

August 15, 2016

Dear Acacia Parents and Students,

It has been a great first week at Acacia! Our Assistant Principal, Mrs. Dial, the Acacia A++ staff and I have seen many smiles and excited students ready for another great year! The Acacia staff works hard to create a positive learning environment for all students. Please remember the importance of your child being at school on time and ready to learn. Tardy bell rings at 8:15 a.m. so students should be here by 8:10 a.m. We provide breakfast in the classroom for free, but we need students here on time.

The safety of your children is always my first concern. Although dismissal procedures may not seem the most convenient, they are the safest way to dismiss 880+ students with no buses and a great deal of traffic. A representative from the City of Phoenix Traffic Safety Department, with input from the Phoenix Police Department and WESD Safety/Security, assisted me in the best way to organize and safely dismiss the children with the limited available space. Please, when exiting the parking lot, only turn right from the right lane and left from the left lane. You may have to circle the block to get in the direction you need to be. Also, please do not park in the neighbors' driveway. There are No Parking signs posted by the City of Phoenix on the north side of the street. It is important that all traffic rules are followed, especially when our children are watching. Ultimately, it's to keep them safe!

If you have any questions or would just like to sit down and talk to me about why the dismissal plan was created as it was, just give me a call. I welcome open communication and want everyone to understand why each gate is set up the way it is. One thing I can promise is that it will get easier. Each year the first two weeks are slower because everyone is learning the procedures. Thank you, again, for your patience and understanding during our first week. Acacia parents are the best!

We are all in for a busy year, and we're up for the challenge. It's going to be fun!

Sincerely,
Christine Hollingsworth, Principal



Dates to Remember

Thurs., Aug. 18	Band/Strings Instrument Night	Cafeteria	6:00 p.m.
Wed., Aug. 31	PTA Great Skate Night	43 rd Ave./Peoria	
Mon., Sept. 5	Labor Day Holiday	No School	
Wed., Sept. 7	Midterms Go Home		
Tues., Sept. 13	School Picture Day	Orders are prepay	
Tues., Sept. 13	Site Council Meeting	Library	4:00 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 22	Back to School BBQ	Classrooms Open	5:00 p.m.

**Early Dismissal
Every Wednesday
1:45 p.m.**

Thank you, Lowes

We appreciate our business partners and Lowes is no exception. Please help us thank Lowes for the donation of TV mounts in the office and in the Project Potential classroom. These will help with the communication between the office and parents visiting. It will also help with the setup of the interactive TV which projects lessons on a bigger screen for the students to see. Thank you, Lowes, for taking care of our school in your neighborhood!



Attendance Updates Pursuant to A.R.S. 15-901(A) (1):

Effective July 1, 2016, all absences in excess of a cumulative 10% or 18 absences will be reported to the Arizona Department of Education as unexcused.

In order for absences relating to illness, doctor appointment, bereavement, family emergencies, or District-approved vacation to be counted as excused absences, the school must be notified of the absence prior to the absence, or the day of the absence by the parent or legal guardian who has custody of the student. Absences that are not reported will be unexcused. Acacia School maintains a 24-hour attendance line where absences can be called in at any time of the day, or night at 602-896-5000.

Actualizaciones de Asistencia Según A.R.S. 15-901(A) (1):

Comenzando el 1^o de julio, 2016, todas las ausencias en exceso de un 10% acumulado o 18 ausencias serán reportadas al Departamento de Educación de Arizona como ausencias no excusadas.

Para que las ausencias relacionadas con enfermedad, cita médica, luto, emergencias familiares o vacación aprobada por el Distrito sean consideradas como ausencias con excusa, la escuela deberá ser notificada de la ausencia antes de la ausencia o el día de la ausencia por uno de los padres o guardián legal quien tiene custodia del estudiante. Las ausencias no reportadas serán consideradas no excusadas. La Escuela Acacia mantiene una línea de asistencia 24 horas al día que recibe llamadas para ausencias en cualquier hora del día o de la noche al 602-896-5000.



4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • www.wesdschools.org

Governing Board: Aaron Jahneke, President • Clorinda Graziano, Vice President
Bill Adams, Member • Larry Herrera, Member • Tee Lambert, Member

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

Please be courteous to our neighbors
Do not park in front of or block driveways.

Favor de ser corteses con nuestros vecinos
No se estacionen en frente o bloqueen los
caminos de entrada de vehículos.

Thank you, Acacia PTA, for the
Boo Hoo, Woo Hoo Breakfast
for our incoming kindergarten parents. It's
such an exciting morning for both students
and parents. Your hospitality is appreciated!

Safety in the Morning

Please remember that students are not allowed on campus before 7:55 a.m. Staff members are not on duty until that time, and we cannot have children on campus unattended.

ID Badges

The safety of students is of primary importance to the Washington Elementary School District. With this in mind, WESD is using technology to make it easier to identify students when they are on campus.

All WESD students are required to wear IDs while on the school campus. When students enter the classroom in the mornings, they will put on the badge and then leave it in the classroom at the end of the day. The student must comply with the school dress code in wearing his or her ID card and it must be visible at all times.

If students deface, destroy, render their ID unreadable or lose their ID, they will be required to purchase a replacement ID for \$5.00. Students can use their own lanyard, but it must be a break-away lanyard. Replacement lanyards and pouches are available for purchase in the office for 50 cents.

Thank you for your cooperation with this process.

Band/Strings



Does your child express a wish to play a musical instrument? Students in grades 4, 5 and 6 are eligible to join band/strings. We are going to have a "MUSIC TALK" on Thursday, August 18. If you are interested, please join us in the Cafeteria from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Our director, Dr. Ladislav Prcik (Dr. L), will be available to discuss rentals or purchases of musical instruments for your child's class. Dr. L is looking forward to seeing you there.

Shout out!

Help us give a big shout out to former ACACIA parent, Jolene Madrid, for her coordination and connection to get us a new A++ banner on the fence. Blue Media donated the labor and sign for our fence. Thank you to both Jolene and Blue Media! Still looking out for our school and we appreciate it!

We also need to thank Palmcroft Church for always looking out for our students and staff. They donated a wonderful breakfast of fruit and bagels to the teachers on their first day back to work. Then they donated an even bigger surprise of 40 cases of paper! They are always looking out for our students and it's appreciated!



**Acacia Elementary School Phoenix is on Facebook
with Norm the red owl! Have you joined us?**

Like WESD on Facebook

Have you liked the WESD on Facebook? So many great things are happening in the WESD and we share our great news every day! Last year, you helped us surpass our goal of 5,000 Likes. This year, we're aiming even higher – we want 10,000 Likes! Help us reach our goal and like us today! You can also find WESDSchools on Twitter and Instagram. Keep yourself in the loop and like us today!

¿Le ha dado "Me Gusta" al WESD en Facebook? ¡Tantas cosas excelentes están pasando en el WESD y compartimos nuestras noticias maravillosas diariamente! El año pasado, nos ayudaron a sobrepasar nuestra meta de 5,000 "Me Gusta". ¡Este año, estamos intentando alcanzar aún más – queremos 10,000 "Me Gusta"! ¡Ayúdenos a alcanzar nuestra meta y denos un "Me Gusta" hoy! Además, usted puede encontrar WESDSchools en Twitter e Instagram. ¡Manténgase al tanto y denos un "Me Gusta" hoy!



Water in the Classroom

Students have several opportunities to get drinks from our water fountains during the day, but sometimes that's not enough in this hot weather. Students may bring water bottles to school to keep in the classroom during the day. Please only send water; no sports drinks, soda, juice, etc.

**Remember to come to the office with proof of residence
and update your address if you've moved this summer.**