

DREAMING SUMMIT

Elementary

Home of the Bulldogs



Office: 623-547-1200 (Open beginning 7/25/22)

Fax: 623-547-4770

Office Hours: 7:45am – 3:30pm

School Hours: 8:15am – 3:00pm

July 25, 2022

Dear Bulldog Family,

We are looking forward to a new and exciting school year at Dreaming Summit. It is an honor to be joining the Bulldog Family as the Principal at Dreaming Summit. We are thankful to all of our families for your continued support and partnership in your child's learning. As we prepare for your child's school experience, we wanted to share some important information to ensure a safe and successful start to our school year. Please read through the following important information with your child. We want your child and your family to have an outstanding year at Dreaming Summit!

DIRECTORY

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DSE MISSION

We are **D**etermined to do our best,
 Responsible for our school family
 Engaged in learning
 A model of Support, and
 Mindful of our actions

With Pride we say, that's the Bulldog way!

DSE VISION

At Dreaming Summit, we are dedicated to building an environment that focuses on responsibility, respect and safety. We maintain high expectations for achievement and citizenship through best practices, effort and collaboration.

FIRST WEEK PICK UP/DROP OFF

Our school hours are 8:15am to 3:00pm. Gates open at 7:45am and close at 8:15am. On the first 2 days of school only, students will report to the cafeteria or go directly to class. Families may walk their student/s to class on the first 2 days of school only. Starting on the 3rd day, students will go to the cafeteria or the playground in the morning. The first bell rings at 8:05 to line up for class. The tardy bell rings at 8:15 and you will need to sign your student in at the office after this time. Students are expected to be in class ready to learn at 8:15. At the end of the day, the Kindergarten and 1st grade will begin dismissal at 2:50 pm. Grades 2-5 will dismiss at 3:00pm. Students are not allowed on campus before or after school as there is no supervision. Students who are attending an organized and supervised activity outside school hours are allowed on campus under the guidance of the adult sponsoring that activity and transportation will be the responsibility of the family.

CLOSED CAMPUS

***Please see below regarding our Closed Campus policy.

Dreaming Summit Elementary is known as an open and friendly campus where parents are always welcome. We truly value you and want you to feel welcomed when you come to eat lunch or volunteer in your child's classroom.

Dreaming Summit has adopted a closed campus policy so that we can more easily identify adults on our campus and their reasons for being here. Having a closed campus increases the safety and security of your child.

Our campus will be closed before and after school from 7:45 am-3:15 pm. Students will continue to enter campus through the front gate by the 5th grade classroom, #705. Adults will not be allowed to enter through the gates in the morning or afternoon. To keep all children safe, only students are allowed beyond the gates before school, during school or after school. This means no one is allowed to stand in line at breakfast, go to classrooms prior to school or be in the playground area before, during, or after school.

SCHOOL SAFETY

Important components of school safety at Dreaming Summit Elementary for students, families, and staff:

- Drivers stop prior to crosswalks when children are present and wait for the crossing guard to signal cars to move through
- School gates are closed and locked during school hours
- All classroom doors are locked at all times
- All visitors and/or volunteers must check in and out through the front office
 - ◆ The school has the authority to not allow visitors on campus at their discretion
- After volunteers apply and are approved, volunteer opportunities must be pre-arranged with the classroom teacher and communicated to the front office prior to volunteering
- Evacuation/fire drills completed once per month
- Lockdown drills are completed at least 3 times per year.
- Bus evacuation drills are completed 2 times per year.
- Staff participate in safety protocols and training throughout the school year

ATTENDANCE STANDARDS

The education of our students is extremely important and being in class is vital to their academic success. School attendance is not only a good habit, state law requires it. Arizona State Law (15-802.E, 15-803.) requires every person who has custody of a child between the ages of six and sixteen years shall make sure the child attends school for the full time school is in session unless unable to attend due to illness or another legitimate reason.

To encourage and improve school attendance, Litchfield Elementary School District has implemented a truancy program in partnership with Maricopa County Juvenile Court. This truancy program is called C.U.T.S. (Court Unified Truancy Suppression). We will be tracking attendance very closely. Your child is expected to be at school every day, unless there is an excused reason for them not to be at school. We appreciate your cooperation in this very important matter.

Remember, kids who attend school more often will learn more!

COMMUNICATION

As always, we will do everything to guarantee the safety of everyone at Dreaming Summit Elementary. It is imperative that you, as parents/guardians, and your child communicate with us if you feel you have any knowledge that will help us intervene before a situation arises that may compromise the safety or health of a student. Also, if you have a question or concern regarding your child's academic/behavior status, as a professional courtesy, please contact the teacher prior to contacting administration to discuss the concern.

In order to communicate with you in the most effective manner, we suggest you follow the steps listed below:

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Contact Homeroom Teacher K-5	Contact Behavior Coach: Mr. Kane	Contact Principal: Mrs. Hill

1. School Website: Please visit our website at www.lesd79.org. Go under the school tab to Dreaming Summit Elementary School and use the Quick Links tab on the top right to find school information, letter from the Principal, [suggested supplies for each grade level](#), contact information for your child's teachers, nurse updates, upcoming school events, news from our Bulldog Parent Teacher Association (PTSA) and much more!

2. Facebook and Instagram: Stay connected with us on Facebook and Instagram. Our page will showcase the amazing things taking place on campus, recognize staff and students, showcase student work, as well as up-to-date information regarding events or important information.

3. Email: A weekly email will come from your child's teacher. This email will include upcoming events and school information. Please be sure you have a current/updated email address on file with our front office.

4. Phone: If necessary, students may use the phones in the front office before school, during lunch or after school. *As stated below, students will not be permitted to use or carry cell phones on campus.

5. Peachjar: We will be maintaining a paper-free flier school through the use of Peachjar. These flyers will be sent to the email address you have on file with our school. If your email address changes, please let us know!

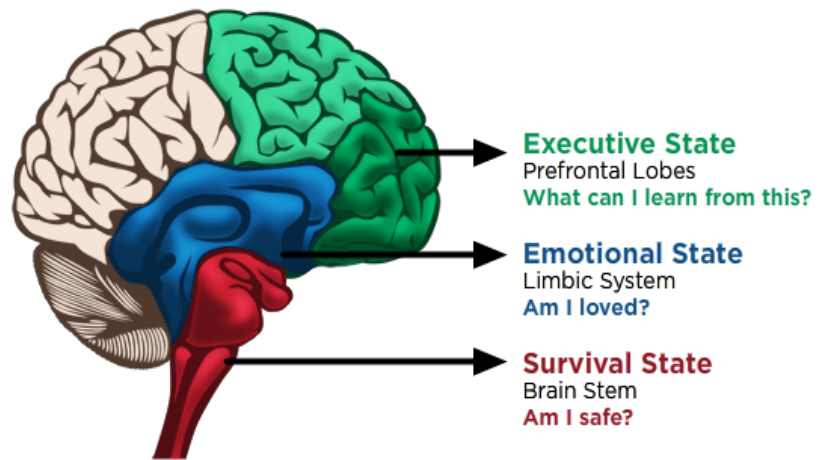
ACADEMIC STANDARDS

We will expect our students to develop strong study habits, take responsibility, and have pride in their academic efforts. A strong partnership is the best recipe for our students' success. Therefore, you have the right to expect the best from us! We hope you will partner with us to bring out the best in our students.

- Supplies – The most important supplies are: pencils, pens, loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks, a binder, and a backpack. See [Suggest Supply Lists](#) on our school website. Teachers will give you more information about specific supplies at Open House and during the first days of school.
- Student Handbook: You will find the Digital Student Handbook at <https://www.lesd79.org/family-community/student-and-parent-handbook>. This includes the Calendar and other important information. Please read this carefully as a family.
- Parent Vue– Parent Vue gives both parents/guardians and students the capability to go online and check classroom assignments and grades on a regular basis. This is a great way to stay on top of your child's academic progress. All progress reports and report cards will be available to view through Parent Vue. Paper copies will not be printed.
- Academic Progress– Families will receive regular communication about their child's progress. Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held October 5-7 for all students and on January 27th as determined by the teacher.
 - ◆ K-2–formal progress reports will be sent home with students in September, November, February, and April; report cards are available in ParentVue in October, January, and May; summary of district testing and Acadience results will be sent home with students each time formal testing occurs.
 - ◆ 3-5–formal progress reports are available in ParentVue in September, November, February, and April; report cards are available in ParentVue in October, January, and May; summary of district testing will be sent home with students each time district testing occurs.

BEHAVIOR STANDARDS

Dreaming Summit believes in creating a culture of learning based on safety, connection and problem solving. This neurodevelopmental model helps to focus our attention on internal states first and behavior second. Addressing the internal state that precedes the behavior, individuals learn to self-regulate and develop strong executive skills for problem solving and goal achievement.



The School Family is built on a healthy family model with the goal of providing optimal development for all its members. The School Family builds connections that foster the following:

- ➔ Impulse control through co-regulation skills
- ➔ Cooperation and willingness to learn through a sense of belonging
- ➔ Executive skills through modeling, scaffolding and direct teaching
- ➔ Routines- How we teach behavior expectations in our classrooms and school
- ➔ Rituals- Expressions of unity
- ➔ Classroom Structures- The ultimate goal of the School Family is to provide a learning environment where all members (adult and children) spend more time in an executive state than not.

We work tirelessly to help guide students towards positive behavioral choices. We understand that students sometimes make choices that disrupt their classroom, cause harm to others, or go outside of our rules and expectations. Students who choose to interrupt the learning environment will be subject to disciplinary action. Please read and review the student handbook with your student in ParentVue and sign digitally. In our student handbook/agenda, there is a discipline rubric that will be followed. The rubric can be found at: <https://www.lesd79.org/family-community/student-and-parent-handbook>. This will need to be signed in the digital format in order to access grades, progress reports, and report cards in ParentVue.

This year we will also be refocusing on being Responsible, Respectful and Safe in all areas of campus. This is an effective behavior management process to create safer and more effective schools. We will implement a system of clear schoolwide expectations with incentives and consequences. When students need extra support they will receive interventions. In addition, we will be recognizing and celebrating student successes. Within the classroom, teachers will be guiding students in making positive choices for behavior and classroom performance. Teachers will set, teach and reinforce clear expectations. When students know the expectations and are recognized for following them this creates a successful learning environment. The implementation of evidence-based strategies and systems assist schools in decreasing problem behavior, increasing academic performance, increasing safety, establishing a thriving school culture and a common language with clear expectations.

Students will be supported by our Behavior Coach and Behavior Technician through interventions. These interventions could be reflections, social stories or lessons. The ultimate goal is for our students to understand the choices they make, the impact on others and learn a new skill for the future. Families are an integral part of the school family and will be informed by the teacher or staff member when their child receives interventions with the coach or technician. It is our hope that we will be able to work together to help your child reach their full potential by maintaining an environment conducive to learning.

You can look forward to a great number of opportunities to get actively involved with the growth and development of your children. I invite all our community to commit to giving at least 1 hour of service to Dreaming Summit this year. We have a number of committees that provide school wide events, which will actively engage our students and the community in academically rich activities. I would like to encourage you to get involved through membership in the PTSA, sitting on Site Council or becoming a qualified volunteer.

- Dress Code Standards: We want our students to take pride in their appearance and dress for success. Students will need to adhere to the dress code policy stated in the handbook/agenda. Quick guide: no revealing undergarments, no midriffs/crop tops, or clothing that advertises/condones activities that are illegal, racial, distracting or offensive. Parents will be notified if your child chooses not to adhere to the dress code. We appreciate your cooperation and support.
- Cell Phones: As stated in the handbook, the use of cell phones as well as all other electronic devices are prohibited on campus. Cell phones and other electronic devices (*including Smart Watches*) that are visible during school hours will be confiscated and MUST be picked up in our front office by parents. If your child will be coming to school with these types of items, they should be securely stored in his/her backpack and not visible throughout the day by the student. Students may take these items out once they are outside of our school gates. The school is not responsible for missing or lost items. Students will have disciplinary consequences for repeated offenses.

Thank you ahead of time for your help in supporting these expectations!

HEALTH EXPECTATIONS

In the first quarter of the school year our school nurse will be conducting vision and hearing screenings. If you do not want your child to be screened, please reach out to the school nurse to opt out of this service.

- Monitoring Health: Students experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 or other illnesses are required to stay home. This includes but is not limited to: fever of 100+ degrees should stay home, muscle or body aches, chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, headaches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.
- Immunizations: Please make sure that your child is up to date on ALL immunizations. If you received shots over the summer, please bring those records in to the nurse on or before the first day of school.
- Medicine: All medicine (including cough drops) must be brought into the nurse's office in its original packaging.
- Water: All students should bring a reusable water bottle to school each day. Students can refill their bottles in the hallways and at lunch time at the water bottle filling stations. All energy drinks are prohibited on our campus and will be confiscated.
- Healthy Snacks: A list of our approved [Smart Snacks for School](#) can be found on our district website.

PARKING AND STUDENT DROP-OFF/PICK-UP

We have created this outline to help ensure that student drop off and pick up goes as smoothly as possible. Please keep a few things in mind when dropping off and picking up your student/s...

1. All procedures have been developed to ensure that all students arrive and depart as safely as possible.
2. Drop off and pick up time can be frustrating if you are in a hurry. Please be sure to plan ahead and allow a few extra minutes in case of higher traffic volumes (especially the first few days of school).

3. To make the end of the day pick up less congested, we would like to suggest some unofficial arrival times...

Kinder and 1st grade: 2:50

2nd and 3rd grade: 3:00

4th and 5th grade: 3:05

*Upon arrival for pick up, give your child's name and teacher to a staff member on duty and the student will be called out of the classroom. It would also be helpful to put a sign with your child's name and teacher on your front dash. :)

4. Teachers and staff members are instructed to reinforce the drop off/pick up procedures to ensure the safety of your child/ren. A friendly smile or wave is a great way to show appreciation. :)

Please refer to the map below for more explanations of our Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures:



A: Front Office Visitor Parking

B: Bus Driveway-Absolutely no other vehicles are permitted in the bus driveway 7:45-8:15 and 2:45-3:15. It is illegal to pass a loading or unloading bus and you could receive a fine.

C: Parent Parking-Parents that do not want to use the Drop Off/Pick Up driveway will need to park their car and walk their students to the crosswalk or meet their student/s at the crosswalk. No students will be permitted to cross at the crosswalk without a parent present to accompany them through the parking lot.

D: This is not a driveway for pick up or drop off. This area will be blocked from all traffic flow except handicapped vehicles.

E: Drop Off/Pick Up driveway- Before school, please pull all the way forward (kids can start getting their steps in bright and early!). At the end of the day, students will be waiting at the end of the driveway. Vehicles are not permitted to park in the driveway. Please be sure to pull forward.

❖ Walking Procedures: Use the crosswalk

- Note: Students will not be permitted to walk unaccompanied to any parking lot.
- Walking families, please model using the crosswalk for our students.

If your child is walking to and from school, on our school webpage, you can read our comprehensive Safe Route to Schools document. In addition, please see the map attached for drop off and pick up procedures. Please review the following with your child:

- ➔ The school has 2 crosswalks Missouri & 132nd and Missouri and 135th.
- ➔ Students may only cross at the designated crosswalks and follow the crossing guard's directions. It is unsafe to cross at any other location.

❖ Bus Procedures:

- Students arriving by bus will enter through the Southwest gate as buses arrive.
- Students leaving by bus will promptly exit the campus through the gate designated by his/her homeroom teacher. Students will quickly get on the bus for an on-time departure. Please remind your child that their bus route number may have changed for the 2022-2023 school year.

Thank you, ahead of time, for paying attention to these important instructions. The safety of our students is most important.

TRANSPORTATION

You can visit the Transportation webpage at our district website www.lesd79.org to gather more information about bus transportation.

<u>VISITING OUR SCHOOL</u>	Grade	Lunch	Recess
Parents/Guardians are welcome to come and have lunch with their child at our parent table, volunteer to help in the classroom or chaperone classroom field trips. (See *Volunteering/Chaperoning) The safety of our students and staff is of utmost importance, therefore we ask that you report to our front office to sign in, receive a Visitor's badge, and then sign out upon your departure. Please be prepared to show a valid ID or volunteer badge. Birthday parties are not allowed during lunch. Visitors are <u>not</u> permitted at recess or on the playground even if visiting for lunch.	Kinder	10:25	10:45
	1st	10:50	11:10
	2nd	11:30	11:50
	3rd	11:55	12:15
	4th	12:20	12:40
	5th	12:45	1:05

FOOD SERVICES

You may complete a [Free and Reduced Price Meal Application](#) to determine if you are eligible for free or reduced price meals. If your family has been faced with one of the following situations since this past year, you may now be eligible for our Free and Reduced Priced Breakfast and Lunch Programs. Situations may include: loss of a job, work hours reduced causing you to earn less money, a family member contributing to the household income is no longer working, your family size has increased, you applied for and received SNAP benefits (food stamps) or cash assistance, or you have lost your home. You may complete an online application which can be found on the Litchfield Elementary School District (LESD) website. For questions or help call 623-535-6060.

LUNCH ACCOUNTS

With the end of the USDA Universal Meal Program, LESD will no longer be able to provide free meals for all students for the 2022-2023 school year. We strongly encourage all families to apply for the Free and Reduced Meal Benefits Program. Applications for the 2022-2023 school year will be available and processed after July 1, 2022.

Breakfast and lunch pricing for the 2022-2023 school year:

<https://www.lesd79.org/departments/food-services/free-and-reduced-price-meals-application>

Breakfast: \$1.60/day

Lunch: \$2.85/day

SIMPLIFY LIFE: Make your school lunch payments online. Go to:

<https://www.lesd79.org/departments/food-services> Click: Online Meal Payment.

VOLUNTEERING/CHAPERONING

An excellent way for you to stay involved and informed about your child's school experience is to participate in our Volunteer Program. You can complete the online training on our district website. Parents volunteering for any school function, must complete the training. You are required to update your paperwork each year. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter. Your child's safety is our number one priority. <https://www.lesd79.org/family-community/volunteer>

Once approved, all volunteer opportunities must be coordinated with the classroom teacher or supervising staff member. The staff member will communicate with the office to let them know how/when they will be utilizing your support.

Individuals listed on your contact list are intended for emergency situations only. They will only be allowed on campus or allowed to participate in school activities (ie; field trips) if they are over 21 and you are accompanying them. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and your family but it is our intent to keep our campus secure and keep your child safe.

BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students who participate in before/after school activities will need to be transported to and from school. We do NOT have activity buses. Activities may include: sports, tutoring or clubs. All after school activities will be announced in our daily announcements. Encourage your child to give extra attention to these announcements so they are not missed.

DREAMING SUMMIT PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION (PTSA)

Our PTSA is an essential part of our school! We are fortunate to already have a strong committed group of individuals excited to support our students, staff and community. We are looking for additional members with ideas, energy, talents and strengths. We invite you to become an active PTSA member and visit our membership table at *Open House Night*. Spirit Gear is available for purchase at Open House. PTSA will meet every month. Follow our Bulldog PTSA on Facebook and on their website: <https://dse.lesd79.org/get-involved/parent-organization>

TAX CREDIT (see attachment)

Tax credit is a win-win combination! You can donate up to \$200 as an individual or \$400 as a couple to your child's school and receive a full credit on your state taxes. Due to budget cuts, our tax credit money becomes essential in helping us continue the programs and activities that we have become accustomed to providing for our families. This money can help to fund field trips, before-school activities and clubs, character education programs, music, drama, sports and art programs. More forms will be available at Open House and throughout the year should you wish to take advantage of this win-win situation! The staff and students of Dreaming Summit Elementary School thank you for your support.

OPEN HOUSE--Friday, August 5th from 4pm-6pm.

We highly recommend that you and your child attend this evening event. Our school is large and it will help your child feel more confident on the first day if he/she knows how to get around campus. Our teachers and staff have been preparing for your family and we can't wait to meet you!

In our gym, you will find information regarding transportation, lunch accounts, PTSA and the nurse. You can also take fun pics in our photo booth and grab a bite from one of the food trucks.

Homeroom teacher assignments will be emailed home on Thursday evening prior to open house. Specific teacher requests may not be made.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Parents are certainly welcome to walk their child to class on the first TWO days of school. However, when the bell rings at 8:15, you will be asked to leave campus which allows teachers to get their day started. Due to safety reasons, for the remainder of the school year, parents will have to say their goodbyes at the gates and allow their child to go to the playground or cafeteria unescorted or with the help of staff and/or trained Student Ambassador. We will have staff available to help walk your child to the playground or cafeteria starting the 3rd day of school.

Please stay in close contact with your child's teacher throughout the school year. Our successful partnership is vital to the success of our students. We look forward to seeing you at Open House on Friday, August 5th from 4pm to 6pm. Have a wonderful rest of the summer and we look forward to seeing you all very soon!

Sincerely,

Michelle Hill
Principal
Dreaming Summit Elementary School