

# Briggs At Large

The Voice of the John R. Briggs Elementary School  
"Educating for Success, Now and in the Future"

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John R. Briggs Elementary: 978-827-5750

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# WELCOME BACK...IT IS GREAT TO SEE EVERYONE!

### OPEN HOUSE

We look forward to seeing you at our annual Open House, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. Please stop by for a classroom and school visit between 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

This year we are offering pizza by the slice with a side salad and beverage, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. (in the cafeteria).

### NOTE PADS

**Do you have one of our handy note pads?**

We offer tear-off note pads - \$2.00 each to assist with home-school communication. These are a handy way to send notes to school! Check them out during Open House.

### GFA Banking

In-school banking for students, K-5 will begin October 1<sup>st</sup>. Start saving early!

### Student Handbook

We are offering our combined Student Handbook and Calendar once again this year. Please be sure to review your copy, as our School Council has made a number of changes to our handbook this year. Our calendar contains many important school related dates to help you better plan your child's school year. Please note that we have distributed one JRB Handbook per family. If you did not receive one, please notify the school office.

### Welcome Kindergarten

On Tuesday, Sept. 2nd we welcomed the "Class of 2021". This is a very exciting time in a five year old's life as they begin their educational journey. We hope to make this journey as happy and educational as we can. We are happy to see you!

### News from the Cafeteria...

Chartwell's Food Service offers a varied, exciting lunch menu with many healthy choices. Please be sure to review the monthly menu with your child to ensure an appropriate lunch selection. Lunches may be pre-paid at \$2.50 per lunch, you determine the number of days you wish to have on account. Milk price - \$.50

**Menu online...[www.awrsd.org](http://www.awrsd.org).**

### Parking Update

Please observe our newly painted fire lanes. To better protect our students the Ashburnham Fire Department is asking that we keep a reasonable fire lane around our school. Please do not park in this area.



Remember parent parking is located in our upper wing playground (left side facing the school). Please do not stop in the crosswalk area, keep our students safe by using the sidewalk. If you are parked inappropriately, you may receive a friendly reminder on your car.

### Extended Day

Our Extended Day Program offers child care 6:30 am – 6:00 pm throughout the school year. Please call, 978-827-4701.

### Dismissal

To ensure that all of our students arrive safely to their after school destination, we have a staggered dismissal time:

**\*2:50 p.m. (approx)**

Parent Pickup  
Extended Day

**\* 2:55 – 3:10 p.m.**

Bus Dismissal

**Early Release Days:  
12:00 p.m.**

### Save the Date

**October 4<sup>th</sup>  
Family Fall Festival  
9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
JRB Grounds/School  
Fun....FOR  
ALL!!!**

## Q and A

### Why are the doors to the school locked?

For the security of our children, all doors are locked during school hours. Please press the buzzer at the front door for entrance during the day and sign in at the main office. After school hours (3:45 pm) please report to the Extended Day Entrance.

### What is the most appropriate footwear for my child.?

Sneakers, sneakers, sneakers for school, playground, and gym!

### How can I be involved at JRB?

The JRB – PTA has a number of opportunities for all parents to become involved at JRB. Please be sure to contact your child's teacher or Becky Pilsbury through the PTA for other volunteer opportunities; room contact person, book ordering, read to class, prepare materials, etc.

### Does JRB have a lost and found?

We attempt to organize and display lost items in the front lobby. Please **label** items, so we can return them to the rightful owner. Unclaimed items are donated to charity throughout the year.

## MUSIC News

**Band has begun.** Band rehearsals are held on **Thursday afternoons** during the school day. **PLEASE** make sure your child has their instrument for rehearsals. Mr. Tree has scheduled an instrument rental evening, Thursday, September 24th, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. for those students interested in instrumental lessons; grades 3 – 5. This will be an opportunity to acquire an instrument as well as discuss the band program with Mr. Tree.

**Chorus...**information coming soon. Rehearsals will be Tuesday afternoons after school.

### Food For Thought

#### **AWRSD Wellness Policy**

Basically, we are asking you to speak with your child's teacher or the school nurse before birthdays, holiday/class parties, and before bringing **ANY** food products into the classroom.

This is not only regarding the Wellness Policy, but regarding children who may have Food Allergies as well.

Many of us have always brought in candy, cakes, and other goodies as special treats, but we are asking parents to now think along the lines of "healthy foods".

We feel that if children are offered more healthy choices, they are more likely to choose them.

For the most part, children just like to have "something out of the ordinary", so having a healthy treat is just as exciting.

### **Internet Safety Overlook Middle School Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.**

#### **Meet Mr. Berg**

My name is Troy Berg and I am the new Physical Education Teacher at J R Briggs. I am a graduate from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro

where I received my degree in Physical Education K-12. I have taught Physical Education in North Carolina and New Hampshire before coming to Briggs. I recently moved back to Ashburnham with my wife and son and I am looking forward to my first year at Briggs.

My teaching philosophy in my class is based on safety, developing a healthy lifestyle, exposure to sport, promoting lifelong fitness, and having fun. I emphasize the importance of Teamwork, Communication, and Cooperation (TCC) to the students so that they can become successful not only in my class but throughout everyday life experiences. As your child's Physical Education Teacher I hope to instill in them the importance of living a healthy life and a love for physical activity.

#### **JRB Feasibility Plan**

As you may be aware, the Selectmen, Advisory Board, and JRB Building Committee are moving forward with a debt exclusion vote on October 14<sup>th</sup>. To be better informed, we have planned a number of community tours of our school building:

Sept. 17, 6:00 – 7:00

Oct. 1, 3:30 – 4:30

6:30 – 7:30

Please join us, if you wish to learn more about our school.

### **News from Tech**

Students in grades one through five will be coming home with two forms (one page, two-sided) for adults at home to look over and sign: the Use of Computers Contract for Elementary School Students and the Web Page Publishing Permission Form. You should see this form in your child's backpack the first time your child has technology for a special.

The computer use contract outlines the rules for using school computers. Please take a few minutes to read through it with your child to make sure that s/he understands our expectations. We ask that both you and your child sign the contract. Mrs. Pinsoneault and Mrs.

Davis will also go over the computer use rules in technology class. The Web Page Publishing form is for adults only. Please use this form to let us know if we can publish your child's work on the school Web site. Student work is posted on [www.awrsd.org/jrb](http://www.awrsd.org/jrb), just underneath the weekly announcements.

