



Ralph E. Waite Elementary School

August 2022 Newsletter

August, 2022

Welcome Back to School, Waite Families!

Welcome Back!



I am very excited to be joining the Waite learning community as the new principal! Waite is a special school community. It will be my pleasure to work with our inquisitive students, involved families, and talented staff. Mrs. Grice has been a wonderful source of support throughout this transition. Although I am new to Waite, I have been working in Medina City Schools over the past sixteen years as both a classroom teacher and an administrator. I am also proud to call Medina home.

I began my teaching career in 2006 at Claggett Middle School as a 7th grade language arts teacher. I have enjoyed experiences teaching grades 5-8 and have had the opportunity to serve as Claggett associate principal and assistant director of curriculum in the Medina City Schools Department of Instruction. I am looking forward to returning to a building to serve the students, staff, and families at Waite Elementary School.

My philosophy is simple: all children can be successful learners when given the right support. That is our responsibility to your child at Waite. We are fortunate to have a dynamic and talented staff committed to providing your child with the best learning opportunities possible.

We are so excited to welcome our students back to school for the 2022-2023 school year at Waite Elementary! We look forward to an exciting year of learning, fun and new adventures!

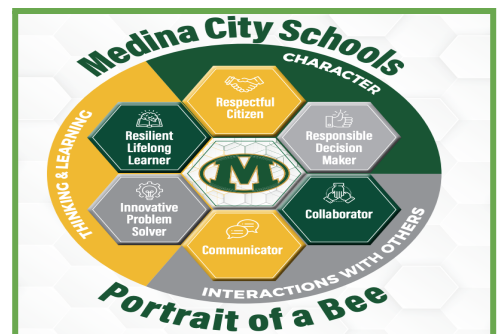
At Waite, we are committed towards growing enthusiastic readers and writers, as well as critical thinkers and problem solvers. We believe deeper learning occurs through purposeful integration of rigorous academic content with skills, mindsets and experiences that cultivate our Portrait of a Bee competencies.

Character	Interactions with Others	Thinking and Learning
Respectful Citizen	Collaborator	Innovative Problem Solver
Responsible Decision Maker	Communicator	Resilient Lifelong Learner

Our staff is committed to helping our students develop a positive growth mindset and recognize that their unique gifts and talents can and will make positive contributions to the world around them.

I look forward to a great school year! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at mattiem@medinabees.org or 330-636-4500.

Mr. Matthew Mattie, Principal



Mark Your Calendar:

Monday, August 15: Meet the Teacher Night
Last Names A-L: 5:00-5:45 PM
Last Names M-Z: 5:45-6:30 PM

Tuesday, August 16: Medication Drop off in Office 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Wednesday August 17: First Day for Students- Grades 1-5

Kindergarten Staggered Start:

- Group A: (last names A-L) Wednesday Aug. 17 and Thursday Aug. 18 only
- Group B: (last names M-Z) Friday Aug. 19 and Monday Aug. 22 only
- All Kindergarten students attend Tuesday, August 23rd

[2022-2023 District Calendar](#)

Arrival (8:40 am, 8:55 tardy bell):

Staff will be present at all locations and in the halls to welcome our students and help them navigate to their classroom.

A.M. Arrival Procedures

Bus Riders

- Buses will arrive in the main entrance loop.
- Buses will stagger dismissal.
 - **Grades K-4 will enter the main entrance doors and:**
 - **Grade K will proceed left** to K hall classroom
 - **Grades 1-2 will proceed straight** through cafeteria to classroom
 - **Grades 3-4 will proceed right** down main hall to classroom
 - **Grade 5 will enter the fifth grade door** (to the right of the main entrance door) and proceed to the classroom.

Walkers/Car Riders

- Walkers will use the walking path only and remain at the end of the walking path until 8:40 a.m. At that time, Safety Patrol will signal for the students to cross, then enter the side entrance of the building.
- Car riders will use the carline and will enter through the side entrance of the building.
- Students are permitted to exit cars at the side entrance beginning at **8:40 a.m.** when staff arrive and signal to exit the car. **Students are not to be dropped off prior to 8:40 a.m. since there is no adult supervision until that time.**
- Upon exiting cars and entering the side entrance:
 - **Grade K will sit on a green floor dot** right inside the carline doors, and they will be escorted to their classroom.
 - **Grades 1-4 will turn right** and proceed to their classroom.
 - **Grade 5 will turn left**, stay on the right side of the hall, and proceed to their classroom.
- Please pull all the way forward to the yellow cone (by the flagpole), and the entire curb-line of cars will exit at once. Once all curb-line cars are unloaded, follow the car in front of you in a line to exit. Please do not pull out of line in the A.M.
- **Students must exit only on the curb-side. Parents - please stay in your car.**
- **Please be sure your child is ready to exit the car as you enter the drop-off line.**
- If you are dropping off your child after 8:55 a.m. or picking up your child early, you will need to park in the front lot, enter the main entrance vestibule, and sign your child in. Students will be buzzed in by the office staff.

P.M. Dismissal Procedures

- Please have an established plan in the morning with your child for dismissal.
- If there is an emergency where your child's dismissal plan needs to change at the last minute, please call the Waite office BEFORE 3:00 p.m. to ensure your child receives the necessary information.
- Staggered classroom dismissal will take place between 3:20 - 3:23 p.m.
- Walkers and car riders will exit through the side entrance. Bus riders will exit through the front/main entrance.

Carline Procedures

- As you enter the carline to wait for student dismissal, **PLEASE DO NOT PARK BY THE DOOR. PLEASE PULL ALL THE WAY FORWARD TO THE FLAGPOLE.**
- Safety Patrol/Staff will escort walkers to the walking path.
- Staff will direct car riders to the car pick-up area on the sidewalk.
- Students will sit/stand in the designated alphabetical zones on the sidewalk
 - A-L will sit closest to the front of the crosswalk
 - M-Z will sit on the end of the line past the crosswalk
- Cars will continually be moved ahead (toward the flagpole) while you are waiting for your child.
- Once the car has safely stopped, students are able to load into the car.
- Once your child is in the car, you may pull around to exit (P.M. ONLY) **only once you have passed the crosswalk.**
- Please have your last name written on a large paper and visibly displayed in the front window/dash of the vehicle. (See the photo below for an easy idea to attach your sign to a small hanger to hook to your rearview mirror).
- Parents - please stay in your car.
- When exiting the lot, please yield to the buses. Thank you!
- *Students will be placed into "blocks" alphabetically by their last name. If there is a carpool of students, they will go to the "block" of the student's parent/guardian who is picking them up.*

In order to provide optimal safety during dismissal, parents are not permitted to park in the side or front lot and walk their children to their cars. All children must be picked up in the car line. *You can also access arrival and dismissal procedures [HERE](#).*

Student Sign-In

If a student is returning to school from an appointment or arriving late to the building:

- The parent and student will enter the vestibule together.
- The parent signs the student in on the attendance log which will be located in the office vestibule.
- After signing the student in, ring the buzzer & the office staff will unlock the door for the student to enter the office.

Student Sign-Out

If a student needs to leave school early:

- The parent will enter and remain in the office vestibule.
- The parent will call the office phone number (330-636-4500) and provide the name of the student they are picking up. The parent/guardian will be required to show ID through the office window.
- The office staff will call the student down to the office.
- The parent will sign the student out on the attendance log.
- The parent waits in the vestibule for their student.

Absence Procedure

If your child is going to be absent, please call the attendance line at 330-636-4504 before 9:00 am.

End of Day Dismissal Plans

Please make every effort to have an established end of the day dismissal plan with your child. In the event of an emergency where dismissal plans have changed, **please call the office prior to 3:00** to notify your child.

School Fees

2022-2023 School Fees:

- Grades K-2: \$36.00
- Grade 3-5: \$44.00

School Fees are due Sept. 30 and can be paid using [Payforit.net](https://payforit.net)

School Breakfast and Lunch

For the past two years, we have been able to offer all Medina City Schools students free meals due to federal programs related to the pandemic. Earlier this year, the Federal Government announced that they will no longer provide funding to school districts to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students beginning with the 2022-23 school year.



We recognize this change will impact some of our families. Medina City Schools will continue to offer free and reduced meals to students in need as we did prior to the pandemic. Eligible families must complete [THIS](#) form to enroll. The enrollment form will also be available at all school buildings or you may visit our [website](#) for more information.

Payment for meals can be made by cash or check at each individual school. For your convenience you may also pay online by ACH Check or Credit Card through the [ParFort](#) system.

[Waite Breakfast and Lunch Menus](#)

School Meal Prices 2022-23

Lunch Elementary \$3.25 Milk \$0.50
Breakfast Students \$2.75 Milk \$0.50

Weekender Bags

Waite Elementary School is excited to participate in the 2022-2023 Weekenders program! The Weekenders for Children program is made possible through a partnership with Feeding Medina County. The purpose of this program is to support elementary children who qualify by providing a bag of food to eat over the weekend. Weekender Bags will be given to your child to take home every week during the school year, except during breaks.

If you are interested in your child/children participating in the Weekenders program, please fill out [this form](#) as soon as possible. Please call the office with any questions. Thank you!

Chromebook Insurance

All elementary families, grades 2 - 5, who will use a District Chromebook will be assigned a \$30 Chromebook insurance fee. This insurance is optional. If you do NOT want this insurance, [this form](#) **must be filled out before September 15, 2022**, in order to waive the fee.

