



East Elementary School
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Mrs. Lanea DeConcini, Principal
Mrs. Natalie Gordon, Assistant Principal



January 3, 2023

Dear **East Elementary** Families,

Happy Second Semester! We hope you and your families enjoyed your time off and were able to relax and recharge. We are excited to get the new year rolling with a new quarter.

Upcoming Dates

- January 5 - School resumes
- January 6 - Report Cards Issued
- January 6 - Rough Draft of Research for Science Fair Due
- January 13 - Final Research Paper for Science Fair Due
- **January 16 - No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday**
- January 17 - School Board Meeting
- January 19 - Science Fair - North Elementary School - Doors open at 6:30
- January 23 - PTG Meeting - IN PERSON AT EAST 6:00 pm
- **January 25 - Early Dismissal for Students - East Dismisses at 12:25 pm - No 21st Century Program**
- January 27 - Young Authors' Books Due
- February 3 - Issue Progress Reports
- **February 20 - No School - President's Day Holiday**
- February 21 - School Board Meeting
- **February 22 - Early Dismissal for Students - East Dismisses at 12:25 pm - No 21st Century Program**

Science Fair

School District Science Fair projects have many due dates that are approaching. Please note that abstracts, conclusions, and references are due to Ms. Herring by December 16. The rough draft of the research paper is due by January 6. The final revised research paper is due on January 13 and the Science Fair will be held at North Elementary School on January 19. If you have any questions, you may contact Ms. Herring, our building coordinator via email: jherring@altonschools.org.

Young Authors

Our District Young Authors celebration will be held on March 2. All books are due to Ms. Davis (kdavis@altonschools.org) or Ms. Schmidt (saschmidt@altonschools.org) by January 27. If you are interested in your child participating you may sign them up [HERE](#) or you can contact either building representative.

Attendance

Attendance in school is so important. Students who miss two days per month can be considered "chronic truant". Try setting a goal to improve attendance second semester. This can be a great way to keep both you and your child on track and excited about coming to school. If they missed two days a month first semester, set a goal of missing one or less. You can celebrate a victory each time you meet your goal!

Absences are excused for

1. Illness Of A Student
2. Death In The Family Or Of A Close Friend
3. Critical Illness Of A Near Relative (Mother, Father, Brother, Sister, Grandparent)
4. Dental Or Medical Appointment When Prior Arrangements Have Been Made
5. Absence Due To Bus Problem Beyond Students' Control
6. Mental Health Days - May use up to 5 for the year - Someone from the school will be in touch after the 2nd-day

Absences are unexcused for

1. Running Errands For Family
2. Staying Home To Care For Younger Children
3. Working At Or Away From Home
4. Visiting Friends Or Relatives
5. Shopping With Parents
6. Minor Aches And Pains (Persistence May Indicate A More Serious Problem)
7. Ordinary Weather Hazards
8. Vacations, Day Trips, Or Other Days When A Parent Electively Decides To Remove Their Student From School During Attendance Days

We want to ensure that our students are safe at all times. If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please notify the school (463-2130). If we have not received a call, you will be contacted to confirm the absence.

COVID-related absences:

If your child is ill and is out for isolation and/or quarantine your child's absence will be excused. Instructional supports, related services, and assignments will be provided to students. When your child is going to be out for this reason, please contact the teacher for assignments and work that they need. If your child will need a hotspot or Chromebook please let the teacher know and we will have one available to use while your child is out.

Transportation Changes

Anytime you need to make a change in transportation, please contact the main office at 463-2130. To ensure the safety of our students, family members will be required to contact the school before 11:00 am to make a change to their child's transportation for the school day. Should families encounter an unexpected emergency after this time on a given day, please call the school to discuss other transportation arrangements. Thanks for understanding as we work to ensure the safest dismissal and transportation process possible.

Morning Procedures

Please remember that parent drop-off begins at 7:30 am through the gym lobby doors. Please note that the doors will be closed promptly at 8:00 am. If your child is dropped off after 8:00 am, please drop them at the main lobby doors. If your child is going to eat breakfast at school they need to be here by 7:55 am.

Parent Pick-Up

Parents picking up students by car will receive a hang tag that is numbered and corresponds with the name(s) of child(ren) being picked up. After school, parents and guardians will need to pull around to the back of the building for parent pick-up. Please do not arrive **prior to 1:45 pm**. Please remain in your car and pull up to the door, which is located toward the building side of the second parking lot. Please wait in line until your child(ren) is escorted to your vehicle by the supervisor on duty. Additional hang tags can be requested if you would like to give permission to someone to pick up your child from school.

PTG

We will resume our in-person meetings this month. We will meet at 6 pm in the East Library on January 23.

Recycling Initiatives

East Elementary collects many items for recycling as part of our Madison County Green Schools initiatives. All of these initiatives not only benefit our environment, but they are separate contests that we compete in throughout the year! Please consider donating to help our school and our environment! We will be collecting paper, plastic bags, and new/gently used shoes. Please just send them with your child and there will be bins to place them in our gym lobby. You can also drop them off at our main office. Thanks for your support.

District Procedures for Winter Weather Conditions

Weather conditions can change rapidly in the winter months. When the weather is potentially threatening, Alton administrators constantly monitor the forecasts, conditions of roads, and conditions of sidewalks and parking lots. With this in mind, we would like to provide you with information on district procedures in the event of school closures or early

dismissals due to inclement weather. In the event that local weather conditions deteriorate rapidly during the school day, the District may be forced to dismiss early in the best interest and safety of our children.

Early Dismissal Schedule

East will release at 12:25

Notification procedures are as follows: Parents receive an automatic phone dialer, an email notification will be sent, and notifications will be posted on the district website.

Delayed Start Schedule

East Elementary will have attendance from 10:00 am - 2:25 pm

Remote Learning Day

When we know in advance of potentially threatening forecasts we will make sure that materials are sent home the previous school day. Students will work remotely for the day.

Emergency School Closing

In the event that the Alton School District elects to close schools for the day due to poor weather, information will be provided through the following means: automatic phone dialer, email, posting to the district website, social media posts, and local media including WBGZ - 1570 AM, KMOX Radio - 1120 AM, KMOV Channel 4, KSDK Channel 5, and Fox 2 Now.

As a final reminder, please contact our East office if you need to update contact information such as phone numbers, emergency contacts, and or email addresses. Having the correct contact information on file will ensure that you receive prompt notifications during these events.

January Character Trait Word of the Month: Self-Motivation

Each month your child/ren will be learning about a character trait that we believe is essential to being a good citizen in our society. We suggest you take time to discuss this trait so that they learn it is important both inside and outside of the school setting. Every Wednesday morning, from 8:15-8:40, your child(ren) will take part in Social Emotional Learning lessons within their classroom. During these lessons, teachers will focus on the Character Trait of the Month.

Arbor Management - District Food Service

- [January Breakfast Menu](#)
- [January Lunch Menu](#)
- [Food Allergy Form for Doctors](#) to fill out - We have a new food service provider this year, so if your child has any food allergies they ask that you have your child's doctor fill out this form for their system.

Spirit Wear

Our Spirit Wear Store is open. Please click [HERE](#) to place your order. Orders can be mailed directly to your house or you may choose to be sent home with your child from school. Please note that it is taking approximately 4 weeks to get orders at this time.

Social Media

Please keep an eye out for our emails, but you can follow us on Facebook.com/East.Redbird or Instagram @East_Redbirds for important information.



Facebook.com /East.Redbird



@East_Redbirds

We are excited to serve you and your family! Our door is always open, please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions, concerns, or ideas.