



# Lookout Mountain Rearing News

Lookout Mountain School

is a



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The mission of Lookout Mountain School is to prepare all students to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

August 8, 2018

## Welcome Back To School

### Principally Speaking

Dear Parents,

We are so excited to start a new school year with your child. As parents, we look forward to hearing about our child's day at school, we often bombard them the moment they get into the car. Here are a couple of talking strategies to keep the lines of communication open throughout the school year.

**Greet your child with an enthusiastic hello.** Try saying "great to see you!" or "I missed you!" or simply, "I hope you had a good day," instead of "how was school?" These opening statements communicate what you really feel without instantly putting your child on the spot with a questions. As a result, your child is more likely to speak about his or her day.

**Allow your child not to talk right after school.** Many kids don't want to talk the minute they walk in the door. They want to have a snack, call a friend or just chill out. (Think about how you feel when you walk in after a long day at work. Wouldn't you rather put your feet up and talk later?)

**Learn about your child's life at school.** The more details you know about your child's school experience, the more valuable your questions will be. If you know the teacher reads a story every day, ask "What story did Mrs. Younger read today?" If you know the teacher's newsletter comes home on Wednesday, set up a ritual to read it together at dinner. If you visit your child's classroom, make note of new things you might want to discuss with your child later.

**Say what's on your mind.** If what you really need to know is "How did you do on the math test?" just ask. If you fish around, your child will resent it more. "But keep in mind that if you frequently ask questions about tests, that's all kids will think you care about," notes Lawrence Cohen, Ph.D.

**Avoid face-to-face interrogations.** You might do better in situations where you're not face-to-face like the car, when your child takes a bath, or when you are cooking. In this way, your child won't feel put on the spot.

**Let the talk emerge naturally.** Discuss the day while you cook dinner, read together, or check homework. But try not to use dinner as a time to talk about problems like homework or tests. Everybody needs a break!

**Listen before you talk.** Let your child lead you into conversations on her own. Sometimes your child will drop hints without your asking, like "We planted seeds today!" or "Where's the atlas? I need to find Antarctica." These are perfect openings to talk together about school. **Talk about funny things that happened to you.** One of the best ways to stimulate conversation is to talk about funny stuff kids can relate to. "A great way to start conversation is to describe an interesting and funny event from your day. Kids will then respond and talk about interesting things that happened to them," adds Cohen. Talk about the skunk you passed on the way to work. Talk about the toilet paper that got stuck to your shoe. Talk about the booger you saw hanging from your boss' nose. Your kids will laugh and probably start talking to you – even the older ones.

**Don't jump in to fix your child's problem immediately.** If your child brings up a problem like "I hate my teacher!" take it in stride. First, find out what else your child has to say and what he wants to do about it. You might encourage your child to figure out solutions by asking, "What do you think you want to do about this?" and "Is there something you'd like me to do?" Follow up later with "How did your new strategies work?" or "You haven't mentioned math class lately, does that mean it's going better?" If the problem is serious, discuss it with the school.

**Help children develop their own solutions.** Don't feel you need to supply the right answer yourself. Instead, share ideas about possible solutions that will help your child feel better. "This is a way to help your child see you as an ally who will support him when problems come up. By helping your child figure it out for himself, you are also giving him a whole set of tools for solving the problems independently as he gets older," advises Diane Levin, Ph.D.

*Article from PBS Parents*

**We look forward to a great school year.**

**Communication is a key to a healthy school year.**

Sincerely,

Tricia H. Johnson



4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • [www.wesdschools.org](http://www.wesdschools.org)

Governing Board: Bill Adams, President • Aaron Jahneke, Vice President  
Larry Herrera, Member • Tee Lambert, Member • Nikkie Whaley, Member

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

## LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN STAFF CHANGES

We have many new faces and departmental changes at Lookout Mountain this year! We would like to extend a warm welcome to *Ashley Lindembolt, KG; Margaret Cline, 1<sup>st</sup> grade; Katherine Bettis, 1<sup>st</sup> grade; Karen Lehmann, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade; Michelle Romero, psychologist; Tonya Talbott, cafeteria manager; Danijela Graovac, art; Makala Close, resource.* Departmental changes include *Lauren Del Rosso, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade; Trisha Martinez, 4<sup>th</sup> grade; Tamra Fisher, 5<sup>th</sup> grade; Sharon Jones, behavior support advocate.*

## CURRICULUM NIGHT

Wednesday, Aug 8: 6<sup>th</sup> grade only

- 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – cafeteria

Thursday, Aug. 16: KG – 5<sup>th</sup> grade only

- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. – classrooms

Principal's Welcome and Special Area teachers

- 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. – cafeteria

\*\*Please note: This evening is designed to be information for parents and not a time to talk with the teacher about your student's individual needs. You may set up an appointment with the teacher to discuss your concerns at a later date. Please make appropriate child care arrangements for your children for this evening.

### **Attention 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents!**

Arizona State Law (A.R.S. 15-872) requires that all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students provide documentation and be in compliance with state immunization laws. If you have not already done so, please bring proof of immunizations to the health office. Please note that students who are not in compliance will be suspended.

## FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Welcome to the new families and welcome back to the returning families! We want to remind everyone of the medication policy for the Washington Elementary School District. Children are not allowed to carry medications in or out of school. Medications need to be brought in by a parent or guardian, and the consent form can be signed at that time.

If your child will need to take prescription medication at school, we need a parent or guardian's signature on the medication consent form as well as the original bottle/container with the prescription label on it. If you have any questions, please call the school health office at 602-896-5910.

## PTO Posts

🐾 **Welcome Back!** The Lookout Mountain PTO welcomes you back to another great year! We are busy planning fund-raisers for the year. The Lookout Mountain PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization) is made up of parents, teachers and staff. There are no membership dues. If you are a parent or guardian of a student at Lookout Mountain, then you are a member of the PTO!

🐾 **"Like" us on Facebook.** To stay informed with PTO and other school events, please "like" us on Facebook at Lookout Mountain Elementary School PTO. Also, please consider joining our e-mail list. We send out monthly emails letting you know what events are coming up.

🐾 **We need you!** PTO is looking for volunteers for various activities. If you would like to volunteer with PTO events, please visit our website at [www.lompto.org](http://www.lompto.org) or contact Dena Wingert, [dwingert@lompto.org](mailto:dwingert@lompto.org). Also, Dads on Duty needs some more dads to help out. Please consider joining the Dads on Duty team. If interested, please contact Jeff Poole at [dadsonduty@outlook.com](mailto:dadsonduty@outlook.com). We can't organize all of our events without help from many parents like you!

🐾 **Individual Picture Day.** Individual picture day is coming up on Friday, Aug. 17 and we need volunteers to help the photographers organize the students for their pictures. Sign up for a shift on [www.lompto.org](http://www.lompto.org)

🐾 **Peter Piper Pizza Night.** Lookout Mountain is having a night at Peter Piper Pizza on August 23 from 4 – 8 p.m. Lookout Mountain will receive 15% of all purchases made. Fliers will be sent home soon.

🐾 **PTO Meeting.** Our first meeting is Monday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

## **Did you know...**

Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. For more information, please go to <http://www.attendanceworks.org/facts-stats-school-attendance/>.



## PHOTO ID REQUIRED

Parents: *For the safety of your child, a photo ID is required every time* you pick your child up from school during the school day and when you pick up a sick child from the health office. *Please make it a habit to bring your ID with you.*

## OUTDOOR DINING 2018-2019



Just a reminder...

Outdoor dining will open on Monday, September 10. Your child may invite two friends to eat outside when you are visiting for lunch. This applies to all grade levels. Food can be brought in for your child only.

## IMPORTANT!

All continuing students in the first through sixth grade must have their Student Profile and Health Information forms signed and turned in to their homeroom teacher by Friday, August 24. Please review and make any changes to the information on these forms. If you have any questions, please call the school office at 602-896-5900.

## AFTER-SCHOOL ACADEMY

Join the fun! Our After-school Academy will begin at Lookout Mountain the week of August 27. All students in grades K-6 are invited to participate. For more information, look online at [wesdschools.org](http://wesdschools.org) and click on the following: Parent tab, After-school Programs, Lookout Mountain and After-school Academy Fall 2018 Classes.

### PICK UP ON TIME

Parents, please make sure to pick up your children promptly at dismissal times:

**Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.**

**K - 6 3:15 p.m.**

**Early Release Wednesdays**

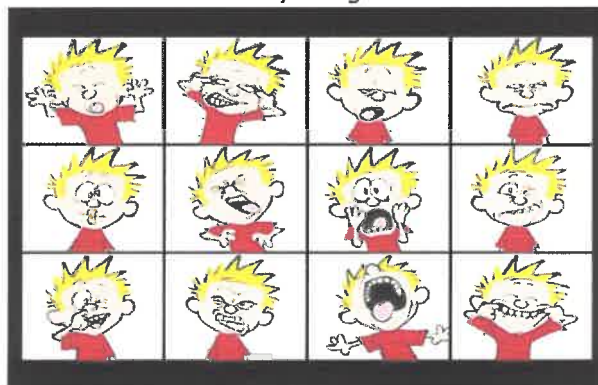
**K - 6 1:45 p.m.**

## SEARCH TO SERVE

This is an important message for parents of children who will be 2 ½ - 5 years of age during the next school year. If you have noticed that your child has difficulty in speaking, hearing, seeing, walking, running or manipulating small objects, you may be picking up signs of a challenge. Chances are that with early detection, such challenges can be partially or totally corrected. Take the first step! For information about the preschool screening, contact Search to Serve at 602-347-4850. Note: If you suspect a developmental delay in a child younger than 3, contact AZEIP at 602-246-0546 for an infant/toddler screening.

## INDIVIDUAL PICTURE DAY

Smile and say cheese! Individual pictures will be taken on Friday, August 17.



## Gifted Services

Washington Elementary School District provides a continuum of services for students identified as gifted. Testing for placement in the gifted program takes place three times a year on ALL campuses. If you feel your child demonstrates the traits of a gifted learner, please complete the screening form found on the Gifted Services website ([www.wesdschools.org/Page/18](http://www.wesdschools.org/Page/18)) or contact your child's teacher to arrange for testing. A brochure describing services provided to gifted students and a list of common characteristics can be found on the website as well. Feel free to call or email the Coordinator of Gifted Services, Dr. Jason McIntosh, with any questions you may have ([Jason.mcintosh@wesdschools.org](mailto:Jason.mcintosh@wesdschools.org)/ 602-347-2651). The gifted teachers on your campus are Sherry Godfrey and Monica Womack. They can be reached by email or phone at either [sherry.godfrey@wesdschools.org](mailto:sherry.godfrey@wesdschools.org) (602-896-5928) or [monica.womack@wesdschools.org](mailto:monica.womack@wesdschools.org) (602-896-5928). The first round of testing for this school year will take place the week of September 10 - 14, 2008.

**WELCOME BACK  
TO SCHOOL**



Labor Day  
Monday,  
September 3  
NO SCHOOL

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.  
7:45 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.  
Wed.  
7:45 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.  
  
Attendance Line: 602-869-5921  
School Office: 602-896-5900  
Health Office: 602-869-5910



**Calendar**

- 8/8 Early Release: K - 6 dismiss at 1:45 p.m.
- 8/8 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum Night 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- 8/15 Early Release: K - 6 dismiss at 1:45 p.m.
- 8/16 Curriculum Night (K - 5<sup>th</sup>) 5 p.m. - 8p.m.
- 8/17 Individual Picture Day
- 8/22 Early Release: K- 6 dismiss at 1:45 p.m.
- 8/23 Peter Piper Restaurant Night
- 9/3 LABOR DAY - NO SCHOOL
- 9/10 PTO Meeting Cafeteria 7 p.m.  
Outdoor dining starts

