



June 8, 2017

Hello All ZQuest Families!

Every year at this time, we seem to get more and more excited for the next school year (not that we want any of us getting older, we just can't wait to see how much our kiddos change from year to year and day to day)! This is going to be, once again, such an exciting year at Zeeland Quest as we add just a few more friends to share the excitement of our learning with, new faces, fun projects, and many great experiences being planned!

As a reminder, we will be doing school at Adams Elementary during the month of August while our wing's construction is finished up.

Staffing

Grade Levels	Teacher	Teacher	Student Teachers	Intervention Team (all levels)	Special Education (all grade levels)	Spanish (all grade levels)
K-8	Director	Mrs. Leslie Rindfliesch lrindfli@zps.org		Mrs. Karen Hooker khooker@zps.org Interventionist TBD		
Kinder	Mr. Zach Adams zadams@zps.org				Mrs. Courtney Pyle cpyle@zps.org (K-8)	Mrs. Jen Frego jfrego@zps.org
1st & 2nd Grade	Mrs. Amy Funk afunk@zps.org	Mrs. Shannon Foerch sfoerch@zps.org	Miss Caitlin Maas (fall)			
3rd & 4th Grade	Mrs. Kim Villanueva kvillanu@zps.org	Mrs. Lindsey Droppers ldropper@zps.org				
5th & 6th Grade	Miss Liz Hampton ehampton@zps.org	Mrs. Amy Bultena abultena@zps.org				
7th & 8th Grade	Miss Marcy Blowers mblowers@zps.org		Miss Maddie Aurriema (fall)			

Calendar: The 2017-2018 calendar is attached to this email! Please print it and keep it for safe viewing. Just a reminder that the calendar was updated, so reprint! It also available on our ZQuest website (www.zquest.org)!

Class List: Class lists are attached. We did our absolute best to accommodate requests, however with a small school, co-teaching and the amount of movement in flexible groups that we do, along with inclusion within special education, it was really impossible to grant every request. Please know that EVERY teacher at ZQuest is here to help your child be successful!

School Supply List: Along with class lists comes school supplies! Attached is the 17-18 School Supplies List for all grades.

If you are unable to financially fit all of the supplies into your budget, please directly email your child's teacher. We will have extras on hand for these circumstances:-)

NOTE: Please do not send school supplies with your child on August 7. We will wait to have new school supplies sent until September 5 when we move into our newly renovated space! Teachers have a plan to keep some of the things that your kids have already at the end of June, which we will work with until the end of August! Feel free to pick these items up at your leisure up to September!

Parents' Guide to Your Child's Learning/Open House to see our new space after construction: This year we will have things a little backwards due to our construction, so please be patient and understanding as we finish up this process! We will hold our yearly informational parent night that is specifically designed for you to hear and learn all about how your child's classroom is structured, curriculum used, how you can help them with homework (what homework will consist of), you will get the ins and outs of how the teachers will use online platforms for distributing information, grades, homework, notes from class, lessons, etc.. You will see how the content areas are structured by learning how your child will learn, how you can best help them at home, and how we will facilitate their learning so they will grow as independent learners and leaders. This will also be a night for a quick overview of the concepts your child will be working on during the school year. In addition to the academic views, you will also have a chance to visit the computer lab to complete your yearly background check as well as fill out an online lunch application (to qualify for free or reduced lunch, which in turn helps our school receive funding through the state and federal government).

Because this evening is meant to be informational and for you to ask questions as you are walked through the different aspects of your child's grade level, we are asking that you make it a **PRIORITY to attend**. In addition, who doesn't want to see the newly renovated space (it is going to be beautiful and offer so many great flexible spaces for our teachers to really dig into those collaborative PBL's, allow kids to move from group to group without too much distraction, give us the space to be all in the same area as an entire school, and so much more!).

All **5th-8th grade** students are required to attend with their parents. It's important that they hear about the learning style and expectations that they will need to meet while learning. It's so important for our kids and parents to have the same knowledge about expectations in order to help each other through the year.

If your child is **K-4**, we will let you make the decision on whether or not they attend. Because of the newly renovated space, I'm sure they will want to come along and show you all of the new improvements that were made, however feel free to come without kids if you feel that they won't be able to hold their attention for the 45 minute (or more depending on how many sessions you have to attend) presentation.

September 12, 2017 between 5:30pm-7:30pm
(Schedule will be announced when it gets closer)

August 2017: Many of you already know the routine for our days in August, however with new friends joining us a reminder is always helpful!

First Day of School: Monday, August 7, 2016 (8:30am-2:00pm)

Drop Off/Pick Up TEMPORARILY at Adams Elementary August 7-August 24

Drop off in August, please plan on pulling up and dropping your kiddos off at the main entrance of Adams Elementary at 8:20am-8:30am. Kids will enter the MAIN ENTRANCE. If they arrive at school after 8:35am, you will need to sign them in in the office.

For pick up in August, please use the parking lot to park your vehicle and walk up to the main entrance. Students will be brought out to parents by teachers at 2pm.

School Hours during August 2017 and June 2018:

Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am-2:00 pm, no school on Fridays!

*Please do not drop off earlier than 8:20 am. Kids must remain outside at the main door until a teacher arrives to let them in.

*Please do your very best to be prompt when picking your kids up from school each day as well. We want to respect our teachers' quality planning time! The end of the day is 2:00pm

*Lunch times will be staggered beginning at approximately 11:30am.

FIRST Day of School on August 7:

Remember: we will be starting our year at Adams Elementary School! Things will be a little different as we are not in our building, but we know that this is temporary!

Parents are welcome to walk kids to their classrooms, find lockers, get school supplies into classrooms (teachers will guide students in getting things where they need to be throughout the day). Please remember to take those **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL PICTURES!** We ask that by 9:00am, parents say your "see you later" and head out to start your day so that your kiddos can start their day with their teachers and friends! You are more than welcome to come for lunch any day (a lunch schedule will be sent prior to school starting in August, along with more reminders--new families, you will quickly get used to all of my reminders!!).

Camps, vacations, etc.: We value family time during the summer, however we value education as well. Many of you have chosen ZQuest because of that educational value and the balanced calendar, which includes frequent, more spaced out breaks throughout the entire school year! We jump right into the curriculum in order to get the biggest bang for our time. Because of our balanced calendar, there are many different weeks that vacations can be scheduled while ZQuest is on break. We understand that it's not always possible with work schedules to match up parent vacations with school vacations, however we are asking that you try your best. It is extremely important that you schedule vacations during our break weeks when possible in order to allow your child to optimize their learning experiences each day.

We understand that there are usually many camps offered during the month of June and in some cases August. We want your kids to be able to participate in those that interest them, however we also need them to be in school. If there is a camp that they are wanting to be involved in, please feel free to register them, however understand that what they miss all must be made up. If the camp is a half day, your child is asked to return to school for the remainder of the day. This is to keep our classes rolling as usual! Another important reminder is to make sure that you are communicating with your child's teacher about these types of events. It

will help them to make sure they keep things aside to give them prior to leaving for the day. Thank you for your support in your child's education!

Illness or appointments: If your child get sick in August, you are still asked to call the attendance line at school (616-748-3060). You simply leave a message regarding the reason for being out. If you need to bring your child to school late or pick them up early, you must sign them in or out in the office (it will be open during our school hours). **Please note** that the phone number is still our attendance number even though we are at Adams Elementary. We are able to temporarily reassign our number to the phones at Adams!

Lunches/Transportation: There are NO lunch or transportation services during the months of August or June. Parents are asked to pack a lunch and snack each day for your child, as well as transport them to and from school. Many times there are other parents looking for a carpooling plan. If you need to be connected with someone or are interested in setting this type of thing up, please let Leslie know and she will help you out!

Communication: All ZQuest staff, including administration, tries extremely hard to make sure that there is a large amount of communication.

BLOG: You will receive weekly BLOG updates from Leslie Rindfliesch, Director, along with the occasional mid-week email update that may come up unexpectedly, along with classroom emails from your teachers! A weekly email will come directly to your email letting you know that the blog has been updated, along with a link to direct you to it right away.

ZQ Parent Website: We also have a parent hub for information! This website is run by parents and is full of information that you may need throughout the entire year. In addition, my weekly BLOG is linked in the website to make it easy for you to find!

<http://www.zquestparents.com/>

Facebook: In addition, we have a ZQuest Parent Facebook page. This is monitored by Leslie, but is a great place to get extra reminders and updates. Please do not count on the facebook page to be your only communication tool; most information goes out in the blog, individual emails or in some cases by paper in your kiddos' backpacks.

If you think you may have missed something, please feel free to email Leslie or your child's teacher to ask! We will gladly make sure you have what you need! If you do not have access to email, PLEASE make sure that you let your child's teacher and Leslie know so that we can make sure you receive communication in other ways. If you don't really do email regularly, please try to make a habit of at least once a day so that you don't miss important ZQuest updates!

Middle School Schedules: Middle School Schedules (6th grade music electives and grades 7th-8th) will be given to kids in August. There will be a Creekside Open House that you can attend as well prior to the traditional year and our 6-8 graders beginning their electives next door! In addition, our 5th-8th grade teachers will plan a time prior to September where 6th grade students who will be taking a music course at Creekside, will go for a quick visit next door to search for their music classes as well.

Safety: The safety of all of the kids is our number one priority. During the summer hours there will be someone in the office during our school day. If you need to come for any reason, you MUST at all times have a sticker from the volunteer computer that permits you into the building. You may NOT just come down (this includes just dropping your child off to their classroom). We really enjoy our parents being so involved in our classrooms, but we also have to follow the safety procedures that are put in place district wide. PLEASE be sure to enter the office, sign in using the volunteer computer system, put your name identification on your shirt (clearly visible) and then you can head down. If you do not have your identification clearly visible you will be

stopped and asked to return to the office. Remember, this is not to make it hard for you, as the parent, to help in the classroom or visit/drop your child off, but to keep all of the kids in the building safe!

Volunteering: Be prepared to **re-submit** or **submit** your information for a background check by going to the following website: <https://v2ms.zps.org/Login.aspx>.

You will then be asked to re-submit your fingerprints and information through our volunteer computer. If you do not have a visible green name tag on your clothes, you will be stopped and asked to return to the office. If your name tag is yellow, it indicates that your background check has not been fulfilled yet and you will be asked to return to the office. If your name tag is red, you are NOT permitted into the building at all (but please know that if you receive a letter in the mail from our Volunteer and Background Coordinator, you may appeal your denial through a letter format, and that is good for the remainder of your children's schooling in Zeeland). This is for the safety of all of our kids. We are not trying to make entrance difficult, however it is our number one priority to make sure that all of our students are safe from the time they enter our building until they leave our building. We do everything in our power to make sure their education is the best!



Zeeland Quest

LEARNING WITHOUT LIMITS

T-SHIRT ORDER

ALL ORDERS DUE Wednesday, June 28

We will be ordering FIELD TRIP shirts for the 17-18 year. This will be a yearly order so that all new kids will have a field trip shirt. We will once again have this specific color and design be in available for order this year and the 18/19 year in order to allow kids to wear their existing shirt multiple years and pass it down to younger siblings/relatives, however if you choose to order a new shirt each year, you may to do so! The cost for shirts is \$9.00. If parents would like to order a field trip shirt as well, please include \$9.00 and put your information in the chart below.

☐ I have included my child's/children's \$9 FIELD TRIP shirt fee.

Child Sizes: Small-XLarge

Parent Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL
(anything over XL, please add \$2)

T-shirt Size								Child's/Parent's Name
Child	S	M	L	XL				
Adult	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	
Child	S	M	L	XL				
Adult	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	
Child	S	M	L	XL				
Adult	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	
Child	S	M	L	XL				
Adult	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	

Total Cost of shirt order: \$_____ Payment: Check# _____ or Cash

Checks made out to Zeeland Quest

See next page for image of front and back of 17/18 t-shirts



