



Garfield School Wildcats Newsletter

Volume 1

August 2017

Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! I am looking forward to another wonderful year at Garfield. In addition to the teachers in new grade levels, I am excited to welcome several new staff members. Our new teachers include: Ms. Teng (4th-7th SDC), Mr. Mulvihill (5th), Ms. Ly (7th), Mr. Lew (extended day), Mr. Tu (extended day), and Ms. Flanders (speech). 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 get ahold of 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. Cell phone can only be used after school hours outside of campus. If confiscated, parent must come to pick up the cell phone. Repeat offenders run the risk of having his/her phone confiscated the duration of the school year.

Online Emergency Cards

Alhambra Unified School District has an online electronic emergency information collection system. Parents have been issued a user name and password that allows them to log into the Parent Portal and fill out each child's emergency contact information. The Parent Portal can be accessed at <http://family.ausd.us>. If you haven't completed the electronic card, please do so as soon as possible. It is important that we have this information should an emergency arise.

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, or at 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.