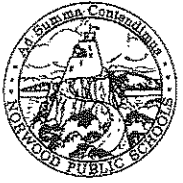


C. M. CALLAHAN ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

STUDENT HANDBOOK

BLUE PAGES

2018-2019



NORWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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DAVID L. THOMSON, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

ALEXANDER WYETH, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,
Instruction & Assessment

September, 2018

Dear Families,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Norwood Public Schools for the 2018- 2019 school year. The mission of the Norwood Public Schools is to seek academic excellence for all children in an environment which is safe, nurturing, and supportive, to inspire in them an enduring love for learning, and prepare them to contribute as citizens of a diverse community. This handbook is provided to make certain that each student and their family has full knowledge and access to the rules, expectations, and day-to-day procedures to ensure success in the Norwood Public Schools. Thus, it is imperative that you review this document together and should you find any questions or concerns, please be sure to contact the administration at your student's school.

As you know each school year is an exciting opportunity to learn and develop as individuals. Central to this effort is good communication between the home and school that creates a partnership focused on an enjoyable and productive learning environment. We look forward to working together to ensure a successful school year.

Sincerely,

David L. Thomson, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Donna G. Brown
Principal

C. M. Callahan School

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September, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please accept our warmest welcome to all Callahan School Families. Please review and keep this handbook accessible throughout the school year, as it contains information on all aspects of the school experience.

This book is one of many forms of communication necessary to ensure cooperation between our school and our families.

The Callahan P.T.A. is a supportive organization that enhances our children's education by providing educational programs, field trip busses, and family oriented activities. We are always trying to enlarge the group of parents who perform herculean work in order to provide enjoyable activities for all of our families. The Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., and we would love to see more participants!

My first year as principal at the Callahan has been an incredible experience. It is an honor to continue the legacy of academic excellence set by former principal, Robert Griffin. This is an amazing school with a strong home-school connection. The staff, students, and parents work take great pride in the Callahan and it is evident each and every day.

Please note that my door is always open!

Sincerely,

Donna G. Brown
Principal

C. M. CALLAHAN SCHOOL

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MISSION STATEMENT

C. M. CALLAHAN SCHOOL

“We’ll Always Reach Higher!”

The C. M. Callahan School has adopted as its mission the development of the following lifelong skills for all of our students:

- To reach our potential academically, physically, socially, and emotionally.
- To foster an appreciation of knowledge in all areas of the curriculum.
- To become competent thinkers and articulate communicators.
- To understand the importance of kindness, respect, and tolerance.
- To become responsible citizens of our school and community.

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

The C. M. Callahan School was built in the year 1930 for a cost of \$116,000. The cost of construction was \$110,000 and \$6,000 for equipment.

In 1954 an addition was built for a total cost of \$175,000. This addition included a remedial reading room, cafeteria, teachers' room, as well as the basic classrooms.

The school was named after Mr. Cornelius M. Callahan who served on the School Committee from 1905-1920, and who also served as chairman for six years. The auditorium was named for Martha B. Parker who was a first grade teacher in the East School for many years.

The C. M. Callahan School has had nine principals: Julia Drummey, Wilda Vose, Edna Frost, Louise Nugent, Eugene Thayer, Richard Talanian, Robert Fox, John Monahan, and the present principal, Robert M. Griffin.

DAILY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

8:40 a.m.	First bell
8:45	Tardy bell
10:30	Recess
12:15 p.m.	Lunch
2:55	Dismissal bell

Teachers are on outside supervision duty in the morning starting at 8:30. It is strongly suggested that children not arrive at school much before this time.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

In order to enhance student learning, teachers participate in workshops to increase their knowledge, skills and learn about issues relevant to education in the Twenty First Century, or to discuss and update the curriculum and instructional practices. On the Professional Development half days, lunch is served for Grades 1-5 and dismissal for those students is 12:30 p.m. There is **no** school on the full Professional Development Days.

BEFORE SCHOOL EXTENDED DAY

The Callahan School Extended Day Program begins each day at 7:30 am. Transportation is not provided. The cost is \$4.50 per child. A 10% discount is given to families with more than one child. The program begins on the first day of school.

SCHOOL DAY

1. Students should not arrive at school any earlier than 8:30 a.m. as formal supervision begins at that time. On occasion, teachers will ask pupils to report to school earlier than 8:30 a.m. for individual help, etc., in which case the teacher will assume the supervision.
2. In case of a child's absence, parents are asked to call the school between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. If the school has not heard from a parent by 9 a.m., the secretary will attempt to contact the home.
3. The proper use of the bathroom facilities is reviewed by each classroom teacher. The writing on walls, careless use of paper towels and misuse of lavatory facilities will be considered serious matters.
4. Under no circumstances should a pupil leave the school grounds during the school day unless authorized by the administrator in charge.
5. The Callahan is fortunate to qualify for the National School Breakfast Program. A nourishing breakfast is available to all Callahan students each morning from 8:15 – 8:40 A.M.
6. Children are not allowed to ride bikes, roller blades, scooters, hover boards or skateboards to the Callahan School.

TRAFFIC SUPERVISORS

A traffic supervisor is stationed at the intersections of Garfield Avenue and Pleasant Street, as well as at the intersections of Railroad Avenue and Monroe Streets. The purpose is to ensure the safety of children crossing at this busy intersection. Children should obey the crossing guard and should never cross during school days if the guard is not at the crossing.

P.T.A.

P.T.A. (Parent-Teachers Association) is comprised of parents and teachers with the purpose of enriching the children's school experience. The Callahan School belongs to the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. The P.T.A. sponsors cultural and educational programs such as theater groups, concerts, and movies, and also contributes to the cost of transportation for field trips.

In addition, the P.T.A. annually presents two Special Achievement Awards to graduating seniors who are former Callahan School students.

Parents are encouraged to contact the P.T.A. Board of Directors if they would like to be more involved with the P.T.A. Parents are also encouraged to attend Board meetings.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Massachusetts Education Reform Act provides for the establishment of local School Councils to be established as vehicles for involving more parents and teachers in school decision making and for strengthening the bonds between schools and the communities they serve. Site-based decision making allows teachers and administrators to work with parents and the community to become more responsive to the needs of a particular school's population. The C.M. Callahan School Council consists of the principal, a community member-at-large, two teachers, and three parents. The teachers are nominated and elected within the Callahan School. One parent will be the elected president (or vice-president) of the Callahan P.T.A. The other two parents will be chosen from an election open to all parents and conducted under the supervision of the principal and the Callahan P.T.A. Executive Board.

The School Council works with the Principal to review our budget, discuss school needs and curriculum, and to enhance all existing programs. At the end of the academic year the Council submits a School Improvement Plan to be reviewed and approved by the Norwood School Committee.