



Arco Iris School Back To School News 2019

Director's Message

Dear Parents,

With only a couple of weeks until school starts, things are starting to move into high gear here at school. We are re-sending information from last week with a few edits because we know you have a lot on your plate at home as well. Please read this over thoroughly. It is full of helpful information about the start of the year.

If you have questions or concerns about anything in this or any communication from the school, I encourage you to reach out to us directly for clarification. We announced some big news last week - the Nut Free Policy and the new daily schedule - and I can understand how both of these changes could create confusion. In situations like this, we would much prefer to be your single point of contact so that we can make sure you have accurate information. Social media is a great platform for brainstorming with the community (like substituting sunbutter for peanut butter), but we would like you to come to us if you have questions about the rationale for any of our policies or procedures.

Finally, I am sorry to report that we've had two additional resignations since last week; both Claire Neely (middle school math) and Heidi Skildum (5th grade) are moving on. I realize that getting information like this so close to the beginning of the year is unsettling and I want to assure you that we are fully committed to finding highly qualified teachers to replace both Claire and Heidi. If for some reason we have to begin the year with a substitute, I'll be sure to let you know in advance so that you can help your child manage the transition.

Keep checking your inbox for updates as we count down the days until Sept. 3. We are looking forward to kicking off the new school year in our new building!

Saludos,

Directora Michelle

Upcoming Events for August & September

Aug. 30: Supply Drop Off & Picnic

Sept. 2: No School

Sept. 3: First Day of School

Sept. 12: Back to School Night, K - 1st, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Sept. 17: Back to School Night, 2nd - 4th, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Sept. 18: 5th - 8th grade: Sept. 18 - 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Daily Schedule and Calendar Changes

In order to better align our schedule with the Beaverton School District and still maintain time for ongoing professional development, our daily hours have changed this year. Our school day will be 8:30 am - 3:15 pm for grades 1-8, and 8:30 am - 3:00 pm for kindergarten. The school year calendar is available on the website - [Academic Calendar](#). Students may be dropped off starting at 8:10 am. If you need an earlier drop off, please contact Buenos Dias to arrange for childcare. [Buenos Dias/Buenas Tardes](#)

Morning Drop Off Begins at 8:10 AM

- If you need an earlier drop off, please contact our Buenos Dias program to make arrangements. Note that there is a fee for the Buenos Dias program. [Buenos Dias / Buenas Tardes](#)
- When you pull into the drop off area it is expected that the student(s) in your car are ready to jump out. This means that you will need to take care of having them gather their items, share goodbye wishes and kisses, unbuckle, and be ready to go starting when you pull into our parking lot.
- Cars will enter the parking lot off of Creekside Place, coming from either direction.
- Drive into the parking lot, past the main door, and into the circular turnaround marked with striping and yellow traffic buttons, then return along the front of the building until you reach the drop off area.
- All drivers pulling into the drop off area will let their kids out as soon as they stop (we try to move cars into loading zone in batches of eight). The drop off zone is the space along the sidewalk at the front of the school. Your child needs to exit and enter the car from the right side only.
- Students will enter the school through the main entry at the front of the building.
- When you leave you must turn right, per city regulation, onto Creekside Place.

Afternoon Pick Up: Kindergarten cars will be allowed in the car queue at 2:45.

- We use an app to manage pick up and each family will be assigned an ID number. Kindergarten families with no siblings in other grades will receive a special pink ID card to allow them into the queue before the general pick-up line forms at 3:00.
- Your ID number card must be clearly visible at all times on your rear view mirror (not lying flat on dashboard).
- If you choose to park in the neighborhood and walk to pick up your child, please gather under the covered area at the back of the school near the gym.
- You will need to show your ID card to a staff member in order to have your child released.
- Do not park in any of the neighboring business' parking lots. Street parking is available on SW Stratus Street.
- Please do not arrive early for pick up and park in the center divide along SW Creekside Place. This causes problems for our neighboring businesses.
- Please do not call the office to ask staff to deliver messages about last-minute carpool changes. This is a very hectic time in the office and we do not want to make a mistake that could impact student safety.
- Make sure your child knows their ID# and how they are being picked up/released from school.
- **If you have children in grades 1-8, your kindergartener will be released at the regular 3:15 dismissal time.**

Supply Drop Off & PTO Picnic

Drop off your school supplies and meet your teacher on Friday, Aug. 30.

Please follow the drop off times listed.

- **LAST NAME: A - I 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM**
- **LAST NAME: J - Z 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

After you drop off your supplies, we invite you to join us across the creek in the THPRD Fanno Creek Greenway for an information meet and greet with other families. Feel free to bring a blanket and some food if you want to help create a community picnic. The school will provide some sweet treats to welcome you to the new school year.

Supply list information can be found on our website here [Supply List](#)**

Class List will be posted on Aug. 30 when you drop off your supplies.

If you are unable to attend at your scheduled time for supply drop off, you can bring supplies during the first week of school.

Staggered Start for Kindergarten and 1st Grade

Remember that kindergarten and 1st grade students have a staggered start in order to help them transition smoothly from summer to school.

The staggered start days are Sept. 3-6, and the office will reach out to every family directly to let you know what day your child will attend. Your child will attend one staggered start day prior to the first day for the full class. They will not come to school on the staggered start days that are scheduled for other students.

The full kindergarten classes will attend together for the first time on Monday, September 9.

The full first grade classes will attend together for the first time on Thursday, September 5.

Uniforms

Uniforms

We have a uniform exchange table at school if you'd like to come before school starts to see if there is anything that will work for your child. Our uniform policy is as follows:

[Student dress code](#)

Kindergarten families Please send a change of clothes to school in a sealed gallon-size ziploc in case your child has a bathroom accident. The bag should be labeled with your child's name. In the case of an accident, we will send the wet/soiled clothes home in the bag and you can send them back fresh and clean the next day.

Program Enrichment Fee

Program Enrichment Fees help Arco Iris provide students with additional activities, specialized supplies, and access to professional content specialists.

Fee is \$350 per student for the current academic year and is payable by check, cash or credit card.

There is a \$50 discount if paid before the first day of school. If you prefer to pay by credit card, you can do so during the school supply drop off night. Checks should be made out to Arco Iris.

[Program Enrichment Fee Letter](#)

Back to School Night

Because of our parking and meeting space limitations, we are splitting up our Back to School Nights based on grade level. You will be getting more information from your homeroom teachers after school nights.

Kindergarten and 1st grade: Sept. 12- 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

2nd - 4th grade: Sept. 17 - 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

5th - 8th grade: Sept. 18 - 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Nut Free FAQ

Link: [Nut Free Snacks for School](#)

We are implementing a new nut-free policy this year to protect our students with severe nut allergies. Please read the guidelines carefully. We need to have 100% adherence to these guidelines in order to keep our students safe.

Peanut and Tree Nut Guidelines:

- Parents are responsible for ensuring their child does not bring nut containing products to school for snacks or lunch.
- Parents must not bring in any food or treats to the classroom unless they have checked the ingredients carefully. If unsure about a selection, please speak to a staff member before bringing in the food item into the school.
- All product packaging must be checked for warnings directed at nut allergy sufferers and if the following or similar are displayed, the product must not be used in school.
 1. Not suitable for nut allergy sufferers
 2. This product contains nuts
 3. This product may contain traces of nuts

Carpool Map

Carpool coordinator: Kalen Konopka

Hello! I'm the new carpool map coordinator for the upcoming year. Thank you in advance for your grace and patience, as this is my first year! I'm ready to start adding families to the carpool map for this upcoming year. Please note, the map is cleared at the beginning of each year, so even if you filled out the survey last year, you'll need to submit again to be added this year. Please read through the information and then at the end, there will be a link to a survey. Click on the link and fill it out. After you fill it out, I will add you to the map and then e-mail you a link to view the map. (*please note, you need a gmail address to view the map. Though you may provide any email to add to the map for communication). Also, information on the carpool map will be distributed at the school supply drop-off so continue to check in on the map as more families will continue to be added. Not everyone in the school is in this Facebook group.

****CARPOOL MAP INFORMATION****

Without district bussing our school community relies on carpooling to ease the transportation burden we all deal with each day. Arco Iris maintains a carpool map that allows families who opt in to find others near their homes or work with whom they can share driving duties. Even if you have a schedule that allows you the flexibility to manage your own child's daily transportation, please consider joining the map in case you can help another family out along your way. Carpool partners can be excellent resources for sharing pickup duties on days when you might be running late, have last-minute schedule conflicts, or when there are unplanned early release days due to emergencies such as bad weather. Some of you have already established carpools and may feel you don't need to join the map. But we would like you to consider joining in case a new family lives near you and could use your help carpooling or can support your existing carpool. Our map is private and by invitation only so your information will be seen only by others at the school who have also joined the carpool map. Once you have joined the map you will be able to see other school families near you that you can contact for a potential carpool arrangement.

We will still use your non-gmail preferred contact email address, if it isn't gmail, as the contact that appears on the map.

**** Here is the link to the survey:** <https://forms.gle/Ah2YC2qtU1ZyT3eT8>

Please email me at kalen.konopka@gmail.com with any questions.