

# September Newsletter

## La Conner Elementary 2021-22

### QUOTE

*Education is the key to unlocking the world, a passport to freedom.*

*-Oprah Winfrey*

### BE BRAVE AND REACH FOR THE STARS!

We've enjoyed a successful launch to the 2021-22 school year. It's been 18 months since our classrooms have been full, and it feels good to be back to a more "normal" school experience.

"Normal" is in quotes here because things aren't exactly what we're used to. We are still wearing masks and social distancing (along with other Covid measures) to protect the health of our school community. But I am happy to report that students are still happily making friends and engaging in learning, and teachers are thrilled to have their whole classroom together at one time.

Our theme for the year is "Be brave and reach for the stars". While there is a lot of talk in the media about how far behind students are going to be this year, we are choosing to focus on how far our students can go! We intend to make this a great year for growth. We hope that this theme inspires kids *and* adults to set big goals and work hard to reach them.



### RECESS BEFORE LUNCH

One change we've made this year is having kids go to recess before they eat lunch. The idea is that having recess first will keep kids from rushing through their lunch to go play. So far, it's working! Teachers report that kids are hungrier for their food, and they're eating more, which means less food is going in the garbage every day. We're expecting to see that kids are more ready to learn after lunch too, because they will have had their lunch time to wind down and refuel their bodies.

### BREAKFAST & LUNCH AT SCHOOL

This year, breakfast and lunch are both *free* to any child at school. Breakfast service begins when our doors open at 7:45 AM.

Lunch menus are available on our district website (look for "Meals and Nutrition" on the home page). That being said, public schools have been hit hard by food supply issues, so menu items might change without notice, based on the food that is available. If you choose to send a lunch with your child, please remember to *send a beverage too*. Because of the policies connected to the free lunch program, we are only able to provide milk to students who order a school lunch. Of course, the water fountain is always an option, so no one will go thirsty.

### FREE DENTAL SEALANTS AT SCHOOL

We are working with an organization this year called Best Dental Health this year to offer free dental sealants to students right at school! Last week, your child brought home a consent form (check backpacks if you haven't seen it). Best Dental will be bringing their service van to school during the week of September 20. If you would like your child to receive free sealants, which protect their teeth from cavities, please send the signed form back to school with your child by Wednesday, September 15.

### OPEN HOUSE POSTPONED

An elementary Open House had been scheduled for later this week. As we've considered the logistics of bringing whole families into the building, while still maintaining a healthy environment, we've realized that it will be safer to postpone this event until later in the year, when Covid infection rates are lower and immunization rates are higher.

#### Dates to Remember

September 15 – Best Dental Help consent forms due

September 20 – Best Dental Help on campus to apply sealants for students with parent consent

October 18-22 – A full week of half days for family conferencing

