

Lawrence County School District
Walnut Ridge Elementary School

508 East Free Street Walnut Ridge, AR 72476
Office (870)886-3482 Fax (870)292-3460

Dear Parents,

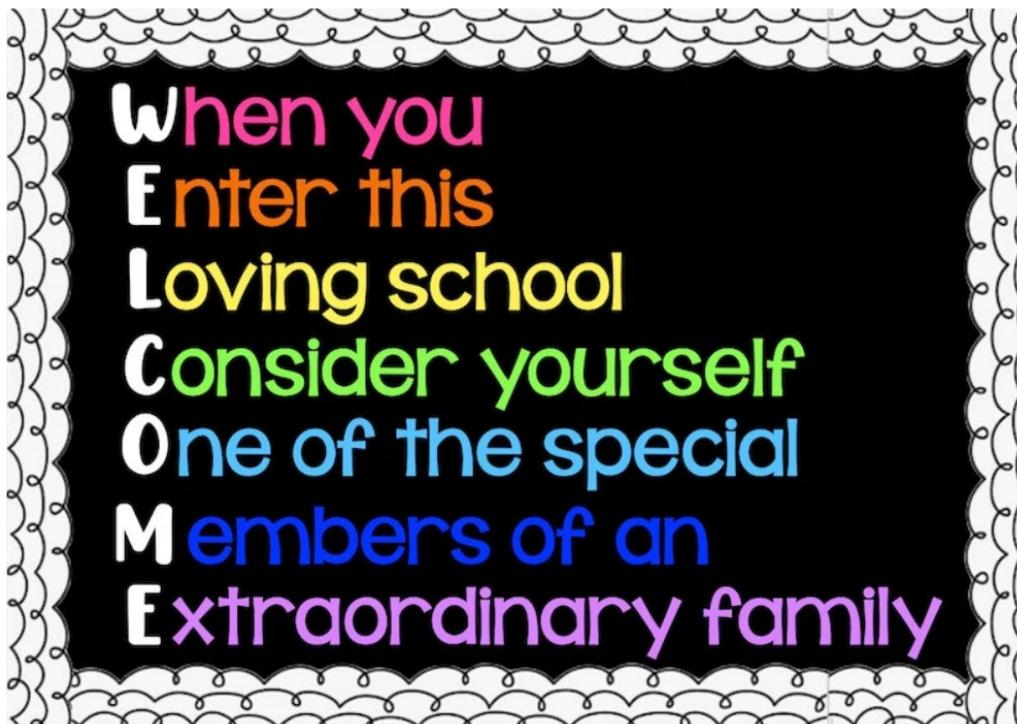
Welcome to WRES!

This packet has been prepared especially for parents of boys and girls enrolling at Walnut Ridge Elementary School for the first time.

We are committed to making the transition to school a positive one for you and your child. The enclosed materials will help.

We look forward to serving you and your student this year. In order for your child to have the best year possible, the school staff and parents must communicate and work together.

Please feel free to call on us at any time in the interest of your child.



KINDERGARTEN

Readiness

Social Emotional Skills

- I can use my words to express how I feel.
(sad, mad, tired, lonely, scared, frustrated)
- I can ask for help when I have a problem or don't understand.
- I can follow daily routines.
- I can be flexible when the schedule changes.
- I can play with others or by myself without needing constant supervision.
- I can play to have fun.
- I can lose a game and be okay.
- I can share.
- I can stand in line and wait my turn.
- I can follow 2-3 step directions.
- I can be a helper.
- I can understand the difference between right and wrong.
- I can understand there are consequences for my actions.
- I can listen when someone else is talking.
- I can take turns talking in a conversation.
- I can respond sympathetically when others are hurt or sad.
- I can take risks and explore new things.
- I can identify safe behaviors.
- I can follow simple safety rules.

Academic Skills

- I can talk in sentences.
- I can tell someone my name.
- I can recognize my name.
- I can write my own name.
- I can recognize many upper case and lower case letters.
- I can recognize some letter sounds.
- I can try to write, scribble, or draw.
- I can distinguish letters from numbers.
- I can count to 10.
- I can recognize the numbers 1 – 10.
- I can recognize 4 items without counting.
- I can use comparison words
(more, less, same, bigger, smaller, heavier)
- I can identify colors in a box of eight crayons.
(red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, and black)
- I can identify basic shapes
(square, circle, triangle, rectangle)
- I can draw a picture.
- I can color a picture.
- I can cut with scissors.
- I can pay attention during an activity
- I can share comments or thoughts about a story or topic of conversation.

Independence Skills

- I can separate easily from parents/guardians to begin school day.
- I can tell an adult when I need to use the restroom.
- I can use the restroom and wipe by myself.
- I can dress myself
(button, snap and zip my clothes).
- I can wash my hands with soap by myself.
- I can open my own snacks and lunch items.
- I can feed myself.
- I can wipe my face.
- I can put on and take off my jacket.
- I can put my shoes on.
- I can put items in/out of my backpack.
- I can put my backpack in my cubbie.
- I can open and close a door.



Three absences can be excused each semester as long as a parent/guardian sends a note. The note must include a phone number and a parent/guardian signature.

Additional absences will be unexcused unless one of the following reasons is given:

- Personal illness or medical appointments : doctor's note
- Death or serious illness of a family member : parent or guardian phone call to principal
- Court appearance : note from court official

When a student is absent, contact the teacher for all make-up work.

One day will be allowed to complete make-up work for each day the student is absent.

Students shall not be absent more than TEN DAYS (excused/unexcused combined) per semester.

Additional absences must be approved by the district before the student reaches 10 absences. The principal will contact the parent to determine whether a referral should be made to the legal authorities.

When should I stay home?

I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
Temperature of 100° F or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with oozing, drainage or fever	Check with your school district policy	Redness, itching, and/or pus draining from eye	Hospital stay and/or emergency room visit

I am ready to back to school when I am ...

Fever free without the assistance of medication for 24 hours (i.e., Tylenol, Motrin, Advil)	Free from vomiting for 24 hours.	Free from diarrhea for 24 hours.	Free from rash or fever and have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home.	Free from drainage and/or have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Released by my medical provider to return to school.
<i>It's ok to have a runny nose and/or small cough.</i>						



Transportation

Information

Transportation Changes

Parents can send a note or call the WRES Office to request a transportation change. Transportation changes called in, (870)886-3482, must be received by 2 pm. To change a bus drop-off location, we need the name of resident, address, and a contact number. Please do not submit transportation changes through email, text, or voice mail message.

Bus Riders

Pick Up

Students should be at bus stop 5 minutes before the scheduled pick-up time.

Behavior

Bus Drivers have authority over the students on the bus just like a teacher does at school. It is unsafe to drive a school bus while children are misbehaving or distracting the driver.

Bus behavior expectations:

- Sit in your assigned seat
- Keep hands & feet to yourself
- Talk quietly
- Follow all directions

Danger Zones

Near the bus: The bus driver may not be able to see you.
If you drop something, do not stop to pick it up without talking to the driver.

Other lanes of traffic: Other motorists don't always stop for a school bus.
Use extreme caution when getting on or off the bus.

Car Riders

Keep car lanes clear until busses have pulled away from building.

Times

Morning drop-off is from 7:40 – 8 am.

After 8 am, the parent must come in the office to sign-in their child.

Afternoon pick-up starts after busses have pulled away from building.

Drivers

- Please stay in your car and wait for a staff member to open the car door.
- A school-issued "Student Name Sign" is required to pick up a student.
- If you send someone to pick up your child, they must be on your child's "Pick-Up/Check- Out" list and have your "Student Name Sign."
- For the safety of our students, please do not pass other cars in the car line and watch for students.
- If you are not in a car drop-off lane, please park and walk your student to the door.





WRES Child Care Programs

The Walnut Ridge School District recognizes the needs of our parents in regard to the hours they work and the fact that these hours may not match the regular school day. To help our parents, we provide quality Child Care Programs during the school year and the summer.

Paw Patch, a before and after school child care, is open on days school is in session, unless otherwise noted. In the event school is dismissed early due to inclement weather, Paw Patch will be closed, too.

Eligible children must be enrolled in the Walnut Ridge School District (Kindergarten through 6th grade). Fees are based on the number of children in a family and the hours they attend. Children may attend either before school, after school, or a combination of both. They may be enrolled full-time, part-time, or drop in.

Paw Patch opens at 6 am and closes at 6 pm. Children are provided an afternoon snack at no additional charge.

The opening day for **Vacation Station**, a summer child care program, depends on the school calendar. It closes for the summer on or near the last Friday in July.

Any child, regardless of where they go to school, who has had their 5th birthday and are enrolled in Kindergarten through the 6th grade for the next school year may participate.

Vacation Station opens at 6 am and closes at 6 pm. During the summer, children are provided breakfast, lunch, and a snack at no additional charge.

Both programs are approved by the Department of Human Services. A special enrollment form to participate in either program must be completed and turned in each year.



Walnut Ridge Parent Center

Lindsey Romine, Coordinator

Dyan Heard, Facilitator

The Walnut Ridge Parent Center provides parents with materials and services to improve a child's academic achievement.

We are here to provide parents a variety of materials to help your child with school work. We can also help you design specialized materials to help meet your child's specific educational needs.

Parenting materials that cover a variety of topics are available to check out. Some topics, just to name a few, include ADD/ADHD, homework, discipline, behavior, listening, drug and alcohol prevention, and how to encourage your child to read.

Cost All materials are FREE to check out

Materials

- Parenting Books
- Pamphlets
- Videos
- Learning Games
- Flash Cards
- Science Kits
- Geo Blocks
- Leapster Leap Frog System
- Geo Safari

Equipment

- Copy machine
- Laminator
- Cutting/Trimming Board
- Ellison Letter Cutting System

Activities in the Parent Center

- Parenting Classes
- Newsletter production
- Volunteering
- Collecting Box Tops, Best Choice UPC Codes, Tyson Project A+ Labels, and Ink Cartridges

Location

The Parent Center is the middle yellow building between the Middle School and the WR Community Center.

Hours

We are open throughout the school day. Extended hours are available by appointment.