

*Westridge Wildcat*

# P W PRINTS

## August 2022

[TUES & WED] **Aug 2 & 3**

New Student Registration

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

[Tuesday] **Aug 2**

PTO Meeting @ 6:30 PM

[THURSDAY] **Aug 11**

Open House/Curriculum Night

6:00-6:30 Open House #1 (A-K)

6:30-7:00 Open House #2 (L-Z)

[TUESDAY] **Aug 16**

First Day of School!!

[WEDNESDAY] **Aug 17**

Walking Club Starts 7:55-8:10 AM

[MONDAY] **Sept 5**

No School- Labor Day

[TUESDAY] **Sept 6**

PTO Meeting @ 6:30 PM

### **Westridge Elementary Mission Statement:**

**In an effort to create life-long learners, the staff at Westridge Elementary School working closely with parents and community strives to realize each child's fullest potential in the areas of personal, social, intellectual, emotional, and physical development.**

Dear Westridge Families,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer break. Over the summer, we had one more staffing change to announce. Briana Holthaus, HALE teacher, took a part-time HALE position with the district and will be a Woodbrook only next year. We have hired Jennifer Hoff as our new HALE teacher at Westridge. Jennifer will be at Westridge in the morning, and then travel to North Ridge Middle School to teach HALE in the afternoon. I am very excited that Jennifer is joining our Westridge team.

The first event for the new school year is our Open House/Curriculum Night on Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will be sending out Curriculum Night materials prior to the Open House starting at 6:00 PM. This will give families some time to look over the material and be able to ask questions during the open house time.

I would also like to welcome our new staff members to the Westridge family. We have several new staff members this year. I know they will do an outstanding job. Here are the new staff members for the 22-23 school year:

Cydney Parson- kindergarten teacher  
Maci Schott- 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher  
Becky McClanathan- 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher  
Emily Woodson- school counselor  
Jennifer Hoff- HALE teacher  
Maggie Weaver- physical therapy

On the next two pages, I have provided more detailed information about the beginning of the school year. However, if you have other questions you can always call the school office at 402-289-2559 or email me at [rbroshar@epsne.org](mailto:rbroshar@epsne.org). I can't wait to get this school year started!

Mr. Broshar  
Principal  
Westridge Elementary



### **Registration:**

**Detailed registration information for returning students will be sent to you via email on August 1<sup>st</sup>.** New students to the district, including incoming kindergarten students, will already have registered online. Returning student families will receive an email with information about how to use the PowerSchool Parent Portal to access the registration process. If you do not receive the email from PowerSchool, or your student no longer attends Elkhorn Public Schools, please contact Westridge Elementary at 402-289-2559 to update your records. **Teacher assignments will be available to families in Powerschool on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. All parents, new and returning, will need to login to Powerschool to find this information.**

### **Open House/Curriculum Night:**

Open House/Curriculum Night is on Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Teachers will email information about the curriculum and grade level expectations to families prior to the Open House. Then there will be two separate open house times for families to meet their teachers and see their classrooms. The first open house time will be from 6:00 to 6:30 PM. This open house time will be for families whose last names start with the letters A through K. The second open house time will be from 6:30 to 7:00 PM. This open house time will be for families whose last names start with the letters L through Z. The staggered times will allow teachers more time with individual students and families. Students are encouraged to bring their school supplies during the open house.

### **First Day of School:**

On the first day of school, August 16<sup>th</sup>, students in grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> will meet their teacher out front of the school. The school day will start at 8:10 AM, with the second bell ringing at 8:15 AM. Once teachers have their students, they will walk them into the building and up to their classrooms.

Kindergarten students should arrive at 9:00 AM. Kindergarten teachers will meet their students outside by the main entrance. Then students will walk into the building with their classroom teacher. The 9:00 AM start for kindergarten students is only for the first day of school. After the first day, kindergarten students will start their day at the same time as all other elementary students.

### **Arrival- Drop-off Procedures:**

School breakfast will begin at 7:35 AM. All students are welcome to join us for breakfast. Students can be dropped off in the pick-up/drop-off lane and use door #3 to enter the building. After, they are done with breakfast, staff will assist in getting students to either walking club or their classrooms. Breakfast will start on the first day of school.

Families may drop students off starting at 7:55 AM. Please see traffic map later in the newsletter for the flow of traffic in the drop-off/pick-up loop. When dropping off or picking up students, please be sure to use the lane closest to the curb. You will need to pull all the way forward before stopping to drop off your child(ren). Pulling all the way forward allows us to bring more vehicles into the drop-off/pick-up loop. Students should load and unload on the passenger side of the vehicle. If you are wanting to walk your child down to the main doors, you will need to park in the upper parking lot by the playground. Then you will need walk down with your child to the main entrance.

Starting Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, we have walking club. Walking club will begin at 7:55 AM each day. Students do NOT need to sign up ahead of time. Students participating in walking club will be directed to the blacktop area by the playground. Walking club will be supervised by Westridge Elementary staff members. At 8:10, students will be dismissed to their classrooms.

# P W PRINTS

## **Dismissal- Pick-up Procedures:**

Students will be dismissed at 3:06 PM. Students that ride the bus or need to wait for a sibling that goes to EMS will be dismissed to the bus room and be supervised until the bus arrives and EMS students are dismissed. Students that go to EKC will be dismissed to the cafeteria. EKC staff will check in these students. Students that walk home will walk out with their teacher and will be allowed to walk home. Students that get picked up after school will wait out front with their classroom teacher until their rides arrive. Parents that are in the pick-up lane will be asked to remain in their vehicle. Please pull all the way forward to maximize the number of vehicles that can be loaded in the pick-up lane. Parents and families that want to get out of the car to pick up their child(ren) from school should park in the upper lot. Then use the crosswalk to get their child from the classroom teacher.

## **Building Visitors and Volunteers:**

All visitors are welcome to come throughout the day. Visitors will need to check-in with the office upon arrival and when leaving the building.

## **Medications:**

All medications need to have the proper forms filled out and be dropped off in the office by an adult. Parents are welcome to bring medications into the office prior to the first day of school. The office is open from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM daily.

## **Lunch Accounts:**

EPS partners with SchoolPay for student lunch accounts. To add funds, go to [www.schoolpay.com](http://www.schoolpay.com) and log into your user account. If you do not yet have a SchoolPay account, [instructions to create one can be found by clicking here](#). You will need your child's five digit student ID code to set up the account.

**SCHOOL DAY  
HOURS  
8:10-3:06**

## **Girls on the Run**

Girls on the Run is a program for 3rd-5th grade girls. Meetings will be held Tuesday & Thursday nights from 3:15 pm-4:30 pm starting September 6th through November 3rd.

We will meet in the field north of Westridge.

Sign up starts August 1st.

<https://www.gotrnebraska.org/get-involved/registration.html>

Select "Westridge" for location/site.

Any questions, please contact Melanie Ferguson:

402-672-9969

[Melanie.ferguson2009@gmail.com](mailto:Melanie.ferguson2009@gmail.com)



## Recess & Lunch Times

Grade	Lunch	Recess
Kindergarten	10:45-11:05	11:10-11:30
First Grade	11:15-11:35	11:40-12:00
Second Grade	11:30-11:50	11:55-12:15
Third Grade	11:45-12:05	12:10-12:30
Fourth Grade	12:00-12:20	12:25-12:45
Fifth Grade	12:15-12:35	12:40-1:00

You can find more information about Westridge Elementary online.



<https://www.elkhornweb.org/westridge/>



<https://facebook.com/ElkhornPSWR/>



@ElkhornPS\_WR

# P W PRINTS



Hello Westridge Families!

We will be having our first PTO meeting of the school year and we would love to see you!

Join us **NEXT Tuesday, August 2nd at 6:30** at Westridge Elementary for an informal meeting.

Use this time to ask questions about next year, network with other parents, and learn about upcoming events.

Please note:

We ask that **ONLY** parents/guardians attend this first meeting. Please no children or students in attendance. We do not have childcare for this meeting. We are looking into this for future meetings.

We look forward to seeing you and sharing what we have planned to make 2002-2023 school year a good one!

Thank you to all our Wildcat Families!

Jessica Loontjer

Westridge PTO  
402-679-1327  
[jloontjer@gmail.com](mailto:jloontjer@gmail.com)

**How can you stay in the know?**

**Follow us on Facebook at**

<https://www.facebook.com/westridgeelkhorn>

TEXT @wewildcat to 81010



# Westridge Elementary

## 2022-2023 PTO MONTHLY EVENT CALENDAR

AUGUST		SEPTEMBER
	2nd: PTO Meeting 6:30 11th: Back to School Night 16th: First Day of School  Apparel Store is OPEN	6th: PTO Meeting 6:30 9th: Fall into Books 26-27th: Conferences
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
4th: PTO Meeting 6:30 14th: Walkathon 28th: Halloween Parade	1st: PTO Meeting 6:30 Thankful Thursdays 18th-30th Butterbraid Sales	16th: Butterbraid pickup 22nd: Holiday Break
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
4th: School resumes 10th: PTO Meeting 6:30	7th: PTO Meeting 6:30 TBD: Valentine's Day Party 14-15th: Conferences TBD: Book Bingo	7th: PTO Meeting 6:30 17th-24th Spring Break TBD: Teacher Appreciation TBD: Yearbook orders
APRIL	MAY	
4th: PTO Meeting 6:30 TBD: Online Auction	5th: Carnival 9th: PTO Meeting 6:30 18th: Field Day 26th: Last Day of School	



# District Reminders

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## **SCHOOLMESSENGER MESSAGING AND ALERT SYSTEM**

EPS and individual buildings use a parent messaging system called SchoolMessenger to send emails and phone calls to parents including district information, monthly updates about building happenings, and weather-related school closings. To ensure receipt of these updates, please verify all contact information including phone numbers and email addresses in your parent PowerSchool account.

Additionally, SchoolMessenger allows recipients to “unsubscribe” from its mailing list; please understand that by “unsubscribing” you are completely removing your email address and phone number from ALL lists including District and building specific lists. If you choose to Unsubscribe, you will not receive any communication from your child's assigned school or the EPS district. If you accidentally unsubscribe or decide you would like to begin receiving emails again after unsubscribing, contact your building secretary to change your communication status.

## **EPS ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM**

EPS partners with SchoolPay for an online payment system. To utilize the system, parents will need user account. To access your account or create a new one, follow the below instructions:

- 1) Go to [www.schoolpay.com](http://www.schoolpay.com) and enter your login information
- 2) To create a new account:
  - a) Click the green “Create an Account” button
  - b) Enter the “Payer” Information
  - c) Choose “Elkhorn Public Schools”, then choose your student's assigned school\* and enter his/her Student ID number and Last Name.  
*\*If you have multiple students, choose one student to enroll first and complete the School Name, Student ID, and Last Name for that student. Upon account creation, you will have the option to add additional students.*
  - d) You will receive an email to set your password. Click the Login link within the email, set a new password, then log in to make purchases or add additional students as needed.
  - e) To add additional students to your account, follow the instructions at this link:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoireLb\\_ht8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoireLb_ht8)

If you have any questions regarding your account or the process for creating one, please contact School Pay Support at 888.886.9729 or [support@schoolpay.com](mailto:support@schoolpay.com)

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## STUDENT MEALS

2022-2023

Dear Parents,

Due to the USDA waivers not being extended, EPS does not qualify to serve free meals to all students this year. For the 2022-23 school year, free meals will only be available to those who qualify for free or reduced meals based on income guidelines and application submission.

Applications for free/reduced meals for the current school year must be submitted annually to receive free/reduced meal prices and the additional benefits that can be provided to families who qualify. Instructions for completing an online or hard copy application can be found at <https://www.elkhornweb.org/parents/lunch/>

### 2022-2023 Breakfast & Lunch Prices

#### Breakfast:

- Elem: \$1.65
- Middle: \$1.85
- High: \$2.05
- Adult: \$2.40

#### Lunch

- Elem: \$2.80
- Middle: \$3.50
- High: \$3.65
- Adult: \$4.00

\*1 milk is included with a purchased meal. Extra or single milk (without a purchased meal) is \$0.55 each. Extra entrée and ala carte items have an additional charge

\*\*You will receive an email when your students account is below \$5.00 daily as a reminder. The easiest way to avoid any issues is to set up an Auto-Deposit function on your students account, instructions can be found below.

### MAKING DEPOSITS

- [SETTING UP AN ONLINE ACCOUNT INSTRUCTIONS](#) - This will allow you to make deposits, view the account, set reminders and add an auto-deposit option if preferred.

\*EPS partners with **SchoolPay** for student lunch accounts. To add funds, go to [www.schoolpay.com](http://www.schoolpay.com) and log into to your user account.

- **MAIL CHECKS** payable to EPS, that include your student name and student ID Number to Sodexo, EPS Food Service, 1401 Veterans Drive, Elkhorn, NE 68022
- **SEND LUNCH MONEY WITH YOUR STUDENT TO SCHOOL**, include student name and student ID number preferably in an envelope for elementary students to give to their teacher.

We look forward to continuing to serve our students healthy and nutritious meals!

Elkhorn Food Service  
1401 Veterans Drive Elkhorn, NE 68022  
402-289-0443  
Lunch@epsne.org



**Second Entrée Permission Form  
2022-2023**

Any student wishing to purchase a second entrée from the cafeteria will require written permission from parent/guardian. If you would like to give your child continuous permission to purchase a second entrée at any time, please sign and return this form.

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I give \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name/grade/ID#)  
permission to order a second entrée from the cafeteria at any time he/she  
chooses.

I understand that my child's lunch account will be charged an additional  
cost when purchasing a second entrée or extra milk. I understand that it is  
my responsibility to communicate with my child when they can purchase  
second entrees.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Regular Breakfast Meal \$1.65**  
**\*Second Breakfast Entrée \$1.25**

**Regular Lunch Meal \$2.80**  
**\*Second Lunch Entrée \$2.00**

**\*Extra Milk \$.55**

If parking in this lot parents need to walk over to Westridge and pick up their children. Students are not allowed to walk over to parked cars without an adult

