



Emma W. Shuey Elementary School
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August 22, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

To our returning students and families – WELCOME BACK and to our new students and families - WELCOME! I hope that you and your family have *Sharpened the Saw* this summer with lots of fun and relaxation! We have some exciting changes this year at Shuey School.

What's New?

- ★ We would like to welcome to Shuey School our new school psychologist:
 - Ms. Rocio Carrillo
- ★ The renovation continues. Construction workers have been here throughout the summer. Rooms 3 and 9-16 have been renovated and are beautiful! Construction is also being completed on a wonderful outdoor plaza area next to the cafeteria. Our playground will be re-surfaced and striped.
- ★ We will no longer be calling classrooms to let students know their lunches are in the office, for forgotten homework and water bottles.

And now some important reminders:

- 1) **Attendance** – School attendance is very important and is strictly regulated by Education Code.
 - a. Students are allowed up to 3 unexcused absences. Students who are tardy more than 30 minutes are also counted as absent.
 - b. Excused absences include:
 - i. Written note from a doctor or dentist.
 - ii. Required court appearance by the student.
 - iii. Funeral for immediate family member (1 day in state and 3 days out of state)
 - iv. If a student is sent home from school with a fever, the following day will be an excused absence.
 - c. Students with 3 unexcused absences (including tardies of more than 30 minutes) will receive a letter from the principal.
 - d. Students with 4-7 unexcused absences (including tardies of more than 30 minutes) will receive a letter from the district and required to attend a meeting at the district office.
 - e. Students with 5-10 unexcused absences (including tardies of more than 30 minutes) will be required to meet with the principal and sign a School Attendance and Review Team (SART) contract.
 - f. Students with 11 unexcused absences (including tardies of more than 30 minutes) will be required to attend a School Attendance Review Board (SARB) meeting.
- 2) **NEW Schoolwide WILDY IMPORTANT GOALS (WIGS):** This year we will have two new WIGS:
 - a. Grades K-2 – Students will learn high frequency words appropriate to their grade level.
 - b. Grades 3-6 – Students will meet their Accelerated Reader (AR) goals.

- c. Behavior and physical wellness WIGS will be developed at the beginning of the year with teachers and students.
- 3) **Breakfast and Gate Opening:** Breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m. – 7:50 a.m. in the cafeteria. The gate will be opened at 7:45 a.m. for students who are not eating breakfast.
- 4) **Breakfast is FREE for all students!** Lunch remains \$2.25 for students who do not qualify for free or reduced lunch.
- 5) **Late Start Wednesdays:** Late start Wednesdays are on the FIRST and THIRD Wednesdays of the month except in November and January. For September, the late start dates are September 5th and 19th.
- School will begin at 9:30 a.m. for all students (grades K-6) on late start Wednesdays.
 - A paid childcare program will be offered for those parents who need to drop off their students at 7:30 a.m. All fees for this program must be paid for IN ADVANCE. Please come to the office for more information.
 - Breakfast: Breakfast will be served at 8:45 a.m. for those students enrolled in childcare. Breakfast for all other students will be served from 9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.
 - **There is no second chance breakfast on late start Wednesdays.**
 - The main gate will be open at 9:15 a.m. for grades 1-6 who are not eating breakfast.
 - **Kindergarten students who are not enrolled in childcare and who are not eating breakfast can be dropped off at the kindergarten gate at 9:00 a.m.**
- 6) **Second Chance Breakfast (grades 1-6):** First through sixth grade students who do not eat breakfast will be offered a “Second Chance Breakfast” during recess. During recess, students can come to the cafeteria to get breakfast. Please note that the breakfast served during Second Chance may **not** be the same breakfast meal served in the morning. Students who are interested in Second Chance Breakfast must come directly to the cafeteria as soon as they are dismissed from their class at recess. Second chance breakfast is not available on rainy days.
- 7) **Before School Child Care** – Before school (7:00 – 7:30) childcare will be offered for \$1.00 a day in the kindergarten playground. This is a drop-in childcare. Students will pay for the childcare daily and do not need to attend every day. At 7:25, students will be taken into the cafeteria for breakfast.
- 8) **Recess Snacks (grades 1-6):** *Individual* snacks from home will be allowed to be eaten at recess in the cafeteria. Please note that the entire school district is following the Rosemead School District’s Wellness Policy, which encourages healthy eating.
- Do not send items that must be refrigerated.
 - Snacks must be sealed. Students will drop off their snacks in the cafeteria into marked plastic bins.
 - Candy, chips, cookies, Cup Noodle, Mama Instant Noodles, Takis, Hot Cheetos, and soda are not allowed and will be taken away.
 - Due to health restrictions, snacks cannot be shared with other students.
 - Send snacks that can be eaten quickly (e.g. granola bars) so that students have some time to play.
- 9) **Recess Before Lunch (grades 1-6):** Research shows that students, who play before they eat lunch, eat more, have less discipline issues and are ready to learn once they return to the classroom. Students in grades 1-6 will play first for about 15-20 minutes and then go to the cafeteria to eat lunch. The lunch schedule is as follows:

Kindergarten:	11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Grades 1-2:	11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Grades 3-4:	11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Grades 5-6:	12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Since beginning this program, we have seen a dramatic decrease in the number of students who were referred to the office for behavior problems and an increase in the food eaten at lunch.

- 10) Cell Phones:** All classrooms and offices are equipped with phones, and students can call parents using these phones if necessary. It is **not** recommended that students bring cell phones to school, and the school is not responsible for theft or damage. However, if a student does bring a cell phone, the cell phone is to be turned OFF during the school day and kept in the student's backpack. A small luggage lock can be used on the backpack to secure the cell phone. Students are not to use personal cell phones during school hours and on campus unless he/she receives permission from a teacher. Students who use their cell phone during the school day without permission will have the phone taken away from them, and parents will have to pick-up the phone from the teacher or office.
- 11) Birthday Celebrations:** We are following the district's Wellness Policy, which encourages healthy eating. We also have a large number of students with food allergies and dietary restrictions. Consequently, we are respectfully asking that you refrain from sending birthday cupcakes, cakes and sodas. Please check with your child's teacher to see what other ways birthdays are celebrated in class. Birthdays will be celebrated with our monthly Birthday Lunch (see #12).
- 12) Birthday Lunch is back!** – The cafeteria will help celebrate all students and staff members whose birthday falls each month with a special lunch and dessert on the last Thursday of the month.
- 13) Cafeteria Payments:** COST: Breakfast - FREE; Lunch - \$2.25
 Parents may make payments to the cafeteria in the following ways:
- Parents may pay for breakfast from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in the cafeteria. OR
 - Parents may drop off payments in the main office.
 - Payments will not be accepted in the cafeteria during breakfast or lunch service.
 - Please refer to the meal charge policy at <http://district.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/rosemeadsd/files/Meal%20Charge%20Procedure%20RSD.pdf> for non-payment.
- 14) Leader in Me:** We continue to work with the Leader in Me. Here is a list of the habits to discuss with your child:
- **Habit #1: Be Proactive** – *I am responsible. I do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking.*
 - **Habit #2: Begin with the End in Mind** – *I plan ahead and set goals.*
 - **Habit #3: Put First Things First** – *I set priorities, make a schedule and follow my plan.*
 - **Habit #4: Think Win-Win** – *I balance courage for getting what I want with consideration for what others want.*
 - **Habit #5: Seek First to Understand Then to Be Understood** – *I listen to other people's ideas and feelings. I try to see things from their viewpoints.*
 - **Habit #6: Synergize** – *Teamwork! Together is better!*
 - **Habit #7: Sharpen the Saw** – *I take care of my body by eating right, exercising and getting enough sleep.*

15) Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS): We will continue with (PBIS) which is a school wide system for behavior. At Shuey, our motto is:

RESPECT YOURSELF, OTHERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Once again, I welcome you to another awesome year at Shuey School. Your children constantly amaze us and we can't wait to see what wonderful achievements they will make this year.

Sincerely,

Jan Brydle
Principal