



James I. Gibson Elementary School

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Jill Keith, Principal

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Gibson Goldminers,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year at James Gibson Elementary School. Our staff is excited to be returning to school with great expectations for student growth and achievement. It is our desire to work closely with you to recognize the talents, skills, and gifts of your child. We know that to do that effectively, we must have a strong relationship with both you and your child.

We welcome your dialogue, perspectives, and knowledge of your child and his or her needs, both academically and socially; please help your child's teacher by maintaining regular communication. Celebrate successes that your child will have this year as we work together to provide an enriching and satisfying educational experience that will meet his or her individual goals.

Speaking of goals, we are excited to continue our World Series of Reading program this year. This program is designed to instill good reading habits by exposing children to popular reading series where familiar characters and settings *hook* our students, making them want to read more and more and MORE. Students will be awarded points for reading each night and have the opportunity to "build a team line-up" through our incentive program. Gibson's only homework is nightly reading because independent reading is the ONLY homework assignment that increases student achievement in all content areas for elementary students. It is vital that your child reads every day.

Parents will drop their children off at one of our gates - Kindergarten, Silver Springs Park, Bike Rack - between 7:40 and 7:50 a.m. At 7:50, a whistle will blow to indicate it is time for students to line up on their dots and gates will be locked. We do not go by the bells at Gibson because they don't keep "good time"; we use the world clock (found on most digital watches and cell phones). Staff will be on hand to assist your child to the classroom if needed. Because the gates will be locked at 7:50, students arriving after 7:50 will need to enter the school through the front office. If your child arrives after the tardy bell, you will have to escort your child into the office to fill out tardy paperwork.

For students' safety, no parents are invited on the blacktop. All visitors must be badged and must check in at the front office to enter the building. For information on getting badged please visit <https://ccsd.net/community/protect-our-kids/>

Again this year, our students are being afforded free lunch. Students may choose to eat the free lunch provided by the school or bring their own lunch. Students will have 20 minutes to eat and 15 minutes of outdoor time.

After lunch and break time, children will return to their classrooms for the remainder of the day and will be dismissed **after** 2:11 p.m. throughout various exits of the school. Be sure to designate a pick up spot where you will meet your child(ren) at the end of the school day. Please be patient; student safety is a top priority which sometimes causes a delay. The earliest your child will be dismissed is 2:11 but the norm will be closer to 2:13 due to transition from the classroom.

Important information will continue to be sent electronically this year, so it is imperative that you keep your contact information on the Infinite Campus system updated and that you read emails. As always, communication between teachers and families is a priority. You will also find information and community opportunities on our school website www.jamesgibsones.com but please be sure to reach out to your teacher with any questions you may have.

Best Regards,
Jill Keith