

Dyess Elementary

**6733 Jennings Dr
Abilene, Texas 79606
325-690-3795**



School Mascot: Jets

School Colors: Red, White & Blue

Principal – Heath Wright

Assistant Principal – Hillary Hernandez

Instructional Coordinator – Brittney Lomax

Counselor – Jaime Aleman

School Nurse – Roxanne Laudi

School Secretary – Tiffany Wildman

Cafeteria Manager- Vanessa Ezagui

Parent Coordinator – Manuela Stelzriede

Dyess Mission Statement: At Dyess Elementary, we engage in lifelong learning to achieve growth and success.

Dyess Vision:Engage. Learn. Succeed

Dyess School Motto: One Team, One Mission, Every Child

We are looking forward to a fantastic year at Dyess Elementary!

Arrival, Dismissal and Traffic Procedures

Early Arrival

For the safety of your child, we ask that students not be dropped off and left on campus before 7:15 a.m. Students waiting at the doors before 7:15 a.m. must be accompanied by an adult.

Arrival

Beginning at 7:15 a.m., students who walk or are dropped off may enter the campus through the north doors (front doors) off Jennings Drive. Bus riders, bike riders and students in the PALS special education program will enter the campus through the south doors off Hampton Hills Street through 7:40 a.m.; students arriving after 7:40 a.m. will need to enter the front doors off Jennings Drive. All students will report to a designated area to wait for teacher pick-up at 7:40 a.m.:

- Cafeteria - Students eating breakfast
- Gym - K-2nd grade students finished with breakfast
- Learning Stairs - 3rd-5th grade students finished with breakfast
- PALS rooms - All PALS students

The school cafeteria will be open for breakfast from 7:15-7:40 a.m. each day.

Students who arrive after 7:50 a.m. are considered tardy and will need to report to the office for a tardy pass before going to class.

Dismissal

All bus riders and bike riders will exit the south side of the campus. All students who are picked up by a parent/guardian and all walkers will exit the north side of the campus. Adults picking up students are required to be on the pick-up list and have a valid car tag in hand. If you are not on the pick-up list or if you do not have a valid car tag in hand, you are required to go to the office to obtain written permission to pick up the student.

Change in After School Plans

If you need to make a change in dismissal plans for your child, you must call with changes no later than 2:00 p.m. If there is not a parent notification before 2:00 p.m., the student will be sent home his/her usual way. For safety, we will not rely on oral information about dismissal changes from students as sometimes that may not accurately reflect the parent's intentions.

Dyess AFB Delaware Gate

The Delaware Gate has been designed to be a pedestrian walk-through gate by Dyess Air Force Base. The gate is open from 7:00-8:45 a.m. for arrival and from 2:30-4:00 p.m. for dismissal. Weather permitting, students attending the Dyess AFB Youth Center will walk each day. During inclement weather, the Youth Center vans will pick up students at the south drive off Hampton Hill Street where the AISD buses drop off/pick up each day.

Traffic and Parking

Cell phone use is prohibited by law in school zones. Please stay off cell phones while in the driveway/parking lot.

Front driveway (Jennings Drive): The front driveway is a two-lane, one-way traffic drive. If you need to come into the building or if you are walking up to pick up your child at the end of the school day, you will need to park your car in a parking spot in the front parking lot. Please use the crosswalk when crossing to and from

the parking lot. Obey ALL traffic directions from Dyess staff. Our systems are designed to keep students safe and keep traffic flowing as quickly and as efficiently as possible.

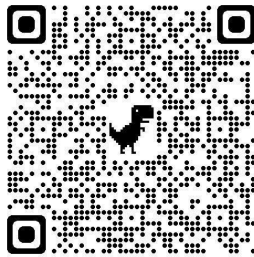
Back parking lot (Hampton Hills Street): AISD buses, bike riders and PALS students use the back parking lot off Hampton Hills Street for arrival and dismissal. All other students must be dropped off and picked up in the front parking lot. Please use the crosswalk when crossing to and from the parking lot. Obey ALL traffic directions from Dyess staff. Our systems are designed to keep students safe and keep traffic flowing as quickly and as efficiently as possible.

Absences and Tardies

Reporting Absences

It is important to contact the school as soon as possible when your child will be or is absent from school. If an absence is not reported to the office, a call will be placed to your home or work during the school day. You can report an absence in one of the following ways:

1. Call 690-3795 and choose option 1.
2. Email your child's teacher.
3. Email Manuela Stelzriede, Parent Coordinator, at manuela.stelzriede@abileneisd.org.
4. Text your child's teacher through the Remind app.
5. Text Manuela Stelzriede, Parent Coordinator, through the Remind app.
6. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/dyessattendance> or use your device to scan the QR code below and fill out the attendance excuse form to report the absence.



Please send a doctor's note to the office upon your child's return to school from a medical appointment or after an illness.

Tardies

Students are considered tardy from 7:50-9:30 a.m. Per state law, if a student arrives at school after 9:30 a.m., he/she will be counted absent unless the late arrival is due to a medical appointment with a doctor's note presented at drop-off.

Release and Return of Students During the School Day

All students who need to leave school before regular dismissal time must be signed out in the office by individuals whose names appear on the student's contact list. If early pick-up is necessary, you must do so before 2:45 p.m. as parents are restricted from picking up students between 2:45-3:15 p.m. If someone other than you will be picking up your child and/or if you need to add someone to a student's contact list, please call the office beforehand. All individuals picking up students in the office must present a valid state-issued ID or valid Abilene ISD employee ID before the student will be released.

Students will not be called to the office to wait on a parent or guardian for any reason. If you are picking your child up from school early, please allow time to process the student out of school.

Contacting the Teacher/Conferences

Teachers are available for parent conferences and phone conversations during their conference/planning period or after school. If you need to speak with a teacher, please call the office and leave a message for the teacher to return your call during his/her conference/planning period or after school. You are also encouraged to email or send a message using the Remind app to your student's teacher. Teachers check and respond to emails and Remind messages during their conference/planning period or after school. To ensure teacher focus on students during instructional time, phone calls are not transferred to classrooms and teachers are not expected to respond to emails during instructional time.

Teachers will contact parents to schedule a conference in the fall semester and a conference in the spring semester. Parents are encouraged to reach out and schedule a parent/teacher conference at any point the need arises.

School Nurse

Roxanne Laudi, RN, is the school nurse at Dyess. Her office is equipped to handle routine medical needs. You can contact her directly by calling 690-3795 and choosing option 3. In the event of a more serious illness or injury, parents will be notified immediately. Please keep the school informed with current phone numbers as soon as changes occur. If an emergency situation arises, we must be able to reach you as soon as possible.

Allergies: It is very important that the school nurse and classroom teacher be informed of any allergies to drugs, food or environmental conditions that your child might have. Medications: If it becomes necessary for a student to take medicine during the school day, the law requires that the parent come to the nurse's office with the medication in a prescription bottle and complete a medical form.

Illness: If you are unsure whether your child is sick enough to stay home for the day, you may contact Nurse Laudi to help make the determination. Here are some guidelines to follow when determining if your child can return to school after being sick:

- Your child should be free of fever without the use of fever reducers (such as Tylenol) for 24 hours before returning to school.
- If your child has been given antibiotics, he/she needs to wait 24 hours after the first dose before returning to school.
- If your child has been vomiting and/or has been having diarrhea, he/she needs to stay home for 24 hours after the last episode.

Visitors

Parents and others are welcome to visit the school for lunch and special events. For the safety of those within the school, all visitors must first report to the main office with a valid state-issued ID and pick up a visitor pass. The visitor's ID will be kept in the office until check-out; the visitor pass must be worn visibly for the entire time he/she is on campus. Visits to individual classrooms during instructional time are permitted only with approval of the principal and teacher and so long as the duration or frequency does not interfere with the delivery of instruction or disrupt the normal school environment. All visitors are expected to demonstrate high standards of courtesy and conduct. Disruptive behavior will not be permitted.

Student Behavior Management

Dyess Elementary is a Leader in Me campus; we promote a culture that fosters lifelong leadership skills and empower our students to take ownership and pride in every aspect of campus life. We believe all students can be leaders and can behave in a manner that is conducive to learning and safety. To ensure a safe, orderly classroom environment, our teachers utilize Safe and Civil schools CHAMPS classroom management system which incorporates a proactive and positive approach to discipline. Emphasis is placed on teaching and

supporting positive and appropriate behavior, which in turn lessens negative behaviors and the impact those types of behaviors have on learning and the educational setting. Parent communication is an important piece of supporting student's behavior. Teachers and principals will contact parents as needed to discuss plans for supporting positive and appropriate behaviors.

Birthdays and Celebrations

Throughout the year, your child's class may participate in a variety of celebrations and parties, such as for Christmas and Valentine's Day. Please refer to information sent home by individual teachers regarding these events. Birthday treats must be store-bought and can be dropped off at the school office to be enjoyed at the end of the day in the classroom. Please coordinate ahead of time with your child's teacher if you plan on sending birthday treats for the class. Parents may also send birthday party invitations to school, provided that the whole class or all the boys/girls are invited.

Recess

Time spent outdoors is an important part of the school day. Each class has a scheduled daily recess time for 20-25 minutes. Teachers and school administration will use their discretion and good judgment for student participation in outdoor activities. Temperature, wind chill, relative humidity and adequacy of clothing of the children are all factors considered to determine if weather conditions are appropriate and safe for students to participate in outdoor activities. Consideration of outdoor recess will begin as the temperature nears 90 degrees or 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Lost and Found

Please label your child's belongings that he/she brings to school, including jackets, sweatshirts, lunch boxes and reusable water bottles. Lost and found items are stored in the cafeteria. All unclaimed items will be donated at the end of each semester.

Dogs and animals on campus

Per district policy, animals, including pets, are not permitted on campus without approval from the principal.

PTA/Volunteering

Dyess has an active Parent-Teacher Association (PTA). All families and teachers are encouraged to join the PTA.

Any parents and family members who want to volunteer on campus or on a field trip must complete the volunteer application and background check process prior to volunteering. Applications should be placed no later than 3 weeks in advance to allow enough time for the screening process to be completed.

School Communication

Communication between school and families is vital to the success of our students.

Some of the ways we will communicate with parents and families includes:

- Print communication including classroom newsletters and school calendars
- Remind app texts
- Email
- Call-out phone messenger system
- Campus website
- Social media pages
 - Facebook: [@dyessjets](#)
 - Instagram: [@dyessjets](#)
 - Twitter: [@DyessJets](#)