

August 5, 2009

Dear Parents,

As we enter the month of August we begin to realize that the start of school is just around the corner. I hope that you and your family have enjoyed the summer and are anticipating the start of school as much as I am. This letter is intended to provide you with pertinent information and reminders about the upcoming school year.

Class lists and bus routes will be posted on the front doors of the school on Thursday, August 13. The first day of school will be on Tuesday, August 18. We will follow an early dismissal schedule for the first 2 days of school. Students will be dismissed at 11:15 on Tuesday, August 18 and Wednesday, August 19. The first full day of school will be on Thursday, August 19. Regular school hours are 7:45 until 2:45.

Kindergarten Open House will take place on Thursday, August 13 at 6:30 PM. This will be an opportunity for kindergarten parents and students to visit the school, meet their teacher, and drop off school supplies in their classroom. There will be brief presentations and an overview of our kindergarten program presented that evening.

New families who have registered over the summer will receive a phone call prior to the posting of class lists on August 13 indicating what school your child will be attending. If you feel you may have missed a call or have not been contacted, please feel free to contact the office at 243-7728.

We are still missing registration documents and/or health requirements for some of our students. If you have any registration deficiencies please submit the required documents to the office. All registration requirements must be on file in the office before the start of school. Registration checks will be cashed the first week of August. If you have questions regarding registration materials and/or requirements please call the office at 243-7728.

We will have a Back to School Night for parents of students in grades one through five on Tuesday, August 25. The purpose of this evening is for teachers to provide pertinent information about classroom procedures, expectations, and curriculum. This evening is for parents only and we ask that your children not attend as space will be limited in the classroom. Parents will also be able to sign up for parent-teacher conference times on this evening. More information about Back to School Night will be included in our weekly parent bulletin which is distributed each Friday. This parent bulletin may also be accessed via our school website (www.dunlapcusd.net/wilderwaite).

Our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is an integral part of our school and provides our students with valuable support in a variety of ways. Sign-ups for various committees will be available at Back to School Night. I encourage you to become involved in our PTO if you are able. If you are unable to volunteer through the PTO, there are equally meaningful ways that you can support your child's education. Taking an interest in what they are studying and providing support and encouragement in their studies and development sends a powerful message to your child that education is important and valued.

The school district offers a Free and Reduced Lunch Program for qualifying families. If you are interested in applying for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program, simply stop by the office and pick up an application form. Qualifying families are eligible for either free or reduced price lunches as well as a book rental fee waiver.

Wilder-Waite offers a hot lunch program for students. Lunches cost \$1.35 and milk costs 30 cents. Milk is included in the price of the school lunch. Students have the option of purchasing a hot lunch or bringing a cold lunch from home. Each student has an electronic account that parents may deposit money into. Money is debited from your child's account when they purchase a lunch and/or milk. You may deposit as much money into your child's account as you wish by sending a check to school with your child. A notification will be sent home when your child's account approaches a "0" balance. No lunch credits will be issued and students without money in their account will be given a peanut butter sandwich and milk.

Parents also have the option of depositing money into their child's lunch account using the Café Pre-pay system. You may access the Café Pre-pay via our school website. This program allows parents to electronically deposit money into your child's account using a credit card. If you have questions regarding our district lunch program you may call the Director of Food Services at 243-5426.

Our school website provides a variety of further information about school. You can access forms, school supplies lists, lunch menus, district curriculum, the district calendar and many more informational links. I encourage you to use this as a communication tool. If you have any suggestions for web page improvements please let us know.

I hope you enjoy the remainder of your summer and we are looking forward to seeing you and your children August 18.

Sincerely,

Todd M. Jefferson
Principal