# Wilemon STEAM Academy

The Future Is Bright At Wilemon!

- **Beginning of School Day and Tardies**
  Our building opens each instructional day at **7:30 a.m**. and **classes begin at 8:05 am. Breakfast begins at 7:30am**. Students who arrive prior to 7:55am will wait with their grade level in the gym under adult supervision, as students will not go to class until that time. **Any student arriving after 8:05 a.m. is counted tardy for the day and must be walked in by a parent.** Guidelines regarding tardies for the 2026-27 school year are outlined in the Elementary Handbook *(available online @ www.wisd.org)*. Please do not drop children off before 7:30 a.m., as they will not be supervised.

- **End of School Day and Dismissal Plan**
  **School ends at 3:40 p.m. each day.** If you need to pick up your child early, we ask that you do so by 3:15, as to not interfere with dismissal preparation that occurs shortly after that time. If you are using the car pick-up line, **please be sure to have your student pick-up card visible close to your rear view mirror for personnel on duty**. This is for your child's protection. **We ask that you do not enter the building during dismissal time.** Since the safety and security of all learners and their leaders are our first priority, our dismissal procedures allow us the opportunity to end the day in a safe and organized manner. It is important that your child has a regular going-home routine each day. Car riders, daycare riders, and bus riders are designated to wait in specific areas of the building for safe dismissal; your child will know where to report. If you lose your card or require an extra card, replacements can be printed in the office. YMCA students will always be picked up by parking and walking to the courtyard gate. YMCA students cannot change their way home. It is preferable that any changes in a students' way home be communicated to the teacher via parent square the day prior. **If you need to make changes to pick up on the same day, please be sure to call the school front office at 972-923-4780**.Teachers may not see parent square messages regarding changes in a students' way home during the day, as they are teaching. Our car line for pick-up moves quickly and safely when everyone follows procedures. We utilize both lanes for student pick up. Dismissal MAP Arrival/Dismissal Video

- **Absences**
  Texas has a **Compulsory Attendance** law and schools are required to report certain attendance violations. A complaint against a parent may be filed in the appropriate court if the student is absent 10 or more days or parts of days within a 6 month period *(TEC Section 25.093)* (TEC Section 25.087). Upon return to school, students will submit a note signed by the parent listing the full name of the student, teacher's name, grade, date of absence, reason for the absence, and parent contact information. This can be submitted via email to jdempsey@wisd.org. Notes must be received within three days of the student's return to school. Parent notes will not be accepted for more than 5 days/absences. All absences, regardless of the reason, will be recorded as an "A" and will be notated based on the documentation provided. Attendance laws make allowances for absences caused by extenuating circumstances; please contact the attendance office for more details. Students must be in class at 10:00am to be considered present for the day. Texas also has the **Attendance for Credit** laws stating a student must be in class 90% of the scheduled school days in order to be promoted to the next grade level (*TEC Section 25.092).*

  **Compulsory Attendance:** Section 25.092 of the Texas Education Code contains the provision of the law commonly referred to as "the 90 percent rule" which states that students in grades K-12 must attend class for 90 percent of the time it is offered to receive credit or a final grade. The 90 percent rule applies to all absences, including excused absences. A student who is in attendance for at least 75 percent, but less than 90 percent, may be given credit or a final grade if the student completes a plan approved by the principal that provides for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class.

- **Behavior**: Wilemon uses the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) System to encourage students to make positive choices. We use the LEADS (Leads with Integrity, Embrace a Growth Mindset, Always Be Safe, Determine to Serve, Synergize) system. Students admitted who receive 3 or more office referrals within the school year may be required to return to their zoned campus after campus administrator review. Campus Behavior Plan

- **Car Safety**
  For the safety of your child and others, we ask that as you wait in line for car drop-off and car pick-up. **As a reminder, cell phone usage in school zones is prohibited by state law**. Please also be mindful of using appropriate speed while dropping off and picking up. Car riders must use the car pick-up lines at all times. This is for everyone's safety. We appreciate your cooperation!

- **Parents Walking Students to Classrooms**
  All parents may walk their students to class on the first day of school only. Kindergarten parents may walk their students to class for the first three days of school only. Staff are available to deliver larger items to classrooms or help students find their classroom if necessary.

- **Breakfast/Lunch**
  Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. until 8:05 a.m. Student breakfast is $2.50 and student lunch is $3.25. Lunch is $5.25 for parents. Please make sure your child arrives early if breakfast is desired. You may deposit money in your child's meal account daily, weekly, or monthly through MySchoolBucks (on WISD web page); please see the office staff or cafeteria for assistance with the MySchoolBucks Program. A monthly menu selection is posted online to provide meal-planning options. Students may only have lunch with someone on their emergency contact list at a separate table. We welcome visitors at lunchtime! We have limited seating available, therefore guests will not be released to the seating area until the right before students' lunch time begins.

- **Visiting**
  We highly encourage and welcome parents and community members to visit Wilemon throughout the year! For the continued safety and security of everyone during the instructional day, you may park in the parking spaces in the front of the school or along the front drive. The front drive can be used for parking between 8:30 and 2:00pm only. All other doors will be locked during school hours. Enter the main office where you will check-in, present a valid ID to scan through the RaptorWare Program, and receive a sticker ID badge to wear while on campus. As you leave our campus, please exit through the front office and return your badge.

- **Campus Security**
  We are committed to providing a safe, calm atmosphere and learning environment for all learners and classroom leaders. We routinely practice our Emergency Operations Crisis Plan, so do not be alarmed if your child talks about Evacuation, Hold, Lockdown, or Shelter drills. If you happen to be on campus during a drill (or actual event), you will be expected to follow the instructions given. If you come to campus while a drill is in progress, you will be asked to wait outside. We do have a School Marshal on campus who helps ensure safety. Achieving the highest safety standard possible is critical to daily success.

- **Communication**
  Good communication and collaboration build trust amongst all of us. At Wilemon, we strive to be the BEST at making a positive impact in the lives of our learners, helping each child realize his/her potential, and providing meaningful, engaging learning experiences each school day. Classroom teachers use the ParentSquare app to keep you informed, and the office sends out weekly reminders to families every Sunday at 5pm. We also regularly post updates on our Facebook page. In addition, we have a parent hub that you can use to access important information.

  On behalf of the entire staff at Wilemon STEAM Academy, we welcome you to our innovative campus! We strongly encourage you to join our fabulous PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). Your active involvement in our learning community is one of our most valuable resources. Please join us in our campus enthusiasm and great expectations for the 2026-2027 school year because ***The Future Is Bright At Wilemon!***

Your Partners in Education,

*Kate Authier, Principal* *Jessica Nelson, Assistant Principal* *Angela Kimbrell, Assistant Principal*