



John B. Wright ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

July 14, 2021

Dear parents and care takers,

I hope you and your family are having a safe summer. As the start of the 2021-2022 school year quickly approaches, I want to take the time to introduce myself and welcome your family to the new school year. My name is Brenda Encinas and I am honored for the opportunity to serve the Wright community as your new principal. I am a parent of three children: Cristian, a 15-year-old high schooler, Julian, a 10-year-old 5th grader, and Ailany, a 6-year-old 1st grader. My husband and I are both educators. I have worked in education since 2002 after graduating from the University of Arizona. My experiences as a parent and an educator have shaped me into the person I am now. I am passionate about working with children and encouraging them to always do their very best, set goals, and enjoy learning. I also enjoy working with parents, staff, and the community as we work together to prepare our students for their future. I believe in the saying "It takes a Village," because it does. I look forward to working with each and every one of you. Feel free to reach out to me at any time. If unavailable, I will respond to you email or message as soon as possible.

Wright is a School of Excellence and we want to continue to be an innovative school. This means other educators and community members will visit our school to learn about all the wonderful things our students and staff are doing. We are an OMA Gold school which focus on fine arts. Our AVID Program focuses on providing college-and-career-ready skills for our students and our STEM program focuses on science, hands-on, and inquiry-based learning. In addition, we have a school garden and Arabic classes. Our teachers and staff are committed to the academic and social-emotional growth of our students by providing a safe, caring, engaging, inclusive, and rigorous learning environment.

As you and your family prepare for the start of the new school year, I would like to inform you of the following:

Masks & COVID safety measures

On July 1st, Governor Doug Ducey signed a bill prohibiting schools to require face masks. This means masks are now optional. Our district recommends the use of masks to those still not vaccinated. We will receive more information about COVID safety measures after next week's board meeting.

Parent Questionnaire

In addition to celebrating our successes, we celebrate diversity. I invite you to fill out the attached questionnaire. Your responses will help our staff get to know more about your family background and traditions. This form may be filled out on paper and sent back to school. It may also be completed online using a smart phone or a computer. The link to the online form may be accessed through your email account, school website, or our John B. Wright Facebook page.

Registration

All students must be registered at the start of every school year. If you have not registered you child, please do so by visiting parent.tusd1.org. You may also stop by our office and our office staff will be happy to help you. Our office is open from 8 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. until July 26th. After July 26th, our office will open during regular office hours from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Meet the Principal Ice Cream Social & Registration Event – Thursday 7/29, 2:00 p.m.

I look forward to meeting our families. I invite you to come meet me (your new principal) and learn about the new school year and our school goals. Our office staff will be available to register students from 2:30-4:00 p.m. You may join us in the in person in the cafeteria or through Zoom. (Meeting ID 857 1166 8707)

Teacher Meet & Greet – Wednesday 8/4, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

This event will allow an opportunity for you and your child to meet the teacher and get familiar with his/her classroom.

First Day of School – Thursday 8/5

Our first day of school is Thursday, 8/5. The first bell rings at 8:20 a.m. Our students (in Kinder-5th grade) will meet their teacher outside by the playground. Students will be escorted to their classroom by the teacher. In order to help with our morning procedures and 1st day of school jitters, we will respectfully ask that you do not enter the classrooms during the first week of school.

School Supplies & Uniforms

Our school provides the most essential school supplies to our students. 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.

Wright's dress code consists of khaki or navy-blue bottoms with navy blue, white, maroon or light blue collared tops with sleeves. For safety reasons, closed-toe shoes are also part of our dress code.

PBIS & Trust Cards

Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS) is a system that provides positive feedback when students demonstrate our expected behaviors: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe, Be Kind. In addition to positive feedback and celebrations, Wright fosters a Trust Card system. When students earn Trust Cards, they are allowed independent opportunities/choices and help them take pride in their choices throughout the day. Although Trust Cards may be lost and requested by one of our staff members due to poor choices, students are able to earn their Trust Card back at any time. More information will be provided during our Meet Your Principal Ice Cream Social and from your child's teacher.

Attendance

Attendance is very important in the academic growth of our students. Every minute in the classroom counts. As you plan and implement back-to-school routines, please discuss with your children the importance of getting to school on time and identify morning routines that will help them arrive to school before the bell rings at 8:20 am.

Dismissal

Students will be dismissed at 2:40 p.m. (at 1:40 p.m. every Wednesday). Students that walk home will be released through the Yellow Gate located on the northwest side of our campus. Students that are picked up by vehicle will be escorted to the gates on the east side of campus. Students in Kinder-2nd grade will be released through the Red Gate and 3rd-5th grade students will be released through the Blue Gate. Students that have a younger sibling, will be allowed to also be released through the Red Gate. Because we do not have a crosswalk on the street and for safety reasons, we will have a drive-by pick-up model. This means all cars will approach the gate in a one-way line facing south. **Please remain in your vehicle, your student(s) will come to your car.** We thank you in advance for your patience during the first 2 weeks of school. Parent pick-up is usually slower at the start of year as students, staff, and parents get familiar with dismissal procedures.

Communication

Our school commits to keeping you informed of updates and important events. We will communicate through automated phone messages (Parent Link), monthly newsletters, our school website, and our Facebook Page. When you visit our Facebook page, please remember to press  "Like".

Enjoy the last couple weeks of July! I look forward to meeting your family and working together to ensure a successful and memorable school year for your child.

Sincerely,

Brenda Encinas
Your New Proud Principal

Getting to Know Our Families

Questionnaire

Student(s) Name:

Grade:

Parent Name:

Language(s) Parents/Guardians speak at home: _____

Do you give us consent to announce your child's birthday during our morning Community Time? **Yes** **No**

Holidays celebrated at home: (Feel free to include Holidays celebrated in other countries.)

Are there specific holiday events you would NOT like your child to be part of? _____

Family events, parent workshops, or ideas you have enjoyed or would like to see happen at Wright:

Do you give permission for our district staff and/or community guests (such as the University of Arizona and news media) to interview or take pictures of your child's during the school year? **Yes** **No**

Do you give permission for your child's picture to be posted on our Facebook Page? **Yes** **No**

Are you interested in volunteering during one or some of our school events during the year? **Yes** **No**

Are you interested in being part of our Parent-Teacher-Student group? **Yes** **No**

Thank you for your time!