



BACK TO SCHOOL

2021-2022

Superintendent's Welcome

Dear ECASD Families:

We are incredibly excited to begin the 2021-22 school year in ECASD! This past year was certainly full of challenges, but it was inspiring to see how everyone came together to support one another and keep the learning process moving forward.



Our custodians and building services staff have been working hard this summer to get our schools ready for our 11,000-plus students to walk through the doors on September 1. Thanks to their efforts, our classrooms and facilities will be at their best for the beginning of the school year.

ECASD staff took time this summer to attend professional development sessions including work on equity, diversity, and inclusion; participation in SMART workshops (Stimulating Maturity Through Accelerated Readiness Training); curriculum, standards, and data analysis; and master camps on Canvas, among many other opportunities.

Over 6,400 students participated in summer programs this year and it was wonderful to see them so engaged in such a wide variety of activities.

Thank you for your engagement, your feedback, and your commitment as we strive to inspire a new generation of students this year. Enjoy the rest of your summer and see you in September!

Sincerely,
Mike Johnson
Superintendent

**ECASD's Mission is to
inspire and prepare our students to live creative,
fulfilling, and responsible lives.**



Annual Notices

Annual Notices are provided on the District's website (www.ecasd.us) on individual department webpages, in this newsletter, and the Family Handbook. Please read the information carefully and contact your building principal with questions.

Directory Information

Please visit www.ecasd.us to find a staff directory and building contact information. Call 715-852-3000 for directory assistance.

We Are Here To Help

Por favor consultar con uno de los BEA's (ayudantes bilinües) de su escuela para ayuda en leer este folleto.

Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov ntawv no los yog tsis totaub thiab xav paub ntau tshaj no, koj hu rau peb cov txhais lus nyob tom koj tus menyuam lub tsev kawm ntawv lawv mam pab txhais rau koj.

Eau Claire Area School District
500 Main St., Eau Claire, WI 54701
715-852-3000
www.ecasd.us

2021-2022 School Calendar

School begins for Grades K-9 on **September 1, 2021** and ends on **June 2, 2022**. All elementary schools will have a “**Back to School Day**” for parents and students on September 1. Students in **grades 10-12** begin on **September 2, 2021**, and end on **June 2, 2022**. Students in the **Early Learning Program** begin on **September 7, 2021** and end on **May 31, 2022**. Principals will be providing specific information on opening day activities.

All schools are closed on the following dates:
October 14-15, November 22-26, December 23-January 1, January 17-18, February 24-25, March 21-25, April 15-18, and May 30.

Family-Teacher Conferences are on October 14 and February 24. To view the entire 2021-22 school calendar, please click on the link on the front page of the District's website (www.ecasd.us).

Family Access

Family Access is a real-time, secure Internet-based website that will allow you to view your student's information. Different information is available for different grade levels.

Family Access will help you stay informed about your student's progress. Your school and the District also use Family Access as a communication tool to create a stronger relationship between parents and our school community.

To obtain your username and password, you can click on the SKYWARD link on our website (www.ecasd.us) and choose "Forgot Login/Password." If your account has an email associated with it, you will receive an email with your login information. If you do not have an email address associated with your account, please contact your school. You can also contact the Enrollment Office for assistance at (715) 852-3063.

Assessment

The Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) is a comprehensive statewide program designed to provide information about what students know in core academic areas and whether they can apply what they know. Students in the state of Wisconsin take the following assessments:

- **Wisconsin Forward Exam** at grades 3-8 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics; at grades 4 and 8 in Science; and at grades 4, 8, and 10 in Social Studies
- **Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)** at grades 3-11 in ELA and Mathematics; at grades 4 and 8-11 in Science; and at grades 4, 8, and 10 in Social Studies
- **ACT Aspire** at grades 9 & 10

Enrollment Office



If you are new to the area or are moving within the District, you will need to complete an enrollment application. Please visit www.ecasd.us/Enrollment for instructions.

If your question is not answered on the Enrollment website, you can contact the Enrollment Office directly via email (enrollment@ecasd.us) or by phone 715-852-3063. We are encouraging all families to complete the process virtually, but if you need to physically visit the Enrollment Office, please call or email to schedule an appointment.

Early Learning

The mission of the ECASD Early Learning Program is to support development and ensure learning that will positively impact children, families, and our community now and in the future. Our program is located at Prairie Ridge Early Learning School and in 1 Eau Claire 4 Tomorrow (EC4T) community partner sites. The ECASD Early Learning Program provides curriculum through child interest studies, Building Blocks (math curriculum), Handwriting without Tears, and Conscious Discipline (social emotional curriculum). To register for our program, please call 715-852-3600 or go to the ECASD website, click on enrollment, and look for the green circle to apply online. Early Learning classes begin on September 7!

Assessment	Assessment Window
ACT with Writing	March 8
Dynamic Learning Maps	March 28-April 29
Forward Exam	March 28-April 29
ACT Aspire	April 4-May 4

Emergency Weather Information

The Superintendent or Designee of the ECASD, in consultation with Student Transit, makes decisions about when to close school due to inclement weather or to use a two-hour delay in school start times when inclement weather requires additional time to promote safer travel to school. Closing decisions are typically made by 6:30 a.m. As we know, weather conditions can change rapidly. In the event that a two-hour delay must be reconsidered, the decision to close schools for the full day will be made no later than 8 a.m. The same process will be used if bad weather or a peak energy alert develops after school has started for the day. If the schools are closed because of bad weather, athletic, after-school, and evening events may also be canceled.

Announcements of delay or closing decisions are made by local television and radio stations, on the District's website, via the District's Facebook and Twitter accounts, via Skylert messaging, and by email for those parents/guardians who have provided email addresses.

When a TWO-HOUR DELAY is announced, the following changes will be made to the school day:

- Busses will run two hours after their normal schedule.
- Buildings will begin classes two hours after the normal start time.
- Cold breakfast will be served at all schools and school lunch will be at or around the normal time.
- Prairie Ridge Early Learning School and EC4T community sites will be closed for the day.



Skylert stay informed/stay connected

The Eau Claire Area School District uses the Skylert system to communicate with families about emergency situations and weather-related delays/cancellations. To sign up for Skylert text messages, follow these steps:

1. Log in to your Skyward account and click on the **Skylert** option listed on the left side.
2. Click on all notification options (School Hours Emergency, Attendance, General...) you would like to receive under My Skyward Contact Info AND the Additional Contact Info areas. School Hours Emergency, Attendance and Non-School Hours Emergency are required categories; you will not be able to uncheck them.
3. Add additional phone and or email addresses in the Additional Contact Info area.
4. To receive text messages, add all cell phone numbers in the **Text Message Numbers** section at the bottom of the screen. (Check with carrier for possible charges.)
5. Be sure to click the **Save** button before you exit.

Student Health Information

In order to update the school's Critical Health List, parents/guardians are asked to provide current health information regarding their child. The health forms listed here may be obtained from your child's school or on the District's website (www.ecasd.us). Applicable forms must be completed and returned to your child's school.



Student Information Form

List life threatening health problems or serious medical conditions.

Child/Student Specialized Health Care Procedure Management

List medical conditions which require special health care procedures by or under the direction of a health care professional.

Child/Student Medication Management

To be completed if your child takes prescription or over-the-counter medications at school.

Physician Order for Diet Modification

To be completed if your child requires a modified diet prescribed by their physician.

Notify Student Transit

If your child has critical health needs and will be riding the school bus, you must inform Student Transit of the health needs by calling 715-839-5116.

ECASD School Meals

The National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs are available at all schools in the District. Meals served under these programs must meet the guidelines set forth under the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 to receive federal and state reimbursement. If your family income falls below the Federal Eligibility Income Chart, the ECASD strongly encourages you to complete the free/reduced price school meal family application. In addition to the benefit for your family, the District receives money for many programs based on the number of students eligible for free or reduced price meals.



If you have received a Direct Certification Notification Letter stating that your student(s) is eligible for FREE meals for this school year, you do not need to complete an application for the student(s). However, check to be sure that you have received a letter at the same benefit level (free or reduced-price meal eligibility) for the 2021-22 school year for each student in your household. If you did not receive a Direct Certification Notification Letter for every student in your household at the same benefit level, call the Food and Nutrition Office at (715) 852-3022 immediately. If your student(s) is approved for Medicaid REDUCED price meals, you may qualify for free meals by completing an application. Call the Food and Nutrition Office if you have questions.

Your student's free/reduced status from last year carries over to the new school year until October 16, 2021, or until a current school year application is completed, whichever comes first. After that, if no application has been filed, you will pay full price for all meals served to your student(s) until a completed application is approved.

A Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application Enclosed.

As in the 2020-21 School Year, the USDA is offering free breakfast and lunch is available to all students, regardless of Free/Reduced status. While all students are eligible for free breakfast and lunch, families who may be eligible for free/reduced meals should still complete the application to receive other benefits.

2021-22 SCHOOL MEAL PRICES		
	Breakfast	Lunch
ELEMENTARY Including Kindergarten and Preschool	N/A	N/A
MIDDLE SCHOOL	N/A	N/A
HIGH SCHOOL	N/A	N/A
REDUCED PRICE MEALS All Schools	N/A	N/A
ADULT	\$1.85	\$3.70

ECASD Commitment to Equity Work

Our School Board discussed and approved an Equity Statement in March of 2021. ECASD has made a commitment to use a lens of equity in all decision-making and at all levels. Equity means ensuring opportunities for learning and experiences for all students and especially for students who have been historically marginalized. We have provided and continue to provide many opportunities for our staff to learn more about equity, diversity, and inclusion practices. We are forming an Equity Steering Committee this summer consisting of students, families, community members, and ECASD staff. Families can learn more about our equity work at <https://www.ecasd.us/District/About/Equity>.

*****The information included in this mailing was accurate at the time of printing.***

For the most up-to-date information, please visit www.ecasd.us.**