



***Welcome Back
Hazelwood Elementary Students***

First Day Information For Parents And Students:

General Information

While masking is still a choice, our staff would like to strongly recommend the use of masks for indoor school settings at this time. Masking is also recommended at outdoor events when social distancing is not possible. While we do not want to engage in the mask debate with our parents or community, please understand that our highest priority is the safety and education of our students. Would you please help us do this by encouraging choices that help us prevent exposures, quarantines, and loss of instructional time?

Monday, August 16, is a 12:30 dismissal. Starting on Tuesday, August 17, please plan to be on a regular schedule for the rest of August.

Our upper-grade students (3-5) will plan to start the year eating outside when possible; they should plan to bring beach towels to eat outside. Our K-2 students will use the lunchroom. Our lunch schedule has been designed to allow one of these three grade levels to be in the lunchroom at a time with spacing between students and an empty table between classes.

Unless it is an emergency, checkouts will end at 2:30. Dismissal will begin at 2:50 on regular school days. This is five minutes later than last year. We hope to start the day soon after 8:00 and end the day at 2:50. This should give us approximately ten additional minutes of instruction each day or thirty extra hours of instruction throughout the school year.

Morning Arrival

We welcome you to walk your student to the entrance on the first day. However, parents and families will need to plan to drop their students off at this point. There will be teachers to escort students and make sure they get to their classrooms on the first day. This will help keep our students safe and minimize unnecessary exposures for our students and staff.

In the carline in the morning, pull all the way forward to keep traffic going. It will also help us learn your child's name if you have your car tag visible in the window. Last year, we had a successful car line that moved quickly and did not back up into the road. This was largely due to the minimal number of parents attempting to park and walk children into school. After the first day, the only parents that should walk students into the building should be our Pre-K parents. These parents are required to do this, so please be understanding and patient as they cross in front of morning traffic. Using the car line after the first morning will significantly minimize the morning wait time.

Please wait until our staff is present before letting students out. It is a significant safety issue when students are dropped off and left before 7:30.

If students are tardy (arriving after 8:00), please walk them to the front door to check them in. There will be two bells in the morning, the first at 7:55 and the second at 8:00. Please try and have your child here in time to make it to class by 8:00. There will be a grace period on this for the first several days.

Dismissal Procedures

When you arrive at Hazelwood in the afternoon to pick up students, K-2 students are dismissed on the gym side of the school. This is the right side of the building if you are facing the front of the school. 3-5 students are dismissed on the cafeteria or left side of campus. If students have siblings in both age groups, plan to use the K-2 side for pickup. You will receive a car tag on day one. If you come through with your car tag visible, it will allow us to minimize wait time in the afternoon. We ask that you leave your car tag displayed until your child is in the vehicle. This helps staff new to the school and to the arrival/dismissal process to recognize and connect students with their parents.

Buses may run several minutes behind schedule as drivers learn the students that are on their route. Please be patient with our drivers, the start of the school year is always difficult, and we will do our best to establish a routine as soon as possible. Remember that it is normal for some stops to be later than usual.

Thanks again for your patience as we begin another great school year at Hazelwood Elementary!