

# Robert P.T. Coffin Elementary School



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Week of July 1, 2019

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Greetings from Coffin School & happy summer! We are on the forefront of another exciting, fun-filled school year. My name is Eric Funderburk, your child's grade 1 & 2 multi-age teacher for the upcoming school year. I want to welcome back our nine returning 2<sup>nd</sup> grade families and students. Welcome also to our new students who are entering first grade. If anyone was in Mrs. Lemont's, Mrs. Lucas', or Mrs. Plante's class, then your child came into our classroom to buddy read late last school year!

This will be my 9<sup>th</sup> year as a classroom teacher. I am starting my eighth year here at Coffin School. It's an absolute joy and privilege spending my time here. If your child is entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade, then we will transition together for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to the new Kate Furbish Elementary School next school year in 2020. This will be my 4<sup>th</sup> year teaching multi-age. I have also taught first grade here at Coffin School & in the Lewiston School district. For first grade families unfamiliar with multi-age, I would be happy to schedule a time to share more about multi-age later in the summer.

I'm sure new families and returning families may have some questions about the new school year so we'll start with **important dates** and **our class website** to get us started:

1. **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Gathering – Thursday August 15 from 6:00 – 6:30PM @ Nathaniel Davis Park** (next to Tess' Market on Pleasant St) – This is the location and evening of Movies in the Park (feat. *The Lego Movie 2: The Second Part*), so everyone, including 1<sup>st</sup> graders, is welcome to drop by and say hello. This is an extra special opportunity for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders to reconnect with classmates, to update 2<sup>nd</sup> graders on any changes that might occur in the new school year, and to remind 2<sup>nd</sup> graders of the expectations and job they have to be role models for our incoming 1<sup>st</sup> graders. RSVP by e-mail if you can make it.
2. **Drop in Evening – Thursday August 29 from 4:30-5:30 PM in Room 18** – All children are invited to stop by anytime between 4:30-5:30, to say "hello", see your new classroom, & to meet some new classmates
3. **First Day of School is Tuesday September 3, 2019 (full day)** for all incoming first and second graders
4. **School-wide Open House Wednesday September 25 – 6 – 7 PM** - This is a family night when children take ownership of sharing their classrooms with their families. All family members are welcome!
5. **More Information About This Year**
  - Our class website ([www.brunswick.k12.me.us/efunderburk](http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/efunderburk)) is the best way to get more information about the multi-age format, schedule, science and social studies content, links, newsletters, etc. While the website site is under construction for the new school year, check back frequently, as it will be updated soon. I will update what our schedule will look like later in August.
  - For first grade families who would like more information about multi-age programming please contact me at [efunderburk@brunswick.k12.me.us](mailto:efunderburk@brunswick.k12.me.us) I'm happy to schedule a time to share more!
  - **About Your Child:** First grade families: I'd like to learn a little bit about your child. When you have a chance, please go to <https://forms.gle/q7kFdtsqpYgZ2Dsb9> (or click [HERE](#)) to fill out an About Your Child survey (2<sup>nd</sup> grade families may fill it out again as well). *I'm the only one who sees this information.*

(See other side for Class Supply List)



**Lastly, here is a list of our needs for classroom supplies.** Optional items are at the bottom of the list. Don't feel pressured to supply all of the optional items. If most families were able to choose 1 or 2 items on the optional list, we'd be set. Keep in mind that I try to have a few extras of all of these, so if you are having trouble finding something, no worries. We'll have your child covered:

**For All To Bring :**

- 3-5 sturdy binder pockets 3 hole punched (we will have 3 ring binders where these will be placed)
- Two 3 hole punched folders (to be placed in binders)
- 1 pack of crayons
- 2 to 4 twelve ct-packs of no. 2 pencils
- 1 hard case plastic pencil boxes- to hold pencils, crayons, scissors, etc.
- 1 four pack (or more) of thin dry erase markers – any color for student use (Expo is a good brand)
- 1 box of tissues for the classroom
- Any number of packs of eraser caps (these always seem to go fast through the year)
- 1 black/white wide lined composition book (2<sup>nd</sup> graders only)

**Optional Items (if you are able to pick up one or more of these items, great!):**

- 1 box of gallon sized **or** quart-sized zip lock bags
- 1 pack of colored pencils
- Clear sheet protectors (8 ½ x 11) – *not exclusively for 3 hole punched sheets only, but also for any non-hole punched paper*
- 1 bag of clothes pins – large or small
- A spool of ribbon (any color or look)
- 1 package of multi-colored sharpies or thick dry erase markers
- Hearty nut-free snacks to start our year (i.e. applesauce packs, Veggie sticks, pretzels, raisins.)
- Pack of paper bowls or paper cups (for various projects)
- Plastic spoons and forks
- 50-100 piece puzzles (we have a puzzle table)

I am looking forward to reuniting with our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and getting to know our equipped & energized incoming first graders. Our incredible journey is just around the corner. I urge you to check out our classroom website ([www.brunswick.k12.me.us/efunderburk](http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/efunderburk)) and to fill out the About Your Child survey mentioned earlier. If you can, please stop by during "Family Drop In" on Thursday evening, August 29 between 4:30-5:30 and/or look for me on August 15<sup>th</sup> at Davis Park. I feel honored to have the opportunity to collaborate with you and your child on their new school year pursuit. See you soon!

Sincerely,

Eric Funderburk

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