

2026



2027

EASTRIDGE ELEMENTARY



Student/Parent Handbook

6245 L Street | 402-436-1135 | Fax: 402-458-3235 | Eastridge.LPS.org
Maggie Picou, Principal | Ashley Howe, Coordinator



Lincoln
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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*Eastridge Eagles SOAR
because we are a...*



Successful School with



Open Minds and
Healthy Bodies



Achieving Goals and



Respecting Others

For Bilingual Liaisons:

Arabic: 402-436-1715

Russian: Если вам требуются услуги переводчика пожалуйста позвоните по телефону: 402-436-1942

Español: Por favor llame a este número de teléfono si necesita servicios de intérpretes: 402-436-1938

Vietnamese: Xin vui lòng gọi về số này nếu quý vị cần có dịch vụ thông dịch: 402-436-1939

Ukrainian: Будь ласка, зателефонуйте за цим номером, якщо вам потрібні послуги перекладу: 402-436-1786

Karen: ဝံသးစူကီးလိတဲစိနိုဝ်အဲအံ့ပဲနမ့ာ်လိာ်ဘဉ်ပုကတိကျီးထံတၢ်အတၢ်ဆိာ်ထွဲမၤစၢ 402-436-1769



Please Note:

All procedures, guidelines and dates outlined in these documents are subject to change, based on recommendations and directives issued by the Nebraska Department of Education, the Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD), or other governing body.



Welcome to Eastridge Elementary School!

Welcome to Eastridge! This handbook is design to assist students and families by providing essential information regarding out school's guidelines and procedures. To ensure ongoing clarity, we will notify you of any changes as they arise.

Please review the contents of the handbook with your child. The Important Information Booklet provided by Lincoln Public Schools also gives critical parent/student information. Please contact us if you have any questions.

On behalf of the entire staff, we look forward to partnering with you to make this a productive and successful school year!



Sincerely,
Maggie Picou, Principal

Intent of Handbook

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff as a guide to the rules and general information about Eastridge Elementary School. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained within it. Families are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the procedures and rules contained in this handbook.

Lincoln Public Schools Vision

The overall vision of Lincoln Public Schools is to prepare ALL students to be college, career, and civic-life ready with a goal of 90% on-time graduation.

2024-2029 LPS Strategic Plan

- Student Wellbeing and Outcomes
- Staff Wellbeing and Outcomes
- Family and Community Engagement
- District Systems and Operations

For more information visit:
home.LPS.org/strategicplan

Eastridge Elementary Multicultural Vision Statement

Multicultural Vision Statement

Eastridge is committed to establishing and maintaining a high quality educational environment in which all scholars have access and opportunity to achieve academically, emotionally, and socially. Eastridge students and staff will understand and respect racial and ethnic groups and cultural groups allowing scholars to thrive in discovering and exploring their passions to make meaningful connections.

All Eastridge School policies, programs, and activities will promote and support the goals of multicultural education and cultural proficiency.

Multicultural education is the identification, selection and infusion of specific knowledge, skills, and attitudes for developing the purpose of the following:

1. Affirm the culture, history and contributions that shall include all families.
2. Challenge and create an awareness in students in order to eliminate racism, prejudice, bigotry, discrimination and stereotyping based on race, ethnicity and culture.
3. Value multiple cultural perspectives.
4. Provide all members of the Eastridge community with the opportunities to “see themselves” in the educational environment in positive ways and on a continuing basis.

To promote and support multicultural education, Eastridge School will create opportunities to maximize achievement academically and socially in an educational environment in which all students and staff understand and respect the racial, ethnic and cultural diversity and interdependence of members of our society.



LPS Student Calendar



2026-27

Graduation Dates

Tuesday, May 18, 2027

Yankee Hill

Wednesday, May 19, 2027

Independence Academy

Thursday, May 20, 2027

Bryan Community

At Pinnacle Bank Arena May 21-23, 2027

Fri: LHS Sat: LNS, LNW, LSE, LNE Sun: LSW, LSB, EHS

☉ First Day for K, 6, & 9th Grades

☉ First Day for 1-5, 7-8, & 10-12th Grades

● Last Day for Students

■ All Schools Not in Session

▮ Schools Not in Session (*Professional Learning/Planning Day*)

▮ Quarter Start Dates

▮ Quarter End Dates

Calendar Options for Families: The Lincoln Public Schools District understands and appreciates that our community has a wide variety of rich and varied religious celebrations and observances. In the event families recognize these holidays, parents should notify schools. Students will be given excused absences and allowed reasonable opportunities to make up any schoolwork missed.

Note: Changes to the calendar may occur as a result of inclement weather or other circumstances. If sufficient school time is lost as a result of calendar changes, and it brings the total number of school hours for the year below the state minimum requirements, the Superintendent will implement a plan for making up this time, which may require additional minutes added to the day, additional days added to the calendar, days previously identified as non-student days re-scheduled as student day, or other appropriate calendar or schedule measures.

JULY 2026

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AUGUST 2026

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SEPTEMBER 2026

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OCTOBER 2026

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JUNE 2027

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27	28	29	30			

School Day



School Hours

9:00 a.m. – 3:38 p.m.

Arrival and Dismissal

Many students and families use the sidewalk on “L” Street. All students and parents must use crosswalk indicated by crossing signs. Parking is also not allowed in our crosswalk or other areas indicated by No Parking signs. For the safety of all, drop-off and pick-up is not allowed in the staff parking lot. Students walking to and from school should use the sidewalk from the playground and come around the east side of the building. Students are not allowed on the playground following dismissal. This area is reserved for the Family Services Program until 6:00 p.m.

Breakfast is available for students who wish to participate. Students eating breakfast should arrive promptly at 8:35 a.m. Students who are not eating breakfast should arrive at school between 8:50 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. When students arrive at 8:50 a.m. they will line up outside in their assigned grade level area. Students will enter the building at 8:55 a.m. Students who arrive after 9:00 a.m., must report directly to the office to receive a tardy pass.

If your child is going to be absent, please enter the absence in Parent Vue or call the office. The office has an answering machine you can leave a message on 24/7. Please do not email office staff or teachers to report an absence. The same procedure should be followed if your child will be late or leaving early for an appointment or other reasons. Students will be dismissed at 3:38 p.m. Teachers will be sending out a Before and After School plan form to complete as soon as possible. This form is completed on line.

All students must go directly home or to a school sanctioned after school activity. Staff will supervise students at dismissal. When dismissal supervision concludes at 3:45 p.m., students not picked up are brought inside to the office to ensure safety. After 3:45 p.m. parents are required to come into the school office to sign their student out. This is considered a late pick-up. If parents/guardians and all emergency contacts cannot be reached, the police may be contacted to help with unification.

If you have arranged for your child to go home with another student, this plan must be communicated to the office prior to the end of the school day. The teacher will be notified of the change in the after school plan



- No stopping or parking during school hours.
- Reserved for bus and daycare pickup.
- ● ● ● Pick-up lane. Children enter from curbside only. Drivers stay in car.
- Crosswalk
- NO PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC ONLY Staff parking lot can not be used for arrival, dismissal or walking.
- Reserved for students needing assistance.

Before & After School Programs

Family Service contracts with Lincoln Public Schools to provide a Before and After School Day Care Program at Eastridge. This is a fee-based program with limited enrollment.

Parents/guardians may contact Family Service at 402-441-7949 to receive information about registering students for this program.

Students attending the Family Service Program in the morning should enter through door #12 near the gym upon arrival. At 8:50 a.m. students will be dismissed from the Family Service program to line up with their class. Students attending the Family Service Program after school will be dismissed at the end of the school day to go directly to the Family Service Program in the cafeteria.

Students attending before or after school activities such as band, strings, or other activities should have a plan prearranged with parents/guardians for how they will get home at the dismissal of these programs (walk, ride bike, get picked up, etc). Siblings of students in before or after school programs are not allowed to wait for their sibling's activity to dismiss. We do not have supervision available for siblings.

For information regarding Student Attendance, please refer to the LPS [Important Information Booklet](#). The LPS [Important Information Booklet](#) can be found on the front page of the LPS website ([LPS.org](https://lps.org)) under Essentials. Printed copies of the booklet can be obtained by contacting our school office.



Communication

Facebook

Check out school happenings on our Facebook page! "Like" us at Eastridge Elementary School.

ParentVue

Families may access communications, report cards, attendance information and more through ParentVue. A link to ParentVue can be found on our school website. Families will use ParentVue to update census information each year.

School Website

Information will be regularly updated on our school website. The website will also include our school calendar. Eastridge.LPS.org

Friday Folders

Each week we will use Friday Folders to share information. Folders will be sent with oldest and only students. Please review the content of the folder and return it on Monday.

Community News

"Community News" is a newspaper distributed by Lincoln Public Schools, free to all elementary students the first week of every month from September through May. "Community News" replaces most informational flyers and can be used as a guide to community activities for students. The monthly school lunch menu is included in each issue of "Community News".

Eastridge Parent-Teacher Organization

Search for us by typing Eastridge Eagles Elementary School PTOs. "Like" and follow us to keep up to date on the most current happenings.

Breakfast & Lunch

The Eastridge Elementary campus is closed until 8:50 a.m. unless students are eating breakfast. Students arriving for breakfast should not arrive before 8:35, as there is no supervision until that time.

New Free and Reduced Meal Application is Required Each School Year.

Free and reduced applications are not renewable – they do not carry over from year to year. Families who receive a letter from Lincoln Public Schools Nutrition Services Department stating that their children have been Direct Certified for free or reduced meal benefits do not need to complete an application – please make sure all the school age children in your home are included in this letter. If one or more of your children are not listed – please call the Nutrition Services office at 402-436-1746. Free & Reduced Meal Application will be available online at [LPS.org](https://lps.org). If you apply on-line and have an e-mail address registered with LPS, you will receive an e-mail notification as soon as your application has been processed. Paper applications are available upon request. Nutrition Services is not responsible for lost paper applications. Free and reduced meal benefits may allow a family to receive fee waiver benefits.



Breakfast

Breakfast is served at 8:35 a.m.

Lunch Schedule

GRADE	LUNCH
Kindergarten	11:15-11:35
1st Grade	11:55-12:15
2nd Grade	11:35-11:55
3rd Grade	10:55-11:15
4th Grade	12:20-12:40
5th Grade	12:40-1:00



Rights, Conduct, Rules & Regulations

School Wide Expectations

Students at Eastridge are responsible with the support of our staff to conduct themselves in a manner to create a safe, orderly learning environment by following three simple guidelines:

1. Be Safe
2. Be Responsible
3. Be Respectful and Kind

Students also focus on the following life goals for behavioral success:

- I can take good care of myself, even if I have an overwhelming emotion.
- I can be OK, even when others are not OK.
- I can be productive and follow directions even if something is hard or I don't want to.

Eastridge School Behavior Expectations

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavior: MTSS-B includes proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments. At Eastridge Elementary, we want all students to be successful. In order to ensure students find success, Lincoln Public Schools has developed a framework of best practices for supporting student behavior throughout the school day. This framework includes evidence-based practices that we know lead to more positive outcomes for students. Some of the most powerful practices faculty and staff use include:

- Developing and teaching all students our school and classroom expectations
- Acknowledging positive behavior when we see it
- Consistently practicing strategies that prevent problem behavior before it happens
- Using data to make decisions
- Identifying missing skills and teaching replacement skills

Student Use of Telephone

Students are not permitted to use their cell phone or watches for communication during school hours. Students can call their parents from school if needed. We ask that they request permission from their teacher to come to the office to call.



Parent Teacher Organization

The Eastridge School Parent Teacher Organization is a vital part of Eastridge's success with children. All parents/guardians and teachers are members of the PTO. Our PTO organizes events and projects that serve children and families. You are welcome to attend the monthly meetings. They are scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in our media center. Please visit our PTO webpage to see the dates of these meetings.

Facebook: Join the PTO Group by typing Eastridge Eagles Elementary School PTO to stay up to date with the current happenings.

Directory: Eastridge PTO will be creating a Directory for the school. If you prefer not to have your information in the directory, please let PTO know. They will have an OPT OUT FORM available at Open House. The directory is a PTO project. As a result, school staff will not be able to assist you with the process of opting out.

Questions regarding PTO events can be directed to eastridgeptopresident@gmail.com

Bullying

If you feel that your child is being bullied by peers, please contact your child's teacher or the building principal, Maggie Picou. All reported incidences of bullying/unsafe behavior will follow the protocol outlined in Lincoln Public Schools Board Policy 5482: Anti-Bullying Policy.

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time.

In order to be considered bullying, the behavior must include:

- Imbalance of Power: Kids who bully use their power—such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity—to control or harm others. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.
- Repetition: Bullying behaviors happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.
- Hurtful aggressive physical and/or verbal behavior.
- Bullying includes repetitive actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose.

As an added prevention piece, please discuss with your child adults in the building who they can talk to if they feel that they are being bullied or are in an unsafe situation. These people may include, but are not limited to, their teacher, the administrator, school counselor, school psychologist, school social worker or any other adult in the building that they have built a positive relationship with.

Students are taught about what bullying looks like and sounds like, along with how to advocate for themselves through the District's Second Step program.



Mental and Behavioral Health Point of Contact

Your student's mental health is important to their academic success. If you have concerns about your student's mental or behavioral health, you can contact the social worker at your student's school/program. LPS social workers are licensed mental health practitioners and can help connect you to appropriate mental health or behavioral supports. Go to home.LPS.org/socialworkers/mental-behavioral-health-points-of-contact or scan the QR code for more information.



General Information

Important Information Needed

It is very important that parents/guardians notify the school of any change in address and/or telephone number. The office must have a current telephone number on file in case we need to contact you in the event of an emergency.

When a child moves from one school to another, either in the city or outside the city, advance notice is needed so the school can prepare the transfer or withdrawal forms.

Lost and Found

Most lost articles that are found are turned in to the office and placed in Lost and Found. Whenever possible, label your child's articles. Encourage your child to check periodically for lost articles. Articles not claimed by semester break and at the end of the year are donated to a local children's charity.

Visitors in the building

To ensure safety of our students and staff, all visitors and volunteers are required to check in the main office. Upon arrival, each visitor will receive a visitor badge to wear while in the building. If someone other than the parent/guardian is coming to lunch (such as a grandparent), please contact the office in advance so we have your permission.

Birthdays

At Eastridge, we recognize student birthdays each morning on announcements. For information regarding birthdays, please refer to the LPS Important Information Booklet. Birthday information can be found in the Student Services section, on page 62.

Instructional Supplies

Students are provided with necessary and basic instructional supplies (paper, crayons, scissors, glue, etc.) A voluntary supply list is available upon request in the office.

Volunteers

Any parent or community member who intends to volunteer their time in a Lincoln Public Schools building or on a school event must first complete an online volunteer application. Please visit LPS.ORG and use the keyword: **volunteer**.



BOARD OF EDUCATION

9/25



Lincoln
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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