



Parent News from Armstrong Elementary

Main: 651-425-4100

Attendance: 651-425-4106

Website: aes.sowashco.org

School hours: 8:40 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

September 3, 2020

Successful Transition Week

Thanks to our **amazing** students, parents and staff we had a very successful transition week. Students spent the time with their teachers to get a feel for the classroom environment, tour the school and review important safety protocols. We are looking forward to starting our hybrid schedule with students on Tuesday, September 8th! **PLEASE NOTE: TUESDAY IS FOR B DAY STUDENTS.** Below is a link to the A/B day calendar. Enjoy your Labor Day Weekend!

<https://www.sowashco.org/calendar>

Parent Tech Camp

Join us on Thursday, September 3rd from 7-8pm for an introduction on logging in, learning about some of the tech tools your student will use and a question/answer time! This session will be recorded if you are unable to attend.

To attend by computer, simply join by clicking on the following link: <https://sowashco.webex.com/meet/tyourcze> If you choose to join from a mobile device or tablet, you will want to download the Cisco Meetings Mobile Webex App before you join. You will be asked to sign in with your name and email. Give yourselves 5-10 minutes to load the app some time before the session begins. Looking forward to meeting with all of you!

Tammy Yourczek, Student Achievement Specialist/Instructional Coach

Family Technology Support Phone Line 651-425-HELP (4357)

South Washington County Schools (SoWashCo) has started a new **family technology support phone line at 651-425-HELP (4357)**. Standard phone line hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can leave a voicemail at any time with your child's name, the school they attend and a call back number, and someone will return your call.

A variety of technology resources are also available on our **Fall 2020 website** including:

- **Device support**
- **Fee payment support**
- **Parent portal support**
- **Schoology support**
- **Seesaw support**

****Important Info from the Health Office****

Welcome back! The health office at Armstrong Elementary will be a little different this year to keep everyone safe and healthy.

It is more important than ever to keep your student home if they are feeling ill and monitor their symptoms. This will help everyone stay safe and healthy.

The district will follow the Minnesota Department of Health's (MDH) guidelines to determine whether a student needs to be excluded from school. The guidelines state if a student has shortness of breath or new and persistent cough they will be **sent home for at least 10 days**. If a student has two or more other COVID-19 symptoms (determined by MDH and does NOT have to include a fever), they will be **sent home for at least 10 days**.

Along with sending the student home with the above symptoms, **all siblings will be sent home for at least 14 days**. Number of days excluded could change for each student. If they are diagnosed by a health care provider with an alternative diagnosis, documentation must be provided to the school.

If your student is diagnosed with COVID-19 or has been in contact with someone who is positive, please let us know immediately.

We will be limiting visits to the health office for Chapstick, lotion and other nonessential items. Send a water bottle with your student as drinking fountains will be turned off, but the water bottle fill station will be on. Please keep an extra pair of pants, a shirt, underwear and socks in your child's backpack in case of an accident.

If your child requires medication, please bring it in the week of Aug. 31 through Sept. 3. The medication forms are on the district website and will be available here at school. We are able to fax the forms to your child's doctor to get their signature if needed. Please make sure the medication is **not expired**. If your child has an inhaler, it is recommended they use a spacer.

The health office can no longer be used for brushing teeth for students with braces. There are other bathrooms in the building that can be used for these needs.

Please make sure you have logged into your student's parent portal to make sure all of the information is correct and update any health conditions.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Be well, Lori Gilman, LPN/HCS, Julie Phelps, RN/LSN, 651-425-4102

Update From Nutrition Services

Curbside Pickup Information:

- Two sites are available for VLA families; Cottage Grove Middle and Lake Middle School.
- Pick up days are Tuesdays and Fridays as long as we are in session. Times are from 9:00-10:30am.
- Two sites are available for hybrid families; Park High School and East Ridge High School.
- Pick up days are Fridays for the hybrid families. Times are from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- A calendar will be available on the website listing the curbside dates.

- The number of meals received will be dependent upon how many days the students will be in session. We distribute meals for the days the students are conducting distance learning. This could be confusing for parents since contact days differ for elementary, middle and high school. The number of meals will also be listed on the website.
- Communications will have information in a family newsletter on Thursday and all information will be posted to the website by Thursday as well. See link below.
- Families are required to bring their barcodes with them. Every family will be sent a PIN sheet this week that has instructions to keep the sheet or take a picture of the barcode with their smartphone if they intend to pick up meals.
- Barcodes will pull the students PIN number so that we can charge the family appropriately through a contactless method.
- Families can only go to the designated sites for pick up, they cannot cross over. Only one site can be visited per day.

Free and Reduced Information:

- Families are required to fill out a new form every year since the income guidelines change.
- As a families situation changes throughout the year they can reapply .
- Principals are no longer allowed to fill out forms on behalf of the families. We can utilize our cultural liaisons to help translate if needed, however all income information is required moving forward.
- There is a 30 day carryover for any family that qualified last year. If families do not reapply they will receive a letter to their home notifying them that they will automatically move to full pay if they do not reapply.

If families need information on Free and Reduced they can contact Melissa at 651-425-6280.

For all Nutrition Services/meal information please go to the following link:

<https://www.sowashco.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=1217437&pageId=27561444>

Recess and PhyEd Weather Reminder

Believe it or not, the forecast for the first week of school is for HIGH temperatures in the 50's and 60's. For health and safety reasons students will not be allowed to share jackets or sweatshirts. Unless we see those temperatures warm up, **please send your child to school with an appropriate jacket or sweatshirt for recess and PE class outside.**

Upcoming Events

- **Friday, September 4, 2020 – NO SCHOOL, School office will be closed**
- **Monday, September 7, 2020 – NO SCHOOL, LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**
- **Tuesday, September 8, 2020 –** First day of school for **Group B** students AND **VLA** students; Distance learning for **Group A** students today
- **Wednesday, September 9, 2020 –** First day of school for **Group A** students; Distance learning for **Group B** students today
- **Thursday, September 10, 2020 –** In-school day for **Group B** students; Distance learning day for **Group A** students
- **Friday, September 10, 2020 –** In-school day for **Group A** students; Distance learning day for **Group B** students