



## Kellond Elementary Kindergarten Handbook 2023-2024

### **School Website**

Visit [kellondes.tusd1.org](http://kellondes.tusd1.org) for school and staff information, resources and more.

### **School Office:**

(520) 584-5100 (8:00 am – 4:00 pm)

### **School Hours:**

Students can enter the school's campus at 8:30 am. Class hours are 9:15am – 3:25pm, and 9:15am – 2:25pm on Wednesdays. Good life-long habits begin now. Please have your child at school before the first bell rings at 9:10. *All students must line up at the Blue Ramada at the little playground (Mann Street).* Please avoid coming through the classroom hallways. The teachers will meet the students at the Blue Ramada, walk to class and take attendance at 9:15 am.

### **Absence, Tardiness and Early Pick-up**

Even though we encourage full attendance throughout the year, we know that there are situations where your child might have to miss school, be late or get picked up early due to sickness, doctor appointments or unexpected family situations. *Please let the school's office personnel know.* If you drop your student late, you must check first into the office as your child might have been already marked absent. If you pick up your child early, you must also stop by the office.

### **Dismissal**

M/T/TH/F dismissal is at 3:25pm and on Wednesday it is 2:25pm. Please make sure your students are aware of how they are getting home. If there is a change to the routine that they need to be aware of, please let the front office know at least 25 minutes in advance. In addition, we do not release students from class within 25 minutes of dismissal, and we will also not take a call ahead to release your student before you get here.

- For parents picking up their student in a car and not wanting to get out, please use our south parking lot valet system.
- For parents who want to get out and meet their student on the playground, you can also use our south parking lot, or park to the East of the school by Palo Verde Park. You just cannot park on Lehigh Street.
- For students taking the bus home, teachers will be at the bus bay assisting them.

## Meals

For online menu, online payment and other information visit TUSD website under School Meals <http://central.tusd1.org/food-services-meals>

- **FREE Meals:** Students qualify for free or reduced meals by completing a meal benefit application or if a student is receiving SNAP, TANF, is part of the foster-care system or McKinney-Vento program, a free/reduced meal application is not needed as they automatically qualify for free meal benefits.
- **Breakfast** is served daily in the cafeteria from 8:30 – 9:00 am. If students eat breakfast at school, please make sure they arrive early. If students eat at home, please make sure they have time to eat a hardy, healthy breakfast to give them the energy they need to perform at their best.
- **Lunch** recess is at 11:30 am. If you will prepare a home lunch, please make sure it is in a lunch box, ready to be eaten as there is no cooking or heating availability. Avoid sugary foods and drinks (sodas are not allowed at school).
- **Snack time** is at our afternoon structured recess. You may send snacks just for your student or to share with the class. As per health regulations, snacks to be shared with the class must be store-bought and individually wrapped. No sugary or spicy snacks please. Some suggestions are pretzels, fruit snacks, graham crackers, cheese crackers, granola bars, etc.

## Water

Please send a water bottle for your students to use at school as for health safety, water fountains are closed. Students can refill their water bottles from our water stations.

## Labeling Personal Items

Please take the time to write your child's name on all personal items like backpacks, sweaters, jackets, water bottles or lunchboxes.

## Clothes and Shoes

We are very busy in kindergarten. We try to be careful, but we sometimes still get paint, or markers on our clothes. Please send your child in comfortable "play clothes that won't be ruined by stains and your child can easily button/unbutton for restroom use. We also sit on the floor various times throughout the day. Please make sure their clothes prevent underwear from showing. Spaghetti straps and short shorts/skirts are not allowed. Kellond T-shirts are available at the front office. Having an extra outfit in their backpacks is essential as accidents happen. Comfortable shoes are a must! Sneakers are highly recommended as we exercise and play at the playground. Please avoid flip-flops, sandals and any shoes that might hurt your child's feet while playing outside.

## Learner Expectations:

- **Safe:** Follow rules and practice self-control.
- **Kind:** Use kind and polite words, like please and thank you; be a friend!
- **Respectful:** Respect all community members and their property, wait for your turn, raise your hand to voice your ideas, be a quiet worker respecting other learners, share and use materials as directed, clean up your area and return materials where they belong.
- **Responsible & Ready to Learn:** Be on time, come prepared, follow directions the first time, stay on task, work with your best effort and strive for success. *Our purpose of being in school is to learn!*

## PBIS - Positive Behavior Intervention and Support

All students will be taught and regularly practice positive behavior and will have consistent predictable expectations and consequences. Students who demonstrate positive behavior will be acknowledged and given the opportunity to earn school and/or classroom rewards like choice of activity, positive note home and more. Students who ignore rules and redirections might lose a privilege that fits their behavior, e.g., don't get a turn at a station, clean up writing on tables, draw/write an apology to someone they hurt, etc. Students might be or asked to be removed to a "Think Space" area in the classroom to be alone for a few minutes to calm down and get themselves ready for learning. Students will also have the option to work on their own if they feel overwhelmed working with others. Students who have difficulty following rules and expectations will receive additional support with the goal of helping all students be successful and in control of their behavior. Everyone will have the opportunity to reverse a negative behavior to a positive and each day will be treated as a new beginning.

### **Communication**

Communication is the key to a successful partnership. Each teacher will provide their method of communication, including email, phone and/or any communication app they might use.

### **Class Newsletters**

At the beginning of each month, teachers will send a newsletter with class news, including our learning goals (target standards), important dates, events and more.

### **Class Schedule**

Our day will include reading, oral language and vocabulary, writing, lunch recess, math, structured recess / physical education, social studies, or science. During the week we will also have socio-emotional, art and dance lessons by Open Minds through Arts (OMA) specialists, library and computer time. A detailed weekly class schedule can be provided per request.

### **Homework**

Homework will be assigned weekly. Please set a time and place to help your child complete homework without distractions. Students will need to have pencils, sharpener, eraser, crayons, glue, and scissors at home. Each teacher will provide more details.

### **Birthdays**

Birthdays are a special time for children. We will celebrate birthdays with songs and birthday wishes at the beginning or end of the day; please let us know if you don't celebrate birthdays.

If you would like to send/bring a treat to help us celebrate let us know ahead of time. *As per health regulations, all treats must be store-bought and individually wrapped.* Please check with your teacher for allergies. Some great suggestions include cookies, mini cupcakes, brownies, Rice Krispy, and donut holes. Please, no whole cakes and avoid brightly colored frosting since it stains faces, hands, and clothes. Birthday invitations for your child's party will be given out at school ONLY if they are inviting the whole class.

### **Volunteers**

Volunteer opportunities are always available and welcomed. Teachers might have volunteer opportunities in the classroom or from home. For everyone's safety, classroom volunteers must check in and out at the school's office. Please complete the online application

<https://jobs.tusd1.org/volunteers-2023-2024-school-year/job/24989975>

### **Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)**

Our students need you! Please join our PTO. Meet other families, get involved at school events and make your voice heard. You can help with as much of your time as you can afford. Join the *Amazon Smile and Fry's Kellond PTO fundraisers*, details in school's newsletter.

### **TAX Credit Contributions**

Please help support our school with your tax credit contribution. Couples may contribute up to \$400, individuals up to \$200 for a dollar-for-dollar reduction in your state taxes. See more information on TUSD's website.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's teacher:

**Ms. Burhans** – Room 11 – [androulla.burhans@tusd1.org](mailto:androulla.burhans@tusd1.org)

**Ms. Gee** – Room 14 - [jordan.gee@tusd1.org](mailto:jordan.gee@tusd1.org)