**Welcome to Elmcrest Elementary School**

 **2025-2026**

Dear Elmcrest Families,

We are excited to welcome you to the 25-26 school year!

The following are some aspects of our culture we are happy to share with you:

* Title 1 – Elmcrest receives Title 1 funds from the government. Through this grant, we are able to provide 1:1 computers for students, free breakfast and lunch for all students, & classroom supplies.
* Dragon Dollars: students earn either physical dragon dollars, or through class dojo. They can spend their dragon dollars in our dragon store one time per month.
* Communication: Teachers communicate through class dojo, or email. Please make sure you have an updated phone number and email address for them to use. We send an Elmcrest Weekly Update for celebrations, news, and upcoming weekly changes. This comes as a phone call, email and text message.
* Monthly Calendars are sent home at the beginning of every month with upcoming information, including our nutrition exempt days.
* Volunteering: We are always looking for volunteers. Please fill out a volunteer form in the office. If approved, while on campus the volunteers are expected to follow all school and district policies.
* Boosters Club: Our parent club meets 1x per month and helps plan fundraisers for our school. PE can only exist at Elmcrest because of the fundraising done by our Booster’s club. Please join us!
* School hours are 9 am – 3 pm daily, with an Early Release (2:15) each Wednesday.  Gates do not open before 8:45 am. Students cannot be dropped off before 8:45 am. *Before school program exempt.*
* Campus Security: Only students and authorized personnel are allowed onto campus while students are on campus. This has become an increased safety and security measure. Also, this has greatly helped our school with organization at the beginning and end of the day. If you need to schedule an appointment with the teacher, please contact them directly, or schedule through our office.
* Specials: Elmcrest students have 4 specials sessions each week: PE, computers, library, and music. Students also participate in guidance lessons taught by our counselor at least once per month.
* iReady: This is a district adopted program that tracks student progress of learning. Students will engage in iReady lessons & assessments 45 minutes per week in each ELA and Math.

**WCSD Policies to be familiar with:** *please visit washoeschools.net for exact wording*

**Cell phones**: Elmcrest follows the district policy on cell phones/personal electronic devices at school. Student personal electronic devices should be off and in backpacks at all times. Violation of this will result in confiscation of the device by administration. First offense, student will get device back at end of day. Subsequent violations, device will need to be returned to a parent or legal guardian.

**Attendance:** We recognize and celebrate the great improvement our families made in the 24-25 school year. We believe this is directly correlated to an increase in academic performance which we also saw in the 24-25 school year. If your student is absent, you will receive a phone call from the office as well as an automated phone call from the district. Please let the office know if your student will be absent for any reason. Thank you for your continuous effort and support!

**Birthdays**: Treats for students will only be passed out to classes if they are prepackaged and individually wrapped by a store to make sure all treats are safe for our students. Treats will only be passed out on our nutrition exempt days which will be happening twice per month on Fridays (please let your teacher know ahead of time). Feel free to send in goodie bags that do not include any kind of food/candy, and we are more than happy to pass those out to classes any day of the week.

**Student Drop Off and Pick Up/Transportation**:

All gates will open at 8:45 am. Students will be allowed to play on the playgrounds before school, from 8:45-8:55 am. A warning bell rings at 8:55 and the official bell to start the day rings at 9:00 am. The gates close shortly after 9:00 am. If you arrive after, please go through the front office for a tardy pass.

Morning Care through Right at School. More information https://www.rightatschool.com/school/?school=elmcrest-elementary&district=nv-washoe&tab=2024-25-before-school

Drop Off Zone – No parking please! Our loading zone is located on the McDonald side of the school near the Kindergarten gate.  It is expected to drop students off and for parents to remain inside the car. Students must exit the passenger side of the car. *Students should be opening and closing their own doors as it is a liability for our staff to do so.* Our staff will be on duty every morning in yellow vests to ensure all students safely get inside the gates. **Please wait for the car in front of you to exit the drop off lane as this will allow for more flow of traffic.** **Per Nevada Law, it is illegal to make a U-turn in school zones.**

Walking families: If you’d like to walk your student to the gate, please park elsewhere and walk your student to the gate. PLEASE USE CROSSWALKS FOR SAFETY!

Be aware that for security purposes *only students will be allowed past the gates*.

Dismissal – Please let your teacher know your plans for student pick up. The after-school options are: Team Up program in our cafeteria (application process, limited space), walk home, take WCSD bus transportation, or pick up by parent. Parents are asked to wait outside the gates after school as well. Do not plan to pick up in the office, as it becomes very crowded at that time of day. If you are late to pick up your student, they will be waiting in the office, and you will receive a call from a staff member.

KINDERGARTEN – drop off & dismissal is always at the McDonald gate unless student is walking home with an older sibling, going to team up or taking the bus. Kindergarten will be ready for pick up 5 minutes prior to the rest of the students to alleviate traffic.

**Early student pick up**: if your student needs to be picked up early from school, go to the front office. If your student is ill, they need to be picked up within 1 hour of the phone call. You will be required to show ID to pick up your student during school hours. Please do not pick up your child between 2:30 and 3:00, it is very difficult this close to dismissal. If you arrive between those times, we will ask you to wait until the 3:00 pm dismissal.

**Breakfast & Lunch**:  Students will continue to have breakfast in their classrooms every day. Our daily lunch period provides each group of students 20 minutes to eat and takes place in the cafeteria. If you send a cold lunch with your student, please label everything in the lunchbox.

We look forward to another year of fun, learning and growth with your students,

Jessica Wilson, Principal

Ryan Linton, Dean of Students

The faculty & staff at Elmcrest Elementary School

**Please sign and return this page to your teacher and your student will get 5 Dragon Dollars!**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ (initial) I have read the Elmcrest Elementary School Parent Welcome Letter and **reviewed the Handbook & district policies on the Washoe County School District Website.**

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Parent Signature Date