

John D. Spicer Elementary

Parent Newsletter



A Community of Respect Everywhere ...

From Dr. Waddell, our Spicer Principal ~

It's been a great beginning to the 2016 - 2017 school year. I'd like to welcome all of our new families to John D. Spicer Elementary as well as our returning Spicer Colts! We are off to a great start to this school year with many exciting activities planned! This is my seventh year as principal and I am very fortunate to work with a dedicated staff and supportive community. I believe you will find that Spicer is a great school with a big heart.

One of the important factors in school success is our parent volunteers. This year we are in need of new volunteers to replace those who have moved on. If you have an hour a week to volunteer in the classroom or on campus, it helps more than you can imagine. If you have a little more time, consider working with our PTA to help organize one of the many events our students love.

I also want to remind everyone of the importance of arriving to school on time each day. Students who attend school regularly have greater academic success. Parents who make regular school attendance a priority are also helping their children learn to accept **responsibility**.

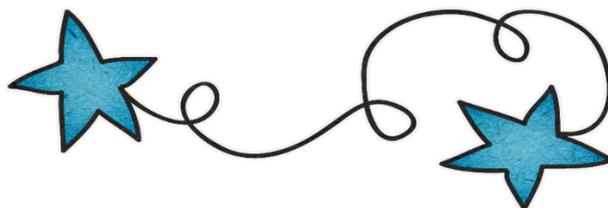
We have many great things to look forward to this year. We have awesome students, dedicated staff members and great volunteers. Let's have a great year!

As always if you have a question or concern please do not hesitate to give me a call or send me an email.

Cheryl Waddell, Ed. D.

Principal - John D. Spicer Elementary

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"Community of Respect EVERYWHERE" ~ C.O.R.E. Values

Birdville Independent School District has a strong initiative for supporting great character in our students. It is called C.O.R.E. Values ... Community of Respect Everywhere. Each six-weeks a different character quality is spotlighted. The value for the second six weeks is **EMPATHY**.

C.O.R.E. Values

Responsibility ~ Empathy ~ Kindness ~

Honesty ~ Acceptance ~ Courage

From Counselor Suzanne Smith ~

Promote RESPONSIBILITY in your child with these simple strategies ~

Young children are still developing their ability to store information. So they sometimes forget their books, their homework and even their lunches! It's tempting to keep track of your child's things for them, but this won't help them in the long run. Success in school will depend on the ability to take **responsibility** for yourself and your belongings.

Here are some things that will help your child become more responsible:

Write down what you expect your child to do. Post lists of responsibilities, weekly chores, and items they need for school.

Ask your child to check off tasks when completed. They can put a "question mark" next to a task if they need your help.

Help your child figure out where to store their things when they're not using them.

Set a good example. Have a designated spot for your keys and wallet. Check your calendar to prepare for the next day.

Show your child how to keep track of activities and assignments on their own weekly calendar.

Let your child experience the consequences of forgetting. Don't bring their homework to school if they forget it.

Let your child experience the consequences of losing an item. If they can't find their library book, expect them to pay the fine.

Praise your child when they demonstrate responsibility and doing what they're supposed to do!

From - The Parent Institute, September 2016