

NEW CANEY ISD



Valley Ranch Elementary Parent Handbook 2018-2019



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Porter, Texas 77365
281-577-8760
281-577-9209 Fax

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Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to another year at Valley Ranch Elementary! In the field of education, we have one of the most rewarding jobs because we are raising the leaders of tomorrow. Our staff here at VRE are dedicated to ensuring that all Wranglers will lasso learning. We look forward to all of the amazing adventures in learning that your student will have this school year.

Through the expectation of high standards of personal performance, our school will provide a positive, supportive and challenging environment with a core curriculum designed to meet the individual needs of all students. Our desire is to develop a love for learning as all students strive to become responsible Texans. To support these beliefs, we will continue to focus on college and career readiness!

We saw lots of growth academically this past school year, and we look forward to continuing on this current path to success! Here are some highlights of the preliminary results on the 2018 STAAR tests:

- 3rd grade reading scores had a 12% increase
- 4th grade math scores had a 17% increase
- 5th grade science scores had a 12% increase

Here at our campus, your student will have the opportunity to participate in many enriching learning activities before and after school. Our fifth grade students will continue to film, direct, edit and share the morning announcements digitally for our campus to enjoy. Students in 2nd-5th grade will have the opportunity to represent our campus in nine U.I.L. events. We also have several after-school clubs that your student may want to participate in like Running Club, Scrabble Club, Book Club, etc. We also look forward to bringing back Wrangler Round-up once a week, on Friday mornings. This event will start promptly at 7:00 a.m. This will be a general assembly time for our staff and students to gather and grow as a school community.

We value parent participation here at V.R.E. You will have many opportunities to be involved with your student's education and extracurricular activities. We will have family nights that focus on how you can help your student be successful at school, music programs, Parenting Partner trainings, dual language nights, etc. You can even sign-up to volunteer.

We encourage you to join us on this journey as we work together to help our students be the best that they can be. Best wishes for an exciting and rewarding school year!

Sincerely,

Nicole Jones Land
Principal

SCHOOL INFORMATION

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Principal: | Nicole Jones Land, cjones@newcaneyisd.org |
| Assistant Principal: | Ruth Ann Anderson, randerson1@newcaneyisd.org |
| Counselor: | Carrie Shaver, cshaver@newcaneyisd.org |
| Nurse: | Kelly Wimberly, kwimberly@newcaneyisd.org |
| Principal's Secretary: | Susan Smith, ssmith2@newcaneyisd.org |
| Registrar/School Records: | Belinda Wade, bwade@newcaneyisd.org |
| Receptionist: | Jackie West, jwest@newcaneyisd.org |
| Transportation Changes: | vretransportation@newcaneyisd.org |

Daily Schedule

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 6:45 a.m. | Supervision Begins and Doors open; students may be dropped off. |
| 6:45 a.m. – 7:25 a.m. | Breakfast |
| 7:15 a.m. | Released to Classroom |
| 7:30 a.m. | Instructional day begins - Students entering after this time will be counted tardy. |

9:25 a.m

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 10:45 a.m. | <u>Attendance Taken</u> Morning PK dismissal |
| 11:15 a.m. | Afternoon PK arrival and lunch |
| 11:45 p.m. | Afternoon PK Instruction Begins |
| 3:00 p.m. | Grades PK – 5 Dismissal |
| 3:30 p.m. | Supervision Ends; students should be picked up. |

Early Release Schedule:

All students are dismissed at 11:30 a.m.
Afternoon pre-kindergarten will attend school from 7:30 - 11:30 on early release days (December 21st & May 24th).

Office Hours

The office will **open each day by 6:45 a.m. and will close at 3:45 p.m.** If parents need to see their child's teacher or the principal before or after these hours, they must arrange this in advance with the teacher or principal. All visitors must always report to the office before meeting with a staff member.

COMMUNICATION - HOW TO STAY CONNECTED:

Class Dojo: Your child's teacher will share their information at Meet the Teacher.

- For parents and staff
- Receive TEXT messages for upcoming events or announcements
- You can message us or leave comments if you have questions.
- Please message during school hours and allow 1-2 business days for a response.

Thursday Folders: Throughout the year monthly calendars, flyers and announcements will be sent home in your child's weekly Thursday folder.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ValleyRanchElementary/>

- For parents, community members, and staff
- Stay updated about upcoming events
- You can message us or leave comments if you have questions. Please allow 1-2 business days for a response.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ValleyRanchElem>

#ncisd and #vrewrangers

Campus Webpage: <https://www.newcaneyisd.org/valleyranch>

Teacher Conference: Here at Valley Ranch Elementary, we encourage parent participation in the learning and academic success of your child. We believe that parent involvement is the key to success.

- October Parent/Teacher conferences will be held to review the first report card. This is a great opportunity for you to have individual time with your child's teacher to discuss your child's progress.
- Throughout the year if you need to conference with a teacher, please call the front office at 281-577-8760 and they will assist you in getting an appointment with your child's teacher.
- All teachers are asked to return phone calls with in one business day.
- Conferences must be scheduled in advance.

| Important Times of the School Day 2018-2019 | | | |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Lunch | Recess | Conference Times |
| PK | 11:15 - 11:45 | 9:45 - 10:00 2:00-2:15 | 10:45 - 11:30 |
| K | 11:10 - 11:40 | 10:40 - 11:10 | 2:00 - 2:50 |
| 1 | 10:45 - 11:15 | 11:15 - 11:45 | 1:00 - 1:50 |
| 2 | 10:30 - 11:00 | 11:00 - 11:30 | 12:05 - 12:25 |
| 3 | 11:25 - 11:55 | 10:55 - 11:25 | 9:30 - 10:20 |
| 4 | 12:30 - 1:00 | 12:00 - 12:30 | 8:30 - 9:20 |
| 5 | 11:57 - 12:27 | Science Block | 7:35 - 8:25 |

Attendance Information

- School Instructional Hours - 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM
- Attendance is taken at 9:25 each morning. Students not in class at this time are counted absent.
- Students will not be eligible for perfect attendance awards if they have been absent, have more than 3 morning tardies (arriving after 7:30), and/or have been checked out of school early (prior to 3:00) more than 3 times each grading period.
- If your child is absent, please send either a doctor's note or a personal note to school with them when they return. Notes must be turned in within 3 days of the absence.
- Five personal notes may be accepted each semester. Beyond that, medical documentation or a visit with the school nurse is required in order for an absence to be considered excused.
- If you must schedule an appointment during the school day, try to do so during specials, recess, or lunch times. This will ensure that your child is still receiving valuable instruction in his/her content areas.
- Absences from class may result in a serious disruption of a student's mastery of the instructional materials; therefore, please make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences.

Texas Compulsory Attendance Law

Texas attendance rules say that a student has to be in a class at least 90% of the time if they want to be sure to get credit for that class. This rule applies even if your child has an [Individualized Education Program \(IEP\)](#) or [Section 504 plan](#).

The average school year is 180 days. So, your child can only miss 18 days of school or 18 days of a specific class (or 9 days if they're on a semester schedule) before the 90% rule affects their class credit.

For elementary school students, this means they could repeat a grade if they are in school less than 90% of school days. A middle- or high-school student might have to repeat a certain class if they didn't attend at least 90% of the days of that class. You can read more about this rule on the Texas Education Agency website's [Attendance, Admission, Enrollment Records, and Tuition 2015-16 page](#).

If your child has missed more than 25% of a class, the school will send you a letter asking you to come to a meeting or to write a letter explaining why your child has missed so much school. You can bring the notes from your child's doctor and your other records of why they missed school to that meeting or include copies with your letter.

Please contact the Assistant Principal, the Campus Attendance Officer, if you have questions about your child's attendance.

Tardy Information

Students are considered **tardy at 7:30 a.m.** If your child arrives to school at 7:30 a.m. or later, parents or guardians must escort the child into the building and sign them in. Every time that a child arrives late to class they miss out on valuable instructional time. Please have your child here before 7:30 a.m.

Attendance Incentives and Rewards

To help your child and his/her class qualify for the chance to win a special treat, students must be in their rooms and ready to start learning at 7:30. We will have a variety of incentives for both personal perfect attendance and zero tardies as well as class rewards.

Birthdays

- Birthday cupcakes or cookies may be brought to school to be delivered to your child's classroom to recognize the birthday that day.
- Cupcakes and cookies must be store bought and in the original store packaging.
- Parents and siblings will not be allowed to be in the classroom for birthday celebrations.
- Cupcakes/cookies will be distributed the last 10-15 minutes of class as students start to pack up for the day.
- Birthday balloons, gifts, and treat bags are not allowed during the school day.
- Birthday invitations may be passed out in class if all students are invited.

Breakfast/Morning Procedures

- Our front doors open at 6:45. Please do not leave students unattended at school before that time as we do not have anyone on duty to supervise them.
- Students arriving by car are to be dropped off at the cafeteria doors. Student riding the bus are dropped off in the front of the school.
- A free breakfast is served between 6:45 and 7:25 each day. If your child is to eat a school breakfast, they should arrive by 7:20.
- Visitors are welcome to eat breakfast in the visitor's section of the cafeteria with their student from 6:45 to 7:25. We ask that visitors not eat in the student seating section of the cafeteria.
- In order for our instructional day to begin on time, we will not admit visitors into the building after 7:25.
- 1st through 5th grade students will report to the cafeteria to eat breakfast or sit in their grade level lines until they are escorted to class at 7:15 AM.
- All PK and K students will report to the cafeteria to eat breakfast or sit in their grade level lines until their teachers escort their students to class at 7:15 AM.
- Parents must say their goodbyes in the cafeteria and not follow the class to the classroom.
- All students arriving between 7:25 and 7:30 will go straight to their classroom.

Classroom Parties

- Classroom parties will be held three times per year for the following celebrations: **Holiday Party (12/21), Field Day (TBD), and End of the Year Celebrations (5/24).**
- Teachers may ask for parent volunteers to help plan the parties or to send certain foods.
- When sending food items please take into consideration any food allergies in that particular classroom or grade level.
- All food items brought must be store-purchased and be brought in their original, store packaging.

Clubs

- Each club will have a teacher sponsor
- After-school clubs are extra-curricular and participation is voluntary; however, we do have limited space available for most of our clubs. We will do our best to accommodate each student's request for the club of their choice.
- Notification letters will be sent home to let parents & students know which club they are in and where it will meet.
- After-school activities require a commitment on the part of the guardian to make sure they are picked up when the club dismisses. If a student's ride is late to pick them up, they may be dropped from the club.

Dress Code

The District's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, and prepare students for the workforce in the global economy.

Students shall be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat and that will not be a health hazard or safety hazard to themselves or others. The District prohibits any clothing or grooming that in the Principal's judgment is not appropriate for school, and the Principal's determination as to the appropriateness of all dress shall be final. This list is the minimum requirement for dress regulations, and does not address all possible situations. This list is set as a guideline for the campus dress code policies. Please refer to the campus student handbook for any additional requirements.

1. Clothing, jewelry, patches, tattoos, (body art) or designs on clothing must not reflect or suggest in any manner drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, vulgar language, gang affiliations, violence, death or satanic ideology.
2. Hairstyles must be neat, clean, and well groomed. No head coverings, hoods, curlers, sweatbands, caps, or hats shall be worn in the building. Bandanas are prohibited on campus.
3. Hair coloring must be natural and extreme hairstyles such as; Mohawks, un-natural hair colors, shaved designs or notches are prohibited.
4. Facial hair must be neat, trimmed and well groomed. Designs or notches in eyebrows are prohibited.
5. A. Elementary - The length of any shorts, skirts, or dresses may be no shorter than three inches as measured from the top of the knee. Elementary students will be measured at fingertip length. Any slits in garments are subject to the same limitations. Pants, skirts, and shorts must be properly hemmed and must fit at the waist. Undergarments should not be seen. Pajamas are not allowed.

B. Secondary - The length of any shorts, skirts or dresses may be no shorter than three inches as measured from the top of the knee. Any slits in garments are subject to the same

limitations. Pants, skirts and shorts must be properly hemmed and must fit at the waist. Undergarments should not be seen. Pajamas, tights, leggings and yoga pants are not allowed to be worn as pants. Tights, leggings and yoga pants may only be worn with an outer garment meeting the above length requirements and measurement will be taken by the outermost layer.

6. Excessively over-sized or excessively tight garments shall not be worn including revealing, sagging or baggy pants.
7. Revealing garments are not permitted. Examples are: Tops that reveal cleavage, stomach, back or chest when standing, sitting, or bending; clothing exposing the torso or upper thighs such as see-through garments, mini-skirts or mini-dresses, halters, backless dresses, tube tops, tank tops or spaghetti strap garments without over shirts, bare midriff outfits, or shirts tied at the midriff. The midriff must not be exposed when a student goes through normal activities of a school day (bending, stretching, reaching, etc.) Sleeveless blouses that cover the shoulder are acceptable.
8. Proper undergarments must be worn and may not be visible.
9. Only appropriate footwear intended for outdoor use shall be worn. Slippers or house shoes are prohibited. Shoes with wheels are also prohibited.
10. Clothing may not have holes or tears above fingertip length.
11. Any form of dress, jewelry or hair that attracts undue attention, disrupts school, or distracts from the learning process is not acceptable.
12. Gang-related apparel is prohibited in school and at all school-related functions.
13. Facial piercing will be limited to the student's ears only. Gauges and spacers are not allowed to be worn. Students may be asked to remove jewelry, earrings, etc. if the principal, assistant principal, or teachers feel they are a distraction or a safety issue.
14. Students assigned to an alternative campus will be subject to the campus' dress code.

Students in violation of the dress code will be given an opportunity to correct the violation by changing clothes, shoes, etc. If a change cannot be made, the parent will be notified to have someone bring him/her proper attire. If not corrected, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day, until the problem is corrected, or until a parent or designee brings an acceptable change of clothing to the school. Any student sent home for dress code violations will receive unexcused absences for the classes missed. The dress code rules shall apply through the last day of school and also to summer school sessions. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Field Trips

- Each grade level and certain campus organizations may take field trips throughout the school year.
- The guardian must sign and return the Field Trip Permission form so that their child can attend.
- Our 5th grade students will attend an overnight field trip to Pine Cove Camp in Columbus, Texas. We will have a mandatory, after school meeting about this 3 day, 2 night field trip. NCISD Volunteers may be asked to help chaperone classes.

How Can I Help My Child at Home?

We encourage you to read with your child nightly. Whether you read orally to them or they read to you, this is proven to increase literacy development. Math facts can be practiced nightly as well. We also encourage our students to spend time playing outside and spend time with their family. Eating meals together or even playing games promotes communication and cooperation skills that are important to promoting success in school.

Lunchtime Visitors

We ask that you do not eat with your child the first week of school. It is important that your child adjusts to school rules and has a chance to make new friends. The first week will also allow time for staff to learn student names and schedules. We will open the cafeteria for visitors starting our second week of school. The campus will be closed to visitors on certain dates due to events like state testing.

- Visitors wishing to eat breakfast or lunch with their student may do so according to the grade level lunch schedule.
- Only those listed in Skyward under family and emergency contacts will be allowed to have lunch with a student. The guardian may come to the school and add additional contacts or they may update who is on this approved list by accessing Skyward Family Access: <https://skyward.iscorp.com/scripts/wsisa.dll/WService=wsedunewcaneytx/seplog01.w>
- Please remember that all visitors on campus are required to present a photo identification so that they may be scanned into the Raptor system.
- Because visitor tables/space is limited, we ask that you enter and leave according to these times.
- We can only allow visitors to eat with their student in the visitor's seating area. Other children may not join you at this time.
- Visitors may not stop by teacher classrooms on their way out of the building.
- It is our goal to adhere to the Food and Nutrition Policies established by the Texas Department of Agriculture for the safety of all students within the school. The policy does not restrict what parents may provide for their own child's lunch or snacks. Parents may provide outside meals (McDonalds, Burger King, Sonic, etc.) and snacks for their own child's consumption, but may not provide items to other students. Due to TDA regulations, parents are not allowed to consume meal components from a child's tray. A parent must either purchase a meal at the school, bring in an outside meal for themselves or not eat.

Medication

Any medication to be administered at school to students must be delivered by the parent or guardian to the nurse. Medication may not be sent with students. Please make sure you pick up your student's medication before the summer break. All the medication not picked up by the last day of school will be discarded.

Safety

New Caney ISD is committed to safety on every campus, district facility and school bus. Safety is a top priority for New Caney ISD and we will do everything in our power to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

- Every NCISD campus has visitor screening/sign-in procedures. All campuses have security vestibules. Visitors are required to present identification and are processed through Raptor, a system that provides screening for registered sex offenders.
- Students may be walked down to their teacher's classroom door on their first day of school; this ensures that the building is secure and no unauthorized individuals are in the building during instructional time.
- A criminal background check is conducted on all NCISD volunteers and employees.
- All employees are required to wear NCISD photo identification badges.
- All exterior entrances are locked throughout the school day. If you notice a door unlocked that shouldn't be, please notify the front office.
- Secondary campuses have a police officer assigned to them from the District Police Department. Both high schools also have two safety officers who patrol the campus and parking lots.
- The district has a K-9 Police Officer who visits every campus throughout the school year searching for contraband.
- All campuses have video surveillance cameras on the interior and exterior parts of the buildings.
- NCISD utilizes an emergency notification system to communicate with staff and parents through emails, phone calls, text messages and social media.
- NCISD schools have regular safety drills throughout the school year involving both students and staff. Campuses keep a log of all practice drills.
- The district has a Crisis Management Plan that is evaluated and updated regularly.
- NCISD consults regularly with local law enforcement and first responders about school safety.
- Every other year the district participates in a district-wide security audit.

New Caney ISD believes that students can learn best when they are in a safe environment.

Teacher Certification

If you would like information regarding the certification of your child's teacher(s) please contact the front office. You may also access this information at the following address: <http://secure.sbec.state.tx.us/SBECOnline/virtcert.asp>.

Visitors on Campus

One of our main goals at Valley Ranch Elementary is to keep all students safe while they are with us. Per district policy found in the Student Code of Conduct located on the New Caney ISD website, visitors must provide a valid US government issued identification in order to be admitted into the building. The district does allow us to accept a Mexico matriculate card, but visitors admitted with this type of identification must be under the direct supervision of staff during their visit on campus since this type of identification is not able to be checked through the district's Raptor sex-offender registry software. **ALWAYS BRING YOUR DRIVERS LICENSE OR PHOTO I.D WITH YOU WHEN YOU VISIT THE SCHOOL OR WHEN YOU ARE CHECKING OUT A STUDENT.**

Volunteers

The New Caney Independent School District values the contributions made by its many volunteers who diligently work to support our outstanding students, teachers, and programs. It is our goal to provide a safe environment for our students and visitors. You may access the Volunteer Packet at <https://www.newcaneyisd.org/domain/89>, and return it to the New Caney ISD Police Department.

Advantages to becoming an NCISD volunteer:

- Make new friends and build relationships with students, campus staff, and other volunteers
- Always be aware of the events and activities on your child's campus
- Volunteering can provide career experience and develop job skills
- A sense of pride knowing you are making a positive difference in people's lives
- Be a positive role model for your children by showing them what it means to be service-oriented and active in one's community
- A chance to be involved in the school planning process - schools are continually looking for committed community members to help create and evaluate campus programs
- You can set your own schedule. Volunteering is ideal for stay at home parents, grandparents, retired community members, businessmen and women. Volunteering allows you to connect with your community when it's most convenient.

Volunteers Guidelines:

- All volunteers must complete the NCISD Volunteer Application form and process.
- Volunteers will wear their volunteer badge on their upper chest area (not on purses, not on hem of shirt, etc.). It must be visible at all times.
- Volunteers shall notify/schedule all activities with the teacher.
- Volunteers who are coming on campus to assist in any area must check in with the front office. You will be asked to provide the above listed information when you sign in/out. You are also required to check out with the front office when you leave.
- Volunteers on campus **MUST HAVE A PURPOSE!**
- Please remain in the area in which you are volunteering. Do not "hang out" in the classroom or hallways.
- You may not take your child out of the classroom for any reason (going to restroom with them, letting child assist with activity, etc.)
- You may work with your child if you are assisting in a classroom activity that your child would naturally be a part of.

Who To Contact First

Who do I contact if I have a concern about my child (i.e. socially, behaviorally or academically)? The first contact should always be with your child's teacher. Please call and set up an appointment to have a conversation with your child's teacher about your concern. After speaking with the teacher, if you feel that your concern has not been handled appropriately please contact the office to speak to the assistant principal or counselor. Once you have met with the teacher and the assistant principal and/or counselor, please contact the principal's secretary, Mrs. Susan Smith, for a conference with the principal. We appreciate any feedback that you can give us on how Valley Ranch Elementary is serving your child or how we can do things better.

Wrangler Time

- All students in K-5 will participate in a 30 minute Wrangler Time, in which intervention or enrichment will occur. Some students may be pulled for specialized instruction like speech, G/T, dyslexia, Tier 3 intervention, etc.
- Response to Intervention Tier 3 participation is based on an array of student data sources including, but not limited to STAAR, DRA, CLI, and CBA data.

Transportation Information

Before School Transportation Information:

- In the mornings, the students may be dropped off at the cafeteria entrance to the school. The school doors will open at **6:45 a.m.** to let the students in. We will have staff members stationed at the cafeteria entrance to help children enter the building.
- **The tardy bell rings at 7:30 a.m.** Staff members are not available after 7:30 to let your child in the building. Parents or guardians must escort the child into the building and sign them in after the 7:30 a.m. tardy bell rings.
- Bus riders will be dropped off at the cafeteria doors on the side of the building. **After 7:00 AM, after all buses have unloaded,** car rider drop off may occur in the front drive of the school, by the front doors.

After School Transportation Information:

Consistency in after-school transportation is the key to students getting home in the correct manner each day. If changes need to be made, please remember the following:

- Transportation changes may not be made over the phone. You may notify us of a change either by sending a handwritten note to school with your child, faxing a note to 281-577-9209 or sending an email to vretransportation@newcaneyisd.org. If you are sending a transportation change via email, you must send it from the email address listed in Skyward. All of these requirements are in place in order to make sure that transportation changes are made by the legal guardian and ensure to student safety.
- Changes in transportation must be made by 2:30 p.m.

- Transportation changes are for ONE DAY only unless we are specifically told otherwise. Parents needing to pick a student up early for appointments must do so before 2:30 p.m. **A doctor's excuse must be turned in to the office the following day.**

Early Pick-Up

Please avoid signing your child out early unless it is absolutely necessary. Instruction time is important and we teach from bell to bell. If you must pick your child up early, it must be prior to 2:30 p.m. and please be prepared to show your I.D. Also, we do not call for students to leave their classroom until a parent/guardian arrives to sign them out of school for the appointment.

Valley Ranch Elementary Bus and Car Rider Drop-Off and Pick-Up Locations and Routes



CAR RIDERS

- Car rider dismissal will begin at 3:00 p.m.
- Drivers picking up car rider students should enter from Valley Ranch Crossing Drive (refer the aerial map on the previous page).
- **All vehicles in the car rider line must follow the yellow line on the map.**
- **Do not drive through the designated parking spots; this is a safety issue for our staff and students!**
- All car riders are loaded from the side, cafeteria doors.
- All cars must have a campus issued car rider tag. These may be ordered in the front office. If you need to get a Car Rider Tag made, you will need to complete a Car Tag Order Form located in the front office. You must show a valid identification in order to receive your car tag. Only guardians may pick up the car rider tags.
- Students will not be released to cars without a correct car rider tag.
- We ask that you place the Car Rider Tag in the window or on your dashboard for the caller to view.
- If someone attempts to pick up a student and they do not have a current car tag, they will be asked to go into the building to show proper identification before the student will be released to them.
- In order to ensure the safety of all, we ask that parents not walk to the front doors to collect their child. Students will not be released in this manner.
- Please remember that during the first week of school it may take longer to load students. Our goal is to have all students loaded into the correct car within 20 minutes of dismissal. By following the above guidelines, we will be able to meet this goal.

BUS RIDERS

- Buses are loaded from the front of the building, so the front parking lot will have limited space for visitor parking from 2:20 to 3:15.
- You must make transportation changes before 2:30 p.m. Due to safety concerns we will not be able to pull a student out of the bus loading lines at dismissal time.
- An adult must be at the bus stop for any child in Pre-K or Kindergarten to get off the bus, unless they are accompanied by an older sibling. If an adult is not at the bus stop, your child will be taken back to Valley Ranch Elementary school or transportation to await a ride.
- All students will have a smart tag for riding the bus. This smart tag will be used when the students are getting on the bus and off the bus.
- Transportation staff, including bus drivers will no longer collect any funds for smart tags. This means parents will no longer be able to come to transportation and pay for a Smart tag. Smart tags must be purchased at our campus and a Smart Tag order form must be completed.

Valley Ranch Elementary Neighborhood and Apartment Walker Drop-Off and Pick-Up Locations



Walker Information

- All walkers must have a Walker Permission Form completed by the guardian and approved by the principal. It will take at least one business day for the approval process for a student to be a walker.
- All PK and Kindergarten students must have a guardian meet the child at the crosswalk point. If it is an adult other than the parent or guardian they must be on the approved contact list in Skyward. PK and Kindergarten students may walk home with an older sibling if the parent gives signed permission.
- **Please use your discretion to determine the appropriate age that your child is ready to walk home on their own. Some students that are in 1st-5th grade may not be ready to walk home on their own either. Please review how to cross the street safely, look both ways, utilize sidewalks, etc.**
- Once our staff walk the student across the crosswalk, they are no longer under our supervision.
- Point A (refer to the map above) is for students that will be walking to their residence within the Valley Ranch Subdivision.
- Point B (refer to the map above) is for students that will be walking to their residence at the Villas at Valley Ranch Apartment Complex.
- Point A and Point B are not intended for Car Riders. Parked cars create a safety issue for students that are riding their bikes or walking home. Please help us keep our students safe! All Car Riders must enter through the Car Rider Line and pick up their child from the cafeteria.
- The crossing guards will be on site in the mornings from 6:45 a.m. until 7:30 a.m. Therefore, if your child is tardy, there will be no one at the crosswalks to ensure their safety as they cross the road.

