

Aug/Sept 2025

East Derry Elementary

2316 Back Maitland Road
Lewistown, PA 17044

☎ 717-543-5615



Coming Up!

8/25 - First Day of School
8/29 - No School
(Act 80 Day)
9/1 - No School
(Labor Day)
9/9 - Fall Picture Day
9/10 - Lock Down Drill
9:25 am
9/16 - 3rd Grade Farm
Field Trip
9/22-9/26 - Ag Lab
10/1 - Open House
(5:30pm-7pm)
10/9 & 10/10 - Hearing &
Vision Screenings
10/13 - No School
(Act 80 Day)



New Faces

We would like to introduce some new staff and changes at East Derry Elementary School:

Aleisa Baumgardner - Administrative Secretary
Zachary Bickhart - 2nd Grade Teacher
Katie Becker - Music Teacher
Noah Wright - Gym Teacher

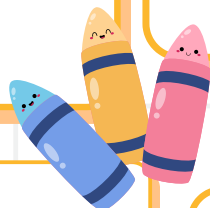
Welcome Back **Nathan Beaver!** (AM Custodian)

Congratulations to **Mrs. Erica Davis!**
(Formerly known as Erica Ruble)



Attendance

- Students arriving after 8:20 am will be marked tardy.
- Students arriving after 9:30 am or leaving before 2:00 pm will be marked as absent for a half day.
- Excuses **MUST** be turned in within 3 days to avoid being unexcused.



Open House

We are so excited to welcome our students and families to Open House on Wednesday, 10/1 from 5:30pm to 7pm. This will be a chance for your child to show you their classroom and for you to meet their teacher. Specials and title teachers, our school counselor, and our principals will also be present.

Parent Pick-Up

If your student will not be riding the bus, a written note including the student's full name, date, and who will be picking up must be submitted. If your student is being picked up before the 2:45 dismissal time, indicate the time on the note. Students who are picked up early must be signed out and picked up in the office with proper ID. **Phone calls will only be accepted for emergencies and should occur prior to 2:00 pm.**

NOTE: The person picking up your child MUST be listed on their Emergency Information Form



FREE Breakfast & Lunch!

East Derry Elementary has been approved as a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school for 2025-2026 school year. This program allows all EDES students to receive a **FREE** breakfast and lunch every day. Extras to any meal will be charged. Purchase of milk only is considered an extra item. If a student purchases milk with their packed lunch, they will be charged \$0.70 for the milk.



Respectful, Responsible, Ready, & Safe!

The East Derry PBIS Team is excited to kick off another year of promoting “pawsitive” behaviors within our school! During the week of Aug. 25th, all students will participate in lessons to review RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, READY, and SAFE expectations across all settings in the building. Ask your children to let you know when they receive PAW tickets!

In September, the entire student body will focus on ADAPTABILITY. Adaptability means being ready and willing to adjust as necessary to the changes in people and circumstances that arise in daily life.

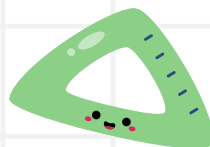
Golden Tickets:

Each month, each teacher will award one student in his/her class the “Golden Ticket” for being or showing exceptional improvement or effort at being either Respectful, Responsibility, Ready or Safe in all areas of the school. When a student wins the “Golden Ticket,” he/she is recognized on the morning announcements and receives a GOLDEN TICKET spirit stick. The student’s picture is also placed on the “Principal’s Club” bulletin board in the cafeteria and has lunch with the principal at the Golden Ticket Luncheon.



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Title 1

East Derry Elementary receives Title I funding. If you would like to review the Schoolwide Title I Plan, you may access it on the district’s website at:
www.mcsdk12.org
 ➤ Students/Parents tab
 ➤ Federal Programs tab
 ➤ Schoolwide Plans tab
 ➤ Title I - EDES

Tier 2 Behavioral Supports

East Derry has systems in place to identify and assist students in need of behavioral supports. Each month, a Tier 2 team analyzes discipline referrals to determine if students are in need of more support. If your child has frequent “minor” discipline referrals or any “major” discipline referrals, a team member will be in contact for parent permission to help eliminate barriers and assist the student. Parents may also reach out to their child’s teacher or the school counselor to see if Tier 2 supports may be of assistance.

Academic Assistance

If your child is struggling academically or not attaining the academic standards at the proficient level, please reach out to your child’s teacher or the building principal for information about our tutoring programs and accessing additional academic assistance.



Important Notes: ???

- Family Access is the main source of family contact for important district information. To relay messages to parents/guardians EDES must have accurate information stored in Family Access. Please notify EDES office immediately of any changes in contact information.
- The MCSD website has the following important pieces of information: All Hazards Plan, Student Handbook, Bullying Policy, Curriculum Links, District Calendar, Lunch Menu, CYCLE Day calendar, and much more! Check it out at www.mcSDK12.org
- Students are able to take up to 5 Educational Trip days per school year. Be sure to fill out the form and have it signed **PRIOR** to taking the educational trip.
 - *A report is due to the office within 3 days of returning from the trip for it to be considered a lawful absence.*

Instructional Supplies for Students

If provision of instructional supplies imposes a financial hardship on a family, the school district can assist with some of these costs. - An application process for such materials is located under MCSD Policy 110, and is available for review on our website. - Families may also contact Mr. Reeder to see if you qualify for any assistance with school materials.

Skylert

The Skylert System is the main source of family contact for important district information, including delays and snow days. To relay messages to parents/guardians, East Derry must have accurate information stored in our Skyward system.

Please notify the East Derry office immediately of any changes in contact information.

Volunteering

Opportunities throughout the school year will allow us to welcome volunteers into the classrooms and school. In order to be eligible to volunteer, the following is required:

- Act 34 PA Criminal History Clearance
- Act 151 PA Child Abuse History Clearance
- Act 114 Federal Criminal History & Fingerprinting or Volunteer Affidavit in lieu (restrictions apply)
- Volunteer Packet (required to be completed each school year)

As an additional layer of security, your driver's license (or state ID) will need to be scanned into our visitor management database, School Gate Guardian, to receive a visitor's badge.

MCSD Policies

Parents are encouraged to share concerns through the proper channels. Policy 906 outlines the steps for addressing complaints. The full policy is located on the MCSD website.

You can view all MCSD policies on the MCSD website by clicking the School Board tab and then selecting the Board Docs box.

D. Robert Reeder III
Principal

✉ dr47@mcSDK12.org

Victoria Matthey
Assistant Principal

✉ vsm17@mcSDK12.org

Right to Know

As a parent of a student attending a school that is receiving Federal Title I dollars, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teacher(s) and instructional paraprofessional(s) who instruct your child. Federal law requires every Title I school district to comply and to provide you with the requested information in a timely manner. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which was signed into law in December 2015 and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1956 (ESEA) includes additional right to know requests. At any time, parents and family members can request:

- Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out, and
- Information on required assessments that include
 - subject matter tested,
 - purpose of the test,
 - source of the requirement (if applicable),
 - amount of time it takes students to complete the test, and
 - time and format of disseminating results.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals meet applicable Pennsylvania state requirements.

If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact Mr. Reeder at East Derry Elementary School at 717-543-5615 or email at dr47@mcsdk12.org. We look forward to the upcoming school year, and together we will make a difference in your child's life.

School Board Policy 105.1

Mifflin County School District School Board Policy 105.1 requires annual notification to parents/guardians and students that parents/guardians and students have an opportunity to review instructional materials and have access to information about the curriculum, including academic standards to be achieved, instructional materials and assessment techniques. Requests to review instructional materials and access information about the curriculum, including academic standards to be achieved, instructional materials and assessment techniques should be made by submitting a written request to the building principal.

Medication Policy

Over-the-Counter Medication forms were handed out to students on the first day of school. This form must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian in order for students to receive medication from the school nurse. If your child has not submitted the Over-the-Counter Medication form to the Nurse's Office, your child will not receive medication at school. Forms are available in the nurse's office.

As a reminder, students are NOT permitted to carry any medications on their person during school hours. This includes cough drops, medicated creams, eye drops or anything used for medicinal purposes. Any medication that is required to be taken at school MUST be transported to and from school by a parent/guardian or designated adult and accompanied with a physician's order. Parents and guardians are required to sign medications into the nurse's office at drop-off.

If your child requires an inhaler, a new physician order must be submitted to the school nurse EACH school year before your child can carry an inhaler on their person. Failure to do so is a violation of the MCSD Medication Policy.

Please contact the School Nurse with any questions.