

**Hyman Fine Elementary School**  
**790 Oak Hill Avenue**  
**Attleboro, MA 02703**

Journey Toward Excellence

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August 2009

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2009-2010 school year. It's hard to believe that summer, so late in coming, is in its final few weeks! This year Hyman Fine faces many new changes: new principal, new grade level teachers, new Literacy Coach, Speech Pathologist, Occupational Therapist and a few new Integrated Arts Specialists. However even in the midst of change, our staff at Hyman Fine stands at the ready! The custodians have been working diligently to make our building gleam with new paint, carpets scrubbed, and floors shined. The Staff are busily working to set up the classrooms for our ever important opening day. As the new principal, I look forward to meeting all students as they return or begin their first year here. I hope you and your family have had a relaxing and safe summer. Please take time to read through all the important dates and information listed below to prepare for a successful school year. Being new, it's important that I hear from you any questions, concerns, or suggestions you might have to make Hyman Fine the best elementary school in the District. As parents and guardians, you are the first and most important teachers in the lives of your children. We need to form a partnership with you to promote academic success and the social/emotional growth of your child. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns you have, and of course, you are welcome to call me at the school or email any time at [cwhite@attleboroschools.com](mailto:cwhite@attleboroschools.com). Keep on the look out for my Open Door hours where you can drop in without appointment. Enjoy those last rays of sunshine!

Sincerely,

Catherine White, Principal

**(1)** School begins with a full day for Grades 1-4 on Wednesday, September 2nd from 9:00 AM to 3:20 PM. On the first day, students in grades 1-4 should arrive at school at about 8:45 A.M. Staff will be waiting to help your child find his/her class line. After the first day, students will enter the front doors of the building to go directly to the classroom or to breakfast in the cafeteria.

Kindergarten Orientation is Thursday September 3<sup>rd</sup> and parents should have received a letter stating the time they are assigned to participate. Please call us if you have any questions about your time slot.

The first day of school for Kindergarten students will be Friday, September 4th. Kindergarten half day sessions are 9:00-11:30 A.M. and 12:50-3:20 P.M.

**(2)** Classes start promptly at 9:00 A.M. and end at 3:20 P.M. daily. Doors open for arrival at 8:45 AM. If your child arrives after 9:00 A.M., you will need to enter the school office with your child to explain the tardiness. Please plan for traffic, weather, and construction delays if you are providing your child's transportation. Early dismissal time will be 12:30 P.M. and on those days, no lunches will be served.

**(3)** The **Student Handbook**, containing rules and procedures will be sent home during the first full week of school. Please remember to send the forms and sign off sheets back in a timely manner.

**(4)** District funded bus transportation is provided for students in Grades 1-4 who live 1.5 miles or more from school. All grade K students may receive bus transportation. Busing for a fee is also offered to students in Grades 1-4 living less than 1.5 miles from school on a space-available basis. The bus schedule will be published in the Attleboro Sun Chronicle the week of August 24<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions about the Fee for Bus Service program, please call the transportation office at 508 222 0012 ext. 126. Children will no longer be allowed to change their bus or their pick up/drop off location. If there is a permanent change of location, please call our office so we can assist in that change.

**(5)** For safety reasons, cars are not permitted to park in the circular driveway in front of the school office during arrival and dismissal times. This area is reserved for buses, cars and transportation vans to unload and load students. Please see the Drop off and Pick Up procedure attached. Please follow this procedure so all students may safely enter and exit the building during arrival and dismissal times while reducing congestion on the main roads.

**(6)** Students who walk to school will enter through the front door of the building and exit from the side door. Students are expected to use sidewalks and crosswalks. Parents and guardians who walk to pick up students at dismissal should wait for their children at the side yard area and let their children know the approximate place where they will be waiting.

**(7)** We have a new food service: Whitsons! We hope to introduce them at one of our PTO meetings in the future. Student lunches are available for purchase for full day K through grade 4 at a cost of \$2.00. Milk may be purchased for \$.50. Students who are eligible may receive a Free or a Reduced Price Lunch (\$.40) upon receipt and approval of a subsidized Lunch Application form completed by their parent or guardian. Again this year, we will also be offering a School Breakfast at a cost of \$1.25 per student. Students eligible for a reduced lunch will also be able to obtain a breakfast for \$.30. Children will also be allowed to buy a cookie in addition to lunch once a week, so please take a moment to review the lunch calendar. Lunches may be prepaid by sending a check payable to the Attleboro School Lunch Program.

**(8)** Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meetings will usually be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the school library. You are welcome to arrive earlier (6:45-7) to meet each other and chat prior to the meeting. Your participation and support of the Parent Teacher Organization is encouraged. The first PTO meeting of this year will be Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Please join us and meet other Hyman Fine parents. We hope you will also consider volunteering to help enrich our students' education. There will be brief Volunteer Expectations sessions conducted by the principal throughout the year to give you an idea of the many opportunities available and how we can work together to give each child a high quality education at Hyman Fine. If you have any questions or suggestions, please drop me a note or email me at [cwhite@attleboroschools.com](mailto:cwhite@attleboroschools.com). The School Council will also meet on Wednesday's beginning in October. A calendar will be send home later in September.

**(9)** Teachers in Kindergarten and Grade 1 will be issued tags, (which include name and address) on the first day of school. Please have your child **wear this nametag** on the first day of school.

**(10)** Please contact the school nurse if your child has medical concerns such as allergies or medication needs such as Eppi Pens, etc. Student medications, in a labeled container, must be brought **by an adult** to the nurse, with the appropriate paperwork for safety reasons. Students wearing glasses should be sure the glasses are brought to school.

**(11)** Your child should bring a back pack and wear comfortable, appropriate clothing each day. Keep flip flops and clothing with thin straps or strings at home so your child is safe on the playground.

**(12)** If your child goes to a day care provider or attends ABACUS Grades 1 through 4 or another formal day care program please notify the office and send a note to the classroom teacher. It is important that if you have a change in plans and your child is to be a walker on a certain day that you send in a note. Otherwise your child will continue with the regularly established procedure to go home.

**The Staff of Hyman Fine welcome you and your child to the start of the 2009-10 school-years. We expect it to be a great one!**

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