



East Central Upper Elementary Parent Resource Guide 2025-2026

Everything you need to know about:

- Accelerated Reader
- Attendance
- Awards
- Cafeteria
- Lunch Schedules
- Schedule of Events
- Campus Access
- Class/Spirit Shirts
- Attendance Reward
- School Rules
- Transportation

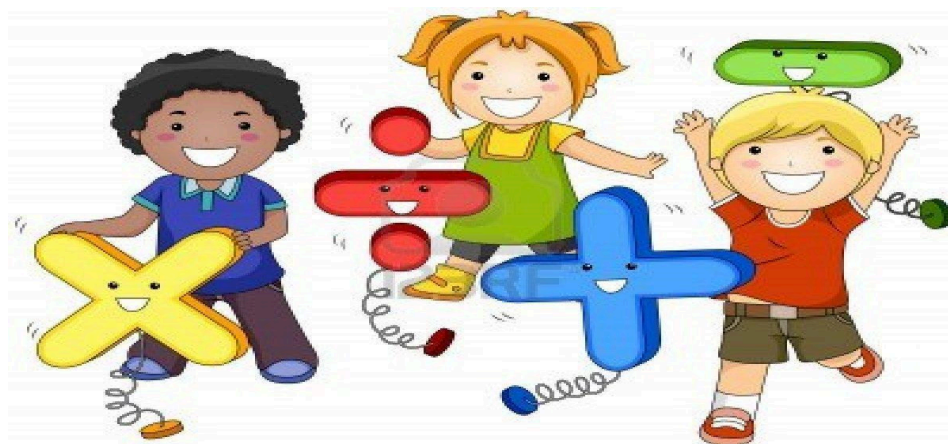
Dear Parents,

We are so happy that you and your child will be a part of the East Central Upper Elementary family for the 2025-2026 school year, where we are living daily by our school mantra, "Every Step Matters"! We are looking forward to working with you to ensure your child's success and growth during this year.

The purpose of this parent guide is to provide you with information that you might need throughout the school year. It will help you become more familiar with our procedures, important dates and events, and our campus. Please take time to read the information provided and use this packet as a reference during the year.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office or your child's teacher at 283-3220. We look forward to a productive, safe, and fulfilling school year.

ECUE Administration and Staff

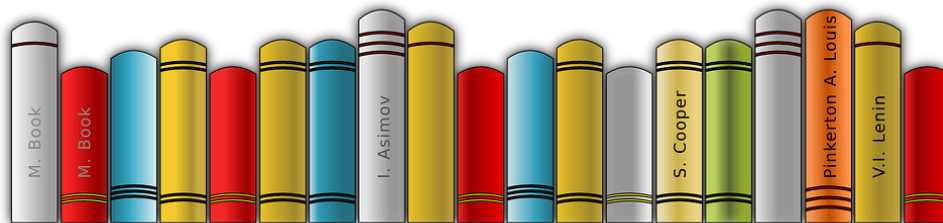


Accelerated Reader

ECUE uses Accelerated Reader to supplement our core reading and math program. Children are able to read books and take a short quiz to test their comprehension skills or complete math problems based on their skill level. Incentives are usually given by the classroom teacher, but this year we will also have a school wide reward, such as a popsicle party, a nacho party, or extra recess each nine weeks for those students that meet their goal. Students who meet their AR goal each 9 weeks, will be rewarded at the end of the school year. Each student will have an individualized goal set by Accelerated Reader based on his/her reading level. A daily grade may be taken each nine weeks based on the percentage of the individualized goal met by each student and by the average quiz score.

The deadline for accumulation of points and the celebration dates will be announced and confirmed during the second semester. If your child meets the requirements to participate in the celebration, a permission slip will be sent home with all the details.

Please encourage your child to read each and every day. You may go to and click on the AR Home Connect. You may enter your child's username and password to view your child's earned points or access the list of AR tests that are available. If your child doesn't know his/her password, please contact the classroom teacher and they will be more than happy to assist you. It is imperative that your child read each and every day, in order to increase fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension which are skills that will help him/her in every school subject.



Attendance, Check-Ins, and Check-Outs

Bell Schedule

1st Bell - 7:50

Tardy Bell - 7:55

Car Rider Dismissal - 2:35

Bus Dismissal - 2:50

If a student arrives on campus after 7:55, he/she **must be** accompanied by an adult and signed in at the front office. In order to receive an award for Perfect Attendance, students will be allowed no absences and no more than ten check-ins/check-outs throughout the year.

It is very important that your child arrives on time each day. Instruction begins promptly at 7:55 which means that repeated tardiness, check-ins, and check-outs could hinder an individual student's progress, disrupt classroom activities and the school routines and schedule. Excessive absences, check-ins, check-outs and tardies will be reported to the local school attendance officer, and could possibly be reported to the Department of Human Services.

Per JCSD policy, student check-outs are not allowed 30 minutes prior to dismissal, which is after 2:20 each day. If you wish to check-out your student, please do so in the front office and be prepared to present your picture I.D. Students will only be released to individuals that are listed in their demographic information.



Awards

East Central Upper Elementary holds a yearly awards ceremony in the spring of each year. In addition, students are rewarded throughout the year for reaching various goals. These awards include the following:

Monthly Awards:

- Star Student - Teachers will choose one student per month.
 1. Post Card in the mail from teacher
 2. Featured on classroom/hallway bulletin board
 3. Featured in newsletter

Nine Weeks Awards:

- Honor Roll- All As and As and Bs
 1. Certificate
- Highest GPA
 1. Certificate
- Perfect Attendance
 1. School reward - e.g. popsicle party, extra recess
- AR Goal
 1. School reward - e.g. popsicle party, nacho party

Yearly Awards:

- Honor Roll - All As and All As and Bs
- Perfect Attendance*, Merit Awards - Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies
- Highest GPA
- Enrichment
- Wings

* In order to earn perfect attendance, students must have zero absences and no more than ten check-ins/check-outs during the school year.



Cafeteria

Food and drink items brought to the cafeteria from outside sources must be in plain wrappers and cups. No logos (subway wrappers, McDonald's, etc.) are allowed. Birthday treats such as cookies, cupcakes, etc. are not allowed in the cafeteria and may only be served at recess.

JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT Child Nutrition Department 2025-2026 Meal Prices



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BREAKFAST

A. Students		
	Free	\$0.00
	Reduced	\$0.30
	Paid	\$2.00
B. Adults		Complete Meal (3 or more menu items) or Parfait and Smoothie Includes: Beverage
		\$2.75
C. A la Carte*		
1	Milk *	\$0.50
2	4 oz Juice	\$0.50
3	Grain	\$0.75
4	Meat / Meat Alternate	\$0.75
5	Fruit / Vegetable	\$0.75
6	Entree (Meat/Bread Combo)	\$1.75

LUNCH

A. Students		
	Free	\$0.00
	Reduced	\$0.40
	Paid	\$3.00
B. Adults		Complete Meal (3 or more menu items) or Pre-Plated Salad Includes: Beverage and Dessert
		\$4.50
C. A la Carte		
1	Milk*	\$0.50
2	4 oz Juice	\$0.50
3	Bread	\$1.00
4	Meat / Meat Alternate	\$1.00
5	Fruit / Vegetable	\$0.75
6	Entree (Combination of Meat / Bread)	\$2.00

EXTRA FOOD SALES

All extra food sales are compliant with federal Smart Snacks in Schools

1	Ice Cream Cups*	\$0.50
2	Specialty Ice Cream*	\$1.00
3	4 oz Yogurt*	\$0.50
4	8 oz Bottled Water* (without meal)	\$0.50
5	16 oz Bottled Water*	\$1.00
6	Large Juice	\$1.00
7	Iced Coffee*	\$2.00
8	Chips	\$0.50
9	Miscellaneous Smart Snacks	\$0.75
10	Beef Jerky	\$1.50
11	Dressing (2 oz) (ADULTS ONLY)	\$0.25
12	Iced Tea (ADULTS ONLY)	\$0.50
13	Desserts (ADULTS ONLY)	\$0.50

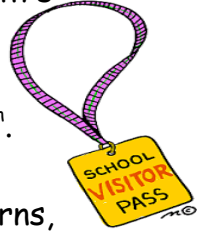
*Water and milk products are available to purchase for students who do not receive a school breakfast and/or lunch. State law prohibits any other extra sales be sold without a school breakfast and/or lunch purchase.

2025-2026 Lunch Schedule

10:45-11:10	Dykes	R. Walker
10:50-11:15	Nobles	Grantham
10:55-11:20	J. Smith	Lilly
11:00-11:25	Ingram	K. Walker
11:05-11:30		
11:10-11:35		
11:15-11:40	Nelson	Walters
11:20-11:45	Holland	Tanner
11:25-11:50	Ford	Parker
11:30-11:55	Taylor	
11:35-12:00	Champagne	S. Smith
11:40-12:05		
11:45-12:10	Magee	
11:50-12:15	Wien	McMichael
11:55-12:20	Slayter	Lipske
12:00-12:25	May	Buckley

Campus Access

East Central Upper Elementary is a community school, and you and your student are part of our school family. We work together as a family to ensure each student's success, safety, and productivity. The safety of our students and staff is extremely important to us. ALL visitors will be buzzed in before entering the building. Parents will be allowed to walk students to class on Friday, July 25th.



If you need to come to the school to drop off medication or have other concerns, we are asking that you wait until after 8:00 AM.

Class Shirts and Spirit Shirts

Class Shirts: This year each student will purchase a class shirt. Each class will have a designated color. These shirts are for school wide or grade wide events such as field day or field trips. Your child's teacher will notify you on the days that your student will need to wear their class shirt.

Attendance Reward:

Students who are present 95% of the time, will be rewarded monthly.

Grades

JCSD has adopted a new grading policy for all students in grades K-5. ECUE will follow these guidelines:

Minimum Grade Requirements

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS	8 DAILY GRADES	4 TEST GRADES
MATH	8 DAILY GRADES	4 TEST GRADES
SCIENCE	7 DAILY GRADES	3 TEST GRADES
SOCIAL STUDIES	7 DAILY GRADES	3 TEST GRADES
HEALTH	1-3 DAILY GRADES	

***3rd grade will teach Science and Social Studies through Reading and record S, N, or U as the Science, Social Studies, and Health Grade.**

Grade Weights

Tests - 40% of average

Daily Grades- 60% of average

Examples of Tests - Weekly tests, Unit Tests, Major projects

Examples of Daily Grades - Classwork, Homework, Notebook, Quizzes



Parent Communication and Conferences

Parent/teacher communication is crucial to a successful school year. You may use the following methods of communication throughout the year.

Conferences

Conferences may be held during each teacher's planning period or after school. Please contact your child's teacher(s) or the counselor's office if you wish to schedule a conference.

Communication Folders

Parent communication folders will be sent home with each student every Friday. Newsletters, homework, and any other pertinent information will be sent home in this folder. Please take time to review the information that is sent home with your child each week.

Parent Square

Parents may reach their child's teacher via the use of Parent Square. This is a "text" message style platform that is utilized school wide. Teachers will communicate frequently with parents to relay school wide information or individual student information.

Email

Teachers check their email at least twice each day. Teacher email addresses may be found on the ECUE website or on the class newsletter.



School Rules

ECUE will incorporate school wide rules that each student will follow everywhere on campus. Each teacher will discuss his/her specific procedures that students are expected to follow in the classroom, hallways, restrooms, cafeteria, and playground.

"The Hive Rules"

Be Prepared

- Have all materials ready
- Use your time wisely

Be Responsible

- Follow dress code
- Make good choices
- Give your best effort on all assignments

Be Respectful

- Respect others' ideas and feelings
- Maintain personal space
- Be a good listener
- Use appropriate voice codes

Be safe

- Follow rules
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself

Consequences

Step 1	Verbal warning
Step 2	Time Out (5 minutes)
Step 3	Time Out (15 minutes) & Hornet Slip
Step 4	Written Assignment & Parent Contact
Step 5	Office Referral



Transportation

At ECUE, one of our primary responsibilities is to make sure that your child is safe. We want to ensure that each student arrives at school safely, is safe throughout the school day, and returns home to you safely each afternoon. Transportation procedures and rules are in place for each student's safety.

Mornings:

- Students are not allowed on campus prior to 7:15. Car riders are dropped off in the South parking lot near the cafeteria. Students that have middle school siblings are allowed to be dropped off in the North parking lot with their middle school siblings.
- Car riders must be on campus by 7:45 if they wish to eat breakfast at school.

Afternoons:

- During the first week of school, car rider dismissal will begin at 2:30. August 4th we will begin our regular car rider dismissal time of 2:35.
- ECUE will provide all car rider parents with two placards. **You must have this placard in your window in order to pick up your car rider.** Parent made placards will not be accepted. If you do not have the ECUE placard in your window, you will be asked to park and go to the office. This is for the safety of our students.
- Please remain in the car rider line. Students will not be escorted to cars in the parking lot and parents are not allowed to walk to the cafeteria to retrieve a student.
- If you wish for your car rider to be picked up in the North parking lot with middle school students, please make sure your child's teacher is aware of this request. **Only** students who also have a middle school sibling who is a car rider may be picked up in the North parking lot. These students will not come to the car rider area until 2:50.
- Car riders are escorted to the office at 3:00 each day. If you arrive on campus after 3:00 P.M. you must come to the main office to pick up your child.
- All transportation changes must be presented in writing. You may send a note with your child, drop off a note in the office, or fax a note to the office at 283-3246. Please notify the office at 228-283-3220 when faxing a transportation change to confirm it was received. Email changes will not be accepted.
- **Bus changes will not be allowed. Students are not allowed to ride the bus home with a friend.** Bus dismissal begins at 2:50 and buses depart at 3:05.
- Please remember that all checkouts must be completed by 2:20 each day. Parents are not allowed to remove students from a bus.