



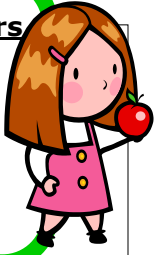
Lone Star Elementary

Dr. Anastasia Washington, Principal
Ms. Mariah Gaskins, Assistant Principal
Mr. Edward Dutton, Guidance/
Extended Day Director

Home of the Panthers

**August/September
2011**

904-565-2711



Welcome Back!



Principal's Message

Greetings Lone Star Parents!

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year. We are busy preparing for the coming year and I am confident that we will have an exciting, enjoyable and learning-filled year. To our new Lone Star families, I would like to extend a special welcome to each of you. It is with the utmost confidence I feel you will find our school to be warm, caring, inviting and a great place for your child to grow academically. To our returning families, welcome back! An involved, supportive and encouraging PTA has been a hallmark of Lone Star. We appreciate your awesome support. LSE loves our PTA and invite you to join our team. PTA dues are **\$6.00** and certainly worth the investment. Our community has invested their time, effort and support to our school and it is greatly appreciated.

School will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. on August 22, 2011. The bell rings each day at 8:25 a.m. for students to begin making their way to their classrooms. We ask that students not arrive on campus before 8:20 a.m., as there is no adult supervision for students until that time. Students are considered tardy if they are not in their classrooms at 8:30 a.m. when the tardy bell rings. Lone Star has an established routine for car "drop-off" in the mornings and "pick-up" in the afternoon. Staff members are on duty in the mornings and afternoons to assist with traffic flow and to enhance student safety each day. Please follow the directions of our staff for the safety of all children during dismissal.

The car line is always a little hectic and slow at the opening of the school year, so please be patient as we work out the kinks. It does flow much smoother as the year gets underway. During the first few weeks of school, there will be volunteers helping everyone get used to the flow of our drop-off and pick-up system. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the flow of traffic and be patient with our new families who are learning to navigate this new territory.

Morning Drop-Off:

In the morning, the car line forms to the far right of the road and enters the school parking lot at the main entrance. Please do not block the flow of traffic, nor exit your cars during this time. Cars will pull into the circle drive and students may exit their car on the right hand side **only**. Parents should remain inside your car, if a child needs help exiting their vehicle; there are patrols and volunteers who will gladly assist. You are strongly encouraged to use the car line drop-off rather than parking and coming into the school. This will aid in keeping the traffic flowing instead of stopping traffic for pedestrians using the crosswalk. Obviously, if there are circumstances where you need to come into the building please park and do so, but we hope that students can be dropped off in the car line on most days.

Afternoon Pick-Up:

The car line forms at the farthest point of the parking lot. Students will be dismissed and will wait with their grade level at designated areas within the building, or in front of the school. Students will remain seated until their name is called by walkie. Parents we ask that you remain in your vehicle. Teachers will assist students with getting into their cars. You will be instructed to move forward and exit. Please wait for the cars ahead of you to pull off before you exit the car circle. Students may not cross the street into the parking lot unless they are accompanied by an adult.

Additional Parking Lot Guidelines:

- Do not park anywhere other than a designated parking spot – doing so causes congestion and confusion. If all designated spots are full, you may park on the East side of our building near our bus circle.
- Please limit cell phone use while in a moving vehicle in the parking lot. Cell phone use during this time is extremely dangerous.
- Do not park on the grassy area directly in front of the main parking lot (Lone Star Road) to drop-off or pick-up your child. Parking is only allowed on the north side of the street, closest to the school. Children crossing the street because they were dropped off on the south side are at risk of being hit by a passing car. By working together to follow these few simple rules, we can ensure all of our children make it to and from school safely, and make the car circle line move as quickly as possible. Thanking you in advance for your cooperation.

Lone Star remains committed to the service of our families and most importantly our children. We will continue to provide the best possible educational experience for your child and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Orientation. Let's work together to make this a great year for all!

Anastasia Washington
Principal

Important School Events

- August 22nd** - First Day of School, Boo-Hoo Breakfast @ 8:30
- August 26th** - Sunshine Math Forms due
- PTA Back to School Dance @ 5:30
- August 29th** - Entertainment Book sale begins
- September 1st** - Boy Scout Round Up @ 7:00
- September 2nd** - Flag Raising
- September 5th** - Labor Day-No School
- September 7th** - Early Release
- September 9th** - Entertainment Book sale ends
- September 15th** - SAC meeting @ 7:30am
-3rd grade PTA Program @ 6:45
- September 19^t-30th**- Book Fair
- September 21st**- Early Release
- September 22nd**- Open House (grade 3 @ 6:00, grade 4 @ 6:45, grade 5 @ 7:30)
-Grandparent's Tea (grades 3-5) 9-10 am
- September 23rd**- Grandparent's Tea (grades K-2) 9-10 am
- September 29th**- Open House (Kindergarten @ 6:00, grade 1 @ 6:45, grade 2 @ 7:00)

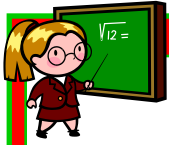
We Love Our Volunteers!

There are many areas of volunteer opportunities available to you. You can inquire with our PTA, classroom teachers, administrators or front office staff for more information. Any person volunteering in our school will need to undergo a district-mandated background check, according to Chapter 2004-81, Laws of Florida. Background checks take time to process and if you plan on chaperoning on a field trip or working in a classroom, the background check **MUST** be approved prior to participation of any classroom activity or field trip. The faculty and staff truly value your time and contribution. Our number one goal is to keep our children safe from harm.

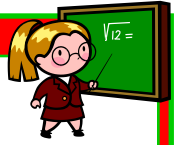
Volunteer applications can be completed **ONLY** online at:

<http://www.duvalschools.org/static/offcampus/volunteer/>

Thank you for your support and cooperation!



Open House Dates



3rd-5th September 22nd (Grade 3 @ 6:00 pm, Grade 4 @ 6:45, Grade 5 @ 7:00)
K-2nd September 29th (Kindergarten @ 6:00 pm, grade 1 @ 6:45, grade 2 @7:00)

Prescribed or Over the Counter Medication

- Must come in the original prescription or over the counter container.
- Parents must sign the state mandated form provided by the office.
- Changes in dosage require new forms to be filled out and provided to the front office and Nurse Isaacs.
- Children **may not** carry medication unless a medication form is on file in the front office.
- Prior arrangements must be made with the school nurse or principal. This includes asthma inhalers, cough drops, eye drops, nose sprays, etc.
- The prescription bottle is considered the doctor's authorization.

"Read It Forward Jax" (RIFJ) will focus on improving reading performance for students in grades K-12. The "Read It Forward Jax" campaign will partner city, business, faith based, and non-profit leaders throughout the community to share in helping teach Jacksonville's children about the importance of reading. Throughout the year we will have many reading activities connected with RIFJ. The first week of school students will be listening to book recommendations from other students and teachers as well as pledging to be the best readers possible and making their own special bookmark! To learn more about RIFJ, access the link below:

<http://www.duvalschools.org/readitforwardjax/default.htm>

Remember to read daily at home and become a volunteer reader in your child's class!



Did you know? Lunch costs more this year!

Full price for lunch is now \$1.60. Breakfast is still only \$1.00. Lunches can still be prepaid by creating an account at www.MyLunchMoney.com. Need more information about food services? Log on to: <http://www.duvalschools.org/static/students/lunch/costofmeals.asp>.

PARENT PORTAL

Do you want to be able to have instant access to your child's individual student information, including grades, attendance, a school calendar and more? If so, you need to be able to login to our Parent Portal. The web site is: <https://dcps.mygradeportal.com>

If you do not already have your user name and password, this information will be available at Open House. To receive your Username and Password, bring your identification and proof of address (Each parent and/or guardian must pick up their own Username and Password: A husband, wife, or guardian may not pick up the document for their household. Each parent and/or guardian must pick up their own Username and Password and sign for them.)

We encourage you to use this valuable tool!

Parent Communication!

Make sure all paperwork sent home on the first day of school is completed and accurate. We can keep you up-to-date on all of the activities here at school through our 'Parent Link' telephone communication system if your telephone information is correct! Please inform us immediately of any changes made throughout the year.

Be Informed!

A Salute to Ms. Ray and Welcome New LSE Members!

We will miss Ms. Ray, our former Kindergarten teacher who decided to retire over the summer! We would also like to welcome our new 'Master Gardeners': Mr. Banks, Ms. K. Smith, Ms. Harrison, and Ms. Kelly!



**“Planting the Seeds of Knowledge,
Watch Us Grow!”**