



RED CLAY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Superintendent

William Cooke Jr. Elementary School
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Linda Ennis
Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians of William F. Cooke, Jr. Elementary Students,

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year at Cooke Elementary School! We hope that you are enjoying your last month of summer vacation. You and your family are invited to meet your child's teacher at our "Meet the Teacher" event on Thursday, August 23rd from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Class lists will be posted in the school lobby that afternoon beginning at 4:00 p.m. Please do not call the school for your child's classroom assignment. For students in Grades 1-5, your child's first day of school is Monday, August 27th. For students in kindergarten, you should have been notified already by a separate letter with your child's start date. Due to the staggered start, half of the kindergarten students will start on Monday, August 27th, and half will start on Wednesday, August 29th. There is no school on Friday, August 31st and Monday, September 3rd for the Labor Day holiday weekend. All students will attend school on Tuesday, September 4th.

Please take note of our new school hours:

8:40 a.m. - Car rider drop-off begins. Please stay in line along the curb. Staff members will be on duty to open car doors. As a safety measure, please have your child exit from the passenger side of your vehicle. For additional safety reasons, we ask that you use the car line and do not park and walk your child to the sidewalk, unless you need to come into the school for some reason. Our parking lot is very busy in the morning.

8:50 a.m. - Students who purchase breakfast at school go to the cafeteria for Grab and Go breakfast, which starts on the first day of school. Breakfast will be served until 9:00 a.m.

8:55 a.m. - All bus and car riders enter the building.

9:00 a.m. - Instructional day begins with morning announcements. Students are considered tardy if they arrive after 9:00 a.m.

3:50 p.m. - Car riders are dismissed. Please follow the line, remain in your vehicle and a staff member will bring your child to you. Each family is assigned a car tag number. You will have the same number as in previous years. If you require a new tag, please notify the office and we will send one home. All kindergarten students and students new to Cooke this year will be issued a car tag, which will be mailed home separately from this letter. This number must be displayed on the rear view mirror or driver's side window of your vehicle.

3:55 p.m. All bus riders are dismissed.

4:05 p.m. Buses depart.

For information about breakfast and lunch, please visit the Parents and Students page on the District Website (<http://www.redclayschools.com>) and then go to "What's for Lunch?" for more information about Nutrition Services. Please remember that if your child was on free or reduced breakfast/lunch last year his/her eligibility will continue for the first 30 days of the new school year. You must re-apply every year. If your child was not on free/reduced last year, you are responsible for your child's meal purchases until you've completed the required paperwork and have received notification from Nutrition Services, if approved.

Please use the nametag that is provided in this mailer for your child to wear the first week of school, if your child is a bus rider. If your child does not take the bus, please print "car rider" on an index card or piece of paper and print your child's name on the front of the card. On the back of the card, please print your child's address and telephone number. If your child rides a daycare van, please print the daycare name and "Van" on the front of the card. If your child is in our on-site before-and-after care program, please write "Boys' and Girls' Club" on the front of the card.

Other items to note:

- Kindergarten teachers will be in the library the first day of school to meet and greet their students. There will be a "Boo Hoo Breakfast" beginning at 8:45 a.m. in the Community Room for kindergarten parents and all parents, who are new to Cooke.
- Parents of students in grades 1-5 may walk their children to class on the first day of school only.
- Please note that all early dismissals must take place before 3:20 p.m.
- Please see the non-mandatory school supply wish list, on our website. In addition, we ask that you provide a book bag and lunch box for your child. If that is not possible, please let me know. We have a supply of donated school supplies to give out.

Please search for Cooke Elementary School and like us on Facebook to stay up-to-date with announcements about the new school year. We look forward to meeting and greeting our students and their families on August 23rd and know that 2018-19 will be a fantastic school year!

Sincerely, Linda Ennis, Principal, Cooke Elementary School