

September 7, 2015



Off to a Great Start

While we have been in school for two weeks now, we have only just completed our 2nd week our school with all of our students, Kindergarten through 5th grade. From our perspective at the school, our days have felt very smooth with the world revolving around our youngest cubs to get them acclimated to



life in "Big School," a life that they seem to have adapted to extremely well.

The Kindergarten Meet the Teacher event is always exciting as our youngest Cubs get their first real introduction to "Big School."

Dates to Remember... at a glance

Monday, August 31: 1st Full Day for Kindergarten Students.

Friday, September 4: Early Release Day: Students dismiss @ 1:15

Monday, September 7: Labor Day - No school for staff/students

Wed., September 8: * **BOG** Assessments - 3rd Grade

Wed., September 9: * **BAC** Meeting - 6:00 pm @ York Elem

Thursday, September 10: Back to School Night - 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Wed., September 23: Teacher Workday - No School for Students

- * **BOG** - Beginning of Grade
- * **BAC** - Board Advisory Council

Please remember that the first few weeks of school are always a readjustment into the Leesville routines and procedures. To remind you all of some of the more commonly questioned processes at the school, we sent home a letter in your child's Friday Folder to address arrival and dismissal, holiday and birthday celebrations, volunteering at the school, and the importance of open, constructive two-way communication. Please make sure that you have taken the time to read this letter as it should help you to better understand the processes, procedures, and routines as well as the reasoning behind them.

While we believe that the first two weeks of school were positive and smooth, we would love to gain the parents' perspective as well. In the next week or so, a survey link will be communicated to you all asking about our processes, the introduction to the new school year, and how you have felt about the start of this new, and hopefully exciting year. Until the survey launches, however, please feel free to communicate with your teacher and the school about any questions or concerns.

Back to School Night

Now that we have been in school for two weeks, it is time to get oriented to your child's new grade level and curriculum. On Thursday, September 10, we are excited to invite you to the school from 5:30 to 7:30 pm for our Back to School event. Right before the school year started, we all enjoyed the Meet the Teacher event, when you had the opportunity to see the classroom and introduce yourself to your child's teacher. Back to School night is a more in depth opportunity to hear directly from the teachers about the educational environment. You will also have the opportunity to learn more about your teacher's expectations and the classroom procedures. Furthermore, prior to heading out to the classroom sessions, we STRONGLY encourage you all to join us in the Library to hear from the Leesville Elementary School PTA. While many of you prefer to go with the flow when it comes to the PTA, this is a big year to be actively involved as we have many exciting programs and projects happening in cooperation with our wonderful school community.

Back to School Schedule

5:30 - PTA General Assembly Mtg.

6:05 - Classroom Orientation Session 1

6:50 - Classroom Orientation Session 2

7:30 - Event Ends

* Chick-fil-a and Which Wich will be selling dinner for those interested.

Session 2 is a repeat of session 1. We will make announcements to let families know when sessions are ending and next sessions beginning. Maps for the sessions will be communicated soon.

Making the Most of the Opportunity

I am happy to report that the Early Release Day was time well spent for the Leesville Elementary School faculty and staff.

As a school, we are always trying to determine the best way to assist our students through their individualized needs. The Professional Development this past Friday afternoon focused on strategies and interventions that may be implemented in the classroom and by the classroom teacher. The best part of this opportunity was that it was led by members of the Leesville faculty and staff that are intimately aware of the challenges and programs already required by your children's teachers.



Leesville Teachers teaching Leesville Teachers ...a great show of collaboration

Something New



Questions have been posed recently about the cones placed in the front car circle during the day.

Last spring, as the weather shifted from warm to hot, we saw an increase in the number of asthma attacks requiring medical intervention. On more than one occasion, the ambulance called to assist the student could not get to the curb due to vehicles parked in the clearly marked Fire Lane. The cones are in place to help our community recognize the importance of keeping the Fire Lane clear for the unanticipated situations that may require emergency assistance.

We appreciate the cooperation and understanding from the school community and continue to hope that the cones are protecting spaces that will not be required by anyone at Leesville.