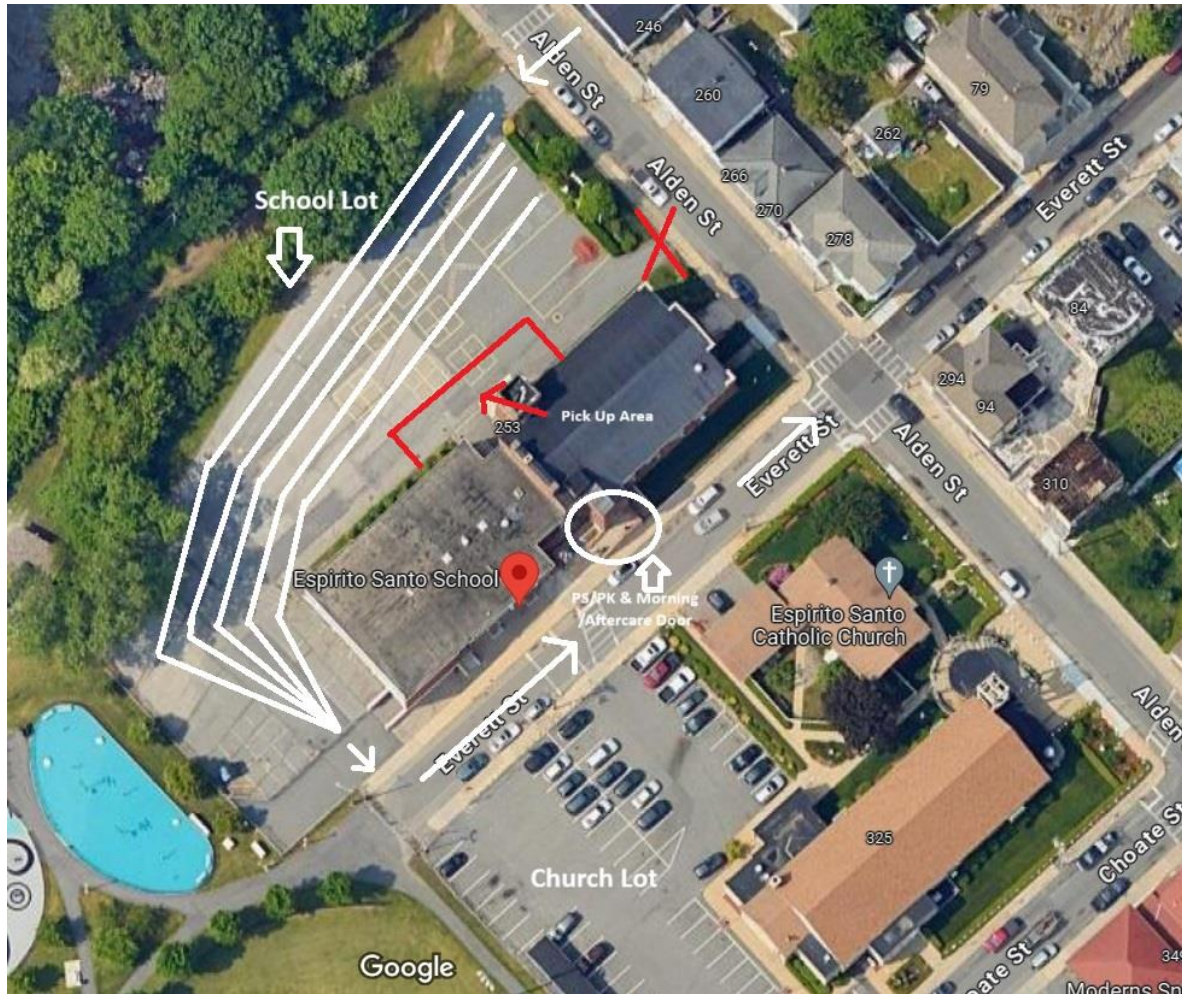


*Dismissal:* For students in PS/PK, dismissal begins as early as 2:00pm on full days, 11:00am on half days. Please ring the buzzer at the PS/PK door, and a staff member will assist you. For students in Grades K-8, dismissal will take place in the back parking lot. Please enter via the large gate on Alden Street, and make multiple car lines. It is very important to pull all the way down the parking lot. **Do not stop in the middle of the parking lot, or weave in/out of traffic.** We want to ensure that our students are safe. There will be a coned area where teachers/students will stand. You must exit your vehicle, and pick up your child from their teacher. Students are not allowed to run across the parking lot. Once you and your child have entered your vehicle, proceed down the parking lot, and up Everett Street. Please be reminded that the intersection of Alden & Everett Streets is a 3 way stop.





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Dismissal times are as follows:

- Grades K-3: 2:20pm (full day), 11:20am (half day)
- Grades 4-8: 2:30pm (full day), 11:30am (half day)

**Morning & After-Care:** Morning care begins at 7:00am. After-care runs from 2:30 - 5:00pm. Parents may check in their student for morning care and dismiss their student from after-care at the PS/PK door.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to me, or the school office. Enjoy the final days of summer.... we can't wait to see you!

Sincerely,  
*Andrew J. Raposo*  
Mr. Andrew J. Raposo

Principal