

# Welcome Back School Handbook



**KENSLER**  
**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

# To Our Kensler Families

Welcome to the new school year!



We are beyond excited to welcome you all back! Welcome to those of you bringing your children to Kensler for the first time! We are working hard to make sure we provide your child an exceptional education. We are here to make this transition back to school as smooth as possible for you and your child. Together we will make this a great year at Kensler!

# Vision & Beliefs



## Vision Statement:

*Kensler Leaders are empowered to persevere in our learning, value diversity and lead through the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People.*

## Our Beliefs to Achieve our Vision:

- *Foster a positive and nurturing environment through authentic relationships with staff, peers, families and community partners built on trust and mutual respect.*
- *Providing rigorous opportunities for students to become actively engaged life-long learners.*
- *Empower all students to become citizens of good character who lead by example.*
- *Everyone can be a leader.*
- *Change starts with me.*

# Principal

- Principal: Chris Waterbury
  - [cwaterbury@usd259.net](mailto:cwaterbury@usd259.net)
- Assistant Principal: Jennifer Gilstrap
  - [jgilstrap@usd259.net](mailto:jgilstrap@usd259.net)

## Office Staff

- Jennifer Easum
- Amy Aiken
- Stacey Schwanke



# School Hours and Information

School Phone: 316-973-1350

Latchkey hours: 7:00am-8:50am and 4:10pm-6:00pm

Breakfast hours: 8:50am

School hours: 9:00am-4:10pm

- Doors will open at 8:50am to allow students entry into the building.

# Arrival

8:50am – Arrival Bell

9:00am – Tardy Bell

- Students arriving after 9:00am will need a late pass from the office.
- There are stop, drop, and go lanes on Wilbur and Kindergarten Road. Please stay in your vehicle to help the flow of traffic. Students must exit the vehicle on curbside.
- All students will be offered breakfast in their classroom starting at 8:50
- To make arrival efficient please allow your child to walk into the building alone. We have adults all throughout the building to help students get to classrooms.





## Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

In order to help with the structure of breakfast in the classroom, students will enter and exit through the same exterior door daily. Please see below for your child(ren)'s assigned door.

**Pre-Kindergarten**-Pre-K will enter and exit through door # 15. Please see information from Pre-K teachers regarding arrival and dismissal procedures.

**Kindergarten** classes will enter and exit through door by Kindergarten Road. Parents can drop their students off and pick them up from Kindergarten Road. This will be a ONE-WAY road for Kindergarten students and their siblings.

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade** classes will enter and exit through door #1. Parents can drop their students off and pick them up from Wilbur Street. 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will be guided by staff to door #1.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** classes will enter and exit through door #11. Parents can drop their students off and pick them up from 10th Street. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students will be guided by staff to door #11.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** classes will enter and exit through door #14. Parents can drop their students off and pick them up from School Street. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will be guided by staff to door #14.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade** classes will enter and exit through door #12. Parents can drop their students off and pick them up from School Street. 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be guided by staff to door #12.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade** classes will enter and exit through door #13. Parents can drop their students off and pick them up from School Street. 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be guided by staff to door #13.

Parents need to stay in their vehicles. Student must exit and enter vehicle off the curb. Staff will help students enter and exit vehicles.

Older siblings may walk younger siblings to their assigned doors.

Students who arrive **after** 9:00 will need to enter through door #1.

Updated 7-26-2021



# Attendance

- Please call the school office if your child is absent from school.
- Students missing school for three or more days will need to fill out an extended absence form, available in the office.
- Students checking out early will be released from class when parent arrives at school for check-out.
- Check with teacher on any make-up work needing to be done due to absences.

*When students are absent from school for even a short amount of time, they miss important instructional time. Please make every attempt to have your child present and learning!*

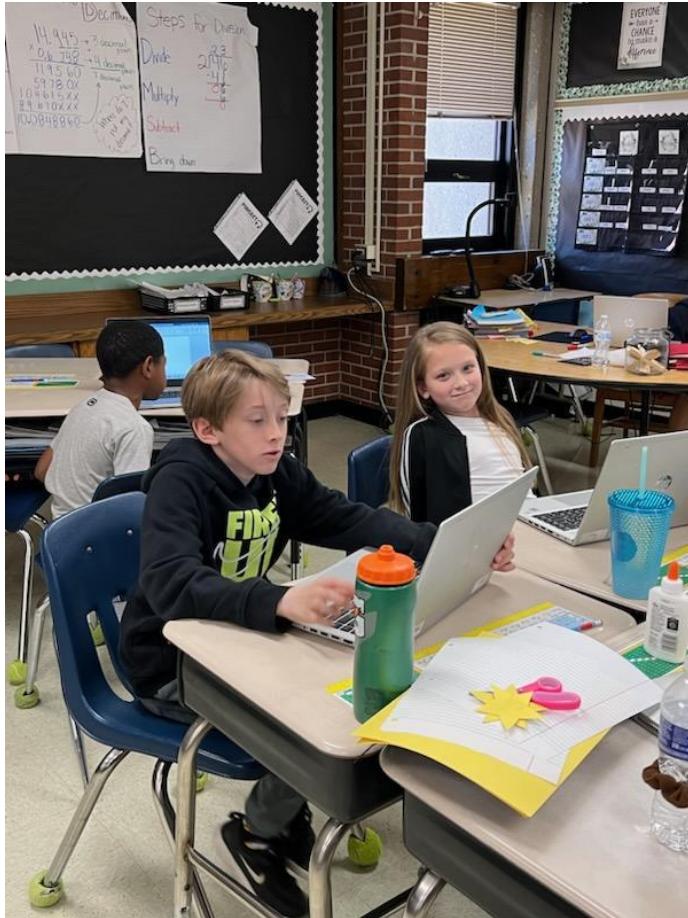


# Kindergarten Staggered Attendance

- Kindergarten students will have staggered attendance at the beginning of the school year.
- This means that Kindergarten students will only attend one of the staggered attendance days.
- Kindergarten teachers will be in contact with families soon to communicate what date your kindergarten student will attend.



# Technology



- Students will continue to have one-to-one devices.
- Teachers will incorporate innovative technology lessons in their classrooms to expand their learning opportunities for all students.
- Teachers will send home more information once school starts.

# Cell Phones and Personal Items

- Please do not allow your child to bring toys or other items to school.
- Money should be sent in an envelope, sealed and labeled for the office.
- Students may bring a cell phone to school under the following guidelines:
  - They are to be shut off during the day.
  - They are to be kept in backpack at the back of the room all day.
  - Students may use them after the 4:10pm bell to call home but may not use them otherwise.
  - The teacher or school is not responsible for lost or damaged items.





# Communication to Families



- For all District information please visit:
  - Wichita Public Schools – [www.usd259.org](http://www.usd259.org)
- For all Kensler Information please visit:
  - <https://www.usd259.org/kensler>
- Like us on Facebook:
  - Kensler Elementary School
- Please make sure we have your email address on file. Most of our communication will go to your email address.

# Dress Code

- Shirts must cover stomach.
- Straps wider than two finger widths.
- No clothing with inappropriate messages or pictures.
- Shorts must be at fingertip level.
- Pants worn at the waist.
- No hats, bandanas worn inside the school building.





# Field Trips

- Field trips will be announced throughout the school year. Watch for information to come from your child's teacher.





# Health Information



- Please have your child stay home from school if they are vomiting or have a fever of 100.4 or above.
- Students must remain home until fever free or vomiting free for 24 hours without medication.
- Medications must be stored in the Nurse's Office and administered by the Nurse or trained personnel.
- All medications must have a doctor's prescription on file with the Nurse.
- Please do not send medication to school with your child.

# Lunch

- Students have a 20-minute lunch period.
- With the number of students in the lunchroom, we do not have a separate parent table.
- Students can choose a school lunch or may bring a sack lunch from home.
- Lunch Menus are available on the District Website.
- Please do not have your child's lunch delivered by a company as they are often late and do not show up in time. This is also a distraction to the front office. Example would be Uber Eats delivery.
- It is imperative that students are provided a healthy lunch during the school day.



# School Grounds

- Pets are not allowed on school grounds, the parking lot, grass area or sidewalks. Please keep your pets at home.
- There is no smoking of any type of tobacco on school grounds such as e-cigarettes or cigarettes.
- Please do not park in handicap stalls unless you are handicapped and have a legal permit to do so.





# Visitors

- All visitors must check in at the office through our Hall Pass System and wear an identification sticker in the school building.



# Volunteers

- Please contact the school if you are interested in volunteering at school.





# Weather Conditions

- We will have recess outdoors unless there is precipitation or if there are dangerous wind chill factors.





# Checking Students In and Out Early



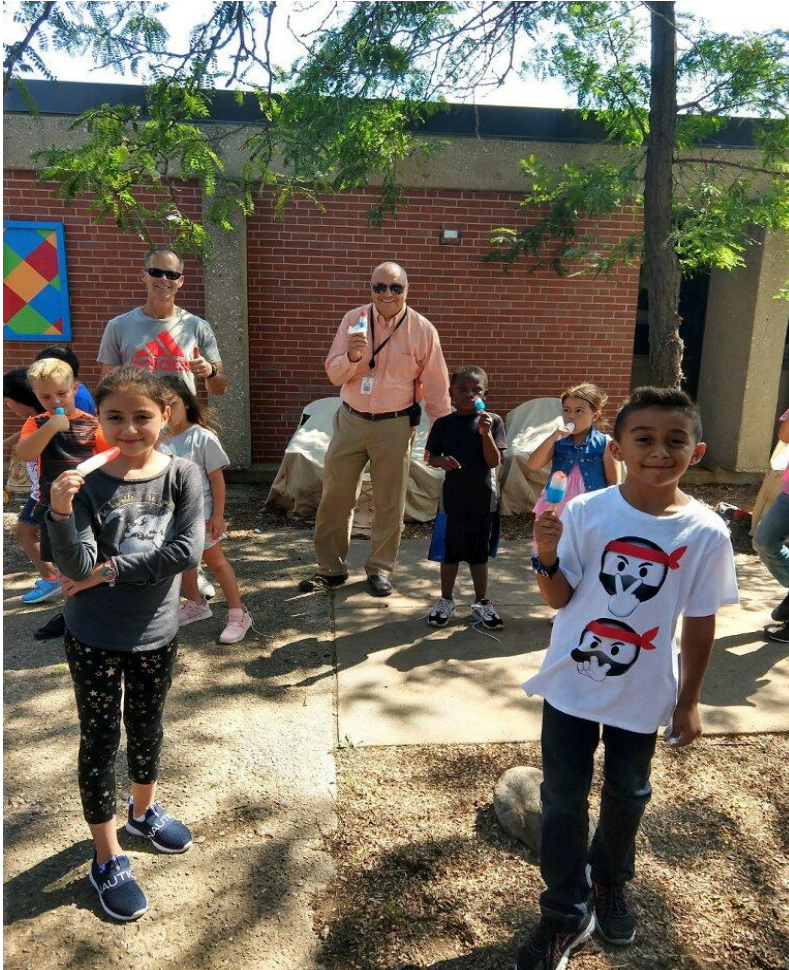
- Please make every effort to have your child arrive at school on time and leave school at the 4:10pm bell.
- When a child is dropped off late:
  - They will need to ring the front buzzer to come into the office
- When a child is checked out early:
  - Buzz the front buzzer and an office staff member will assist you in bringing your child to the front door.

# Parent-Teacher Conferences

- Parent-Teacher conferences will be held in October and February.
- Please be on the lookout for information from your child's teacher.



# Family Nights and Extra Curricular Activities



- Communication will be sent regarding family nights and extracurricular activities.
- We hope you attend and join in on the fun!



# Snacks and Birthday Treats

- Your child may bring a snack to school to eat either in the morning or the afternoon depending on when they have lunch. Please make sure the snack is healthy!
- Please communicate with your child's teacher regarding birthday treats. We want to celebrate your child's birthday!



# Welcome!

Thank you for helping us have a  
safe and happy year at Kensler!