

Chango Elementary Welcome Back!

Welcome Back to School - September 2022



Chango Elementary School

100 Chango Drive, Ballston Lak... 518-881-0520
shenet.org/chango-elementary/

Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year!

Do not hesitate to call the office if you have questions or need clarification on dates, times, protocols or procedures.

Mrs. Rawson, Mrs. Mastrianni, Mrs. Hess and Mrs. Buffaline

Chango Contact Information

MAIN OFFICE TELEPHONE (518) 881-0520 FAX (518) 899-5971

Mrs. Michelle Rawson, Principal RawsMich@shenschools.org

Sandy Hess, Principal's Aide hesssand@shenschools.org

Michele Mastrianni, Principal's Secretary mastmich@shenschools.org

Stacy Snider, School Nurse, Phone (518) 881-0521 Fax (518) 881-0406 snidstac@shenschools.org

Lisa Buffaline, Attendance Clerk chango-attendance@shenschools.org

From the Principal

Welcome Back to School Students and Families,

We are excited to welcome back our students and families to the 2022-2023 school year! We eagerly await your arrival for another fantastic school year. There have been some updates over the summer. The custodial staff and the buildings and grounds crew have been working hard readying the school.

New Shen green mats have been installed in the gym replacing the old, maroon mats. They look awesome. There is the addition of a rock climbing wall as well, which is the result of a Global Foundries grant secured by our P.E. teacher, Mrs. Fersch.

Also, please check out the blacktop on the playground! Mrs. Diane Nolan has been working hard over the summer creating an elaborate sensory path, which is interactive. We have purchased extra side walk chalk to be used during recess.

Mrs. Nolan has repainted a wall in the 1st and 2nd grade wing, which includes our character education traits. These traits are highlighted and celebrated throughout the school year! A special "Thank you" to Mrs. Nolan!

Please mark your calendars for our Chango Walkthrough which is scheduled for September 1st. The schedule is as follows:

New Families Only Presentation: 11:00-11:30am.

All Families Walk Through: 11:30-12:00pm

We look forward to seeing all the Chango families!

Open House is scheduled for September 21st. More information will come.

We look forward to working with all our parent partners. If you are interested in assisting with our Outdoor Classroom Initiative or our Reimagining the Library projects, please let us know. We are focused on always improving our experiences for students.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please reach out.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely,

Michelle Rawson

rawsmich@shenschools.org

Email Mrs. Rawson

 **rawsmich@shensc...**

Email

Welcome New Staff to Chango



Welcome Our New Chango Team Members!

1. Orchestra: Christopher Goodwin
2. Grade 3 Teacher: Cara Salvi
3. Librarian: Kathryn Bogardus
4. SpEd Teacher: Kaitlyn Gunsel
5. EDK Teacher: Christine Lucchesi
6. Art Teacher: Stacy Livingston
7. AIS Teacher: Lauren Brooks
8. SpEd Aide: Michelle Schweda
9. Library Typist: Lee Vilardi
10. Accelerated Math Teacher: Derrick Aley



MORNING DROP OFF/PICK UP INFORMATION:

Please see the attached copy or visit this [link](#) for the drop off/pick up plan.

IMPORTANT:

Drop Off begins at 8:55am and Pick Up begins at 3:10pm.

Parents are allowed to enter the gym through the side gym doors at 3:05pm to sign their child out.

Students will be dismissed to the gym at 3:10pm

If your child will be picked up at the end of the day or picked up early for an appointment, please email chango-attendance@shenschools.org to let our attendance clerk know.

If you need to pick up your child for an appointment at the end of the day and cannot be a part of the normal dismissal process, please pick up your child no later than 2:45pm. Due to safety and buses only

using the bus loop, we can not have parents picking up at the front door beyond 2:45pm. If you arrive later than 2:45pm, you must use the parent pickup line to pickup your child. Thank you!

Please remember the 2:45pm pick up time is for appointments only.



DAILY ATTENDANCE:

Students in grades 1 through 5 need to be in school from **8:55am-3:15pm** every day that school is in session, unless the student is ill or has a legal reason for being absent. Parents are encouraged to plan vacations and trips when school is not in session. Excessive absence will be addressed by the principal, in writing, and a meeting may be scheduled. Time is also lost if children arrive late for school or are taken out before dismissal. We know that emergency situations take place, but please make every effort to notify the office by phone or a note before dismissal if you are planning to pick up your child.

Plan to contact Chango by 2:00 pm should you need to alter your child's regularly planned dismissal.

****Please Note:**

No bus passes will be issued at this time.

Your child will have an assigned seat on the bus for the year.



BUS CHANGES:

Due to a combination of factors, most importantly safety, students will not be allowed to ride different buses home for social visits, parties or to visit a friend. Specifics are outlined in the **Shenendehowa Transportation Department Newsletter and Bus Schedule**. Thank you for cooperating with the main office with this initiative.



SOME FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

- Please email chango-attendance@shenschools.org for any changes in parent pickup, including time, or person picking up. Please see the attached Parent Pick Up/Drop Off Plan for the 2022-2023 school year.
- No one is permitted to go to student classrooms or be walking through the hallways. If you need to see your child's teacher, please come to the office.
- Parents picking up their child at other times during the day need to contact the main office before coming to Chango. At no time should a parent go to the child's classroom to pick them up.
- Please do not park along the curb area in front of the school. This area is intended to be used by buses between the times of 8:40am-9:30am and from 2:30-3:30pm. All vehicles must be parked in designated parking spots.
- **DRESS:** Please dress your child according to the weather and classroom environment. **Please label all clothing and personal items with student's name. We have a lost in found in the building should you child lose an item.**
- Student will be storing their items in a school desk and on their individual chair. Please limit items coming to school (essential items needed for that day only).



SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Our obligations as educators requires that we do all we can to maintain an educational atmosphere that promotes learning. This includes the limiting of certain items or toys that we have found disruptive to the school day.

The following items are not allowed in school:

- Water toys; toy weapons
- Electronic devices used for entertainment (i.e., Gameboys and iPods)
- Collectibles (unless used for educational purposes with special permission from the teacher)
- Trading cards

There are fads from year to year that involve toys that can distract from the learning process. It may be necessary during the year to limit such items. This is left to the discretion of the principal.



Lunch and In School Celebrations

School lunch fees are as follows this year:

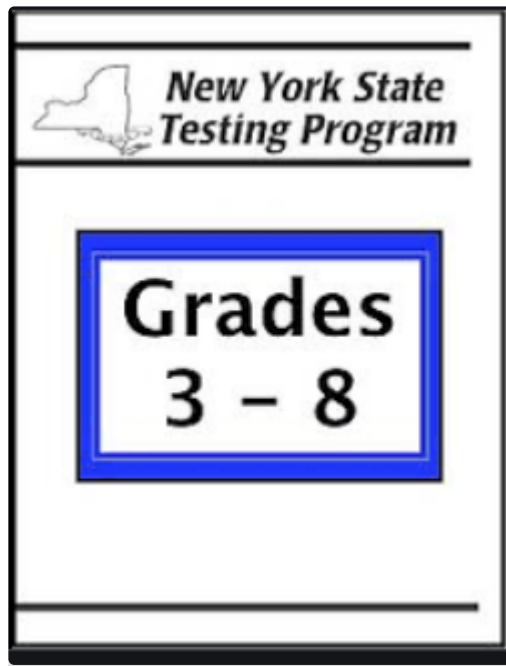
Breakfast \$2.00, Lunch \$3.25, Milk \$.75
Snacks \$.50-\$1.50 (not available every day)

To buy a school meal or other a la carte items, students can:

- Pay cash
- Deposit money on your child's account by writing a check to School Lunch Fund. The check can be brought to school and given to the cashier in the cafeteria or mailed to 5 Chelsea Place, Clifton Park, NY 12065.
- Create a prepaid meal account at www.paypams.com. PayPAMS allows you to pay for your child's meals, view the account balance, schedule automatic payments, receive low balance email reminders, view a report of daily spending and cafeteria purchases. To register your child/children:
 - Type in a user name and password. The site will ask you the state where you reside (NY) and you will be guided to Shenendehowa and our school listings. For more information call Shenendehowa Food and Nutrition Services Office at (518) 881-0630.
 - To register your child you will need their student id number. You can find the student id number on the top of your child's report card or if you have a parent portal account you can find the number on the student's schedule.
 - PayPAMS charges a \$1.95 transaction fee to the user/parent.
 - If you would like a refund, please contact the Food Service Department at (518) 881-0630.
 - If you have any questions regarding this process please call the Food Service Department at (518) 881-0630.

Classroom Treats

If you choose to send in a treat for a celebration, the treat can be an item such as a pencil or small gift. If you choose to send in a food item, the food item has to be store bought, individually wrapped and permission must be given by the classroom teacher. We need to make sure there are no allergy issues with the items that come into our classrooms.



NEW YORK STATE TESTING DATES:

Students will be taking state tests on the following dates. *Please do not schedule vacations during this time.* Parents are asked to make sure their child is well rested, eats a good breakfast and arrives to school on time. These suggestions should be followed not only during testing, but also throughout the school year.

NYS ELA Testing

CBT (Computer Based Tests)

Grade 3: April 19-26, 2023

Grade 4: April 19-26, 2023

Grade 5: April 19-26, 2023

NYS Math Testing

PBT (Paper Based Tests)

Grade 3: May 2-9, 2023

Grade 4 & 5: May 2-9, 2023

NYSESLAT

Speaking: May 17-28, 2023

Listening/Reading/Writing: May 15-26, 2023

Local Assessment: Grades 1-5 ELA & K-Grade 5 Math: TBD

Universal Assessment: June 1-16, 2023



K-5 School Supply Lists

Link to Elementary Handbook and Programs of Study

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y8JAZx4ZIsVbanBuXBkt1zzcg8lCX_qRoxlFP7WbqSw/view

School Pictures!

School Pictures are scheduled for September 21, 2022

School Picture Make-up Date: November 8, 2022

CONFERENCE, HOLIDAYS & RECESS DAYS:

October 5 Yom Kippur - No School

October 16 Early Release (**15 minutes early**)

October 19 Columbus Day Holiday - No School

November 15 Veteran's Day Observed – No School
November 24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday – No School
December 8-9 Parent-Teacher Conf. – No School
December 26-Jan 2 Winter Recess – No School
January 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No School
January 27 Half Day, PM Kindergarten will attend in AM
February 20-24 Midwinter Recess – No School
March 17 Superintendent's Conference Day - No School
April 7 Good Friday – No School
April 10-14 Spring Recess – No School
May 29 Memorial Day Observed – No School
June 16 Half Day, PM Kindergarten attends in AM
June 19 Juneteenth - No School
June 21 Half Day, AM Kindergarten attends
June 22 Half Day, PM Kindergarten attends in AM
Last day of classes, No AM Kindergarten



Chango Elementary PTA

Visit the Chango Elementary PTA website at <https://sites.google.com/site/changopta/>

Chango School Pictures

Date: September 21, 2022

Makeup Date: November 8, 2022

PTA MEETINGS:

All PTA meetings in the Chango Library with a virtual option. Meetings begin at 6:30pm.

COME JOIN THE FUN!!!!

9/14/2022

10/12/2022

11/9/2022
12/14/2022
1/11/2023
2/8/2023
3/8/2023
4/12/2023
5/10/2023
6/14/2023

