

# Bryant Bulletin

August 14, 2019

## ***Dr. Rhodes' Weekly Message***

Thank you to everyone who has helped in the start-up of year three! Our PTA amazes me with the amount of time and energy they devote to our school, even in the summer. They have been planning and working in order to help supplement student learning this year with additional experiences as well as help provide support to the front office team and all staff members. While planning for the year ahead, our PTA also helped copy, stuff envelopes, laminate, cut out, decorate, and design/sell spirit wear, just to name a few things!! Whether you can volunteer during the day or at home, multiple research studies have linked parent volunteering to student success. Whether big or small, any way to volunteer for all of our kids is huge. Thank you in advance for helping our PTA and modeling the importance of volunteering to your student.

As a reminder, and for our families new to Katy ISD, all Katy ISD schools use access control to allow entry into the main office and in to the remainder of the school. Our access control (doorbell and camera) is located in the vestibule of our school. In order to request access to the front office, you will need to press the button on the unit. You will be greeted and asked the nature of your visit. After explanation you will then hold your state issued identification or passport up to the camera so your identity can be double checked (if multiple adults—each person will display their Identification). If you do not have the proper identification, you will not be granted access to the school and all communication will be through the access control unit. Even if the person answering personally knows you, she is required to ask the nature of your visit and see your identification. There are no exceptions. If you are visiting or have an appointment you will present your identification again at the front desk where your identification will be scanned through the Raptor system. While this process may seem cumbersome to some, this is the safest manner to allow public access in our schools. On a side note, our Raptor background check system was updated over the summer. Due to the update, all profiles of previous visitors were deleted. During your first visit to the school, the receptionist will need to scan your ID and type in details. Once you are entered in the system the first time, the check-in process will go much faster for future visits. Even if you are dropping something off for your student, please take a moment to get scanned into the system for future visits/events.

Other security measures will be enhanced this year and I will communicate these with you ahead of time. The safety of all our students is our number one priority. Please contact me if you have any questions.

As we begin a new school year, here are a few important reminders for everyone:

- Firearms are not permitted on campus unless you are a fully uniformed police officer wearing proper credentials.
- Please do not use roads such as Willowmoor to drop off or pick up students. Also, do not turn around using the intersection at Ash Creek. Both create dangerous hazards. Please use the car rider line for dropping off and picking up students. The side and front parking lots are not used for dropping off or picking up students. To drop off students, please use the car rider line. If you need to enter the building for school business, please let our front drive teacher on duty know and she will let you in. If your student is in a specialized program, please discuss your entrance and exit plan with your teacher, as not all students enter/exit through the car rider line. Thank you for your cooperation.

- Please remember it is law that you not be on your cell phone while driving in a school zone. This includes the student drop off/pick up lane.
- This year our car rider line will be a bit different. Since we have grown, we now need to double stack cars in our Car Rider Line. We also have 16 dismissal cones (the same as arrival cones). This new system will help accommodate our increased enrollment as well as assist in making car rider dismissal faster. As you know, car rider dismissal will take additional time since students are learning their numbers, teachers are learning their students, and it is a new system. After about five days, we should fall into a rhythm. Thanks for being patient.
- Lunch visitors will begin September 3rd. Lunch visitors are allowed to visit in the cafeteria if you have completed the Lunch Visitor Form in the 1<sup>st</sup> Day Packet. Visitors are not allowed to follow a student back to their classroom or to recess. A parent/guardian can be a lunch visitor once per week. Visitors are restricted to parents/step-parents/guardians, non-school aged siblings, and grandparents. Visitors do not include aunts, uncles, or neighbors.
- Changes of transportation must be in writing with parent/guardian signature and received in the office by 2:30pm.
- Students may be picked up from school through 3:15pm. After 3:15pm, students will go home via their normal mode of transportation. This is for the safety of all students. End of day transitions can become hectic for teachers and students. The cut off time is to ensure each teacher knows exactly how each student is getting home for the day.

**FYI:** Katy ISD uses a uniform system for extreme temperatures. To remain consistent, the temperature and heat index are monitored through the Weather Channel App with a location set to Brookshire, TX. If the heat index rises to 99° per the Weather Channel App, we limit recess to 25 minutes or less. If the heat index rises to 105°, per the Weather Channel App, students have indoor recess. Indoor recess includes, games, reading, learning videos, and choice of movement activity.

## Event Calendar

### **Wednesday, August 14- Friday, August 16**

Parents may walk students to class

### **Monday, September 2**

Labor Day- School Holiday

### **Tuesday, September 3**

Lunch visitors begin, once per week.

### **Thursday, September 5**

PTA VIPS Kickoff, 9-10:00am in the LGI.

### **Monday, September 9- Friday, September 13**

Grandparents Week. Grandparents are invited to visit one day during the week and sit with their grand child(ren) at their *class lunchroom table*. Grandparents must be listed on the Katy ISD Lunch Visitor Form sent home in the First Day Envelope.

**Friday, September 13**

PTA Spirit Store Open during lunch times. *If students will make purchases, please place money in a sealed ziplock labeled with student name and indicating the money is for Spirit Store.*

## *Office and Other Information*

- Click [HERE](#) for the Bryant Website
- Click [HERE](#) for Katy ISD Home Access Center (HAC). Register to gain access to grades, e-news, etc.

***Follow us via social media:***

Facebook= [Bryant Elementary](#)

Twitter= [@BryantElem](#) [#bengalpride](#)

## *Information from the PTA*

***Volunteer Kickoff:***

Join us on Thursday, September 5th for our Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) kickoff. Meet other parents and PTA members and learn about how you can be involved at Bryant Elementary. We look forward to seeing you there! We will meet from 9:00-10:00 in the LGI.