

# David Harrison Elementary

## Home of the Huskies



Dear David Harrison Families,

The 2024-2025 school year is fast approaching, and I hope you had an amazing summer. I am Amy Fleming, and I am excited to serve as Harrison's building principal this school year. This is my ninth-year with Springfield Public Schools. I began my career teaching third and fifth grade at Williams Elementary, then moved to seventh grade English at Pershing. I have served as assistant principal at McGregor Elementary for the past two years. I am looking forward to getting to know the Harrison community this year.

The Harrison team is preparing and excited to kick-off our year of learning on **Monday, August 19th!** Below you will find important information including an outline of our routines for arrival and dismissal. Also, please be sure to follow our Facebook page, check out our website, and read ***The Husky Headlines*** for timely and more detailed information. From time to time, you will also receive text reminders through the school's online system, so please ensure we have your correct contact information.

Regular school attendance is a cornerstone of success at Harrison Elementary. Harrison students have built a strong reputation across the district for their excellent attendance records, and we're proud to continue this tradition. This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our supportive Harrison Husky families!

We kindly ask for your help in ensuring your child arrives on time and stays for the full school day. When students are late or leave early, they miss crucial announcements, engaging activities, and valuable learning opportunities. Every minute counts in your child's education.

**Rise & Shine announcements will start at 8:00 AM this year, and the tardy bell will ring at 8:10!**

There are going to be lots of great things happening at Harrison this year. As always, it is my honor to be a part of the Harrison community and to work together to provide a supportive learning environment where **ALL** of our students succeed.

Amy Fleming  
David Harrison Elementary Principal  
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(417)523-5800

**Class lists will be posted on August 14th by 10:00 AM** on the front doors. Please be mindful that Harrison staff have worked hard to determine student placements.

**Meet the Teacher is Thursday, August 15th, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM.** Please bring your child's school supplies (supply lists are linked to our website and Facebook page), tour the school, pick up car tags and welcome packets, meet the wonderful Harrison staff, and connect with our PTA!

**Arrival:**

Our doors open to welcome our Huskies at 7:40 AM. Please do not drop students off prior to 7:40 because staff are not available for supervision. Should you need before-school care, please see the information on our partner, SPARC, provided below.

Breakfast will be served from 7:40 to 8:00 AM. Students arriving after 8:10 AM will be tardy and will miss out on breakfast. Learning BEGINS promptly at 8:10, so please support your student(s) by ensuring they are in the building BEFORE our bell rings at 8:10. If you arrive late, you will need to walk your student to the office to check-in.

Huskies begin their day at Harrison with Rise & Shine! During this time, students will connect with their peers, recite the pledge, hear what's being served for lunch, listen to morning announcements, celebrate birthdays, and get ready to focus on their learning. This time is important for our community and a positive way for your child to start their day. **Rise & Shine will begin each morning at 8:00 AM.**

**Dismissal:**

Wonder Years students will begin dismissal at 3:00 PM. Wonder Years teachers will communicate details of dismissal protocols directly to parents.

Dismissal will begin at 3:10 PM. Our bus, van, SPARC, and club kids will be released first. All walk-up and car rider names will be called at approximately 3:13 PM. Walkers and bike-riders will be dismissed after the traffic from our carline has decreased.

**Please Note:**

If you are changing dismissal plans, please make contact with Mrs. Collins by calling 417-523-5800 or emailing [azcollins@spsmail.org](mailto:azcollins@spsmail.org) prior to 2:00 PM so we can ensure those changes have adequate time to be delivered to the classroom teacher and students.

It is helpful to have your official DHE car tag visible. If you arrive without a car tag, plan to park in the lot and walk for pick up at the end of the car line. This is to ensure the safety of our students. **Please be friendly to new staff members as they get to know our families and vehicles.** Our primary purpose is to make sure our Huskies head home safely!

**General Reminders for Arrival and Dismissal:**

We appreciate kindness and respect for staff who are outside supporting students at arrival and dismissal. The number one priority is student safety! There will be crossing guards to assist children/families who need to cross from the parking lot. Please set a positive example by using the crosswalk.

The following guidelines ensure a smooth, safe carline at arrival and dismissal:

1. If you are the first car waiting for morning drop-off, please pull forward (at least) to spot #5.
2. If you are the first car at afternoon pick-up, please pull all the way to #1.
3. Please respond to the direction of staff regarding moving forward in line.
4. If you need to get out of the car to assist your child, please pull into the parking lot to drop your child off.
5. Should you choose to do parent walk-up:
  - a. Utilize cross-walk both coming and going
  - b. Provide your child's name to staff
  - c. Wait outside the cafeteria doors

More information on before and after school partnership with SPARC can be found at <https://www.parkboard.org/773/Before-After-School-Care> or by calling 417-837-5737.

**Breakfast/Lunch Update:**

Breakfast and lunch will again be available for purchase. Please note that home-packed lunches are allowed; however, food from restaurants will not be accepted for drop-off at the office.

We encourage ALL families to complete the Free and Reduced Lunch Application online at <https://www.sps.org/Page/2400> or request a paper application from the office! **DID YOU KNOW** that even if you know you won't qualify, filling out the form provides extra funding and programming for our school? It's true. Every form counts, and we appreciate your support!

Meal Prices for Elementary Students	
Reduced Price Breakfast	.30
Reduced Price Lunch	.40
Full Price Breakfast	\$1.80
Full Price Lunch	\$3.15

Manage your student's nutrition accounts at <https://www.sps.org/Page/2405>

**Volunteer & Visitor Policy:** We will again be welcoming visitors and volunteers this school year. All visitors must sign in to Hall Pass in the office for each visit. If you have never registered for Hall Pass, you will need to bring your ID into the office to get set up. Volunteers will need to be approved by the district. Enrollment and instructions can be found at [www.sps.org/volunteer](http://www.sps.org/volunteer). We encourage families to complete this process early, as it can take several weeks. Parents will not be permitted to walk students to class, but there will be photo opportunities near the front entrance on the first day.

**Cell Phones/Smart Watches:** We honor and recognize that many families no longer have landline phones and rely on cell phones and other cellular devices as their primary means of communication. We want our students to be able to communicate with parents or caregivers at the end of the school day because our families need to know their children are safe at home.

**Students are able to bring cell phones and/or cellular devices to school, but these devices are not to be seen or heard while at school and are not to be used during the school day.** We will allow our students to use a school phone during the day to contact a parent if the teacher gives permission for a phone call home.

Cell phones and/or cellular devices will remain in a backpack all day—with the power turned off. This will prevent distraction for all students, and teachers will not have to worry about them ringing in the middle of class time. Watches may only be used to tell time, and any smart capabilities may not be enabled or accessed.

If a student is found to have a cell phone and/or cellular device out of their backpack during class or if the device rings while in a pocket or a backpack, the student will be asked to turn the device in at the office. A phone call will be made home, and a parent will be notified that the device caused a disruption to the student's day at school. The device will be returned to the student at the end of the day.

If a student allows a cell phone or cellular device to become a distraction for a **second time**, the student will be asked to turn the device into the office, and a parent will be asked to pick it up in person.

If a student allows a cell phone and/or cellular device to become a distraction for a **third time**, the student will be asked to check his or her phone in at the office each day in the morning, and they may check it out again at the end of the day. Their device would remain in the office with the power turned off. The student would not be denied the phone at the end of the day, but it would be the student's responsibility to remember to check the phone out of the office each day that it is brought to school.