Minetto Elementary School Oswego City School District



Family Handbook 2023 - 2024

"We educate, inspire and empower all students."



OSWEGO CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Strategic Plan

Mission:

We educate, inspire, and empower all students.

Vision:

An innovative, high performing district that graduates every student.

Core beliefs

- Students come first.
- Everyone can learn and grow.
- We ensure equity and create access and opportunity for all.
- Diversity is embraced and celebrated.
- We provide a safe environment that supports and engages learners.
- Everyone is treated with respect and dignity.
- We value honesty, integrity, and perseverance.
- Data and evidence inform our decisions.
- We promote creativity and innovation.
- Community, collaboration, and partnerships are vital to our success.

• We educate, inspire, and empower all students •

6.9.2021

The Minetto Way

Minetto is a learning community and is unique in the ways we meet the needs of our diverse learners. Minetto Elementary's character education program is built on ideals expressed in the Minetto Pledge. Our Minetto Pledge reminds us to do our best everyday and follow the Golden Rule. "The Minetto Way" captures the spirit of what we believe and what we strive for every day. Minetto is truly a family. We respect each other, believe in each other, trust each other and challenge each other to do our very best!

Together we will learn more about what it means to:

- Be Respectful Follow the Golden Rule.
- Be Responsible In charge of your success
- Be a Problem Solver Creative with solutions
- Be Safe Control your words and actions

Help celebrate Minetto Way Wednesdays by wearing your Minetto Way or BUC blue apparel.

Problem Solver	Respectful	Responsible	Safe
		A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	
Be creative with solutions.	Sollow the "Golden Rule"	Be in charge of your success.	Be safe at school.
• Think it through	• Words matter	• Try your best	• Watching eyes
• Work together	Kindness counts	• Take care of yourself	• Listening ears
Learn from mistakes	• Think of others feelings	• Take care of	Soft voice
• Tell or tattle?	• Use please and	your space	Calm body
	thank you	 Take pride in all you do 	

Minetto Way Expectations





Minetto Elementary School

2411 County Route 8, Minetto New York 13115 www.oswego.org

> Jennifer Sullivan Principal (315) 341-2600 FAX: (315) 341-2960 jsulliva@oswego.org

Dear Minetto Families,

Welcome to Minetto Elementary School. We hope this handbook will serve as a useful reference for you during the school year.

Please take some time to review the handbook with your child. By knowing our policies, procedures, and code of conduct it will help to ensure a positive and safe school experience for you and your child. Our goal is to help students become "fully prepared and life ready."

If you have any questions regarding the handbook or any other matter, please feel free to contact our office at 315- 341-2600.

We are looking forward to a year of growth, learning and fun.

Sincerely,

Jennifer D. Sullivan Principal, Minetto Elementary School



Minetto School Office Main Office Hours: 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM

Phone: 315-341-2600	Fax: 315-341-2960		
Ms. Jennifer Sullivan, Principal			
Ms. Jennifer Waugh, Senior Typist			
Ms. Jackie Simoneau, Typist			
School Nurse, Mrs. Waters	341-2642		
School Psychologist, Ms. Heckert	341-2640		
Librarian, Mrs. LeRoy	341-2641		
School Counselor, Mrs. Parkhurst	341-2645		

School Counselor, Mrs. Cisson

STUDENT SCHOOL HOURS

314-2645

UPK AM	8:45 AM - 11:15 AM
UPK PM	12:45 PM - 3:15 PM
Grades K-6	8:45 AM - 3:30 PM

If you need to contact your child's teacher or other building personnel, please call the main number, 315-341-2600, and then follow the prompts that are available to you on the phone message system. Once a message is received, the teachers do their best to respond as soon as possible. Please keep in mind, when your child has to leave early from school you may send a note to the teacher via ParentSquare, email or in written form. Sending a note to school will help make sure your child is ready to go when you arrive and it alleviates additional disruptions to the classroom, and provides more time to learn!

Classroom Teachers

Universal Pre-Kindergarten Mrs. Hutchings..x6455

Kindergarten Mrs. Albee..x6529 / Mrs. Tesoriero..x6483 Ms. Burns / Ms. Spedaliere..x6315 Ms. Venditte..x6527 / Mrs. Mills..x6363

Grade 1 Mrs. Marino..x6424 / Mrs. Hunter..x6116 Mrs. Burger..x6432 Mrs. Delfino..x6533

Grade 2 Mrs. Martin..x6377 / Mrs. Flett..x6563 Mrs. Pritchard / Ms. LeRoy..x6474 Mrs. Perry..x6286

Grade 3 Mrs. Orcutt...x 6172 / Mrs. Campbell...x6253 Mrs. Dedeo.. x6377 / Mrs. Howard..x6214

Mrs. Dedeo.. x6377 / Mrs. Howard..x6214 Mrs. Baldwin..x6244

Grade 4 Mrs. Morrison..x6245 / Ms. Furletti..x6291 Mrs. Thompson..x6435 / Mrs. Sullivan..x6439 Mrs. Goewey..x6437

Grade 5 Mrs. Waterhouse..x6254 / Mr. McSweeney...x6387 Ms. Janice..x6339 Ms. Daley...x6431

Grade 6 Mrs. Shannon..x6251 / Mrs. Cleary..x6270 Mrs. Molinari..x6487 Ms. Wadsworth..x6266

Special Area Teachers

Art Ms. Mason..x6279

Physical Education Mr. Fronk..x6238 Mr. Goewey...x6462

Music Mrs. Hollers..x6378

Instrumental Music Mr. Miller..x6413 Mr. Edele..x6429 Ms. Sweeting..x6568

RTI Reading Mrs. Clarke..x6359 Mrs. Poel.. x6169 Mrs. Dawson..x6551

RTI Math Mrs. Szkotak..x6251 Mrs. Majlton...x6419

Resource Mrs. Katzman...341-2600

Speech/Language Mrs. Page..x6430 Mrs. Proulx..x6554 Mrs. Poulton..x6482 Mrs. Rowberry..x6534

TRANSPORTATION

Any questions regarding transportation should be directed to the Transportation Department at 315-341-2900.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

The safety of our students is the most important goal during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. We all have a responsibility to see that every child is safe. In addition, we need to keep traffic moving to facilitate student arrival and dismissal in a timely way. With this in mind, please review the following procedures that have been put in place.



Bus Riders

Buses arrive at 8:45 AM and are dismissed at 3:30 PM. Buses will drop off and pick up students at the front entrance (Co Rt 8). Bus riders are required to follow all bus rules and instructions by the bus driver. Questions about buses can be answered by the district transportation department at 315-341-2900.

Bus Passes/ Changes in Transportation

Students who do not ride the bus, are only permitted to ride the bus with written permission from their parent(s)/guardian(s). Only in an emergency, parents may obtain permission for their child to be dropped off at a different location on their route, or to ride another bus. In such a case, send a note to the school, with the bus route and address where the child will be dropped off. A bus pass will be written.

Parent Morning Drop-Off or Afternoon Pick-Up

School opens at 8:45 a.m. Students should <u>not</u> be dropped off before 8:45 AM. Dismissal is at 3:30 PM.

The parent drop-off / pick-up loop is located in the back of the building at the Main Office entrance (Meeker Ave). Students enter and exit through the Main Office doors. The "loop" is for independent student drop off or pick up only (parent remains in car). Students should exit the vehicle from the right (passenger) side of the car. This prevents children from walking in front of the traffic. If parents would like to walk their child to the door, they will need to park in the lined parking area. The areas

blocked out in yellow lines are not for parking. These spaces are used for pedestrian traffic. While waiting for the doors to open, please wait patiently and follow all safety rules.

Early Dismissal

Please send a note in the morning if you plan to pick your child up from school. A note can be sent via ParentSquare, email or paper. Please include your child's first and last name along with the teacher's name in the note. When picking up a child, parents should park in the lined parking area and enter



through the Main Entrance door. Please bring a photo ID with birthdate. Once verified, the student will be called to the main office to be dismissed. We discourage a late change in dismissal arrangements but understand emergencies may occur. In such a case, dismissal changes need to be communicated (parentsquare, email or phone) to the main office by 3:00 PM.

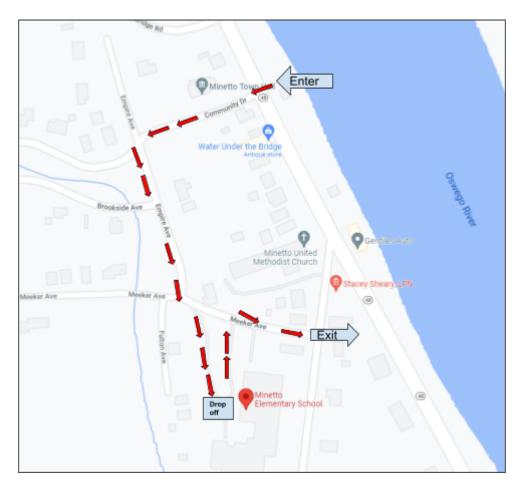
Parent Drop-Off and Pick Up

The safety of our students is the most important goal during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. To maintain safety during parent drop-off and pick-up, please review the following to ensure our students safely enter and exit Minetto Elementary. We all have a responsibility to see that every child is safe. In addition, we need to keep traffic moving to facilitate student arrival and dismissal in a timely manner. Student safety during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up is of the utmost importance. If you are driving your child to and from school, please **use Community Drive to enter the "loop" and exit the parking lot using Meeker Avenue.** This will allow a 1-way system and ease problems caused by 2 cars trying to enter our small parking lot area.

Stop and Drop (Green Zone)	Park and walk	
 Adult stays in the car and use the green zone of the "loop" Children exit or enter the car, from the passenger side, on their own Traffic continues to move 	 Park in a parking space Use the yellow lined area to walk with your child to or from the main entrance Wait patiently on the sidewalk area 	

Two options for Arrivals and Dismissals

This map shows the traffic flow that we use in the morning and afternoon.



Once you arrive in the parking lot, there are 2 options for dropping off or picking up your child.



BUILDING SECURITY

Minetto is a" single point of entry" building. All exterior doors are locked at 9:00 a.m. The main entrance is at the back of the building, off Meeker Ave. During the day, all visitors must enter through the main entrance using the buzzer, then proceed into our lobby and directly into the main office. All visitors are asked to present a photo ID with birthdate, such as a Driver's License, which will be entered into the Raptor system. The Raptor system checks the visitor's name and date of birth for comparison with a national database of registered sex offenders. The registered sex offender database is the only official database checked by the Raptor system. No other data from the ID is gathered, recorded, or stored and the information is not shared with any outside agency. The system keeps an accurate record of what visitors are in each building. Once entry is approved, a visitor's badge will be printed that identifies the visitor, the date, and the purpose of the visit. Visitors are asked to wear the badge on their outermost clothing during their visit.

School Messages and Communication

ParentSquare is used by OCSD to deliver messages regarding District and School information, events, delays, and early/emergency closings. You can participate in this service by logging in: <u>https://www.parentsquare.com</u> Monitoring the ParentSquare system will ensure you receive the most up to date OCSD information. It is also important to keep the school up to date with any changing phone numbers. If you need to, please send a note to your child with any new or updated information or call the Minetto Elementary main office to share the new information. 315-341-2600.

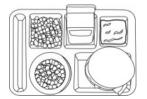


CALENDAR & INFORMATION

District Calendar and Minetto Newsletter and School Calendar

Please visit the Oswego.org website and use the "School" tab to find Minetto Elementary. These documents are updated regularly.

- Instructional Calendar, District Calendar, and other information can be found on the OCSD website's Parent Resources page.
- The newsletter is located in the left column, and labeled "MInetto Newsletter."
- The Calendar is located on the right column and labeled "Minetto School Calendar"



BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Breakfast and lunch are free for all students and served daily. Breakfast is served in the cafeteria from 8:45-9:00 AM. Lunchtimes are scheduled by grade level between 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Students have 30 minutes to eat. Each month a new menu listing daily selections can be found on the <u>District's Food Services</u> website. Students may choose to bring their own lunch. Questions about breakfast, lunch, nutrition or meals can be answered via the District webpage or by calling Food Services at 315-341-2022.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS & DELAYS

The decision to close school in emergency situations will be made by the Superintendent of Schools, or by the designee. In the event that it is necessary to close school for the day, activate a delayed starting time or early dismissal (as well as information relating to cancellation of afterschool activities/late bus runs), due to inclement weather, impassable roads, or other emergency reasons, an announcement shall be made over local media, ParentSquare, and the Internet/District website. When school is closed, all related activities, including athletic events and student activities, will be canceled for that day and evening.



Please remember that Minetto is part of the Oswego City School District. If you hear that Oswego City Schools are closed, this includes Minetto School. You may also check the district website at <u>www.oswego.org</u>.

Delayed Openings

When weather conditions are expected to improve, a delayed opening will be announced. A two-hour delay means that school will open at 10:45 a.m.

Early Dismissal

The decision to dismiss schools early is made by the Superintendent's Office. There is no need to call Minetto to inquire about early dismissals. When emergencies or weather related citations occur, an announcement shall be made over local media, ParentSquare, and the Internet/District website. If schools are dismissed early all after-school and evening activities are canceled.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Please notify the office if your address or phone number changes during the school year so that records remain current. Communication about special circumstances in families is appreciated. This may include; separation, custody of children, divorce, etc. In the case of an emergency, this information will be used to correctly locate parents. Accurate and updated information is important for our records and helps to avoid any miscommunication. Thank you for your cooperation.

STUDENT RECORDS

Parental access to their child's record is guaranteed under the law. Requests to examine records should be made at least 24 hours in advance to allow proper and complete gathering of all materials. Appointments may be made by contacting the school office.

TRANSFERRING STUDENTS

Should you move during the school year to another school district, please notify the school office. If you move to a new address in the district, please notify the school and also go to the district office, 1 Buccaneer Blvd, Oswego, NY, to fill out a change of address form.

CELLPHONES

If you need to reach your child during the school day, please call the main office and give the secretary your name, message, and the name of your child's teacher. A message will be relayed to your child. Elementary students are discouraged from bringing cellphones to school. During the school day, if not using the technology for instructional purposes, the expectation continues to be "Off and Away".

STUDENT PRIVACY

In accordance with NYS law § 2-d(5)(f) and OCSD policy on data security and privacy, we continue to uphold the regulations of the law. Currently, the following practices are in place:

- OCSD must ensure student identifiable information is safeguarded
- Authorized companies (third party) have met all the requirements for safeguarding identifiable information § 2-d(5)(f)
- OCSD has identified "student directory information". (Directory information is contained in an education record of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed.) Student Directory Information
- In accordance with the Common Core Implementation Reform Act, OCSD has published a Parents Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security. OCSD Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security
- If a breach of personally identifiable information is suspected, parents, teachers, may report an improper disclosure to NYSED

PERMISSION FOR PUBLISHING STUDENT WORK AND PHOTOGRAPHS

At the beginning of each school year parents may opt not to have their child's work or image used on district social media sites. When events, projects or activities are happening in your classroom or grade level, please let the principal know so that CiTiBOCES can be invited to capture and share the event.

HEALTH

Illness or Injury at School

If a child becomes ill or injured at school, it should be reported to the teacher as soon as possible. If it is necessary for a student to be sent home for emergency treatment, the school nurse will notify the parent. If your child is not feeling well and needs to stay home please send an Email or ParentSquare message to your child's teacher.



Medication

If a physician prescribes medication to be taken during the school day, please know:

- 1. The nurse must have, on file, a written prescription which indicates the medicine, frequency, and dosage signed by the physician.
- 2. The nurse must have a written request from the parent to administer the medication, as specified by the family physician.
- 3. The medication must be delivered directly to the school nurse by the parent, in a container labeled by the pharmacist with the drug name, dosage and frequency as ordered by the physician.
- 4. No medicine, either prescription or over-the-counter, should be given to the child to take him/herself.

Physicals

Education Law (Section 903) of New York State requires that students entering pre-k or kindergarten, second, fourth, seventh, and tenth grades have a physical exam prior to or during the school year. Ideally, your family doctor should perform the exam. Physical forms are available in the health office for the family physician to fill out. However, the school physician visits the school on a regular

basis and will do exams if the health form has not been returned by October 1st of the school year. If you would like additional information, please contact the school nurse at 315-341-2642.

Accident Reports - Students/Non-employed Adults

Accident report forms are to be completed on any student and/or non-employed adult who is injured on school premises during school-related activities. The report should be completed by the school nurse/teacher, or person rendering first aid if the nurse is not available. One copy of the report is kept by the school where the injury occurred, one copy is sent to the Business Office, and one copy is sent to the Athletic Director's office.

When an injury requires treatment, an insurance claim procedure must be initiated. The parent will be provided with a claim form as well as parent information pamphlet when the nurse is made aware that treatment was required. An injury report will also be sent to the Director of Athletics by the nurse at this time. When completed, the claim form should be submitted to the Director of Athletics by the parent. In order to reduce correspondence for the school as well as Pupil Benefits Plan, please try to remember these things:

- 1. Only injuries requiring treatment need to be reported to the insurance company. You have 30 days to report a valid injury.
- 2. For injuries which were not able to be reported to the Athletic Director's office within 30 days: submit injury report together with photocopy of your school accident liability report should same have been executed and dated within 30 days of the injury, OR should your school accident liability report not have been executed and dated within 30 days, submit a statement of explanation as to the delay, and have same signed by the coach/teacher, the student and principal.
- 3. If you reported an injury and no treatment was required, please notify the office of the Director of Athletics prior to June 1st, so files can be cleared.

MEDIA CENTER

Materials borrowed from the media center are the responsibility of the student who signs them out. The materials are due back in the media center on the due date. Students who have overdue items may not borrow more until everything is returned.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

For physical education classes all students are required to wear sneakers. Students should wear clothing that they can move well in during physical activity. Dresses and skirts are not recommended for our female students. In addition, please instruct your child how to best care for their eyewear during physical education classes.



Absences From Physical Education

Students who cannot participate in PE for more than one week due to illness or injury must have a written statement from their physician. The statement must say why and how long the student will be out and the date they may return PE.

OUTDOOR PLAY

During the school day students have opportunities to go outside to walk, exercise and play on the playground. The Minetto playground area is covered with wood chips, so it is important for students to wear sneakers when playing on the playground. If sneakers are not worn, students will be asked to stay on the grassy areas of our outdoor space.

LOST AND FOUND

Any items that are found in school will be turned in to the main office. Items that are lost on the school bus may be held by the bus driver and can be claimed by contacting the transportation department.

FACILITIES USE

Any individuals or organizations that would like the use of the school building can submit a "Facilities Use Request." This form can be found on the District website. All facilities use requests are completed online. This can be done by visiting the <u>Facilities website</u>. School functions take precedence over non-school approved functions. Sufficient time should be allowed for processing and approval of the form. All building use is canceled when after-school activities are canceled and when school is closed.

SNACKS & PARTIES

Parents wishing to bring treats are asked to make arrangements with the classroom teacher. As per the OCSD Wellness policy (5661) We recommend sharing healthy treats and snacks. No homemade baked goods are allowed. Please remember to send any needed utensils (plates, forks and cups). For class parties and other school events, teachers may send information seeking parent help if needed. Please be sure to respond to any information sent home regarding your attendance to class events.



FIELD TRIPS AND BLANKET PERMISSION SLIP

Throughout the school year, students may have opportunities to visit other places of interest and historical value. These trips are part of the school curriculum and offer an important part of our students' learning. The completion of a "blanket permission slip" indicates approval for your child to participate in local field trips in and around Oswego. Additionally, it would include attending concerts and play rehearsals at the OHS Theater during the school day. For special field trips away from Oswego, you will receive information from your child's teacher for additional approval.



EMERGENCY PROCEDURES AND DRILLS

According to NYS Education Law (Section 807), schools are required to include a minimum of 12 drills each year. The drills provide the students and staff with the appropriate instruction and training needed so that they may, in a sudden emergency, be able to respond appropriately in the shortest possible time and without confusion or panic. Classroom conversations and lessons that build awareness happen throughout the school year so that all students understand the safety procedures Minetto Elementary has in place.



ELEMENTARY ATTENDANCE POLICY and NOTES

Regular attendance positively impacts school performance. Students who come to school consistently will succeed academically and, as statistics show, will graduate from high school. By being present in class, students benefit not only from their own participation, but also from the general dialogue and interaction among students and teachers in the class. OCSD actively partners with parents and students in ensuring that all students attend school regularly and meet or exceed the New York State Learning Standards.

8:45 a.m. - Students arrive for school
8:55 a.m. - Morning announcements
9:00 a.m. - 11:25 a.m. - Students arriving during this time are marked tardy
After 11:25 a.m. - Students are marked 1/2 day absent

- All absences are marked as illegal until a valid absence excuse is submitted.
- If the nurse sends a child home early it will be marked as a legal absence.

Excuses

Children absent from school should bring an excuse with them on the day he/she returns to school. The excuse should contain the student's full name, date(s) absent, reason for absence and parent/guardian signature.

Tardiness

Students not present in the homeroom by 9:00 a.m. are tardy and need to report to the main office for a tardy slip.

Leaving School Early/Dismissal Notes

In the event you need to pick up your child early from school, please send a note to school with your child. The note should include the child's first and last name, parent first and last name, teacher's name, reason for leaving and the pick up time. It is important to write a reason for tardy, absences or early pickups. This is needed for documentation.

T OF Z days a week doesn't seem like much but				
If your child misses	That equals	Which is	Over 13 years of schooling that's	
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 1/2 years	
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 1/2 years of school	
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years	
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years	

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem like much but...

How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely that won't affect my child?

He/she is only missing	That equals	Which is	Over 13 years	
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 1/2 weeks per year	Nearly 1/2 year	
20 minutes per day	1 hr. 40 min per week	Over 2 1/2 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year	
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 1/2 years	
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 1/2 years	



EVERY DAY COUNTS

If you want your child to be successful at school, attendance does matter!

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



The purpose of the Home and School Association is to encourage parental and staff involvement in educational, cultural and creative programs for Minetto students. The Home and School Association meets virtually on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM. All meetings are listed on the school district calendar and all are invited to attend. Link to the meetings can be found on the Minetto HSA facebook page or upon request. Some of the programs Home and School sponsors are: book fairs, school pictures, holiday giving projects, literacy night, and school-wide assemblies/projects. More specific information about these events and other HSA events is

communicated throughout the year. Everyone is invited to help! Be sure to check out the Minetto Home & School facebook page.

The Home and School officers for the 2023-2024 school year are:

- President Kelli Proulx
- Vice President Mary Koskowski
- Secretary Mallory Baldwin
- Treasurer Abby Jenkins



SUPPORTING YOUR LEARNER

A positive home - school connection has a lot to do with supporting your child's success as a learner. Fostering a positive connection with our students, families, and caregivers is a priority. OCSD parent/teacher official conferences will take place in November and April. If you would like to speak or meet with your child's teacher please contact them by phone, email or write a note in the agenda. The teacher will find a time to meet with you or discuss your concern. We strive to keep all communication positive and ask that our families do the same.

There are lots of ways families can support their students and help them to feel competent and positive about their learning.

- Be a role model for learning.
- Keep a quiet place at home for practicing what is learned in school.
- Set aside time to read together.
- Attend school events together.



"We educate, inspire and empower all students."