



Jeffreys Grove
Spanish Language Immersion Magnet Elementary
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Principal's Message Sunday, September 1st

Teacher Allotment (UPDATED): Teacher allotments are based on the number of students who actually show up within the first ten days of school. Due to inclement weather based school closings on September 5 and 6, the 10 day headcount process ended on September 11. Our headcount numbers have been submitted and these will be confirmed on September 17. Allotment updates are due September 20 on the revised timeline. We are fortunate to have made our projected enrollment which means we will not lose or gain a teaching position.

NEW! Make up Days: September 5 will be made up on November 1st, and September 6 will be made up on December 20. Please mark your calendars to reflect these adjustments. **November 1 and December 20 are now regular school days for students and staff.**

Opening of School: I would like to thank our staff, students and parents for a smooth, exciting and joyful opening of school – IT TAKES A VILLAGE! Thank you. During the beginning of school teacher workdays, teachers, coordinators and administrators engaged in meaningful data reviews of last year's results. As we analyzed data trends and patterns, we have begun to re-examine our goals and action steps for the 2019-20 school year. We discussed our "WHY" and collectively shared our values and purpose driving our daily work. Our focus continues to be actively supporting our students' social and emotional learning so that we can maximize student achievement. We have added strategies to our toolkit for implementing Conscious Discipline and the Positivity Project. This year's Twitter hashtag is #soarthe Grove and you will see our school staff using it often to highlight student effort, growth and rigorous school activities that make us proud. For a glimpse of these snapshots captured by teachers and administrators follow us on Twitter @JeffreysGroveES

Classroom Visits: Developing trusting relationships with students is important at Jeffreys Grove. During the course of the week, I have been visiting classrooms to introduce myself to students. During my visits so far, I have shared with our Eagles that it is my goal to get to know each and every one of them. I will continue to visit classrooms regularly and look forward to watching them learn and SOAR as the year progresses. I have shared with students that my favorite two questions to ask them are: 1) "Tell me WHAT you're working on", and 2) "Tell me WHY this matters."

Join our PTA: We hope you will consider joining our PTA and becoming an active member of our school community. The PTA has a brand new leadership team in place and there are a lot of great opportunities for you to get involved! You may also want to stop by the school to register as a volunteer. Our teachers and

staff would love to have you as partners in their classrooms. We also hope to see you during school functions, curriculum events, global learning experiences, musical performances, PTA family nights, and the global festival. See the Jeffreys Grove website at www.wcpss.net/jeffreysgroves for more information about these special events. [Message from your PTA](#)

Automated Attendance Calls: Please be aware that on September 10, we will begin sending an attendance message via phone to you around 5pm on a day when your child has been marked absent from school. Those of you with older children may already be familiar with this message from your child's middle or high school. If you feel an error in attendance was made, simply contact your child's teacher the next day.

Checking Children Out Early: Teachers are planning high quality instruction up until the end of the school day. Please be mindful of this as you schedule appointments and plan trips; every instructional minute counts. If you must pick your child up early for an appointment, please be sure to check them out before 3:15pm. The end of the day is a very busy time for us, so it is important that we take care of early check-outs before 3:15pm. Also, if you wait until after that time, you will probably get caught up in the carpool line. It is never acceptable to check your child out to avoid the carpool line. Doing so sends the wrong message to your child.

Monday Folders: Every Monday, you will receive your child's work folder from school. Be sure to check book bags on Monday for your child's school work and any teacher/school communication. On Mondays where school is not in session, folders will be sent on Tuesday.

Mark your Calendar

September 2nd: Labor Day Holiday, no school

September 3rd: First day for all Kindergarten students & Kinder Parent Welcome at 8:45 in the Media Center

September 11: Beginning of Grade 3 (BOG3) Testing

September 19: Open House and PTA meeting (5:30 pm)

September 24: End of Go Play Save PTA fundraiser

September 25: Spirit Night at Moe's on Creedmor Rd.

September 26: Kindergarten Health Assessment due

September 30: Teacher Workday

October 9: Teacher Workday

November 8: first quarter report cards sent home

In case you missed it below are important information points covered in the August Principal's Letter

For Kindergarten Parents Only: North Carolina law requires a kindergarten health assessment before a child can enter kindergarten. The health assessment must be conducted no more than 12 months prior to the date of school entry. The Kindergarten Health Assessment Form must be completed, signed by a physician and returned to school, along with documentation of the required immunization. The deadline for the health form to be submitted to Jeffreys Grove is **Thursday, September 26th**. *"A parent or guardian has 30 calendar days from the first day of attendance to present the required proof of immunization and health assessment. At the end of the 30 calendar day period, any child without a health assessment shall be prohibited from attending school until he or she has obtained the required assessment."*

School Hours: Jeffreys Grove school hours are 9:15am-3:45pm. You may drop your child off as early as 8:45am. The tardy bell rings at 9:15am and our instructional day begins promptly at this time. If you arrive after the 9:15am bell, please sign your child in at the office. Escorting your child to his/her classroom will be

permitted the first week of school for Kindergarteners only. Afterwards, we expect all children to enter the school independently. We have staff positioned strategically to guide our Kindergartners to their classrooms.

Carpool Morning Arrival: During arrival time (8:45am-9:10am), please follow the carpool line. When you reach the curb outside the entrance, a staff member or safety patrol student will welcome you and unload your child. However, if you do park or if you need to access the handicapped parking, please follow the carpool line until you reach an open parking space or make your way to the handicapped parking. Please do not cut the line to find a parking space or to access the handicapped parking.

Carpool Afternoon Dismissal: In order to ensure a safe and smooth carpool dismissal, please adhere to the following carpool dismissal procedures:

- Do not park and walk up to check your child out of carpool.
- Pull up to designated loading zone.
- Student/s will be loaded by an adult or safety patrol student.
- If you arrive after 4pm, you will need to sign your child out in the main office providing appropriate identification.

NEW and Important Information regarding our Walkers: Due to the growing safety concerns with traffic and pedestrian congestion outside of our bus loop and on Eddystone Road, we will be strictly enforcing our **Walker Policy**. Families that live within 1.5 miles of our school are considered in our “walk zone” and can register their student(s) to walk home from our school. Please note that if you live within 1.5 miles of the school, but have to cross Lynn Road or Creedmoor Road, this is considered a “NO WALK ZONE” and bus service is available to you. You may choose to have your child ride the bus or you may pick up your student in the carpool lane.

Change of Transportation: Please send a note to your child’s teacher if your child will have a change in transportation on a particular day. If the teacher does not receive a note, your child will be sent home by his/her regular mode of transportation. If you forget to send a note and need your child’s transportation changed, please call the school office before 3:15pm. Any requests after 3:15pm cannot be guaranteed.

Thank you for your attention to the September Principal’s Message. Have a SOARing day!

Juli Ventura