



Jefferson Elementary School

900 North Poplar, Pierre, SD 57501

www.pierre.k12.sd.us 605-773-7320

Bill J. Kaiser, Jefferson Elementary Principal

Welcome Back!!

We welcome you to a new and exciting school year in the Pierre School District. The Jefferson staff is excited and committed to providing a top notch educational opportunity for our students in a safe learning environment. Our school offers a happy, safe and challenging place for your child to learn and grow. There will be high expectations of student performance and behavior. We will do our very best to meet the needs of each student by helping each reach their greatest potential. We look forward to providing an excellent educational experience to your child, as well as you parents. We hope you feel pride and ownership for the opportunities and programs we provide.

Please help me welcome the newest staff members to Jefferson:

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Maria Swartos | Kindergarten | Catherine Stanek | 2 nd gr |
| Justine Drew | 4 th gr | Rachel Arbach | 5 th gr |
| Katie McGruder | aide | | |

Start/Dismissal Times

Jefferson Elementary students are expected to be at school by 8:00 am. The school day ends at 2:55 pm and students will exit the building using their assigned doors. Students should be picked up promptly by 3:15 pm. Please have after school plans pre-determined. We ask that you do not call the school late in the school day with changes.

Breakfast is offered from 7:30-7:50 am. Students eating breakfast should enter the building using the north doors (door E.) Your child's lunch time depends upon their schedule. As parents, you are welcome to come and eat with your

Important Dates:

August 16

EK/KG Parent Open house

5:30-6:30 pm

August 20

Jefferson Open House: class lists posted

5:30-6:30 pm

August 22

1st day of school!!

September 3

NO SCHOOL – Labor Day

September 27-28

NO SCHOOL

Parent teacher conferences by apt.

child (\$3.00) we just ask that you call the office prior to 9:00 am so we can notify Food Services.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!

ATTENDANCE: Please call the office for ALL absences and tardies throughout the school year. Refer to the school Handbook available online on the Pierre School District webpage to review the attendance policy. It is essential that students attend school on a consistent basis to ensure continuity of instruction. When students are absent or tardy, they miss out on important lessons where key concepts or skills are introduced.

Join the Jefferson PTA today!! Look them up on Facebook!!

Jefferson PTA is a wonderful organization! If you haven't already done so, please join this group as they do many, many wonderful things for our school and students. Most recently, they have purchased new playground equipment and basketball hoops! The PTA needs your support, your membership, and your efforts to help throughout the year.

Communication

Please read the monthly newsletters carefully to become aware of the events and successes as we progress throughout the school year. You are always welcome to stop in and visit with staff and share ideas, concerns, or just to say hello. Please remember to sign in and get a visitor badge at the office. **To access this newsletter, calendars, educational links, sports calendars, and more log on to pierre.k12.sd.us. Click on elementary schools and select Jefferson.**

Open House

Jefferson Open house for parents and students will be held on Monday, August 20th from 5:30-6:30 pm. **CLASS LISTS WILL BE POSTED AT THIS TIME.** This is a great opportunity for you and your child to meet their teacher and reconnect with your school family. Also, please consider signing up Jefferson PTA membership. Your PTA works very hard to support your school and needs your membership and effort to help throughout the school year.

Safety

Prior to and after school, traffic gets a little hectic – PLEASE USE EXTREME CAUTION when dropping off/picking up your child. Please visit with your child about not running out in the street or running in between cars to meet you. Taking a couple extra minutes is much better than rushing. There will be adult supervision on the playgrounds prior to and after school. This



Remember to Save

General Mills Box-Tops

DakotaMart Receipts

Sunny D labels

Jefferson School Hours

EK/KG-5th: 8:00 am – 2:55 pm

supervision will start at 7:50 am. After school there will be supervision until 3:05 pm. Students should be picked up promptly after school.

Peanut Free Environment/Snack time

Jefferson Elementary strives to be a peanut free environment. Please plan accordingly with lunches and snacks that are sent to school. If you child brings peanut products to school for lunch, they will be asked to eat their lunch in the office area. Thank you for your cooperation.

Food: all students will have the opportunity to take part in our lunch program. If your child's lunch account drops below \$10.00 you will receive written notification in your child's backpack. This is just notice to you informing you of account information. If you child's account would happen to fall below \$-10.00, your child will be offered an alternative lunch until the account is taken care of. Jefferson Elementary does not use food as a reward nor withhold food as a punishment.

Snack time: students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks to school for milk break/snack time. Some suggestions of healthy would be: fruit or vegetables, cheese, yogurt, jerky, 100% juice Fruit snacks, snack mix, popcorn, animal crackers, pretzels, granola bars, goldfish crackers, dry cereal, graham crackers.

School Nurse

There are times when your child will need to take medications at school. Students cannot take medicine of any kind, including aspirin/Tylenol at school, unless a parent consent form is on file here at school and has the doctor's prescription and signature. This includes children with inhalers. Non-prescription medication cannot be dispensed by school personnel and may not be carried by the parents. Contact our school nurse, Cassie Amundson, our secretary, or myself if you have any further questions.

Lunch Menu: can be found online or stop in the office area for one. You can stop in the office to put money towards your child's lunch account or you can take advantage of the "E-Z Pay" system that is offered. You can get information concerning this type of payment either at the Jefferson Office or by calling the Middle School and speaking to Liz Marso.

Free Lunch

Reminder: you are welcome to apply any time for free or reduced lunch. Even if you were approved last year, you will need to fill out a new application for this school year.

Do you have a new phone number or address??

If you have changed addresses or phone numbers (home, work, cell) please contact the office! It is imperative that we have accurate, working phone numbers in the case where there is an emergency or an early release from school. Please keep us informed. Thank you

Wishing all of you a great school year!!

From the Counselor.....

Sail through the school year successfully!!

1. Eat a good breakfast every morning, don't skip breakfast.
2. Be sure your child has a good night's sleep. Children need an average 10-12 hours of sleep per night.
3. Develop morning routines for your child. Get them up early enough to get properly dressed, take care of personal hygiene, eat a good breakfast and get to school on time.
4. Create study/reading routines for your child. A good rule of thumb is to have them do homework right when they get home.
5. Go over homework together. Ask your child daily how their day was.
6. Check your child's backpack for notes, important dates, etc.
7. Promote healthy habits like healthy snacks, fresh fruits and vegetables.
8. Minimize your child's "screen time." turn off cell phones, ipads, tv's, video games well before bedtime.
9. Read with your child or when your child is reading, pick up a book of your own and have quiet reading time with your child.
10. Have a great school year!!

