

MILLER AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Shoreham-Wading River Central School District
Claudia Smith, Principal
(631) 821-8231

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We would like to welcome you and your child(ren) to a new school year at Miller Avenue School. The information outlined below describes procedures and regulations that will assist you as we begin the school year.

First Day of School: Wednesday, September 4, 2019
School Hours: 8:50-2:50 - Students should not arrive prior to 8:40 since there is no supervision.

BUS TRANSPORTATION: All students should take the bus to and from school.

- If your child needs to take a different bus from school, *a written signed note from a parent/guardian is required.* Please note, both the sending and receiving parent will need to send a note. Please use the form found on the link "Changing Bus Stops" at swrschools.org/schools/miller_avenue. The note should be addressed to the classroom teacher and given to the teacher at the beginning of the day. Please do not call during the school day with bus changes.
- If you have questions about bus routes, please call *First Student Bus Company at 744-2204.*
- Bicycles/Walkers – If your child is riding his/her bike or walking home from school, a note is required for each day they are biking or walking home from school.

SCHOOL BUS BEHAVIOR

Safe behavior and good citizenship are required of all students at all times. *Please review the following rules with your children.*

- Remain seated at all times.
- Keep hands, objects, and feet to yourself.
- Use an inside voice.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

Please pay careful attention to the traffic patterns when visiting Miller Avenue. The driveways and parking lot are very busy during arrival and dismissal.

In order to facilitate a safe and smooth arrival, students are strongly encouraged to take the bus to and from school. Should a situation arise that you need to drop off or pick up your child, please follow the guidelines below:

DROP-OFF ZONE – Kiss & Drop

- Students cannot be dropped off before 8:40 AM, as there is no supervision. Kiss & Drop is available from 8:40-8:50 only. After 8:50 you must sign your child in at the front desk.
- Once in the drop off lane, please pull up until directed by a staff member to stop.
- Do not get out of your car.
- Children must exit from the passenger side directly onto the sidewalk.

Please note: If you would like to assist your child in getting out of the car, *do not enter the drop off lane.* Please park in the parking lot and walk your child at the designated cross walks to the entrance of the building.

DISMISSAL/PICK-UP

- Parents picking up children can do so by parking and walking to the Main Entrance.
- If you need to pick up your child, please sign him/her out with the front desk monitor. Be prepared to show photo ID at this time. Anyone sent to the school to pick up your child will also be required to present photo ID and must be listed on yellow card.

VISITORS

- To ensure safety, all visitors must check in with the front desk monitor or Main Office staff upon entering the school. Photo ID is required of all visitors to the school.
- Items dropped off for students will be kept at the front desk until the teacher has the opportunity to send your child to pick it up to minimize distraction during instructional time.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

- Please call the school nurse at 821-8234 (before 9:45 a.m.) to report if your child is going to be absent from school.
- N.Y. State law also requires that the school receive a written note regarding the absence or tardiness. Please send a note to the teacher the day your child returns to school. Call and speak to the nurse about any serious health situations.
- N.Y. State Education law requires daily attendance at school, therefore, please make every effort to plan family vacations during school vacation periods so academic work is not missed.

PARENT AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

- Please complete and return the blue **Emergency Contact Card** (one for each child) and yellow **Dismissal Card** (one for each household) by the first day of school. You will be receiving the cards in them mail.
- If any contact numbers change throughout the school year, please notify us immediately.

LUNCH/RECESS

During the lunch period all students eat in their classrooms. They are supervised by monitors in the classrooms and out on the playground. Information regarding the purchase of milk and lunch will be sent home separately.

The school cannot accept foods from outside establishments (restaurants & delicatessens) to be delivered to the school. Parents can purchase foods and deliver it to the school themselves. All food that is dropped off to students must be given directly to the students as per Board of Education policy.

HEALTH/WELLNESS

- Children are permitted to bring additional food for snack. It is recommended that healthy, rather than sweet or salty snacks and/or drinks, are brought to school.
- If you are planning on recognizing your child's birthday, please do so with a non-food item (e.g., pencils, stickers, bookmarks, a special book). Thank you in advance for helping promote student wellness.
- We are a Food Allergy Aware school. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the nurse, Lee Steimel at (631)821-8234.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES/TOYS

- Please be sure that students do not bring any electronic devices, cell phones or toys to school. **They are not permitted at any time.**
- Rolling backpacks, skate shoes, and flip flops are not permitted in school, as they pose a safety hazard.

OPEN HOUSE

Open House will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2019. We look forward to seeing you there!

6:30 – 7:00 – Miller Avenue Orientation

7:00 – 7:30 – Classroom Visits

7:30 – 8:00 – Special Area Visits

MILLER AVENUE PTO

The first PTO meeting is **Monday, September 25th at 6:30 p.m. in the All Purpose Room.** Please join us! Childcare provided!

SUPPLIES

Students are not expected to bring in all of their supplies on the first day of school. Please send your child to school with a few supplies each day, so that their backpacks are not too heavy.

Changing Bus Stops

While we believe it is generally best for children to go home on their own bus, from time to time children will get off at a different bus stop or take a different bus home. When this occurs, the following procedure has been put in place:

In order for a child to change their regular routine, we must have a sending and receiving form completed. Please complete the appropriate form twice and send the entire sheet to your child's teacher. One half will be given to the bus driver, the other half will be kept in the office. This is for the safety of all students and to eliminate any last minute confusion.

PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL FORMS:

http://swrschools.org/schools/bus_stops_ma

IMPORTANT: IF YOU ARE SENDING YOUR CHILD TO SOMEONE ELSE'S BUS STOP, PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT BOTH TOP & BOTTOM OF FORM.

SENDING – **SUBMIT TO TEACHER** (For MA Office)

Date: _____

Dear _____,
(Child's teacher)

My child, _____, has permission to go
(Please print)

home on afternoon Bus _____ with _____
(Letter) (Friend's name)

and be released to _____.
(Name of adult)

If you need to reach me, please call _____.
(Best number to reach me today)

(Printed name)

(Parent/Guardian signature)

SENDING – **SUBMIT TO TEACHER** (For Bus Driver)

Date: _____

Dear _____,
(Child's teacher)

My child, _____, has permission to go
(Please print)

home on afternoon Bus _____ with _____
(Letter) (Friend's name)

and be released to _____.
(Name of adult)

If you need to reach me, please call _____.
(Best number to reach me today)

(Printed name)

(Parent/Guardian signature)

**IMPORTANT: IF YOU ARE RECEIVING A CHILD AT YOUR
BUS STOP, PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT
BOTH TOP & BOTTOM OF FORM.**

RECEIVING - **SUBMIT TO TEACHER** (For MA Office)

Date: _____

Dear _____,
(Child's teacher)

Another student, _____, has permission
(Friend's name)

to come to my home today with my child, _____
(My child's name)

on the afternoon Bus _____. If you need to reach me, please
(Letter)

call _____.
(Best number to reach me today)

(Printed name)

(Signature)

RECEIVING - **SUBMIT TO TEACHER** (For Bus Driver)

Date: _____

Dear _____,
(Child's teacher)

Another student, _____, has permission
(Friend's name)

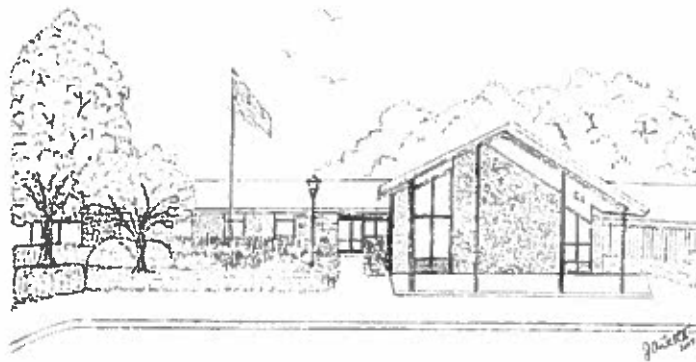
to come to my home today with my child, _____
(My child's name)

on the afternoon Bus _____. If you need to reach me, please
(Letter)

call _____.
(Best number to reach me today)

(Printed name)

(Signature)



MILLER AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Shoreham-Wading River Central School District
The Future Begins Here
Claudia Smith, Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are a “Food Allergy Aware School” meaning that every staff member is trained on how to recognize and respond to emergencies such as food allergies and all classrooms have procedures in place to ensure the safety of our students.

As many as 15 million Americans have food allergies, including an approximately 6 million children. Food allergies can be potentially fatal, and there is no cure. The only way to avoid a reaction is to avoid the offending food.

Throughout the school, children are not restricted in bringing in certain food items, but they are not permitted to share food with anyone. Also, children are encouraged to wash their hands before and after eating. Encouraging these healthy routines benefits both those children with and without allergies. Please instruct your child to not share food with other classmates unless a teacher gives approval to do so and encourage your child to follow all the appropriate procedures (e.g., clean hands before and after eating). Your understanding and assistance are essential and will help translate into an even more successful and positive classroom atmosphere for all.

To learn more about food allergies, please feel free to contact our school nurse, Mrs. Lee Steimel, the classroom teacher, or visit the Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE) network’s website, www.foodallergy.org.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. I look forward to a safe and wonderful school year.

Sincerely,

Claudia Smith

Food Allergy Basics

Food allergies aren't choosy

They don't affect only people with a certain color hair, people who live in certain place or people who are a certain age.

Children just like yours have food allergies. And need your help.

Most food -allergic reactions in children and teens happen when they are with their friends.

That's where you come in- by learning about food allergies, you can help allergic individuals avoid risks.

Sometimes people don't mention their food allergies to friends and adults because they are afraid of being teased.

Allergic reactions can span a wide range of symptoms. The most severe and potentially threatening reaction is *anaphylaxis*. Protocols have been developed to be used for students who are diagnosed at risk of *anaphylaxis*.

The **SWR-CSD** cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment for all its students with severe allergies. The goal is to minimize the risk of exposure!

250B Route 25 A
Shoreham, NY 11786
Phone: 631.821.8100
Fax: 631.929.3001

SHOREHAM-WADING RIVER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



**PROTECT A LIFE
(PAL)
Food Allergies.**

Phone: 631.821.8100

Food Allergy Basics

What is a food allergy?

A food allergy involves an interaction between a food and the immune system. Although a food, such as soy, is harmless to most people, a person's immune system with food allergies misinterprets the protein in the foods as being harmful and creates antibodies to fight off that food. Each time the allergic person eats that food, the body's immune system launches an attack by releasing histamine and other powerful chemicals. The release of these chemicals causes the symptoms of an allergic reaction.

What is the difference between food allergy and food intolerance?

Many people think that food allergy and food intolerance mean the same thing, but they do not. A food intolerance is an adverse food-induced reaction that does not involve the immune system. Lactose intolerance is one example of food intolerance. A person with lactose intolerance lacks an enzyme that is needed to digest milk sugar. When the person digests milk products, symptoms such as gas, bloating, and abdominal pain may occur. With a food allergy, the immune system identifies a food as being an enemy, and when the allergic person eats that food, the immune system tries to "fight off" the enemy. Symptoms can range from mild to severe.

What foods cause most allergic reactions?

Six foods account for 90 percent of the allergic reactions in children—milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts (such as walnuts, pecans, almonds, and cashews), soy, and

What is anaphylaxis?

Anaphylaxis is a sudden, severe allergic reaction that involves various areas of the body simultaneously. In extreme cases, it can cause death. Some people call this type of reaction a general reaction or allergic shock.

How does someone avoid having a reaction?

Since there is no cure or preventative medication available for food allergy, avoidance of the food in question is the only way for someone with food allergies to avoid having a reaction. People with food allergies must learn the scientific and technical names for foods, read the ingredient statements on every food they eat, and avoid products that contain the offending food. Most people who have experienced food-allergic reactions, do not get the reaction from the food itself because the food itself does not contain the allergen. Cross-contact occurs when the proteins from various foods mix. Oftentimes this happens during the cooking process (for example, when a cookie sheet used to bake nut-containing cookies is then used to bake nut-free cookies without being cleaned with soap and water).

What is it like to have a food-allergic reaction?

Some reactions are mild, and only result in hives or gastrointestinal problems (such as cramping, diarrhea, and vomiting). Other reactions are very serious, and can be life-threatening. Regardless of the level of a reaction, however, it is always scary.

Some kids get embarrassed when they realize they are having a reaction. They try to quietly take care of the situation, or hope that by ignoring it, their reaction will just go away. Others feel themselves getting sick and go to the bathroom alone, trying not to make a scene. This is very dangerous, because if the reaction progresses more quickly than expected, the allergic person could lose consciousness and be unable to help herself.

If you think a friend might be having a reaction, it's important to act quickly. Don't wait to see if the reaction will worsen. If your friend has a history of severe reactions, get help immediately (for example, call 911).