

Hosmer School Guide 2020 - 2021

Watertown Virtual School and Bridge to Hybrid (remote)

Welcome to the Hosmer School! We are proud of the diversity of our school community and pride ourselves on our inclusive approach to learning and social development. We hope that you will feel proud to be a Hosmer Husky!

School Hours

The school day begins at 8:15 with a morning meeting. This is an important part of the day where the class participates in community building activities. The teacher will then begin Core Instruction for one cohort of children and dismiss the other cohort of children to work on their Extension Day activities. At 11:55 both cohorts will meet with the teacher for a closing circle. After a break for lunch and a movement break, children will work independently on assignments the teacher has given them for the afternoon.

[School Schedule](#)

Visitors

At this time, visitors are not able to come into the building. If you need to meet with a staff member, please contact the staff member and schedule an appointment.

Important Numbers

Principal – Erin Moulton	617-926-7740
Assistant Principal – MaryKate Fitzpatrick	617-926-7740
Secretary – Janet Shaw	617-926-7740
Nurse – Sabrina Marchant	617 926-7751
Guidance Counselor grades PreK – 2 – Georgia Mulgrew	617-926-7743
Guidance Counselor grades 3 - 5 – Erin Condon	617-926-7743
Team Chair – Michelle Fallon	617-926-7743
Cafeteria Manager – Ellen Scafidi	617 926-7740
Before and Afterschool Site Coordinator – Megan Sharkey	617-926-7740

Attendance

Attendance is an essential component of a student's academic success. School attendance and timeliness creates a foundation for healthy social, emotional, and academic development. Absences can have a significant impact on a child's ability to follow classroom routines and to meet grade-level standards. This impacts students, teachers, and the classroom as a whole. Students absent for 10% of the school year (18 days total), are considered to be "chronically absent", a designation that impacts our school's state performance rating.

Please do everything possible to have your child log into their classes daily unless they are sick. School staff will be taking attendance daily at morning meetings, specials, and Spanish classes. You will get an automated phone call when your child is absent from morning meeting. The purpose of the call is to inform you of your child's attendance for the day. You do not need to call the school back.

If your child is going to be absent for an extended period due to illness or injury, please contact Nurse Sabrina at 617-926-7751.

Setting up your home for successful learning

Having a designated place for “school” is essential for setting your child up to be successful during the remote phase of school. This spot should have your child’s materials kit, computer or iPad, and any other materials your child’s teacher sent home. It is helpful if these materials and computer or iPad remain in this location so that your child is always fully prepared for school every day.

[Tips for Setting up Seating at Home](#)

[Seven tips for setting up a productive learning space at home](#) (Khan Academy article)

Code of Conduct

The core values of the Hosmer School are Respect, Responsibility, and Right Choices. We expect all members of the Hosmer Community to adhere to these tenets. These are the learning years for elementary-aged students and we attend to any transgression as a teachable moment. Children are not yet adept at appropriate behavior all the time and we use progress interventions and discipline to guide them along the right path. In rare cases when discipline is required teachers handle minor infractions and repeated or severe errors are referred to the administration. In most cases, this results in a conversation identifying the mistake, and strategies are then presented to the student. Guidance Counselors are often involved. Parental reinforcement of appropriate behavior is key to child development.

Parent-Teacher Organization

The PTO meets once per month, usually in the evening, and serves to foster home-school connections. The PTO meeting not only disseminates information but also plays a role in fundraising and planning for school-related events. The members vote in the PTO board and we encourage every parent to become a member to support education in the Watertown Public Schools. The President for 2020/2021 is Mrs. Nicole Higgins and she can be reached at NicoleRHiggins@hosmerpto.org.

Site Council

The site council plays a very important role in the planning and operation of the Hosmer School. The council is made up of parents, teachers, community members, and administrators. We meet ten times per academic year with the goal of identifying needs in the school, tracking the progress of initiatives, and assessing success towards goals. The PTO votes for the parent members and all parents are encouraged to attend these meetings.