

Quarryville Elementary School

# SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

## A WELCOME MESSAGE BY MRS. GAJECKI,

- Hello, my name is Mrs. Gajecki.
- This is the start of my 7th year as Principal at Quarryville Elementary School.
- I'm so happy to have the opportunity to work with the students, teachers, staff, and families at QE!
- I can't wait to continue to work with you throughout the school year.
- Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

## FALL PICTURE DAY

Fall Picture Day is being held on Monday, October 3rd. Picture re-take day is scheduled for Monday, November 14th. Information has been sent home with your student.

## SCHOOL SCHEDULE

The school day begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 3:40 p.m. Morning kindergarten ends at 11:55 a.m. and afternoon kindergarten starts at 12:55 p.m.

All elementary schools are on a schedule based on cycle days, numbered 1-5. Due to the amount of holidays on Monday and Friday, this five day cycle will better balance the student's participation in various specials. As in the first week of school, days 1-4 are Monday-Thursday- with the next scheduled school day being Day 5 on Tuesday. The cycle would continue to repeat throughout the year. Please note it will be very important to be aware of the proper day for Library book exchange and Physical Education attire. The cycle day should be noted in your child's agenda or the teacher's newsletter.

## EARLY PICK-UP AND CAR PICK-UP (VALET) PROCEDURES

We realize that at times it is necessary to pick your child up early from school; however, we would appreciate your cooperation in scheduling appointments later in the day to avoid students missing valuable class time. If you do need to take your child to an appointment during the school day, please send a note to your child's teacher and they will be called to the office when you arrive. Please allow approximately five minutes extra when coming to pick up your child.

When placing your child on car pick-up (valet), please send a note to your child's teacher, or call the office no later than 3:00 p.m. the day of pick-up.

Also, when picking up a child please be prepared to show your identification. For the safety of our students, staff will ask to see identification before releasing a student to any adult.



## CAR RIDER REMINDERS

Please keep the following in mind during car rider drop-off and pick-up.

- All students/adults should cross the drive loop at the crosswalk. Please do not walk between cars to cross the road near the cafeteria.
- If possible, students should enter and exit vehicles on the passenger side of the vehicle. This will keep them on the sidewalk and prevent them from having to cross in front of or behind other vehicles.
- If possible, adults should remain in the vehicle to ensure the cars can continue moving when students have safely exited/entered vehicles.
- DO NOT PASS VEHICLES in the drive loop. Please remain in line until the car in front of you is safely loaded/unloaded. If a student is delayed at dismissal time, we will direct the vehicle to park in a parking spot to wait.

## CAFETERIA INFORMATION

As we started the school year, we have been working hard to ensure the cafeteria is a welcoming environment for all students. We have found that the noise level is the most common reminder given to students.

Please take the time to talk to your learner about staying in their seat, raising their hand if they need assistance, and using a quiet voice in the cafeteria. We are hopeful with quiet reminders, students will quickly fall into a good routine in the cafeteria.

A few general reminders:

- Starting October 3rd, breakfast is available for free for all students.
- At lunch, students can purchase milk or a la carte items if they have money in their account. If students do not have money in their account, they are unable to purchase additional items.

## – REMINDER – NO SCHOOL

There is no school for students on Friday, October 7th and Monday, October 10th. We hope you enjoy the long weekend.

## BATHROOM REMINDERS

So far this school year, we have been addressing a number of bathroom concerns including:

- writing on walls
- items put in toilet/sink
- soap put on floor/countertops

Please talk to your students about expectations for bathroom usage. We often remind students that the bathroom at school should be treated the same as the bathroom at home.



## PTO INFORMATION

The QE PTO Leadership Team is hard at work planning a variety of events for this school year. A sign-up sheet will be sent home soon for volunteers and donation items needed for our Fall Fest.

Throughout the school year, the PTO will do the following:

- Fall Fest - October 21st 5-7pm
- Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale (fundraiser in the fall/early winter)
- Winter Wonderland - December 2
- Paint Night
- BINGO Night
- ACES Day (main fundraiser in April)
- Spring Reward Day
- Funding field trips, classroom activities and monthly incentives.

To help plan events, please come to our monthly PTO meetings. The monthly meeting is held the first Tuesday of each month at 4pm in the QE Cafeteria.

# ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

The Solanco School Board requires that school-aged students enrolled in District schools attend school regularly. The educational program is dependent upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation in order for students to achieve academic standards and consistent educational progress. The following are our guidelines for marking attendance:

- Students arriving after 9:15 am but before 11:00 a.m. are marked tardy.
- Students arriving after 11:00 a.m. are marked absent for one-half day.
- Students leaving before 2:00 p.m. are marked absent for one-half day.

Due to the importance of a child's education, absences from school are discouraged except for the following excused reasons:

- Illness/Injury
- Doctor/Dental Appointments
- Authorized School Activities
- Pre-approved Educational Trips

Absences that do not fall under these categories, may be deemed unlawful. When your child misses school, please send a written excuse note on the day that he/she returns. If no excuse note is received, an excuse card will be sent home with your child by the classroom teacher. If a written note or excuse card is not received within 3 days of returning from the absence, the absent day(s) will be marked illegal. Parents must send signed written excuses even if they call to inform the office of the absence.

## EDUCATIONAL TRIP REMINDER

Whenever a child is absent from school he/she misses learning experiences. Make - up work can help, but it can never be as good as the actual classroom instruction. Trips during the school year have a negative impact on learning and are discouraged by the school. If your family needs to go on a trip while school is in session, forms must be in the school office at least FIVE days in advance of the trip. In order for the trip to be excused it must be educational in nature.

## ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

When a child is absent from school, please contact the school at 717-786-2546, option 2 to report the absence. This allows you to leave a voicemail indicating your child will be absent from school.

When your child returns to school, please make sure they have a note (parental note or doctor's note if applicable). If a student returns to school without a note, an absence card is sent home with the student. Please complete the card and return it so the day is not listed as unexcused. A note is required even when you call in an absence.

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

- School: Quarryville Elementary
- Address: 211 S. Hess Street  
Quarryville, PA 17566
- Phone: 717-786-2546
- Fax: 717-786-4997
- District Web Site: [www.solanco.org](http://www.solanco.org)
- Principal: Mrs. Rebecca Gajecki
- Secretaries: Mrs. Elaine Elliott and  
Mrs. Emily Horne
- Counselor: Mrs. Mary Humphries
- Nurse: Mrs. Mollie Truitt



Parent right to Know Information as Required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Assistance (ESEA) [Section 1112(e)(1)(A)] and the Every Student Succeeds Act [Section 1112(e)(1)(A)]

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

Your child attends **Quarryville Elementary**, which receives Federal Title 1 funds to assist students in meeting state achievement standards. Throughout the school year, we will be providing you with important information about this law and your child's education. This letter lets you know about your right to request information about the qualifications of the classroom staff working with your child.

At **Quarryville Elementary**, we are very proud of our teachers, feel they are ready for the coming school year, and are prepared to give your child a high-quality education. As a Title 1 school, we must meet federal regulations related to teacher qualifications as defined in ESEA. These regulations allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications. At this time, all teachers and paraprofessionals who provide instructional support are highly qualified for the jobs that they hold.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which was signed into law in December 2015 and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1956 (ESEA) includes additional right to know requests. At any time, parents and family members can request:

- Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out, and
- Information on required assessments that include
  - Subject matter tested,
  - Purpose of the test,
  - Source of the requirement (if applicable),
  - Amount of time it takes student to complete the test, and
  - Time and format of disseminating results.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals meet applicable Pennsylvania state requirements.

If you have any questions about the topics addressed in this letter, please contact **Rebecca Gajecki, 717-786-2546 or [Rebecca\\_Gajecki@solancosd.org](mailto:Rebecca_Gajecki@solancosd.org)**

Sincerely,

**Rebecca Gajecki**

Derecho de los padres a conocer la información requerida por la Asistencia para la Educación Primaria y Secundaria (ESEA) [Sección 1112(e)(1)(A)] y la Ley de Éxito de Cada Estudiante [Sección 1112(e)(1)(A)]

Estimado(s) padre(s)/tutor(es) legal(es):

Su hijo asiste a Quarryville Elementary, que recibe fondos federales del Título 1 para ayudar a los estudiantes a cumplir con los estándares estatales de rendimiento. A lo largo del año escolar, le proporcionaremos información importante sobre esta ley y la educación de su hijo. Esta carta le permite conocer su derecho a solicitar información sobre las calificaciones del personal del aula que trabaja con su hijo.

En Quarryville Elementary, estamos muy orgullosos de nuestros maestros y sentimos que están listos para el próximo año escolar y están preparados para darle a su hijo una educación de alta calidad. Como escuela de Título 1, debemos cumplir con las regulaciones federales relacionadas con las calificaciones de los maestros según se definen en ESEA. Estas regulaciones le permiten obtener más información sobre la capacitación y las credenciales de los maestros de su hijo. Estamos encantados de proporcionarle esta información. En cualquier momento, puede preguntar:

- Si el maestro cumplió con los requisitos estatales de calificación y certificación para el nivel de grado y la materia que está enseñando,
- Si el maestro recibió un certificado de emergencia o condicional a través del cual se renunciaron las calificaciones estatales, y
- Qué títulos de pregrado o posgrado posee el maestro, incluidos los certificados de posgrado y títulos adicionales, y las especialidades o áreas de concentración.

También puede preguntar si su hijo recibe ayuda de un paraprofesional. Si su hijo recibe esta asistencia, podemos proporcionarle información sobre las calificaciones del paraprofesional. En este momento, todos los maestros y paraprofesionales que brindan apoyo de instrucción están altamente calificados para los trabajos que tienen. La Ley de Éxito de Todos los Estudiantes (ESSA) que se promulgó en diciembre de 2015 y reautoriza la Ley de Educación Primaria y Secundaria de 1956 (ESEA) incluye solicitudes adicionales de derecho a saber. En cualquier momento, los padres y familiares pueden solicitar:

- Información sobre las políticas relativas a la participación de los estudiantes en las evaluaciones y los procedimientos para optar por no participar, y
- Información sobre las evaluaciones requeridas que incluyen
  - o Materia probada,
  - o Finalidad de la prueba,
  - o Fuente del requisito (si procede),
  - o Cantidad de tiempo que le toma al estudiante completar el examen, y
  - o Tiempo y formato de difusión de los resultados.

Nuestro personal está comprometido a ayudar a su hijo a desarrollar el conocimiento académico y el pensamiento crítico que necesita para tener éxito en la escuela y más allá. Ese compromiso incluye asegurarse de que todos nuestros maestros y paraprofesionales cumplan con los requisitos aplicables del estado de Pensilvania. Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre los temas abordados en esta carta, comuníquese con Rebecca Gajecki al 717-786-2546 o [Rebecca\\_Gajecki@SolancoSD.org](mailto:Rebecca_Gajecki@SolancoSD.org)

Sinceramenteara  
Rebecca Gajecki