

Geer Park Elementary

Fall 2019 Newsletter

A Note From Mr. Lawera

- On October 7th, all students attended a behavior expectation assembly presented by Mr. Lawera.

The following items were reviewed with the students:

- a. Behavior Flow Chart; classroom and office.
 - b. Bullying. Response to Bullying behavior awareness.
 - c. The Student Code of Conduct book.
 - d. Action Plan (classroom expectations)
 - e. Responsibility Room (similar to after school detention)
 - f. Core Values
 - g. School Expectations
- Arrival and Dismissal Times:
Please be careful when dropping off and/or picking up your child. There are now yellow-greenish cones on the sidewalk for student safety. Remember, there is no parking in front of the school. We also have two parent volunteers that help assist cars and cross students during dismissal. Please remember not to leave your car in the "pick up" lane/line.
 - Students are expected to use the crosswalks at all times when crossing the street.
 - Lunch Times: If you would like to drop off lunch for your child or bring them lunch, please stop by the main office first. You can meet our new Secretary IV, Ms. Wanda Saad. She will then give you a visitor's badge to wear while you are in the school. Please note: As always, all visitors must sign in the main office. Thank you.
 - We would like to welcome the new teachers to Geer Park. Ms. Lutteke, 4th grade teacher, Ms. Dean, 3rd grade teacher and our new 2nd grade teacher Andrea Pearce who will begin on October 14th.
 - Open Door Policy: All parents are welcome at Geer Park Elementary. If you would like to meet or discuss anything, please feel free to contact the main office or stop by and visit.

Upcoming Dates

- **Friday October 11:** ½ day, dismissal at 11:45
- **Wednesday October 16:** Late start, school begins at 9:35
- **Friday October 18:** 1st Grade field trip to Apple Orchard
- **Friday October 18:** PTA Meeting 8:45
- **Friday October 18:** Parent Education/Leadership Forum Meeting 9:30
- **Wednesday October 23:** Picture Day
- **Thursday October 31:** Halloween, more details to follow
- **Friday November 1:** ½ day, dismissal at 11:45, end of first cardmarking
- **Tuesday November 5:** No School, Election Day
- **Thursday November 7:** Parent-Teacher Conferences Day 1
- **Monday November 11:** Ms. Dean's class Firehouse Trip
- **Tuesday November 12:** Parent-Teacher Conferences Day 2
- **Thursday November 14:** Parent-Teacher Conferences Day 3
- **Wednesday November 27-29:** No School, Thanksgiving Break
- **Wednesday December 18:** Late Start, school begins at 9:35
- **Monday December 23-Monday January 6:** No School, Winter break

- New Birthday Policy effective October 10, 2019:

New guidelines:

1. The PTA will post your child's name on the electronic marquee if you are a PTA member. Remember, only first names will be displayed for safety reasons. Thank you for your understanding.
 2. 3:15 is the new time to celebrate all birthdays. i.e., 10-15 minutes before dismissal. Exception: If the teacher has a prep the last hour of the school day, then the birthday will occur 10-15 minutes prior to that special area class.
 3. Other siblings are not allowed to leave their classrooms to attend the birthday celebration.
 4. We are asking that parents do not bring balloons to school as well.
 5. Treats: We are recommending parents to bring in items other than cupcakes and sweet treats. (i.e., pencils, other items, etc.) But, if parents would still like to bring in treats they may. However, we are asking for those items to be individually wrapped. Please remember that we are trying to utilize all instructional minutes.
- Noon Hour Supervisors: You will now see all noon hour supervisors wearing yellow vests while on duty. In addition, the noon hours have whistles, ice packs, gloves, bandages and paper towel with them during all lunch recesses. Their objective is to make sure that all students are safe during lunch recess. They are doing a good job watching all students!
 - In September, Mr. Lawera presented to all students in each of their classrooms. He discussed the new procedures. Some topics included: arrival, dismissal, crosswalks, lunch rules and routines, outdoor recess, school rules and much more. The students asked many questions and were excited to hear about all of the new procedures as they started off the school year.

- BRIC Bond: November 5. Please remember to vote on this day. Thank you.
- Bike Rack: Students are allowed to ride their bikes to school. We ask that students remember to bring a lock for their bike.
- Cafe Updates: The district has indicated that the lunch choices on the monthly menus are now correct.
- In addition, snack options will be available for all students beginning on Friday, October 18. Snacks will be sold during all lunches every Friday. If you have any questions, please contact the kitchen manager, Ms. Cornea or Mr. Lawera.

Reminders

Geer Park Elementary is using this Parent Survey as a means to elicit your beliefs and opinions to help target areas for the school system to improve and areas to continue to be effective. The online survey will be available until **11/15/19**. In order to complete the survey, please use your phone camera to scan the QR code below. This will open the survey which is in English and Arabic

Please be assured that your responses to this survey will be anonymous and your honest opinions are appreciated. Thank you in advance for supporting our improvement efforts.



Scan me using your phone camera!

