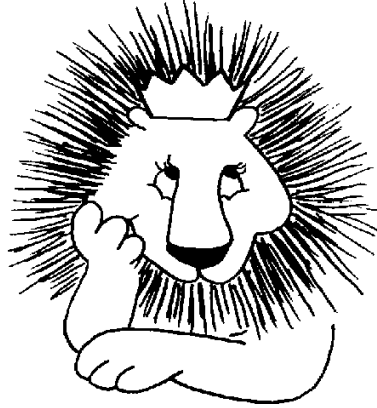


Kingswood Montessori STEM Magnet Elementary



Student & Parent Handbook 2024-2025

**200 East Johnson Street
Cary, NC 27513**

Phone: 460-3481

Fax: 670-4286

Principal: Sherry Schliesser

Asst. Principal: Michele Carr

**E-mail: sschliesser@wcpss.net
mtcarr@wcpss.net**

Phone Numbers:

Main Office

460-3481 Ext. 0

Attendance Office

460-3481 Ext. 21617

Counselor

460-3481 Ext. 21603

Cafeteria

460-3481 Ext. 21606

Cary Transportation Office

805-3030

Website:

<http://kingswoodes.wcpss.net>

Welcome to Kingswood Elementary School!

Meet the Teacher

Monday, August 26

1:30 - 3:00 (Grades 1 - 5)

Drop by Classroom to meet your teacher!

Pre-K / Kindergarten Meet the Teacher

Friday, August 30st

4:15 - 5:15 p.m.

Drop by Classroom to meet your teacher!

Primary (Pre-K - Kindergarten)

Beginning in the Montessori Preschool-Kindergarten environment, students will learn the fundamental rules of math and science through the discovery of natural laws through manipulation of didactic materials and problem-solving with peers. Our multi age organization at this level allows younger students a variety of opportunities to learn at their individual levels. Children learn from each other and because of each other. Differences are welcomed and respected. The Primary classroom, for Pre-K and Kindergarten is divided into the areas of Practical Life, Sensorial, Language, Math, Science, and Cultural Studies.

Practical life is the foundation of Montessori and prepares the child for future work. It provides a transition from the home environment to school using materials found in the child's home. Using these materials, children can develop hand/eye coordination and fine motor control.

The sensorial area provides children with opportunities to order, classify, and develop an understanding of height, length, weight, and color, as well as discover geometric shapes and their properties. Sensorial materials attract the child because of the variations in color, shape, and size present in the works.

Materials in the mathematics area are concrete and sequential. The use of these works allows children to internalize the concept of number, symbol, and operations on a concrete level. Later, the children can use this knowledge to learn higher-level mathematical concepts.

The language area exposes children to sounds and letters. Children learn these concepts through auditory, visual, and tactile experiences. Children can isolate sounds, match objects to sounds, and then to corresponding letter symbols. This knowledge forms the foundation of spelling words and writing sentences with the aid of the moveable alphabet. Children are guided from this process to the reading process.

Science and cultural studies present the concepts found in the world around us. Through STEM and Project Based Learning, these concepts are integrated throughout the school day in all subjects.

Lower Elementary (Grades Primary – 2nd)

The needs of the lower elementary child are different from the primary child and the classroom environment reflects those changes. Some of the same materials are present to be used in more complex ways, and new materials are added to prepare the environment for a higher level of learning. As the children's reading and writing skills increase, they learn to find answers to critical, real world questions in the areas of science and culture by applying their knowledge of Common Core/NC State Standards. Students use digital devices (21st Century Tools) to enhance their discovery and publish their products or projects. Students continue to use hands-on manipulatives to understand concepts in mathematics and geometry to support their learning of abstract concepts. As children master skills, they can conceptualize them with the aid of manipulatives and put words to the concepts.

Upper Elementary (Grades 3rd -5th)

The Upper Elementary classrooms reflect changes in the needs of these older children. Students use the reading, writing, computing, and technology skills they have learned to work on cooperative projects in literacy, math, science, and cultural studies and present what they have learned to different audiences. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math are integrated in real world Project Based Learning activities that promote critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication.

Assessment of Student Mastery

Students are continuously assessed through daily observations of their activities and informal assessments that teachers use to gauge mastery of lessons and guide children to the next level of their work. Teachers can add additional support for those in need of remediation and acceleration for those who are ready to explore the content further. In addition, students are assessed using WCPSS assessments and the North Carolina End of Grade Tests.

Peaceful Environment

Kingswood culture embraces a peaceful environment where respect for students, staff, and materials are discussed, modeled, and practiced. We follow the Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) where our students know the expectations for every area of their school day through modeling, practicing, and reinforcing these expectations. Students are rewarded for following the SWIM expectations: Staying Safe, Working Hard, Is Kind and Respectful, and Managing Actions. All members of our community speak this language and it helps form the peaceful environment of Kingswood.

Specials

In addition to classroom learning, our students benefit from Art, Music, Physical Education, Media, and STEM specials each week. Students build upon their individual strengths in these classes as well as increasing their collaborative skills while expressing themselves in various ways. These skills aid in the development of the whole child and positively impact the work that is accomplished in the classroom.

Library Policies

With a goal of creating lifelong readers and learners, our Library has a large collection of books for all interests and reading levels, and we encourage leisurely reading of both fiction and non-fiction. Primary students can check out one book per visit. Grade 1 can check out two books per visit. Grades 3-5 will be allowed to check out three books per visit. We give students plenty of time to read their books, and renew if needed, but appreciate prompt payment of replacement fees for misplaced or lost library books.

We immediately replace the lost books and therefore ask that if you find the book you paid for, please keep the book since we have already replaced the book. It causes a bookkeeping issue if we must refund money that we have already used to replace the lost book. We end up with two books and an unbudgeted cost for our school funds.

Thank you for your support.

Last Word

Remember, we are here to provide the BEST educational experience for your child. Please do not hesitate to call with questions or concerns. The only bad question is the one you fail to ask.

Sherry Schliesser
Principal

Michele Carr
Assistant Principal

Kingswood School Hours:

9:05 a.m. to 3:35 p.m.

Arrival and Dismissal:

Arrival time is between 8:35 and 9:05 a.m. Children are not allowed into the classrooms or hallways before 8:35 a.m.

After the first week, 1st – 5th grade parents will say “Good Bye” to children at the front door. Parents may call school if they want to set up an appointment to talk to teachers. Teachers are busy helping students from 8:35 – 9:05 a.m.

Kindergarten parents should begin saying “Good Bye” at the door to their children beginning September 9th. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Class instruction begins at 9:05 a.m. Breakfast is made available from 8:35-9:00 a.m. each morning, if you want your child to eat breakfast at school, please make sure they are here by 8:45 a.m. if they are a car rider to given them enough time to eat. Please make every effort to have your child here by 9:00 each day to avoid missing valuable instructional time.

Dismissal time is 3:35 p.m. for all children.

It is imperative that we closely adhere to arrival and dismissal times. The time before class is vital for teacher preparation to ensure a smooth and productive day.

Kingswood Procedures

- All parents, staff, and students will abide by Wake County School Board policies.
- Our school day begins at 8:35 and ends at 3:35. Arrival of students begins at 8:35 and ends at 9:05. **We do not have adult supervision prior to 8:35 a.m.** The car rider lane moves swiftly but you can help us out by doing the following; have your child ready to get out of car when you reach the carpool attendants, no cell phone usage in car rider lane, 5 mph maximum speed in parking lot, say your goodbyes prior to reaching adult assistants. We ask that all carpool vehicles only make right turns into and out of the parking lot during carpool times (8:35-9:05) and (3:35-3:55).
- If your child rides home in a car he/she must be picked up promptly at 3:35 PM. **Please go through the carpool line rather than park on the street to pick up your child.** Students will remain in their classroom until their name is called.
- Teachers will provide a weekly communication folder for parents and students that is sent home with the student on Monday. Please read all forms of communication that come home from school.

Visitation to classrooms without **prior** arrangements will not be permitted. If you plan to visit a classroom, you may communicate with your child’s teacher via e-mail, send a note or call the front office (919-460-3481). As always on the day of your visit, please sign in at the front desk for your visitor’s badge.

School Pictures

School pictures will occur two times during the school year. Two individual pictures and one class picture will be available to be purchased. Pricing and package information will be sent home at a later date.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Teachers are expected/required to hold two conferences per year to discuss your child's academic progress. The first conference is held around the time of the first report card period. The second conference is generally scheduled in the spring. Teachers will make every effort to schedule conference at times, which are mutually convenient for both the parents and the teacher. Parents can also initiate conferences, please call first to schedule these conferences in advance.

The following are tips for successful conferences:

- ◆ Plan to give the teacher at least a day of advance notice. Prepare in advance a list of items you wish to discuss with the teacher.
- ◆ Ask your child if there is anything he/she would like you to discuss with the teacher.
- ◆ Be reasonable in what you expect the teacher to do and about the amount of specific attention the teacher can give your child.
- ◆ Start right away on the action steps that you and the teacher decided upon.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Kingswood parents and teachers are encouraged to join and actively participate in the PTA. We need your support! A schedule of PTA meetings can be found on the school website. Events and meeting dates/reminders will be sent home with students in their weekly folders.

Absences and Health Policies

Absences

When a student is unable to attend school, parents should call 919-460-3481 X21617 by 9:05 AM. They are to state the student's name, teacher's name, and reason for absence to office personnel or voice mail. Please make sure to send a letter to the school once your child returns to school for documentation. Absences are excused for the following reasons:

- Illness or injury, which makes the student physically unable to attend school or isolation ordered by State or County Board of Health.
- Death in the family.
- Medical, dental, or other appointment with a health care provider approved in advance.
- Religious observance, as suggested by the religion of the student or the student's parents, with prior approval.
- Participation in a valid educational opportunity, such as travel, with prior approval.

School Attendance is a huge indicator of
student academic success!!!

To be counted as present, the student must be in attendance at least one-half of the school day. If the student comes in after 12:20 p.m. he/she will be considered absent for daily attendance records. School attendance is very important to your child's academic success. A letter will be sent to your attention after three unexcused absences. Additional letters are sent for 6, 10 and 15, etc. days absent. If the absences continue, our social worker will be asked to call you and try to resolve the situation. Parents of students at Kingswood on transfer, please refer to Board Policy 6203-10 regarding attendance requirements for transfer students.

Family Trips When School is in Session

Wake County Policy provides for excused absences for educational trips or days absent for religious reasons if approved in advance of the absence. If you anticipate an absence for educational or religious reasons, please pick up a Prior Approval Request for Excused Absence form from Mrs. Hall in the Data Manager's office, located in the main office. The form should be completed and returned to Mrs. Hall no later than the Monday prior to the absence. Missed work for excused absences will be provided after the child returns from the trip.

Please read below if you are planning an extended trip during the school year, this is particularly important if your child is here as a Magnet student as they will lose their Magnet status:

Per the State Accountability Manual, with 10 or more consecutive absences on the last day of school, the student will have to be withdrawn, effective the day after their last day of actual attendance.

Below is the 10 Day Rule from the School Attendance and Student Accounting manual below...

276(p), 115C-288(b), and 115C-307(g)).

Ten Day Rule:

The State Board of Education Ten Day Rule states that when a student accumulates ten consecutive days of unlawful absences, he/she is to be withdrawn from funded membership as of the first day following his/her last day in attendance. The PowerSchool software automatically handles the administration of the Ten Day Rule. The software functions as follows:

- On the day following the 10th consecutive unlawful absence, the student in violation of the 10 Day Rule will no longer be counted in the calculation of ADM as of the first day of the consecutive absences. However, he/she will continue to be enrolled in the school and attendance is to be taken with the appropriate reason code. If the student has 10 consecutive unexcused absences causing violation days and returns on the 11th day or after and this occurs in one school month, the 10 days will stay as violation days, but the student will not show as a violation.
- Student Chronic Absenteeism (NCSBE Policy ATND-004) Student chronic absence is a risk factor for adverse student outcomes.
- "Student Chronic Absentee" is a student who is enrolled in a North Carolina public school for at least 10 school days at any time during the school year, and whose total number of absences is equal to or greater than 10 percent of the total number of days that such student has been enrolled at such school during such school year; This definition applies to all students enrolled in a school, including those who have not reached the compulsory attendance age, as well as those who have reached or exceeded the compulsory attendance age.
- Student chronic absence refers to missing an excessive number of school days, for any reason—excused, unexcused, disciplinary – that a student is at risk of falling behind.
- Student chronic absence differs from both truancy and average daily attendance. Student daily attendance is the percentage of students present in a school each day. Student truancy measures unexcused absences only.

Tardies

Students are considered tardy if they arrive at or after 9:05 a.m. Any student arriving at or after the 9:05 a.m. bell will have to report to the office to sign in (**a parent must sign in the student**) and receive a note for admission to class.

Parents must accompany students to the door when checking in late. Ring the doorbell and a school employee will come and assist you. If a parent does not walk the student in, the tardy will be marked as unexcused regardless of the reason. We will use the computer for students signing in tardy. Excessive tardies and/or absences will be closely monitored.

Please notify the school immediately if your address changes. You will need to provide proof of residency.

Please notify the school immediately if your phone number changes so that we can contact you in case of sickness or emergency.

Inclement Weather Instructions

In case of snow or other dangerous weather or emergency situations, a decision may be made to close or delay school. These decisions are made after the National Weather Service and local weather bureaus have been consulted. As soon as a decision is made, local radio and television stations are notified, and a notice is posted on the school system's web page at <http://www.wcpss.net>.

If school days are missed for inclement weather, please refer to the 2024-2025 WCPSS Traditional School Calendar for make-up day information.

Student Health

A **Wake County Public Health Nurse** will visit our school two days per week. The **Health Dept.** stresses that children learn best when they are well and happy. Some suggestions about how to help prevent illness in your child are as follows:

- Have your child get a complete physical before he/she enters school, and be sure your child has all the required immunizations.
- Notify the teacher of any health problems or handicaps.
- Make sure your child has 8 to 9 hours of sleep each night.
- Assure that your child has three good meals each day.
- Insist that he/she dress appropriately for the weather.

If your child becomes ill during school hours, office staff will call their parents. A fever, certain rashes, and the like require that students be sent home. A student sent home with a fever is asked to remain at home for 24 hours until fever free without the use of fever reducing medications.

Medication will not be administered to students without the proper form on file signed by the parent/physician as is required by Wake County policy (Form #1702). Any over-the-counter medication must also be accompanied by a physician's form. If your child is prescribed a short-term prescription for an illness, please check with the front office on the procedure. Also, the parent must bring any medications to the school. Medications that do not follow these guidelines will not be administered.

Emergency Procedures

In case of an accident or sudden illness the school will not hesitate to seek proper care for a child. The child's individual emergency instructions on file in the school office are consulted immediately and the parents are called. It is very important that you keep emergency contact information current in the office. Please notify the office when your phone number changes. If you do not have a phone, please provide us with a number of someone who can contact you in case of emergencies. Parents are called when students become ill or injured during the school day. Parents are expected to pick up the children when they are unable to remain in the classroom.

Entering the Building

The school's main entrance is facing E. Johnson Street. Please enter the school from the main entrance. Because of security, all outside doors will be locked, please ring doorbell for admittance into the building. All visitors are required to register in the office located near the main entrance.

Classroom Interruptions Policy

In an effort to make the most of instructional time, WCPSS has adopted a policy to reduce interruptions during regular classroom time. Students can learn best and teachers can teach the best when instructional time is not interrupted by announcements, unexpected visitors, or messages from the main office of the school.

We need your help as we work to give your child the best possible learning experience. Thank You!

- ❖ You are always welcome to visit, to volunteer in your child's class or eat lunch with your child. **Please notify your child's teacher the day before your visit so we will be expecting you.**
- ❖ Please notify your child's teacher at least one day in advance (except in an emergency) if you will need to pick up your child early for a doctor's appointment or other excused absence.
- ❖ Except in an emergency, telephone messages to students will be delivered during lunch or at the end of the instructional day.
- ❖ Parents are not permitted to bring or send food for birthdays or celebrations of any kind. Student's birthdays will be recognized during school wide morning announcements. Each child will be invited to the main office to receive a birthday pencil. Any parent interested in purchasing a new book for the school in honor of their child's birthday, may send in a check for \$5.00. The new book will be tagged in honor of that child.
- ❖ No home baked food is permitted according to Wake County policy.
- ❖ Even if all the above criteria have been met, classroom visitation is always at the discretion of the school principal.

Breakfast and Lunch:

Breakfasts/lunches may be prepaid for student meals for a week or longer. They may be paid by check, cash or money order. You may also set up an account online to pay for your child(ren)'s breakfast and/or lunch under **mylunchmoney.com**. Always include the students' lunch number when prepaying by check. Take the money directly to the cafeteria. A free and reduced breakfast and lunch program is available for those who qualify. Forms for applications are available to all children from the office during the school year. Forms are mailed to the home of returning students during the summer.

Family members are welcomed and encouraged to eat with students. Adults may purchase lunches a la carte. Students in Grades 1-5 may purchase only one snack/dessert per day. Kindergarten students may purchase one snack/dessert on Friday only. This helps ensure that students develop the healthy habits of eating nutritional foods instead of filling up on snack items.

PRICES

Breakfast Full Price- \$1.75
 Reduced price- Free

Lunch Full Price- \$3.50
 Reduced Price- \$.40

Lunches from Home

We encourage parents to prepare nutritional foods which enable our children to develop healthy attitudes at all levels: mentally, emotionally, and physically. All foods need to be sent to school ready for the child to eat- precut, mixed, peeled, etc. Please do not send glass containers or jars. Use plastic containers or plastic bags that the child can open independently. Do not send canned soda for your child for lunch.

Field Trips

During the year, the children take field trips to enrich their learning experiences. All trips will be chaperoned by teachers and parents. All field trips will be announced in advance and all children must have a signed permission form on file at the school before participating. The school system will provide transportation.

Carpool Procedures

AM Carpool Procedures:

- Drivers will make only right hand turns into and out of our campus during the hours of 8:15-9:15 a.m., in other words, no cars will make a left into or out of the parking lot off East Johnson Street.
- No parents will park and then walk their students to the door. Please stay in the carpool lane with your students. We have had many parents parking in the “No Parking Areas” and this makes for a very unsafe condition on East Johnson Street. Only students that walk to school should be at the front door when the morning bell rings. All other students should remain in the car with their parent (or designee) until a carpool monitor is available to let them out of the car.
- Parents who drive students to Kingswood must go through the carpool line to drop students off. Please do not drop students off on East Johnson Street or the bus loop.

PM Carpool Procedures:

- Drivers will make right hand turns in and out of the parking areas during the hours of 3:15-4:15, in other words, no cars will turn left into or out of the parking lot from East Johnson Street and cars will not turn left as they leave the parking lot onto East Johnson Street.
- No students may be picked up in the bus loop area, you will be asked to go around to the carpool line to pick up your students.
- Walkers (students who live in the immediate neighborhood) will line up at the stairs on East Johnston Street and will be dismissed by an adult from that spot. This is different from parents who have been parking and picking up students. This will no longer be allowed.
- Parents (or their designee) will pick up students only in the car rider line. No students will be dismissed from the car rider area to parents (or designee) walking up to the lines of students. Those parents will be required to go into the office to check their students out.
- All car riders will be assigned a car rider number and given a car rider tag to display on their rear-view mirror. Students will have a corresponding number attached to their backpack. Students will stay in their classroom until their name and number come up on the form that we use at which time they will make their way to the dismissal area for all car riders.
- We have lists of all students who currently are car riders. If you decide to change the way your child rides home, please contact the office daily. If you decide to become a car rider, please check with the office for a tag. We will use the same number every year, please do not discard your car tag year to year.
- The carpool monitors are loading four cars at a time. If your child is not where they should be we will ask you to move up and wait. Please tell your child to listen for their car tag number and what color they need to stand at. Please wait for your child to be put in the car by a staff member.
- If your child needs assistance getting into their car seat, please pull up and out of the way of the carpool flow lane and assist them. The staff is not allowed to assist children with buckling their car seats.

Bus Procedures (from the Transportation Website):

- WCPSS Transportation provides families of students who ride a yellow bus to school with a free bus tracking system called **Here Comes the Bus**.
- **Here Comes the Bus** translates GPS data into an easy-to-use customizable map that works on a computer, tablet or smartphone. The app allows you to see where the bus is and how close it is to your stop.
- Get started with **Here Comes the Bus** at <https://herecomesthebus.com/parents/get-started/>. You will need the district code and your student's ID number to sign up. For your smartphone or tablet, download the **Here Comes the Bus** app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).
- The WCPSS school code for Yellow Bus is **67500**. The WCPSS school code for Vendor Transportation Services is **67501**. [Learn more about Here Comes the Bus for Vendor Transportation Services.](#)
- When entering your student's last name on the app, spell it as it appears on your Home Base/PowerSchool account. If there is a hyphen in the name, make sure you include it. Only enter the first 18 characters of your student's last name. If your name is, *Yellow-School Bus Wake*, you will enter *Yellow-School Bus* in the last name field.

- Once activated, you can customize or edit features, including how the app will communicate with you and the size of the notification radius.
- The **Here Comes the Bus** app does not track buses providing service between schools, afterschool activities or athletic events.

Support:

- Please understand that we sometimes make bus substitutions when preventative maintenance is due and in response to the management of bus drivers. When a bus substitution is made, some features of the **Here Comes the Bus** app may not work.
- Once you are logged into your account, the link to **Here Comes the Bus** support can be found by selecting Help. Additional resources can be found there as well.
- Questions or concerns related to bus service issues should be directed to www.wcpss.net/transportation Bus updates are also provided at <https://www.wcpss.net/bus-updates>.

Bus Conduct

Riding the bus is a privilege, and students must follow the rules. The following rules have been established in order to ensure the safety of all students who ride buses:

- Use only the assigned bus stop.
- Use orderly behavior at the bus stop as well as on the bus.
- Remain seated and facing front when the bus is in motion.
- Talk quietly and make no unnecessary noise. Talk to the driver only when it is necessary.
- Put all trash in receptacle supplied by the bus driver – do not throw anything out the windows.
- Stay quiet when the bus is crossing the railroad tracks.
- Additional information can be found on the WCPSS website.

The following are established policies and procedures for school bus discipline:

- The bus driver will report misbehaving students to the principal or principal designee.
- The principal or principal designee will notify the parent guardian by telephone or Bus Discipline Notice upon receiving a bus driver report.
- ❖ The first offense usually receives a warning depending on the severity of the offense.
- ❖ The second offense requires bus suspension for one to five days.
- ❖ The third offense may result in bus suspension for five or more days.

The parent or guardian will be responsible for transportation to and from school during a bus suspension period. Failure to bring the student will be treated as truancy.

Dress Code

Students are expected to adhere to standards of dress and appearance that are compatible with an effective learning environment. Presenting a bodily appearance or wearing clothing which is disruptive, provocative, revealing, profane, vulgar, offensive, or obscene, or which endangers the health and safety of the students or others is prohibited.

Examples of prohibited dress or appearance include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Sagging pants
- Excessively short or tight garments
- Bare midriff/strapless shirts

- Head covering of any kind
- Shirts or blouses with tiny straps (less than 2 finger width)
- Exposed cleavage is not permitted.

If a student's dress or appearance is such that it constitutes a threat to the health or safety of others, distracts the attention of other students or staff from their work or otherwise violates the dress code, the principal or principal's designee may require the student to change his or her dress or appearance. A second or repeated violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action.

Dismissal

All Bus riders will be released from the classroom. Students who miss buses will remain with the classroom teacher to await transportation home. Please help your child/children remember the importance of safety on the bus. Transportation is a privilege not a right. In order to preserve the privilege of riding school buses, students must follow the safety rules. For information or questions about routes, drivers, or bus service, please contact 805-3030, Cary Transportation Office.

Parking: No unattended vehicles can be left in the fire lane in front of the gym. This area can only be used during carpool.

Parents: In order to improve the flow of traffic, please do not make left hand turns in or out of the parking lot from 8:35-9:05 AM and 3:35-3:55 PM. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Car-poolers will be dismissed from their classroom using a google form that the teacher will project on the board in the classroom so that the student knows when their ride has arrived. Dismissal will begin at 3:35.

Day care van riders will be dismissed from the bus loop.

Walkers will leave the campus from the main entrance of the building at 3:35.

Bicycles may be ridden to school. Bike riders are to walk when crossing intersections and when on campus. Bicyclists are to park their bikes in racks located on campus by the gym.

Transportation Changes

For a child's mode of transportation to change, a note from the parent/guardian must be given to the child's teacher. Please do not call the office to request transportation changes unless it is an emergency. If your child is a transfer student and is not allowed to ride the bus, he/she is not allowed to or from school on the bus under any circumstances.

Early Dismissal- Sign Out Procedure

A student leaving the school early will only be released to the parent/guardian or persons listed on the Student Locator Card and then only after the main office has verified the identification of the individual making the request. Any person checking out a student will need to sign the student out on the computer in the main office.

Parking at Kingswood Elementary

Very Important parking information: Parking is not allowed in the space in front of the gym. The yellow lines denote spaces that are NO PARKING for the fire lane in front of the gym. Please honor this as you make your plans for attending events at Kingswood. We want to ensure the safety of all people who attend events at our school. You may want to come a bit earlier in order to secure parking in designated spaces, either in the front parking lot, back parking lot or on the street parking (please observe all no parking signs). No one will be allowed to stay parking in front of the gym. The only exception is during morning and afternoon carpool. Thank you for helping us to keep our school safe.

Homework Policy for Kingswood Elementary

The homework policy for Kingswood can be found on the website, please contact the office if you need a paper copy.

Grading Policy for Kingswood Elementary

The grading policy for Kingswood can be found on the website, please contact the office if you need a paper copy.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION & SUPPORT OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Kingswood Positive Behavior Support (PBIS) team is to enthusiastically support staff in learning the skills needed to:

- Teach and model positive behavior
- Build quality relationships with students
- Create an effective and productive learning environment

To ensure a positive school environment in which good character can flourish, all Kingswood adults must practice behaviors that support student independence and responsibility. Adults will do the following:

1. Align classroom rules and procedures with the PBIS model.
2. Be clear, consistent, and fair with all students.
3. Encourage success, both academically and socially, thereby promoting a positive school climate.
4. Model, practice, teach, and reinforce appropriate positive behavior.
5. Invite parental involvement and support to enhance the school climate.
6. Share responsibility in effective discipline.

SWIM Matrix:

S	Stays Safe
W	Works Hard
I	Is Kind and Respectful
M	Manages our Actions



Kingswood Elementary School PTA

www.wcpss.net/domain/6122

August 2024

Dear New and Returning Kingswood Families,

On behalf of the Kingswood Elementary Parent Teacher Association (PTA), it is our pleasure to welcome you for the 2024-25 school year! We are looking forward to an amazing year of interactive events, community-building activities, and supporting our students, caregivers and teachers. The PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. **Here's how you can help us:**

Join the PTA! The best way to help us achieve our mission is to join the PTA. Your support enhances student experiences at our school. Membership is not limited to parents and faculty, so please encourage your extended family or anyone in the local community to join. Dues this year are \$10 per person or \$17 per family. **Why do you have to pay to join the PTA?** From each membership, \$5.25 goes to the State and National PTA organizations to support advocacy, while the remaining dues go to support Kingswood PTA initiatives, some of which are described below.

Get involved. Research shows that when families are involved with school, children do better – grades are higher, test scores rise, self-esteem grows, and children are healthier overall. Plus, you'll meet other parents and teachers, and build relationships within our community. We are stronger when you contribute your ideas, concerns and experiences. Whether it's suggestions to improve existing programs or ideas for building new ones, we want to hear from you! Members are not obligated to attend all meetings or volunteer; ***you can participate as much or as little as you are able!***

Donate. By donating to the PTA, you will support exciting learning as well as engaging programs and events. You can easily support KES PTA through retail outlets such as [Givebacks](#) when joining the PTA, Publix Partner, Box Tops for Education and Lowes' Food Cart to Class Program. Select Kingswood Elementary as your school when signing up!

Volunteer. *Volunteers are critical to help achieve our mission!* There are many tasks, large and small, that can be done either at school or from home on your own time. Learn more by attending PTA meetings, looking out for volunteer requests through announcements, or by reaching out to us and letting us know your interests and preferences.

Here are a few of the many programs that the PTA plans to fund this year (**but we need your help to achieve!**):

- Family-School Partnership Program: student achievement through parental engagement and academic support
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) events that families and kids can participate in together

- School improvement projects, staff trainings and appreciation, equipment, and necessary teaching supplies
- Educational programs focused on culture and the arts, environmental education and outdoor learning projects
- The Green School Initiative, establishing eco-conscious systems in school to reduce our community footprint and encourage a planet-friendly lifestyle. (*One example is our school composting project.*)

Please join us for our first PTA meeting of the school year scheduled for Monday, September 9, 2024 from 6pm-8pm. We will have a guest speaker at 6pm and the meeting will begin at 6:30pm.

Consider joining PTA by returning a membership form or by going online to:

<https://kingswood.givebacks.com/>

To learn more about volunteer and committee opportunities, please email the Kingswood PTA Board at kingswoodelempta@gmail.com. We appreciate your support and look forward to a successful year!

Sincerely,

Your 2024-2025 Kingswood PTA Board:

Helena Bozorg, President

Tiffany Millner, Vice President

Katie Lebrato, Treasurer

Jenny Smith, Secretary

kingswood.givebacks.com | 200 E. Johnson St. Cary, NC 27513 | (919) 460-3481