

September 2014



Welcome to Esther Lindstrom Elementary School, a California Distinguished School, and a great place to learn. The staff and I invite you to join in our commitment to providing an environment of educational excellence. A child's journey through school requires dedication from both parent and child. For the journey to be a success, parents must support the importance of life-long learning. We are excited to have you as part of our school team and look forward to a most productive year. The Lindstrom staff believes that ALL children can learn and succeed. Our mission statement reads:

Esther Lindstrom Elementary School staff, parents/guardians, students, and community collaborate to attain maximum academic excellence based on the Common Core State Standards. We apply best practices to develop academic, social, physical, and emotional growth for all students. We cultivate students who will develop positive self-esteem, as well as respect for others and their cultural differences. Our school community seeks to create a caring, safe environment where every child is provided the opportunity to develop into a life-long learner who is cooperative, compassionate, confident, and productive.

A strong connection between the home and school is essential to your child's academic success. Lindstrom Elementary believes in a collaborative team effort with our staff, parents, students and community members.

I am looking forward to the 2014-2015 school year. Please feel free to call and conference with teachers to create the best educational plan for your child. We are here to provide a quality education for all students and look forward to working with your family.

Sincerely,

Deborah Apple
Principal

**Bellflower Unified School District
Board of Education**

President	Debbie Cuadros
Vice President	Jerry Cleveland
Clerk	Paul Helzer, D.C. PhD
Member	Sue ElHessen, Ed.D.
Member	Laura Sanchez-Ramirez

Superintendent of Schools
Brian Jacobs, Ed. D.

Esther Lindstrom Elementary School

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

BEFORE SCHOOL

Main gate will be opened – Playground available to students 8:15 a.m.
(For safety reasons, students are not allowed on campus before 8:15 a.m. as there is no supervision on school grounds prior to this time.)

Warning Bell (time to get in line) 8:27 a.m.
SCHOOL BEGINS with Patriotic Flag Ceremony and Announcements 8:30 a.m.

REGULAR SCHOOL DAYS

Grades K – 6 8:30 – 2:55

SHORTENED DAYS (1:35 Dismissal)

Grades K – 6 8:30 – 1:35

Every Wednesday is a shortened day!
Shortened Days are also on: 9/4, 10/13-17, 11/21,
3/13 and 4/3

MINIMUM DAYS (12:45 Dismissal)

Grades K – 6 8:30 – 12:45
Minimum Days are: 9/16, 12/18, 1/29, 5/12 and 6/18

MORNING RECESS

Grades K, 1-2 9:55 – 10:10
Grades 3-4 10:15 – 10:30
Grades 5-6 10:35 – 10:55

LUNCH SCHEDULE – REGULAR DAY

Grades 1-2 11:35 -12:15
Kindergarten 11:55 -12:35
Grades 3-4 12:15 -12:55
Grades 5-6 12:55 -1:40

LUNCH SCHEDULE – SHORTENED DAY

Grades 1-2 11:35 -12:15
Kindergarten 11:55 -12:35
Grades 3-4 12:15 -12:55
Grades 5-6 12:50 - 1:30

AFTERNOON RECESS

Kindergarten 1:30 – 1:40
Grades 1-2 1:45 - 1:55
Grades 3-4 2:05 - 2:15



Reminder: A student is considered tardy if they are not in line when the bell rings at 8:30 a.m.

ARRIVAL TO AND DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL

The gates open promptly at 8:15 a.m. and certificated staff members are available for supervision. There is supervision at the bicycle area for bicycle riders and bus riders starting at 8:15 a.m. Children should be picked up at the designated areas at the end of the school day. There is no after-school supervision; children are expected to go directly home. Arrival on time at school and being picked up on time after school is extremely important for the safety and welfare of your children.

Parking lot: Please follow our circular flow pattern to drop off and pick up students. If your child is not ready for pick-up, please circle until your child arrives in the student pick up area. Please talk to your children and discuss with them the importance of using the sidewalks and crosswalks at all times. Students should always walk behind the bollards, unless escorted by an adult. Please follow the signs and do not park in areas designated as "no parking."

Bicycles: Children in grades 3-6 may ride bicycles to school after they have completed and returned to the office a "Bicycle Contract." Students must wear bicycle helmets and observe safe riding practices. In order to protect bicycles from theft, they are to be placed in the bike rack and locked. All bicycles must be walked when on school grounds. Bicycle contracts will be revoked for students who do not follow the rules.

Crossing Guards: The location of Lindstrom Elementary School creates a variety of challenges for students walking to and from school. The heavy vehicle traffic can be dangerous for our children. We all must work together to inform our students of the importance of following safe rules for walking to and from school. If your child walks to school, please be certain he/she crosses the street with the help of the crossing guard. Discuss all traffic and pedestrian regulations with your children. The crossing guards are obligated to report problems to the school and their supervisors for appropriate action.

Bus Riders: Riding the school bus to and from school is a privilege extended to those resident students who live beyond the designated walking distance from school. Since this is a privilege, it can be revoked at any time if proper conduct is not shown on the bus or at the bus stop. Students are responsible for being at the bus-loading zone when the bus arrives, but not more than 10 minutes ahead of the scheduled pickup. Students are to line up properly and not play in the street or on private property. While on the bus, the driver is in charge and courteous respect toward the driver is expected. The bus driver is obligated to report infractions and dangerous behavior to the school and his/her supervisor. The office will notify parent/guardians of children who miss the bus. Parent/Guardians are then responsible for picking him/her up at a reasonable time or making arrangements at the earliest time possible.

Scooters, Skateboards, Heeleys: These are not allowed.

ATTENDANCE

There is probably no more important factor in a child's education than maintaining regular attendance. It is extremely difficult to successfully keep up with class work if attendance is inconsistent. Attendance at school is essential for satisfactory educational progress and is required by law. The State of California compulsory attendance law states:

Education Code Section 48200: Each person subject to compulsory full time education...shall attend school for the full time designated...and each parent, guardian, or other person having control or charge of the pupil shall send the pupil to school for the full time designated as the length of the school day as determined by the governing board of the school district in which the residence of either parent or legal guardian is located. Recognition of Perfect Attendance is as defined above.

Children must attend school each and every day on time unless there is a valid reason for them to be out of school. The only excused absences are for illness, quarantine, medical or dental appointments, attendance at a funeral of one's immediate family, or exclusion for failing to meet immunization requirements. All other absences will be marked "unexcused."

When a child returns to school following an absence, a written excuse must accompany the child. The elements of an absence note must include:

- the absent pupil's name
- the name and signature of the person who wrote the note (and relationship to the pupil if other than parent or legal guardian)
- the date of the note
- the date of the absence to which the note refers
- the reason for the absence

The absent note should be brought on the day the child returns to school. Unexplained absences are considered unexcused by the state and are recorded as unexcused absences in student's school records.

Arriving at school on time is also extremely important to a child's educational progress as the principal and teachers often use the opening minutes of the school day to make announcements concerning the day's activities. Tardiness often puts the student at a disadvantage by starting the day with playing catch-up. * A lunchtime detention shall be given for every 3 tardies in a month.

The Education Code (Section 8260): *'Any pupil subject to full-time education who is absent from school without a valid excuse three days in one school year or tardy in excess of 30 minutes on each of more than three days in one school year shall be reported to the attendance supervisor..'*

A pattern of excessive excused or unexcused absences, as well as habitual tardiness, will be referred to the Child Welfare and Attendance Office at the Bellflower Unified School District for School Attendance Review Team (SART) action.

Our attendance goal for each child enrolled at Esther Lindstrom Elementary School is to be present at school 100% of the school year with no unexcused tardies or early pick-ups. It is important that we work together to teach children that a quality educational experience depends upon regular attendance and coming to school on time.

CAFETERIA/SNACKS

A well-balanced lunch may be purchased for the daily cost of **\$2.00**. Lunches may be pre-purchased in cash or by writing a check to "BUSD Cafeteria" making sure your child's name and room number are on the check. There is no set amount on how many lunches you can pre-purchase. The office does not maintain an emergency lunch fund for lost or forgotten lunch money.

Eating in the cafeteria is a privilege. The behavior standards for the cafeteria are those of any restaurant. Each student is expected to use good table manners and behave appropriately.

We encourage students to bring a nourishing snack to eat during the morning recess. Snacks should be nutritious to help sustain our children's energy level so they can attend to the rigorous learning. Candy, gum, large bags of chips and carbonated beverages are not permitted at school. Healthy snacks such as fruit, pretzels, and vegetables are recommended instead. Water bottles are suggested for students to use during warm weather.

WELLNESS POLICY/CLASS PARTIES

The Bellflower Unified School District has adopted a "Wellness Policy." To abide by it, we have developed some guidelines that we believe will support the "Wellness Policy" and send a positive message to our students. We want all of our students to eat healthy and stay healthy.

Esther Lindstrom acknowledges the special occasion of each child's birthday and we encourage parents to hold birthday celebrations with family and friends at home. In order to reduce classroom interruptions and comply with regulations regarding food distribution, classroom birthday celebrations will not be held on the Lindstrom campus. This includes the delivery of birthday cakes, cupcakes, food items, flowers, balloons, etc. to students' classrooms. Classroom teachers will continue to recognize students on their birthdays in a meaningful, educational way throughout the year.

Other ways to acknowledge your child's birthday are to:

- a) Donate a book to your child's classroom. Place a label in the book, "This book was donated by 'your child's name'."
- b) Donate an educational board game to the class.

** Fast food items are not to be brought on campus for or by students.

Thank you for your cooperation. We appreciate your support with these new guidelines. We must all work together for the benefit of our students.

Lindstrom Elementary School DRESS CODE

To provide for the safety and welfare of all students and to support student participation in all instructional activities in a safe, wholesome environment, the following guidelines have been developed as a cooperative effort of parents, teachers, students, and administration. Please follow these guidelines:

- All clothes must be neat, clean, in good repair and be an appropriate size (i.e. no baggy/oversized pants).
- All clothes should be modest in nature with no bare midriffs, sheer blouses, or baggy tank tops (undergarments should not be visible). Dresses and tops need to have straps at least one inch wide. Shorts and skirts cannot be excessively short (have the student stand straight with arms at his/her sides—shorts and skirts should be longer than the tips of the fingers).
- Clothing or jewelry that depicts or suggests sexually-related, obscene gestures, pictures or wording, which promote the use/abuse of drugs or alcohol, shall not be worn on campus or at school activities.
- No student shall wear articles of clothing, jewelry, or accessories, which pose a threat to the physical well-being, and safety of the student or others (i.e. dangling pierced earrings, nose rings, plugs, spikes, hoop earrings should be less than one inch in diameter).
- The wearing of hats or other head covering, except for approved bucket hats, is not permitted at school unless at a school-sanctioned special activity.
- No clothing, or articles of clothing or methods of grooming (including but not limited to gloves, bandannas, belt buckles, shoestrings, wristbands, jewelry, tattoos, extreme hair styles, mohawks longer than 1 inch, unnaturally colored hair) related to a group or gang, which may provoke others to acts of violence or to be intimidated by fear of violence, or could possibly disrupt the educational process, shall be worn on campus or at any school activity.
- Closed shoes are to be worn at all times for health and safety reasons. Sandals, flip-flops, soft plastic shoes, or other open-toed shoes are not permitted. Please insure students are wearing sneakers on P.E. days.
- Make-up should always look natural and not be a distraction to learning. School personnel will determine if make-up is distracting.
- No perfume or cologne should be worn due to many students having allergies.

The responsibility for the proper attire of all students attending the Bellflower Unified School District rests with the parent/guardian. The principal or designee shall make the determination whether or not the student is violating the school dress code. Parents/guardians will be notified. Violators of this policy shall be subjected to school and/or district discipline procedures, including suspension and expulsion.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

For the safety and well being of our students, it is critical that the school office have up-to-date emergency information. Parents/Guardians are to complete a confidential emergency card listing pertinent information needed in case your child becomes ill or is injured while at school. It is extremely important that you notify the office immediately if you change your address or telephone numbers. Please remember to list cell phone numbers on emergency cards. We may need to contact you immediately and the more information we have, the better!

SCHOOL PROPERTY

The school provides textbooks and other materials used by Lindstrom students. Students should be responsible for taking good care of the textbooks and materials provided for their use. Students and their parents will be held liable for damaged or lost textbooks and library books. Parents/Guardians will be billed for damage caused by willful acts on the part of their children including damage to buildings, property, supplies and equipment.

USE OF SCHOOL PHONE

Students must obtain written permission from their teachers before being allowed to use the school phone and only when the need is urgent.

CELL PHONE POLICY

We recognize that parents want to provide their students with the means to have reliable and easy access to them. Therefore, the district has developed a policy regarding cell phone use at school. Students may not use or display cell phones during the regular school day or during participation in school activities, unless specifically authorized by a school administrator or designee. Cell phones must remain out of sight and powered "OFF" throughout the school day. Failure to comply with this policy will result in immediate confiscation of the cell phone. Confiscated items may be picked up by parent/guardian only, and will require a meeting with the Principal. A second infraction may result in formal suspension. **The school district is not responsible for lost, stolen or confiscated property.**

MESSAGES

The office secretaries are not always able to get messages to students near the end of the day, as students are often not in their classrooms due to P.E. or other activities. Therefore, it is important that you make arrangements with your child before school as to childcare, after school activities, rainy day pickups, etc.

VISITORS

Parents are always welcome as visitors in our school. However, to protect our children, we ask that all visitors be cleared through the office and sign the visitor book. The office may ask for identification and visitors going on campus are required to wear a visitor badge. Please make arrangements with your child's teacher at least 24 hours before visiting to make sure it does not interfere with instruction, an assembly, field trip, testing, etc. Visits should be limited to approximately 20 minutes. Student visitors or guests are not allowed.

HEALTH – MEDICATIONS

Children who are ill should not be sent to school. A child that has had a fever should stay home until he/she is fever free for 24 hours. Your child will be sent home from school if he/she has a fever and/or vomited while at school. It is very important for the school to have up-to-date emergency information with a list of phone numbers of adults who can come for your sick or injured student. Please let the school office know if your child has contracted a contagious medical condition such as measles, chicken pox, a rash, head lice, etc., so that appropriate precautionary measures can be taken.

Head lice are a serious concern in an elementary school. If a student is found to have head lice, he/she will be sent home. Students in that child's classroom will be checked the same day, and letters will be sent home.

If your child is required to take medication, a doctor's written order must be on file in the health office. A form is available from the school office. Medication is kept in the health office and is dispensed by the health assistant, nurse, or other trained personnel.

At no time should medication, including over-the-counter brands, be in the possession of children while on the playground or in class unless written direction from a physician is on file in the health office reflecting medical need. Over-the-counter medications include but are not limited to the following: Tylenol, cough drops, eye drops, ibuprofen, etc.

All medication must be brought directly to the office by the parent/guardian first thing in the morning. Please remind your children that they share in the responsibility for remembering when they need to come to the health office for their medication.

Medical Insurance is available through a private insurance company. There is a minimum charge for coverage, which generally is supplemental to any other family insurance policy. Information is sent home on the first day of school and interested parents are to return the completed form with payment directly to the carrier – not to the school.

ITEMS INAPPROPRIATE FOR SCHOOL

In general, it is best not to bring personal items (toys, electronic items, etc.) to school unless it is first cleared by the teacher and/or office. If an item is questionable, check first. Items that are pre-approved for "show and tell" or special days should be kept in the classroom during the school day. Unapproved items will be confiscated and returned only to the parent/guardian. Money is easily lost and students should bring only what is needed for lunch or other school business. Pets are not permitted at school. Neither Lindstrom School nor Bellflower Unified School District is responsible for personal items that are broken, lost, or stolen.

INDEPENDENT STUDY CONTRACTS

Sometimes, because of special family needs, a child is absent from school for reasons other than illness or other excused absences. Such absences are considered unexcused by the state and recorded as such. As an alternative to these unexcused absences, an Independent Study Contract can be arranged for your child. This does not replace the importance of time lost in the classroom, but it will help to keep your student up-to-date with some of the class work, and no unexcused absences will be entered on his/her school record.

An Independent Study Contract consists of the following:

1. The absence is for a **minimum of five school days**.
2. The parent/guardian notifies the office and the teacher one week before the absence and agrees to supervise the child's completion of the study/work assignments.
3. The teacher makes up a packet of appropriate work for the duration of the time away from school.
4. The student brings the completed work packet back to school on the first day he/she returns to class with the Independent Study Contract signed by the parent/guardian and student.
5. The work is checked by the teacher and turned into the office. After being reviewed and signed by the principal, the absences are changed from unexcused status to excused and the Independent Study Contract with a sample of work is saved for auditing purposes.

REQUESTS FOR HOMEWORK

Homework will not be provided for a one-day absence. If homework is desired for an absence that exceeds one day, the request must be made before 10:00 a.m. on the second day of the absence. Homework should be picked up in the office before 4:00 p.m.

REQUESTS TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY

A written request to have a child excused from school early should be sent to the teacher on the morning of the early dismissal. The time and reason for the child leaving early should be included in the note. No child will be released to anyone who is not listed on the child's emergency card or who is under the age of 18. No child will be allowed to leave campus without being signed out in the office by an authorized adult.

Lindstrom Pledge

This day has been given to me, fresh and new;
I can learn from it or throw it away.
I will choose to do my best in thoughts, words, and
actions.

Today I will be a STAR, I will
STOP, THINK, AND ACT RESPONSIBLY.



Lindstrom Song

We're a grand old school
We're a Distinguished School
We're the best in the west,
We all say "Yay Lindstrom"
Where the kids are smart & do their part
We are loyal to you everyday.

We're a grand old school
We're a Distinguished School,
We're the best in the west,
We all say "Yay Lindstrom"
Where the kids are smart & do their part
We are loyal to you everyday.
HOORAY!



ESTHER LINDSTROM PTA 2014-2015

PTA Executive Board

President	Rita Rivera	761-5620
1 st VP (Programs)	Sadie Dobmeier	244-1207
2 nd VP (Ways & Means)	Jasmine Whiteside	661-993-9186
3 rd VP (Membership)	Mallory Jackson	235-8311
4 th VP (Parent Ed.)	Allison Castellanos	822-6488
5 th VP (Room Parent Vol.)	Sorina Hernandez	866-0022
Secretary	Marisa Perez	420-9985
Treasurer	Arlette Cruz-Davis	301-7022
Financial Secretary	Silvia Jones	925-1992
Auditor	Jonna Lewis	626-482-3439
Historian		
Parliamentarian	Lisa Heapy	925-5137
Advisor (Principal)	Debbie Apple	804-6525

PTA Committee Chairperson

After School Sales	Melissa Flores	
Art	Carla Scofield	804-1786
Book Fair	Jasmine Whiteside	661-993-9186
Fall Festival		
Grandparents' Day		
Hospitality	Brandie Villagrana	968-8900
Honorary Service		
Lindy Log		
Newsletter		
Red Ribbon		
Reflections	Carla Scofield	804-1786
School Pictures	Nora Navarette	343-8262
T-Shirt/Spirit Wear	Lisa Guetzkow	714-270-5756
Yearbook	Linda Morgan	508-5463
6 th Grade Activities	Kelly Stram	866-1947

On the web at: www.lindstrompta.com

Facebook: Esther Lindstrom Elementary School PTA

Why Join PTA?

- There is no better way to know what's happening in your school.
- By getting involved at your child's school you will be part of the solution, helping to make positive changes.
- It provides each of us an opportunity to collaborate with other committed people.
- PTA provides you with a powerful voice. It provides the opportunity for you to advocate for the education and well-being of all children.
- Most importantly, it benefits your child. In doing so, you also help our school. Research has proven that children do better when their parents are involved both at home and in school. Grades are higher. Test scores rise. Self-esteem grows. Schools improve.

SCHOOL RULES	REWARDS & CONSEQUENCES	TARDY POLICY & SEVERE POLICY
<p style="text-align: center;">SCHOOL WIDE CONDUCT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep hands, feet and objects to oneself. 2. Respect feelings and property of others. 3. Follow directions the first time. 4. Follow classroom, playground, and cafeteria rules. 5. Do not fight, tease or use bad language and/or gestures. <p style="text-align: center;">PLAYGROUND CONDUCT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Play safely. 2. Use equipment properly. 3. Follow directions of duty supervisors. 4. "FREEZE" when the bell rings. 5. "WALK" to and from the playground. 6. Keep cafeteria and grounds clean. 7. Eat in designated areas only. 8. Do not go to the office without a pass unless it's an emergency. <p>Our school is a great place to learn! Together we make a difference. It's all about goals, attitude, teamwork, achievement, excellence, success, and pride. Learning is our #1 priority.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">REWARDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive notes and phone calls home • Verbal praise by adults and peers • Classroom rewards • Recognition at flag ceremony • Academic Achievement • Exceptional Academic Achievement • Lindy Lion Pride Tickets • Special assemblies and privileges • Student of the Month K-6 • Effort Club for grade level/classroom <p style="text-align: center;">CONSEQUENCES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning – counseled by teacher • Time-out – at recess or in another room • Note and/or phone call home • In-School Suspension • Counseled by Principal • Informal at-home suspension • Formal at-home suspension • Behavior Review Team at school • District Behavior Review Council • District Transfer Committee <p>Classroom rewards and consequences may vary. Each teacher has an effective classroom management system.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TARDY POLICY</p> <p>If a student is not in line when the 8:30 a.m. bell rings, he/she is tardy. Unexcused tardies in excess of 30 minutes are considered truancies. A lunchtime detention will be given for every 3 tardies in a month.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SEVERE CONSEQUENCES</p> <p>Our Board of Education is fully committed to providing a safe and secure school environment in which students can effectively learn. Student behavior that threatens the safety of other pupils, staff, or visitors cannot be tolerated.</p> <p>The following serious infractions may require in-school suspension from class and/or suspension from school.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verbal disrespect to adults 2. Refusing to follow adult directions 3. Obscene language or gestures 4. Bodily harm to another person 5. Fighting (or inappropriate body contact) 6. Damage to school and/or personal property 7. Violation(s) of acts enumerated in the Education Code, Section 48900, which specifies causes for suspension <p>We are confident that our standards for student conduct will teach our children to accept responsibility for their own actions and help them develop caring and respectful attitudes toward themselves and toward others.</p>

Esther Lindstrom Elementary School Staff

2014-2015

Mrs. Deborah Apple – Principal

Mrs. Terry Scofield - Secretary

Ms. Kathy Lopez - Clerk

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>	<u>ROOM</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
Transitional			Fourth	Ann Sui	51
Kindergarten	Kirsten Robinson	12	Fourth	Dave Hurst	85
			Fourth	Jeff Savage	86
Kindergarten	Kathy Fisher	11	Fourth	Teresa Driscoll	88
Kindergarten	Kait Martinez Gallegos	13			
Kindergarten	Valerie Navarro	14	Fifth	Cynthia Vitwar	72
Kindergarten	Kara Pedneault	24	Fifth	Cindy Nishimuta	73
Kindergarten	Jillian Schwarze	33	Fifth	Phil Blankenship	74
			Fifth	Ray Hedgpeth	87
First	Debby Crane	32			
First	Lara Cummins	35			
First	Leslie Ray	43	Sixth	Charmaine McLaughlin	61
First	Dawniel Scofield	46	Sixth	Amy Savage	62
First	Beth Manriquez	47	Sixth	Brian Hamilton	63
			Sixth	David Dye	71
Second	Carol Cherpes	34			
Second	Brenda Heaton	53	1 - 3 SDC	Lisa Cornell	41
Second	Linda Farris	54	4 - 6 SDC	Amanda Lenhart	75
Second	Barbara Herring	55	K-3 SH	Heather Pfrunder	84
Second	Irena Perez	57	4-6 SH	Melissa Toth	83
Third	Valli Pesch	42			
Third	Teresa Manriquez	44			
Third	Helena Chong	45			
Third	Judy Moses	52			
Third	Leon Alexander	56			

CERTIFICATED SUPPORT STAFF

RSP	Debra Lara	64
Psychologist	Stephanie Holleran	66
Speech		
Inclusion	Janie Nilsson	67

CLASSIFIED SUPPORT STAFF

Health Asst.	Kandi Bowline
Health Asst.	Tish Rioux
Librarian	Kristen Bylsma
Guidance Intern	Lyman Insley