



Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Ready-to-Learn

Mr. Vince Kelly, Principal

Main Office: 520-731-4300

Attendance: 520-731-4302

[Ford Email](#) • [TUSD Website](#) • [Ford School Website](#)

TUSD Transportation 520-225-6262

SEPTEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been a wonderful start to the school year here at Ford Elementary. I have truly enjoyed getting to know our staff, students, and families. This year, one of my goals is to enhance the partnership that we have within our community. This starts with developing relationships with all stakeholders, and that begins with parents. At the end of the month, I hosted a "Donuts and Grownups" session, open to all parents giving me a chance to introduce myself and allow parents to interact with one another more formally. The goal was to create a transparent partnership between parents and staff that is mutually beneficial to all and helps our students. Be on the lookout for another of these events, as I plan to host something similar once per quarter.

If you have not already heard, we have also added a brand-new Facebook and Instagram page this school year. This is just one more way to conveniently connect with our families. We will be using these pages to help families stay up to date with important school announcements. In addition, this allows us the opportunity to truly show off some of the magic that happens daily in our classrooms with our community. Please follow us if you are on social media and tell other family members about it too!

Time is one of the most precious resources made available to all of us and that is no different here at school. Our goal is to maximize the instructional minutes we have with our students during school hours. As such, I am asking our parents to help us improve both our attendance rates and arrival time. **Our warning bell goes off at 7:40 to alert classes to begin walking with their teachers. All students are expected to be in their seats ready to learn when school starts at 7:45 daily!** Please help us improve in getting all students to school on time. Also, I ask that our families help keep absences to a minimum by scheduling appointments outside of school hours where possible and ensuring that students are absent only due to personal illness.

Please take a moment to also review the following information and upcoming events:

Parent/Teacher Conference. We will have half days (**dismissal at 10:55AM**) on **September 18, 19, and 20**. Your child's teacher will send home confirmation of the date and time of your conference. It is important that you meet with your child's teacher to discuss progress and how you can help at home. While not ideal, if it is not possible to schedule the conference in person, phone conferences are available. Our goal is to have 100% participation with all of our families for the fall conferences.

Student Messages – We know it is sometimes necessary to get a message passed along to your child through the front office. In order for us to best help you with this, please get any messages to the front office no later than 1:00 PM to ensure that we are able to relay the message to your child. During the last hour of the day, particularly the last 15 minutes, our office can get quite busy and it becomes much more challenging to pass on a message if the call comes in too late. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this manner.

NEW after school program! TUSD's Marshall Elementary School has an after-school program available to Ford Elementary School students, including transportation. A TUSD school bus will take participants from Ford Elementary to Marshall. Check it out: [TUSD Community School Programs](#) or call (520) 731-5207.

Sincerely,

Vince Kelly
Principal, Ford Elementary School
8001 E. Stella Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85730



Please mark your calendar for our upcoming events:

Monday, September 2nd	Labor Day Holiday – No School
Wednesday, September 4 th	PTA Meeting – Open to all Parents. Please attend 3:30 PM
Monday, September 9 th	Cross Country with Ms. Rosado *Permission slips and physicals required
Wednesday, September 11 th	Ford Site Council at 3:00 PM
Tuesday, September 17th	Student Picture Day - Inter-State Studios use school code #B6674GF
Wednesday, September 18th	Parent Conference Day - Dismissal 10:55
Thursday, September 19th	Parent Conference Day - Dismissal 10:55
Friday, September 20th	Parent Conference Day - Dismissal 10:55
Thursday, September 26th	Ford Peter Piper Pizza Night

Keep information up to date, submit attendance, register and more with your [ParentVue account](#).

