



## Star Elementary

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[www.westada.org/star](http://www.westada.org/star)

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### Building the Foundation for Responsible Life-Long Learners

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Todd Adams – Principal  
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August 16, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am excited to welcome you and your student back to school! I hope you had a wonderful summer and are ready to learn. It is exhilarating to start a new school year, and I am looking forward to working with you to make sure we are building the foundation for responsible life-long learners.

Our **first day of school** is Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> for all grades PreK-5. This day is an early release with lunch being served to 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. **Grades 1-5 first bell to enter class rings at 9:05 am.** Please arrive on time but not prior to 8:45 am. Students in grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be **released at 1:25 p.m.** on the first day. Please visit our website at [www.westada.org/star](http://www.westada.org/star) scroll down and click on the 2021-22 daily bell schedule link to view the bell schedules for the second day and beyond.

**Kindergarten and Preschool** students who attend the morning (AM) session will have the first bell ring at **9:05 am** and class will be **dismissed at 10:55 am** on the first day of school. Kindergarten and Preschool students who attend the afternoon (PM) session will start class at **11:40 a.m.** Please be here by 11:35 a.m. so we may start on time. The afternoon session will be **dismissed at 1:25 p.m.** on the first day of school. Please visit our website at [www.westada.org/star](http://www.westada.org/star) and click on the daily bell schedule link to view the bell schedules for the second day and beyond.

For those who will be **dropping their students off or picking their students up at school**, follow our drop-off and pick-up guidelines on the next page.

Our district is working hard to make sure all students have their electronic devices (computers) checked out to them prior to the start of school. You can get your device and meet your teacher at our **Meet and Greet on Tuesday, August 24th from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** Please plan to attend. To keep crowds minimized and to have time with the teacher, times to attend are based on the first letter of your last name on our time schedule below.

A-F ~ 5:00 – 5:30 p.m.  
G-L ~ 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.  
M-R ~ 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.  
S-Z ~ 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.

**Preschool Meet and Greet will be on Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.** If your student attends Preschool PM session, open house will be at 1:30 pm. If your child attends Preschool AM session, open house will be at 3:00 pm

While at the meet and greet you and your child will be able to:

- meet classroom teachers and other staff members
- drop off school supplies and pick up important paperwork
- check out laptop computer

The Meet and Greet is very important because this is your opportunity to see your student's classroom, meet their teacher, and get any questions you may have answered.

**Attendance:**

Our first **bell rings at 9:05 a.m.** To ensure as much learning as possible occurs during the school day, students need to arrive at school on time and be in attendance for the entire school day. We know and understand some absences cannot be avoided. In those situations, please keep us informed. If your student is going to be absent from school, we ask that you **call the school office by 9:00 a.m.** If you must pick-up your student from school early, please call ahead so we can inform the teacher. Students will stay in class until the authorized person has arrived to pick them up

**Morning Drop-Off & Afternoon Pick-Up**

When dropping off your student in the morning, please use the drop-off lane in front of the school (in front of the new addition). Please pull all the way forward to drop your child off. Please have everything ready to go and say your goodbyes quickly, otherwise our drop off lane will get backed up onto Star Rd. If you are wanting to walk your child up to the school doors you will need to park in a parking space or across the street in the park. **All goodbyes will need to be said outside.**

When picking up your student at the end of the day, if you would like to walk up to meet them, please park in a parking space in the school parking lot or in the park across the street. Students can meet their parent/guardian in front of the new school building area. For the safety of our students the city of Star, ACHD, Ada County Sheriff's Department and the school ask that we **do not park on Star Road** in front of the school. If you use the pick-up lane (same as the drop-off lane) you must pull all the way forward and remain with your car and meet your student at your car. Traffic can get backed up all the way to State Street, so we must be diligent in following our procedures.

If calling to let the school know you will be picking your student up at the end of the day, you **must call the school office before 3:15 p.m.** The office gets extremely busy at the end of the day and we cannot guarantee getting a message to students after 3:15 p.m.

**PTO**

We hope you will consider getting involved in our PTO activities. We need parents to help make our school the best it can be. Parents can get involved in our annual fundraiser, service projects like painting the playground, volunteering in the classrooms, as well as helping with other school events. If you would like to reach out to the Star Elementary PTO, their email is [starelementarypto@gmail.com](mailto:starelementarypto@gmail.com)

**Website**

Our website is up and running and you can find enrollment/registration information, supply lists, calendars, and essential information. We will be updating and adding to it daily, so check us out at [www.westada.org/star](http://www.westada.org/star).

**Message from the Principal - Introduction**

Since I am new to Star Elementary, I would like to take a moment to introduce myself. For most of my life I have lived in the Treasure Valley, graduating from Boise High School and joining the U.S. Navy in 1986. During my service, I worked avionics on helicopters that were detached on warships during which I deployed four times, spending much of my time in the Persian Gulf. After leaving the service, I returned to Boise and went to Boise State University where I earned my bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. In 2010, I earned my master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Idaho. For seventeen years I worked at Lake Hazel Middle School, teaching multiple grades and subjects, coaching many different sports, and serving as the Activities Director. During my last two years at Lake Hazel Middle School, I also completed a principal internship at Desert Sage Elementary. For the last six years I have been the principal at Shadow Butte Elementary in the Emmett School District.

I also have a wonderful family and I have been married to my beautiful wife for 17 years and have two children who are the absolute joy of my life. My oldest is my son who will be going into high school this fall and my daughter is my youngest. She will start middle school. We enjoy spending time together outside which includes swimming, fishing, and riding horses.

My goal at Star is to provide for your children the same, high quality learning environment and experience that I want and expect for my children. If at any time you have a question, concern, or just want to talk, please feel free to call or come by the office.

Thank you for everything you do for your child, their education, and their school.

Sincerely,

Todd Adams