GROVETON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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MR. JOSHUA SMITH
Principal

MS. MELISSA JONES
Assistant Principal

August 12, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The countdown is officially on, and the stage is set for an unforgettable 2026–2027 school year at Groveton Elementary! We hope your summer was packed with sunshine, big adventures, and unforgettable memories with family and friends. Behind the scenes, our incredible staff has been channeling that summer energy into crafting dynamic lessons, transforming classrooms into vibrant spaces of discovery, and preparing for our best year yet. We are counting down the days until our hallways come alive again with the bright smiles, big ideas, and unstoppable energy of our Groveton family. Get ready, your next great chapter starts now!

NEW Administrative Model

Starting this 2026–2027 school year, Groveton is adopting a unified K–12 leadership structure designed to align our entire district from day one through graduation. Under this model, I will serve as K–12 Principal across both campus buildings (Elementary, Middle, and High School) to ensure a seamless educational journey for every student.

To provide dedicated daily support, we have specialized Assistant Principals in each building:

- Ms. Melissa Jones – K–5 Assistant Principal (Elementary School)
- Mrs. Mallory Langkau-Gross – 6–12 Assistant Principal (Middle/High School)

This structure gives our district the best of both worlds: strong K–12 consistency paired with targeted, grade-level support right where our students need it most.

Welcome Ms. Jones

We are thrilled to give a giant Groveton welcome to our new Assistant Principal, Ms. Melissa Jones! Bringing a wealth of passion, dedication, and vibrant energy to our school leadership team, Ms. Jones is eager to dive into the 2026–2027 school year and connect with our wonderful students, staff, and families. Her commitment to fostering a supportive, joyful, and high-achieving learning environment makes her a perfect fit for our Groveton family. Be sure to give her a warm wave and introduce yourself when you see her around campus!



First Day

Mark your calendars, the big day arrives Wednesday, August 26, 2026! Be sure to stick around for a few extra minutes to snap those classic first-day photos and capture the magic before the morning rush. We simply ask that you be patient, allowing for the excitement and potentially some nervousness of kicking off the school year.

Here is how we are kicking off day one:

7:35 a.m. (Early Breakfast): Early birds can head straight to the cafeteria to fuel up for the day.
7:45 a.m. (Regular Arrival): Main doors open! Breakfast is still ready and waiting for anyone who needs a bite. Students not eating breakfast will head directly out to the playground to catch up with friends and line up with their classes.
We can't wait to see you there at 7:45 am.

Drop-off and pick-up

If you are driving your child to school, please use the designated drop-off area with the crossing guard whenever possible. For safety, students in grades K–2 should be handed directly off to a staff member on duty during drop-off. The same area will be used for afternoon pick-up.
As an added safety measure, we ask that K–2 students be dropped off and picked up by a responsible adult or teenager. In the afternoon, we will dismiss K–2 students to parents/caregivers waiting on the playground.

Dismissal Time

Time remains the same as last year. 2:35 p.m. Bus riders will be dismissed first, followed by walkers and car riders, beginning with grades K–2 and then grades 3–5. Classroom teachers will share more specific information before the first day.
If you haven't already, please like our Groveton Elementary School Facebook page and download our SAU 58 smartphone app to stay up to date on important news and events. Teachers will send direct links to classroom apps they are using.

Early Release Time



Please note that our early release days will begin at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is still served on these days before dismissal. This allows us to dedicate time for staff training, which helps us better support student learning and growth.



Bus Schedules

Bus schedules will be sent separately. If you want your child to ride the bus please contact the bus company, WW Berry directly to arrange for pick up. You can contact them at 603-636-6100.

Playground Before and After School

Playground Before and After School
To keep our campus safe during school hours (7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.), the playground is ***closed*** to the public. At dismissal, we ask that students exit the playground promptly so staff can ensure everyone has left the grounds safely.

In the mornings, please make sure students do not arrive before 7:35 a.m., that is when adequate supervision begins. Your cooperation helps us maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all students. Thank you for your understanding and support!

Competency Corner

What do we mean by competency? In simple terms, competency is a student's ability to apply what they know and can do across different subjects and in real-life situations. At Groveton Elementary School, we measure competency in a variety of ways to ensure we capture the full picture of student learning.



Formative assessments, like daily classwork, discussions, and homework, give teachers ongoing feedback about a student's progress toward mastering specific standards. ***Summative assessments***, such as end-of-unit projects or tests, measure how well students can apply their learning to new situations. Together, these assessments help us understand each child's strengths and areas for growth.

Achieving competency doesn't happen overnight, it's a journey. With consistent effort, dedication, and support from both school and home, students steadily build the knowledge and skills they need to succeed not just in school, but in life.

Important Paperwork

On the first day of school, students will bring home several forms that need to be completed and returned as soon as possible. These forms help us keep accurate records, ensure student safety, and maintain strong communication between school and home. If you have any questions while filling them out, please don't hesitate to contact the school for assistance.

At Groveton Elementary, we are committed to keeping you informed throughout the year. You can expect regular updates through US mail, email, Thrillshare Call Alerts (via text or phone), and communication tools from your child's classroom teacher (Rooms). You'll also find important information on our school website and social media pages.



Promptly returning paperwork helps us start the year smoothly, thank you for your cooperation!

Free and Reduced Lunch Program

We strongly encourage every Groveton family to take a few minutes to complete the free and reduced-price meal application for the 2026–2027 school year! This simple form does far more than cover lunch, it plays a massive role in unlocking essential state and federal funding that directly supports learning resources, classroom tools, and programs for every student in our building. By simply completing this form you are helping the community raise essential funding for school budgets.

If your family qualifies, your child will receive free or reduced-price meals seamlessly. Every piece of information shared remains 100% strictly confidential. Even if you aren't sure you qualify, submitting an application helps ensure our school counts every eligible dollar.

Thank you for helping us maximize resources so Groveton Elementary can deliver the extraordinary school year our kids deserve!

Volunteer Information

All volunteers and class chaperones participating in field trips or school activities must complete a criminal background check. For those interested in volunteering during the 2026–2027 school year will need to complete the volunteer paperwork and schedule to have finger prints taken. Please note that volunteers will not be permitted to participate in any school activities until the background check process is fully complete and the report is received.

To schedule fingerprinting, volunteers must contact ***The State Police Barracks*** to set up an appointment, as walk-ins are not guaranteed. For any questions, get a volunteer application or additional information, please reach out to the ***SAU office***.

Important Dates to Remember



Wednesday August 26th - First Day of School
Thursday September 3rd - Early Dismissal Day - ***Students dismissed at 11:30***
Friday September 4th - No School
Monday September 7th - No School (Labor Day)
September 8th - 12th - GES School Spirit Week (more information to come)
September 12th - Homecoming Parade (more information to come)

As we launch into the 2026–2027 school year, remember: Groveton Elementary is more than just a school, we are one big, vibrant, supportive family. Whether your little one is taking their very first steps into kindergarten or your fifth grader is gearing up to conquer their final year here, we are in this journey together every step of the way. So pack those backpacks, tie those sneakers, and get ready for a year packed with breakthrough moments, endless laughter, and just the right amount of joyful noise! We can't wait to throw open the doors and let the energy of a brand-new school year begin!

Here's to a fantastic year ahead, let's make it one to remember!

If you have any questions please call the school. 603-636-1806 or email: j_smith@sau58.org or m_jones@sau58.org

Educationally Yours,

Joshua L. Smith - Principal
Melissa Jones - Assistant Principal
Groveton Elementary School