



IRISH PRIDE PRESS

September 2026 Newsletter

View newsletters at www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us

Principal's Corner

Dear Freedom Elementary Families,

On behalf of the entire staff, I want to extend a warm Freedom WELCOME to the 2026–2027 school year! We are thrilled to have our students back and learning together again. A special welcome goes out to all our new students and families joining our school community—it's a joy to have you with us!

We are also excited to welcome our new staff members who bring a variety of talents and passions to our team:

Ms. Ashlynn Dokey, Art Teacher
Mrs. Katie Schmeltzer, Associate Principal



In addition, Mrs. Stephanie Zwiers has transitioned to the 4th-grade team, and Mrs. Kate Jakl will be transitioning to the Physical Education team this year. We are confident that each of these individuals will have a positive impact on our students' learning and growth.

We are looking forward to another fantastic year at Freedom Elementary School. Our theme for this school year is **"The Irish Wave."** *Every Small Ripple Creates Big Waves: Every act of kindness, every challenge accepted, and every lesson learned creates a wave that helps our school family grow.*

This newsletter contains important information to help you and your child start the school year off smoothly—please take a few minutes to read through it.

Here's to a great year of making waves in our learning, growth, and connections!



Student Drop Off/Pick Up Procedure

Student Drop Off Starts at 7:35 am.

Please continue to utilize the car drop offline in the morning. Parents need to pull as far forward as possible before unloading. If possible, students should exit the vehicle from the passenger side. Students will enter through the main doors of the school. If you choose to park, please walk your child to the door. Thank you for your patience with the morning drop off. Remember students should not exit vehicles before **7:35 am**.

Student Pick Up-

Please remember we DO NOT have a pickup line at the end of the day. You need to park **legally** in the parking lot or on the primary playground past the shed. Parents need to come to the pickup area to collect their child(ren). The playground parking will open at 2:50 pm for additional parking. Please plan accordingly.

School Hours

The school day begins at **8:00 a.m.** for Freedom Elementary School. Students should be in class and ready to learn by 7:55 a.m. All children must be dismissed through the school office if leaving outside of our normal dismissal time. We ask parents to come into the office and ask the secretaries to call their child to the office. This is done for the safety of every child at Freedom Elementary School. Dismissal for students is at 3:05 p.m.



Important dates:

- September 2
Open House
3:30-5:15
Playground Ribbon
Cutting Ceremony
5:15
- September 2
Title I Informational
Meeting Library
4:00 and 5:00
- September 7
No School
- September 8
First Student Day
- September 9
4K Mon/Wed
First Day
- September 17
Picture Retake Day

Interactive Lunch

Menu Link

<https://www.myschoolmenus.com/organizations/2787>

Continue to save or
enroll in
**Box Tops for
Education**

We are a NUT
FREE School.
**only Baked
Goods purchased
through our
Dining Services
will be allowed**



Open House Schedule September 2, 2026

3:30pm to 5:15pm	Classroom Visits Meet your teacher and drop off your school supplies
5:15pm to 5:30pm	Playground Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
3:30pm to 5:30pm	Gymnasium- Information tables Registration station-if did not complete online Pay School Fees (Lobby) Purchase Assignment Notebook Gr. 3-5, Girl Scouts and FES PAC- (Parent Activity Committee)
4:00pm and 5:00pm	Library with Mrs. Schmeltzer, Associate Principal Title I Informational Parent Meeting (optional) with our District and FES Reading Specialists



Parent and Visitor Guidelines

All visitors and volunteers must enter through the **Main Entrance**. If you plan to volunteer or chaperone a field trip this year, please complete the required **annual background check form** as part of your online registration. **All background checks MUST be requested by APRIL 1, 2027. This is important if you want to chaperone year-end field trips.**

Picture Day – District Photographer – Harmann Studios

Freedom Elementary School's Picture Day was held during District Registration on August 11. All students will have their picture taken. Families do not have to purchase picture packets. Online ordering information was emailed out.

Picture retake day will be on **September 17** for anyone that missed registration or wants retakes.



Registration and Fees

Registration was done on-line again this year. Please contact the elementary office if you haven't completed it and need assistance. Please take care of any outstanding balances by September 30, 2026.

Elementary Dining Services Updates

We have a few food service updates to share with families for the 2026–2027 school year.

Birthday and Classroom Celebration Treats

Families will have the option to purchase approved baked goods through FES Food Service for student birthdays and classroom celebrations. To ensure we are following food safety guidelines, **we will not accept baked goods brought in from outside our food service program. Here is the link <https://forms.gle/KG3wiqJd7W6LHp5s6> for ordering for birthdays or classroom treats.** Families are still welcome to send **non-baked-goods items** for classroom celebrations, as appropriate.

Milk Breaks

Beginning this school year, milk breaks will be offered only to **4K and Kindergarten students**. Students in other grades will continue to have a snack break, but milk will no longer be provided as part of the snack break.

Water Bottles

Students are welcome and encouraged to continue bringing a water bottle to school. To help maintain cleanliness and hygiene, **water bottles must be taken home at least every other day to be washed** and then returned to school.

Lunch menus are located on the school website. Click on the link to view menus. <https://www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us/district/lunch-menus.cfm>.

Thank you for your cooperation and support as we make these updates to our food service practices.

NUTRITIOUS SNACKS & NUT/PEANUT FREE ZONE

The School Health/Wellness Policy adopted by the Freedom Area School District is promoting healthy nutrition. Families are asked to send nutritious snacks. Please refer to the district website for many peanut/nut free options and school policy/guidelines. The district website is: www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us. Some examples to bring are popsicles, ice cream or non-food items to share

Please Note: Freedom Elementary School is a nut/peanut free school. Do not send any homemade baked treats, only send fruit or packaged items that do not contain nuts/peanuts; see link for examples, <https://www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us/district/school-nutrition.cfm>. Purchased goods or store bought may be baked in factories that use peanut products. **Any baked or purchased baked goods will have to be sent back home, please do not send/bring them to school. Only baked goods purchased from Freedom Elementary Dining Services will be allowed.** This is due to many students who have severe allergies to nuts/peanuts. Thank you for your support with the wellness issue.



FES is a Schoolwide Title School

What does this mean? It means that at FES we expect students to have high levels of achievement. We have professionally trained educators and paraprofessional staff along with resources to give additional support to those most in need. We regularly monitor student growth and create and implement plans to support student improvement.

TITLE I COMPACT

Freedom Elementary School recognizes that student achievement is best promoted through a strong home and school partnership. A team approach is critical in guaranteeing academic success for all students. The school district's Title I program, in partnership with students, teachers, and principals, parents, and families, asks for your commitment to the goals outlined below.

- Please note this was signed when online registration was completed for your child.

Student Goal:

- I will attend school regularly and be on time.
- I will do my best in class and on my school work.
- I will ask for help when I don't understand something.
- I will come prepared each day (supplies, books, completed work).
- I will keep a positive attitude towards self, others, school and learning.
- I will discuss with my parents what I am learning about in school.
- I will read frequently at home.
- I will practice being a responsible digital citizen when using technology.

Parent Goal:

- I will ensure that my child attends school regularly and is on time.
- I will provide enough time and an environment at home that allows my child to complete school work and/or study at home.
- I will encourage my child to do his/her best work.
- I will be aware of my child's progress by attending conferences and requested meetings, monitoring homework, checking schoolwork and communicating with school staff.
- I will reinforce to my child the importance of respect for self and others when face to face with peers or when online.

Teacher/School Goal:

- I will be a positive role model.
- I will provide a positive learning environment that builds self-esteem and academic knowledge where students can be successful.
- I will maintain high expectations for myself and the students.
- I will communicate and work with families to support student learning.
- I will promote being a responsible digital citizen.
- I will show respect to parents, students and family situations.
- I will encourage good reading habits and study skills.

Newsletters

Freedom Elementary School publishes a monthly newsletter that will be published only online. The newsletter may be read at www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us and click on Elementary School, Newsletters.

You will be notified by email when the newsletter is ready to view. Please make sure your email address is up-to-date. Paper copies are available in the office for those who wish to pick one up.

Fox Cities Marathon-Kids Fun Run

For over 18 years Freedom Elementary School has participated in the Fox Cities Marathon – Kids Fun Run. Our school has won over \$9,000 for Physical Education equipment from having the most students participate.

Your student will be bringing home more information regarding the fun run during the first week of school. Simply go to the website and sign your child up. The run is Friday, September 18 at the Fox Cities Stadium. Your child can run the Mini-Dash at 5:45 pm, the ¼ mile race around the warning track at 6:30 pm, or the ½ mile race around the warning track two times at 7:00 pm.

Registration includes a medal and a t-shirt, plus a goodie bag. There are always many more activities to do before or after the race too, including refreshments, carnival games, and mascots to visit. It is a great night of family fun. Come join us!!



School Store

Here is the link to the school store for Freedom Apparel.

<https://kennyroseboutique.com/collections/2025-2026-fasd-school-store>

There will be sizes available to look at during Open House on September 2 from 3:30-5:15pm.

Substitutes Needed

The Freedom Area School District is also seeking individuals for substitute teachers, support staff positions throughout the District. We are looking for substitutes in the following positions in the district: Custodial, Classroom/Special Education Aides, Playground Supervisors, Kitchen Staff, and Secretarial.

If interested in subbing in any position, please fill out a district application from the Freedom Area School District website at:

<https://www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us/district/APPLICATION1.pdf>

For more information or if you have any additional questions, please contact the District Office at 920-788-7944.

FREEDOM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BYLAWS AND POLICES

To access the district policies go to:

www.neola.com/freedom-wi

OR

www.freedomschools.k12.wi.us

and click on the district bylaws and policies link



Happy Fall



FREEDOM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Parent DROP-OFF PROCEDURES – AM

At Freedom Elementary School, student safety and efficiency remain our top priorities during arrival. Below are the procedures for ***student drop-off in the morning***. These serve as a helpful guide for our families. We offer a car drop-off line **only in the morning**.

Morning Drop-Off Procedures (AM)

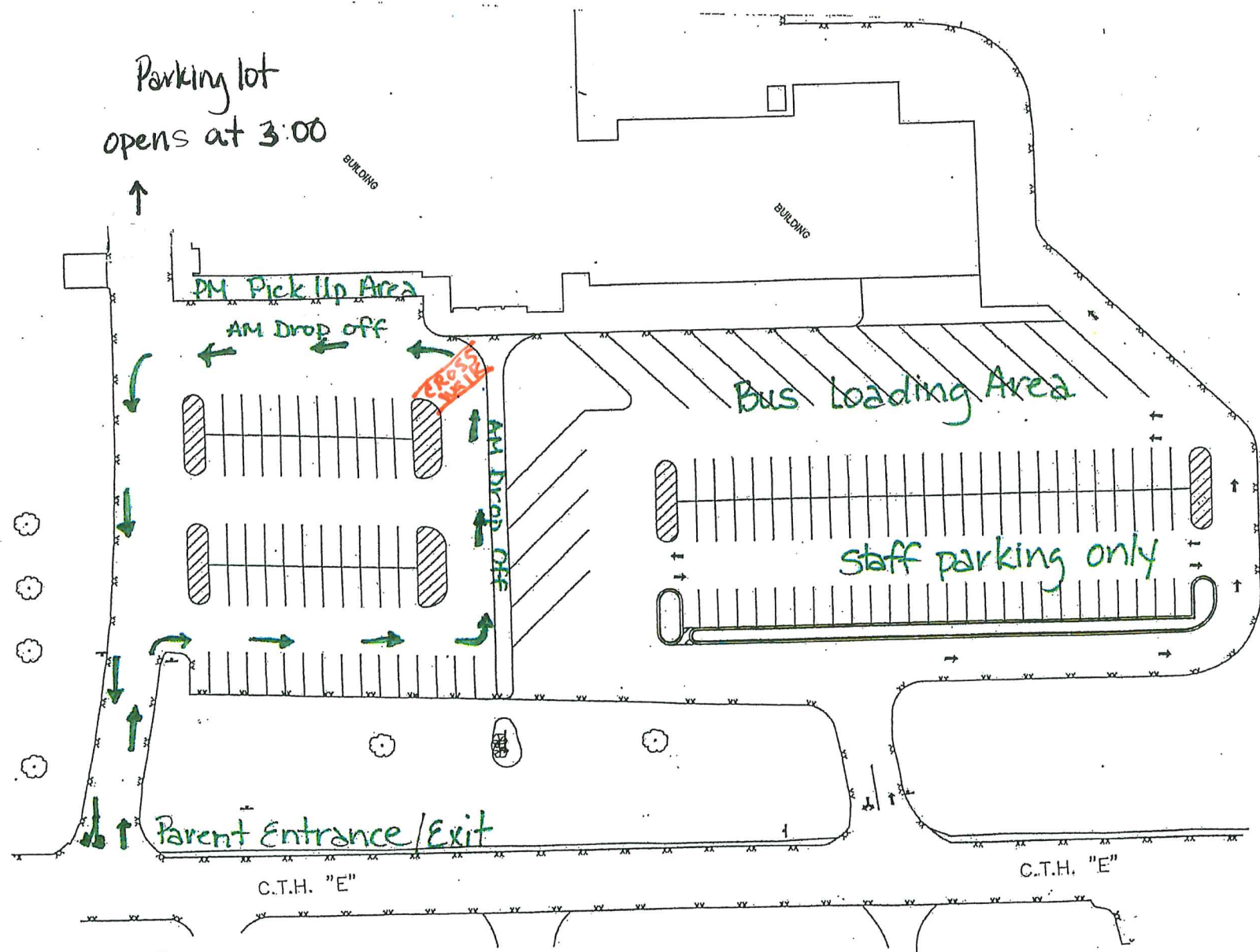
The car rider line is drop-off-only. Adults may NOT exit the car for any reason in the drop-off line- you must park

- Student entry begins at **7:35 AM**. Please do not drop students off before 7:35 AM.
- Enter the school driveway slowly and cautiously. Drive to the right, then turn left toward the main entrance.
- Stay to the right along the sidewalk in front of the school.
- Have your child ready to exit the vehicle promptly, with all belongings in hand.
- Pull forward as far as possible in the drop-off lane. Multiple vehicles may unload simultaneously.
- **Children should exit on the passenger side. Drop off on the curbside only** for their safety.
- Check your blind spot and pull away slowly and carefully after drop-off.

YOU MUST PARK

- If your child needs help to unbuckle or you need to assist your child in any way that requires you to leave the vehicle, **you must PARK!**
- If you need to enter the building or assist your child, including helping him/her to unbuckle, please **park** in a designated stall. Parents escorting their children should wait until the car rider line has moved forward and stopped, and **cross in the designated crosswalk by the front doors only.**

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support. By following these procedures, we can ensure a smooth and safe experience for all families.



FREEDOM

— ELEMENTARY SCHOOL —

BELIEVE ★ ACHIEVE ★ SUCCEED

BIRTHDAY & CLASSROOM CELEBRATIONS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



Together, we can make
every celebration
SAFE, INCLUSIVE,
and SWEET!



We will **NOT** allow any outside baked goods into classrooms starting the **2026-2027** school year.



Our FASD Dining Services team will begin offering approved birthday and classroom celebration treat options for families starting **September 1, 2026**.



Parents may purchase baked goods directly through the School Dining Services Department to share as birthday or classroom treats.



This summer, Dining Services will have a link to an order form on our district webpage.



Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work to maintain a safe and inclusive environment for all students.



JOIN THE PAC!

The Freedom Elementary Parent Activity Committee (**PAC**) is our school's PTA/PTO. We work together to plan fun student activities, organize fundraisers, and support the needs of our school community.



Everyone Is Welcome!

There is **no attendance requirement** to be involved with PAC. Parents, grandparents, and staff members can participate as little or as much as they'd like.



PAC MEETINGS

When: Third Monday of each month

Time: 5:30 PM

Where: Teacher's Lounge at
Freedom Elementary School



Free childcare provided during
meetings by Freedom High School's
National Honor Society

2026-2027

MEETING DATES

- ★ September 21
- ★ October 19
- ★ November 16
- ★ January 18
- ★ February 15
- ★ March 15
- ★ April 19
- ★ May 17

No meeting is held in December.

Get Involved. Make a Difference. Have Fun!

PAC helps create memorable experiences for students, supports teachers and staff, and strengthens our school community.

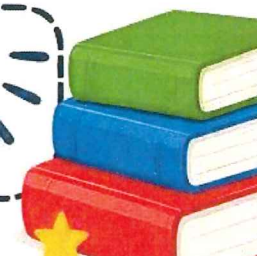


Whether you volunteer once a year or attend every meeting,
your involvement matters!



Questions? We'd love to hear from you!

FreedomPAC1@gmail.com



Paid student meal is \$1.45. Reduced Meal is \$0.30

Freedom Elementary School September Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7 No School - Labor Day	8 Cream Cheese Bagels Apple Juice	9 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	10 Yogurt Parfait w/ Granola or Granola Breakfast Round Apple Juice	11 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Banana
14 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	15 Mini French Toast or Assorted Muffins Apple Juice	16 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	17 Strawberry Smoothie Apple Juice	18 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Banana
21 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	22 Cream Cheese Bagels Apple Juice	23 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	24 Yogurt Parfait w/ Granola or Granola Breakfast Round Apple Juice	25 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit
28 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	29 Mini French Toast or Assorted Muffins Apple Juice	30 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Scooby Snacks & Fresh Fruit	1 Strawberry Smoothie Apple Juice	2 Cinnamon Toast Crunch/Cocoa Puffs/Trix Cereal Banana

Septiembre

Escuela Primaria Freedom Menú de desayuno de la escuela primaria Freedom

Día del Trabajo - No hay clases	7	Mini bagels de fresa y queso crema	8	Variedad de cereales	9	Parfait de fresa con granola	10	Variedad de cereales	11
Variedad de cereales	14	Mini tostadas francesas de Cinnamon Toast Crunch Magdalenas de chocolate	15	Variedad de cereales	16	Batido de fresa	17	Variedad de cereales	18
Variedad de cereales	21	Mini bagels de fresa y queso crema	22	Variedad de cereales	23	Parfait de fresa con granola	24	Variedad de cereales	25
Variedad de cereales	28	Mini tostadas francesas de Cinnamon Toast Crunch Magdalenas de chocolate	29	Variedad de cereales	30				

De conformidad con la ley federal de derechos civiles y las normas y políticas de derechos civiles del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos (USDA), el USDA, sus agencias, oficinas y empleados, así como las instituciones que participan en los programas del USDA o los administran, tienen prohibido discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, religión, sexo, discapacidad, edad, estado civil, situación familiar o parental, ingresos provenientes de programas de asistencia pública, creencias políticas o represalias por actividades previas relacionadas con los derechos civiles, en cualquier programa o actividad realizada o financiada por el USDA (no todos los motivos se aplican a todos los programas). Los recursos y los plazos para presentar quejas varían según el programa o el incidente.

Las personas con discapacidad que requieran medios alternativos de comunicación para obtener información sobre el programa (por ejemplo, Braille, letra grande, audiocinta, lenguaje de señas americano, etc.) deben comunicarse con la agencia estatal o local que administra el programa o con el USDA a través del Servicio de Retransmisión de Telecomunicaciones al 711 (voz y TTY). Además, la información del programa puede estar disponible en otros idiomas además del inglés.

Para presentar una queja por discriminación en un programa, complete el Formulario de Queja por Discriminación en Programas del USDA, [AD-3027](#), disponible en línea en [Cómo presentar una queja por discriminación en un programa](#) y en cualquier oficina del USDA, o escriba una carta dirigida al USDA e incluya en ella toda la información solicitada en el formulario. Para solicitar una copia del formulario de queja, llame al [\(866\) 632-9992](#). Envíe su formulario o carta completa al USDA antes de:

Correo postal: Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos, Oficina del Subsecretario de Derechos Civiles, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410;
fax: [\(202\) 690-7442](#); o
Correo electrónico: program.intake@usda.gov.

El USDA es un proveedor, empleador y prestamista que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades.

Full student meal is \$2.75 and a reduced price is \$0.40

Freedom Elementary School Lunch Menu - September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7	8	9	10	11
Labor Day - No School	(1) Hot Dog & Potato Chips (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Waffles & Sausage Links (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Cheese Pizza (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Beef Tacos (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables
14	15	16	17	18
(1) Hamburger or Cheeseburger (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Popcorn Chicken W/ Mashed Potatoes (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Pepperoni Pizza (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Pancakes & Sausage Patties (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Spaghetti & Meatballs w/ Garlic Bread (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables
21	22	23	24	25
(1) Chicken Nuggets w/ Pretzel Bites & Cheese (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Mini Corn Dogs (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) French Toast & Sausage Patty (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Pizza Dippers (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Chicken Tenders (2) Ham & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables
28	29	30	1	2
(1) Boneless Chicken Wings (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Buttered Noodles & String Cheese (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Waffles & Sausage Patty (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Cheese Pizza (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables	(1) Chicken Patty on a Bun (2) Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Assorted Fruits & Vegetables

This Institution is an equal opportunity Employer

Septiembre

Escuela Primaria Freedom

Menú del almuerzo de la escuela primaria Freedom

7	Perrito caliente en un panecillo O Sándwich de jamón y queso	8	Gofres caseros y salchichas O Sándwich de jamón y queso	9	Pizza de queso O Sándwich de jamón y queso
<i>Día del Trabajo - No hay clases</i>				10	Taco suave de carne O Sándwich de jamón y queso
14	Pollo frito estilo palomitas Con O Sándwich de pavo y queso	15	Pizza de pepperoni O Sándwich de pavo y queso	16	Tortitas y salchichas O Sándwich de pavo y queso
<i>Elección de Hamburguesa en panecillo Hamburguesa con queso en pan O Sándwich de pavo y queso</i>				17	Espaguetis con albóndigas Con O Sándwich de pavo y queso
21	Mini salchichas rebozadas O Sándwich de jamón y queso	22	Palitos de tostada francesa Con Hamburguesa de salchicha de cerdo O Sándwich de jamón y queso	23	Pizza Dunkers O Sándwich de jamón y queso
Nuggets de pollo O Sándwich de jamón y queso				24	Tiras de pollo O Sándwich de jamón y queso
28	Fideos con mantequilla Con O Sándwich de pavo y queso	29	Gofres caseros y salchichas O Sándwich de pavo y queso	30	
Alitas deshuesadas O Sándwich de pavo y queso					

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fax: [\(202\) 690-7442](#); o

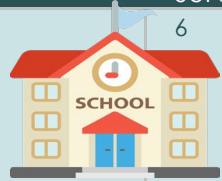
Correo electrónico: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Freedom Elementary School September Student Calendar 2026

2026

SEPTEMBER

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
31 	1	2 Elem. Open House 3:30-5:15 Playground Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 5:15-5:30	3	4	5 	6
7 No School - Labor Day	8 First Student Day	9 4K Mon/Wed First Day Student Council meet during lunch recess	10	11 5th gr. Hover Craft Project	12	13
14	15 International Dot Day- wear dots 	16	17 Picture Retake Day	18 International Talk Like a Pirate Day 	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 <i>Irish Pride Day-wear Green & Gold</i>	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3 	4
5	6	NOTES:				