



Dear Stewart Mustang Families,

Welcome Back! We are all so excited about the upcoming school year. We hope everyone had a safe and fun summer and that you're ready to begin another school year at Stewart. This promises to be a year filled with golden opportunities for all our students as we strive to find ways that we can be even better than we have before! We embark on this journey with a pledge to you, our students and our parents, that this will be a year of engaging, meaningful and rigorous work in our classrooms, combined with many special events, activities, performances and celebrations.

During the 2018-2019 school year we will continue to build upon and refine our foundation of good work and continued excellence in education. Our vision at Stewart Elementary states that we are a community which inspires and empowers the leaders of tomorrow. Our theme for the school year is "Educational Success Under Construction." You will see references to this and our Mustang PRIDE throughout the building.

If you have driven by the school lately, you have probably seen the new playground equipment that was installed. It's ready for students to play on as soon as school begins. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Spirit of Texas Bank for donating the monies needed to purchase the equipment. I would also like to thank our PTO and all our families who support our school. Thank you for providing the funds to install the equipment so that our students can enjoy it as soon as school begins.

Many of our parents are very involved in the daily operations of our school and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for all you do for our Mustangs and our school. Please continue to make school a priority for your family by getting involved as a classroom volunteer and joining the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). When working together to achieve student success; the school, parents, and community provide the key to an excellent education for all our children.

Due to safety concerns, we will be making some changes to our morning drop-off procedures for our car riders. The entrance to the front parking lot will be closed between 7:30 AM and 8:00 AM. All parents dropping off students will need to remain in the carline to drop off students at the front of the school. This will help us keep our students safe as they exit cars and enter the building. Parents who need to come into the building for meetings or to see the nurse before 8:00 AM will need to park in the faculty parking lot. Additionally, please refrain from dropping off your child by the curb in the faculty parking lot. This area is not monitored and therefore not safe for our students.

The teachers and staff look forward to a very positive and productive year together! We extend a special, yearlong invitation to our families to join us at school activities and events whenever possible. We value your involvement and support in your child's education! Your active participation is key to the success of your young Mustang during his/her elementary and intermediate school years.

Please know that we highly value home/school communication here at Stewart Elementary. It is vital and plays an integral role in each student's success. We encourage you to contact us if/when the need arises, and to *stay in the know* about your child's studies, assignments, assessments, and school activities, as well as other events and happenings.

Again, we welcome you to the new school year at Stewart and to our wonderful learning community. Our school is a place alive with much *energy, enthusiasm*, and a *high standard of excellence*! It is, indeed, a place where opportunities abound and education success is under construction. Here's to an AWESOME new school year as we work together to make our school a great place to work and learn each day!

*Dr. Julie English*

## Meet The Teacher

Your child's teacher will call you on **Friday, August 10<sup>th</sup>** between 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM.

You will be able to meet your teacher on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Please see the following times for the grade levels:

**Pre-K and Kindergarten** will take place at **4:00 PM**.

Please come at 4:00 and take your child to his/her classroom. Parents will then make their way to the commons to hear all about kindergarten. We will have a question and answer session at that time as well. The meeting will last about 30 minutes. While you're in the meeting, your child will get to spend time with his/her teacher and new classmates.

**1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade students** will meet their **teachers from 5:30-6:30**. Upon arrival, please stop by the commons area for directions to your child's classroom and information about food service, transportation, email registration, and PTO information.

The PTO will also be selling Stewart Mustang Spirit Wear. We have our traditional styles available that we know everyone will love.

It is our purpose to make certain your child is as comfortable as possible in starting a new school year. Knowing the teacher and location of his/her classroom before school helps everyone to begin the year with confidence and enthusiasm. We look forward to seeing you there.

**"Parent Information Night"** - We want to invite all our parents to an information night on September 11<sup>th</sup>. We will take this opportunity to talk to you about the school year. You will hear about what your child will be learning, classroom activities, homework and expectations. This will also give you an opportunity to ask any questions you might have. We want to make sure we start this year off just right. At this event, each parent will rotate through their child's schedule and can visit with the classroom teacher. Please make plans to attend on Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM for Kindergarten – Second and at 6:00 PM for Third – Sixth.

## School Hours & Attendance

School hours for Stewart have changed. Hours are 8:00 AM-3:10 PM. It is important for children to arrive at school early enough to walk to class, put their things away and begin to prepare for a day of learning. Our morning announcements will begin at 7:55 AM and instruction will begin at 8:00 AM. Children are tardy at 8:00 AM. Dismissal will begin at 3:10 PM.

In the event a student is absent, parents must contact the school office as soon as possible. Following an absence, parents must send a note explaining the reason for the absence. State law requires that students must be in attendance for a minimum of 90 percent of the instructional days per year to be promoted. A student who attends fewer than 90 percent of the instructional days per year will be referred to the campus attendance committee for review. The law goes on to state that it is the parent's duty to monitor the student's attendance and require the student to attend school.

It is important for students to remain in school until the close of each school day at 3:10 unless illness has caused a child to leave earlier. Regular school attendance is important. Please make vacation arrangements during holidays and weekends to avoid students missing important classroom instruction.

Please begin the year with good habits and ensure that your child attend school every day unless they are ill. Research shows that good attendance in the elementary years is a leading indicator of graduation and post-secondary success. Children must attend school every day to ensure access to a complete curriculum and opportunities to learn at high levels.





First Grade – Tuesday  
Second Grade – Wednesday  
Third Grade – Thursday  
Fourth Grade – Friday



Our teachers in kindergarten through fourth grade will use this opportunity to plan valuable lessons for students. Our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will have additional planning time during a “power hour,” which will be scheduled every other Monday.

### **Communication**

Every Tuesday, our teachers will continue to send home graded work and other information in a special “Tuesday Folder.” This is one way our teachers will communicate with you. We will also publish a newsletter at the beginning of each month to communicate important information about upcoming events and let you know what your children are learning and experiencing each week at school. Please make sure we have a current email address for your family. You may contact Rhonda Singletary to update your email address when necessary. The newsletter will be sent to you by email and will also be accessible on our website

### **Arrival and Dismissal**

The tardy bell rings at 8:00 AM and instruction will begin immediately. Dismissal will begin at 3:10 PM. For the safety of the children please send any transportation changes for going home to your child’s teacher in writing.

*Transportation changes must be made before 2:15; this includes parent walk-ins at the end of the day, so please plan accordingly.*

### **Stewart Clinic**

Vicki Wilcher is our school nurse. In order to assist the classroom teacher and school nurse, each child must complete current health information. This form is



accessible online and must be completed the first week of school. Students are never allowed to bring medication to school. An adult must bring any medications to the school clinic.

Telephoned messages cannot be accepted.

All students will be issued dismissal tags, which designate the specific way they will exit the building in the afternoon. Teachers will be escorting children to all exit areas to facilitate leaving the campus at the end of the day. Please make sure these tags remain on your child’s backpack. They will not be allowed to dismiss the building without one.

### **Bus Transportation**

Conroe ISD provides bus service for students who live more than one mile from the school. If you would like more information on the bus system, please visit



<http://transportation.conroeisd.net/> for bus registration and routes. Remember, that it is difficult to predict pick-up and drop-off times especially at the beginning of the school year. Until each driver has an opportunity to gauge how many students are on their route will ride the bus, times may vary. We appreciate your support and patience.

### **Active Start**

Students may begin entering the building at 7:30 AM and will go directly to their classroom.

Students in kindergarten through fourth grade will participate in active start activities between 7:30 and 8:00. Each grade level will participate on different days.  
Kindergarten – Monday



## August 15<sup>th</sup>!

Parents are welcome to walk their child into the building and to class the first two days of school. We would like to encourage all students to walk to class on their own by Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Due to safety concerns, we will be making some changes to our morning drop-off procedures for our car riders. The entrance to the front parking lot will be closed between 7:30 AM and 8:00 AM. All parents dropping off students will need to remain in the carline to drop off students at the front of the school. This will help us keep our students safe as they exit cars and enter the building. Parents who need to come into the building for meetings or to see the nurse before 8:00 AM will need to park in the faculty parking lot. Additionally, please refrain from dropping off your child by the curb in the faculty parking lot. This area is not monitored and therefore not safe for our students. This will begin on Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.



Some students either ride a bike or walk home each day after school. This must be communicated to your child's teacher before the first day of school. Please make sure you indicate this to your child's teacher on Meet the Teacher night. We have a form that all parents of biker/walkers are required to complete in order for your child to walk or ride a bike home from school.

### Rainy Days

Students who ride a bike or walk to school will be dismissed to go home if there is light rain falling. Please be sure your child has rain gear in his/her backpack to use on these days.



In the event of heavy rain or severe weather threats, all bikers and walkers will become either a car rider or a bus rider (if eligible). You will be asked to designate which way your child should be dismissed during heavy rains or severe weather. An email and text message will be sent out to parents with notification of a SEVERE WEATHER DAY DISMISSAL. Parents will need to come through the car line with a car tag to pick up a student who has changed to be a car rider. This procedure does not affect car riders or bus riders.

## Stewart Cafeteria

Payment for school lunches is now available online at [schoolpaymentsolutions.com](http://schoolpaymentsolutions.com) or handled through our cafeteria manager.

For information about prepaying online, visit our district's website under child nutrition. Payments can also be made directly to the cafeteria with a check written out to "Child Nutrition Department".

Lunch prices will have an increase of 10 cents this year. Students who bring their lunches may also purchase milk, juice, ice cream, and cookies in the cafeteria.

## Lunch Times

» 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>: 10:50-11:20am

» 4<sup>th</sup>: 12:40-1:10pm

» 3<sup>rd</sup>: 12:20-12:50pm

» 2<sup>nd</sup>: 12:05-12:35pm

» 1<sup>st</sup>: 11:35-12:05pm

» Kinder: 11:25am-12:00pm



Parents are welcome to join their child for lunch beginning August 27<sup>th</sup>. By allowing this extra time, your child will become familiar with the daily routines and procedures.



## Birthday Celebrations

Many parents like to bring in special treats for the class to celebrate their child's birthday. Lunch treats will be served at the end of the school lunch period. Your home room teacher will be able to provide you with more details about this and will be more than happy to make sure your child celebrates their special day. Please note that all treats must be store bought. We cannot serve homemade items for birthday treats.



## Dress Code

Knowing what appropriate dress is for the upcoming school year can often cause confusion as parents start shop for the "back-to-school" wardrobe. The following guidelines are consistent with the CISD K-12 philosophy. We hope they are helpful as you begin shopping for this fall.

- Shorts are appropriate for any time of the school year provided they are finger-tip length when the arm is positioned at the child's side. Shorts that are not allowed are: bicycle shorts, boxer shorts and shorts that fit too tightly. All shorts must be hemmed. Cut-offs are not allowed.

- No student may wear articles of clothing which display obscenities, advertise alcoholic beverages, narcotics or other prohibited substances. Clothing that depicts violence, weapons, and/or death, are prohibited. The same applies to badges, patches, decals or emblems of any kind or in any place that may be offensive to others or that expounds or advocates the use of prohibited substances or actions.

- Items that detract from the educational environment or may be unsafe for physical activity are disallowed. This includes: hats, oversize pants and tops, pants with oversized pockets, see-through material, backless blouses, tank tops, or blouses with shoulder straps less than 1.5 inches, muscle shirts or shirts of that type, pants that drag the floor, and any see-through article.

- Stretch pants and leggings may be worn if accompanied by a dress or shorts of appropriate length (fingertip length).

- Blouses or shirts designed by manufacturers to be worn outside are permissible if they extend below the belt line. Shirts and blouses not designed in this fashion should be tucked in. Shirts and/or blouses that reveal

the midriff *when the arms are raised above the head* are disallowed. Shirts and blouses must be buttoned all the way, except for the neck button. Zippered articles of this type clothing should be zipped up in a comparable manner.

- Athletic-type tennis shoes are required for physical education classes. "Flip-flop" type rubber sandals and other bath-type rubber sandals should not be worn to school; this includes "Crocs".

- Jeans, shorts, or long pants with rips, tears, or holes above the knee are not allowed at school.

- Our students at Stewart are natural beauties so make-up of any sort is not necessary nor is it allowed. Students will be asked to wash off any makeup worn to school.

In short, our dress code emphasizes comfort and modesty, acknowledging respect for the educational environment. It is worth mentioning again, that oversized clothing or clothing that exposes the midriff in any way is disallowed.

### **CISD Handbook**

CISD Handbook is available online. Hard copies will not be sent home. Information will be sent home with directions to access the handbook and electronically acknowledge you have read it.

*\*Please note that if you do not wish your child's name/picture to be included in the yearbook, student directory, newspaper articles, newsletter, website...you will need to request this in writing within the first 10 days of school. In doing so, your child's information will be excluded from all forms of communication and correspondence*

### **Parent Access**

CISD provides a system for parents to have online access to all their child's class assignments, assignment grades, test grades, as well as attendance, discipline, schedules, progress reports, report cards and STAAR results. This system will allow the parent to send alerts based on grade level standard that you establish. For example: if you set the alert to notify you of a grade

less than 70%, the system will send you an email with the assignment listed. This is a great way to help your child stay on top of their learning.

If you don't already have one, please take time to create an account to access this important information regarding your child's education. You can find Parent Access on the CISD website under the Parents tab.

### **First Day Forms**

CISD sent out an email with information about the online student data validation system for the upcoming school year, powered by Info Snap. The email contained a link and a secure "snap code" that links directly to your student's information. The system is a secure process, which allows the district to verify all the student demographic, emergency and medical information for your child prior to the start of the new school year. Please take time to update needed information, such as your student's Health Information Form. If you do not have an email registered with the District, you will receive a letter.

You will create an account, that you will use each year for this process, and submit a form for each student in your family. To make the process easier for families with multiple students, you will have the option to copy all generic family information to all other students in your family.

We would appreciate all families to take action and complete the online forms as soon as possible. Your student's registration will not be complete until the forms have been submitted. If you do not have access to the Internet, there will be computers available at the school to complete the forms. We are very excited to bring this new process to the District. We believe that you will find it is a much easier way to update your student's information each year.





## Stewart PTO

The students, teachers and staff at Stewart are so very fortunate to have such a wonderful and active PTO. There are many activities and supplies we would not have if not for their continuous and generous support.

### **They help our school by:**

- Volunteering at our many different school activities
- Organizing fund raisers that support the purchase of many instructional materials
- Organizing family events
- Supporting teachers at events
- Creating our annual yearbook
- Supporting teachers and students in the classroom
- Helping with book fairs
- Selling of t-shirts and maintaining logo inventory
- Ordering and distributing school supplies

If you would like to learn more about the PTO, please feel free to contact Mary Gillen at [mirenegillen@yahoo.com](mailto:mirenegillen@yahoo.com) .

Look for more information to come home the first week of school.

## PTO Meetings

Dates & Times are subject to change. All meetings will be held in the PTO Room– unless noted differently.

August 31<sup>st</sup> – 8:30 AM

September 20<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM

October 19<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 AM

November 30<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 AM

December

January 24<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM

February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 8:30 AM

March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 8:30 AM

April 26<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 AM

May 24<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 AM

Our PTO meetings are open to all our parents. Please come hear more about the events at our school and how you can support our students and our teachers. Thank you for your time, commitment, and dedication to our school and students!



## 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Events

<u>August</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>First Day of School</u>
	<u>15</u>	<u>Cheers and Tears 8-9</u>
	<u>30</u>	<u>Fall Pictures</u>
	<u>31</u>	<u>PTO Meeting 8:30</u>
<u>September</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Holiday</u>
	<u>11</u>	<u>Parent Information Night (K,1 and 2) 5:00-5:45</u>
	<u>11</u>	<u>Parent Information Night (3rd - 6th) 6:00-7:00</u>
	<u>19</u>	<u>Read for a Better Life</u>
	<u>20</u>	<u>Fundraiser Kick-Off 2:00</u>
	<u>20</u>	<u>Watch Dog Kick-Off 5:30</u>
	<u>20</u>	<u>PTO Meeting 6:30</u>
<u>October</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Early Release 12:10</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>Holiday</u>
	<u>10</u>	<u>Stellar Student 8:00</u>
	<u>11</u>	<u>Field Day</u>
	<u>12</u>	<u>Mighty Mustang</u>
	<u>19</u>	<u>PTO Meeting 8:30</u>
	<u>20</u>	<u>Color Run</u>
	<u>22</u>	<u>Red Ribbon Week Begins</u>
	<u>25</u>	<u>GT Parent Infor Night 6:00</u>
	<u>26</u>	<u>Character Parade 9:00</u>
	<u>November</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>6</u>		<u>Stellar Student 8:00</u>
<u>7</u>		<u>Mighty Mustang</u>
<u>8</u>		<u>3rd Grade PE and Art Night</u>
<u>9</u>		<u>Veterans Day Celebration</u>
<u>12</u>		<u>Cyber Bully Parent Presentation 6:00</u>
<u>14</u>		<u>Group Pictures</u>
<u>16</u>		<u>Thanksgiving Feasts</u>
<u>26</u>		<u>Generation Texas Week Begins</u>
<u>30</u>		<u>Jean Stewart Birthday Celebration</u>
<u>December</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Holiday Store Opens</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>Stellar Student 8:00</u>
	<u>6</u>	<u>4th Grade Program and Open House</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>Mighty Mustang 10:50-1:00</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>Student Council Parade</u>
	<u>19</u>	<u>Christmas Parties</u>
	<u>19</u>	<u>Early Release 12:10</u>





## 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Events

<u>January</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>First Day for Students</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Parent Appreciation Evening</u>
	<u>21</u>	<u>Holiday</u>		<u>6</u>	<u>Teacher Appreciation Week</u>
	<u>23</u>	<u>Stellar Student 8:00</u>		<u>9</u>	<u>Fine Arts Concert</u>
	<u>24</u>	<u>PTO Meeting 6:30</u>		<u>13</u>	<u>STAAR – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Math 5<sup>th</sup> Math Re-Takes</u>
	<u>25</u>	<u>Mighty Mustang 10:50-1:00</u>		<u>14</u>	<u>STAAR – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Reading 5<sup>th</sup> Reading Re-Takes</u>
	<u>30</u>	<u>100th Day of School</u>		<u>15</u>	<u>STAAR – 5<sup>th</sup> Science</u>
<u>February</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>CISD Science Fair</u>		<u>17</u>	<u>Yearbook Signing</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>Father/Daughter Dance</u>		<u>17</u>	<u>5th and 6th Grade Dance</u>
	<u>12</u>	<u>Stellar Student 8:00</u>		<u>21</u>	<u>Stellar Student 8:00</u>
	<u>14</u>	<u>Valentine's Parties</u>		<u>21</u>	<u>GT Expo</u>
	<u>15</u>	<u>Mighty Mustang 10:50-1:00</u>		<u>23</u>	<u>Mighty Mustang 10:50-1:00</u>
	<u>22</u>	<u>Go Texan Day and Chili Cook-Off</u>		<u>24</u>	<u>School Wide Picnic (Fundraiser eligibility)</u>
	<u>22</u>	<u>PTO Meeting 8:30</u>		<u>27</u>	<u>Holiday</u>
	<u>25</u>	<u>Book Fair Begins</u>		<u>28</u>	<u>Award's Day</u>
	<u>26</u>	<u>Club Pictures</u>		<u>29</u>	<u>Kindergarten Graduation 9:00</u>
	<u>28</u>	<u>2nd Music Program and Open House</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>6th Grade Promotion</u>
<u>March</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Dr. Suess Birthday</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>6th Grade Clap-out</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>1st Reading Café</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>EOY Parties 10:30</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>Early Release 12:10</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>Early Release 12:10</u>
	<u>11</u>	<u>Spring Break</u>			
	<u>19</u>	<u>Stellar Student 8:00</u>			
	<u>22</u>	<u>Mighty Mustang 10:50-1:00</u>			
	<u>22</u>	<u>PTO Meeting 8:30</u>			
	<u>26</u>	<u>Spring Pictures</u>			
	<u>29</u>	<u>Spring Carnival</u>			
<u>April</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Honor Choir</u>			
	<u>9</u>	<u>STAAR 4<sup>th</sup> Writing and 5<sup>th</sup> Math</u>			
	<u>10</u>	<u>STAAR 5<sup>th</sup> Reading</u>			
	<u>16</u>	<u>Kinder Graduation Pictures</u>			
	<u>16</u>	<u>Stellar Student 8:00</u>			
	<u>18</u>	<u>Mighty Mustang 8:00</u>			
	<u>19</u>	<u>Holiday</u>			
	<u>22</u>	<u>Holiday</u>			
	<u>25</u>	<u>1st Music Program and Open House</u>			

