

Dear Parents:

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We are all looking forward to a wonderful year with your children. It is our goal to foster a community that builds a safe, inviting environment where everyone thrives and can be successful. We encourage you to participate in your child's learning through home-to-school partnerships that support your child's education. Please review the school handbook with your child for important information regarding school policies and procedures. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

TIGERS TO THE TOP!

Kimberly Gessner

Our children come first and are top priority at Tumbleweed. If you have a question or concern about your child's learning, please contact the principal. If the principal is available to meet with you, we ask that you address your concerns with the principal. If you are unable to meet with the principal, you may make an appointment that is convenient for you and the teacher. In order to keep academics a priority, we ask that the appointment be before or after school hours. Please visit our website at tumbleweed.wedschools.org for the latest contact information.

Tumbleweed Elementary School is committed to providing an engaging and enriching environment that will promote academic and

Having students arrive on time consistently and being prepared to learn enhances their opportunity for being successful.

Students who are tardy miss out on key instructions at the beginning of the day, and other students in the class are interrupted when a student arrives late. **If your child is late, it is required that a parent/guardian parks in the large parking lot off of 39th Avenue and signs the student(s) in at the front office.** In an effort to reduce classroom interruptions, please refrain from pulling your child out of school early especially when it is 10-15 minutes before dismissal. Your appointments outside of school hours.

To have a safe and orderly environment, all students must report directly to the playground when they arrive at school. Students need to be in class on time each day.

When the school bell rings, all students are to be on campus and ready to begin school. Students who are tardy **MUST BE SIGNED IN** by a parent/guardian in the front office and pick up a tardy pass before they will be allowed to enter their classroom. Parents will be contacted to resolve chronic absenteeism or tardiness. **All students who miss more than 10 days of school will require an attendance plan and students with 18 or more days of absences will be considered chronic. Intervention supports will be put into place in order to reduce the amount of tardies/absences in order to maximize student learning.**

Please help us by using the following guidelines:

Parents are to pick up and drop off their children in designated areas on the campus. Please be considerate of others and do not block driveways, student crosswalks, parking spaces or drive-through lanes. **U-Turns around our school can be dangerous. Please refrain from making U-Turns during drop-off or pickup times.**

In order to assure students are successful and meet current state legislation, which requires all students to attend 90% of the school year, WESD has an Attendance Unit (AU). The AU will work in conjunction with the City Justice Courts to identify students and parents of students who are chronically absent or are truant.

When a student reaches five unexcused/unverified absences, families will receive an attendance notification letter. When a student reaches 10 **unverified, unexcused, and excused absences**, families will receive an attendance warning letter and a referral to the AU for appropriate actions(see District guidelines). In order to avoid this eventuality, there are several precautions to take: (1) reinforce being on time and good attendance, (2) call the school each time a student will be late or absent, (3) present any medical documentation to the health tech if illness will be a consistent, foreseeable issue.

Tennis shoes or closed-toed shoes are required every day that the student has physical education. Cleats are not permitted on campus. Clothing should be worn that is appropriate to the weather and conducive to active play.

All notes excusing a student from physical education activities must be given to the health tech before school starts and are good only for the day specified or up to one week. Excuses for more than one week

We are very understanding of special problems that children may have, such as asthma, diabetes, etc., and ask that the child do as much as he or she is able to do.

A social worker is available to assist students and families whenever there is a need. If you have questions regarding this service or need assistance, please call 602-896-6658.

It is our goal to have 100% parent participation in parent/teacher conferences each semester during the school year. We look forward to seeing all families for conferences to discuss student progress and any possible areas of focus.

The PTO is a parent teacher organization that sponsors many activities throughout the school year. They would be delighted to have your help, and we hope that you will become an active member of this important school community group. Please call the front office for PTO contacts and information.

The objectives of the PTO are to promote the welfare of children in school, home and community; to promote legislation for the care and education and well-being of children; and to promote a working relationship among the educators, parents and community to secure for our children the highest advantage in all facets of education.

PTO officers include a president, vice president, membership chair, recording secretary and treasurer.

It is our goal to protect instructional time by ensuring that classes are not interrupted with messages from home. With voice mail, you may leave a message for a teacher at any time. If you have an emergency,

