



# JOSE H. DAMIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## CANUTILLO A Premier District

Jesus O. Barba, Principal

Robert Seeburg, Assistant Principal

### **Welcome Back!**

I hope you that your summer was relaxing and not as fast and furious as it was for some of us. Summer is a time to become recharged and ready to start a new school year. As I usually mention, I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children for a fifth year.

We first need to celebrate the Honor Roll Designation given to us by the Educational Results Partnership. All signs point to another incredible and productive school year. We will be incorporating an acceleration block in every grade level through our integration of STEM and the arts. Our extremely productive office team is assisting new families, ordering needed materials and updating student files. Our hard working and conscientious custodians have spent the entire summer thoroughly cleaning the facility. We are indeed a joyous and caring community with the common goals of nurturing responsible, caring students and promoting high-level learning through our 7 Strengths and this year we hope to be able to "Reach A Million Dreams!"

### **New Staff**

Each year brings positive change. This includes a few additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome the following individuals: At Risk Aide (PK Inclusion) – Irma Andujo; Dual PK/Inclusion – Erica De Luna-Ochoa; ESCE – Emma Gil; PK Monolingual – Jessica Britton; PK Dual Language– Magali Luevano; 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Dual Language – Ana Caballero; 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Monolingual – Carolina Herrera; 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Dual Language – Jezabel Collins and LPAC Aide – Ruth Garcia.

### **Scholar Placement**

A great deal of time, effort and thought has gone into the process of student placement for the 2019-2020 school year. Careful consideration was given to input from staff and families as well as scholar learning styles. Classrooms have been balanced academically and socially. Our class lists are structured to provide equitable class sizes at each grade level. PK is now going to be full day and there will be an inclusion initiative as well as an outdoor classroom component in this particular grade level.

### **BELL SCHEDULE**

Please remember that it is very important that your child is in school every day and that your child arrives on time. Every minute counts and we are going to ensure that teaching and learning occurs from Bell to Bell.

Bell Schedule	
7:40	First Bell
7:45	Tardy Bell
3:15	Dismissal Bell

### **LUNCH SCHEDULES**

Please also remember that you are still welcomed to come and have lunch with your child if you would like but only on Wednesdays - this is also the case for Breakfast. Our lunch schedule is listed below

Start	End	Grade
10:45	11:15	ECSE and PK Inclusion
11:45	12:15	PK
11:00	11:30	K
11:15	11:45	1st
11:30	12:00	2nd
11:45	12:15	5th
12:00	12:30	3rd
12:15	12:45	4th



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### P.E. SCHEDULES/CONFERENCE TIMES

Conference Times/P.E.		
Start	End	Grade
8:00	8:45	Conference
8:45	9:30	2nd Grade
9:30	10:15	Kinder
10:30	11:15	1st Grade
12:15	1:00	PK
1:00	1:45	4th
1:45	2:30	3rd
2:30	3:15	5th

### 7 STRENGTHS TO REACH A MILLION DREAMS

**2019-2020 THEME:**

*7 Strengths to Reach A Million Dreams*

## 7 STRENGTHS

*The 7 Strengths Of A Firebird*

**Jose H. Damian Elementary will nurture our scholars so that they are healthy, feel safe, are engaged, feel supported, and are challenged through culturally responsive teaching and learning.**

<b>Focus on Identity and Achievement</b>	<b>Focus on Equity and Excellence</b>	<b>Focus on Developmental Appropriateness</b>	<b>Focus on Teaching the Whole Child and Relationship Building</b>
<p>Committed to respecting and adopting multiple cultures and experiences and recognizing strengths and accomplishments.</p>	<p>Committed to facilitating learning opportunities that provide individual attention and encouragement, enable and empower learning and cultivate cultural sustainability.</p>	<p>Committed to delivering engaging lessons that address multiple learning styles through the integration of STEM, the Arts and other pathways to access academic content.</p>	<p>Committed to extending learning by integrating resources that reflect scholars in the classroom by building relationships and bridging the home, school and community.</p>

### SCHOLAR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

In order to help increase our attendance we will begin a new process to keep our scholars healthier. We are looking at installing hand washing stations right by the lunch lines. We will also be designating the last Wednesday of each month as BIRTHDAY WEDNESDAY. Please coordinate with your classroom teacher to see what options there are to bring to celebrate the birthdays for a particular month on this one specific day.



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### SAFETY/TRANSPORTATION:

We are concerned about the safety and welfare of all scholars. Please discuss the following precautions with your child. Drive SAFELY in school zones while cautiously watching out for our walkers.

- Students **should not arrive** at school before 7:15 a.m. due to lack of supervision. The entry for all scholars is through the cafeteria door only. If parents need to visit the office they may do so but through the front entrance.
- After 7:15 a.m. scholars may enter the building and go directly to the cafeteria for breakfast. Scholars will be allowed to go to the playground at 7:25 a.m. with the exception of Pre-Kinder and Kinder, which will remain in the cafeteria and will be picked up by teachers there. 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade scholars will line up outside in a designated location.
- Our faculty and staff will be available to assist children in front of the school or within the school. The entry of parents into the building needs to remain limited because of safety reasons. Please follow their directions for the safety of all.
- If your child is a walker, please assist him/her in selecting a safe route for walking to and from school. Your cooperation in teaching your child the correct procedures for crossing streets and getting in and out of cars will keep them safe.
- School is dismissed at 3:15 p.m. Walkers should leave school property at that time. Parents meeting students should meet them in the front portion of the school (PK, Kinder, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>); 1<sup>st</sup> Grade will release through side exit (100 Hallway exit); 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade will release through the Kinder Playground.
- Please observe parking rule, miles per hour rules and use the **parent parking lot for drop off and dismissal**. You **may use the staff parking lot only if you will be parking** and getting **off your vehicle or dropping off after 7:30 a.m.** BUSES will continue to drop off and pick up scholars in the driveway located in the staff parking lot, therefore picking up scholars in this area is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. It is imperative that everyone follows all rules and regulations to ensure the safety of all scholars. Please do not block driveways, parked vehicles or park in the No-Parking Drop-Off Zone. Do not park illegally or let children run across the road alone. Pick-up and drop off times will be patrolled by El Paso Police Department. Be very aware of new signs posted to avoid any citations.
- Scholars are permitted to ride bikes to school. Please remind scholars what once they enter the fenced area they must walk their bikes on school grounds at all times. Law requires wearing a helmet and all safety rules must be followed. Please label the bike helmet and provide a lock for the bicycle. The school is not responsible for missing or damaged bikes.
- **Drop-Off Loop Guidelines:** It is important that everyone follow the drop-off guidelines for picking scholars up at the end of the day. The guidelines have been established for the SAFETY of students.
  - Drive slowly for everyone's safety and only pick up scholars in the driveway located in the parent parking lot.
  - **Pull up to the end of the loop**, which is at the crosswalk. You **may not stay in the middle spot** even if you are the first to arrive.
  - REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE and once your vehicle is loaded, then you may slowly and safely pull into the left lane to exit the loop.
  - Do not double-park and ask students to run across a line of cars to board your car.
  - YOU MUST REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE in the drop-off lane. If you need to park, please use the spaces provided or if need be, use the staff parking lot.If you park in the limited spaces, you must get out of your vehicle to escort your child across the lot. Please do not wave your children across the street to your car. Back out carefully as other cars queue up along the drop-off lane. Please do not use the handicap space unless you have a tag.
- Refrain from delaying the process by using your cell phone during pick-up.
- JDE's staff and patrols are there to assist in arrival and dismissal; however, they are not to cross the parking lot nor wait with your child after 3:30 p.m. Scholars that are not picked up by 3:30 p.m. will be asked to wait in the main office. If staff is giving you a direction, it is only because they are looking out for your child's safety. Please be respectful. We truly appreciate your cooperation! Please help us create a safe environment and follow the safety guidelines during dismissal.

I am very excited about the beginning of this next chapter together. This school year is going to be about accomplishing goals and ensuring that scholars use the 7 STRENGTHS TO REACH A MILLION DREAMS. Again, welcome to another great year at Jose H. Damian Elementary, where scholars soar to new heights and continue to OPEN A WORLD OF POSSIBLE.

Respectfully,

Jesus O. Barba, M.Ed.  
Principal