



Dear Jefferson Families,  
I hope you are enjoying your summer break!

The 2023-2024 school year will begin before you know it, so please rest, relax, have fun, but also begin to prepare for new learning adventures.

Last year, some parents requested that I share critical information earlier in the summer so families can prepare.

I have included some important dates and relevant information for planning purposes. I will resume our Sunday Messages in early August.

### **IMPORTANT DATES - Mark Your Calendar!**

**July 4 - Independence Day. All schools and district office will be closed.**

**Thursday, August 10, 9:00am INCOMING TK Orientation in Auditorium**

**Thursday, August 10, 12:00pm - INCOMING (NEW) Grade 1-6 Orientation in Auditorium**

**Friday, August 11, 9:00am - INCOMING K English Program Orientation in Auditorium**

**Friday, August 11, 1:00pm - INCOMING K DLI Program Orientation in Auditorium**

**Thursday, August 24, 6:00pm and 6:45pm - Back to School Night for all parents**

### **Other Reminders**

#### **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**

**Wednesday, August 16, 2023 - First Day of Instruction for 2023-24.**

This is a banking day. Instruction begins at 9:15am. Our gates will open at 8:45am on this day. All students and their families will be invited on to our playground wait for the bell! Parents will have an opportunity to take pictures on the yard but will not be in classrooms.

- TK students and their families will enter campus through the TK Gate on Ruberta Avenue only.
- All K - Grade 6 students and their families will enter campus through the Justin Walking Gate or the Ruberta Driving Gate.



**Please note: all students enrolled must be present on the first day of school. If you are planning family vacations and trips, make sure you are back by August 16.**

### **BACK TO SCHOOL**

**August 24, 2023 is Back to School Night!**

**This evening event is for parents only.** It is an opportunity for parents and guardians to meet the teachers, visit their students' classrooms and learn about our instructional program. I strongly encourage all parents to attend this very important evening.

### **JEFFERSON SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY**

Jefferson students must come to school wearing Jefferson shirts or Jefferson colors.

Our school shirts and sweatshirts are sold by our PTA and have our Tiger Logo.

The shirts come in 3 colors, white, yellow and royal blue.

Our school colors are yellow, blue and white. Royal blue, light blue and navy blue are all acceptable.

Please see attached for our detailed uniform policy.

### **GET READY FOR SCHOOL**

Here are some things you can do to be better prepared for the first days of school.

- A few days before the beginning of school, establish routines. Set an age appropriate sleep time and wake up time.
- Have a nutritious breakfast every morning. Think about healthy snack options. Students will have an opportunity to have a small snack at recess time every day (recess times are between 9:40am to 10:30am).
- Plan your morning route and drop off times. Consider **TRAFFIC** and **PARKING** restrictions around our school. Plan ahead and allow for extra time especially at the beginning of the school year and on rainy days!
- Review the district lunch menus and plan lunch options for your child. Students can bring lunch from home or get lunch from school daily.
- Learn how to open lunch containers. (Ziploc baggies are best; glass jars, bottles and containers are not allowed).



- Plan ahead for dismissal times. Who will pick up the students? Where will students in grades 1-6 be picked up (walking or driving)?
  - ALL TK and K students must be picked up by a parent or a predesignated adult at their respective designated gates every day.
- ADD the names of relatives and friends whom you authorize to pick up from school in case of an emergency or at dismissal if you are not available. You can update this list at any time.
- If your child takes any medications regularly during the school day, doctors' orders and all forms must be completed and signed by parents in advance. Contact our school nurse if you have any questions. You can email us at [jefferson@gusd.net](mailto:jefferson@gusd.net) after August 1.
- If your child has allergies or food restrictions, please also make sure you notify the office in advance. You can email us at [jefferson@gusd.net](mailto:jefferson@gusd.net)
- Make sure you have a working email and all your contact information is current. Review all emails sent from the school or the district. If you move out of the area during the summer or any time, notify the office. We can help you so please be honest and let us know!
- For K and K students - please do not purchase a backpack with wheels. Students will need a regular sized backpack that will fit a 9-inch by 12.0-inch folder and any snacks/lunch.
- Label your entire child's belongings with their names and show them so they know where to look.
- Do not send any school supplies, books, materials, valuable objects or money with your child at any time. Teachers will notify you in case of special events such as book fairs and field trips.
- Plan a time and space for your child to do homework daily.
- Check your child's backpack often (daily for your children), complete, and return requested information in a timely manner.

At the beginning of the school year, you will receive an *OPENING PACKET*. This will be emailed to you! This packet will contain useful information, which you should keep handy.

You will also need to complete the following important documents online:

1. [Mealapp.GUSD.net](http://Mealapp.GUSD.net) – Even if you are not planning to have your child eat school cafeteria food.



2. [Parent.gusd.net](http://Parent.gusd.net) – sign and submit all student handbook pages including PHOTO Release.

There will be one document (YELLOW), which will be sent home with your child to review, sign and return to school immediately. This is the Home School Compact for 2023-24. This is a required document.

I hope this information helps with some preliminary planning.  
Enjoy your summer and take good care! I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,  
Armineh Alexan