

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

On **Tuesday, August 30th**, we will be having a Back-to-School Night exclusively for Kindergarten. On that evening we will discuss curriculum, behavior systems, routines, rules, etc. To ensure that the first day of school is a success, there are a few “basics” that will be covered in this letter. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. We look forward to meeting all of you soon!

Kindergarten Basics

***School Supplies** – We *prefer* that students use a canvas bag (large enough to hold a folder, snack, lunch, and jacket) instead of a backpack. The lack of zippers and pockets allows minimal time to be spent on packing up and optimizes learning time. Students will be given a folder on the first day of school. This folder will need to be emptied out and returned to school each day. Please plan to send a snack for your child each day. The snack needs to be non-perishable and separate from lunch. We ask that you **do not** send a drink for **snack**, as the students have access to water all day.

***Dress Code** – Students need to wear closed-toe shoes every day. We also recommend that student’s shoulders be covered to avoid sunburns. The full dress code is available on the district website.

***Behavior System** - If your child has a stamp on his hand, it signifies a great day. If your child has a stamp and a butterfly sticker, it signifies an outstanding day. If your child does not have a stamp or sticker, it signifies that your child had a behavior issue and you should check his behavior chart.

***Daily Routines** – Students need to be in their seats by 8:00 AM, so the door will be opened at 7:50 AM and locked at 8:00 AM. If your child arrives after 8:00 AM, you will need to take him to the office for a tardy slip. Please keep in mind that there is no staff member on duty prior to 7:50 AM. Students will be dismissed at 1:35 PM in the front of the school, just outside the glass doors to the office. Please plan to park and meet your child there. Students are dismissed one at a time, so please have patience with us. ☺

***Classes** – Students will not be assigned to specific teachers until we have finished assessments. Until then, students will be working as one big group with both teachers.

***First Day** - We welcome all parents to bring their child into class the first day. We will read a story, at the end of which we will ask the students to give their parents a hug and say good-bye. After the first day, we ask that all parents say good-bye to their child at the gate right outside of the kindergarten playground. We like to foster independence right from the start!

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail us (jelkins@orangeusd.org or blinderman@orangeusd.org) before school starts, or just let us know the first day. See you soon!