Welcome back to school! Have you been thinking about the upcoming school year? Rest assured that the staff at Northside Elementary/Coulee Montessori and Coulee Montessori Charter School has been thinking about the 2015-2016 school year all summer long! Our dedicated staff have been organizing, cleaning and polishing, learning and sharing ideas to share with kids, planning with colleagues, and more! We have been busy!

Just a few notes to start us out…

★ Our Open House will be: August 26th from 4:00-6:00PM. We will serve an ice cream snack and celebrate getting our school family back together again this year!
★ School starts for kids in grades 1-5 on Tuesday, September 1st. Look for information about a meeting with your teacher that first day if your child is in preschool or kindergarten!
★ School hours are 8:15-2:55PM. Breakfast is served at 7:50—8:10AM and will not be available to students who arrive after 8:10AM.
★ Supervision is available starting at 7:50AM. Students may eat breakfast or play outside on the playground starting at 7:50AM.
★ The only before-school child care available is provided by the YMCA—Surround Care. Surround Care goes from 6:30—7:50AM.

Please review the accompanying pages of this newsletter carefully! It contains very important information you and your child will need to know to begin the school year smoothly. As always, do not hesitate to call with any questions!

Enjoy the last days of summer. We are looking forward to seeing you on August 26th for the Open House!

Laura Huber, Principal

WELCOME NEW NORTHSIDE & CM STAFF!

★ Stephanie Friedman—Kindergarten
★ Jasmine Valentine—2nd Grade
★ Kyle Allen—2nd Grade
★ Stephanie Wisen—3rd Grade
★ Phanat Lor—4th Grade
★ Mariah Bigelow—CM E2 Montessori
★ Ellen Moon—Music
★ Lisa Lenarz—Art
★ Jodi Mahlum—PE
★ Tracy Dejong—Speech
★ Michelle Boge—Title I
★ Phyllis Check—Title I TA
★ Jeff Elsen—Building Engineer
★ Dana Young—PO/OT

We are so happy to have them all at Northside Elementary & Coulee Montessori!!

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 26</td>
<td>Northside Open House/4:00—6:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>1st Day of School</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>Picture Day</td>
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<td>November 10</td>
<td>Picture Retake Day</td>
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School Hours

✅ The Northside Elementary/Coulee Montessori school office opens August 19th. Office hours are 7:00AM-3:00PM.
✅ School starts Tuesday, September 1st.
✅ School hours are 8:15AM - 2:55PM

Nutrition Information

♦ Full Priced Lunch - $25.50 for 10 meals ($2.55 day/meal)
♦ Reduced priced meals - $4.00 for 10 meals or $.40 (cents) per meal
♦ Ala Carte Milk - $.50 (cents)
♦ Breakfast Program—If you want your child to participate in this program, it is $1.50 per day for families who pay for full-price meals and $.30 (cents) for those who pay for reduced priced meals.
♦ Adult Breakfast Prices—$2.30 per meal
♦ Adult Lunch Prices—$3.65 per meal
♦ Free/Reduced meal applications were mailed by the District office this summer. Additional forms are available in the office. (1 per family)

Student Lunch Calendars

❖ The lunch calendars are available to families on the district website.
❖ The calendars are posted in the classrooms.
❖ The office will also have a supply of calendars if you would like to stop by and pick one up.

OPEN HOUSE

REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26TH FROM 4:00-6:00PM AND PLAN TO ATTEND OUR OPEN HOUSE!
The school district does not carry student medical insurance or student accident insurance. As a convenience, student medical coverage is offered through Student Assurance, Inc. These forms will be sent home with your student the first week of school.

Also, please note that if a coat, backpack, cell phone, clothing, or any other personal items is lost or stolen, the district will not be responsible for recovery or repayment for these items. We do not have insurance coverage for the personal belongings of our students.

Medications

⇒ Questions about medication procedures and health concerns can be directed to Northside/CM’s Health Assistant, Carol Francksen.

⇒ Written, signed permission must be on file at school before any medication can be administered to a child.

⇒ Prescription drugs require a doctor’s and parent’s signature; non-prescription drugs require a parent signature. Forms are available from Mrs. Francksen, on the School District’s website, www.lacrosseschools.org, and at most clinics in the area.

⇒ All medication must be in its’ original container with the dosage clearly marked.

⇒ All medication will be administered and recorded in the health office.

⇒ Our School District nurse is Shelly Johnson. Her schedule at Northside/CM is yet to be determined for this school year.

If your child has any special health needs, such as allergies or asthma, please notify Mrs. Francksen.

What Time Should My Child Arrive at School?

If your child is not part of the YMCA Early Morning Program, they should NOT arrive any earlier than 7:50AM to school. At that time we have staff to supervise. Children are not allowed in the building prior to the first morning bell that rings at 7:50AM unless they are part of the YMCA Early Morning Program.

City Crossing Guards
There is no bussing within the Northside/Coulee Montessori attendance areas. Bussing will only be available to students living outside the attendance area and attending Coulee Montessori Charter School or paid bus riders. To assist with student safety, we will having crossing guards at the following intersections:

★ George and Gillette Street from 7:00—8:15AM and 2:45 and 3:45PM
★ Kane and Gillette Street from 7:00—8:15AM and 2:45 and 3:45PM

We encourage you to plan a route for your child that ensures your child crosses George Street with a crossing guard.

Student Insurance Coverage

The school district does not carry student medical insurance or student accident insurance. As a convenience, student medical coverage is offered through Student Assurance, Inc. These forms will be sent home with your student the first week of school.

Also, please note that if a coat, backpack, cell phone, clothing, or any other personal items is lost or stolen, the district will not be responsible for recovery or repayment for these items. We do not have insurance coverage for the personal belongings of our students.
WALKING, BIKING, and DROPPING OFF AT SCHOOL
Northside Elementary and Coulee Montessori Charter school encourage walking and biking to school. Walking will also be encouraged during the noon hour and one inclement weather days to promote physical fitness and an active lifestyle.

The policy of the School District of La Crosse is to restrict busing to school to students living more than two miles from the school. If you live within two miles of our school, your child will need to either walk or bicycle to school.

School safety patrols will assist students with crossing streets adjacent to the Northside/CM building.

Bike racks are available for student use during the school day. Students need to bring a lock and a chain in order to secure the bicycle safely.

The car drop off zones indicated below are set up to allow students to access the school in a safe manner by entering the school grounds on foot or bike using the sidewalk adjacent to the school. Please stay in your car when dropping off. If you need to walk your student into school, we encourage you to use a different side street for parking.

★ Northside kindergarten through fifth grade students: Kane Street
   ➢ Please drive north to south on Kane Street to eliminate students crossing the street when being dropped off.
★ Coulee Montessori students: Charles Street
   ➢ Please drive south to north on Charles Street to eliminate students crossing the street when being dropped off.
★ The school bus will be using Rublee Street for drop off and pick up

Staff will be available at each location to assist students as needed in entering the building safely.

After School Options for Families
★ The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse will continue to offer after school activities & programs in Academics, Character & Leadership, and Healthy Life Styles. This year the BGC will be housed at both Northside Elementary/Coulee Montessori and the Erickson BGC site. Students in grades K-2 will attend the BGC at Northside and students in grades 3-5 may board a shuttle bus after school to get to the Erickson site. Parents should contact the Boys & Girls Club for a membership form. (608) 782-3926

★ YMCA Surround Care: The YMCA of La Crosse will provide affordable quality childcare and academic programming after school at the Northside/Coulee Montessori Campus. All children in grades K-5 will be accepted. No child will be turned away due to financial need. This program will take place between 2:55pm and 6:00pm Monday thru Friday. Students will participate in a combination of recreational activities, homework help, academic enrichment, academic tutoring, wellness education and arts and crafts as appropriate for each child. Parents can contact the YMCA of La Crosse at 608-782-9622 ext. 275 for more information.

Please let your child’s teacher know if your child will attend either after school offering!
2015-2016 Early Release Days

The School District of La Crosse will be releasing students 2 hours early (please see your school’s start/end time in the schedule) on the following dates during the 2015-2016 school year: October 9, November 13, December 11, January 15, February 12, March 11, and April 8. The purpose of these early release days is to provide our teachers with professional development opportunities. We believe these experiences will provide for an even richer experience for your child.

Approximately one week before each scheduled early release day your child will be provided a “Planned Early Release Day Information Card” to take home. We ask that you please complete and return it to your student’s school so appropriate preparations can be made. **If we do not receive this sheet back from you, your child will follow their plan for normal school day dismissal.** There are a number of community partners organizing opportunities for your child during this time. This will require a separate sign up process directly through these individual agencies. All the information can be found on our website (www.lacrosseschools.org) (Select “Parents and Community”, “Calendars/Events/Schedules”, and “Non-School and Early Release Days”.)

Child Absences/Appointments/Tardiness
Parents/guardians are asked to please call school at 789-7970 before 9:00AM if your child is ill or has an appointment. Your child will also be marked tardy if they are not in their classroom by 8:15. We want to make sure that everyone arrives safely and on time!

Also, if your child needs to leave for an appointment, or arrives late from an appointment, we ask that you please stop in the office and sign them “IN” or “OUT.” We do not dismiss children without a parent/guardian (or other authorized person’s) signature.

Parent/Guardian/Visitors/Volunteers
For safety reasons anyone visiting the Northside building is asked to use the main doors and report to the office to sign in. Also, if you would like to volunteer in your child’s classroom or go on fieldtrips with your child, you must fill out a Volunteer Background Check. These forms are available in our office. Please stop by and pick one up if you are interested!

Please call the Northside/Coulee Montessori school office with any questions or concerns that you may have! We look forward to a super school year with you and your child/children!
Please stop by the...

**Trinity Clothes Closet**
Open on Mondays during the school year
from 4:00—6:30PM (starting on August 31st)
at 1010 Sill Street

Come check out our “free” gently-used and new clothing for the 2015-16 school year. We will be stocking tennis shoes, socks, underwear, jeans, t-shirts, sweat-shirts and other school essentials.

Our mission is to support neighborhood families in need of kids clothing.

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### 2015-2016 Parent Teacher Conference Schedule

**Fall:**
- Monday, October 12th from 12:00—8:00PM
- Thursday, October 14th from 4:00—8:00PM

**Spring:**
- Monday, March 14th from 12:00—8:00PM
- Thursday, March 17th from 4:00—8:00PM

Watch for more information on conference times and scheduling.
Back-to-School
Open House & Ice Cream Social!

Wednesday, August 26, 2015
from 4:00 – 6:00PM

At

Northside Elementary
&
Coulee Montessori

Come to:
* meet your teacher,
* see your classroom,
* drop off school supplies,
* and make lunch account payments!

Check out information provided by:
School Nutrition Office,
YMCA School Age Morning Program,
Boys & Girls Club,
and others.

School pictures will NOT be taken at Open House.

Hope to see you there!
The following items are included in the back to school mailing packet!

Supply List
2015-16 School Calendar
Emergency School Closing & Normal School Day Information
Parental Input Form
School Dismissal/After School plan
Parent Authorization Form
Student Code
Kindergarten packet information