



**Downey Elementary School**  
Rhonda J. Eckenroth-Principal  
Jenifer Branca-Assistant Principal  
1313 Monroe Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17103  
Phone: 717-703-1240/Fax 717-703-1245

August 7, 2023

Dear Downey Students, Parents and Families:

It is with great excitement that I welcome each student, parent and family member to the 2023-2024 school year. I am also excited to introduce Mrs. Jenifer Branca as our new Assistant Principal. Mrs. Branca comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience. She has been a part of Harrisburg School District since 2013 serving as teacher, instructional coach, literacy coordinator and most recently as the Assistant Principal and then Interim Principal at Scott Elementary. Please be sure to give Mrs. Branca a huge Downey welcome!

We look forward to partnering with each of you to create a safe, challenging instructional setting that champions and values each students' well-being and success while empowering them to succeed at a high level. A few changes for this year include the district wide utilization of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Culturally relevant and responsive instruction, and individualized learning. A strong focus at Downey this year is making every minute count. School starts each day at 8:50am and ends at 3:50pm, every minute in between is crucial to our students' growth and achievement.

As we prepare for the start of a new school year and Growing Every Student...Everyday we want you to know we are here to serve and support you. We look forward to connecting with each of you so that together we can have a successful year. Please join us for our Welcome Back Open House-Wednesday, August 23, 2024 from 4:30-6:30pm. This is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, connect with community resources and tour the school. We will have games, giveaways and popsicles too!

In Service:

*Rhonda Eckenroth*

Rhonda Eckenroth

Principal



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### **Student's First Day: Monday, August 28, 2023**

**Student School Day: 8:50am-3:50pm**

#### **ARRIVAL:**

We will have an open breakfast this year. Doors will open at 8:15am. Breakfast will be served until 8:50am. Students can arrive between 8:15am and 8:45am. All students will enter through the main doors.

#### **DISMISSAL:**

K-2 Students will be dismissed from the cafeteria. Please enter through the main lobby.

3-5 Students will be dismissed from the library door.

All students have a pick up number that must be utilized for pick up.

Students in Grades 3-5 have the option to be a walker. This must be submitted in writing to the homeroom teacher.