



## IMPORTANT DATES AND REMINDERS

- Thursday, September 20, 6:00pm-7:30pm  
**Family Council Meeting (first one of the year)**
- Friday, September 21, 9:45am-10:15am  
**Friday Share (families are welcome)**
- Thursday, September 27, 5:30-7:00pm  
**Back to School Night (curriculum night)**

More details coming soon

*Beginning Friday, September 21 the newsletter will be sent home digitally through the email address you provided on the emergency form. If you have not turned in an emergency form for this school year, please contact your child(ren)s teacher or the office to request a new packet.*

September 7, 2018

Volume 21, Issue 1

## Mission Hill School Communication: School Year 2018-2019

Dear Mission Hill School Families, Friends, Students and Staff,

Our first two days of the school year have been great! The excitement from new and returning students ready to begin the school year was positively electric, sending good vibes throughout the school building. Routines were introduced and practiced, tours of the school were given, and many introductions were made as classmates became acquainted with their new learning communities.

It was so good to see many of you at the meet & greet and/or on the first day of school. Thank you for coming in! To carry the great beginning into a full year of learning, communication between home and school has to be in tact.

Our staff strives to make connections between home and school easy by having a variety of ways to communicate. The success of your child(ren) at school is connected to how well we communicate with one another. You will receive a weekly newsletter with writing from each classroom, dates for family events and other informative topics. At Back to School Night (Thursday, September 27 at 5:30pm) you'll hear about additional ways that information will be shared from your child(ren)'s teachers.



On the next page is a list of staff members you may wish to contact during the school year. You can contact any of us by phone at **617-635-6384** or by e-mail using the **person's first initial and last name @missionhillschool.org**. (for example, [agavins@missionhillschool.org](mailto:agavins@missionhillschool.org)). You should not hesitate to contact the school if something regarding your child, or the school in general, is on your mind. It is always better to reach out. Mission Hill staff will do the same. However, please remember that **teachers are with children during the day**. If there is an emergency please tell Yolaina, our secretary, that you have urgent news so we can act quickly. Otherwise, allow 48 hours for a response to you. Please avoid last minute calls to change after school/dismissal plans whenever possible. Such changes should be communicated in advance by way of a note or morning phone call.

## **2018 - 2019 MISSION HILL STAFF List for Communication (There are many other staff members to be introduced in another letter.)**

**Georgie Marks, school nurse-** Contact her if your child is receiving any medication, has any health issue, or injury

**Courtney Bruno, City Connects-** Connects families to resources such as counseling, food, clothing and summer camp information.

**Ayanna Lord, External Affairs and Project Room Coordinator-** Manages our school website, arranges and hosts school visits and tours, establishes and maintains community partnerships, also works with students on various projects in the project room.

**Helen Russell, Apprentice Learning-** Helen's organization provides apprenticeships for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Kathy Brucker and Vanessa Allaway, Learning Coaches for grades 5-8-** Supports students that are non-native English speakers, students on IEPs and other students with learning hurdles, organizes and leads IEP meetings and development.

**Joel Webb and Vanessa Allaway, Learning Coach for grades 1-4-** Supports students that are non-native English speakers, students on IEPs and other students with learning hurdles, organizes and leads IEP meetings and development.

**Leila Parks and Kathleen McCarthy, Learning Coaches for preschool and kindergarten-** Supports students that are non-native English speakers, students on IEPs and other students with learning hurdles, organizes and leads IEP meetings and development.

**Kathleen McCarthy, Special Education Coordinator-** Organizes and leads IEP meetings and development.

**Marion Sitomer, Occupational Therapist-** Supports children challenged by sensory integration and perceptual development issues.

**Alexia Soldata, Speech Therapist-** Supports students who are challenged by speech production and/or articulation.

**Jeanne Rachko and Meg Walker, Art Teachers-** Provides weekly art instruction to all children.

**Billy Buss, Music Teacher-** Provides and coordinates music instruction to students.

**Paul Sedgewick, Theatre Teacher-** Provides theatre instruction to all students.

**Adalberto Rivera, Wellness Teacher-** Provides weekly physical education and health instruction to all children.

**Amina Michel Lord, Family Engagement and Co-teacher-** Connects families to school through automated calls and instructs students as a member of the grade 3&4 team.

**Yolaina Ellis, Secretary-** Manages the main office.

**Ayla Gavins, Principal-** E-mail or call if other routes for communication regarding your child(ren) have failed. Issues concerning your child(ren) should be shared with your child(ren)'s teacher first.

Call or e-mail your child(ren)'s teacher if you have any questions about your child(ren)'s experience and/or performance at school.

## **2018 - 2019 MISSION HILL LEAD TEACHERS:**

K0, ages 3 and 4 - Geralyn McLaughlin

K1&K2, ages 4,5 and 6- Katie Deguglielmo, Jada Brown, Liana Cosgrove, and Kathy D'Andrea

1&2, ages 6, 7 and 8- Kate Needham, Ashleigh L' Heureux and Danny Flannery

3&4, ages 8, 9 and 10- Jenerra Williams, Cleata Brown, and Amanda McCarthy

5&6, ages 10, 11 and 12- Abdi Ali and Nakia Keizer

7&8, ages 12, 13 and 14- Jenna Hadley-Goss and Reginald Toussaint