



Important Things to Know for THOMAS STREET Families

Parents/Guardians,

We are extremely excited about your child's first day or return on Wednesday, August 4th. This school year is going to be fantastic! **Please read all of our reminders and updates listed below. Pay close attention to instructions listed by VII on how to fill out the enclosed name tags because parents will not be able to walk their student(s) inside the school on the first day. See you soon!**

Love, Mrs. Moore-Saul

I. School supplies

All supplies have been purchased for all students this year; however, he/she is welcome to bring a backpack, lunchbox, and/or water bottle if you so choose. Please write your child's name inside his/her lunchbox and backpack. If either item is misplaced, it will be easy to help your child locate the missing item. It is good practice to write the name on all personal items including sweaters, jackets, coats, etc. Water will be provided for students eating meals served by the cafeteria. If your child brings his/her lunch; it will need to include a refillable water bottle.

II. Daily School Time Frames for Thomas Street:

- 7:15 a.m. doors open to greet students
- 7:15 a.m. breakfast is served in the cafeteria
- 7:40 a.m. students still have time to make it to their class before the 7:50 tardy bell rings & instruction begins
- 2:50 p.m. students are dismissed from classrooms to load cars, buses & daycare vans

School starts at 7:50 a.m. Students may begin arriving at 7:15. Staff members will assist students in the drop off zones at this time. Students will be supported by staff members to get to their classes. Please know there are no staff members on duty before 7:15. Buses and day care vans drop off in front of the school. Car riders should enter their drop off zone on the Bryan Street side. Students should be ready to exit when it comes time. **Please have your child leave the car on the passenger's side for safety** this avoids crossing in front of potentially moving cars. Please avoid using cell phones in the car rider drop off zone for safety reasons. With the assistance of staff, students will need to walk by themselves starting on the first day of school.

Car Rider Dismissal:

School dismisses at 2:50 p.m. On the first day of school, car riders will be given signs to display in their front car windows. Please make sure that the person picking up your child has that sign. This will help speed up our dismissal process. If you need a sign, please let us know. Use of cell phones in the loading and unloading area is prohibited for the safety of students, staff and other parents and family members.

Check-Out:

School dismisses at 2:50 p.m. Check-outs are not allowed after **2:30 p.m.** If you need your child to leave early, please check him/her out before 2:30. This helps reduce confusion at dismissal time. For the safety of all students, afternoon dismissal changes may only be made in writing. You may send a

note to the teacher that morning, or come to the school office to make the change in writing. **We cannot accept emails.**

III. Student Absences:

******Each student has 3 parent requests that will be counted as excused absences per semester, and any doctor's excuses will be counted as an excused absence. You will have 2 days to get an excuse to the office or it will be invalid, and the absence will be marked as an unexcused absence. We encourage the excuse to be sent directly to the office. ANY excuse must have the date or dates of absence in order to be excused.

From board policy JBD-J: 63% Attendance Law

To be considered as having attended school for a full day, a student must be present for 63% of his/her instruction day as fixed by the Board for each individual school. For purposes of reporting absenteeism, a student who has an absence that is more than 37% of the student's instructional day shall be considered absent the entire school day. Students must be checked in by 9:45 a.m. and out after 1 p.m. to be counted for the day

IV. Dress Code

Legging, bike shorts, and gym shorts are not allowed **UNLESS** a shirt, skirt, dress, or tunic comes below the middle fingers when arms are placed at the student's side. Clothing should be free of any rips, holes, or tears. Fitted tank top straps should be at least 2 finger widths wide. Parents will be asked to bring other clothes to the school if the dress code is not followed.

V. Parties, Birthdays, and Deliveries

* Purchased cupcakes, cookies, etc. are permitted if they are offered to the entire class. Be aware of allergies (such as peanuts & strawberries) and please make sure that purchased items are served during SNACK times ONLY.

* TPSD policy prohibits students from carrying balloons and other gifts such as flowers, candy such as flowers, candy and stuffed animals on the bus.

* Students cannot receive special deliveries at Thomas Street Elementary.

VI. Medicine

Please contact Nurse Harmon for administration of prescription and/or non-prescription medication. Please do not send medication by the student. PARENTS **MUST** BRING ANY MEDICATION. This includes inhalers, Tylenol, and cough drops. Nurse Harmon phone number: 662-841-8960.

VII. First day of school is Wednesday, August 4th with doors opening @ 7:15 a.m.

- Parents will need to say "see you later" to students at the front doors of campus. If not choosing to wave & wish them the best from the bus stop, car rider line, or daycare.
- Please ensure that your child has the enclosed name tag **COMPLETELY** filled out (student name, teacher name, transportation, phone number) and stuck to his/her shirt upon arrival the first day of school. We want to make sure your child gets home safely.

VIII. Follow these accounts for updates, information, & pictures of all the JOY that can be found at Thomas Street in the days ahead.

- Twitter: @ThomasStreetTPSD
- Facebook: Thomas Street PTO

To join our TSE Remind, text @tsepar to 81010