WOW!!! What an awesome start to the school year!

I’d like to extend a big “WELCOME” to all our new Manzo students (Preschool thru 5th), their families and of course our returning students and families. It was great seeing you today and how so many of you have grown over the summer break. We are looking forward to providing a wonderful school year experience to each and every one of our students.

Our Open House is set for Thursday, August 8th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm. This is a great opportunity for parents to hear about what their children will be learning this year, and sStevie25 Stee first hand where their children are everyday. Parent-Teacher conferences will be coming up on September 11th, 12th and 13th, so please mark your calendars. Although conferences are not until September please don’t hesitate to speak with your child’s teacher regarding your child’s progress.

We need your help keeping our children safe at school. Please be sure not to send your child to school in the morning before playground supervision has begun. Playground supervision begins at 8:00 AM. Also, our morning and afternoon drop-off / pick-up zones can get a bit congested. Please continue to use the life skills of patience and courtesy while following established procedures. Our designated bus loading and unloading area is strict for buses only and is not to be used as a student drop-off/pick-up zone. Please do not drop-off or pick-up your student in the parking. The parking lot will be closed in the morning and after school.

We have some new faces walking the hallways of Manzo Elementary this year. Please take some time to welcome our new staff: Bob Broder (4th grade teacher), Susan Weckwerth (5th grade teacher), Amy Flores (GATE teacher), Kimberly Wilson (CCS teacher), and Shelly Clark (Nurse). They will all make a great addition to our already wonderful Manzo family.

Changes to Student Routines:
Please make every effort to call our school prior to your child’s lunch hour with any changes in their afternoon pick-up routine. This allows teachers the opportunity to receive them before dismissal. We are not forwarding phone calls to the classrooms, please make every effort to notify us as early as possible about any changes in schedule/plans.

Attendance:
Attendance will be closely monitored. Please make sure that your student comes to school everyday and on time. Daily attendance is vital for your student academic success. We begin school at 8:20 am and dismissal occurs at 2:40 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday dismissal occurs at 1:40 pm. Please ensure that your student is picked up on time.

Looking forward to a great and successful school year!!

Steven La Turco (Principal)
Reading

Manzo Elementary will begin a new initiative to encourage all students to read at home. According to an article in Brand Spotlight, “Starting in kindergarten, if a student reads 20 minutes a day at home, they will hear 1.8 million words per year. They will have read for 851 hours by 6th grade and on standardized tests, they will likely score better than 90% of their peers.”

As part of the reading initiative, all Manzo students will be required to read 20 minutes per day during the school week and keep a reading log. Teachers will give your student further information on their reading homework procedure.

FOOD SERVICE NEWS

Parents,

Manzo Elementary is a Green School and all students will be provided free breakfast and lunch during the school year.

TIPS FOR FAMILIES EATING RIGHT (from the USDA)

Make half your grains whole. Choose whole-grain foods, such as whole-wheat bread, oatmeal, brown rice, and low-fat popcorn, more often.

Vary your veggies. Go dark green and orange with your vegetables—eat spinach, broccoli, carrots, and sweet potatoes.

Focus on fruits. Eat them at meals, and at snack time, too. Choose fresh, frozen, canned, or dried, and go easy on the fruit.

Get your calcium-rich foods. To build strong bones serve low-fat and fat-free milk and other milk products several times a day.

Go lean with protein. Eat lean or low fat meat, chicken, turkey, and fish. Also, change your tune with more dry beans and peas. Add chick peas, nuts, or seeds to a salad; pinto beans to a burrito; or kidney beans to a soup.

Change your oil. We all need oil. Get yours from fish, nuts, and liquid oils such as corn, soybean, canola, and olive oil.

Don’t sugarcoat it. Choose foods and beverages that do not have sugar and caloric sweeteners as one of the first ingredients. Added sugars contribute calories with few, if any, nutrients.

Improving Your Child’s School Attendance

Talk with your child about why it’s important to attend school regularly.

- Avoid scheduling family trips or doctor appointments during school hours.
- Make sure your child stays healthy by eating nutritious food and getting enough sleep and exercise.
- Don’t accept excuses for why your child “must” miss or be late for school.
- Discuss with your child what happened at school each day.
- Support school rules and consequences for being tardy.
- Show your child why education is important. Give specific examples of how education helps people succeed.
- Lead by example. If children see parents taking off work for no real reason, they may expect to be able to do the same thing.

Research shows that attendance is the single most important factor in school success.

Your School MTSS Facilitator, Jeannette Gabaldón

KEEPING OUR STUDENTS “SAFE”

For safety’s sake, do not drop-off or pick-up students in the bus bay or school crossing zone. Our school crossing zone is defined by our 15 MPH signs that are placed just before arriving to our school. In addition, please do not drop-off or pick-up students in our parking lot. Our parking lot will be closed in the morning and after school. Please do not park between these signs or use this area as a drop-off or pick-up area. We ask that parents exercise patience and courtesy at all times and follow established procedures. Due to safety reasons, please pick-up your child outside of our playground gates. While picking up your child, please wait patiently for your child to get to your vehicle. If you park across the street from the school, please walk to the gate to pick up your child. Primary Students will not be allowed to cross the street on their own unless accompanied by an adult or crossing guard.