

Dear kindergarten families,

I am pleased to welcome you and your child to kindergarten! We are going to have a fun year full of new explorations and growth. I have put together this handbook to provide you with important information. If you have any questions or would like to talk, feel free to contact me anytime. I look forward to getting to know you and your family more this year!

Sincerely,

Jamie Rice

(360) 370- 7315

jamierice@sjisd.org

**School Calendar**

District school calendars are available in the office or online at sjisd.wednet.edu, under about/calendars. Please be sure to note holidays and early release days. School hours on early release days are 8:15- 11:10. On Regular School Days the hours are 8:15-2:45.

**Lunch Menu**

You are always welcome to join your child for lunch! Our lunch begins at 11:10. Please call the office in the morning to let them know you will be joining your child for lunch so they can prepare enough food. Monthly menus are available in the office or online at sjisd.wednet.edu, under families/food service. You can pay online for your child’s food service. Money (cash or check) sent to school should be paid at the office.

**Snack**

Healthy snacks are encouraged during recess times and Heart’s Desire. If your child would like to bring a snack during these times, please pack them in their backpack each day. We all have times we forget, so we do try to have “emergency snack” on hand. If you would like to donate a box of crackers, granola bars, or a bag of pretzels, please send them in at any time!

**Birthdays**

You are welcome to send a special snack for your child’s birthday! You can either bring the treat before school or send it with your child. Your child will also have a Star Student poster to complete and share with the class. Be looking for the poster to be sent home around your child’s birthday!

**Regular Attendance**

Students benefit from attending school regularly. If your child will be absent, please contact Jill Peacock in the office at (360) 370-7302 or at jillpeacock@sjisd.org. If your child is late for school and arrives after 8:20, please stop in the office to get a late slip before heading to class.

**Items from Home**

Please leave toys and such at home. Labeling of lunches, backpacks, and jackets with names can be very helpful if your child is unfamiliar with new items. Each year our lost and found is full of items that are not labeled. If your child misplaces an item, they can be found in the lost and found area (in the Eagle Hall exit out to the playground).

**Dropping Off Your Child**

School begins at 8:15. There is supervision on the playground beginning at 8:00. Children are welcome to set their backpacks at our line-up spot and play until the bell rings at 8:15. We will line up in the back of the school, at the primary wing entrance. Every morning I will greet children out back and we will walk in together.

**Picking Up Your Child**

School ends at 2:45. Kindergarteners will be out in front of the school, near the front kindergarten classrooms at this time. Teachers will stay with students for about 5 minutes after school is dismissed, then they will walk them to the office if nobody has arrived to pick them up.

**Riding the Bus**

If your child plans to ride the bus every day, please be sure to fill out a bus form in the office and let me know your child’s bus number, along with their destination. If plans change, please email me. If it is late in the day, please call the office and let them know, so they can get a message to us. If your child rides the bus to school, they will walk through the Eagle Hallway to the playground. When the bell rings at 8:15, they will meet the class at the line. I will help them find their bus after school. Please be sure to tell your child their going home plans before school each day. **An adult must be at the bus stop to meet any kindergartner getting off the bus!**

**Curriculum Night**

September 11th, 2019 from 6:00-7:00

All parents are invited to this event where we will discuss routines and the plans for the school year. Please meet in the cafeteria and then we will move to one kindergarten classroom, room 3. Childcare will be provided.

**What You Can Do**

Please keep the school informed! Send an e-mail to me or the office anytime. Some reasons you may need to contact us are:

-If there is a change in your phone number, address or work place. Please let us know so that we can reach you during the day in case of an emergency.

-If your child is on medication. This can only be administered in the school office. Please do not send cough drops to school with your children.

-If your child is to leave school during the normal school day, or if there is a chance in the regular established transportation plans.

-If there is a change in your family situation (separation, new baby on the way, etc..)

-If you have any questions or concerns.

**Volunteering**

Volunteering is encouraged and appreciated! We would really appreciate support during the first few weeks of school during the transition to lunch! If you are available at 11-11:20, please come help the students learn this new routine. Around the middle of October, we will start setting up regular volunteer schedules. We especially would love help during class party days, field trips, and other special events. Let me know if you are interested in helping!

Thank you and welcome again to Kindergarten!

Jamie Rice