

WELCOME TO KOLTER KINDER

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

We are so excited to welcome you into our Kolter family! We know you are just as thrilled for your little one to be starting school. However, we also know you are probably a tad nervous about the drastic changes to come. You've got questions. We hear you. We've been there and we know the answers aren't always obvious.

You are so fortunate to be joining a unique community where we support each other. Parents, staff, and students alike work together to make our school what it is. Always know that someone is here for you.

In an effort to ease your nerves and help you get a jump start, our Kolter PTO Welcome Committee has put together a series of emails tailored specifically for incoming parents. Each week leading up to the start of school, we will focus on different topics to keep you in the know! Have a burning question that wasn't addressed? Email Nicole Holub nicholub@gmail.com the Welcome Committee Chair. And now, without further ado, we present to you...

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK: A KOLTER GUIDE FOR PARENTS BY PARENTS

PART 1: HOW DO I STAY IN THE LOOP AND WHO DO I NEED TO KNOW?

There are millions of ways to get information.

1. Gretchen Rossitto, our PTO president, sends out a weekly email called "Talk to Me Tuesdays." She gives loads of information in these emails. Read them. For real. Want in on her distribution list? Click the following link: <http://bit.ly/KolterDirectory>. You'll receive Gretchen's emails AND you'll be included in our online directory. Don't panic when you are prompted to list your child's teacher. Nobody knows their teacher yet and you can fill that in later.
2. The admin team sends out emails each week with super important information. Make sure you read those too. You automatically signed up to receive their emails when you registered for school.
3. THREE, yes, 3 different Facebook pages! The official one is "Kolter Elementary," but don't be fooled. The PTO Facebook page is where you'll get most of your information. That's

“Kolter Elementary PTO.” And for your less *ahem* official questions, like “where are good camps during spring break?” and “are we supposed to bring lunch for tomorrow’s field trip?” go to “Kolter Community.”

RIGHT NOW, before you read any further, open FB and “Like”:

[Kolter Elementary](#)

[Kolter Elementary PTO](#)

[Kolter Community](#)

4. Twitter- if that’s a thing you do, we have a feed: @kolterelem
5. Instagram too! @kolter_elementary and @kolterpe
6. Your Room Parent will send out class-specific emails with updates usually once a week.
7. Tuesday folders come home (on Tuesdays, obviously) packed with flyers, graded work, Etc. Check your child’s backpack (if not other days, definitely do it on Tuesdays).
8. Still have questions? Pick up the phone and call the front office! Ms. Gonzales, Ms. Bravo, and Ms. Guzman know all!

CAN YOU CONNECT THE FACE TO THE NAME, PLEASE?



Ms. Dickinson - Our principal.

We love her, the kids love her, and she loves us. Ms. Dickinson is big on gratitude and transparency. She is a real person who has always wanted to be an elementary school principal and genuinely loves our kids and our school.



Ms. Murphy- the Instructional Specialist

Mrs. Crossett-the Magnet Coordinator

Lovingly referred to as the “Wonder Twins,” these two joined our family last year just in time for Harvey to hit. They jumped in feet first and gave it their all. They support Ms. Dickinson and our teachers and can always be seen running around the school smiling, giving all the hugs, and spreading all the sunshine.



Ms. Gonzales- Magnet Clerk; Ms. Bravo- Administrative Assistant; Ms. Guzman- Student Information Representative

More than just the ladies behind the front desk, these gals are likely the faces you will see as you walk through the door. They are happy to lend a hand when you call the school confused. You will love these warm and welcoming ladies, as they are your first line of defense regarding just about everything!

A FEW FAQs BEFORE WE WRAP THIS UP

When will I find out my child's teacher?

A packet will be mailed the week of August 13 that contains a TON of information, including your classroom assignment. We know it's hard. Stay patient.

What school supplies do I need to buy?

NONE. Yes, none. Ms. Dickinson generously took care of this for all students, all grades. Just get them a backpack and a lunchbox.

Do they *really* need to wear uniforms?

Kolter dress code is solid red, white or navy tops with khaki, navy or denim bottoms. For girls, red, navy, khaki, and denim dresses are also approved. Kolter spirit t-shirts are always acceptable and very popular. Spirit t-shirts can be purchased in the fall from PTO. Often times, event t-shirts will become available throughout the year as well. So, no, you don't have to get formal Lands' End polos and pleated skirts. Old Navy is our friend. Check the Kolter Community Facebook page. Every now and then people are offering hand-me-downs from their kids.

Do I have to get my child G/T (gifted and talented) tested this summer?

No. All Kindergarten and Fifth Grade students will be tested this year, unless they have already been qualified as Gifted and Talented. You can request for your child to be tested if they are 1st-4th grade starting in the fall. Stay tuned for more information from Mrs. Crossett!

Help! I know I've seen upcoming dates somewhere, but I lost my phone and can't find anything. Gotcha covered. Here are the biggies for the beginning of school:

August 18, 9-10 a.m., Kinder Meet the Teacher & Classmate Playdate, Kolter North, bring your incoming kinder kid. ****NOTE: this is for KINDER students only!**

August 23, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Meet the Teacher & Student Social, Kolter North, bring your kids. ****This one is for the whole school!**

August 27, 7:30 a.m., 1st Day of School & Parent Coffee, following drop off at 7:45-8:30 a.m., Kolter North cafeteria, commiserate/celebrate with other parents about dropping your kid off for the first time.

September 12, 6-7 p.m. - Open House Night (Kinder-2nd grade), see what it is like to be your kid. Parents only!

TMI? Well, if you want more, stay tuned for Part #2 when we will discuss Transportation, Parking, Pick-ups & Drop offs.

Brought to you by the Kolter Elementary PTO Welcome Committee.

Kolter Guide For Parents Series:

Part #1- How do I stay in the know?

Part #2-Transportation, Parking, Pick-ups, and Drop offs

Part #3-Kolter Events 101

Part #4-Day in the Life of a Kindergartener



KOLTER NORTH

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