



Redbird Review September 2025

We need Bus Drivers & Cafeteria Supervisors!

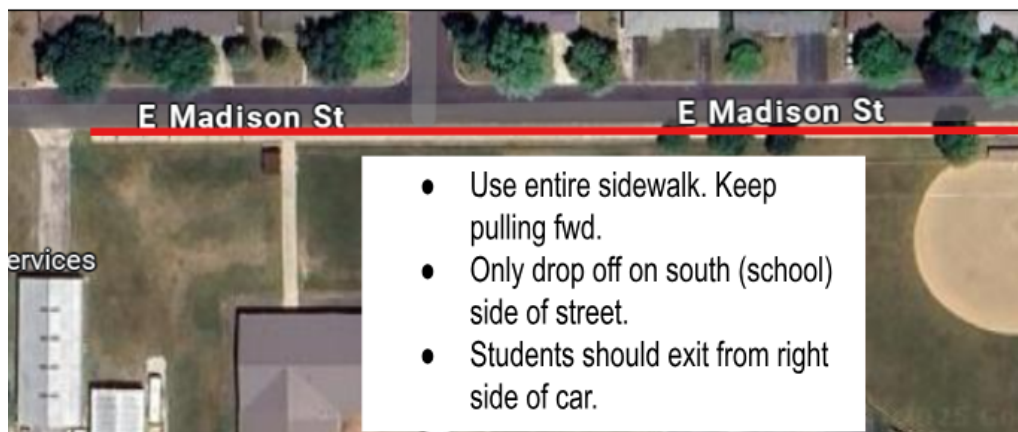
Please consider being a bus driver for us! We pay for all of your training and certification. Please email estephens@mgsredbirds.org or call the office for more information. Drivers get paid by route. Regular daily routes are \$105.

Cafeteria supervisors are needed 11:00-1:45 daily. Please contact Karla Kieswetter kkiesewetter@mgsredbirds.org with any questions.

[Employee Application linked here.](#)

Drop off Reminders

1. If there are cars behind you...please move forward.
2. Please remind students to have their belongings ready.



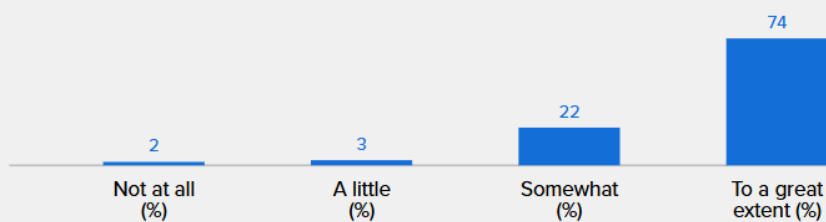
Superintendent Section

Thank you for taking the time to complete this annual survey. We strive to continuously improve by taking a look in the mirror and reflecting on strengths and areas of needed growth. Below are some key results from the spring survey. Your voice matters and we are grateful to be partners in your child's education!

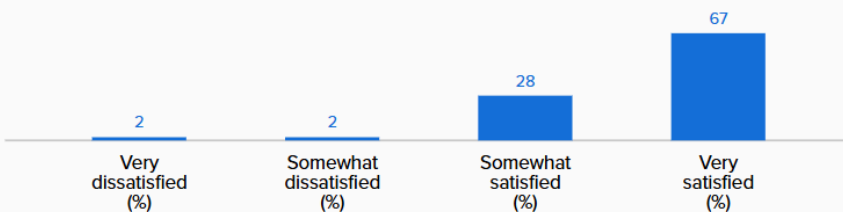


–Dr. Lee

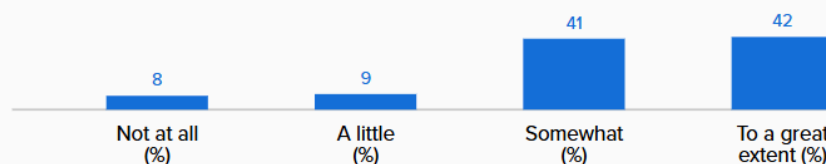
My child feels safe at this school.



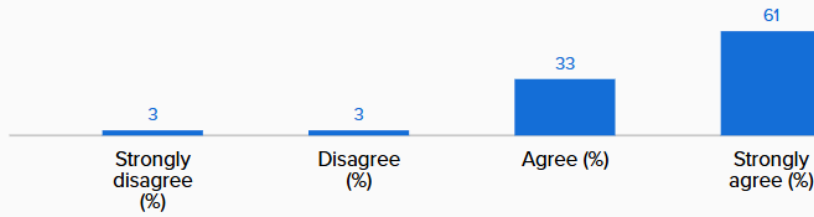
Overall, how satisfied are you with the education your child is receiving at this school?



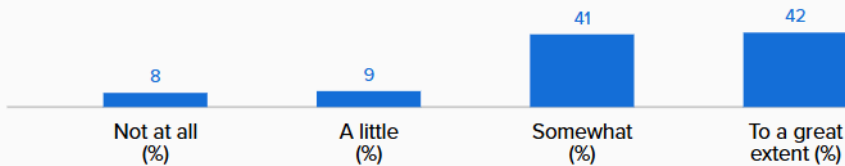
Your voice is valued at the school?



I am comfortable sharing my concerns with teachers at the school.



Your voice is valued at the school?



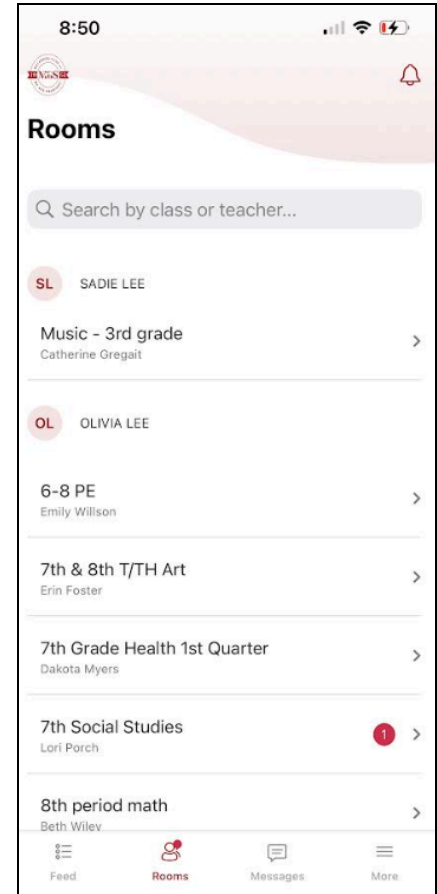
Making 'Room' For Improved Communication!

The 5 Essentials Survey showed that 93% of parents prefer text message as a primary means of school communication. This illustrates that our phones are a key tool to how we communicate throughout the day.

Using the MGS app, you can easily switch from district and school information to [Rooms](#), which provides a direct look at each class that your child(ren) is scheduled.

The MGS homepage provides [FAQ's](#) and support for Rooms. Please note, Rooms relies on information from Skyward (i.e. parent emails, phone numbers), so please confirm your Skyward info is correct.

For any issues accessing Rooms, please contact Dr. Lee or Director of Technology Paul Weber at pweber@mgsredbirds.org.



Reclaimed Resale Donates to MGS Foundation!

Reclaimed Resale continues to generously support its local nonprofits. This August, the MGS Foundation For Educational Excellence received a \$10,000 donation! A huge thank you to Reclaimed for their generosity!!



September Events/Opportunities

- 1st - No School (Labor Day)
- 8th - PTO Meeting 6pm.
- 12th - SIP Day (11:30 Dismissal)

[Full District Calendar Linked Here](#)





Notes From The Nurses:

Ashley Kline

Leslie Hodgen



Medication Reminders:

All medication must be dropped off in the main office by an adult.

Medication must have a doctor's note or medication authorization form in order to be given at school.

Medical forms needed for the 2025-26 School Year

All incoming Kindergarteners need:

1. Dental exam - on State of IL school form
2. Eye exam - on State of IL school form
3. Physical exam - on State of IL school form
4. Kindergarten [immunizations](#)

All incoming 2nd graders need:

1. Dental exam - on State of IL school form

All incoming 6th graders need:

1. Dental exam - on State of IL school form
2. Physical exam - on State of IL school form

****A sports physical does not meet the state requirement for the 6th grade physical exam.**

However, the 6th grade physical can be used for a sports physical if needed.

3. Tdap and Meningococcal vaccines (on or after 11th birthday)

All exams must be conducted within one year prior to the start of the incoming school year. Forms can be submitted at any time but should be turned in no later than the first week of school in August.

Options for turning in forms:

1. Scan and email to nurse@mgsredbirds.org
2. Fax directly to nurse at 309-367-2999
3. Give to the secretaries in main office



Food Allergy Precautions

All student classroom snacks, party treats or other class-wide treats must be nut-free. Per teacher approval, students may be permitted to bring a nut-free snack for themselves to eat in the classroom. Food containing nuts may only be brought in student lunches and consumed in the cafeteria during lunchtime only. Designated nut-free

tables are available in the cafeteria for all grade levels. Students are not to share food at any time.

Party treats or birthday treats must be store bought and pre-approved by the teacher. See below for a list of ideas. Other treats may be approved only if clearly labeled as "peanut/tree nut free" or "made in peanut/tree nut free facility."

***NO FRESH BAKERY ITEMS** (cupcakes, donuts, cookies, muffins, etc) unless specifically labeled by the manufacturer as nut free or manufactured in a nut free facility.

*Please check labels as manufacturing processes and ingredients can change

*Parents and teachers should communicate with each other about the child's food allergy and any special treats that may be distributed.

Nut free snack/treat ideas (not an exhaustive list)

Applesauce/fruit cups

Fresh fruit/veggies

Yogurt

Cheese sticks

Pudding cups

Goldfish

Snyder's pretzels

Veggie Straws

Skinny Pop or Pirate's Booty popcorn

Original or Golden Oreos

Original Rice Krispy Treats

Lofthouse cookies

Haribo gummy bears

Jelly Belly jelly beans

Smarties

DumDums

Annie's, Katz, MadeGood, Nature's Bakery, and Benton's brands have several nut free snack options



Newsletter

SEPT '25

REACH OUT ✉ pto@mgsredbirds.org

FOLLOW US 📺 [Facebook.com/MGSPTO](https://www.facebook.com/MGSPTO)



PTO SOCIAL: GET TO KNOW PTO

- Monday, September 8th 6:00PM
- At Metamora Center | 104 S Menard Street
- Casual social to meet fellow MGS parents, ask questions about PTO, bring new ideas, etc.
- Refreshments and treats provided
- Social attendees have option to stay for PTO meeting starting around 6:30PM



CLASS PARTY + ART COMMOTION

- K-4 Halloween, Christmas, and Valentines party sign ups were emailed on August 29th
- K-4 Art Commotion volunteers needed- 1x/month
- Must sign up through sign-up genius
- All treats MUST follow nut-free policy



RESTAURANT WEEK: CULVER'S

- September 15-Sunday, September 21st
- Washington location only
- Paper or digital flyer required
- 10% back to PTO
- No limit of visits!



CRAFT AND VENDOR SHOW

- Saturday, October 18th 9AM-2PM
- Free admission
- Vendors still being accepted- space fee \$30-\$40
- Volunteers NEEDED!!
 - Responsible middle/high school welcome
- Email ptocraftvendorshow@mgsredbirds.org



September 2025



METAMORA
GRADE
SCHOOL
FOUNDATION
FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Newsletter

Introducing our 2025/26 Foundation Board



Laura Gleissner
Co-President



Audrey Kamm
Co-President



Sarah Keller
Vice President



Christy Haeffele
Treasurer



Erika Wilkerson
Secretary

Welcome Trustees:

Mary Brenneman
Graysie Cook
Christy Haeffele
Devin Rohrs
Kim Springer

Returning Trustees:

Kari Dalpiaz
Sarah Johnson
Mary Kamm

Save the Date: March 20, 2026

Mark your calendar and line up babysitters now! The date for this year's Glo-Bingo fundraiser has been set for Friday, March 20th at Par-a-Dice Hotel!

Next Meeting: Monday, September 15th 7:00PM at MGS



\$18,000+ in fall mini-grants approved including:

Smart screen PE equipment Flexible seating
Science experiment materials STEM supplies
Musical instruments Math manipulatives
Lit books Accelerated Reader incentives + More

Other Ways of Giving

Don't have time to volunteer? No problem. Donations are always welcomed and tax-deductible. The Foundation also seeks business sponsorships and silent auction items for the annual fundraiser. Please reach out to learn more!

questions?



mgsfundraising@gmail.com



on-site at your school

RIGHT CLUB!

Before & After School

a place to
BE A KID!

HOSTED AT METAMORA GRADE SCHOOL

Next year's Right Club lineup is going to be the talk of the playground. Your kid will thank you—and so will your schedule when you've got reliable, enriching care you can trust. Win-win—but only if you're in!



This year's going to be the best yet with:



Hundreds of brand-new games, STEM experiments, and Disguised Learning® challenges to keep your kid on their toes (and off their screens!)



We're embarking on Language Adventures™, where younger learners (K-1) will say ¡Hola! to Spanish while grades 2+ will take on the challenge of French!



Endless take-home arts and crafts – clear some space on your fridge for these masterpieces!



Daily homework time with educator support – so you can reclaim the weeknight for family fun!

BEFORE SCHOOL

Starts at 7:00am

5 Days/Week \$110/Month
4 Days/Week \$101/Month
3 Days/Week \$87/Month
2 Days/Week \$65/Month
1 Day/Week \$40/Month

AFTER SCHOOL

Ends at 5:30 pm

5 Days/Week \$221/Month
4 Days/Week \$202/Month
3 Days/Week \$174/Month
2 Days/Week \$130/Month
1 Day/Week \$81/Month

BEFORE/AFTER COMBO

5 Days/Week \$303/Month
4 Days/Week \$275/Month
3 Days/Week \$239/Month
2 Days/Week \$180/Month
1 Day/Week \$110/Month

DISCOUNTS: Sibling: 10% • Military: 10%

REGISTER NOW!

RIGHTATSCHOOL.COM

You may be eligible for financial assistance!

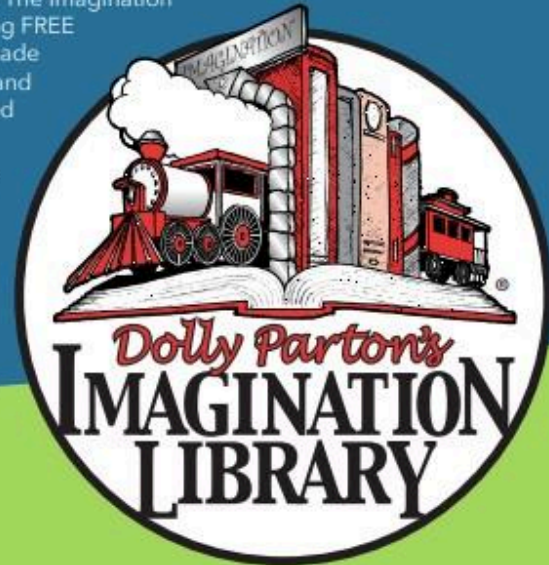
Visit our website to learn more.



Program Overview

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is the flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Tennessee organization. The Imagination Library is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by gifting FREE books to children from birth to age five. The program is made possible through funding shared by Dolly Parton herself, and local Program Partners in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and the Republic of Ireland.

Inspired by her father's inability to read and write, Dolly started the Imagination Library in 1995 to serve the children of her hometown in Sevier County, Tennessee. Today, her program spans five countries and gifts over 3 million free, high-quality, age-appropriate books each month to children around the world. There is never a charge to families who participate in the program and it is open to all children under the age of five in geographic areas with operating programs.



These books are customized with the child's name and sent directly to their home from Dolly, creating a special gifting experience that makes reading exciting and lets the child know they are cherished.



"Before he passed away, my Daddy told me the Imagination Library was probably the most important thing I had ever done. I can't tell you how much that meant to me because I created the Imagination Library as a tribute to my Daddy. He was the smartest man I have ever known but I know in my heart his inability to read probably kept him from fulfilling all of his dreams.

"Inspiring kids to love to read became my mission. In the beginning, my hope was simply to inspire the children in my home county, but here we are today with a worldwide program that gives a book a month to millions of children.

"Of course, I have not done this alone. The real heroes of our story are the thousands of local organizations who have embraced my dream and made it their own. They raise millions of dollars each year and wake up every day with a passion to make sure their kids have every opportunity to succeed.

"It's been quite a journey but we have so much more left to do. Let's share this dream that all children should grow up in a home full of books.

"The first step is always the hardest, but you'll never know unless you try..."

A stylized, cursive signature of Dolly Parton in blue ink.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Books

Each year, our esteemed Blue Ribbon Book Selection Committee, a specially selected panel of early childhood literacy experts, is responsible for reviewing hundreds of potential titles for inclusion in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.



Provide the gift of literacy for all children, birth to age five



Inspire children to love books and reading



Support parents and communities in fostering a child's success

Together, making a difference.

Since 1995, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has delivered millions of books to children in thousands of local communities in five countries. With the support of local funders, coordination by partners, and encouragement from community leaders and organizations, parents and educators spread the love of reading and engage children in the most fundamental skill necessary to succeed in life.



Why Invest in Early Literacy?

1. Ninety percent of physical brain development occurs in the first three years of life, when a baby forms over 1 million new neural connections per second.
2. When a young child enters kindergarten ready for school, there is an 82% chance that the child will master basic skills by age 11, compared with a 45% chance for children who are not school-ready.
3. Later in life, at-risk children who do not receive high-quality early childhood experiences are 25% more likely to drop out of school, 40% more likely to become teen parents and 60% less likely to attend college.
4. Investment in high-quality early childhood programs for at-risk children from birth to age five delivers a 7-10% annual return on investment through improved education, health, social and economic outcomes, increased productivity and the reduced need for social spending.

Having books in the home is crucial for a child's academic, social, and emotional development. Reading together fosters a unique bond between children and their parents or caregivers. The Imagination Library extends this impact globally by providing books to children worldwide, free of charge, nurturing their minds and hearts.



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ImaginationLibrary.com

Key Stakeholders

The true heroes of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library



Funders & Policymakers

Funders & Policymakers have significant influence in allocating resources, catalyzing partnerships, and maximizing the potential of the Imagination Library to scale and capitalize on opportunities.

Parents & Caregivers

Parents and Caregivers are a child's first teacher and set the course for developing their child's love of books and reading. Reading to a child from birth to age five improves their future reading ability and academic success.



Community Leaders

Community Leaders ensure the impact and ongoing progress of young students as they develop reading skills is crucial. By reducing the literacy gap in the early years, teachers can effectively lay the foundation for creating lifelong learners.

Local Program Partners

Local Program Partners offer the connection point, driving local awareness, enrolling local children, and paying the wholesale cost of the books and mailing each month.



Statewide Program Partners

Statewide Program Partners oversee support for Imagination Library volunteers, staff, and supporters to drive enrollment and provide universal access to high-quality, age-appropriate books across their state.



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ImaginationLibrary.com

Illinois Prairie District Public Library

Presents



What Is It?

Each month a new, carefully selected book will be mailed in your child's name directly to your home. The first book is always the children's classic *The Little Engine That Could™*. Best of all it is a FREE GIFT to your child through our partnership with local organizations! There is no cost or obligation to your family.

Who Is Eligible?

Children under the age of five in **Woodford County**

What Are My Responsibilities?

1. Be a resident of **Woodford County**
2. Submit an official registration form, completely filled out by the authorized adult.
3. Notify **Illinois Prairie District Public Library** any time your address changes. Books are mailed to the address listed on the account. Note: If the child's address changes, you must contact your friends at the address on this brochure in order to continue receiving books.
4. Read with your child and have fun!

When Will I Receive Books?

Eight to ten weeks after your registration form has been received, books will begin arriving at your home and will continue until your child turns five or you move out of the covered area.



www.imaginationlibrary.com

Illinois Prairie District Public Library

Presents



What Is It?

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Who Is Eligible?

Children under the age of five in **Woodford County**

What Are My Responsibilities?

1. Be a resident of **Woodford County**
2. Submit an official registration form, completely filled out by the authorized adult.
3. Notify **Illinois Prairie District Public Library** any time your address changes. Books are mailed to the address listed on the account. Note: If the child's address changes, you must contact your friends at the address on this brochure in order to continue receiving books.
4. Read with your child and have fun!

When Will I Receive Books?

Eight to ten weeks after your registration form has been received, books will begin arriving at your home and will continue until your child turns five or you move out of the covered area.



www.imaginationlibrary.com

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Official Registration Form

1st Child's FULL Name _____

Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Phone _____

2nd Child's FULL Name _____

Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Phone _____

Authorized Adult Name _____

Child's Mailing Address _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

Email Address _____

I hereby explicitly consent to allow the Dollywood Foundation, Inc. to use the information provided herein for the purposes of participating in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library book gifting program. To ensure the benefits of this program we may create datasets with the information provided herein and share them with research and educational advancement partners. You agree to review our full Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy by visiting imaginationlibrary.com. By signing and submitting this form you expressly consent to the terms set forth herein.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED ADULT _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received: _____ Group Code: _____

Cut Here

Sign up your child today!

Simply fill out the above form and mail to:

IL. Prairie Dist. Pub. Library

**PO Box 770
Metamora, IL 61548**



www.imaginationlibrary.com

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Official Registration Form

1st Child's FULL Name _____

Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Phone _____

2nd Child's FULL Name _____

Child's Date of Birth ____/____/____ Phone _____

Authorized Adult Name _____

Child's Mailing Address _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

Email Address _____

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SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED ADULT _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Date Received: _____ Group Code: _____

Cut Here

Sign up your child today!

Simply fill out the above form and mail to:

IL. Prairie Dist. Pub. Library

**PO Box 770
Metamora, IL 61548**



www.imaginationlibrary.com