Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2018 - 2019 school year at Superstition Springs Elementary. We will provide your child with exciting and challenging learning experiences in a positive and respectful environment. We are excited about the upcoming school year and hope to make it the best for your child. Please read below for valuable information. I am looking forward to seeing each of you on Thursday, September 20, 2018, for Title I Open House.

School Hours:
Our school hours are from 8:13 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The first bell rings at 8:05 a.m. with the tardy bell ringing at 8:13 a.m. The gates to the playground and bike rack will be unlocked at 7:50 a.m. On the first day of school the teachers in all grades will have a sign with their name on it to indicate where the students should line up. All teachers will meet students on the playground at 8:05 a.m. each morning. Kindergarten students will meet on the sidewalk closest to the building by the primary playground. We ask that students do not play basketball during the morning to keep everyone standing in line safe. Thanks for your cooperation.

Attendance and Tardiness:
Regular attendance is an important factor in the establishment of a good scholastic record. Missed work is often difficult to make up. There is no substitute for the actual participation in the daily classroom, discussion, and work. Regular attendance is a necessity for two reasons: (1) it is required by state law; (2) it is essential to the success, enjoyment, and achievement of schoolwork. Irregular attendance may lead to a loss of school interest; poor or careless study habits, and a lack of potential achievement. Please help your child have a wonderful experience at Superstition Springs by having them attend regularly and on time. Please try to schedule doctor, dentist, and/or other appointments outside the school day. When absences or tardiness do occur, should notify the school office by calling 480-641-6413 by 8:30 a.m. the morning of the absence. If notification is not received, the student will be given an unexcused absence.

Absences:
Students who are not in school 90% of the time (18 absences) may be retained. Documentation and successful completion of the grade level is required before a student is considered for promotion. Students who are not in school the required amount of time may be reported to the County as truant. The complete attendance policy is available in the front office.

A+ School of Excellence
SSE A Great Place to Be!
Late Arrival (Tardy):
If a student arrives after the tardy bell, he/she must report to the office before going to the classroom. Please notify the front office if your child is going to be late. After a student is tardy five times during a quarter, the accumulated time is recorded as one absence. This will affect perfect attendance. The complete policy is available in the front office.

Early Student Sign Out:
For the protection and safety of your child, a student will only be released from the classroom before regular dismissal time when the parent/guardian comes in to the office and signs the child out. Students will only be released to person(s) authorized by the parent/guardian. Please remember leaving early (before the end of the school day) is counted as a tardy in the child’s attendance record and accumulates the same as morning tardies.

Breakfast and Lunch:
Breakfast is available for our students starting at 7:45 a.m. every morning. The cost is $1.50. School lunches will cost $2.65 per day, milk/juice $.75, and water $1.00. We use a computerized system to facilitate meal purchases. You may send cash or checks to purchase meals; please make checks out to Superstition Springs Elementary. You may also use myschoolbucks.com to put money on your child’s account; however, it is an additional $1.95 fee per transaction. You will be required to keep track of the balance on the account so that your children are able to purchase meals. Children may bring a cold lunch and purchase a carton of milk if they desire. Please refer to the information packet regarding free and reduced lunch and breakfast qualifications. We encourage families to fill out the packet. Breakfast and lunch schedules are available on the District website each month.

Communication:
We believe it is very important for parents and guardians to be involved in their child’s learning. Communication between home and school is vital to this partnership. For this reason, we utilize our School Messenger and our website to send newsletters, updates, and reminders electronically. (Paper copies will be sent home with your child upon request.) Please make sure your child’s teacher has your updated e-mail address. In addition, all newsletters are also posted on our website at http://gilbertsuperstition.ss11.sharpschool.com/ or can be accessed by clicking on the Gilbert Public Schools homepage http://www.gilbertschools.net/ and selecting “Our Schools.” A drop down menu will appear and select Superstition Springs.

Traffic (Drop Off and Pick Up Zones):
Only buses and day care vans are allowed to drop off in the front of the school. Parent drop-off and pick-up is located off Brighton. If using the drop-off/pick-up lane, please stay in your car and a staff member will help make sure your child is safe. You patience is appreciated while waiting to enter this drive. You may also park in the parking spaces provided in front of the school and walk your child into school. Students are not allowed to walk in the parking lot without adult supervision. Students may ride their bikes, skateboards, or scooters to school. For safety reasons, it is strongly recommended that
all students wear the appropriate protective gear. Please encourage them to obey all traffic rules and cross in the crosswalks. The bike rack is located on the side of the campus. Skateboards, rollerblades, and scooters may also be locked in the bike rack. While the bike rack will be locked daily, it is recommended that students also utilize a lock. After 8:15 a.m. parents should park in the front parking lot and walk their students into the front office. We appreciate your assistance in following the traffic flow. SSE is a busy place and we want to keep everyone safe.

Let’s make this school year, the best one yet!

Sincerely,

Tim Moses

Timothy Moses, Ed.D.
Principal

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