

August 2026

TIME FOR SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A new school year is soon approaching. My name is Kelly Ehlers and I will be your child's K4 teacher in the fall. I'm looking forward to my 33rd year at Whittier School teaching your child. I'm sure we will all have a rewarding and successful school year.

The first day of school for K4 students will vary depending on your child's last name (noted below). On your child's scheduled first day of school, he/she will come to school with a parent(s) or a family representative at 7:35 a.m. for an Orientation. The Orientation will be held in our Library and will last until approximately 9:30 AM. It's important for all K4's to be present at their scheduled Orientation Day to retain his/her seat. (Please call Whittier at (414) 294-1400 if you no longer want your child to attend the K4 program at Whittier.) When the Orientation is over parents will leave and their K4 child will remain at school for the entire day.

Your child will be dismissed at 2:15 at the East Exit (doors at the very back of school) on the first day and every day thereafter. Normal school hours are 7:35 AM – 2:15 PM. Each morning, I will also meet the students on the playground at their designated line at the East Exit, (back entrance) at 7:35 AM.

Please see the schedule below to determine your child's first day of school:

- **Tuesday, September 1st** - **K4 students whose last name begins with A thru D attend school.**
(Student's whose last name starts with **E - N** and **O - Z** stay home.)
- **Wed., September 2nd** - **K4 students whose last name begins with E thru N attend school.**
(Student's whose last name begins with **A - D** and **O - Z** stay home.)
- **Thursday, September 3rd** - **K4 students whose last name begins with O thru Z attend school.**
(Students whose last name begins with **A - D** and **E - N** stay home.)
- **Friday, September 4th** - **ALL K4 students attend school.**

To better prepare your child for the K4 Program it would be beneficial to work on some academic basics over the summer. Please work with your child on identifying his/her name, identifying colors, and exposing your child to basic shapes, numbers, and letters. Reading together is a fun way to learn these skills. All children need to be potty trained before entering K4. (We do understand that accidents happen.)

I look forward to meeting each of you and working with your child. Remember to join us for our Open House/Meet and Greet on Thursday, August 27th, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. It's a great way to get acquainted with other families, meet your child's teacher, and bring in your school supplies! We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Kelly Ehlers
K4 Teacher



K4 SUPPLY LIST



The following are supplies your child will need for school:

- Please DO NOT follow the MPS standard supply list that is on the MPS Portal or at various stores.
- A Backpack (no wheels please – they do not fit in our cubbies) needs to be brought to and from school each day.
- A change of clothes (this includes underwear, pants, shirt & socks) for your child to keep at school. Label all items with your child's name & put in a Ziploc bag with your child's name on the Ziploc Bag.
- **All students should bring:**
 - 1 container Clorox Wipes,
 - 1 - 10 pack broadline markers
 - 1 Box Crayola Crayons – 8 Count Only
 - 1 Glue Stick (purple glue preferred)
 - 1 package of napkins
 - 1 box of Kleenex
 - Please send \$20 to school in AN ENVELOPE MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME. The money will be used for ingredients/materials needed to make snacks or special projects in class.

In Addition:

- **Parents whose last name begins with A – D - please bring:**
 - 1 bottle of hand sanitizer
- **Parents whose last name begins with E - N - please bring:**
 - 1 box of gallon Ziploc Bags
- **Parents whose last name begins with O - Z - please bring:**
 - 1 package of small paper plates (non-coated)

Consider buying Velcro tennis shoes (that don't light up) and pants that are easy for using the bathroom independently.



Whittier Elementary School

4382 S. 3rd Street

Milwaukee, WI 53207

(414) 294-1400 Fax: (414) 294-1415

Attendance Line: (414) 294-1460

School email: 398@milwaukee.k12.wi.us

website: <https://schools.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/whittier/>



School Hours: 7:35 to 2:20

Lunch: 11:00 to 12:00

School Phone: (414) 294-1400

Attendance Line: (414) 294-1460 - Please call by 7:45 AM if your child will be Absent/Tardy from school)

School Communications:

Opt in to receive School/District Text Messages ASAP:

- **Type 67587** – In the message send Y or Yes
Text Messages are sent frequently by our School Leader and are a vital part of school communication to parents.
- Visit our school website to find supply lists, Parent Bulletins, Reminders and school information at:
<https://schools.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/whittier/>

Entry and Dismissal Procedures

- Students should not arrive to school before 7:30 AM.
- Parents can use the "Drop and Go" in the morning in front of the building and have your child go to the playground. Pull up as far as you can in the Drop and Go line. **DO NOT STOP YOUR ENGINE AND/OR GET OUT OF YOUR VEHICLE.**
- **Entry Bell – 7:35 AM** – Students should be in their designated line on the playground at 7:35 AM. Teachers will pick up students at 7:35 AM
- K4 thru 2nd graders enter & dismiss thru East Doors (Back of building)
- K4 thru 2nd Graders will be dismissed to a parent at dismissal time.
- 3rd thru 5th graders enter & dismiss thru South Doors (South side of building)
3rd thru 5th grade parents can pick-up at South Doors or have their child meet them at their designated parking spot or use the "Get and Go" in the front of school beginning at 2:20 PM
- No Parking in front of school, across from school, in alley or in back parking lot.
- No students will be allowed to wait in the office if not picked up on time. In the event you will be late picking up your child, please call school. If your child is not picked up on time; he/she will be directed to wait outside the front doors.
- **Travel only North bound on 3rd Street between Bottsford & Martin Lane during Drop-off and Pick-up times.**
- Respect our Crossing Guards and be courteous to our neighbors. Do not block driveway

A decorative border of colorful pencils is arranged vertically along the left and right sides of the poster. The pencils are in various colors including red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple, and are oriented horizontally with their tips pointing towards the center.

Open House and Meet & Greet at Whittier School on

Thursday, August 27th, 2026
from 4:00 – 6:00 PM

This Open House will give parents
and students an opportunity to:

- Meet their child's teacher.
- Check out their classroom
- Bring in school supplies.
- Meet our Camp Staff/Register for Camp
- Ease their/your way into another great year at Whittier!

We look forward to seeing
you at Open House!



**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

mpsmke.com

Switchboard
(414) 475-8393

2026-27 Districtwide Calendar

July 1-2 Central Services closed*
 July 3 District and all Central Services closed
 July 6-30 Summer Academy; Camp/CLC/Safe Places open
 July 31 Summer Academy – Staff Record Day
 Aug. 25-28 Professional Development/ Organizational Days
 Aug. 31 Organization Day
 Sept. 1 First Day of School
 Sept. 7 Labor Day
 Oct. 23 Parent-Teacher Conference Day
 Oct. 26 October Break
 Nov. 3 Professional Development Day
 Nov. 24 Professional Development Day
 Nov. 25-27 Thanksgiving Break
 Dec. 21-31 Winter Break

Jan. 1 New Year's Day/Winter Break
 Jan. 4 Classes resume
 Jan. 18 MLK Jr. Day
 Jan. 22 Professional Development Day
 Feb. 22 February Break
 Mar. 25 Parent-Teacher Conference Day
 Mar. 26-Apr. 2 Spring Break
 Apr. 30 Professional Development
 May 31 Memorial Day
 June 15 Last Day of School
 June 16 Record Day
 June 21-22 Emergency makeup days (if needed)
 June 28-30 Central Services closed*

Note: ACT testing dates to be determined.

**EVERY
DAY
COUNTS!**
**176
STUDENT
DAYS**
**191
STAFF
DAYS**

July 2026

20 SUMMER
ACADEMY DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

August 2026

0 STUDENT DAYS
5 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

September 2026

21 STUDENT DAYS
22 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

October 2026

20 STUDENT DAYS
21 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026

16 STUDENT DAYS
19 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

December 2026

14 STUDENT DAYS
14 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

January 2027

19 STUDENT DAYS
19 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

February 2027

19 STUDENT DAYS
19 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6

March 2027

18 STUDENT DAYS
19 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

April 2027

19 STUDENT DAYS
20 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

May 2027

20 STUDENT DAYS
21 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

June 2027

11 STUDENT DAYS
12 TEACHER DAYS

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

■ Red – First and last day of classes/classes resume for students – Staff and students report
 ■ Blue – Parent-Teacher Conference Days – Staff and students do not report
 ■ Yellow – Staff and students do not report

■ Green – Teacher Organizational Day – Staff report and students do not report
 ■ Pink – Professional Development (PD) and Record Days (8AM-4PM) – Most staff report and students do not report

Calendar dates may change due to inclement weather, etc. Please stay in touch with your school for updates. Some teacher workdays are shaded. Individual schools may have additional non-attendance days that do not appear on this calendar. Also, methods and dates for distributing report cards may vary from school to school. STAFF: Refer to staff calendars for details on non-student attendance days. *Some offices open; Milwaukee Recreation offices and classes including Camp/CLC/Safe Places are open.

Rev 12/10/2025



Whittier School



Drop-Off/Entry & Traffic Procedures

Dear Whittier Families:

As stated in the school handbook, students should not arrive at school before the school day begins. Be advised, there is no playground supervision before school. Students are not to enter the building before 7:35 AM.

Our first bell (5-minute warning bell) rings at 7:30 am and at that time students should begin lining up at their designated area. K4 through 2nd grade students line up on the back playground. Students in grades 3 through 5 line up by the doors on the south side of the building. When the 7:35 a.m. bell rings teachers will pick up their students at their designated line. The goal is for all students to be in line and enter the school with their classroom at 7:35 AM and **NOT** enter school through the front door. **Students are considered late/tardy once all students have entered the building through their assigned entrance doors and the east doors are closed.**

When temperatures are below zero or it is raining, students will enter at the front of the building at 7:30 a.m.



Traffic Procedures



- Please travel only north bound on 3rd Street between Bottsford and Martin Lane **(Below is a diagram of how we envision traffic moving in the morning.)**
- No stopping or parking on 3rd Street between Bottsford and Martin Lane between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- Please respect our Crossing Guards.
- Please be courteous to our neighbors. Please do not block or turn around in their driveways.
- Do not park in the parking lot or alley. **These areas are for authorized personnel only.**

We currently have a crossing guard stationed at the corner of 3rd and Bottsford. We encourage all families to cross at these corners. The Crossing Guards are employees of the City of Milwaukee Safety Division – not employees of the school. Any concerns regarding the Crossing Guards should be directed to the Safety Division at 935-7990.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns (294-1400).

Mrs. Nikki Waechter
School Leader

