



THE TORCH

Monday	8-19	Day F in the Related Arts Schedule
Tuesday	8-20	Day A in the Related Arts Schedule
Wednesday	8-21	Early Release Day – Dismissal starts at 1:45. Day B in the Related Arts Schedule
Thursday	8-22	Day C in the Related Arts Schedule
Friday	8-23	Day D in the Related Arts Schedule

Hello Warrior families! What a great start to the new school year. The students seemed so excited and ready to learn. Mrs. Mitidieri and Mr. Klein visited each 1st-5th grade students and spoke with them about the Positive Behavior Support reward system called “**The Wards Creek Way.**” Every child will have the opportunity to exhibit leadership and earn some very special quarterly rewards by displaying consistent positive behavior. A handbook has been placed in your child’s planner explaining the system. A copy is also available on the school’s website. Please read the handbook and sign the parent acknowledgement page at the back. Please ask your child about this and help them practice the expectations.

On Friday we had our Leadership Launch in which we discuss the 8 Habits. The students were able to listen to valuable life lessons from the “Finding Nemo” characters about perseverance. Our theme this year is that we will be diving deeper into our mission statement of Achievement, Learning, and Leadership for ALL.

The district change in school start/end times has already had a positive impact. On Friday, all 11 of our buses were here by 8:10. And, it appears that this will be consistent. This greatly ensures that all of our students will be in class by 8:25. Those that need breakfast will have the time they need and those that already have can go straight to class and prepare for the learning day.

We have consistently been having 7 out of the 11 buses arrive at the 2:45 dismissal time. On Friday, after establishing a routine in procedures, we released those buses at 2:50. The last bus left school by 3:05. In contrast, the last parent pick-up student was in their car at 3:10. We encourage parents to take advantage of having their children ride the bus.

There are five attachments from the Superintendent’s office. These include: Class Size Letter; Economic Security Report; Elementary Choice Letter; School Safety Letter; and Student Code of Conduct Letter. Please take the time to read over them.

More TORCH News on the next page:

We have noticed several students utilizing rolling backpacks. Unfortunately, with 700 children transitioning, this often becomes an opportunity for a child to fall. We ask that students use the traditional backpack. Those that have a chiropractor note will be allowed to use their rolling backpack.

Has your child informed you about our new water bottle filling station? Thanks PTO for your continuous efforts to purchase items for our students! <https://www.wardscreekpto.com/>

Learning begins at 8:25. Any student arriving after 8:30 will lose valuable instruction and disrupts the learning for others. Please have your child to school on time. In addition, our teachers are maximizing teaching time and do not begin to prepare for dismissal until 2:40. Students being checked out early will miss out on the many end of the day activities that prepares them for the next day. Students will not be checked out after 2:00 unless it is an emergency situation.

The **Parent Handbook** has been provided and is available on the school website.

Consistency in routines is most beneficial for students. Each time we are asked to make a change there are several clerical steps that must take place to ensure that effective communication takes place and that students are completely sure of where they are supposed to be. Safety is our utmost concern and keeping your child on a normal schedule will greatly benefit operations.

Parents who are picking up their children in the parent pick-up line must have a card tag visible. Please use a sharpie and clearly write your child's name and grade level.

• The 8 Habits of Happy Kids

- Habit 1 – Be Proactive
- Habit 2 – Begin with the End in Mind
- Habit 3 – Put First Things First
- Habit 4 – Think Win-Win
- Habit 5 – Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood
- Habit 6 – Synergize
- Habit 7 – Sharpen the Saw
- Habit 8 – Find Your Voice and Inspire Others to Find Theirs