

# Nelson's News

Coronado K-8 School, An "Excelling" School  
Monica Nelson, Principal, 696-6627  
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BE HERE AND ON TIME FOR SCHOOL!  
Elementary 7:55 Middle School 8:20

**Welcome Back – We're going to have a great 2009-10 School Year!**

**Parent Night!! Elementary—August 25, and Middle School – August 26.**

**Both start at 6:30 p.m.**

**Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up** – Please see the attached for specific, important information if you are a parent who drops off and picks up your student!

**Who's New At Coronado This Year?** – We have several new faces at school this year. I'd like to take this chance to "introduce" them to you: Cathy Crockett joins us as our new assistant principal. Mrs. Crockett was a teacher for many years at Coronado before taking on other jobs in the district (she has been an Instructional Coach and an Instructional Support Assistant [like being an assistant principal] at Cross Middle School). Kathryn Panas is a new elementary reading teacher; she is coming to us from TUSD. Leslie Moll is our new Career Explorations/Social Studies teacher (grades 7 and 8). Kelly McGowan is our new PO/Law Related Education teacher, replacing Brenda Perez. Peter Fisher is our new 6/7 Guidance Counselor; we are still looking for a half-time 8<sup>th</sup> grade counselor to join us this year. Due to staffing cuts in the Pima County Sheriff's Department, we have lost our School Resource Officer for this year; also as a result of budget cuts we have lost Kathleen Neighbor, our elementary social worker. Hopefully, as the economy recovers, we will be able to replace these valuable people.

**Who Can You Call?** – Often parents are unsure of who to call at school other than the teacher. If you need to reach the office, you call 696-6610. Rebekah Watts, our receptionist, may be the one who answers your call. However, other people in the front office may also pick up that line. They are Susie Peck, Elvia Martinez (attendance 696-6712), Dorothy Aragon (Bi-lingual clerk 696-6714), or Dolly Pivonka (registrar 696-6710). There are other people you may want to reach: Michael McConnell (assistant principal for grades K-1, 3, 5, 7) is at 696-6614 and Cathy Crockett (assistant principal for grades 2, 4, 6, and 8) is at 696-6612. Karin Smith is my assistant (696-6626). Peter Fisher is the 6/7 grades counselor (696-6711). Kathy O'Brien is the school nurse (696-6619). Jerry Maddock is our school psychologist (696-6616). Nicole Melin is our special education facilitator (696-6703). I've included a list of faculty names and numbers with this newsletter.

**Library News** – As you may know, our capital money is frozen due to the continuing budget problems in the Arizona State Legislature. Consequently, Kathy Reilly, our librarian, has no money to purchase new books. One idea to consider: could you donate a "Birthday Book" on your child's birthday? It could be a copy of their favorite book. We mark all donations with a special sticker. The library also accepts gently used children's books. Thanks for remembering us as you clean off book shelves as your children "out grow" their books.

**The Red Curbs** – Please be aware that our school is surrounded by red curbs. They are not painted that color because we love red! They are painted that way because they are "Fire Lanes" which allow fire department equipment and ambulances to have access to our school in the event of an emergency. You MAY NOT park in the red zones at any time. We have worked out an agreement to allow us to use the loops in front of school for parent drop off and pick up (see the attached for additional information, please). However, everyone must help out. If you are in your car in a red zone, you must stay in your vehicle in the event we have an emergency and have to have people move their cars quickly. We have installed two 5-minute parking spaces in the visitor parking area to help parents who just have to drop off a forgotten lunch, assignment, or lunch money. Please make use of these spaces.

**Positive Attendance Policy** – In an attempt to provide the best support for our students, we instituted a new policy last year regarding signing children out from school. We will no longer call students from class during the last 30 minutes of their day unless they have a doctor's appointment. Teachers are teaching or doing important "end of the day" activities in elementary school; in the middle school, they are finishing their instruction just as if it were a 1<sup>st</sup> period class. Thanks for your understanding.

## **Drop Off and Pick Up Information**

### **Elementary and Middle School (morning):**

If you are dropping off your elementary student before school, the best time with the least congestion is between 7:35 and 7:45; after that, it seems we have more parents and the process takes longer. Remember you can use either the east or west loops in front of school for both elementary and middle school students. Sometimes, I see that the west loop is entirely empty and there is a big backup in the east loop. Middle School students cannot be on campus before 8:00 when we have teachers on duty to help with supervision. Do not drop off your middle school students with their elementary siblings. Their school does not start until 8:20, while elementary begins at 7:55 and we have no supervision to ensure their safety.

**East Loop:** Pull forward before you drop off your child. They may enter campus through the east gate if they are in elementary school; middle school students walk west to wait in the grassy area in front of the middle school. **Do not block the fire hydrant in that loop. We have marked it off with cones to help you notice this area.** Do not park your car at any time in this loop. We have 5-minute visitor's parking in the west loop if you need to drop off something in the office.

**West Loop:** Continue pulling forward before you drop off your child. Elementary students can enter through the west gate. Middle School students can walk to the west side of the middle school and wait in the grassy area in front of the middle school. **Do not stop in the area cordoned off by cones.** This driveway entrance was an area cited as problematic by the Fire Marshall and we are trying to work with them in order to continue using the loops.

### **Afternoon:**

In the afternoon, elementary parents may use either loop to pick-up their child. Middle School students only use the east loop in the afternoon.

**East loop:** Pull into the drive and continue to pull forward as you wait for your child. This is the only loop for middle school parents to use. **Do not block the fire hydrant in that loop. We have marked it off with cones to help you notice this area.**

**West loop:** This loop is used for elementary pick-up only; middle school does not use this loop. Pull as far forward as possible. Stay in your car and let your children find you. We have radios to help with that process. We have students wait for their parents at the west end of the loop in front of the library, under the shade structure. Normally, the elementary teachers escort their students to the buses at the end of the day; the buses are lined up on the west side of the middle school building in the bus loop beside the Cougar. The elementary teachers will also bring students whose parents will be picking them up at the west loop along with them and send them to wait with me or another teacher under the blue shade structure at the west end of the loop. We have middle school buses in this loop at that dismissal and cars are not allowed.

### **Some General Things to Remember:**

**Please do not leave your car unattended in either loop. You must wait in your car.**

**If you have a question, please ask one of the staff on duty to assist you. We can help you via the radios we carry.**

**Do not pick up your child in the back parking lot or ask them to run across Wilds Rd. to meet you.**

**Do not park your car on Wilds Road. Do not jay-walk across to get your children. There is no parking anywhere on Wilds Road during school hours. Pima County Sheriff's Deputies may ticket you, even if you are parked east of the crosswalk. When you park on Wilds, there are two major problems: first, the area is marked "No stopping, no standing, no parking" (you are breaking the law if you do) and, second, if you park on Wilds (especially east of the cross-walk), you are making it unsafe for our students who are walking or riding their bikes because of the placement of your car.**

**Please take a few extra minutes and use the loops to pick up your children. This is for their safety and for the safety of all our children.**