

September 2017

Dear Giesinger Families,

Welcome to Giesinger Elementary! We are looking forward to a successful and productive school year!

Arrival Procedures:

Our doors open at 7:30 am for students. All students may go to their classroom at 7:30 am. Students are tardy at 8:10 am. Any student eating breakfast should go straight to the cafeteria. Breakfast is served from 7:30 - 7:50 am. Enrichments and interventions, EAGLES time, is from 8:00 to 8:30 am for all students from all staff members. We are hoping for all students to be in their classrooms by 8:00 to be ready to participate in enrichment and intervention activities.

Dismissal Procedures:

Parents picking up children after school need to display the Car Rider or Walker signs daily. The dismissal signs are available in the front office from our receptionist, Betty Moreno. Please try to avoid picking your children up before dismissal. Our school day ends at 3:10 pm. If your child is going home a different way than designated with the teacher, please send a note that morning or fax a note before 2:00 pm. Any change in transportation should be received no later than 2:00 pm however we understand when last minute transportation changes have to occur. Late transportation changes must be made no later than 2:30 pm. This is to give us time to receive and deliver messages and to confirm that this is a valid change of transportation.

I invite you to become an active participant at Giesinger Elementary. There are many opportunities to volunteer and it is our mission to build strong relationships between our families and the school. Together everyone achieves more!

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Open House is Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, along with a PTO meeting in the cafeteria.

5:00 - 5:30	PTO meeting in the cafeteria
5:30 - 6:15	Pre-K/Kindergarten/1 <sup>st</sup> grade and Life Skills
6:15 - 7:00	2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> grades

Watch Dog Kick-Off - September 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 7:00pm

We know that teachers, parents and community working together make a great school! Our goal is for each student to know that we are all here to ensure their success. It is going to be a great year! Eagles Soar to Excellence in All We Do!

Sincerely,

Melissa Hammond  
Principal

From Our Assistant Principal....

We have had a great start to the new school year. It has been so wonderful seeing our returning Eagles and meeting our new Eagles.

We are so proud of our amazing staff and are eager to teach your children this year. Forming a working relationship with your child's teacher is a key factor to academic success. Please feel free to schedule a conference anytime or call with any questions or concerns. Our teachers have websites that are also another good resource for staying informed with school activities and classroom updates.

Thank you for your patience with bus transportation. As our routes get established and practiced, this will be a great way for our students to arrive and leave school. If you qualify for bus services, (outside a mile radius of Giesinger) utilizing the bus is an efficient way to send your Eagle to and from school. You can register for bus service through the CISD website under the parent tab.

I am looking forward to another great year!

Amy Barber  
Assistant Principal

From your Counselor....

I am so excited for my first year as Counselor at Giesinger Elementary. It is going to be a great year! My role on campus is to work with students, parents, and teachers to provide a positive environment where students can become life-long learners. Believing that it is important to make connections with children, I use child-friendly approaches such as art, sand table, books, play, and groups. My approach is proactive and I strive to help the students become better problem solvers, responsible citizens, learn appropriate social skills, and prepare for life after elementary school. I am available for conferences if you ever have any concerns. I look forward to working with you and out students!

Mrs. Amanda Barton

3 Habits For A Successful School Year

No matter how you approach your child's education and experience at school, you're modeling how to think about and behave at school. Your actions teach your children how much to respect to show at school and how much value to place in their education. The following habits will help develop a strong foundation for a successful school year.

1. Talk with your child about your child's interactions at school. Education is a social process requiring interactions between student, students and teachers, and teachers and their colleagues. Help your child understand that: Respecting peers and including others are the most effective strategies for earning respect and building friendships. \*Bullying is socially unacceptable and has significant consequences for the victim and the child doing the bullying. \*All teachers and school staff deserve respect.

2. Guide your child to prioritize, plan and perform. Help your child learn responsibility by guiding them to prioritize, plan, and perform. \*Prioritize - complete difficult work first, make decisions about extracurricular activities based on educational obligations \*Plan ahead - plan when work will be done when your child is participating in other activities, set a routine for homework. Set ready for the next day the evening before. \*Perform - ensure that your child follows through with responsibilities, emphasize the intrinsic rewards of hard work, affirm effort, and outcomes.

3. Support your school by volunteering and showing appreciation. A positive school climate leads to academic success. Contribute positively to the climate of your child's school by: \*Showing appreciation - supporting teachers encourages them and motivates them \*Helping and serving - volunteering at the school shows that school is important and an enjoyable place to be \*Having a good attitude - understanding that all people and all organizations have areas for growth, being positive about your school and contributing to its success provides opportunity for the school to improve where it needs to.

In light of recent Hurricane Harvey, I wanted to offer my assistance to any families that may have been affected. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding food and clothing assistance, shelters, or emotional support for students. Below are few ways to help your child feels safe. If you would like more ways or more information on this topic, do not hesitate to let me know.

Safety - Focus on safety first.  
Your young child feels safe when  
you . . .

- Do familiar things, like singing a song you both like or telling a story.
- Have a predictable routine, at least for bedtime: a story, a prayer, cuddle time.
- Help your child name how she feels: "scared," "happy," "angry," "sad." Tell her it's OK to feel that way.
- Reassure your child that you will be together. Just being with your child, even when you can't fix things, helps your child.