

Back To School FAQs – August 2022

- **What time does school start and end?**

VANCOUVER CAMPUS:

Classroom doors open at 8:15 a.m. for students, and the school day begins at 8:30. If your child is not inside their classroom at 8:30, they will need to stop by the office to check in and get a tardy slip before heading to class. If your child arrives at school after 8:40 a.m., they need to be walked into the office by a parent to be checked in (and if your child is a kindergartener or 1st grader, a parent will need to walk them to their classroom after they get their tardy slip.) Our school day ends at 3:00 p.m., and carpool pick up lasts until about 3:10 p.m.

BATTLE GROUND CAMPUS:

Classroom doors open at 8:00 a.m. for students, and the school day begins at 8:15. If your child is not inside their classroom at 8:15, they will need to stop by the office to check in and get a tardy slip before heading to class. If your child arrives at school after 8:25 a.m., they need to be walked into the office by a parent to be checked in (and if your child is a kindergartener or 1st grader, a parent will need to walk them to their classroom after they get their tardy slip.) Our school day ends at 2:45 p.m., and carpool pick up lasts until about 2:55 p.m.

- **Can I walk my child to class in the morning or pick them up from their teacher at dismissal?**

Yes, parents can either choose to drive through the drop off/pick up line, or park and walk their student to class in the morning, or pick them up from their teacher at the end of the day. If you are at the Vancouver campus, please park in the paved Faith Center lot and walk with your child to a designated crossing area. (Gravel parking at the Vancouver campus is reserved for families with students riding the shuttle, for dropping them off and picking them up.) Please be a mindful pedestrian and keep your child with you as you navigate through the parking lot to the classroom. Also, teachers begin their day promptly at 8:15 (BG) or 8:30 (Vancouver). Please be sure you have said your goodbyes and have left the classroom before the day begins. If parking and picking your child up at the end of the day, make sure your student “checks out” with their teacher before taking them, and cross the line of traffic ONLY in designated areas, being sure to follow the direction of any staff members out directing traffic.

- **What if I am running late to pick up my child?**

Any student who is not picked up by the end of carpool will be walked to the school office. If a parent is not there to pick them up by 15 minutes after dismissal time (ie: 3:00 for Battle Ground or 3:15 for Vancouver), our late pick-up charge is applied. Families who arrive more than 15 minutes after dismissal time to pick up their student(s) will be charged \$10.00 for any part of the first 10 minutes and \$1.00 per minute thereafter per student. Late charges will be billed monthly through FACTS. We completely understand that sometimes “life” happens (traffic accident on the freeway, flat tire, etc), so every family is given one “grace card” a year, and will not be charged the first time a late pick up occurs.

- **Can my child walk or ride their bike to school?**

If you live in one of the nearby neighborhoods and would like your child to ride their bike or walk to/from school, that is fine. Please communicate with your child's teacher via email whether this will be a daily routine, occasional, or other. **All walking/biking students must have a current Walking/Biking Release form on file for the 2022-23 school year.** We will attach a copy to this email if you need to print and send in a new one, or they're available in the school office.

- **Is there a service hour requirement for families each semester?**

This year we are bringing back the family service hour requirement. CCALL could not function without the dedicated and wholehearted service of our students' families. It is only because so many families participate so enthusiastically in service to the school that we are able to maintain our quality programs and facilities while keeping tuition costs at an affordable level.

Service hours at CCALL give families an opportunity to be involved in the lives and education of their children through volunteering in programs and working on projects of their choice. There are a variety of opportunities, programs, and projects from which to choose. Some of these include chaperoning field trips, helping with school events like Walk-a-Thon or Payback Book sales, art class helper, working in the office, serving on committees, working in classrooms, supervising at lunch and recess, and many more. **There will be clipboards out near the photo station & treat table at Back to School Night on Sept. 1 for parents to sign up to be contacted about volunteer opportunities with our PTF (Parent Teacher Fellowship).**

Each CCALL family is asked to fulfill a 30-hour service requirement per year. Any family member, including parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and/or family friends may contribute hours towards the requirement for your family. Some Cornerstone families choose to participate in the program financially rather than through service. If this option works better for your family, the fee is \$15 per hour not served. Single parent families are half the time or cost.

All adults volunteering in classrooms, as field trip chaperones, or any other settings where they are responsible for students at CCALL must have a completed "Background Check Authorization Form" on file. A full background check will be completed by the administration prior to the adult having contact with any students.

- **Will both campuses still offer "Pizza Tuesdays" and "Hot Dog Thursdays", where my child can order lunch?**

Yes. Students will need to place their orders with the teachers the day before, and Tuesdays we will bring in pizza from Papa John's. The cost for pizza is still \$2.00 per slice. The hot dog lunch will include an all-beef hot dog (students can opt for either one or two hot dogs for the same price), a bag of chips, & applesauce. The cost of the hot dog lunch is \$3.00. Parents can deposit money to their child's lunch account in the school office (or by calling in with a payment over the phone), and they will be notified when the balance runs low. If you had money left in your

family lunch account at the end of last year, then the office can let you know your remaining credit balance. These programs are fundraisers for our 8th Grade Washington, DC trip.

Pizza and Hot Dog Lunch will begin the week of 9/12/22. On the first Pizza Tuesday, students are invited to order lunch free of charge, if desired (up to two slices of pizza). Teachers will take these orders on Monday, 9/11/22. Please direct any lunch ordering questions to your child's teacher, as they are the ones who enter the orders into the system each week. If your child orders lunch the day before, and is unexpectedly absent the day of the lunch, they will **not** be charged.

- **What if my child forgets their lunch at home?**

We have "emergency lunches" in the office to make sure any child with a missing lunch has food. (Students can also call home and let you know, in case someone is available to bring their lunch up to them.) They consist of a Cup o' Noodle, a bag of chips, and an applesauce. The cost for an emergency lunch is \$3.00 (We do ask the kids to call home to make sure it is OK with the parents that they are given one. Sometimes kids have decided to eat all of their lunch at snack time, so when they come to the office and say "I don't have a lunch", we want to make sure parents approve before they are given another lunch and are charged for it.)

- **Where will the students eat lunch?**

Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria. This is located in Building 9 at the Vancouver campus, and on the first floor of our Battle Ground campus. Students are supervised both in the lunchroom and on the playground by our paraeducators. As communicated previously to our Vancouver campus families, the Vancouver campus will be peanut-free this year in the lunchroom and classrooms.

- **Will there be a "Parent Night/Curriculum Night" at both campuses in September for parents to come to campus and hear from their child(ren)'s teacher about classroom policies and routines?**

Yes! This is taking place the first Thursday of the school year – mark your calendars now for **Thursday, Sept. 8th at 6:30.** More info to come soon! (*Because of space restrictions, this is a parent only event.)

- **When are school pictures?**

We are changing photographers this year and will no longer be using Lifetouch. We will be using 4Ever Photography, which is the same photographer that our ECE program uses for their pictures, and they have been very pleased with the results. Our school picture day is later than usual because of this switch – **Tuesday, October 25th**. More information will be sent home closer to picture day.

- **Will there be a Payback Book sale?**

Yes, our PTF (Parent/Teacher Fellowship) plans to participate in the annual Payback Book fundraiser. More information will be sent home soon.....this is always an easy and profitable fundraiser for our school each year.

- **What if my child needs to take medication while at school?**
 Parents need to bring in the medication to the office (clearly labeled with the student's name) and fill out a new medication authorization form for the current year. This applies to both prescription medications, as well as over the counter meds (like if you want to leave Children's Tylenol or Benadryl at school if your child is prone to headaches, allergies, etc.) We must have a form on file in order to store and dispense medication to them.

- **How does the school communicate with parents?**
 We send out a monthly newsletter, as well as schoolwide emails. (These are sent out via Constant Contact or RenWeb/FACTS, so you will want to make sure they are marked as "safe senders" so it doesn't end up in your junk folder.) Teachers send classroom newsletters and emails. We also post information on our school Facebook page and school website.

- **What important dates should I know for the coming month?**

 - **Thursday, 9/1:** Back to School Night (supply drop off) between 4:00-6:00 p.m.
 - **Tuesday, 9/6:** First Day of School
 - **Thursday, 9/8:** Curriculum Night for parents – 6:30 p.m. - More info to come
 - **Friday, 9/9:** Early Release – 11:15 a.m. at Battle Ground/11:30 a.m. at Vancouver
 - **Tuesday, 9/13 - Thursday 9/15:** Middle School Retreat at Eagle Fern Camp
 - **Tuesday, 9/13:** First "Pizza Day" (Elementary and 9th graders....Middle School students will be at retreat) – Students can order pizza for free (up to 2 slices)