



# Garfield School Wildcats Newsletter

Volume 1

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## Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! I am looking forward to another wonderful year at Garfield. This year we are one of 27 schools in California to participate in the Turnaround Arts program! This means that every K-8<sup>th</sup> grade student will receive weekly music instruction, we have created an art room and all of our teachers will integrate the arts across the curriculum. Additionally, I am excited to welcome new members to the Garfield Team: Ms. Klebe (music), Mrs. Davidson (1<sup>st</sup>), Mr. Bonura (P.E.), Ms. Boon (speech), Ms. Hastings (RSP), Mrs. Griego (A.P), Mr. Ralph (custodian). As the school year begins, I'd like to encourage each parent/guardian to get involved in his/her child's education. Research shows that parent involvement contributes to an increase in student success. I urge every parent to communicate regularly with his/her child's teacher, attend school events and meetings as well as join various parent organizations. Working together, ensures for a successful and enjoyable school year!

## CELL PHONE (BOARD POLICY 51131.10)

All cell phones must be registered in the office each school year. If your child is going to bring a phone to school, please ensure that mobile security features are established with the phone, and you know how to activate this information should the phone go missing. Please note that Garfield School is NOT responsible for lost or stolen phones. **Students must turn off cell phones before entering campus and remove any phone accessories (ear buds).** NO cell phone should be used during school hours. Parents, please do not call or text your child on their cell phone during the school day! If you need to reach your child, please call the front office and we will gladly communicate the message to them. If students need to communicate with you during the school day, they are welcome to use the phone in the office or classroom. Please remember the purpose of a cell phone is for emergency purposes ONLY! For example, if the school goes into a lockdown, teachers would give students' permission to text their parents indicating that they were ok. Students that are seen using their cell phone during the instructional day, will have their phone confiscated. Parents will be required to pick up the cell phone from the office. Repeat offenders run the risk of having his/her phone confiscated for the year.

## Volunteers:

We welcome parent volunteers at Garfield. Volunteer opportunities include: field trip chaperones, library support, classroom support, school activities. If you are interested in volunteering please stop by the office to get the required paperwork. Additionally our homeschool coordinators: Ms. Julie Ma and Mr. Marco Barrantes can answer any questions about volunteering.

## Campus Safety

Students and staff safety is ALWAYS our first priority at Garfield School. As we begin our new year, please review a few of our safety policies.

Every visitor on campus must sign in upon arrival.

All visitors are REQUIRED to provide a current picture ID, California ID and/or Driver's License. Expired IDs are not acceptable.

Individuals checking a student out during the school day MUST be listed on the student's online emergency form, **and** both their first and last names must match the first and last names on their picture ID.

Parents/Guardians with court and/or custody orders regarding who may or may not check out a student must provide the school with a copy of the current documents.

If you have any questions regarding these procedures, please contact the front office.

## School Lunch Program

Breakfast and lunch are offered at school, with breakfast starting at 7:30 a.m. Breakfast is \$1.50 and lunch is \$3.00. Families interested in applying for free or reduced price meals, are encouraged to submit an online application. (Free or reduced lunch applications need to be renewed annually.) Applications are available on the district's website, [www.ausd.us](http://www.ausd.us), or at [www.garfieldelementary.org](http://www.garfieldelementary.org).

## Items Dropped Off

In order to avoid classroom interruptions, items (lunch, instruments, etc.) dropped off will be placed on a table in the office and students will be responsible for coming to the office during their recess or lunch time to claim them. Please communicate with your child if you are planning to drop off items during the school day so they know to check the table during their breaks. Perishables will be disposed at the end of the day if not picked up by the student.