

Frequently Asked Questions About Rockland 2020-2021

How do I sign up to receive emails from the school?

Go to the Rockland website and click on the "Parents" tab. Follow the link to "Email Notifications." You will receive school newsletters and periodic informational email blasts from the school and District 70. Remember to update your email address if it changes!

How am I notified if school has been canceled?

District 70 uses the School Messenger Notification System that will automatically call your home phone number to inform you of any emergencies, such as when school is canceled. You can also check the district website www.d70schools.org.

Is busing provided to and from school?

Busing is provided free of charge to students who live further than 1.5 miles from school or must cross a street that has been identified as hazardous. Students who do not qualify for free busing may purchase busing for the year, payable in advance. The cost for the 2019-2020 school year was \$850.00 for the entire year for both directions, \$425.00 for one-way. (Any price increase for 2020-2021 will be determined in July 2020.)

Is before and after school care available?

"Champions," a separate entity from District 70, offers an after-school program (2:45 – 6pm) on-site at Rockland. You can find more information at www.discoverchampions.com or call 1-800-246-2154.

When should I keep my child home from school?

Daily attendance is encouraged at Rockland for all grade levels. However, students who are ill should be kept home for the day. Students who vomit or run a fever need to be symptom-free (without fever reducing medication) for 24 hours before returning to school. Please call the attendance line directly anytime to report an absence: 847-932-0099. If you need to speak with the school nurse, please call the school's main number: 847-362-3134.

What time should my child arrive at school?

Playground supervision begins each morning at 7:45 AM. Students may enjoy recess until students enter the building at 8:07 AM. Students who arrive later than 8:07 AM should enter through the office doors in the circular drive. A student is considered tardy if they arrive at or after the bell at 8:15 AM. At 8:15 AM we require a parent to escort the student into the office to sign them in.

If you are dropping your student off after 8:15, they are late. Plan to drop your child(ren) off no later than 8:05 AM to get their day started on a good note. Optimally, all students are in the classroom, with coats and backpacks put away, sitting at their desk and beginning their morning work by

8:15 AM. When students are tardy, they miss the very important morning instructions that set them up for success for the rest of the day. And they feel rush and unsettled.

What special occasions are there during the year?

There are two classroom parties that occur during the year at Rockland (Halloween and Valentine's Day). We take a whole school field trip to a children's theater performance in December, thanks to our Rockland Family Association. Different grade levels celebrate their own milestones, which will be explained by your classroom teacher.

How can I participate in my child's classroom?

Volunteerism is valued and encouraged at Rockland. A wide variety of activities will be available such as reading to students, supporting classroom stations, chaperoning field trips or preparing instructional materials at home. More information about volunteer opportunities will be posted in your child's classroom at Curriculum Night.

How do I communicate with my child's teacher?

Parents are welcome and encouraged to communicate with teachers at any time. Teachers are also encouraged to provide ongoing communication and do so through newsletters and personal websites. Email is often the most efficient form of communication and parents can reasonably expect a response within 24 hours. If your message is urgent, you may call the school office at 847-362-3134. Teachers do not have telephones in their rooms.

Are there birthday treats in school?

Due to an increase in the number of food-related allergies in recent years, birthday treats in the form of food have been eliminated. However, you may choose to send in a small goody bag or toy to be passed out to classmates if you would like. Please check with your student's teacher beforehand.

Is there an area where parents are encouraged to park?

Parking is available in Rockland's main lot located at the front of the school. Parking on the circle is permitted for short time periods, but not during morning arrival (7:45 – 8:15) or afternoon dismissal (2:30 – 3:00). **The West lot is a teacher parking lot only (please do not use that lot for drop off or pick up).** Parents are encouraged to park on Rockland Road (outside of the reserved busing area) or on Stewart Avenue. The Plaza strip mall across the street and the physician's offices next door are no parking zones. They will tow. Specific drop off/pick up directions for our parking lot can be found on the website under the "Parents" tab and then "Transportation, drop-off." **Please be on time for pick up. Dismissal is at 2:45 PM.** When exiting the circle drive, you may NOT turn LEFT (east). You may ONLY turn RIGHT (west).

Where do I drop my child off on days when there isn't playground supervision before school (rain or extreme cold)?

Students can go in through the playground doors and wait in the hallway outside their classroom beginning at 7:45 AM. Alternately, you can drop them off in the circle drive at the parking lot and they can enter through the main office doors.

What is the temperature cutoff that determines Indoor Recess?

Please remember to send your students prepared to play outside in the cold weather. Recess will be outside if the temperature is above 10 degrees Fahrenheit and above 0 degrees wind chill. Make sure they wear gear to keep them comfortable while they go out for fresh air and exercise. To play in

the snow, students need their “five points”: hat, gloves, coat, snow pants, and snow boots. If they don’t have their five points, they must stay on the blacktop.

Can my student order a school lunch?

District 70 uses Chartwell’s Food Service to supply lunches daily. There are two choices every day, and you can find a lunch menu on the Rockland website under the Parents tab, then Lunch Info link. Lunches are \$3.00 each and a carton of milk is \$0.35. Students place their lunch order in their classrooms every morning. This is another reason it is important to be on time. Every student has an account that is charged when they purchase a lunch or milk. To activate your child’s account and get the ability to add money using a credit card, go to the Lunch Info link on the website and choose “MySchoolBucks.com”. You will receive your child’s school ID in August to use to create an account (if you lose it, please ask the school secretary). Follow their step-by-step instructions.

Alternately, you can send in a check for their account, made out to Libertyville District 70. If you have more than one student, please clearly mark how much should go into each account. Please keep track of your student’s account and add money as necessary.

Where do I pick up my child?

Kindergarten students exit the front of the school by the flagpole. Students in grades 1-3 exit on to the playground. Students in grades 4-5 exit the front of the school near their classrooms. Many students meet their parents on the playground, while others go to the circle drive to be picked up by parents waiting in their cars (**please do not leave your car unattended during drop off (7:45 – 8:15) or pick up times (2:30 – 3:00)**). We have staff who will assist in the circle drive during drop off and pick up.

It helps to have a predetermined spot so your students know where to meet you. This alleviates confusion or worry. We often have students come to the office asking to call home because they are unsure of where they are going after school. Having a plan ahead of time will benefit everyone. If you need to make an adjustment to your pick-up, please notify the office before noon. We understand that emergencies happen and notifying us prior to noon isn’t always possible. Phone calls at 2:30 PM to change arrangements that are not emergency related are discouraged. We are all preparing for dismissal and it is a very busy time. If you email the teacher regarding a dismissal change, please do this prior to noon and please include the school secretary on your email.

If you have to pick up your student for an appointment during the day, please email your teacher and the school secretary letting them know what time you will be coming in to the office to pick them up. Please also let them know if your student will be returning to school or not.

Many of the Rockland families live within walking distance. There are crossing guards at the corner of Rockland and Stewart and Rockland and Garfield. Our circle drive is full of cars and Rockland Road is backed up because of this. If at all possible, please park on Rockland or Stewart, meet your student on the playground or another location, or just simply have your student walk or ride their bike home.

Snacks and water: Please send a healthy snack to school with your student daily. If their water bottle is forgotten at home, no need to drop it off. There are plenty of drinking fountains in school for them to use.

Lunches: We highly discourage restaurant deliveries for students. We cannot be responsible for lunches that don't get delivered to school. Dropping off a lunch for your student every day is also discouraged. Kids worry that their lunch isn't coming, and oftentimes their lunch doesn't arrive in time for them to eat. Time is very limited: 20 minutes to eat and 20 minutes for recess. If your student is not ordering a school lunch, please pack a lunch to send with them in the morning. The answers to many questions that arise during the school year can be found by visiting our school website. You will find school supply lists, the school calendar, and Rockland Review and Rap. This site is continuously updated and will also link you to teacher emails and emergency closing information.

www.d70schools.org/Rockland

School Day Hours: 8:15-2:45 (Early Release days: 8:15-1:15)

School Office Hours: 7:30-3:30

Important Dates to Remember (*Tentative*)

August 11, 2020

New Family Tour 3-3:30 PM

August 20, 2020

Kindergarten Open House 9:45 – 10:15 AM

First Day of School for Grades 1-5

August 21, 2020

First Full Day of Kindergarten