



# Mills Moments

## John Mills School

August 19, 2016



2824 N. 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Elmwood Park, IL 60707  
[www.epcusd401.org](http://www.epcusd401.org)

Laura Magruder, Principal  
Jamie Ponce, Assistant Principal

### A Message from our Principal

Welcome back John Mills' students and families! This has been a wonderful week of reconnecting with friends, teachers and learning new things. Thank you to everyone who joined us on August 12, for our Meet and Greet. I know that the students loved getting to meet their teachers and drop off their supplies. Also, please remember that **August 23** is our Curriculum Night from 6pm to 7pm. Please come out to meet your child's teacher and learn about all of the great things that will take place this year!

New Year, New Staff! We have had quite a few staff changes and additions here at John Mills. We are very excited to introduce our new staff:

- Mrs. Jamie Ponce – Assistant Principal
- Mrs. Denise Wurtz – Secretary
- Mrs. Jennifer Espana – Office Clerk
- Mr. Nerode Abraham – 5th Grade Teacher
- Ms. Erica Reyes – 2nd Grade Spanish Bi-lingual Teacher
- Mrs. Angie Gulliford – 1st Grade Teacher
- Mrs. Becky Knauer – Special Education Resource Teacher
- Ms. Annina Wanzung – Enrichment Teacher
- Mr. Peter Pisello – Music Teacher
- Mrs. Lizbeth Benitez-Merlos – ELL Teacher's Aide
- Mrs. Marianne Bryja – Special Education Teacher's Aide
- Ms. Yanira Trejo – Special Education Teacher's Aide

Don't forget to come and join us tonight at the PTA Sponsored Pool Party. It is from 6:00 to 8:00 at the Elmwood Park Family Aquatic Center. We hope to see you all there!

### Student Handbooks and District Policies for Student Handbooks

Each student was given a student handbook and district policies for student handbooks. The sign-off sheet is to be **signed on both sides** and returned no later than **Friday, August 26**.

### Yellow Student Data Form

A copy of your student's data form (on yellow paper) was sent home and must be returned by **Monday, August 22**. Please review the information and make any necessary changes or updates in addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, etc. **Please include your email address and complete any blank areas.** This is information that is currently missing from your student's record. Lastly, please make sure that at least one emergency contact (someone other than mom, dad or guardian) is listed on the form; two contacts if you are able to. The emergency contact is someone that John Mills School is able to contact in the unlikely event that we are unable to reach mom, dad or guardian in an emergency. Please have your student return the updated form to their teacher, who will then forward it to the John Mills School Office.

### Greetings from Mrs. Ponce

Welcome Back! I am excited to be joining the John Mills School team and about the 2016-2107 school year. Next week, on Monday, John Mills will begin our fall MAP testing. This is the first opportunity students have to show us what they know. Your child will benefit from reasonable bed times and good healthy breakfasts during the two week testing window. At John Mills, we strive to create a testing environment where students feel safe and motivated to do their best. Please encourage your child to take their time and try their hardest. We appreciate all of the support you provide to help make John Mills a successful and safe place to learn.

### Government Free Breakfast/Lunch Program

If you already applied for the program, a letter, indicating whether or not you have been approved for the breakfast/lunch program, has been sent home with your student today. If you would like to apply for this program, you must do it online at our website at [www.epcusd401.org](http://www.epcusd401.org). If you do not have access to a computer at home, please contact the main office. After you apply, a letter will be sent home with your child indicating whether or not you have been approved. Until you receive the letter, you must pay for breakfast and/or lunch.

### Breakfast Times

- 8:20 – 8:35 a.m. (everyday but Wednesdays)
- 9:00 – 9:12 a.m. (Wednesdays)
- Cost \$1.25

### Lunch Times

- Grade 1 11:10 – 11:40
- Grade 2 11:20 – 11:50
- Grade 3 12:40 – 1:10
- Grade 4 12:00 – 12:30
- Grade 5 12:30 – 1:00
- Grade 6 11:50 – 12:20
- Cost \$2.40

### School Hours

Entry	Class Starts	Dismissal
8:35 a.m.	8:40 a.m.	3:00 p.m.
Wednesday (Staff Development Day)		
9:12 a.m.	9:17 a.m.	3:00 p.m.

In the interest of safety, it is important that students not arrive at school before 8:20 a.m., on Wednesdays until 9:00 a.m. There is no outside supervision until those times.