Welcome back to school! Have you been thinking about the upcoming school year? As you know, Northside will be on the year-round calendar for the 2019-2020 school year (see attached). To get ready our dedicated staff has been organizing, cleaning/polishing, learning new 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: July 16th from 5:30—7:00PM. We will be serving dinner to celebrate getting our school family back together for year round school!
★ School starts for kids in grades 1-5 on Thursday, July 18th! 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 7:45—8:10AM and will not be available to students who arrive after 8:10AM.
★ Supervision is available starting outside 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.

We have some important changes to share:
We are a community school! We are so excited! A “community school” is considered a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community development, and community engagement leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities. Last year we have hired a Community School Coordinator, Mrs. Beth Hartung. Look for more information from Mrs. Hartung as the school year begins!

Our work to become a trauma informed school is also progressing. For the last 2 years, Dr. Betty DeBoer from UW-L has worked with us to learn about the strengths and needs of our students, our teachers and our families. She developed recommendations for things that needed to change. She also told us about things that we needed to make sure we continue and even to strengthen. Dr. DeBoer will continue to work with us for another year to implement these recommendations. Feel free to contact me for more information about trauma informed schools.

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 beautiful summer weather. We are looking forward to seeing you on July 16th for the Open House!

We are so happy to have these new staff members at Northside Elementary & Coulee Montessori!!
★ Ashley Staubhaar—3rd Grade
★ John Arnost—ELL
★ Colleen Sheriff—Kindergarten
★ Kadie Koepeke—Title I
★ Lacey Sinn—Title I
★ Pha Vang—ELL TA
★ Kristen Hoeth—LMC Director

Dates to Remember

July 16
Northside Open House/5:30—7:00PM
July 16
Picture Day (1:00—6:30PM)
July 18
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
October 10th
Picture Retake Day
September 23-Oct. 4
Intersession #1
October 11
Early Release (12:55PM)
School Hours

☑ The Northside Elementary/Coulee Montessori school office is open all summer. Office hours are 7:30AM-3:30PM.
☑ School starts Thursday, July 18th.
☑ School hours are 8:15AM - 2:55PM

Nutrition Information

Northside Elementary Families
We are pleased to inform you that Northside Elementary is once again a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school while participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for the 2019-2020 school year.

This means... **ALL** students enrolled at Northside Elementary are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at **NO CHARGE** each day of the 2019-2020 school year.

**IMPORTANT:** It is still necessary for each family to complete a Free/Reduced Application so that if you have children in other schools in our district they may still be evaluated to receive free/reduced meals at those schools. Completing the Free/Reduced Application is also necessary for Northside Elementary to qualify for other funding that will enhance educational opportunities for students. In addition, completing the form assures that your child will be evaluated for free/reduced status if you should move to another district school sometime during the year. The Free/Reduced Application will be mailed to your home in August. Families may also complete this application online.

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19-20 Lunch Pricing

Students at Northside Elementary will receive **FREE** breakfast and lunch.

However, we will still need parents/guardians to fill out the Free/Reduced Meal Application! You can do this online or by hard copy that will be sent to you this summer.

**Adult Pricing**
* $3.85/Lunch
* $2.50/Breakfast
* $ .50/Milk

THANK YOU!

2019-2020 Early Release Days

The School District of La Crosse will be releasing students 2 hours early (12:55PM at Northside/CM) on the following dates during the 2019-2020 school year: October 11, December 6, March 13, and May 8. The purpose of these early release days is to provide our teachers with professional development opportunities.

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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. Please stop by the office and pick up the forms to fill out.

Also, please note that if a coat, backpack, cell phone, clothing, or any other personal items are 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.

The School District of La Crosse does not discriminate against students on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, emotional, learning disability or handicap in its education program or activities.
Medications

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

⇒ 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 Ms. Heath, 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 7:45—3:15PM; Monday through Friday.

The Northside/CM Health Assistant is Cheryl Heath. Her phone extension is 6703.

Remember, if your child has a fever of 100 degrees or greater, or has vomited within the last 24 hours, he/she should stay home from school. Don’t forget to call the school office at 789-7970 by 9:00AM to let us know your child won’t be in school.

What Time Should My Child Arrive at School?

Playground supervision begins at 7:50AM. Please do not drop your child off before 7:50AM unless your child is enrolled in the YMCA Surround Care program. Students may play on the playground or enter the building for breakfast beginning at 7:45 AM. The first bell to enter the building rings at 8:10 AM. Students should be in their classroom at the final bell (8:30 AM). All outside doors are locked after the 8:30 AM. If your child arrives late (after 8:30AM), please bring them to the main office doors to enter the building and ensure they enter safely before you leave. All late students are required to stop in the office for a “Pass to Class” – if the teacher has marked them absent, the “Pass to Class” lets the teacher know the student has checked in at the office. Breakfast is served beginning at 7:45 - 8:10AM.

In case of inclement weather, the children will enter the building before the 8:10AM bell and go to the gym for supervised activities or to have breakfast.

IMPORTANT: Children are not allowed in the building prior to 7:45AM. Therefore we ask that they not be dropped off before that as there is no adult supervision outside before that time.

Picture Day

School pictures will be taken in our gym on Tuesday, July 16th! You can come in and have your child’s pictures taken between 1:00 and 6:30PM that day! A parent/adult must accompany children. Please fill out the enclosed form and bring with for the photographer. Please note that we are not able to make change for parents/guardians that day.

Remember that our Back-to-School Open House is on the 16th as well from 5:30 to 7:00PM!
**Important Information**

**WALKING, BIKING, and DROPPING OFF AT SCHOOL**

Northside Elementary/Coulee Montessori participates in the “Safe Routes to School” program. Children are encouraged to walk or bike to school. Crossing guard locations in the neighborhood are located at:

★ George St. and Gillette St.
★ Kane St. and Gillette St.

Children are encouraged to:

★ Use crosswalks and crossing guards whenever possible.
★ Wear a bike helmet when biking (if you cannot afford a helmet, please consult with our school social worker).
★ Use the bike rack near the school playground to store bikes during the school day.
★ Bike locks are encouraged – we are not responsible for stolen bikes.
★ Walk bikes across the crosswalks and on school property.
★ Carry rollerblades, scooters and skateboards on school grounds and keep them in your locker during the school day.

Parents are encouraged to:

★ For the safety of ALL children at Northside Elementary/Coulee Montessori, please be reminded that parking directly in front of the school on Kane Street and Charles Street from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM on school days by the playground is illegal. The street is clearly marked with road signs for “no parking during school days” and “no stopping or standing during school days”. This regulation is in effect for the safety of ALL children before and after school.
★ Please help us keep traffic controlled by following the parking regulations and crossing with the staff supervision, crossing guards, and safety patrols.
★ Please do not park in the staff parking lot to drop off before school (7:45 – 8:15 AM) or to pick up students after school (2:45 – 3:15 PM). Thank you for your help in keeping the children safe.

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**After School Options for Families & Important Forms!!!**

**After School Options...**

★ The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse will continue to offer after school activities & programs in Academics, Character & Leadership, and Healthy Life Styles. More detailed information regarding the Boys & Girls Club will be sent home at a later date. If your child is not a current member, parents should stop by or 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.

**FORMS...**

★ Please complete the School Dismissal/After School Plan (included in this packet) and return to your child’s teacher so they are aware of your child’s after-school plans.

★ In the event that weather forces us to cancel school early we also need you to complete the Emergency School Closing form (included in this packet). School district officials will communicate a closing via phone, email, text, Facebook and local radio and news stations.

★ This school year there will only be 4 early release days. Please fill out and return the Parent Instructions for Planned Early Release Days form (included in this packet). If we do not receive this form back from you, your child(ren) will follow their normal after school plan.
2018-2019 Early Release Days
The School District of La Crosse will be releasing students 2 hours early (12:55PM at Northside/CM) on the following dates during the 2018-2019 school year: November 9, January 11, March 15, and May 10. The purpose of these early release days is to provide our teachers with professional development opportunities. We believe these staff opportunities will provide for an even richer academic experience for your child.

A “Planned Early Release Day Information Sheet” is enclosed with this newsletter. We ask that you please complete and return this to Northside so your child’s teacher and our staff will know what your child’s plan is on early release days. **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/Tardiness/Leaving Early/Vacations
★ 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!

★ Students leaving during regular school hours must be picked up in the office and a parent/guardian/emergency contact will need to sign them out. We will only release your child to you or those people you have designated as “Emergency Contacts”. Leaving prior to 1:00 PM is considered a half day absence. Parents should communicate with their child’s teacher about early pick-ups, when possible.

★ For planned absences (vacations, special events, etc.) please fill out the **Excused Absence Request** form we have located in the office and return it to school at least 2 days before the absence. State law 118.15(3)(c) states that a child may not be excused for more than 10 days in a school year. Please keep this in consideration when planning absences for your child, including medical appointments.

Parents/Guardians/Visitors
For safety reasons anyone visiting the school needs to use the main doors and report to the office to sign in.

Volunteers
Anybody volunteering in the classroom or chaperoning a field trip is required to complete an on-line Volunteer Service Application.

https://bib.com/SecureVolunteer/School-District-of-La-Crosse

Please plan in advance and fill out a Volunteer Service Application at the beginning of the year to ensure that you are approved when your child has a field trip you want to attend

**Processing an application can take up to 14 days. Applicants will receive an e-mail verification upon approval.**
Please stop by the...

**Trinity Clothes Closet**

Open on Mondays during the school year from 4:30—6:00PM at 1010 Sill Street

The Clothes Closet’s mission is to provide gently used and new clothes and shoes for students in need.

The Trinity Northside Neighborhood Picnic is set for Monday, August 12th from 4:00—7:00PM! There will be a great meal, over 20 community resource information booths, shoes for school age kids, family pictures, and lots of fun activities. It’s a great night of partnership and fun for all! See you there!!

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### 2019—2020 PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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

**Spring:**
- Monday, March 9th from 12:00—8:00PM
- Thursday, March 12th from 4:00—8:00PM

Watch for more information on conference times and scheduling.