

John B. Wright Elementary School

4311 E. Linden Street Tucson, AZ 85712 (520) 232-8100

July 8, 2025

Dear parents, guardians, and care takers,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! We are excited to kick off the new school year and we look forward to a busy and successful year. Many events and exciting things are coming this school year such as the expansion of our 6th grade program. We are also very proud to announce we have been selected as a National AVID Showcase School, which means we will be having many visitors from other schools throughout the school year to see our AVID systems and routines. Our dedicated staff is looking forward to working with you, our students, and our community this school year. As you prepare for the start of the year, please read the following information:

Registration - All students must be registered before the start of every school year. If you have not registered your child, please do so by visiting parent.tusd1.org. You may also call or visit our office Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Teacher Meet & Greet Ice Cream Social – Friday, August 1st, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. This event will allow an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and get familiar with his/her classroom. We will begin with a brief parent meeting in the cafeteria. An additional parent meeting will take place at 2:45 p.m. for those that cannot make it at 2:00.

First Day of School – Our first day of school is Monday, August 4th. The first bell rings at 8:15 a.m. Our students (in Kinder-6th grade) will meet their teacher outside by the playground and will be escorted to their classroom. To help with morning procedures and 1st day of school jitters, I respectfully ask that you do not enter the classrooms during the first week of school.

Breakfast & Lunch - All students will receive free breakfast and lunch. Students are welcome to bring their own lunch. Menus can be found at https://meals.tusd1.org or the Web Menus application.

Breakfast is served from 7:45-8:15 a.m. Students must come with enough time to eat breakfast to avoid missing our morning meeting and/or being marked late to class. School starts at 8:20 and students should be with their teacher at that time, not in the cafeteria.

School Supplies - Our school provides the most essential school supplies to our students, including a backpack. Our teachers may provide you with a list of suggested school supplies or supplies that may be welcomed as donations for your child's classroom.

Uniforms - Wright's dress code consists of khaki or navy-blue bottoms with navy blue, light blue, white, or maroon collared tops with sleeves. For safety reasons, closed-toe shoes are also part of our dress code. Hoodies, hats, and beanies should only be worn outside. If a student does not come to school in uniform, we will call home. School shirts may be used and are for sale in the office for \$12. Please be aware that students that have perfect attendance (with no tardies) may wear free dress (with closed-

toed shoes) on Friday. Pajamas or pajama pants are only allowed on Pajama Days. **Donations of outgrown uniforms are always welcome for our clothing bank.**

PBIS & Trust Cards - Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS) is a system that provides positive feedback when students are: Respectful, Responsible, Safe, and Kind. In addition to positive feedback and celebrations, our school fosters a Trust Card system. When students earn Trust Cards, they are allowed independent opportunities/choices and take pride in their choices throughout the day. Trust Cards may be requested by any of our staff members due to poor/inappropriate choices and may be earned back at any time. If a student misplaces his/her trust card, they may purchase another one for \$3.00. This will help us with the cost of lanyards, cards, and card holders.

Discipline – As an AVID school, all our staff members expect our students to be Respectful, Responsible, Safe, and Kind. Our school follows our district Code of Conduct which means, our staff addresses Level 1 and Level 2 behaviors. Level 3 and Level 4 behaviors are addressed by the principal and consequences may be assigned. Please be aware that when Level 1 and Level 2 behaviors are repetitive, the students may be referred to the principal and a consequence may be assigned. Communication is important when it comes to student behavior. Please communicate concerns to your child's teacher.

AVID – Advancement Via Individual Determination is a system we use to prepare our students with college and career ready skills. Skills include:

- Writing Students are taught to write legibly starting in kindergarten where they learn to write one sentence all the way to 6th grade where they write 5-paragraph essays. Note taking is also a big part of writing in our AVID program.
- **Inquiry** Students learn how to ask and answer various types of questions that promote critical thinking.

Collaboration- Students work in groups to share ideas, answer questions, or complete tasks.

Organization – Students learn to organize their work, their data, and their workspace.

Reading – Starting in Kindergarten, students are taught to read and response to reading. Please remind and encourage your child to practice their reading at home.

Students will be taking home a planner which will need to be signed by a parent/guardian. Your child's teacher will communicate when the planner will need to be signed. AVID also promotes conversations with students about career opportunities. Please start having conversations with your child about their likes and what they want to be when they grow up.

Computers – A computer and headphones will be checked-out to every student. Devices will remain at school and will be used only for learning. A charge may be added to the student's account if a device is lost or damaged by the student.

Attendance - Attendance is very important for the academic growth of our students. Every minute in the classroom counts. *Please bring your child to school on time every day and do not check them out early.* Help us teach our students responsibility by coming to school every day. Per our district and state policy, students should only stay home when they have a fever, vomit, or when they have a doctor's note. If your child does not want to come to school, please let us know so we can help.

Tardies – After 8:30 students will need to be accompanied by an adult to sign the student in. Students will be escorted by our staff to prevent distractions in our classrooms; parents will not be allowed to walk the student to class.

Dismissal - Students will be dismissed at 2:40 p.m. (at 1:40 p.m. every Wednesday). Kindergarten will dismiss starting at 2:30 pm (1:30 on Wednesday). Please be patient and remember parent pick-up is usually slower at the start of year as students, staff, and parents get familiar with dismissal procedures.

During dismissal, please remember the following:

- Students that are picked up by car will be escorted to the gates on the east side of campus (RED GATE for Kinder-2nd grade and BLUE GATE for 3rd-6th grade).
- Students that have a younger sibling must meet their sibling at the RED GATE.
- Please remember to follow the traffic rules on Catalina Avenue:
 - Speed Limit is 15 mph.
 - Do NOT Park on opposite directions of the curb, make U Turns, or park on the corner of the street.
 - o Do NOT Park in front of our neighbors' driveways, mailboxes, or trash bins.
- Only students that walk home will be released through the YELLOW GATE located on the west side of our campus. If you come by car, please call the office to have your child go to the RED GATE. You can also park on Linden and cross Columbus with the help of the Crossing Guard. Students should not cross Linden on their own without the help of the crossing guard.
- Students that ride the bus go to the bus bay.
- Students that go to a day care go to the cafeteria.
- Preschool students must always be escorted by an adult and must check-in and at the front office.

If you need to change the pick-up method on a certain day, parents must call the office before 2:00p.m.

Cell Phones and Personal Items – the school is not responsible for lost or damaged cell phones or personal items such as toys. These items must remain at home. If your child needs to have a phone for after-school reasons, he/she must keep the phone on silent mode and in their backpacks. Messages to students must be sent to the students through our office, not their phone.

Communication - Our school commits to keeping you informed of updates and important events through newsletters, social media, and fliers. This year, you will also need to download Class Dojo and Parent Square to receive communication from our school and our district. Please remember to update your phone numbers throughout the year.

Parent Teacher Organization – Our PTO group meets every 1st Wednesday of every month to plan events and learn from each other. Our first meeting will be Wednesday, August 6, at 8:45 in the cafeteria.

I look forward to a school year full of learning opportunities and positive experiences for your child.

Sincerely,

Brenda Encinas

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Principal