



Virginia Stevenson
Elementary

Principal, Cory Miller
Secretary, Darlene Miller

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Welcome Kindergarten Students!

Welcome to your new school at Stevenson Elementary! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and share my excitement about my appointment as the new principal at Virginia Stevenson Elementary School. Stevenson has an excellent reputation and I feel fortunate to be joining a school culture focused on student learning, a commitment to high expectations, innovation and collaboration. It is my intent to continue to carry out these important traditions and practices. I would like to share some information about my educational background and professional experience. After graduating from the University of Findlay with my bachelor's degree in education, I worked for Findlay City Schools and part-time for the University of Findlay. While working in Findlay City Schools, I started on my master's degree. After receiving my master's degree in Administration, I moved with my wife to Dayton. I taught for 5 years at Spinning Hills Middle School before becoming their Assistant Principal. I spent two years as the Assistant Principal at Spinning Hills. I'm very excited to be a building administrator at the elementary level and look forward to working with you and your child this school year. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Cory Miller, Principal



Parent Orientation & Class Assignments

The start of the school year is such a special time, filled with anticipation and hopes of what the new school year will bring. I am sure you have many questions about how your child's classroom will be run and what will be expected of your child. So, On **Tuesday August 16th** you will have the perfect opportunity to find answers to your questions and to begin a relationship with our kindergarten teachers and school. While your child is participating in the Kindergarten Assessment, parents will attend our **Parent Orientation** and learn the expectations for the school year. Parents will also complete important forms at this time.

Class assignments will be posted on the front door of the school at 3:30 pm on Friday, August 19th. **Open House is Friday August 19th at 5:30-6:30 pm.**

School Supplies:
On Tuesday August 16th please bring your students zippered pencil pouch, crayons, coloring book and playdoh labeled with their name. Please bring all other supplies to the Open House on Friday, August 19th at 5:30 pm.

Our Kindergarten Teachers are:
Mrs. Shelly Gallus
Mrs. Teresa Hatton
Ms. Joy Zartman

Kindergarten Aides: Donna Massa & Misty Soupley

Kindergarten Assessment

On **Tuesday, August 16th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** student assessments have been scheduled with each parent. Your child's appointment will last approximately 60 minutes. **Please check your day and time on the enclosed letter.**

The state KRA-L (Kindergarten Readiness Assessment - Literacy) will only take approximately 15 minutes. The remaining time will be spent observing your child during play time, story time and participating in activities to observe his/her fine motor skills. It is very important that your child attend at their assigned time. We appreciate your assistance with this.



Kndg. Start of School

Kindergarten students start school on a staggered schedule so that teachers have small numbers while they acquaint the children with the school and each other. The schedule is as follows:

☞ **Thursday, August 18th**—Only Kindergarten students with last names A-L attend school.

Friday, August 19th—Only Kindergarten students with last names M-Z attend school.

☞ **Monday, August 22nd** —All Kindergarten students attend school.

School Information & Supplies

Please read over the enclosed “**Fact Sheet**” for important information.

You can also check our website. Go to **Madriverschools.org**; click on “Stevenson”. Click on **Back To School Information**. School supplies are listed there.

Bus Information

During the week of August 1st, Mad River students who are eligible for transportation will receive a postcard listing their bus stop information. Included, will be the student’s bus number, stop location, and pickup and drop off times. Postcards should be shown to the student’s bus driver when boarding the bus on the first day of school.

If you do not receive bus stop information, contact Transportation at 237-4280. Students should:

- arrive five to ten minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive
- ride only their assigned route to and from school
- comply with driver’s instructions

Your Help...



Our staff is here to make sure that your child gets the best education that we can deliver. But we can’t do it alone. This school belongs to all of us, the community. We need your help. Here is how you can help:

- ☞ Send your child to school every day, on time, ready to learn. (8:00-2:10)
- ☞ Check their homework folder DAILY.
- ☞ Promise to help your child every night with homework and reading. Remember, this doesn’t mean you do it for him or her.
- ☞ Read to or with your child every night, if only for ten to fifteen minutes.
- ☞ Communicate with your child’s teacher, whether by phone, note or e-mail.

Car Riders



Please review the information on picking up and dropping off students that is included in this newsletter.

We understand that for kindergarten students, parents often wish to walk them into school on the first few days. Our teachers will speak with you at the parent orientation on August 16th regarding entrance procedures.





Our Mission & Goals

As you come in the front door at Stevenson you will notice our school mission posted on the wall. You will hear staff and students refer to our mission and goals throughout the school year.

Our mission is to learn and be prepared for the next grade.

To accomplish this we will:

- ☞ *be at school everyday*
- ☞ *do our very best*
- ☞ *listen and follow directions*
- ☞ *respect others*
- ☞ *work together as a team*

Our goals are:

Every Stevenson student will demonstrate proficiency in **reading** at or above grade level by the end of the school year.

Every Stevenson student will demonstrate proficiency at or above grade level in **math** by the end of the school year.

Every Stevenson student will demonstrate proficiency at or above grade level in **writing** by the end of the school year.

You will hear regular reports on our progress toward our goals throughout the school year. You will also receive “A **Standards Guide for Families**” telling you what is expected for your child in Kindergarten. This is also available at the Ohio Department of Education’s Web site at <http://www.ode.state.oh.us> ; click on families on the bottom of the page, then click on *Standards Guides for families* toward the bottom of the page.

Stevenson Star Behaviors

Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of our Stevenson Star Behavior Plan. This plan is designed to create an environment where each student can achieve their personal best in and outside the classroom. We have developed four positive behaviors that are the core of our behavior program.

They are:

- **Be Respectful**
- **Be Responsible**
- **Be Caring**
- **Be a Problem Solver.**

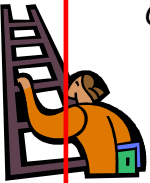
The demonstration of these character values is important at school, at home and in the community.

Behavior plans that are being used in the classroom will continue, as they have been very successful. However, we need to have a consistent behavior plan throughout the school in the common areas, such as the cafeteria, hallway, restrooms, bus, etc. Once your child has started school we will teach these behaviors in each area.

See You Soon!!!

We look forward to seeing you on August 16th. It’s going to be a great year!!!

Sincerely,
Cory Miller, Principal



Stevenson Star Behaviors

At Stevenson, our goal is to maintain a positive environment where children can achieve their personal best inside and outside the classroom. At Stevenson every student has the right to learn and every teacher has the right to teach.

Our *Stevenson Star Behaviors* are based on the belief that school success requires appropriate respect, responsibility, and caring, and allows children to become problem solvers early in life. These traits are important not just at school, but at home and in our community.

From this belief, we have developed four basic rules of positive character traits for school behavior:

Behavior	Description	Association
Be Respectful	Treat others as you would have them treat you. Value the worth of every person, including you. <i>It is only by understanding what "Disrespect" is that we can grasp the "respect". Disrespect is the intentional or unintentional thoughts actions or beliefs that have the potential to cause or do cause pain, harm and negative energy to yourself or to others.</i>	Yellow – associated with the Golden Rule (Treat others as you wish to be treated).
Be Responsible	Do what is right and be accountable for your behavior and obligations.	Green – associated with environmentalism
Be Caring	Love others, help others, and be sensitive to the well-being of others.	Red – associated with a caring heart.
Be a Problem Solver	Think before you act; Do the right thing even when no one is watching. Make sure the choices you choose match your values.	Blue – associated with the blue sky – the sky is the limit

As part of our commitment to your child’s education these behavior expectations are designed to build positive character values in each student. Students demonstrating these qualities will receive special recognition throughout the school.

The following consequences may occur in cases of inappropriate or severe behavior:

- Counseling with student
- Peer mediation
- Recess detention
- Phone call home
- Time out
- Lunch detention
- Parent conference
- Removal from class or activity
- Time out in cafeteria (eat alone)
- Time out in office
- Referral to appropriate agency for service
- Written apology
- Restitutions - work it off
- Hassel logs
- Walking the perimeter during recess
- Emergency removal from school
- Suspension from school
- Recommendation to superintendent for expulsion

As you demonstrate these positive character values in your home and review the school behavior guidelines, found in the Student Handbook, with your child, you are helping your child grow into a person who is respectful, responsible, caring and a problem solver. Working together we can build positive character qualities in each student.

