



La Cañada Elementary School
4540 Encinas Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011
Telephone (818) 952-8350 • Fax (818) 952-8355
Wendy Sinnette, Superintendent
Emily Blaney, Principal

August 7, 2018

Dear La Cañada Elementary Families,

I hope you had a relaxing and happy summer. The LCE staff has been preparing all summer to be surrounded by students again. **The first day of school is Thursday, August 16**, and I want to share some important news for the upcoming school year.

New Staff Members

We have three new staff members joining our LCE family this year. Lauren Schour is joining us to teach 5th grade. Ms. Schour has a great personality and wonderful teaching experience, especially in Math and Science, and she will be team-teaching with Annette Fuelling. Our Special Education department will see some new faces this year, too. Mrs. Bridget McGrath will be our new, part-time RSP teacher, and Miriam Garcia will be our new full time RSP teacher. These teachers were especially selected because of their ample teaching experience, and we are fortunate to have them as part of our LCE Family.

Whitney Worster, who taught RSP in the past, took the fourth grade opening left by Sue Fuelling, who is enjoying her retirement! Mrs. Worster, like Ms. Schour, has experience with the grade level and is already known by many of you as a fabulous teacher. Because of our enrollment, we will have three self-contained fourth grade classes taught by Mrs. Worster, Mrs. Hopkins, and Ms. Flowers. These teachers work so well together! A bit more staffing news is that Mr. Freyberger will be teaching PE this year.

Another enrollment decision was made over the summer. LCE did not have enough students to make four 1st grade classes, and we had more 2nd graders than we had spots for. Therefore, Ms. Anne Tseng has agreed to move from 1st grade to 2nd grade for the 2018/19 school year. She will join Mrs. Gilmour, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Durfee, and Mrs. Crocker to complete a strong second grade team.

Class Sizes

I am excited to share with you that our class sizes remain small, ranging from 20 - 22 students in grades TK - 3rd grade and 28 - 30 students in grades 4th - 6th. This is a result of all of your donations to our fabulous Educational Foundation, which continues to fund our Drama, Visual Arts, Music, and Spanish programs. Thank you!

Online Registration

Don't forget to complete the online registration process as soon as you receive the email from the District office. Current families use an email address to log into AERIES, and new families received directions via email from the LCUSD Technology Department in July. **Your student's registration will not be complete until you have finished the data confirmation process online in the Aeries Parent Portal, printed the "Emergency Form," and turned in the signed "Emergency Form" on the first day of school, August 16, 2018.** If you do not have access to a computer or need assistance with this process, you will be able to go to the District Office to complete the registration process. These dates will be included in the email you will receive from the District. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with our online registration process.

Attendance

As always, we need students to come to school on time (8:10 a.m. for AM TK/Kinder, Early Birds, and 4th - 6th graders; 11:20 a.m. for PM TK/Kinder; 9:10 a.m. for Late Birds). Our teachers take attendance within the first 5 minutes of the school day, and anyone arriving afterward will be marked tardy. Remember, if your child has a fever, is vomiting, or has diarrhea, do not send him/her to school. If your child is just feeling slightly under the weather, let your child's teacher know to monitor them closely, and we will call you if he/she needs to be picked up.

Lunch Accounts

The price for lunch remains at \$3.50. You will find the lunch menu and pre-pay option information on the District website, www.lcusd.net under the Food Services tab on the right. Parents are able to set up email notification as to when your child's lunch account is running low on funds. The function of the pre-pay system helps with school/home communication throughout the year and is very convenient for families.

Student Drop Off - Pick Up

Our carline is the smoothest running carline in the district, thanks to our parent volunteers, staff members, and to all of you for following our safety procedures! Like last year, both sides of campus (Encinas Dr. and La Cañada Blvd.) are open for early morning drop off and end of day pick up. The La Cañada Blvd. entry is locked from 8:15 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. Remember that you can use both Lasheart and Loma Vista to enter Salisbury to turn onto Encinas - just pay attention to the four-way stop sign, the pedestrian walkways, and the City Hall parking lot entrance, which should be kept clear at all times. View our carline procedures [here](#).

Security

In order to help us maintain a safe campus, please do not linger on campus or sit outside the classrooms to wait for your child. If you are on campus to volunteer, please sign in to receive a visitor sticker. If you are not wearing a sticker and are seen on campus, a staff member will direct you to the office. Teachers have signs posted on their classroom doors reminding you to sign in, as well.

Bell Schedules

The bell schedules will remain the same this year.

- TK/K students: Parents will receive the AM/PM bell schedules at the TK/K Back to School Night on Aug. 14.
- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students
 - 1st day of school = 8:10 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
 - Aug. 17 - September 3:
 - Students attend every day 9:10 - 2:50 p.m. **AND**
 - One other day as indicated on the assessment appointment letter that will be sent home by the classroom teacher on the 1st day of school.
 - Sept. 4 = Early Bird/Late Bird bell schedule begins.
- 4th - 6th grade: Students attend all day 8:10 a.m. - 2:50 p.m. every day, beginning Aug. 16.

PTA

The Amazing Karyn Perez continues her term as PTA President for 2018-19! Please join Karyn, the rest of the PTA Executive Board members, and me at the first PTA meeting to review important information about school-wide activities and volunteer opportunities at 8:15 a.m. on Aug. 16. On the first day of school, you will find copies of our [campus map](#) to help you find your child's classroom and navigate the campus.

Here are a few important dates for your calendars:

July 17 12:00 p.m. AERIES is open for parents to update student information and complete beginning of the year forms

August 8		Teacher Placement postcards mailed to TK and Kindergarten families
August 14		Kindergarten Back to School Night (AM = 5:45 p.m.; PM = 7:00 p.m.)
August 14	5:00 p.m.	Finalized Teacher Assignments in grades 1 - 6 available for parents to view in AERIES
August 16		1 st day of school (8:10 for AM TK, Kinder, 1st - 6th; 11:20 for PM TK and Kinder)
August 16	8:15 a.m.	PTA meeting in the Cafeteria
August 24	4:30 p.m.	New Family Pre-Picnic (for all new LCE families)
August 24	5:30 p.m.	LCE Back to School Picnic

Please feel free to contact me any time. You can reach me by email at eblaney@lcsd.net. Our website is www.lcelions.net. You can follow LCE on social media, and be sure to follow the PTA website:

[Twitter: @lcelions](https://twitter.com/lcelions)

[Instagram: @lceblaney](https://www.instagram.com/lceblaney)

<http://lcepta.ourschoolpages.com>

I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer. We'll see you soon!

Sincerely,



Emily Blaney
Principal, La Cañada Elementary
La Cañada Unified School District
La Cañada, California

