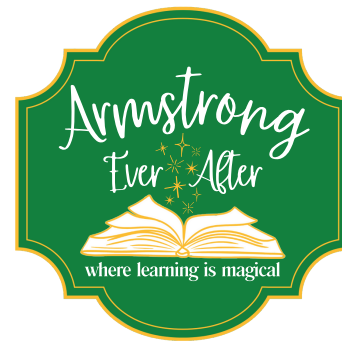


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Landen Tillery
Amanda Toussaint
Ashley Tovo
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Whitney Walden
Ashley Wallace
Melinda Wenk
Ali Williford
Carrie Woodward
Samantha Wortley

Dads Club President
Kevin Womack



July 2025

Dear New Armstrong Family,

Welcome to Armstrong! We are so glad to have you join our community and we look forward to getting to know you and introducing you to our special school. The provided information below will help you leading up to the first day of school and throughout the school year.

Please reference the attached calendar of dates for New Families. We'd love for you to attend the **New Family Meet Up - August 9** and the **New Family Parent Coffee - August 15**, where can meet other families, learn more about Armstrong & how to get involved.

Your child will meet his/her teacher and see their classroom at **Meet the Teacher on Monday, August 11 at 4:00PM**. Class lists will be posted at the school shortly before the doors open at 4:00PM and teacher assignments will also be available that afternoon on your Skyward account.

The first day of school is Wednesday, August 13. On this magical day there will be a bagpiper, many families & friends, and yes, some tears - usually by kinder parents. Students typically do VERY well - it may just surprise you how well they do! At dismissal, our Dads Club will be making snow cones by the bike racks on the corner of St. John Dr. and Byron Ave. to celebrate the First Day!

Arrival

- **7:45AM:** First Bell rings to start the day. Starting at 7:30AM, you may enter through the Cornell or St. Johns entrances. Proceed to your child's classroom to help your student put their backpack in their locker and get settled.
- **7:55AM:** Tardy Bell rings. Morning announcements begin with pledges and a moment of silence. Attendance is taken. Doors to the building are locked. All parents are asked to leave at this time or check in with the front office for a badge.
- **Late Arrival:** After 7:55AM, you must enter through the main entrance on Cornell and sign your student in with the Front Office.
- **Early Arrival:** After the first day of school, children may enter the school as early as 7:30AM. They will wait in their grade-level hallway until 7:45AM, at which point they can enter their classroom. Parents may still accompany their children, but must wait outside the school building until 7:45AM. This allows teachers and staff time to prepare for the day.

Lunch

- Students may bring a lunch from home or buy a plated lunch in the cafeteria.
- Preschool - 1st Grade have a set HOT or COLD plated lunch choice each day.
- 2nd - 4th Grade have an à la carte menu and can choose their entrée and sides.
- Menus are available on the Nutrislice website. Helpful hint - review the menu on the Nutrislice App with your child before each school day!

Lunch, continued

- **Please load money on your child's Skyward account before the First Day.** Preschool through First Grade lunches are \$6.00, including one drink; prices vary for older children. You can add funds through your Skyward account (Food Services tab). No cash or credit cards are accepted at the Cafeteria registers.
- Students may purchase drinks (milk, water, juice) to go with a lunch brought from home.
- Cookies are available for purchase on Wednesdays and ice cream on Fridays.
- **We would love for you to sign up to volunteer in the cafeteria! It is a great way to meet other parents and see your children!** Please email Jimmy Ogden at cafevolunteer@armstrongpta.org to sign up or to learn more information.

Water & Snacks

- Students should bring a labeled water bottle to school each day.
- Students should bring a PEANUT FREE snack each day. It will be kept in their locker until afternoon snack time.

Dismissal

- **3:15PM:** Afterschool pick up for Kindergarten and Second Grade is at the corner of Cornell and St. Johns. First, Third, and Fourth Graders are dismissed at the corner of Byron and St. Johns. Older children will be sent to the youngest child's designated pick up spot unless otherwise noted.
- Each teacher walks their class down the stairs to meet his/her parents.
- **Carpool:** You **MUST** stay in your car and in the carpool lane. There is no parking in the carpool lane to pick up your child. Please place your child's carpool tag in the front windshield window and a teacher will walk the student to your car. Please visit Armstrongpta.org for a carpool map.
- Please leave dogs and other pets at home during dismissal.
- **Extended School Day Program** (until 6PM): Offered by The Academy for Lifelong Learning (A.L.L.) from 3:15–6:00PM. Contact Cha Cha Bjork in the A.L.L. Office at 214-780-3380 or email bjorkc@hpsd.org. Charges apply.

Supplies

- School supplies are purchased during Back to School Sign-up (BSSU), **July 24-August 1**.
- The supplies will be in your child's classroom on the first day of school. There is no need to send your child with any supplies.

Helpful Tips and Requests

- Each student will need a **backpack** large enough to fit a folder, lunch, and water bottle. (Larger than a preschool backpack.)
- Students should wear **athletic shoes** and comfortable clothes. **Please label everything!**
- No parent lunches the first two weeks of school to allow students to adjust to Cafeteria procedures. Thereafter, parents are invited to eat with their child(ren) during their lunch time.

Birthdays

- Birthdays are celebrated by your child's teacher and are announced on the morning announcements.
- Please, no birthday sweets or treats per school policy.

Spirit Shop

- The Armstrong Spirit Shop will be open weekdays, 7:30-7:55AM. Students like to shop for pencils, trinkets, and Armstrong gear. Parents can purchase Armstrong Eagle spirit wear! Cash and credit cards accepted.
- Spirit wear can be ordered online at Armstrong-eagle-store.myshopify.com.

Text Message Group

Please email Casey and Michael Andrews at newfamilies@armstrongpta.org if you would like to join the Armstrong New Families Text Message Group. This is a place for new families to ask the New Families Co-Chairs questions throughout the year. New families have found it helpful particularly in the early weeks and months.

Questions?

Please reach out to anyone listed here:

- Betsy Cummins, Armstrong Principal: cumminb@hpsd.org
- Casey and Michael Andrews, Armstrong PTA New Families Co-Chairs: newfamilies@armstrongpta.org
- Monet Ball, Armstrong PTA President: president@armstrongpta.org
- Natalie Lesikar, Armstrong PTA President-Elect: presidentelect@armstrongpta.org
- Meredith Sarracino, Armstrong PTA, Faculty Liaison & Outreach: outreach@armstrongpta.org

Helpful Websites:

- www.armstrongpta.org
- www.armstrong.hpsd.org
- www.hpsd.org - the "Parents/Students" tab provides access to district calendar, Skyward, and more
- www.signup.com/go/armstrongpta
- www.armstrongpta.org/volunteer
- Instagram: [@armstrong_eagles](https://www.instagram.com/armstrong_eagles)
[@armstrongptapresident](https://www.instagram.com/armstrongptapresident)



Skyward



Cafeteria eFunds



**Nutrislice
Cafeteria Menu**



Cafeteria Volunteer

We are so excited to start this Fairytale school year with you!

Monet Gauthier Ball
PTA President
Mom of Students in 3rd, 1st & PK-4

Natalie Metzger Lesikar
PTA President-Elect
Mom of 3rd & 1st Graders

Casey & Michael Andrews
New Families Co-Chairs
Parents of 3rd Graders

Meredith Sarracino
VP Faculty Liaison & Outreach
Mom of 8th, 6th, & 2nd Graders

Important New Families Events & Dates

Back to School Sign Up (BSSU)

July 24 - August 1

BSSU is required for all students.

New families to the District will receive a neon envelope mid-July with log-in details.

New Family Meet-Up

Saturday, August 9 - 10:00-11:00AM

Armstrong Playground - 3600 Cornell Avenue

Meet us for popsicles & a time to meet new families.

Please email newfamilies@armstrongpta.org if you can attend.

We want to be sure to have enough popsicles!

Meet the Teacher

Monday, August 11 - 4:00-5:00PM

Armstrong - 3600 Cornell Avenue

Meet your student's new teacher and take a peek inside the classroom!

New Family Parent Coffee

Friday August 15 - 8:15-9:00AM

Sky Flex Space, 2nd Floor at Armstrong - 3600 Cornell Avenue

Meet other New Parents and hear from current parents and our principal.

Kindly, no children.

First Day of School

Wednesday, August 13 - Arrival 7:30AM - Last Bell 7:55AM

Dads Club Snow Cones at Dismissal

Save the Date!

Grade Level Performances

Kindergarten: May 8, 2026

First Grade: November 21, 2025

Second Grade: October 24, 2025

Third Grade: March 12, 2026

Fourth Grade Graduation: May 21, 2026

Please subscribe to the interactive calendar on the bottom of the Armstrongpta.org home page for the most up-to-date information.