# Raymond Elementary

## Parent Update

November 8th, 2024



Dear Families.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Texas Roadhouse fundraiser! Your efforts helped us raise \$3,500 which will go towards funding assemblies, field trips, and other school needs.

Also, a reminder that Lange Photographics will be here on Wednesday, November 13th, for anyone who missed our original picture day. Students who would like a retake are welcome to have their photos taken on that day.

Have a wonderful long weekend!

### Veteran's Day Assembly

Our Veterans Day assembly is scheduled for Monday morning at 9:45 a.m., and each grade level will play a part in making it a special event. We encourage your child to wear red, white, or blue to help us celebrate and honor the day! Thank you for your support!

#### Dads in Schools

Are you a dad or father figure interested in volunteering? We'd love to have you join us! Feel free to sign up using the SignUpGenius link. Whether you're available for a full day or just a few hours, we welcome your support. Once you sign up, we'll reach out to discuss what you'd like your volunteer day to look like.

A Screenpoint form will also be sent home for you to complete. Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a positive impact in our school community!

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CA8A92AA5FCC43-53117728-dads

#### **Important Dates**

November 13th: Picture Retakes

November 18th: Grade Cards Available

November 19th: Texas Roadhouse Order Pick Up 3pm-6pm

November 27-29th; No School for Thanksgiving Break

Dear Raymond Parents and Families,

As part of our ongoing commitment to creating a safe and supportive learning environment, I wanted to take a moment to explain the various safety drills that we conduct throughout the school year. These drills are important for preparing students and staff to respond appropriately in the event of an emergency.



Here's an overview of what each drill entails:

**Fire Drills:** When the fire alarm sounds, students line up quietly and follow their teacher to the nearest exit. Once everyone is accounted for, students and staff are given the go-ahead to return to class.

<u>Tornado Drills:</u> During tornado drills, students move into the hallway, away from windows and doors, sit on the floor, and protect their heads by clasping their hands together. Each class has a designated safe area inside the building.

<u>Safety Drills:</u> These drills help students practice responding to various emergency scenarios. One of the drills will involve students and staff practicing lockdown procedures, which may include locking doors, barricading, and/or evacuating the building, depending on the scenario. These drills are conducted with the assistance of the Union County Sheriff's Department.

At Raymond, we are required to conduct monthly fire drills, monthly tornado drills during Tornado Season (March-May), and three safety drills throughout the year.

Please know that our teachers will prepare students for these drills using age-appropriate language and explanations. You may want to discuss the drill we held today with your child. Research suggests that keeping the conversation simple and direct is the most effective way to approach this topic. You may want to reassure your child that Raymond is a safe school, and there are many people working to keep them safe. If your child has questions, please answer them honestly, but keep responses straightforward.

We will have our first safety drill this month, and I will message you on ClassDojo once the drill is complete. This will give you an opportunity to discuss it with your child, if you would like.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

#### Erica Sypek

Erica Sypek Principal Raymond Elementary