



SAU 83 Newsletter

'Sharing positive information about Ellis School with the community'

School resumes on August 31, 2009!

Middle School 7:50 - 2:20
Elementary School 8:35 - 3:05

Look for updated bus routes on the Ellis School website
(First Student phone # is 778-6900)



Dear Community Members of Fremont,

It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself to you as the new superintendent of schools for the Fremont School District. I bring to Fremont nine years of experience as a superintendent as well as over 13 years as a building principal, both at the elementary and middle school levels. Additionally, for over nine years I have served as an adjunct instructor for the College of Graduate Studies at Plymouth State University. I am confident that my background will allow me to assist in moving the district in a continuing journey of school improvement.

In my first weeks in Fremont, I have met a number of individuals throughout the town. These introductory meetings have assisted me in gaining an understanding of the needs of the community and the school. It has been good to meet with town officials, teachers, parents and school administrators in what I hope will be the beginning of an open, sound working relationship.

It is evident that improved communication is necessary from my office. Along with improved academic achievement, communication is a primary goal of mine for the upcoming year. With the support of the Fremont School Board, the leadership of Dawn Lewis, John Safina, and the dedication of the teachers and staff of the district it is anticipated that we will show great success in the upcoming months. I look forward to meeting you and discussing the education needs and concerns of the district and the state.

The upcoming school year promises to be a successful one!

Sincerely,
William P. Lander
Superintendent of Schools

Upcoming Dates:

- August 31 - First Day of School
- September 7 - Labor Day - No School
- September 8-25 - NWEA testing will happen during this time period, (grades 4-8)
- September 14, Open house, grades K-2
- September 15, Open house, grade 3-4
- September 16 - Middle School Open House
- September 17- Informational night on Special Education
- October 2- Teacher workshop day, no school
- November 2 - Parent-Teacher Conferences

PBIS Parent Guidebook

This Fall parents will be receiving a copy of the new PBIS Parent Guidebook. The Parent Guidebook will provide an overview of PBIS and its implementation at Ellis.

What is PBIS?

PBIS is a comprehensive system of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, which aims to improve school culture and climate and improve student behavior so that teachers can teach and children can learn. PBIS supports all students in all school and preschool settings, builds school environments that are more positive, predictable and consistent and supports growth and achievement in academics and social skills. The principles and practices of PBIS can also be used at home and in community settings such as youth athletic teams and youth clubs. PBIS is appropriate for use in early childhood settings, K-12 schools and alternative school settings.

How is PBIS at Ellis implemented?

As a school wide system at Ellis, PBIS addresses both goals of increasing positive behavior and decreasing undesirable behavior. It does this by addressing "both sides of the coin." PBIS teaches and then recognizes positive behaviors that meet the promoted expectations of **Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Prepared** while also laying out a system of consistent consequences for when misbehavior occurs.

Have Questions??

Ellis School: 895-2511

Dawn Lewis	Elementary Principal
John Safina	Middle School Principal
Scott Brown	Facilities Director
Theresa Blades	School Secretary
Sherri Ficker	School Secretary
Nan Perry	Special Ed. Secretary

SAU # 83: 895-6903

Bill Lander	Superintendent
Bonnie Sandstrom	Financial Admin.
Yvonne Ouellette	Exec. Secretary

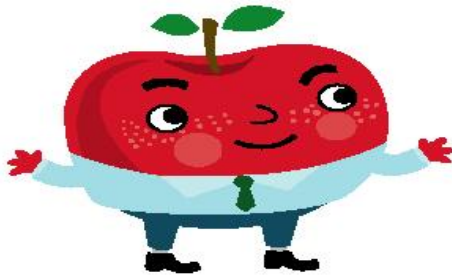
School Board Members:

Jeff Rowell	Chairman
Peg Pinkham	Vice - Chair
Deb Genthner	
Sharon Girardi	
Ida Keane	

Fremont School District website
<http://www.sau83.org>

Fremont Town website
<http://www.fremont.nh.gov>





Welcome Back to School!!

Check out some back-to-school resources and upcoming events happening at Ellis School.

Dear Ellis School Families,

Welcome Back! We hope everyone had a fun and restful summer. We are looking forward to a rewarding 2009-2010 school year. To ensure success of our students it is important that we keep strong the home-school connection. It is vital for parents to encourage and promote their student's success. Here are some resources and events happening at Ellis School:

Opening Cookout: On *Thursday, August 27th*, Ellis School will be holding a Back-to-School Cookout from 4:30-6:30 at the school. This will be a great opportunity to help transition students back to school, re-connect with Ms. Lewis, elementary principal and meet Mr. Safina, middle school principal and Bill Lander our new superintendent.

Parent/Student Handbook: Each student will receive a handbook containing policies and procedures at Ellis School. We ask that you take the time and read it together as a family. It contains vital information for students to be successful. Use it as a reference guide all year. There is an acknowledgment page at the back of the book that we ask you to sign and return to the school.

PBIS Parent Handbook: As you know, Ellis School has seen great success with our school-wide behavior program, PBIS. A team has been working over the summer to refine our Parent Handbook. This book will provide parents and students with the basics of how PBIS works in our school. It isn't merely an explanation of the "rules" and what happens to students once they break them. The book will clearly define the function of the target and universal teams and how they positively support behaviors and students at Ellis School.

Newsletter: Ellis School will send out a newsletter monthly. This year we hope to create separate newsletters for Elementary and Middle school. This will make the newsletter more pertinent to the targeted student. Other informational items will go home during the month from administration, and teachers. At the middle school level we will be sending home an additional monthly newsletter called, *Middle Years*. It is a publication for parents of middle school students to strengthen the home-school connection. It is intended to show parents *how* to improve their children's school success—and behavior—during the middle years.

Middle School Parent Forum: Middle school parents will be invited monthly to a parent forum. This is an informal discussion with the principal held at the school. This is open to all middle school parents. Look for information and dates to come out in September.

Elementary School Parent Forum: Elementary parents will be invited monthly to parent forums and informational meetings. Some topics include: how to support your child in Everyday Math, reading and writing skills, information about our science programs and child development. This is open to all parents in the elementary grades. Look for information and dates to come out in September.

A Few ideas to get ready for school:

- Start by putting your student on a schedule the week before school starts. Begin by going to sleep and getting up the time you want them to when school begins.
- Don't go crazy with school supplies and clothes; just buy what is on the list or what your student needs now. New outfits are not mandatory for learning! Go through old school supplies and see what they can re-use. Items like back packs, pens, pencils, etc can all be used again.
- Check your child care arrangements make sure all plans are set
- Anxiety, assure your student the next grade is a continuation of the one they just left! The first 6 weeks teachers will be reviewing, setting procedures and establishing the classroom community. They will have plenty of time to get to know the teacher and their classmates.
- Establish good eating habits, breakfast is essential, healthy snacking is important.
- Have your students continue to read, practice math facts and be encouraged to be observant and curious about the world around them.
- Remind your student when riding the bus to stay seated and quiet.
- Look for back to school information being mailed soon, please fill out all forms and return them with your student the first day.
- All immunizations must be up to date.
- Bus routes will be posted the week before school starts at the school and on the web site.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Conferences will be held on November 2nd. This is a great opportunity for parents and teachers to work together for student success. Please look for the information on how to set up an appointment with your child's teacher coming out in October.

Give us a call: Please feel free to contact your child's administrator or teacher at anytime. You can do so through email or phone. A full list of emails and phone extensions are available in your Parent/Student Handbooks.

Have a wonderful school year,

Dawn Lewis
Elementary Principal

John Safina
Middle School Principal