

ELEPHANT'S FORK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Dana Bilby, Principal

Dennis Tysinger, II Assistant Principal

Robert Casteen, Dean of Students

EFES Families -

I want to thank each of you for your patience with the opening of the 2021-22 school year. Your support ensured that we were able to safely receive all of our students back to school on a regular schedule since March 2019. This past week was a success even with the new transportation patterns and needs for parent drop off and pick up. After accommodating and assessing the number of drop offs and pick ups and with your patience, we were able to adjust some of our procedures. We are happy to report that the last 3 days of dismissal with tagged parent pick up were done by 4:10. Thank you for your patience!

As you are aware, the instructional day for students is from **9:25am-3:50pm**. Parent drop off begins at **9:00am**. We will adhere to the designated times. Students can be released from parent drop off beginning at **9:00am**. Additionally, afternoon dismissal will not begin for parent pick up until **3:40pm**. If you are a tagged parent pick up, please follow the traffic pattern in the lot and **stay in your car**. Students that are tagged with a car tag will be waiting in the gym and will be ready to be dismissed at **3:40pm**.

Over the last two weeks, we have had over 100 parents/guardians come into the office to sign their student(s) out. Parents who are coming into the school to sign their student out, must remain in the car line and park in the parking lot (not on the grass). With the amount of parents in the office and foyer, it quickly becomes overcrowded making it hard to maintain social distance of 3 feet. When the office and foyer are full, parents will have to wait outside until the crowd in the office and foyer are cleared. Additionally, students being picked up prior to dismissal are missing important instructional time.

We are asking that **all** students remain at school for the entire instructional day. Refer to your child's daily schedule. Dismissing prior to **3:40pm** interferes with valuable instruction. Also, afternoon tagged parent pick up staff will be involved in classroom instruction and not on duty until **3:40pm**. Dismissal for buses begins at **3:50pm**.

We appreciate your support to protect your child's instructional time.

Sincerely -

Mrs. Dana A. C. Bilby

Principal