

THE HAWK

FAMILY NEWSLETTER OF LAVEEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • AUGUST, 2023

Dear Families,

We are thankful for you being part of our school community! The world is changing quickly and we want to do everything we can to help students be successful in school and life.

We are excited to tell you that we will be using a program called Character Strong this year. This program teaches skills that will help our PreK - 8 students be successful in school and in life.

We believe that students should have safe, predictable places to learn where they feel included. Students should have healthy and helpful connections with teachers and classmates. They should also experience learning that will help them tackle challenges inside and outside of school. Character Strong is more than a set of lessons - it is a partnership between schools and families to create a place where students feel like they belong and learn skills that will help them be the best they can be!

Character Strong has three main goals for students: Be Kind, Be Strong, and Be Well.

- **Be Kind:** Social skills like listening, friendship, solving conflicts, and leadership. These skills are taught alongside Empathy, Respect, & Cooperation
- **Be Strong:** Skills that help students focus, stay organized, and set goals. These skills are taught alongside Responsibility, Courage, & Perseverance
- **Be Well:** Skills that help students handle their emotions and deal with stress. These skills are taught alongside Gratitude, Honesty, & Creativity

This year, you'll be invited to join the fun! We will send letters home about the skills and strengths that are being taught each month. Each letter will include some ways to build these skills at home, discussion starters, and fun challenges you can try with your family.

The path forward is full of growth! We cannot wait to partner with you in this work. Together, we will:

- Teach students how to build strong friendships
- Work together to solve problems, big and small
- Grow skills for life

With continued gratitude for your support,

Dr. Robert Caplinger, Principal

*Character
Strong*



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Please take a moment to “like” us on Facebook for reminders, announcements, videos, links, and event pictures. <https://www.facebook.com/laveenelementary>



DRIVELINE PARENT PICK-UP

In order to streamline our student drop-off and pick-up procedures, we will be utilizing "Driveline" this year.

Student Dismissal:

Laveen Elementary will begin the year with a new dispatched pick-up this year. Your family was issued a number at Meet the Teacher Night. This number should be displayed on the front driver's side of your vehicle or hanging from your rearview mirror. Staff will use this number to call for your student(s) to come to the front for pick-up. The parking lot will be closed. All parents will need to remain in their vehicles and proceed through the drive-thru pick up line along the curb. If you do



not have your number, you may be asked to drive through pick-up and return to the end of the line which will allow us to look up your assigned number without delaying the dismissal process for others. All vehicles will need to pull to the front of the line. **We greatly appreciate your patience as we work to implement this process.** This dismissal system allows us to keep your student indoors and out of the heat and weather during dismissal.

This year, walking students who live west of 43rd Ave will exit through the west gate near 43rd Ave. Students who walk with siblings will meet in the center courtyard of the school and exit campus together from that same location. School dismisses at 3:30pm.

You may line-up prior to 3:30pm, but that will increase the amount of time you are waiting for your student to be dismissed.

FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS

If you shop at Fry's Foods Grocery store, please link your Fry's V.I.P. card to **Laveen Elementary School (Laveen Hawks) organization number: AK833**. The Fry's Community Rewards program will automatically donate to our school on your behalf from each of your purchases! This will happen automatically and there is nothing else you ever need to do!

Visit: frysfood.com/i/community/community-rewards



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

August 7	First Day of School!	August 23	Early Release/\$1.00 Dress Down
August 15	Washington DC Info Meeting (8th)	August 24	NWEA Assessments (3-8)
August 17	Governing Board Meets (5:30PM)	August 25	NWEA Assessments (3-8)
August 21	Cookie Dough Fundraiser Begins!	August 25	School Picture Day (K-8)
August 21	NWEA Assessments (3-8)	August 28	AimsWebPlus Assessments (K-3)
August 21	School Picture Day (PreK & SpEd)	August 29	AimsWebPlus Assessments (K-3)
August 22	NWEA Assessments (3-8)	August 30	AimsWebPlus Assessments (K-3)
August 22	Band Rental Night (@Cheatham)	August 31	AimsWebPlus Assessments (K-3)

If you have questions about events or activities, please call our main office at (602) 237-9110, M-F 8:00AM - 4:00PM

2023 ARIZONA CHARITABLE TAX CREDIT

Arizona allows taxpayers to dedicate dollars to education while reducing the amount you owe on your 2023 taxes through the tax credit program. For every dollar you donate, the amount you owe on your Arizona taxes will be that much less. If you do not owe taxes, the amount you donate may be carried forward for up to five years to offset future tax liabilities. You can make your donation [online](#) or download the form [here](#).



2023-24 SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

Updated school supply lists for each grade level are available on our [school website](#) under the "General Information" tab. Please print the list for your child's grade and take advantage of the back to school sales on school supplies! You are encouraged to bring them on the first day of school. If you need financial assistance with school supplies, including new backpacks for your children, please contact the main office for assistance at (602) 237-9110. **We are happy to help!**

NEW LAVEEN SPIRIT WEAR

Visit laveenspiritwear.com for all your spirit wear needs! We have some great new designs available for the 2023-24 school year.

Remember, all students are welcome to wear spirit wear to school each Friday instead of their uniform tops on "Spirit Wear Friday!" Order spirit wear this summer and be ready for school in August! **Show your Laveen spirit!**



STUDENT ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT

Please remember that students are expected to be at school each day, unless they are ill. We also ask that you schedule all appointments outside of the school day, to avoid classroom disruptions and missed instruction. This is especially important on days where schoolwide assessments are scheduled. If you have any attendance questions or concerns, please call Silvia Cortez in our office at (602) 237-9110.



LANYARDS & STUDENT IDs

Students are expected to wear their ID each day as part of their school uniform. An ID is required to enter onto campus, eat lunch in the cafeteria, ride the school bus, and check-out library books. IDs and lanyards will be handed out on the first day of school. Students are welcome to use any school-appropriate lanyard they would like. If students lose their ID, they will need to purchase a replacement for \$2.00 in the office. A replacement lanyard is also \$2.00. Please call us with any questions at (602) 237-9110.

SCHOOL UNIFORM GUIDELINES



Shirts/Tops:

Short-sleeves or long-sleeves in solid white, navy blue or light blue.

Polo-style, blouses, or button down with collars.
No logos. No t-shirts.

Pants/Skirts/Bottoms:

Pants or shorts in solid black, navy blue or khaki.
Dresses, jumpers, or skirts in solid black, navy blue or khaki. *No jeans or denim. No athletic shorts. No sweatpants. No leggings.*

Outerwear/Jackets:

Jackets, sweatshirts or sweaters in solid navy blue, white, gray, or light blue. Outerwear must be worn over an approved uniform shirt.

IDs & Lanyards

School-issued IDs are considered part of the required school uniform and must be worn daily.