



Parent News from Armstrong Elementary

Main: 651-425-4100

Attendance: 651-425-4106

Website: aes.sowashco.org

School hours: 8:40 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

October 14, 2021

Parent/Teacher Fall Conferences

*This is for Knd through Grade 5 conferences

Parent/Teacher fall conferences are set for **Monday, November 1st from 3:30 - 7:45 pm AND Thursday, November 4th from 3:30 - 7:30 pm.** **PLEASE NOTE: They will look a little different this year. We have divided each of the days in half for either IN-PERSON or VIRTUAL conferences.** You will see a VIRTUAL and IN-PERSON conference for each teacher and may choose whichever works best for you.

- Monday, November 1, 3:30-5:30 – Virtual Conference appts
- Monday, November 1, 6:00-7:45 – In-Person Conference appts
- Thursday, November 4, 3:30-5:30 – In-Person Conference appts
- Thursday, November 4, 6:00-7:30 – Virtual Conference appts

**If you choose a VIRTUAL conference, your child's teacher will send you a link to the online conference.

Instructions are below. Please click on the following link to get to online conference signup at PTCFast.com http://www.ptcfast.com/schools/Armstrong_Elementary

Call Anne in the office at 651-425-4101 if you have any questions or need help signing up.

Fall Conferences November 1st and November 4th Scheduling Information

Armstrong Elementary uses an online conference scheduler to schedule conferences. Directions are provided below. Registration will be available starting today.

*For those families who don't have internet you can schedule your conferences with your classroom teacher/s or with Anne Henseler at 651-425-4101 in the office.

- To access the online scheduler go to www.ptcfast.com/schools/Armstrong_Elementary (note that there is an underscore between Armstrong_Elementary)
- 1. Click on the teacher/s you need to set up conference/s with and then click submit (**be sure to choose either VIRTUAL or IN-PERSON for your child's teacher**)
- 2. If you are only scheduling for one student your next screen will have you type in your information for that student.
- 3. If you have more than one student at Armstrong you will have a few more questions to answer before you enter your student's information.
- 4. Once that is submitted the next screen will read-**Thank you for registering. Please check your email at the address you provided. You will find an email with the subject header "Select Date/Time for Teacher Conference Now". Just press the link in the email and you will be able to pick a time slot for the conference.**
- If you have not received that follow-up email within about an hour we suggest you check your spam filter to see if it has put the email in a folder (typically called JUNK or SPAM.) Please leave at least 15 minutes between your student's conferences. Thank you for registering.

VOTE November 2, 2021 or early voting started Sept. 17

This November, South Washington County Schools (SoWashCo Schools) will ask voters two questions to consider a school funding increase.

The first ballot question asks voters to consider an increase to the current operating levies. If approved, the ballot would revoke operating levies from 2015 and 2017 and combine into one operating levy to provide funding for classrooms, instruction and other school operating costs.

The second ballot question asks voters to consider an increase to the capital projects levy for technology. This levy will fund improved instructional technology and infrastructure, support staffing, and maintenance and support for student and staff devices.

More information is available by visiting www.sowashco.org/vote2021

Rocket Run Pizza/Donut Party Winners

The following classes won a pizza party for fundraising over \$1,250 for the Rocket Run!! Congratulations!!

- Mr. McGuire – Knd
- Mrs. Myers – Knd
- Ms. Schmidt – Knd
- Mrs. Festvog – Gr 1
- Mrs. Strander – Gr 2
- Mrs. Berling – Gr 3
- Mrs. Davis – Gr 4
- Mrs. Marek – Gr 4

Also, Miss Jodi's a.m. AND p.m. Pre-K classes will be having a popsicle party.

The pizza & popsicle parties will take place on October 20th. **If your child is in one of these classes and there are any allergy concerns that you have not spoken to the health office about, please call 651-425-4102 before Tuesday, October 19th.**

Shout Outs

In the month of **October**, our Armstrong students were focused on the rocket trait of "**OPTIMISM**". In September the rocket trait was RESPONSIBILITY. We use Shout Outs to show off our students using good Rocket Traits! Below are the students that received Shout Outs last week for their awesome work. Certificates will be sent home with students through their classroom teacher. Great job everyone!!

- **Dartanyon C.** – Gr 1, Mrs. Haley (from Mrs. H's room): "Being a kind friend at the playground"
- **Maya S.** – Gr 1, Mrs. Haley: "Having a great attitude and working hard"
- **Jacob O.** – Gr 1, Mrs. Festvog: "Being responsible and working hard"
- **Eliana Z.** – Gr 2, Mrs. Strander: "Always smiling and having a positive attitude"
- **Arely C.** – Gr 2, Mrs. Strander: "Showing optimism in every part of her day"
- **Nehe T.** – Gr 2, Mrs. Fuller: "Working hard and keeping a positive attitude"

- **Henry C.** – Gr 3, Mrs. Berling: “Being so helpful and kind”
- **Audrey B.** – Gr 3, Mrs. Berling: “Being so helpful and kind”
- **Mason R.** – Gr 3, Mrs. Berling (from Mrs. H’s room): “Being an awesome friend every day”
- **Payton C.** – Gr 3, Mrs. Fuglestad: “Always showing kindness and helping her classmates”
- **Koby P.** – Gr 3, Mrs. Fuglestad: “Being so kind and hard-working every day”
- **Jacob T.** – Gr 4, Mrs. Marek: “Always being a positive person”
- **Peyton S.** – Gr 4, Mrs. Marek: “Being a great student always ready to learn”
- **Evan D.** – Gr 4, Mrs. Davis: “Being responsible and ready to learn”
- **Abby S.** – Gr 5, Mrs. McGuire (from Mrs. Theis): “Great participation during our SEL lesson”
- **Colton C.** – Gr 5, Mrs. McGuire (from Mrs. Theis): “Being kind and thinking of others”
- **April Y.** – Gr 5, Mrs. McGuire (also from Mrs. Wilson & Mrs. Stachowiak): “Being responsible and having a great week”
- **James K.** – Gr 5, Mrs. Larson: “Being responsible and completing his work”

Fall Pictures & Ordering

All photo ordering is done online at the Josten’s link: <https://shop.jostenspix.com/login>

Please Note: There are no paper flyers or order envelopes.

Please use the following **Armstrong Event Code: FE16521** when you sign in to view photos. You will also need your child’s student ID # which you can find in Parent Portal.

Feel free to call Anne in the office at 651-425-4101 if you have any questions.

Community Education Classes

The following classes are available through Community Ed. To register go to commed.sowashco.org

[“Beyond the Woods” – Creating a Story](#), Theater Camp for Grades 2-5, Oct 21-23 at Cottage Grove Middle

[Game Coding: Super Mario](#) (online) Sat., Oct 23, 9 – 11 am, Grades 1-4

[For the Love of Art](#), Thursdays after school beginning Oct 28th, Grades K-5

[Multiplayer Minecraft: City Builder](#) (online) Saturdays Nov 6 & 13, 8-10 am, Grades 1-5

Free Covid Testing Kits for Students

Students are able to get a Free Vault Covid-19 Saliva Test Kit from the school nurses. **You must call the health office at 425-4102 to request a test and only one test can be sent at a time.** It needs to be returned the week you request it.

How Vault COVID-19 Testing Works:

- Pick up a Vault COVID-19 test at no cost from the school’s health office
- Create a Vault account with a username and password
- Complete the COVID-19 test **at home with help from Vault test supervisors over Zoom**

- Students under 18 will need a parent or legal guardian present at the time of the test to provide consent
- The test needs to be done with Zoom on Wednesday night or Thursday morning
- Seal the sample tube and place it in the biohazard bag
- Bring completed and sealed tests to the school's health office before 1pm on designated collection days
- Staff at school **cannot** help students administer the test. **The test must be completed and sealed prior to bringing it into a school building**

Upcoming Vault COVID-19 Test Collection Days:

- Thursday, Oct. 14
- Wednesday, Oct. 20
- Thursday, Oct. 28
- Thursday, Nov. 4

The test kits from the school are only for student use and have to be sent in on the designated Thursdays. You can't mail these back on a different day.

If you would like free family Covid-19 Test at Home kits from the Minnesota Department of Health, you can request them to be sent directly to your house and you drop completed tests off at a UPS location. These kits are turned in on your own and can't be accepted by the school. [COVID-19 Test at Home](#). * They look the same but are coded differently so be careful not to mix them up.

Upcoming Events

- **Thursday, October 21 & Friday, October 22, 2021 – NO SCHOOL, MEA Weekend**
- **Monday, October 25, 2021 – NO SCHOOL, Grades K-5**
- **Wednesday, October 27 – Friday, November 5, 2021 – Book Fair**
- **Friday, October 29, 2021 – Wear Orange for “ Orange You Glad You Go to Armstrong” day**
- **Monday, November 1, 2021 – Fall Conferences, 3:30-7:45 p.m. (by appt only)**
- **Tuesday, November 2, 2021 – NO SCHOOL, Election Day**
- **Thursday, November 4, 2021 – Fall Conferences, 3:30-7:30 p.m. (by appt only)**