



9649 W. Pleasant Grove Rd.  
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PRINCIPAL: Ashley Williams  
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[ContactESES@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:ContactESES@bentonvillek12.org)  
<https://www.bentonvillek12.org/o/eses>

Hello, Evening Star Families!

We are excited to start the new school year! We want to welcome our new families as well as our returning families to the 2023-2024 school year. We are thrilled to have you join us this year as we continue to build upon the incredible legacy of the original Evening Star School, which flourished for an impressive 64 years from 1884 to 1948. Our staff looks forward to continuing to partner with you as we honor that legacy and create sweet memories for your child and family together.

At Evening Star, our culture is deeply rooted in core values that shape the way we learn, grow, and interact with each other. **Integrity, teamwork, growth, empathy, and enthusiasm** are the cornerstones on which we will continue to build our students' character and foster an environment of respect, understanding, and high academic success. With our focal point on these core values, we believe our students will surpass greatness and achieve their full potential. Our mission is to empower each other and our students to strive for the stars in every aspect of life. By instilling a sense of confidence and aspiration, we aim to create individuals who will positively impact the world around them.

This year, we envision a school year where students are eager to learn and so excited that they can't wait to run through our school doors every morning. With our dedicated staff working in partnership with you, we are committed to making a significant difference in the lives of every little owl. We aim to prepare them for their future, equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and values they need to succeed.

As we eagerly await the return of our little owlets, we anticipate filling our classrooms with their curiosity, enthusiasm for learning, and infectious joy. We believe that this year will be the best one yet, and together, we will make it a resounding success. Thank you for being a part of the Evening Star community, and here's to a fantastic 2023-2024 school year! Let's soar beyond greatness and continue a legacy of excellence together!

### **Back to School Information and Details:**

**Open House is Thursday, August 10th.** We are excited to see all of our families in person at Open House! It is the perfect time for you to: find your child's classroom, meet your child's teacher, drop off your child's supplies, deposit lunch money, and join PTO. You will receive a welcome email from your child's 2023-2024 homeroom teacher on the morning of August 10th containing a reminder regarding Open House times, information about their room number, and a Google form link for you to complete regarding specific information about your little one. We will have staff available to assist you and guide you in the right direction on Thursday, August 10th. We ask that you help keep our school beautiful by keeping vehicles on the pavement and parking in the designated parking spots. Please attend the session by the **First Initial of your child's LAST NAME**. We have designated times for grade levels due to limited parking and the sheer size of our student body. You will also receive a postcard reminder in the mail within the week.



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#### Kindergarten Open House Times:

- 12:00-12:45 p.m. Last Names A-G
- 1:00-1:45 p.m. Last Names H-P
- 2:00-2:45 p.m. Last Names Q-Z

#### 1st-4th Open House Times:

- 4:00-4:40 p.m. Last Names A-G
- 4:45-5:20 p.m. Last Names H-M
- 5:30-6:10 p.m. Last Names N-Z

On July 11th, our Director of Transportation, Jason Salmons, emailed information regarding bus transportation. Our Transportation Department recently converted to a new routing software called EZ Routing. As a result of that rollover, students who were assigned to a school bus last year are now assigned to a bus for the 2023-2024 academic year. Please **download the parent app BusQuest** to see your child's bus stop information. The new app also allows you to sign up or remove your child from bus service at any time. **To request new bus service or to see your bus route for this fall, download the BusQuest app and submit a request.** Bus times may fluctuate between now and the start of school on August 16th, so be sure to check your child's route information prior to the start of school. One important note for your family; once you sign up for transportation service with BusQuest, you'll still use the **BusCompass app** to see real-time updates and to know when the bus is **within three bus stops** of your child's stop. Instructions for both apps are included below. Email our Transportation Department with any questions you may have at [BusRequest@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:BusRequest@bentonvillek12.org).

- [Bus Quest](#)
- [Bus Compass](#)

**The first day of school is August 16th.** Watch our school's Facebook page for a 10-day countdown with additional information and fun facts about ESE prior to the first day of school.

Students may enter the building at 7:00 a.m. and make their way to their designated gathering place outside the classroom. The first bell will ring at 7:22 a.m., and the tardy bell rings at 7:30 a.m. If you arrive after 7:30 a.m., parents must park and check students into the office. Students may enter classrooms at 7:22 a.m. Dismissal from classrooms for walkers, car riders, and bus riders will begin at 2:30 p.m.

For the first two weeks of school, all ESE staff members will be available to help students find their classrooms and get settled. Parents may walk their students to class only on the first day of school. Beginning on **August 17th**, students will need to walk to class on their own.

If your child is a car rider, for the safety of every child, we ask you to remain in your vehicle when picking your child up from school. All car riders will be issued a 2023-2024 unique number for the ESE car line. ALL car riders must have the temporary 2023-2024 ESE Car Rider Pass with this unique



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number displayed on their front dash. Two copies will be provided to families at Open House. If you do not have your 2023-2024 ESE Car Rider Pass, you will be asked to show a photo ID before we will release your child from school. Plastic car rider tags will be issued by September 1st. Since our school buses and other childcare transportation buses (Club Infiniti, Mobius, Primrose, etc.) have additional students to pick up from surrounding schools, we will hold all cars until the buses have left the ESE premises. We ask parents not to park in the designated handicap spots. These spots are reserved for only those who are authorized to park there. In the morning or the afternoon, if you need to pull around to the parking lot from our car line, we ask that you park in one of the nine open spots in the front row on the other side of the handicapped spots or in any of the other available spots throughout our parking lot. Car riders, please be patient with us. It will take a couple of weeks to establish our dismissal routine. Please be advised that our car line can take over an hour for the first few weeks. **Here is a short video outlining our car line procedures: [ESE Car Line](#). If you have never had the opportunity to participate in our car line, you are highly encouraged to view the video linked above.** One final, but very important reminder: It is against the law to use your cell phone in a school zone. Our school zone spans from the Scissortail neighborhood down W. Pleasant Grove Road/Haxton Road past Gaston Road. This includes our car-rider line. Thank you for being courteous in the car line and protecting all of our owlets!

In addition, all K-4 building principals and district officials request your cooperation during the morning drop-off times between 7:00 –7:30 a.m. Your child's safety is our top priority! Should parents have a need to be in the building between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., please check in through the office and be prepared to show photo identification. Teachers and staff are happy to meet with parents by appointment. Again, we cannot reiterate enough how important your child's safety is to us, and so for that reason, we appreciate your support.

To ensure the safety of all children, we will send your child home the same way every day unless you notify our front office staff before 2:00 p.m. Additionally, a transportation and procedures letter will be provided at Open House. This letter contains detailed information about campus security, morning/afternoon car riders, bus riders, Discovery, walkers, tardies, and our district lightning procedure. If you have questions regarding your child's after-school dismissal status, please contact the school office at 479-360-7400. The office is open daily from 7:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. if you need help or have any questions.

Here's to a successful and fulfilling school year ahead, filled with joyful learning experiences, unforgettable memories, and personal growth for every student who walks our hallways. As a united team, we will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of the young minds entrusted to our care. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to the future of your children. Moreover, thank you for sharing your precious children with us!

Sincerely,

Principal Ashley Williams



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## Additional Information

**Enrollment Verification:** Beginning August 1st through August 25th, your child's online records will be available for you to verify through Etrieve. To complete the required profile verification and back-to-school forms, simply log on to [Forms-Online Forms \(Etrieve\)](https://www.bentonvillek12.org/page/student-services) or visit our Student Services page at <https://www.bentonvillek12.org/page/student-services>.

Bentonville Schools no longer requires proof of residency on an annual basis. However, if you've had an address change, you will need to provide proof of residency to update our records through Etrieve [Forms-Online Forms](#). It takes only a moment to review and confirm your child's records, but it's critical you do so by **August 25th**. The Residency Verification form is **mobile-friendly**. You should have received an email on July 25th with additional information. Should you have any questions, our school registrar, Tammy Webb is available to help. Feel free to email her at [tawebb@bentonvillek12.org](mailto:tawebb@bentonvillek12.org).

Annual forms for elementary students in Bentonville Schools include the following.

- Profile Verification
- Family Emergency Card
- Health Summary Form
- Annual Consent & Agreement (Student Handbook)
- Chromebook Loan Agreement

**Breakfast and Lunch Information:** Beginning with the first day of school, students will be charged if they choose to get a cafeteria-provided meal.

- Breakfast costs \$2.05 each day.
- Lunch costs \$2.85 (K-6) or \$3.05 (7-12) each day.
- Visit [bentonville.familyportal.cloud](https://bentonville.familyportal.cloud) to add money to your child's account or click on the "Guest" button to find out if your family is eligible for free and reduced-price meals.
  - **To Add Money Online:** Utilize our portal ([bentonville.familyportal.cloud](https://bentonville.familyportal.cloud)). If you are new to our district, you will need to click "Register."
  - Free & Reduced Paper Meal Application - Click ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))
- Need help? Call Annette Bunton at (479) 254-5095.

**District Calendar:** Click [HERE](#) to view our 2023-2024 School Calendar. Every minute of instruction we have with your little one is vital and helps ensure their success in the future. We look forward to seeing the halls filled with our ESE Owls on **August 16th**.

**School supplies:** Click [HERE](#) to view the school supplies list for the 2023-2024 school year.

**District Website:** Stay up to date with events and news. Check out our [District Website](#) and our [School Website](#). You can also download the Bentonville Schools App using your App store.





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**ESE Media Sources:** Throughout the school year, we will use various media sources to communicate all the great things happening in our building. We would love for you to like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram and Twitter.

- Facebook: Evening Star Elementary
- Instagram: eveningstarelementary
- Twitter: @ESEElementary
- ESE Website: Click [HERE](#) to check out our school website. We will update our grade level teams and department pictures and information after August 14th when staff return on contract.

#### PTO Social Media Platforms:

- Facebook: Evening Star Elementary PTO
- Instagram: eveningstarppto
- ESE PTO Website: Click [HERE](#) to check out our new PTO website.

**PTO Information:** Our PTO has some great opportunities planned for our ESE Families!

- **Splash Car Wash Fundraiser** - July 31st - August 12th. [Sign-up online](#), select your car wash package and get a code that you will enter at the car wash. 50% of all carwash sales will go directly back to our ESE PTO. Yes, 50%!! That's amazing!
- **Chuck E. Cheese Spirit Night** -Mark your calendars for some Friday Fun. **Friday, August 11th, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.**, come join other ESE families and have a little fun while supporting our school. Spirit Nights are a wonderful way to get to know other ESE families who may not live in your neighborhood.
- **2023-2024 ESE Yard Signs and PTO Memberships:** Show your school spirit! Secure your ESE yard sign by joining the PTO. Click [HERE](#).

Stop by the PTO table in the ESE Wonder room during Open House.

Mark your calendars now. This is a great way to stay involved at ESE.

Aug. 10th-Open House	Aug. 16th-1st Day of School	Aug. 22nd-PTO Meeting & Volunteer Training
Sept. 4th-No School	Sept. 6-8th-Grandparents Lunch	Sept.12th-PTO Meeting & Volunteer Training
Sept. 21st-Walk in My Shoes	Oct. 13th & 16th-No School	Oct. 31st-Fall Party
Nov. 2nd-Pie Supper	Nov. 10th-Turkey Trot	Nov. 20-24th-Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 19th-Winter Party	Dec. 21-Jan. 8th-Winter Break	Jan. 24th-26th Goodies w/ Grownups

\*All dates are subject to change. Follow us on social media for the most up-to-date information.