

BART-COLERAIN ELEMENTARY AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2026



Dear Bart Colerain Families,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! I hope your summer was filled with rest, fun, and meaningful time with family and friends.

As we begin a new year together, I am reminded that Bart Colerain is more than just a school—we are a family. The strong connections between our staff, families, and learners create a supportive environment where everyone feels valued and inspired to grow, and it is one of the many reasons I am so proud to be part of Solanco.

Our teachers have been busy preparing their classrooms and creating welcoming spaces where every child feels they belong. We are also looking forward to seeing you at Back to School Night on Thursday, September 10th at 6:30 PM—an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and strengthen our home-school connection.

At Bart, our mission remains the same: to connect, empower, and inspire every learner. As a school family, we know that when we work together, we create meaningful experiences for every child. Thank you for being such an important part of the Bart family.

Warmly,
Mrs. Sara Parrish
Principal, Bart Colerain Elementary



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Bart-Colerain Elementary
1336 Noble Road, Christiana, PA 17509
Phone: 717-529-2181; Fax: 717-529-6879
Mrs. Sara Parrish, Principal
Mrs. Katy Doumont, Building Secretary
Mrs. Kelsey Koch, Counselor
Miss. Amber Dewees, Substitute Counselor
Mrs. Nikki Bender, School Nurse
District Website: www.solancosd.org

The school day begins at 9:00am and ends at 3:43pm. Morning Kindergarten ends at 11:55am and afternoon Kindergarten starts at 1:00pm. Children who are dropped off in the mornings must be here by 9:00am. The bell rings at 9:00am and classes start promptly at 9:15am. The teachers need time to take attendance, lunch count, have students unpack their backpacks and get settled. If your child is late arriving at school, after 9:15am, an adult must walk them into the office to sign them in.

**NO SCHOOL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

CLEARANCES / VOLUNTERING

If you would like to volunteer a Bart in the classroom, at PTO events, field trips, etc…. you must have your clearances on file with the school secretary. If you have already submitted your clearances, please make sure they are up to date. Clearances are valid for 5 years. Solanco requires 3 clearances and 1 online training clearance.



Students should have a refillable water bottle with them at school every day. We have three water stations where they can fill their bottles up as needed. We will not have bottled water available.



EDUCATIONAL TRIPS

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, **Educational Trip forms must be filled out 5 days in advance of the trip, (or the trip could be denied),** returned to the school office and then be approved by the principal. Forms are available in the office or on-line. In order for the trip to be legally excused, it must be educational in nature. Please do not expect the principal to break the law by excusing a trip that does not include educational activities.

Only ten Educational Trip days will be approved per school year.

If your child will be participating in the Solanco Fair and missing school, please fill out an educational trip form.

Student Information Packets

Please remember to fill out the necessary forms in your child's student information packets and return them as soon as possible. It is very important that we have the most up to date information on file for your child. Also, don't forget to let the office know if your phone number, email, or emergency contact information has changed in case the nurse or office would need to contact you.

If you have any questions, please contact the office, 717-529-2181.

Please make sure we have your updated email on file. We send a lot of correspondence by email. ie: newsletters, events, notices, PTO events, etc…



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 or email to your child's teacher and the secretary and your child will be called to the office when you arrive. Please allow approximately five minutes extra when coming to pick up your child. You may need to provide identification when picking up your child so that we are able to provide a safe and secure school environment.

When placing your child on pick-up for the end of the day, **please send a note to your child's teacher, or call the office no later than 3:00pm the day of.**

ATTENDANCE REMINDERS:

1. Please remember to turn in an excuse card or note if your child has been absent. If an excuse card is not handed in **within 3 days** of their return to school, it will be marked as an illegal absence. **The school is required to consider three illegal absences as a summary offense for which parents/guardians or persons in parental relation will be prosecuted through the courts.**

2. If you drop off your child(ren) in the morning, **please have them to school by 9:00am**. The bell rings at 9:00am and classroom instruction starts promptly at 9:15am. Teachers need time to take attendance, lunch count, have the students unpack their backpacks, and get settled. If your child is late arriving to school, **a parent or guardian must walk them in the office to sign them in.**

3. If you will be picking your child up early from school, **please send in a note or email to your child's teacher and the office**. This way the teacher can have any missed work ready for your child to take home. It's also helpful for the office to know that someone will be picking up your child ahead of time.

4. If your child has an appointment during school hours, **a doctor's note must be turned in for the time missed to be excused.**

5. If your child will be absent a full day because of a doctor's or dentist appointment, be sure to get a doctor's note for the absence. Doctor's note do not count against their total absences for the year.

6. When placing your child on pick-up for the end of the day, **please send a note or email to your child's teacher and the office the day of.** You may also call the office **BEFORE 3:00pm** to add them to the pick-up list.

7. If you are planning a trip and your child will be missing school, an **Educational Trip forms must be filled out at least 5 days in advance** of the trip, returned to the school office and then be approved by the principal. Forms are available in the office or on-line**. If no form is filled out in advance, the days missed will be marked as illegal.**

8. Educational Trip absences do not count toward the students total absences for the school year. Although only 10 total Educational Trip absences will be approved per year.



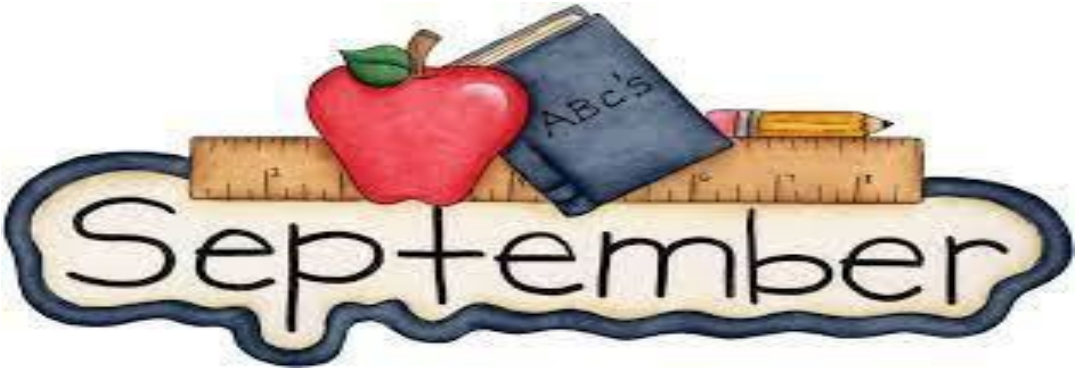
Student breakfast will be free again this year for every student. **We encourage everyone to fill out the Free / Reduced Lunch Application that was mailed to each family and return it to the school as soon as possible**. Some of the qualifications have changed and it's possible your student now qualifies for free lunch. The menu is also in the student packets.

Student Breakfast: FREE
Student Lunch: $2.25
Extra Milk: $.50



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

August 25	First Day of School!
September 4	**NO SCHOOL**



September 7	**NO SCHOOL**
September 8	PTO Meeting 6:00pm. Everyone welcome!
September 10	Back to School Night **<u>This event is for parents/guardians only</u>** 6:30 – 8:00pm – see information below.
September 16, 17, 18	Solanco Fair REMINDER: If your child will be missing school because of the fair, **<u>please fill out an Educational Trip Form.</u>**

BART PTO NEWS

PTO meetings are held at Bart Elementary in the office, starting at 6:00pm.

September 8	February 1
October 5	March 1
November 2	April 5
December 7	May 3
January 4	

Executive Board Members:

President: Taryn Aukamp
908-246-1280
BartPTO@gmail.com

Vice President: Melanie Pluck
Secretary: Jessica Brotzman
Treasurer: Erin Platt

You may contact the PTO at BartPTO@gmail.com, with any questions.

**Please be sure to have the correct email address on file with Mrs. Doumont, Building Secretary. We send out most of our information via email. There are a lot of fun PTO activities planned for this year, and you don't want to miss them!

**The PTO will also be needing volunteers to help with activities. You will need your clearances on file with Mrs. Doumont before you can help. Clearance forms are in your child's first day packets. Please see Mrs. Doumont with any questions.

Please Like us on **Facebook – BartPTO (https://www.facebook.com/BartPTO or visit our **website – BartPTO.com.**

ELEMENTARY BACK TO SCHOOL



Solanco Elementary Schools are holding **Back to School Night** on **Thursday, September 10, 2025**. This event will be held in-person with an opportunity for you to learn about procedures, activities and expectations in your child's school and classroom.

This event is for parents/guardians only.

The evening's schedule is as follows:

School Informational Session in Cafeteria – 6:30-6:55pm
Classroom Session 1: 7:00 pm – 7:25 pm
Classroom Session 2: 7:30 pm -7:55 pm

The school wide informational session is an opportunity to hear an update on school-wide events and expectations. There will also be a PTO update and Title I SchoolWide Plan update during this time. Please join us for this important information before visiting your child's classroom.

The classroom sessions are designed to provide teachers with the opportunity to present a general overview of the program and procedures within their classrooms. This time with your child's teacher is extremely important because the more you know about the expectations within the classroom, the better prepared you will be to support your child's education this year.

Back to School is not designed to address individual concerns regarding your child's progress, it is a valuable opportunity to establish a cooperative relationship with the teacher and to begin working together for the 2026-2027 school year.

Special Area teachers (Art, Music, Physical Education, Library, Speech, Gifted, Counselor, Learning Support and Title I Interventionists) will be available throughout the evening.

We look forward to seeing you at our Back to School Night!

BART-COLERAIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1336 NOBLE ROAD
CHRISTIANA, PA 17509
717-529-2181

STAFF

Principal	Mrs. Sara Parrish
Kindergarten	Miss Alyssa Clemmer
Extended Kindergarten	Miss Savannah Landis
Grade 1	Miss Jessica Leaman
Grade 2	Mrs. Taylor Holder
	Miss Olivia Rainey
Grade 3	Mr. Greg Schmitt
	Mrs. Sheila Schmitt
Grade 4	Miss Melissa Reynolds
	Mr. Isaiah Eshelman
Grade 5	Mrs. Kay Bandy
	Mrs. Jessica Hubbard
Autistic Support	Mrs. Ashley Kellar
Art	Ms. Mary Grace Long
Cafeteria Monitor	Mrs. Kim Little
Cafeteria Assistant	Mrs. Judy Sheirich
	Mrs. Tatyana Zaborskiy
Counselor	Mrs. Kelsey Koch
	Miss. Amber Dewees (Substitute)
Custodian	Mr. David Kreider
	Mr. Mike Armer
Gifted	Mr. Ryan Humphries
ESL	Mrs. Christina Bowers
Ext. Day Kdg. Aide	Mrs. Tara Lefever
Learning Support	Mrs. Kelly Rodeheaver
Learning Support Aide	Ms. Danielle Evans
	Mrs. Sue Fromm
	Mrs. Melissa Gregor
	Mrs. Katrina King
	Mrs. Sarah Kline
	Mrs. Jessica Phillips
	Mrs. Laura Pipes
	Mrs. Alyssa Zavala
Librarian	Ms. Rachel Schreiber
Library Aide	Mrs. Trudy Doolittle
Music	Mr. Benjamin Haas
Music Lessons	Miss Karen Huber
Nurse	Mrs. Nicole Bender
	Mrs. Crystal Steward
Physical Education	Mr. Michael Lane
Secretary	Mrs. Katy Doumont
Speech Therapist	Mr. Nick Nobile
Title 1 Admin. Asst.	Mrs. Megan McClune
Title 1 Aides	Mrs. Darleen Mylin
Title 1 Reading Specialist	Mrs. Jessica Misel
	Mrs. Mindy Daubert

CALENDAR 2026/2027

August 25	First day of school
Sept. 4	NO SCHOOL
Sept. 7	NO SCHOOL Labor Day Vacation
Sept. 10	Back to School Night 6:30 – 8:00pm
Oct. 12	NO SCHOOL
Oct. 14	Picture Day
Oct. 22	Fall Fest 4-6pm
Nov 2-6	Book Fair
Nov. 6	NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conferences
Nov. 18	Picture Retake Day
Nov. 26, 27, 30	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Vacation
Dec. 24 – Jan. 1	NO SCHOOL Christmas & New Year Vacation
Jan. 18	NO SCHOOL
Jan. 19	NO SCHOOL - 91st Day – Tentative
Feb. 12	NO SCHOOL (WMUD)

Feb. 15	NO SCHOOL - Presidents Day
March 10	Spring Picture Day
March 24	NO SCHOOL (WMUD)
March 25	NO SCHOOL (WMUD)
March 26, 29	NO SCHOOL (Easter)
April 16	NO SCHOOL (WMUD)
April 12 - 16	Book Fair
April 27 – 29	PSSA ELA – Grades 3, 4, 5
May 4-5	PSSA MATH – Grades 3, 4, 5
May 6	PSSA SCIENCE – Grade 5 only
May 21	Talent Show
May 28	End of Year Party
May 31	NO SCHOOL Memorial Day Vacation
June 7	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL Provided we have no make-up days

WMUD – Weather Make-up Day. Any additional snow days will be added to end of the school year.

COUNSELOR NEWS

We are so excited to welcome you back for another school year! The beginning of a new school year can bring all kinds of feelings. Below are a few tips to help your child start the year off happy, calm, and confident!

- Validate feelings
    - It is completely normal to feel nervous or uncertain at the beginning of the school year. Validate your child's feelings and let them know it is okay to feel that way. Try to redirect them into thinking about what they can do if they feel worried at school, like picturing a fun activity to do with family after school or looking at a family picture.
- Instead of "How was your day?", try:
    - Who made you smile today?
    - Who did you sit with at lunch or who did you play with at recess?
    - What was your favorite part of the school day?

Character Counts- September

In September, we will be focusing on Self-Control - what it means, why it's important, and how we can show self-control at school and at home.

Character Counts Breakfast

Each month, classroom teachers nominate a student in their class who exemplifies that monthly character trait. The nominees will be celebrated at a bi-monthly 'Pancakes with the Principal' breakfast. If your child brings home an invitation, please make sure to RSVP via the QR code. The breakfast in October will celebrate the September and October nominees!

Classroom Counseling Lessons - September

Below are the lessons/topics we will be covering in September:

Kindergarten - School Counselor Introduction
1st grade - What Makes Me Special?
2nd grade - Giving Compliments
3rd grade - Empathy
4th grade - Locus of Control
5th grade - Time Management & Personal Schedules

The elementary school counseling team is hosting some exciting events this school year! In September, we will host a Coffee with the Counselor (CWTC) event. In October, there will be a Family Connection Carnival for students and families! Please use the QR codes or links below for more information and RSVP.

CWTC Flyer and RSVP Link Family Connection Carnival and RSVP Link

Contacting Kelsey Koch- Email: kelsey_koch@solancosd.org Phone: 717-529-2181
Amber Dewees (Substitute) - Email: amber_dewees@solancosd.org

Join Our K-12 Music Advisory Council!

We are excited to launch a **K-12 Music Advisory Council** to support and strengthen our district's music programs across all grade levels.
This council will serve as a valuable resource to provide feedback, offer insight, and help shape the future of music education in our schools.

What's involved?

Members of the advisory council will meet twice a year to discuss topics related to curriculum, programming, student experience, and future opportunities in music education.
These meetings will include parents/guardians, educators, and administrators working together to ensure our programs meet the needs of all students.

Interested in Joining?

We are looking to form a **diverse group of no more than 20 parents/guardians** who represent each school level (elementary, middle, and high school) and the various areas of our music program (band, choir, orchestra, general music, etc.).
While we would love for everyone interested to participate, we will need to limit the number of members to ensure a manageable and productive group.

To express your interest, please complete the form linked below.

We look forward to partnering with you to celebrate and enhance music education for our students!

Music Advisory Council Interest Form