2026 Family Welcome Back Letter

Dear Steins Pillar Elementary Families,

We hope you are having a wonderful summer break and enjoying these final sunny days! As we approach the beginning of the 2026–2027 school year, we are filled with excitement to welcome back our returning families and greet those joining our school community for the first time.

Below, you will find essential information regarding upcoming events, daily schedules, and key updates to help your family prepare for a smooth start to the year.

Staying Connected: ParentSquare

Communication between home and school is vital. This year, **ParentSquare** will serve as our primary platform for all classroom and school-wide electronic announcements.

- **Action Item:** Please download the free ParentSquare app from your phone's app store to stay up-to-date with messages and updates from teachers and school staff.

📋 Classroom Assignments

- **Online Release:** Student teacher assignments will be available to view via **ParentVUE** on **Friday, August 28th**.
- **On-Campus Posting:** Class lists will also be posted on the front doors of the school starting at **7:30 AM** on Friday, August 28th.

🏫 Annual Open House

- **Date & Time:** Wednesday, September 2nd, from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Mark your calendars! Our Open House is a fantastic opportunity for students and parents to tour the school, visit classrooms, meet teachers, and drop off school supplies. You can also learn more about our curriculum, classroom routines, and upcoming activities.

Don't forget to stop by the **PTO table** to discover fun ways to get involved and support our school community!

🗓️ Important Start Dates

- **Grades 1–5:** First day of school is **Tuesday, September 8th** (the day after Labor Day).
- **Kindergarten:**
    - **Kindergarten Conferences:** Held on **September 8th, 9th, and 10th**.
    - **First Day of Class: Monday, September 14th**.

✏️ School Supplies

You can view and download the updated supply list directly on our School Supply List webpage.

⏰ Daily Schedule

- **School Hours:** 8:10 AM – 2:25 PM
- **Doors Open:** 7:50 AM
- **Breakfast:** 7:50 AM – 8:10 AM *(Please arrive before 8:00 AM so students have plenty of time to eat before class begins)*.
- **Classes Begin:** 8:10 AM
- **Lunch Schedule:**
    - **Kindergarten & 1st Grade:** 11:00 AM – 11:25 AM
    - **2nd & 3rd Grade:** 11:25 AM – 11:50 AM
    - **4th & 5th Grade:** 11:50 AM – 12:15 PM
- **Dismissal:** 2:25 PM daily

🚗 Student Drop-Off & Pick-Up Guidelines

Safety is our top priority. Please drive slowly and remain vigilant for pedestrians at all times.

- **Drop-Off & Pick-Up Locations:** Please use designated drop-off lanes, curb zones, or parking spaces. If parking, please accompany your child across traffic areas.
- **Morning Drop-Off (starts at 7:50 AM):**
    - **Eating Breakfast?** Please drop off at the South Building on 1st Street at 7:50 AM.
    - **Not Eating Breakfast?** Please use the parking loop off Holly.
- **Bus Lane:** Please do **not** pick up or drop off students in the bus lane on Fairview.
- **Afternoon Dismissal (2:25 PM):**
    - **Grades K–3:** Dismissed from the North Building to buses or the drop-off loop zone.

    - **Grades 4–5:** Dismissed through the gate to 1st Street.

🍎 Meals & Transportation

- **Free School Meals:** Both breakfast and lunch will be provided **free of charge** to all students this school year!
- **Bus Routes:** Updated bus route information will be shared shortly.

We can’t wait to welcome you back at Open House on **September 2nd**! If you have any questions in the meantime, please reach out to us at **541-416-4230 ext. 3703** or email brian.kissell@crookcountyschools.org.

Thank you for partnership and for trusting us with your children every day.

Warm regards,

Brian Kissell

Principal, Steins Pillar Elementary School