

**Robert K. Finn Ryan Road Elementary School**  
**498 Ryan Road**  
**Florence, MA 01062**  
**413-587-1550**

**School Web Page**

<http://www.northamptonschools.org/project/rk-finn-ryan-road-school/>

August 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are so pleased to welcome you to the new school year at the Robert K. Finn Ryan Road Elementary School! Thank goodness we will be starting a more normal school year. However, I will be in touch again before the beginning of the year with updated information about COVID protocols for the district. Everyone here at Ryan Road School will do all we can to ensure a happy and successful year for your child(ren)! A new school year always brings excitement, learning, friendships, and fun, especially after the unusual two years we have had.

School (for students in grades 1-5) will begin **Thursday, September 2**. The first day of school for kindergarten will be **Thursday, September 9**. I have included a District Calendar with this letter for your information, as our hours have changed and we have additional days off during this school year. **Our school hours are 8:00-2:10**. Our district elementary schools provide adult supervision for students beginning at 7:45. Please do not drop off students to Ryan Road School before 7:45. Parents are welcome (not required) to join us on the playground in the morning where children will have the opportunity to greet their classmates, enjoy some active outdoor play, and line up to enter with their teacher at 8:00. School breakfast (bagged) will be offered on the playground starting at 7:45. Free breakfast and lunch will again be offered to all this year, and menus will be on the district website. <http://www.northamptonschools.org/project/food-services/>

Bus transportation for eligible students will begin September 2. Applications have been mailed. Please return the forms in order to get bus passes on time. You can also ask any transportation questions at 587-1037.

Teachers communicate regularly with families, but you can always find out about what is going on at school through these formats:

- Every Monday, I send the Principal's Weekly Update to your email. It is also posted to our school webpage (address listed at the top of this letter).
- Also, on the school web page, you will find the school calendar, which I do my best to keep up to date, other general school information, and the above mentioned "Principal's Weekly Update", which includes a few photos from the previous week and other pertinent school information.

Many families ask about purchasing school supplies for the new school year. If your child's teacher would like anything specific purchased, they will send a letter. Other than backpacks, we like to provide most of the supplies needed. However, classroom teachers always appreciate classroom donations of Kleenex, hand sanitizer, and Clorox wipes.

We are all looking forward to a terrific school year working with you and your children. I attached some information about the different ways adults will support your children this year. We hope you will take advantage of the many opportunities to be involved in our school community. Please feel free to call the office at 587-1550 if you have questions or concerns or if you just want to stop by to visit. Throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I hope that all families feel welcome, comfortable, and valued at our school.

Sincerely,

Sarah Madden, Principal (On behalf of the whole school community!)

smadden@northampton-k12.us