

Monica B. Leary Elementary School 2023-2024 Family Handbook

5509 East Henrietta Road
Rush, NY 14543



School Hours

7:50 a.m. - 1:57 p.m.

Important Telephone Numbers

Main Office: 359-5460

Principal: 359-5468

Assistant Principal: 359-5465

Nurse: 359-5473

Attendance Line: 359-5471

Main Office Fax: 359-5463

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A Message from the Principal



Welcome to Leary Elementary School! The staff and I look forward to working with you and your child over the coming school year. At Leary, we are committed to quality teaching and learning, and we recognize that all children are curious and eager to learn. We want them to achieve their fullest academic, social, and emotional potential.

We also recognize that the school, the students, the families, and the community must all work together to provide a learning environment that fosters the development of that potential. We invite you to work with us to maintain and enhance our reputation for excellence.

This handbook will answer many questions for you and will assist you in working with us as we attempt to meet the needs of your children. Please review the handbook in order to become familiar with the various programs and opportunities our school community has to offer.

We all join together in wishing you and your child much success and happiness here at Leary Elementary School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Dina Stathopoulos". The script is fluid and cursive.

K. Dina Stathopoulos
Principal

General School Information

School Hours

School hours for all grades, kindergarten through third grade, are from 7:50 a.m. to 1:57 p.m.

Parking

Please park in designated parking areas only. The driving circle, located in front, is reserved for school buses. Cars are not allowed to park in the front circle during school hours.

Student Drop-Off

All cars will unload students at the side entrance marked **Student Drop Off**. Do not line up in that area until after 7:45 a.m., as it creates traffic issues on E. Henrietta Road.

- **Early Arrival:** Students may not arrive at school before 7:50 a.m. No one is available to supervise children before that time.
- **Late Arrival:** Students who arrive late to school (after 8 a.m.) must be accompanied by an adult and escorted to sign them in at the Main Office.

Student Pick-Up

If you need to pick up your child early or as needed, please use the Google form that is linked in the weekly Leary E-News. Please be sure the form is completed by noon the day you are picking your student up. If you are picking up your student before dismissal, you will need to park your car and come to the front entrance. Press the intercom button and be let into the main office to sign your student out. Be sure to list the name of the person picking up your student and they will need to be prepared to show a photo I.D. Even if a child is ill and the nurse has called, the parent must first sign in at the main office, and then sign their student out at the main office.

Pick Up at Dismissal

If you indicated on the bus survey that your student(s) will be picked up every day at dismissal, you will have to park your car in the Leary parking lot if you come before 2:05 p.m., and walk over to the student pick up door -E4 (exterior cafeteria door), next to the main entrance-E4a to pick up your child. If you come after 2:05 p.m., and the buses have left the bus loop, you may park in the bus loop and walk to the pick up door -E4- to get your child. Again, please be prepared to show a photo I.D. when picking up your child.

Bus Passes

If your child needs to go to a different destination after school, a written note is required by **WEDNESDAY OF THE PRIOR WEEK** (as per BOE policy). The note should include the date, name, address, and telephone number of the person responsible for your child. Bus pass forms are also available in the Main Office. Bus passes will not be issued for play dates or parties. Phone calls requesting changes in transportation will not be honored. If an **emergency** arises during the day, call the Main Office as soon as possible and a bus pass will be issued to your child.

Busing

The busing of your child to school from home and from school back home is a service that the district proudly provides. **NO FORMS ARE NEEDED FOR HOME-TO-SCHOOL BUS SERVICE.** This service is available to all district children from the residence of the primary parent.

- The district requires an adult to be present and visible when a child in grades K-3 disembarks from the school bus at the designated point of delivery at the end of each school day. Please make suitable and sustainable arrangements in this regard.
- Should an adult not be present and visible to receive your child from the school bus for home delivery, your child will be transported to Good Shepherd, 3288 East Henrietta Rd. where he/she will be safely cared for by the District's child care providers. You will be charged a first time fee of \$50 (which includes a \$25 registration fee and a \$25 childcare fee). Any additional childcare returns to Good Shepherd throughout the school year will be a charge of \$25 per day, per child. This service is provided for the health and safety of our young students.

Cub Care Contact Information

- Leary Cub Care Cell -353-2324 (2 to 6 p.m. ONLY)
- Cub Care Specialist, Pearl Tokar - 359-7912
- Cub Care Registration Information - 359-7911

To pick up your child from Leary's Cub Care Zone, after school, please call the Leary Cub Care Cell-353-2324. Cub Care staff members will ask you to identify yourself and greet you at the cafeteria door E4, next to the main entrance.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify child care providers of their child's absence on any given day. The main office staff cannot share the whereabouts, personal information, or the location of your child.

Attendance Line (359-5471)

An absence or late arrival should be noted on the attendance form found online and in the weekly E-News. Our attendance line is still available to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to leave a voice message: 585-359-5471.

Lost & Found

The location for lost and found items is outside of the conference room, across from the main office. Items may be claimed there. This area should be checked by your child who has lost something.

Items lost on the school bus may be claimed at the bus garage at 1133 Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta, NY. You may call the bus garage at 359-5382 if you have concerns regarding a lost item and be prepared to supply the transportation office with your child's bus number.

Volunteers and School Security

We welcome and encourage all volunteers. Those who would like information on volunteering may call the school or contact the parent group officers. When coming into the school, all visitors must enter through the main entrance, check in at the main office, and secure a visitor pass. Entry must be through the main entrance E4a. ***No visitors in the cafeteria during lunch.***

- ❖ **The above items are subject to change in the future based on district guidelines.**

Emergency Information (Blue Cards) and School Closings

When district schools must be closed for any reason, radio announcements will be made on the major local stations. Television

channels 8, 9, 10, and 13 will also announce closings. In addition, an alert will be posted on the district website, www.rhnet.org, and on the district Facebook page (facebook.com/rhschools.) Please do not call the school office for information regarding emergency closings.

If an emergency forces a closing during the school day, your child will be sent to the place you identified on the Confidential Information Form (the “Blue Card”). Please make sure this form is kept up-to-date. Parents should discuss the emergency plan with their children so that the students will know where to go and what to do in the event that they should arrive home during the day and no adult is there for them. Also, the neighbor or relative who is named in an emergency plan should be made aware of the arrangement. We are **NOT** able to individually phone every parent during an emergency closing, but we will attempt to reach parents using the district’s automated phone messaging system.

When schools are closed, all adult education and school functions for the evening are canceled.

Classroom Visitors

You are welcome to visit school. To ensure a pleasant visit, please follow these steps: contact your child's teacher to discuss your desire to visit and the purpose of your visit in advance; sign in with our main office upon your arrival; and receive and wear a visitor's pass/badge. Your child’s teacher will work with you to determine the best time for a classroom visit so as not to interfere with the instructional program in the classroom. This is subject to change based on district guidelines.

School-Home Communication

We believe school-home communication is vital to your child’s success in school. Your child’s teacher will be in touch with you during the first two weeks of school to determine your preferred communication mode. All email addresses that were submitted on your blue confidential form will receive a weekly Principal E-News. This will inform you about upcoming school and Parent Group events. We also have a [district Facebook page](#), as well as a [PTO Facebook](#) page for you to access.

Faculty/Staff Communication

Each member of Leary's faculty and staff has been assigned a voice mailbox. The general access number for the service is 359-5183. You will need to know the mailbox number of the person you wish to contact to leave him/her a message. In addition to district email, staff will use the education communication/messaging platform-Remind.

Staff Email

Staff may be contacted by email. The email formula for staff is:

FirstinitialLastname@rhnet.org

Interpreters and Translators

Interpreters and translators are available upon request to your child's classroom teacher or your child's ENL teacher. We encourage your use of this service for PTO meetings and events, parent-teacher conferences, concerts, and various events throughout the year if you need the service. **Please make the request to your child's teacher OR your child's ENL teacher two weeks in advance of the event** to guarantee the service reservation.

We also have a phone service called Propio Language Services, which provides verbal translation in more than 80 languages to help us communicate with our diverse population. Do not hesitate to ask to use this service.

Programs and Services

Art

The art program is designed in alignment with the Rush-Henrietta visual arts standards and elementary art curriculum. Students attend art classes for 35 minutes once every four days of school. Each year, students gain an understanding of the Art Elements and Principles of Design. They manipulate line, shape, color, space, and texture in a variety of media while using art tools with the proper techniques. Within many of the lessons, students learn about visual art connections to other academic disciplines and about art in history and society. The art program emphasizes creative problem solving, independent thinking, and individual creativity.

Music

The music program is a district program for students. It is based on the New York state standards for elementary music instruction. Students participate in a 35-minute class that meets once in a four-day rotation.

They participate in many activities in order to learn the elements of music. The focus of the program is on music literacy. Students are taught in a sequential approach to read melodies and rhythms. They learn to match pitches, sing songs, play instruments, and move to music in appropriate ways. They listen to music with an emphasis on understanding the elements of melody, rhythm, form, and harmony.

Physical Education

Certified physical education teachers teach a district-wide curriculum. Students receive physical education for 35 minutes twice a week on a four-day rotation. Students are required to wear appropriate clothing and sneakers when participating in class.

Library

A library media specialist (LMS) manages the school-based resource center for students, teachers, and parents. This information center contains such resources as books, magazines, reference materials, and computers. The LMS and classroom teachers work together to provide library skills, digital literacy instruction, introduce digital citizenship, and literature appreciation experiences, as well as technology integration to supplement classroom instruction.

Response to Intervention

A team of reading, special education, and consultant teachers collaborate with classroom teachers to provide targeted interventions for those students needing additional support through our Academic Intervention Services (AIS) in ELA and/or math. Students who are in need of this instructional support are assigned to work in additional groups or on an individual basis with their classroom teacher to reinforce instruction. The goal of intervention is to help students become more successful in their regular classroom programs.

Students are identified to receive AIS based on multiple measures, including end-of-the-year testing and teacher recommendation. Classroom teachers work closely with the reading and/or consultant teacher assigned to their classroom to develop an instructional program that will best meet each student's needs using a variety of targeted and differentiated strategies and techniques.

English as a New Language (ENL)

This New York state-mandated program is designed to service the needs of students whose first language is not English. After screening, students are placed in appropriate small groups for English instruction. They receive both push-in and pull-out services by a certified ENL teacher. Instructional emphasis is placed on listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The length of time spent by the student in the ENL program is determined by his/her performance on the NYS English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT).

Speech/Language

Speech/language therapists evaluate articulation, voice, fluency, and language problems (understanding and using words). Speech or language services are available to students identified by the district's Committee on Special Education as having a need in any area of communication. Services are also available to non-classified students through the Speech-Language Support Program. Services are determined through screening or evaluation. The student and therapist have regularly scheduled small group or individual sessions. The speech/language pathologist also provides in-class services and consultation to classroom teachers. The speech/language program is designed to complement the student's educational program and to meet his/her communication needs.

Instructional Support Team

The Instructional Support Team (IST) is a strength-based, child-centered support system to promote success for all students. The IST helps to assess and make recommendations for students in need of special support for learning, social-emotional, and/or behavioral difficulties. The IST is also available to provide support to those students needing a challenge in their learning as a result of high levels of performance. The team carefully monitors student progress throughout the year, making every effort to devise strategies for students that will allow them to successfully participate in their educational program. Parents are invited and strongly encouraged to attend any IST meetings to be part of the team discussing and devising interventions for their child. Another function of the IST is to assess the potential for special education services for the Committee on Special Education process.

Committee on Special Education (CSE)

If a student has needs beyond the regular education program, the IST will refer the student to the Committee on Special Education. The CSE will determine if the child is in need of special education and will recommend to the parents, and the Board of Education, the appropriate educational program and services for the child. Parents have a right to attend the CSE meeting to present their views on what their child needs. Parents also have the option of presenting information in the form of writing, through an outside professional, or through a district staff member.

The district must notify parents in advance of the CSE meeting for their child. In addition, parents have the right to appeal any CSE decision.

An individual education plan (IEP) must be written for each child needing special education services and this plan must be reviewed annually, and revised, as needed. The plan is written by the child's special education teacher and parents based upon the recommendations of the CSE.

Special education classes provide an educational program for students identified by the CSE as having a handicapping condition and needs beyond the regular educational program. Certified special education teachers deliver a range of services striving for the least restrictive environment appropriate for each child. Services may include consultant teacher programs, primary or supplemental instruction taught by a special education teacher in or out of the regular classroom, and self-contained classrooms. The goal of the special education program is to improve the students' chances for success in a regular school program. Student progress is closely monitored.

The district is committed to meeting the needs of students with handicapping conditions and those with special needs. While the district services handicapped students in regular classrooms, it also provides self-contained classes for more severely handicapped students. If needed, the district arranges programs in other specialized schools or provides home instruction.

School Social Worker

The school social worker has many different responsibilities within the school setting. These may include:

- providing short-term crisis intervention counseling services to children, adults, and families under stress, including providing mandated IEP counseling.
- referring individuals and families to appropriate outside counseling agencies and acting as a liaison to follow-up on these services.
- participating on the school's Instructional Support Teams.
- facilitating classroom social skills training as necessary.
- facilitating topical groups to support/enhance students' school/educational experience.
- acting as a consultant to the school staff.
- acting as a member of the attendance team.

In addition, the school social worker completes developmental/social histories as necessary, and works with administration to promote and facilitate consistent student attendance and punctuality in school.

School Psychologist

The school psychologist provides many services, including consultation, intervention, prevention, and education. The psychologist consults with teachers, parents, and administrators about problems in learning aptitudes, personality and emotional development, learning environment, and eligibility for special education services. Intervention services include individual and/or group counseling, crisis intervention, teaching self-advocacy, social skills and bullying prevention strategies. Prevention services may involve identifying learning difficulties and designing programs for students who are at risk of failure.

School Counselor (K-3)

Rush-Henrietta has added school counselors at K-3 levels. The school counselor has many different responsibilities within the school setting.

These may include:

- providing short-term crisis intervention counseling services to children, adults, and families.
- referring individuals and families to appropriate outside counseling agencies.
- facilitating short-term groups to support/enhance students' school/educational experience.
- acting as a consultant to the school staff.

In addition, the school counselor is responsible for facilitating counseling lessons according to a specific timeline and curriculum established in the district K-12 Comprehensive School Counseling Program.

Crisis Intervention Plan

This plan was developed for use by the district Trauma, Illness, and Grief Team, also known as the TIG Team, in the event of a death or other tragedy that is anticipated to have a significant impact on the students or the school community. The plan identifies how information is to be disseminated to the students and to the school community in the event of such an occurrence. More importantly, the plan provides for the availability and the implementation of support for those who desire or need such support during or after the crisis period.

School Improvement Team (SIT)

The New York State Education Department required every school district to adopt a plan for school-based planning and shared decision making by February 1, 1994. The School Improvement Team consists of staff, parents, and community members. The group meets four times during the school year. Through shared decision-making, the team has established a plan to increase student achievement. If you would like to see the plan, or acquire further information about the School Improvement Team, please feel free to contact the school.

Attendance Team

The Attendance Team reviews student absences/tardies. The goal of the team is to promote regular and punctual attendance so that students have the maximum opportunity to achieve their potential.

Concerns regarding a particular student's absences or tardies will be brought to the attention of the parents or guardians by the attendance team. The attendance team will work with you to ensure your child is taking full advantage of the instructional day.

General Classroom Information

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled by appointment, once in the fall and, again (*if desired by the parent or teacher*), in the spring. Appointments for the November conferences may be made at Leary's Open House in the fall. At the parent-teacher conferences, parents will review their child's progress with the teacher. Please consult your school calendar for these important dates. Additional conferences may be arranged at other times during the year if the parties concerned feel it necessary.

Progress Reports

Students in grades K-3 receive progress reports at the end of each quarter. Parents will access their child's report cards by signing into their parent account [on SchoolTool](#). Learn more about this powerful tool [by clicking here](#).

Classroom Supplies

The supply lists for each Rush-Henrietta school and grade level can be found on our district website, www.rhnet.org.

Library Books

Lost library books must be paid for. If the book is found within 30 days of a payment, a refund will be issued.

Homework Philosophy

Homework is an instructional strategy that provides students with an opportunity to deepen their understanding and skills relative to learning standards and classroom instruction. At the elementary level, homework should help children develop good study habits, foster positive attitudes toward school, and communicate to students and families that learning takes place both inside and outside school.

- Students at all grade levels will be encouraged to engage in reading activities each evening.
- Assigned homework will reinforce classroom instruction, at appropriate instructional levels.
- Students will receive constructive feedback on assigned homework to inform them of their progress.

Celebrations in Schools ([directly from BOE Policy 4821](#))

School activities which relate to holidays and seasonal observances shall have a clear instructional purpose aligned with the district's learning standards and curriculum.

Commemoration of special days and events shall emphasize cultural, historical, and artistic values. Such activities shall respect the variety of religious affiliations and beliefs existing within the school community and shall observe constitutional requirements that public-school districts avoid practices that promote or discourage any specific religion.

Should celebrations involve the exchange of cards or gifts, the classroom teacher shall ensure that the activity is inclusive of all students.

Should celebrations involve student costumes, those costumes shall have relevance to the instructional purpose of the activity.

No celebration or observance shall explicitly or implicitly impose any expense or medical danger upon a student as a condition of his/her participation.

A student may be excused from school celebrations or observances if his/her parent/guardian files a request with the building principal. The request must give assurance that instruction on the learning standard(s) involved will be given at home. In this case, please email the principal, Mrs. Stathopoulos: kstathopoulos@rhnet.org

Student Recognitions

We are always looking for opportunities to get to know and celebrate students on an individual basis. This gives him/her a chance to share their interests and uniqueness with classmates. Traditionally, this occurs on a student's birthday, but it could also happen on a holiday or as part of the classroom culture (ie. student of the week, etc.). **Due to allergies, safety concerns with sharing food, and classroom interruptions, we will not be allowing teachers to celebrate students with food.** Instead, we suggest the following:

- family member or special person participates in a read aloud in class or through Google Meet
- celebration circle
- students write cards or make a craft
- sing the student a special song
- small gift to pass out to class

****deliveries of items for students are not allowed (balloons, flowers, etc.)***

Elementary Health Services

School Health Office Staff

Every school has a school nurse-teacher (SNT) who is a registered professional nurse, and a health aide. The SNT coordinates healthcare in the school setting; answers routine medical questions for parents, staff, and children; gives immediate first aid; and provides medical care according to the medical regimen prescribed by the private health provider. In addition, the SNT coordinates mandated physical examination requirements and teaches the state health curriculum. The health aide monitors attendance and assists the SNT with a variety of responsibilities.

Confidentiality

The district adheres to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Private health care providers must follow other laws called Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). In instances where the school needs to communicate with private health care providers, the parent will need to complete the required form(s) from their health care provider in order for school officials to be able to speak with them. Please be advised that confidential medical information will be shared with district personnel who need to know. This may include understanding the impact a medical condition may have on a child within the classroom setting and/or how to recognize and potentially manage significant medical concerns until medical help arrives. If you have any questions, please contact your SNT.

Mandated Physical Examinations

New York state law requires parents or guardians to furnish a certificate of physical examination for all new students and for students in grades kindergarten, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11, and for those students participating in sports, requiring special education services, or seeking work permits.

To ensure continuity of care, the Board of Education recommends that all examinations be done by your own physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner. If you require, but cannot afford health insurance to secure private health care for your child, please contact the SNT for confidential assistance in applying for Child Health Plus. A physical exam is valid for 12 months through the last day of the month in which the exam was conducted. This exam is valid for an entire school year for new entrants and mandated exams. In the rare event that a certificate of private examination is not provided, a physical examination may be conducted in the school by scheduled appointment. A parent has the right to be in attendance at these examinations and/or to review history questions that may be asked of your child. Please make prior arrangements with the SNT.

Immunizations

All K-3 students are required to furnish satisfactory proof of immunization for:

Vaccine	Kindergarten and Grades 1, 2 and 3
Diphtheria and Tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine (DTaP/DTP/Tdap/Td)	5 doses or 4 doses if the 4th dose was received at 4 years of age or older, or 3 doses if aged 7 years or older and the series was started at 1 year of age or older
Polio vaccine (IPV/OPV)	4 doses or 3 doses if the 3rd dose was received at 4 years of age or older
Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine (MMR)	2 doses
Hepatitis B vaccine	3 doses or 2 doses of adult hepatitis B vaccine (Recombivax) for children who received the doses at least 4 months apart between the ages of 11 through 15 years
Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine	2 doses

Mandated Screenings

The NYS Education Department requires specific screening exams be done on children of certain ages or grades. The NYS Department of Health (DOH) also requires that your private health care provider reports and that the school district collects information on your child's Body Mass Index (BMI) and Weight Status Category (WSC). Information requested by the DOH regarding BMI or WSC will **not** identify your child. If you do not wish to have your child's unidentified assessment included on the survey, please advise the SNT.

The following screening evaluations are conducted by the SNT who will advise you of any concerns:

1. Distance and near visual acuity for all new entrants and for children in grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7, and 11, or at any time deemed essential.
2. Color perception for all new entrants within six months of entrance.
3. Hearing acuity for all new entrants and for those in grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, and at any other time deemed essential.
4. Scoliosis (curvature of the spine) for girls in grades 5 and 7 and for boys in grade 9.

Dental Certificates

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of good oral hygiene for all children. The board recommends that your child have regular periodic complete dental examinations by your private dentist ideally every six months, but at least upon entrance to school and again in grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11. If you wish to provide a certificate of dental examination for inclusion in your child's permanent health record, which is saved until your child is 27 years old, please submit or have your dentist submit the completed certificate to your SNT.

Emergency Care Plans

Any child with a severe or life-threatening medical condition that may require adult intervention and oversight during the school day, including but not limited to, diabetes, poorly controlled seizures, severe respiratory problems, or anaphylaxis secondary to food or insect allergy, will have an emergency care plan created by the SNT in cooperation with the parent and their private health care provider. These plans are updated annually. The purpose is to provide concrete and simple training and instructions to non-medical personnel acting in a supervisory role for your child to keep your child as safe as possible until medical assistance arrives. If you believe your child needs an emergency care plan, please bring the SNT medical documentation from your physician as soon as possible before the start of school, so she can work with you to develop a safe plan for your child.

Medications

Medications will be dispensed in school only with written permission from the student's physician and parents. This also applies to non-prescription drugs such as aspirin, cold remedies, or cough drops, etc. These rules are necessary to comply with New York state law. Parents/guardians must personally bring medicines to school. Students may not bring in medications. Pharmacies will supply duplicate containers upon request.

Absences & Tardiness

Call each day that your child will be absent from or late to school. The 24-hour Attendance Line number is **359-5471**. The answering service is for parents only. Please give the following information when calling the Attendance Line:

- your name and a phone number where you can be reached
- your child's name and his/her teacher's name
- the reason for the absence or tardiness

A written excuse, including the date(s) and the reason for the absence or tardiness, is still required even after the Attendance Line has been called. Those excuses should be given to the classroom teacher on the first day that the child returns to school.

When late, a student and parent must go to the main office, then sign in as late at the health office. The student will then receive a pass and report to his/her classroom. Please notify the classroom teacher in advance if your child will be late due to an appointment.

A student's repeated illegal tardiness and/or absences will be reviewed by the Attendance Team and discussed with the parent in writing, in a phone call, or during a personal conference.

Injuries/ Illness/Allergies

If your child is injured or becomes ill during school hours, the school nurse will notify you. The school provides first aid only for injuries or acute illness that occur during school hours. In an extreme emergency, an ambulance from CHS Mobile Integrated Healthcare will be called, and the school nurse will contact you.

****Please note:** It is very important that the Confidential Information Form (the "Blue Card"), referred to in the General School Information section of this handbook, be updated whenever information changes. Without correct and current information, it may be extremely difficult to get in touch with you in the event of an emergency. New home phone numbers or addresses, new work situations and numbers, or new after-school care providers are all examples of the types of information we need to give your child the best care possible. Please keep the main office current with changes and updates.

Please alert the health office of any allergies your child may have, especially of any potentially life-threatening allergies.

Physical Education Excuses

All students are expected to participate in P.E. classes. All physical education excuses must be submitted in writing to the SNT. A physician's request must be submitted if the student is to be excused for more than one day. Students excused from physical education may not participate in playground activities.

Child Health Plus

Child Health Plus is New York state's medical insurance program that serves uninsured children under age 19 in families whose household income exceeds Medicaid income eligibility. The insurance is provided free or at a low cost. Coverage includes well child check-ups, immunizations, prescriptions, doctor's visits, x-rays and lab work, outpatient mental health, inpatient hospital care, emergency medical care, and other services. The application is a simple one-page form requiring proof of the child's age, household income, and residency. For information or assistance, contact your SNT or in the Rochester area call 1-800-698-4KIDS (4543).

General Cafeteria Information

School Breakfast/Lunch

Nutritious breakfast and lunch are served every day in school. Consult your monthly menu for specific information. Milk, fresh fruit, juice, and snacks may be purchased for those who bring a meal from home.

Here is the link to the menu at Leary:

<https://schools.mealviewer.com/school/LearyElementarySchool>

Food Service

New this year, all students at Leary are eligible for free breakfast and lunch each school day, regardless of need.

Should I Still Submit a Free and Reduced Price Meal Application?

If you meet eligibility guidelines, you are encouraged to still submit an application. Not only is much of the aid our district receives from New York state based on the percent of students with applications on file, but there are direct benefits to you:

- An application must be on file in order to qualify for fee waivers for AP exams, college applications, instrument rental, etc.
- The federal P-EBT Food benefit cards provided to families during the pandemic were based on applications such as these. If a current application is not on file, any future benefits may be impacted.

Application Process

1. Applications will be mailed to all families by mid-August. The Free and Reduced Application and information will also be available on the R-H website, www.rhnet.org.
2. A new application must be submitted every year.
3. Call 359-5388 if you have any questions.

Social-Emotional Learning

In grades K-12, Rush-Henrietta uses a framework that aligns Social-Emotional Learning (SEL), Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), and Restorative Practices. This alignment allows for a range of strategies and approaches to be used to build community within our schools and support students in developing competencies for lifelong success and well-being.

The five SEL competencies include:

- Self-Awareness (Understanding one's emotions, personal goals, and values, assessing one's strengths and weaknesses)
- Self-Management (Skills in regulating emotions and behaviors, managing stress, and persevering through challenges)
- Social Awareness (Ability to understand the perspectives of others, demonstrate empathy, and understand social norms)
- Relationship Skills (Ability to communicate clearly, engage in active listening, cooperate with others, resolve conflicts, and resist negative social pressure)
- Responsible Decision-Making (Ability to understand the consequences of actions, and to make constructive choices taking the health and well-being of self and others into consideration)

The expected behaviors, known as PBIS traits, are as follows: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Ready to Learn, Be Caring, and Be Trustworthy. A behavioral matrix has been created that provides clear guidelines as to what these SEL competencies and PBIS behaviors look like in various school settings. Focus on these skills is embedded throughout the school day, with opportunities for students to be recognized and acknowledged for demonstrating these competences and behaviors within school.

Student Dress

Children are expected to have clothing and footwear that supports a safe and focused learning environment. Examples of unacceptable dress include, but are not limited to, flip flops on the playground, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, high heels, short shorts or excessively short skirts. Please see the district code of conduct for more specific information.

Electronic Devices

Use of personal electronic devices (cell phones, smart watch, Ipods, Ipads, tablets, etc) are prohibited throughout the day. If a child brings them to school they are to remain off and in their backpack during the duration of the instructional day.

A Message from the Leary PTO

Welcome!

The Leary PTO invites all parents/guardians, teachers, and staff to join our active organization. In addition to attending monthly meetings, other ways in which you may become involved would be volunteering for some of the events that the PTO sponsors, such as:

Read-A-Thon

STEM Night

School Pictures

Yearbook Sale

Transportation Day

Scholastic Book Fair

Monster Bash

Family Literacy Night

Staff Appreciation Day

We encourage you to become involved in your child's education, as well as an active participant in the Leary PTO. With your participation, the activities and programs sponsored will enhance your child's elementary experience.

We look forward to working with you.

Leary PTO

PTO Links

District Page: <https://www.rhnet.org/Page/5989>

Website: <https://www.learypto.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LearyPTA/>

General Inquiries: info@learypto.org



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Dr. Barbara A. Mullen

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