



Flourishing at Federal Street

Federal Street School

OCTOBER 1, 2026

FSS- You Belong Here!

In this Back to School edition of Flourishing at Federal Street, you will find information about:

- Important Dates
- September Highlights
- Staff Spotlight
- Recess Fun
- October Lunch Menu
- October PTO Update
- Library Newsletter
- Notes from the Nurse
- Editorial Note



"And all at once summer collapsed into Fall." Oscar Wilde



Important Dates

October 1, **Picture Day**

October 2, **Custodian Appreciation Day**

October 8, **Meet the Superintendent at 5-6 p.m.**

October 8 & 9, **Caregiver/Family Conferences**, Early Release 11:55

October 12, **Indigenous Peoples' Day**, NO SCHOOL

October 21, **Unity Day**, wear orange

October 23, **All School Meeting**, 2:15

October 26-30, **Literary Pumpkin Contest**



Social Media

Join our Facebook and Instagram community where we share even more stories from across Greenfield Public Schools.

[Facebook](#) | **[Instagram](#)**

Follow us on Social Media!

September Highlights



Open House

Thank you to all the families who joined us for **Open House** on September 24! It was wonderful to welcome so many families into our school and see so many happy students proudly sharing their classrooms and learning. We truly enjoyed this special opportunity to connect with our families and celebrate the start of a great school year together!



Community Circles

We are excited to begin the school year by embracing **restorative principles** and strengthening the sense of community across our school. Each classroom has started the year with **community circles**, giving students and teachers an opportunity to build relationships. Our commitment to community extends beyond individual classrooms. Each grade level also had the opportunity to participate in a circle with Principal Halpin.



Staff Spotlight - 4th Grade Team

Mr. Cerone- One of the most rewarding parts of teaching is watching a student who has been struggling finally have that "aha!" moment when everything suddenly clicks.

Mrs. Marks-Sund- One of my favorite parts is seeing **all** students engaged in learning and their willingness to be challenged.



Recess Fun

Last year, we embarked on a partnership with **Playworks** with a simple goal: to bring more structure, clear expectations, and fun to recess. Playworks trained our staff and helped us establish predictable routines and clear expectations for play. Each day, students have the opportunity to participate in a structured game alongside staff, creating a more positive, inclusive, and engaging recess experience for everyone.

When students encounter conflict on the playground, they have embraced **Rock, Paper, Scissors** as a simple strategy for resolving disagreements. Rather than allowing small conflicts to escalate, students can use this familiar game to quickly and fairly settle disputes. We've even seen this strategy carry over into the classroom.

Ask your student about some of their favorite games, like Switch, 3-Line Soccer, Bridge Ball, or Silent Ball!

October Lunch Menu

October 2026 Menu – GPS Elementary Schools

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 Oven roasted chicken, local roasted butternut squash, mashed potato, garlic knot	2 Wild Mike's Pizza Bites Salad
5 Flatbread pizza with pesto, sliced tomato, mozzarella	6 Hot dog, baked beans, potato salad	7 Fish and chips (baked fries), apple slaw, whole grain roll	8 Early release bag lunch-Deli sandwich, fruit, carrots and dip	9 Early release bag lunch-Deli sandwich, celery & dip, local apple
12 No School- Indigenous People's Day	13 "Wings bar" (variety of flavored chicken tenders), garlic bread, Asian-style cabbage slaw	14 Hamburger, optional cheese, Broccoli and dip	15 Popcorn chicken, sweet potato waffle fries applesauce	16 Wild Mike's pizza stick, salad
19 Eggplant parm over pasta. Chickpea salad	20 Ramen noodle bowl with chicken, veggies, edamame	21 Steak grinder with onions, bell peppers, Carrots	22 Chicken burrito Mexican street corn	23 Pizza, salad
26 Breakfast for lunch- Egg round with cheese, french toast stick, hash brown rounds, oranges	27 Mini chicken corn dogs sweet potato fries	28 Chicken Cesar wrap cauliflower	29 Pasta with marinara & meat sauce	30 Wild Mike's pizza bites, salad



Free Breakfast & Lunch, available for all students, every day!

Alternative Meals available every day:
Sunbutter & Jelly or Cheese sandwich

Daily alternates
Monday: Nacho kit

Tues: DIY Pizza Kit

Wed: Breakfast Sandwich

Thurs: Bagel and Yogurt

Friday: Chicken Patty sandwich

All meals served with assorted fruit, vegetables, milk

-A milk with no meal: \$0.60

Project Bread Food Resource
hotline: 1-800-645-8333

Harvest of the Month- look for **local apples** on the menu!



THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.
MENUS MAY CONTAIN ALLERGENS. MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE

ALL STUDENTS RECEIVE FREE MEALS UNDER
THE COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION

PTO October Update

Thank you to all who purchased flowers in the 2026 **Mum's Fundraiser!** We sold 365 mums for over \$1500 profit, and supported Bostrom Farm for the first time. We've already purchased critical supplies for the school this year thanks to our community fundraisers. If you're interested in helping with the next plant sale, or have another idea/partnership, let us know!



Keep a look out for **upcoming ways to engage** via social media and parentsquare, including:

- a fall social event for families
- book fair updates
- halloween costume exchange: bring give-aways to parent conferences Oct 8-9, take-away free shop open starting Oct 23
- Box Tops \$: get the app, select FSS, snap a pic of your receipts (that's it!) Click here: **Get the Box Tops Mobile App.**
- All-School Caregiver Cafe: 10/23 at 1:30pm, *in the Library* conversation among caregivers *before the all-school meeting begins at 2:15pm*

Our next PTO meeting is October 13th, 3:15pm-4:30pm in the Library. It's a good time to join as we welcome new members and build for the year! We're working on wi-fi for virtual accessibility. Notes will be sent to our email list.

Library Newsletter- Behind the Shelves

BEHIND THE SHELVES



Library News



My name is Rachel Dowd and I am returning for my third year as the Elementary Librarian at Federal Street, Four Corners, and Newton. I am thrilled to offer weekly library time to your student(s)! Feel free to email me with any questions at racdow1@gpsk12.org.

September Read Aloud Selections



Reminder



Third and fourth graders are able to bring one library book home each week. Please help remind your student to return their book. Thank you!



Notes from the Nurse

Dear Federal Street Families,
I hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy! As we move further into the school year I wanted to remind everyone of the guidelines to keep your student home from school.

Your student should stay home from school with a fever of 100 or above, vomiting, or diarrhea. They may return to school when they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and/or 24 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea. If you ever have any questions as to whether or not your student should come to school, please contact me. Oftentimes, email is the best way to contact me with questions.

If your student requires any medication to be taken during the school day, please contact me as we will need a medication order and a parental consent form filled out. This includes scheduled medications, inhalers, and EpiPens. Medication should not be sent with your student in their backpacks; it needs to be brought to the school and signed in with me. As always, please reach out with any other questions or concerns.

Rebecca S. Carlson RN, BSN
Federal Street School Nurse
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(413) 772-1380

September Newsletter Edit

In the September edition of Flourishing at Federal Street there was a story about a our new sign. The sign was made by Pat Glass, father of George and uncle of Margo.