



Mary K. Ferreri, Principal
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Orchard Elementary
Ridgewood Public Schools

Dear Orchard Parents and Guardians,

August 20, 2018

Hello and happy summer! I hope that you have all enjoyed some family time and the opportunity to unwind a bit. We have had a busy few months here at Orchard School and are looking forward to our first day with students on Wednesday, September 5!

We are gearing up for a fantastic school year here at Orchard School. This summer, the majority of our facility work took place in the multi-purpose room. We can't wait to show off that space at our Back to School Night on September 13! Thanks to our generous partnership with the HSA, the auction proceeds allowed us to revamp that space in conjunction with our budgeted facility summer monies. New lighting, freshly sanded stage flooring, a coat of paint, and a new curtain have all been completed this summer. Mr. Trama and his crew have worked very hard cleaning the classrooms and hallways, and the school is ready for a new school year! In the main office, Mrs. Febish has handled the behind the scenes work of classroom supplies and student registrations. We have registered a few students and are very excited to welcome all of our new friends to Orchard School.

As with any summer, we have some staff changes to announce. For our official start, please join me in welcoming...

- Katherine Fischer Teacher - Grade 4
- Natalie Garvin Title I Teacher

Teaching Assistants: We have some new and some familiar faces. You will learn more in September.

Some reminders for our first day: Our first day of school is a half-day, with a start time of 8:40 and dismissal at 12:45 PM. Lunch does not begin until Thursday, 9/6/18, which is a full day of school (8:40-3:00). Don't forget to [order!](#) On Wednesday, I will host the traditional opening of schools assembly with the students. I look forward to this opportunity to officially start the school year in a positive way. This year, we are renewing our promise to "Choose to Be Nice" and we will make that pledge during the first days of school. We will hold our first CBA on Thursday, September 6.

My office is truly an open door, and I invite you to contact me at any time with questions, concerns, or comments. On behalf of the Orchard School staff, thank you for your commitment to our school and for sharing your children with us. Best wishes for a terrific school year!

Sincerely,

Mary Ferreri, Principal