



Eye on the Eagles

August, 2009

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! We want to convey a warm welcome to all our new and returning families. This is an exciting time of the year as we plan for the start of the school year.

As the newly appointed principal of Eastridge Elementary School, I would like to combine a letter of introduction with an expression of excitement about the upcoming school year. Eastridge Elementary has an outstanding reputation and I am fortunate to become a part of this community. As your principal, I will do my best to build upon the tradition of education of the highest caliber, which is fundamental in making Eastridge Elementary a special place to learn and grow.

My teaching background consists of fifteen years as an elementary teacher in the area of regular education, resource and behaviorally disordered. I was a special education coordinator and a coordinator for three years each. My experience has been with Omaha Public Schools, Educational Service Unit #4, and Lincoln Public Schools. I am starting my fourteenth year as a principal for Lincoln Public Schools having served Hawthorne Elementary and Belmont Elementary prior to coming to Eastridge Elementary.

We are also pleased to welcome our new staff members, Mrs. Krzycki (.75 media specialist/.25 gifted facilitator), Miss Swartzendruber (.5 resource), Melanie Friend (paraeducator), Meagan Gates (paraeducator), and Liz Carney (paraeducator). In addition to her teaching expertise, Mrs. Krzycki has been a media specialist at Hawthorne Elementary and Belmont Elementary. Miss Swartzendruber grew up in Shickley, Nebraska. She is a graduate of Hastings College with a dual endorsement in regular and special education. We look forward to working with our new Eastridge staff members.

We hope the information contained in this newsletter is helpful to you as you begin preparations for the 2009-2010 school year. If you need any additional information, please give us a call at 436-1135. Our partnership ensures a successful school experience for your child.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Dabbert

“No day is complete until I hear the laughter of a child”-Native American Proverb

Eastridge Mission Statement

At Eastridge we educate every student effectively!

Staff, families, and students will share responsibility for providing:

- ☆ **Meaningful and challenging learning opportunities for academic achievement, development of creativity, and an appreciation of the arts.**
- ☆ **A safe, caring environment for the development of positive character, and an appreciation of individual and cultural differences.**
- ☆ **A desire to be lifelong learners.**



FIRST WEEK – The first day of school is Wednesday, August 19. For the first week only, the school hours are 8:55 a.m. to 2:38 p.m.

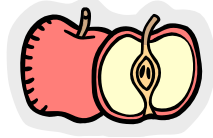
SCHOOL HOURS – Effective August 24, school hours will be 9:00 a.m. – 3:38 p.m.

ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS – Please call the school office at 436-1135 by 9:00 a.m. if your child will be absent or tardy.

OPEN HOUSE/SAFE WALK – Open House will be held Monday, August 17, from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Please come to meet your teacher and become acquainted with Eastridge.

UPCOMING EVENTS – Parent teacher conferences will be held on October 6 and 8 for the first semester. Second semester conferences will be held February 9 and 11.

PERSONAL ITEMS – Please mark your child's personal items with a permanent marker: coats, jackets, backpacks, etc.



LUNCHES– School lunches cost \$1.90. The cost of reduced lunch is \$.40. Students may deposit money into their SNAP account on the first day of school or at Open House on August 17. Please refer to the information in the enclosed booklet regarding free and reduced lunch and breakfast qualifications. Milk is \$.40.

BREAKFAST – Breakfast is served from 8:25 to 8:50am. The cost of breakfast is \$1.00. The reduced breakfast price is \$.30.

All Eye on the Eagle Newsletters will be available on the Lincoln Public Schools website. You must make a request if you want to receive a paper copy of this newsletter. This is the only time you will automatically receive a paper copy. If you need a paper copy, please sign up for it in your child's classroom during Open House.

Visiting School

We hope that you find yourself visiting your child's classroom during the school year! You will need to sign in with our greeter and wear a visitor's badge, regardless of the length of your visit. Please call your child's teacher prior to your visit to find the best time to go to the classroom. If you are at school to pick up your child for an appointment, stop by the office and Mrs. Simonds or Mrs. Johnson will get your child from the classroom and provide you with a medical slip to take to your appointment. All school doors will remain locked throughout the school day with the exception of the main doors located on the north side of the building, which will be unlocked from 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily. Thank you for your support of our efforts to secure the building and provide a safe learning environment.

Student Information Sheets

Student Information Sheets will be in each classroom during Open House. Please plan to take a few minutes to verify and update this information. We are asking that you make any necessary corrections on the form, sign the bottom of the sheet, and leave the form in your child's classroom. If changes occur throughout the year, we ask that you notify the school office. It is important that our office have accurate records pertaining to your address, telephone numbers and local emergency contacts.



The Lincoln Public Schools provides needed supplies for students; however some students prefer to bring their own supplies at the beginning of the school year. If your child wants to do that, a suggested list is provided below. It is also helpful for each child to have his/her own backpack.

Kindergarten

Pencil box
Crayons (16 count)
Glue sticks (8)
Pencils (12)
Markers (10)
Tissues
Folders 3- with 3 Fasteners

First Grade

Wide thin water based Markers
Pencils
Tissues
Small school glue or glue sticks
Erasers
Medium Sized Pencil Box
Back Pack

Second Grade

Erasers
Pencils
Tissues
Glue Sticks
Erasers
Medium Sized Pencil Box
Back Pack

Third Grade

Box of 16 crayons
Box of 10 markers
Scissors
Tissues
Glue
Ruler marked with $\frac{1}{2}$ inch lines
Wide lined spiral bound notebook (1)
Pocket Folder for Homework (1)
Pencil Grippers

Third Grade (Cont.)

Pencils
Tissues
Erasers
Please NO pencil boxes, large
Notebooks or Trapper Keepers

Fourth Grade

Tissues
70 Page wide-ruled-spiral notebook
(up to 3)
Small pencil bag filled with:
Crayon box (24 max)
Box of Markers
Glue Stick
Colored Pencils
Pencils
Erasers
Pocket Folder (up to 3)
Please NO Trapper Keepers,
hard pencil boxes, or
mechanical pens or pencils

Fifth Grade

Small pencil bag (approx 4"-5" x 8")
3 Spiral Notebooks (wide-ruled)
Tissues
Please NO mechanical pencils
Individual manual pencil sharpener
Pencils
7 Pocket Expandable File

Specialists

They always appreciate
tissues
PE can use band aids

Mark your calendars for early dismissal while teachers work in their Professional Learning Communities (PLC) to help all students learn and achieve better. Students will be dismissed at 2:18 on the following days: **August 25, September 29, October 20, November 24, December 15, January 26, February 23, March 30, and April 27.**

Teach Your Child Their PIN Number

WinSNAP is the name of the district's computerized point-of-sale (POS) cash register system. Students deposit money into their account which is accessed by entering their PIN number (starts with a "4") on a PIN pad. Students will have the same number each school year. If your child is new to the Lincoln Public Schools, a number will be assigned. It is very important your child learn their number so they can enter it the first day of school.

Unless your child is eligible for free meals, you will need to deposit money into their account. A suggestion for the amount of prepayment would be \$38 for elementary, \$42 for middle school students and \$45 for high school students. This would provide lunch meals for four weeks. More money would be needed to purchase snacks and seconds. Money for your child's meals can be deposited at open house or before school. Any amount of money may be deposited. As long as your child does not owe money, cash may always be used to pay for school food. Money in an account will be transferred from one school to another if a student changes schools within the Lincoln Public Schools. When money is owed on an account (negative balance) the deposit (pre-payment) always pays off the money owed first and deposits into the account the difference.

Lunch Menus for the First Week of School

Wednesday-Cheese Pizza/Corn Puppies

Thursday-Chicken Nuggets/BBQ Ribblet

Friday-Hamburger/Hot Dog

Milk is \$.40





School Hours



Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 First Bell 8:55 Students enter
 Tardy Bell 9:00 Students in the classroom
 Dismissal 3:38 p.m.

Shortened Day Hours for the First Week

Lincoln Public Schools will dismiss an hour early during the entire first week of school in an effort to help children adjust to the school year. The hours for the first week of school are 9:00-2:38.

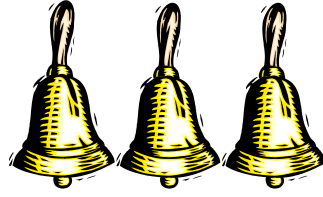
Lunch and Playground for the First Week

| Grade | Lunch | Recess |
|-------|--------------|-------------|
| K | 11: 40-11:55 | 11:55-12:15 |
| 4 | 11:50-12:05 | 12:05-12:25 |
| 3 | 11:55-12:10 | 12:10-12:30 |
| 2 | 12:05-12:20 | 12:20-12:40 |
| 5 | 12:10-12:25 | 12:25-12:45 |
| 1 | 12:15-12:30 | 12:30-12:50 |



Volunteer Training

If you are interested in volunteering in the classroom during the 2009-2010 school year, you will need to attend a brief volunteer training session. This training session is scheduled for **Thursday, August 27, at 1:30 PM**, in the **Media Center**. Thanks for your willingness to volunteer at Eastridge. You are very important to us! We look forward to seeing you at the training session.



School Arrival

All kindergarten and first grade students should line up outside the northeast door. Second and third grade students line up outside the main doors and fourth and fifth grade students are asked to line up outside the northwest door.

Supervision is not provided before 8:50 a.m. since many staff members are in meetings or preparing for the school day. Students should not arrive until 8:50 a.m.

Do not drop off or pick up in the east area of the cut-out. This area will need to be open throughout the school day for buses and for field trip buses. Your help is also needed as you transport your child to and from school.

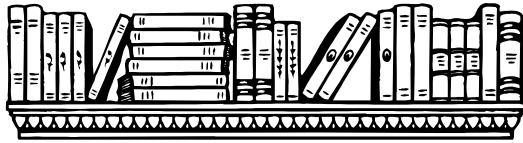
We have two handicapped parking spaces in the staff parking lot for children who need to be dropped off closer to the building. Please feel free to use these spaces if you have a child who is handicapped. For all other students we request they be dropped off in the cut-out area (excluding the bus area), or a street close to school. Do not drop off your child in the parking lot unless your child has a handicap. Please do not park in the cut-out area and leave your car unattended. As soon as your child is safely out of your vehicle and on to the sidewalk area, we ask that you drive cautiously on, knowing that there is a line of cars behind you waiting to drop off children. Some families meet their children south of the school or on an adjacent block to help alleviate the congestion in front of the school building.

Do not park in the "No Parking" area near the crosswalk. Drivers need a clear view of the crosswalk area. The staff parking lot may not be used for student drop-off or pick-ups due to the fact that it is hazardous for students to be walking in or near the parking lot where itinerant staff reports and leaves at different times of the day. Thanks for your help in this matter.

Please do not use the driveways as a turn-around area. We want to continue our good relationships with our neighbors to the north and we ask you not to use their driveways or the school's driveway to turn around.

Safety of students and staff remains a high priority. Thank you in

advance for your cooperation with these issues.



August

17 Ice Cream Social,
6:00-7:30

17 Open House, 6:30-
7:30

19 Breakfast-for Parents of new families to Eastridge,
9:00

19 First Day of School, 9:00-2:38

24 Regular Schedule, 9:00-3:38

25 Early Dismissal @ 2:18 (PLC)

**Menu for the First Day of
School**

Cheese Pizza or
Corn Puppies

**Monday August 17, 2009
Eastridge Elementary**



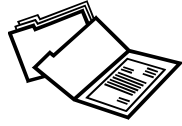
Ice Cream Social
6:00-7:30
and
Open House
6:30-7:30

- *Sign up for fall parent/teacher conferences
 - * Practice your safe walk to school
 - * Find your entrance
 - * See your room
 - * Meet your teachers
 - * Visit with the specialists
- * Deposit money in your SNAP (lunch) account
 - * Bring medications to the health office
 - * *Buy some ice cream and enjoy!*

**Entering the Building the
First Day of School**

Students should arrive the first day at 8:50 or shortly after, and go directly to their outside entrance area (weather permitting) to locate their teacher who will be by that entrance. Students will enter the building with their teacher

when the 8:55 bell rings.



Friday Folders

Your child will be bringing home a Friday Folder each week.

This will contain completed class assignments and important school announcements. Please make it a priority to view your child's work and return the folder to school each Monday. You will be receiving more information on these folders from your child's teacher.