

2700 West Louise St., Grand Island NE 68803 (308-385-5892) Aug. 3rd, 2020

Joe Eckerman, Principal | jeckerman@gips.org

Gates Families,

Gates Elementary has a long tradition of hard work to ensure student success. Our hard work has paid off and we will continue to strive for excellence. This year we want to continue to reach our vision of student learning. We promise to continue to be student-centered and use evidence based practices in every learning environment.

Our mission of Every Student, Every Day, A Success stays in the front of our minds as we partner with you. This year we will have a strong focus on academic and behavioral support. This will ensure that every student has what they need in order to be successful. To make this work as impactful as possible, please stay in touch with your child's teachers to create a team approach to ensure this outcome for our young Gators. Feel free to contact me any time so that I can help with this work. Your active participation is key to the success for your young Gator during his/her elementary school years.

As a result of the new guidelines, we have been working on our safety procedures to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for all of our students. One of these new safety procedures will be a new arrival routine. All students can begin coming in through the Main Doors by the Gator sign starting at **7:30am**. Please refrain from sending students to school before this time so that we can ensure student safety. They will proceed to the Gym where they will wait until 7:45am. During this time they will have the option to get breakfast that they will eat in their classroom starting at 7:45am. The students will sit at cafeteria tables until 7:45am and will be socially distanced with labeled seating. Please encourage your child to keep their hands to themselves and wear a mask at all times while they are in the building. Your child should bring a water bottle and teachers will follow a procedure for filling these. The water fountain will not be used throughout the day to maintain student health. Your child's classroom teacher will call you and discuss our new dismissal routine before the start of the year.

Important dates

- Aug. 12th- KG students only first day of school (Dismissal at 2:00pm)
- Aug.13th- Welcome back all students (**Dismissal at 2:00pm**)
- Aug. 14th- Grades 1st-5th **2:00 Dismissal, KG students No School** (KG teacher will contact you with your students class assignment for the year)

I look forward to working with you this year and please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance. - Joe Eckerman, Gates Elementary Principal

