

2024 - 2025

WELCOME PACKET



Provided by

Friends of Edmonson

PTA[®]

everychild.onevoice.[®]

Welcome to Edmonson Elementary School!

On behalf of the Edmonson Elementary PTA, we are delighted to welcome you and your family! Thank you for choosing Detroit Public Schools Community District and selecting our cherished wall-to-wall Montessori community.

The first day of school begins on August 26, 2024 at 8:00 am.

First day of school - Parent activities

- 7:30-8:30am - Stop by the PTA table to enjoy free coffee and donuts to celebrate you (parents!) for all the hard work it took to get your kids ready for the school year. We'll have info on PTA memberships and the link to order Edmonson gear.
- 3:10-4:00pm - Get your cameras ready to capture a photo of your student after their first day of school! The photobooth will be set up on Canfield St, near Door #1. Click here to add this event to your calendar:
<https://calendar.app.google/yvkEGyhauVCgBxr39>

At Edmonson Elementary, we take great pride in our Montessori approach, which fosters hands-on learning, self-direction, and collaboration. Our dedicated guides (teachers) and supportive administration work hard to create an enriching environment where every child can thrive. Your child will benefit from an inclusive and stimulating atmosphere designed to nurture their curiosity and creativity.

The PTA is here to support you and your child throughout the year. We are excited to organize activities and events that will bring our community together and enhance the learning experience. We encourage you to get involved and make the most of your time at Edmonson.

To help you navigate our school and make the most of your experience, we have created this welcome packet. Inside, you'll find important information about our programs, policies, and opportunities for involvement. We believe that this packet will be a valuable resource for you as you acclimate to our school community and ensure a smooth transition for your child.

Once again, welcome to Edmonson Elementary! We look forward to a fantastic year together.

Warmest regards,
The Edmonson Elementary PTA

WELCOME

WHAT IS MONTESSORI?

Montessori is an educational approach that emphasizes self-directed activity, hands-on learning, and collaborative play. It was developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, an Italian physician and educator, in the early 20th century.

Key Principles of Montessori Education:

- **Child-Centered Learning:** Students are encouraged to choose their own activities and work at their own pace. The role of the teacher, or "guide," is to facilitate and support rather than direct learning.
- **Prepared Environment:** Classrooms are designed to be inviting and organized, with materials and resources that are accessible to children and encourage exploration and independence.
- **Hands-On Learning:** Emphasis is placed on concrete, sensory experiences rather than abstract instruction. Montessori materials are designed to be tactile and engage multiple senses.
- **Mixed-Age Groups:** Classrooms typically include children of varying ages, fostering peer learning and collaboration. Older children often help younger ones, reinforcing their own knowledge and skills.

Origins of Montessori Education:

Early Beginnings: Maria Montessori began her work with children in the early 1900s, initially focusing on children with developmental disabilities. Her innovative methods led to remarkable improvements in their abilities and behaviors.

Casa dei Bambini: In 1907, Montessori opened the first “Casa dei Bambini” (Children's House) in Rome. This was a school for children from impoverished backgrounds, and it was here that she implemented her educational approach on a broader scale.



Dr. Maria Montessori

Montessori Movement Founder

Global Spread: Montessori's methods quickly gained recognition and spread internationally. The Montessori approach was adapted and implemented in various countries, and Montessori schools continue to thrive worldwide. Montessori education is respected for its emphasis on developing a child's independence, respect for others, and a lifelong love of learning.



GREETINGS



Pashawn Johnson

Principal, Edmonson Elementary School

✉ pashawn.johnson@detroitk12.org

☎ 313-655-3181

It is my pleasure to serve as Principal of Edmonson for the 2024-2025 school year. My goal is to create a partnership of support to you and your family as we provide a robust Montessori educational experience for your student. Please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone should you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for choosing Edmonson Montessori Elementary School for your child's educational journey.

Monique Whitfield-Jones

President, Friends of Edmonson PTA

✉ friendsofedmonson@gmail.com

As PTA President, I'm excited to welcome you to our wonderful school community. We're here to support your child's journey and help foster a strong sense of connection among families. Whether it's through events, volunteer opportunities, or simply meeting for coffee and donuts, we're eager to get to know you and make this year a great one. Let's work together to ensure a fantastic year ahead!



MEET THE PTA



Monique Whitfield-Jones

President

Monique Whitfield, born and raised in Detroit, lives on the eastside with her husband, three children, a dog, and even a few lizards. Her oldest will be a 5th grader, middle child will be a 3rd grader, and her youngest will be starting Pre-K this school year. She's the proud owner of MMAD GOOD FUN, specializing in organizing epic water balloon battles for all occasions. When she's not orchestrating water warfare, she enjoys traveling with her family, exploring new places, experiencing different cultures, and creating lasting memories. And then there's her unique pastime: staring off into space.

Erin Archerd

Vice President

Erin Archerd lives with her daughters Cassandra and Teresa and husband Josh Feasel in a historic home in Virginia Park. When she's not teaching law at the University of Detroit Mercy, Erin loves reading, gardening, and consuming caffeine. This will be her family's third year at Edmonson, where her daughters are entering first grade.



Jodi Trombley

Correspondence Secretary

Jodi works at Amazon in Business Development for their Smart Vehicles organization and enjoys running, gardening, and home projects in her spare time. She lives in Woodbridge with her husband and three boys - Augustus, Julius, and Maximus. She's been part of the Edmonson community for three years already and will have kids in pre-K and 1st grade (x2) next year.



Joy Hardnett

Recording Secretary

Joy K Hardnett is a sixth-generation Detroiter. Born and raised in the city, she hails from the University District on Detroit's Westside. A product of Detroit Public Schools, Joy's collegiate experience was her first experience living outside of the city. After several years pursuing both academic and professional endeavors, Joy relocated back to Detroit where she dedicated herself to years of public health through non-profit organizations. Joy is a devoted wife and mother of two children, both of which attend schools in Detroit Public School Community District. Her youngest, Zuri Cruz, attends Edmonson and will be transitioning to the first grade for the 2024-25 school year.

Wendy Caldwell-Liddell

Treasurer & Fundraising Chair Lead

Wendy Caldwell-Liddell was born and raised in Detroit and grew up in the Dexter-Linwood community. As a startup Founder with deep family roots in the city's historic Black Bottom neighborhood, Wendy is strongly dedicated to serving both residents and small businesses in Detroit. Through her professional work and community organizing, Wendy has built a reputation as a committed and active community member. Wendy is a mother of two, with her youngest daughter, Nina, attending Edmonson and preparing to enter first grade next year.



Justin Long

Parliamentarian

Justin Long is an active volunteer at Edmonson, primarily as the coach of the Academic Games team (and formerly Chess Club coach). He has been an Edmonson parent since the fall of 2020. Before that, he was president of the PTA at Palmer Park Prep. He lives in Woodbridge with his wife, Ariana Silverman (rabbi of the Downtown Synagogue), and their kids, Rebecca (4th grade) and August (2d grade). In his spare time, he is a law professor at Wayne State specializing in education law.

David Valdez

Sergeant at Arms

David Valdez is the proud parent of Savi, who is about to enter 1st grade. Originally hailing from Mexico City, he was raised in San Francisco Bay area. In 2018, he made the move to Detroit, where he currently resides in the Jefferson Chalmers neighborhood. He is the coffee shop owner of Alba in Corktown, quesadilla flipper, and crossword failure (for now), semi ska-aficionado, and mosh pit retiree.



Arjuna Durrant

Membership Chair Lead

Arjuna Durrant, affectionately known as Juna, resides in the Jefferson Chalmers neighborhood on the east side of Detroit. Her son, Savi, will be starting first grade this fall. She has been part of the Edmonson community for three years, with Savi's educational journey beginning in pre-K back in 2022.

Juna is the digital content manager for a Design and Build company as well as the owner of a small business, Juna, focused on experimental design, handcraft, and sustainability. Her hobbies include gardening, reading, art, crocheting, biking and aimless wandering.

Angie Coe

Beautification Chair Lead

Angie Coe lives in Woodbridge with her husband and two children, Nora and Peregrine, and their dog Franklin. She is an illustrator and printmaker involved with community print shops in Detroit, and enjoys gardening, bicycling, and comics. Next year will be her second year involved at Edmonson as Nora enters Kindergarten.



KEY/LEGEND

	TW	Teacher Workday
	FDS	First Day of School
	PD	District In-Person PD Day No School for Students
	TRD	Teacher Records Day
	—	School Based Professional Development (Staff meeting may be held in lieu of PD)
	LDSS	Last Day of School for Students
	CD	Membership Count Day
	DRH	District Recognized Holiday
	PTC	Parent Teacher Conferences
	PTC-h	Parent Teacher Conferences -High Schools
	—	Schools Closed, District Offices Open, Administrators report
	RC	Report Card Day
	S	Semester/Quarter Boundary
	—	Student Make Up Days due to Emergency Cancellation or inadequate Staff Attendance at Districtwide PD Days
	—	Schools Closed

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 19 is the first day for teachers

August 26 is the first day for students

June 10 is the last day of school for students

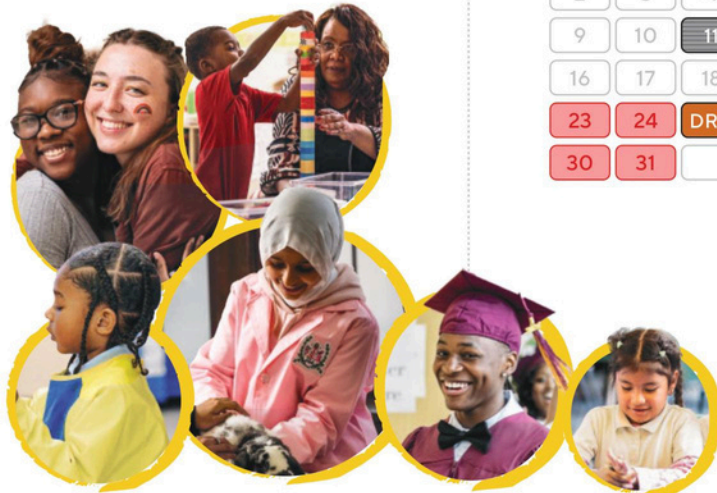
June 12 is the last day for teachers

Make up days for students and staff
pre-scheduled **June 13 - 20** in the event
they are required due to emergency closure
or inadequate staff attendance at PD days

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

K-8th Grade | **October 16** and **March 19**

9th-12th Grade | **October 9** and **March 12**



FIRST SEMESTER

MON TUE WED THU FRI

AUGUST 2024

			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
PD1	PD2	TW	22	23
FDS	27	28	29	30

SEPTEMBER 2024

DRH	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
PD3				

OCTOBER 2024

	1	CD	3	4
7	8	PTC-h	10	11
14	15	PTC	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
Q1	Q2	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2024

				1
RC	PD4	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	DRH	29

DECEMBER 2024

2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	DRH	26	27
30	31			

SECOND SEMESTER

MON TUE WED THU FRI

JANUARY 2025

		DRH	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	Q2	Q3	17
DRH	21	22	RC	24
PD5	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2025

3	4	5	6	7
10	11	CD	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2025

3	4	5	6	7
10	11	PTC-h	13	14
17	18	PTC	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

APRIL 2025

	1	Q3	Q4	4
7	8	9	RC	11
14	15	16	17	DRH
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

MAY 2025

			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
DRH	27	28	29	30

JUNE 2025

2	3	4	5	6
9	LDSS	PD6	TRD	13
16	17	18	DRH	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

DAILY SCHEDULE

Primary

Pre-K & Kindergarten

8:00 am: Enter through Door 2 in the parking lot ***Please see the Car Line map and instructions***

Students must be signed in and out each day by a parent/guardian

Breakfast: Served in the classroom at 8 am.

Lunch: Time varies by class and is served in the classroom.

3:10 pm: School ends. Pickup is at Door 2 at 3:10 pm following the same procedure as drop-off

Lower Elementary

Grades 1,2,3

7:45 am: Students enter at Door 1 on Canfield St.

7:50 am: Breakfast is served in the cafeteria.

Lunch: Time varies by class and is served in the cafeteria.

3:10 pm: School ends. Pickup is at Door 1 from 3:10-3:20 pm

Upper Elementary

Grades 4,5,6

7:45 am: Students enter at Door 1 on Canfield St.

7:50 am: Breakfast is served in the cafeteria.

Lunch: Time varies by class and is served in the cafeteria.

3:10 pm: School ends. Pickup is at Door 1 from 3:10-3:20 pm

Lower Secondary

Grades 7,8

7:45 am: Students enter at Door 1 on Canfield St.

7:50 am: Breakfast is served in the cafeteria.

Lunch: Time varies by class and is served in the cafeteria.

3:10 pm: School ends. Pickup is at Door 1 from 3:10-3:20 pm

Attendance Expectations: Students are expected to attend Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 3:10 pm. This year DPSCD has instituted a new attendance policy that identifies students who are chronically absent and choose to attend an application school such as EDMONSON.

When students are absent more than 45 days, students will be invited to attend their neighborhood school.

For excused absence due to illness please notify the school by emailing glovetta.williams@detroitk12.org

SCHOOL DRESS-CODE

TOPS:

White, Light Blue, or Navy Blue Collar Shirts

*no ties required ;-)



BOTTOMS:

Navy or Black Slacks, Shorts, Skorts, and Dresses

QUIET SHOES:

Closed-toe indoor only shoes that kids can change into on their own

EDDY GEAR FRIDAYS:

On Fridays we wear Eddy Gear for school spirit!

EDDY GEAR FRIDAYS!



[VISIT THE PTA EDDY GEAR STORE ON BONFIRE](#)



At Edmonson we celebrate school spirit every Friday by sporting Eddy Gear. By purchasing Eddy gear, not only are you allowing your student to participate in our weekly spirit days, but you're also supporting the PTA. All proceeds from Eddy Gear will fund various enrichment activities, events, and programs for our students throughout the year.

Join us in showing school pride and making a difference!

[PURCHASE EDDY GEAR HERE:](#)

<https://www.bonfire.com/store/edmonson-elementary-school/>

Edmonson Montessori School Parking Map

2024 - 2025

This parking map is designed to help parents, staff, and visitors easily navigate the parking areas at Edmonson Montessori School. It highlights designated parking zones, drop-off and pick-up areas, accessible parking spaces, and no-parking zones to ensure a smooth and safe experience for everyone.

Please follow the map's guidelines to maintain traffic flow and ensure the safety of all students during school hours.

Enlarged sections of this map are available on the following pages.


Pre-K - K Families


See “Primary Pickup and Dropoff” on the next page.

First - 8th Grade Families


See “Lower, Upper, and Lower Sec. Pickup and Dropoff” at the end of this section.

LEGEND


 School Entrances




 Parking Zones




 No-Parking Zones



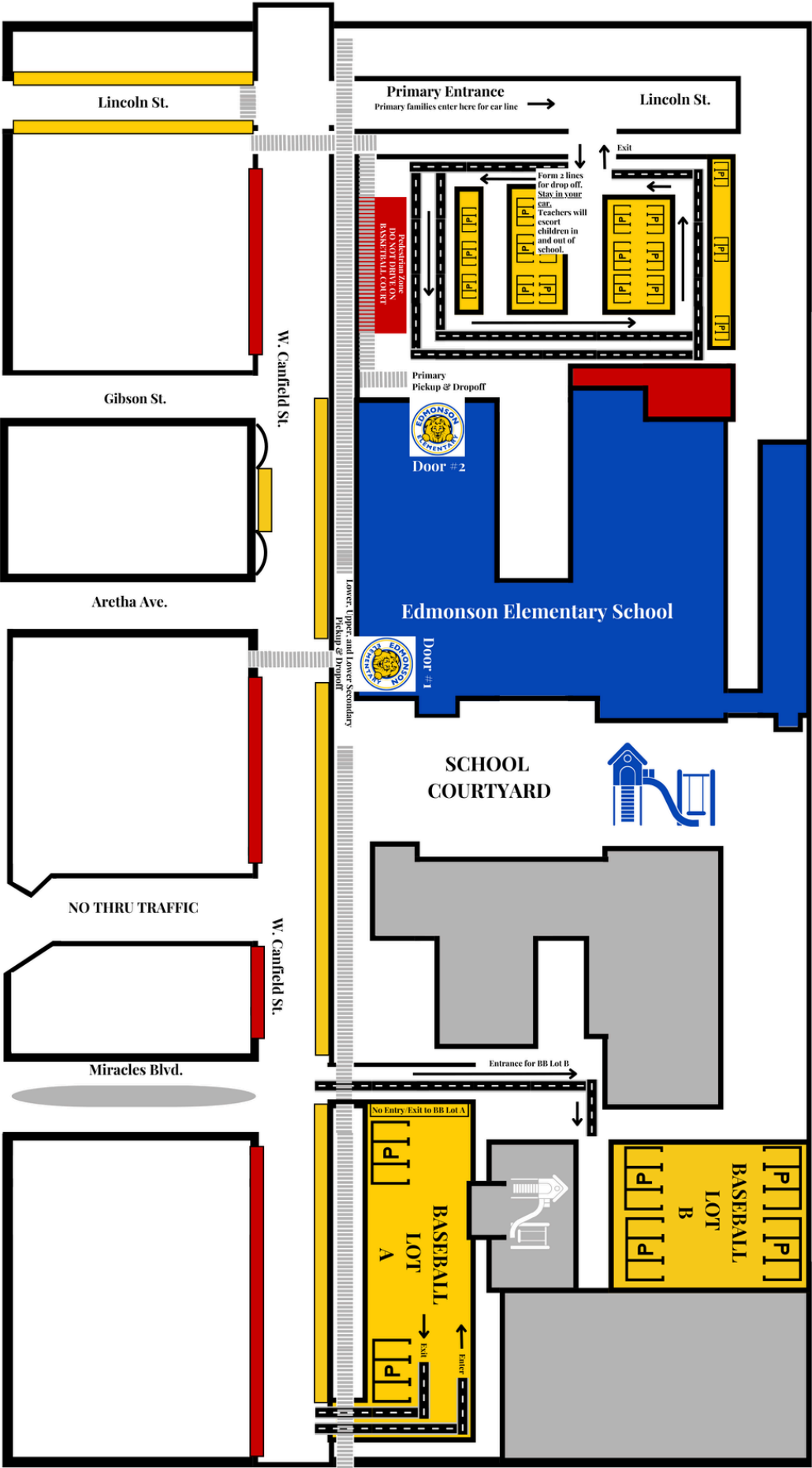
 Driveway Entrances & Exits



 Pedestrian Zones



 Driving Lanes (Primary Families)



PRIMARY PICK-UP & DROP OFF

LEGEND

 School Entrances

 Parking Zones

 No-Parking Zones

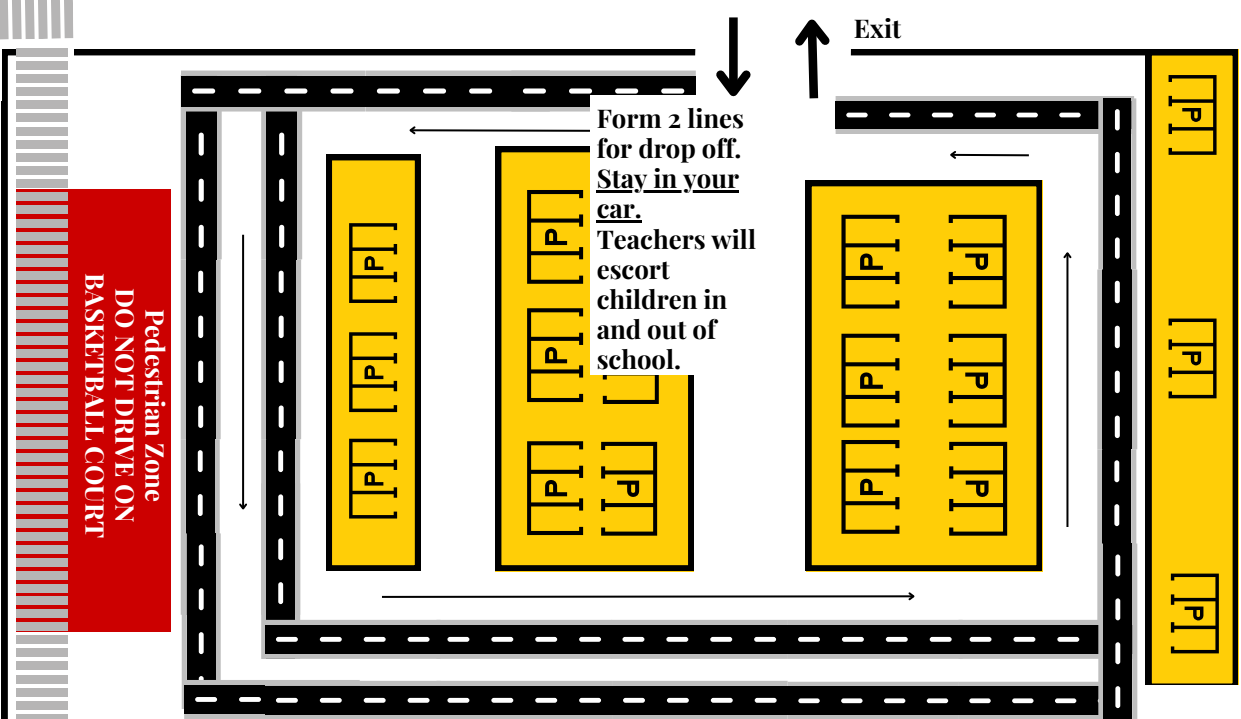
 Pedestrian Zones

 Driving Lanes

Primary Entrance

Primary families enter here for car line

Lincoln St.



Primary Pickup & Dropoff



Door #2

Primary Families
Pre-K and Kindergarten students enter through Door 2 in the parking lot via a car line.

Parents enter the parking lot off Lincoln St. and form 2 lines.

DO NOT DRIVE ON THE BASKETBALL COURT! This area is designated for families on foot. Please leave them ample space to walk safely to and from the school.

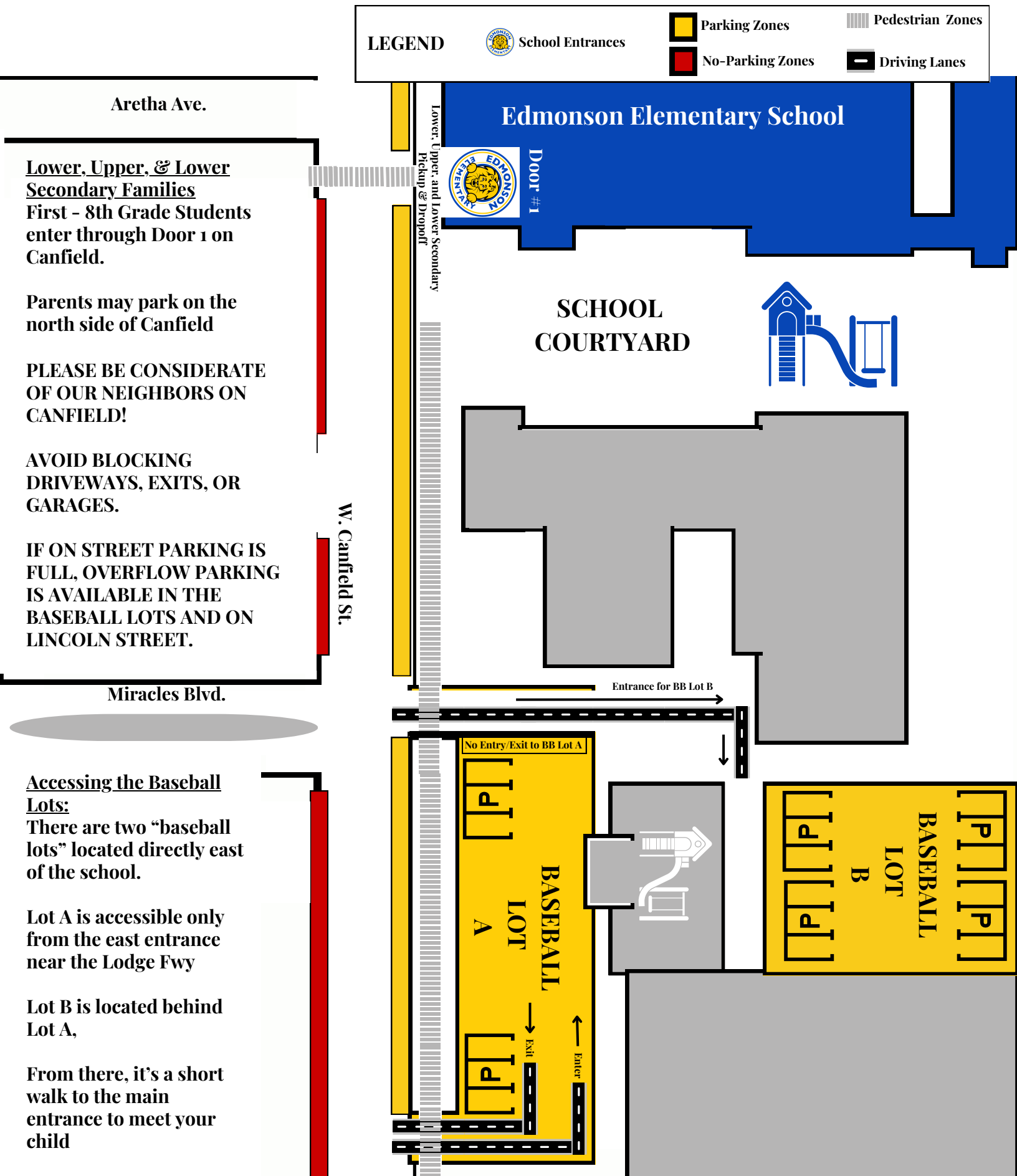
Please remain in your car. A teacher will come to your car and escort your child into the school.

Edmonson Elementary School

W. Canfield St.

LOWER, UPPER & LOWER SEC.

PICK-UP & DROP OFF



CLUBS, SPORTS, & PROGRAMS

Please complete the “After School Sports and Clubs Interest Form” linked below if you would like your student to participate in after school clubs and activities. More information will be provided about times, dates, schedules as the season nears.

CLUBS, SPORTS & PROGRAMS REGISTRATION LINK

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjgnpwv9QlexHKpCH4P7jGTMD3UMcD4-jChIoLjpYHIjUdIQ/viewform>

CLUBS & PROGRAMS

01

CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club at Edmonson Elementary invites students to sharpen their strategic thinking and problem-solving skills through friendly matches and learning opportunities in a supportive environment.

02

ROBOTICS

The Robotics program engages students in hands-on engineering and programming as they design, build, and compete with their own robots, fostering creativity, teamwork, and critical thinking.

03

GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club allows students to connect with nature by planting, cultivating, and maintaining a school garden, learning about sustainability, and experiencing the rewards of growing their own food.

04

GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scouts at Edmonson Elementary empowers girls to build leadership skills, make new friends, and explore new interests through engaging activities, community service, and personal growth opportunities.

05

CHESS TEAM

The Chess Team offers a competitive environment for students passionate about chess to refine their tactics and represent Edmonson Elementary in matches and tournaments.

06

ACADEMIC GAMES

Academic Games challenges students to test their knowledge in a variety of subjects through competitive games that build critical thinking, logic, and academic excellence.

07

CHOIR - PERFORMANCE BASED

The Performance-Based Choir at Edmonson Elementary nurtures students' vocal talents as they prepare and perform in various school and community events, focusing on vocal technique, teamwork, and stage presence.

08

DAD'S CLUB

The Dad's Club fosters father involvement in school life through fun activities, volunteer opportunities, and events that strengthen the school community and build lasting connections.

SPORTS

- 01** **SOCCER**
The Fall Soccer program at Edmonson Elementary allows students to develop their footwork, strategy, and teamwork in an engaging and active environment, promoting fitness and fun.
- 02** **SIDELINE CHEER**
The Winter Sideline Cheer program empowers students to support their teams with enthusiasm and spirit, teaching cheer routines, chants, and the fundamentals of teamwork and performance.
- 03** **BASKETBALL**
The Winter Basketball program at Edmonson Elementary helps students enhance their skills on the court while emphasizing teamwork, sportsmanship, and strategy in a fun, competitive environment.
- 04** **TRACK & FIELD**
The Spring Track and Field program at Edmonson Elementary offers students a fun and energetic way to stay active while developing their running, jumping, and teamwork skills through a variety of athletic events and challenges.

*Tryouts will be held for any sport team where interest exceeds availability.

Michigan Physical Exam/Medical History Forms:

<https://www.mhsaa.com/about/general-resources/health-safety/physical-exammedical-history-forms>

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

01

Volunteer with the School District

Please complete the link to participate in volunteer opportunities in the school and ALL FIELD TRIPS. You must be cleared in order to volunteer in any capacity. Cleared volunteer status will be valid until June 30, 2025

REGISTER AS A DPSCD VOLUNTEER HERE:

<https://dpscd.galaxydigital.com/>

02

Join the School Advisory Council (SAC)

School advisory council is a small group of advisors who make decisions within the school based on school improvement. If interested in being a part of the council, please complete the form provided below:

SIGN UP FOR THE SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL USING THIS LINK:

www.bit.ly/EDMSAC24

SUPPORT THE PTA!

The PTA plays a vital role in enhancing our school community by bringing parents, teachers, and students together. We host and fund a variety of events and programs that enrich the school experience for everyone; from fun-filled school dances and teacher appreciation events to important fundraisers that support our school's facilities, clubs, and sports. We also organize give-back events like Pink Out Day, where we raise funds for local breast cancer causes, and Unity Day, which promotes kindness, acceptance, and inclusion to prevent bullying.

01 **Join the PTA!**

Purchase a PTA membership for an individual or family. Your membership and dues support your child by funding essential educational and curriculum needs; advocating on behalf of our children and educators at the local, state and national levels; and building an inclusive school community for *all families*.

<https://edmonsondpm.givebacks.com/store>

02 **Get Involved!**

We always welcome new ideas and enthusiastic volunteers! There's no right or wrong way to be involved in the PTA. Whether you're able to donate your time, resources, or opinion, we invite you to get involved in any way you can. Please take our survey to let us know how you would like to contribute and what you'd like to see the PTA accomplish this year.

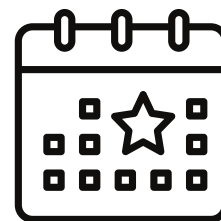
<https://forms.gle/nXSJ3dMxbyfdC5gw7>

03 **Join the Friends of Edmonson Facebook Page!**

Stay connected and be in the know by joining our PTA Facebook page! It's the perfect place to connect with other parents, engage with our school community, and stay up to date on all the latest events and activities. Don't miss out on important announcements, volunteer opportunities, and ways to get involved.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofedmonsonpta/>

PTA MEETINGS & EVENTS



PTA MEETINGS

The PTA will be meeting monthly through structured social hours designed to help us connect and engage as a community. These events will include important PTA activities, updates, and announcements in a relaxed atmosphere for families to socialize. Locations will vary and be announced in advance, so stay connected with us for updates. Join us for a blend of business and fun as we work together to support our school!

SAVE THE DATE(S)!

August 26	Back-to-School Membership Drive. Join the PTA for <u>Coffee, Donuts, & Photos!</u>
August 27	Back-to-School Membership Drive. Join the PTA for <u>Coffee & Donuts</u>
September 12	<u>PTA Social Hour</u> . Join the PTA for our 1st meeting and social event of the year.
October 10	<u>PTA Social Hour</u> Location TBD

***Click underlined text to add events to your calendar**

EVENT PLANNING & PARTICIPATION



Our PTA is planning a variety of events this school year, including dances, family outings, and academic fairs. To make these happen, we need your support.

[Joining an event planning committee](#) is the best way to contribute, but whether you can share ideas, volunteer, help with supplies, or assist with setup, your involvement is invaluable.

We look forward to working with you to create unforgettable experiences for our students!

ESSENTIAL PARENT RESOURCES



EDMONSON RESOURCES

Edmonson Teacher Directory

Contact Information for Edmonson Teachers and Staff

Link: <https://www.detroitk12.org/Page/3523>

Reporting School Absences

Report school absences by emailing Glovetta Williams

Email: glovetta.williams@detroitk12.org

Uniform Closet

Help us recycle and reuse! Pick up and donate gently used uniforms. The Uniform closet will be out at many PTA hosted events. To access the closet or donate between events, please contact us via email or Facebook!

Email: friendsofedmonson@gmail.com

Edmonson Community Facebook Page

Join the “Friends of Edmonson” Community on Facebook

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofedmonsonpta/>

DISTRICT RESOURCES

Detroit K-12 Family Hub

Additional resources for Detroit K-12 families

Link: <https://www.detroitk12.org/families>

Detroit Public Schools (DPSCD) Parent Page on Facebook

Join the DPSCD Community on Facebook

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/221737231538524/>

Detroit Public Schools (DPSCD) Parent Notifications

The district and school sends info via an automated call/text system:

General Updates & Messages: Text “Start” to **60680** to receive notifications.

Emergency Updates & Messages: Text “Start” to **54968** to receive notifications.

Thank you!

