



August 24, 2009

Welcome back Tijerina students and families.

I hope the summer break treated you well and you are ready for an exciting and invigorating new school year. The beginning of another school year is always refreshing for me. It reminds me of my first year at Tijerina when I was also training to run my first marathon. The new school year hits me like a cold shower after a good run. I get to brush off any "dirt" and wake up the next day with another chance to hit the track and achieve another milestone, another goal. Obviously, the start of the school year is more serious, but the concept is the same. I get a clean slate. I get to undo any mistakes. I get a second chance to achieve a goal.

On the track it's shaving off that extra second, or running that extra mile, but as I begin my third year as principal I have yet to reach my "personal best". My goal at Tijerina, is that no ONE child will fall through the cracks. This may be more of a journey, than some marathon goal. It may not have a final destination. It may not be measured by distance, but rather, by student success.

Every student deserves the chance to achieve his/her personal best. The focus for the upcoming school year is defining a system of collaboration that does not allow any child to stumble and is supported by teachers, parents, and students working together. As a team, every child will be challenged and will achieve his or her best personal and academic goal.

Sincerely,

Paola Espitia  
Principal  
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## Important Reminders

As we begin the new school year, we are committed to implementing procedures within our school that promote student safety and security. We ask for your attention and support to each of these procedures.

### School Hours and Bell Schedule

7:45 – 3:15	School Day (M, T, Th, F)
<b>7:45 – 12:45</b>	<b>School Day (Early Dismissal Every Wednesday)</b>
7:10 – 7:35	Breakfast
7:40	First Bell
7:50	Tardy Bell
3:10	Dismiss Bus Riders and Car Pool
3:15	Dismiss Walkers and Front Porch Pick-Up

### Morning arrival

Student supervision will begin at 7:10 in the cafeteria. **Walkers and bus riders** will enter through the front gates on Sherman. **Car drop-off** will take place on the circle drive on 66<sup>th</sup> Street between Canal and Sherman. **Headstart** will report to their classrooms. Staff members will be located at various locations within our school in order to promote student safety and security.

### Afternoon Dismissal

Please pick-up **PK to 6<sup>th</sup> grade carpool riders** in the circle drive on 66<sup>th</sup> Street between Canal and Sherman. Traffic will leave the driveway down Avenue E. Please do not drive towards Sherman Street.

**Bus Riders** will exit out to the parking lot at 3:10 PM. A designated teacher will escort the group of bus riders to the exit. A staff member will verify the roster of bus riders.

**Walkers** will be escorted by a teacher to exit the front gate at 3:15 PM.

**Headstart** will be picked up from the classroom.

### Parking

Please be aware of city parking signs around our school. Parking is not allowed on Sherman during the hours of 7:00 – 9:00 and 2:00 – 4:00. Parking is available at the community center at the corner of Sherman and 66<sup>th</sup> Street. Please **do not** park in the staff parking lot.

### Uniforms

Students are required to wear uniforms daily. The uniform consists of dark blue and **khaki** bottoms and light blue/white/ **navy** tops.