



DRIFTWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Welcome Back to School Newsletter

August 2022



Principal's Message

I would like to welcome everyone back to school and extend a special welcome to all of our new students and their families. The staff and I are looking forward to an exciting year of learning at Driftwood Elementary School.

Our school theme this year is space-related, "Dream, Explore, Discover". We want our students to blast off on a learning adventure where they are inspired to dream, explore, and discover the world around them. We pride ourselves in being a community of learners where our students and staff look for opportunities to learn from each other. We are committed to high academic expectations and meeting each student's social-emotional needs.

I encourage you to get involved by joining our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and our School Advisory Committee (SAC). It is my hope for everyone who enters our school to become excited to be a part of the Driftwood Dragon Family.

My door is always open to you, and I value your input. I look forward to working with you as a team to help each student at Driftwood Elementary meet his/her goals and have a successful school year!

Ms. Christine Ringler, Proud Principal

Assistant Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! It's hard to believe that I am going on my fourth year at Driftwood. How time flies when you are working with families that work hard to achieve academic excellence with their children! I look forward to meeting each of you and to working with you on providing a high-quality, safe and secure learning environment for our students. Our goal is to ensure that all students become critical thinkers, active problem-solvers, inquisitive readers, diligent researchers, and prolific writers. We do all of this to prepare our students for the demands of the real world, so that they may become productive citizens, our future leaders, and contribute and/or give back something positive to the community. Again, I look forward to working with all of you and pushing our children to academic heights! On behalf of the staff of Driftwood Elementary School, I want to welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year and thank you for being a part of our school community. Our school theme this year is "Dream, Explore and Discover".

Mrs. Kimberly Greer-Roberts, Proud Assistant Principal

Important Information

Office Hours: 7:30 am - 3:00 pm.

Student Hours: 8:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Breakfast: 7:30 am - 7:55 am.

Early Release: 12:00 pm.

First Day of School

The first day of school is August 16th. Parents will be allowed to walk their children to their classroom door on the first day (ONLY ON THE FIRST DAY). Thank you for helping to foster their independence! We will have staff and student leaders available to assist any students who need help.

Attendance and Tardies

It is particularly important for students to be on time for school. Students are expected to be in their classroom at 8:00 am. Regular school attendance is important for students to be successful.

Important Dates

August 15th Meet and Greet
(see flyer for details)

August 16th First Day of School

August 31st Open House
(see flyer for details)

Arrival/Dismissal

We have three separate arrival and dismissal locations. Bus Riders use the front of the school. Walkers use the gate on 69th Ave by the crossing guard. Car-Riders use the back car loop. Parents are to enter the car loop through Driftwood Recreation Center. For arrival, the car loop will be open at 7:30 a.m. and close promptly at 8:00 a.m. The gate will open back up for dismissal. All car riders will be given a car tag for parents to hang from their rear-view mirror with their child's full name, grade level, and teacher.

Late Arrivals and Early Dismissals

Students who arrive at school after the gates are locked at 8:00 am must be brought to the front office and signed in by the parent or guardian. Parents who wish to pick students up prior to the 2:00 pm dismissal must come to the front office no later than 1:30 pm with a government-issued photo ID. Anyone without an ID and/or not listed on the Emergency Contact Form will not be allowed to pick up the student. ALL dismissal changes must be made in writing prior to 1:30 pm. We cannot accept dismissal changes after 1:30 pm.

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast is served from 7:30- 7:55 am. Driftwood will operate under the Community Eligibility Program this year and therefore both breakfast and lunch will be FREE for all students! We are very excited to be able to continue to offer this to our community.



Front Office Procedures

The front office remains locked at all times. Please ring the doorbell on the right side of the door and have your government issued ID readily available to hold up to the camera on the top of the doorbell. Please wait patiently to be buzzed into the office. If you are visiting the campus, you will be checked in with your ID through our Rapture System and issued a visitor's pass to wear. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Safety and Security

The safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance. Some of our safety and security measures include having a School Resource Officer on campus and Campus Monitors. All classroom doors remain locked throughout the day. Students and staff are required to wear identification badges. All open gates are monitored by school personnel. After arrival, all perimeter gates will be locked at 8:00 a.m. except for the front gate to allow parents and visitors access to the school. If personnel are not available to dedicate to this post, the gate must remain locked and visitors to the campus must call the school's office to gain entry to the campus.

Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering, please register to be an approved volunteer at browardschools.com/volunteer