



EKA FIELD DAY 2024

PRE-ORDER
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APRIL 1ST

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SIZES
\$20

T-SHIRTS

[CLICK HERE to Pre-Order](#)

The poster features a central yellow cloud-like shape containing the text "McTeaer's Night" in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a red outline. Above the text is a stylized McDonald's logo (a red apple with a green leaf and the golden arches) and a red house-like shape. The background is a vibrant collage of red McDonald's french fry containers and golden fries, set against a blue and yellow geometric pattern. The entire central text area is framed by a red, wavy border.

McTeaer's Night[®]

*Come Support EKA at
your Local McDonald's*

Wednesday!

April 17, 2024

5-7 pm

McDonald's

*601 N. Stephanie
Henderson, NV 89014*

*Come
See your
favorite
EKA Staff
work at
McDonald's*

EKA
*will receive
15% of ALL
Sales during the
2 hours
this includes
drive-thru
orders, curbside
& McDelivery*

THE DRAMATIC DRAGONS PRESENT...

Wrangled



April 24th

4:30pm-5:30pm

Tickets available on EKA website

\$8 for entrance to both plays

\$5 for children 12 and under





THE DRAMATIC DRAGONS PRESENT...

If the Boot fits

April 24th

4:30pm-5:30pm

Tickets available on EKA website

\$8 for entrance to both plays

\$5 for children 12 and under





"Personalizing Education – Challenging Minds."

Dear Explore Knowledge Academy Families, Guardians, and Caregivers:

All students and members of our school communities deserve to feel safe, welcomed, and included. It is on all of us to work together to prevent firearm violence and to avoid the harm and tragedy that shootings of any kind can cause in the spaces in which we live, learn, work, and play.

Safe firearm storage is one of many preventative actions that you can take in keeping our school community and school buildings and grounds safe. When firearms are stored safely, it can help prevent them from getting into the hands of children and teens, who may use them to, intentionally or unintentionally, harm themselves or others. Safe storage can go a long way in preventing lives from being lost or permanently altered. If you have firearms in your home or if your child spends time in a space where firearms are present, there are important steps that can be taken to keep firearms secured and out of reach of unintended users.

Firearm-Related Injuries and Deaths: A Problem We Must Solve Together

Firearm-related injuries and deaths are a public health crisis that communities across the nation face every day:

- Since 2018, there have been more than 100 school shooting incidents per year in our country and those numbers have steadily increased.¹
- Approximately three-quarters of perpetrators in school-based active shooter situations acquired their firearm from the home of a parent or close relative.² This illustrates the close connection between your role as families, caregivers, and guardians and the role of Explore Knowledge Academy in keeping students safe while on school grounds.
- However, this issue goes beyond school-based active shooter situations and includes a variety of firearm injury types, including interpersonal violence, suicide, and unintentional fatal and nonfatal firearm injuries.³
- More than 4 million children live in a household with at least one unlocked and loaded firearm.⁴ Studies have found that households with both locked firearms and locked ammunition have significantly lower risks of self-inflicted firearm injuries and even lower risks of unintentional firearm injuries among children and teens compared to households that did not safely store firearms.⁵

Safe Firearm Storage: Actions to Take to Keep Our Communities Safe

Safe firearm storage can help prevent and minimize the risk of firearm-related deaths and injuries. Everyone, both firearm owners and non-owners, has a role to play in building awareness of safe, responsible firearm storage. Below are simple, highly effective practices that can help to reduce firearm-related incidents in our community and help protect our kids. In addition to these practices, it is important to also engage children and adolescents in conversations about the dangers associated with using firearms and what to do and not do in the event they access a firearm, to prevent fatal or non-fatal injuries.



"Personalizing Education – Challenging Minds."

- **Safely Store Firearms:** Store firearms—always unloaded—in a tamper proof locked cabinet, box, safe, firearm vault, or storage case that children or other unauthorized adults cannot access.
- **Safely Store Ammunition:** Store ammunition in a separate, tamper-proof locked cabinet, safe, firearm vault, or storage case that children or other unauthorized adults cannot access.
- **Secure Firearms:** Use trigger locks or cable locks to prevent a firearm from firing. (More information can be found on the [Safe Firearm Storage Fact Sheet](#), developed by the U.S. Department of Justice.)
 - Trigger locks use a mechanism that clamps down around the trigger or trigger housing to prevent it from being pressed (*Note: trigger locks should not be installed on loaded firearms*).
 - In a cable lock, a cable is threaded through the barrel or action of a firearm to prevent it from firing.

Explore Knowledge Academy remains committed to helping ensure the safety of our students and school community. We can all work together to promote awareness about how we can protect our children and our whole school communities by safely storing firearms and prevent tragedies from ever occurring. Thank you for being a partner in these efforts, and for helping reduce firearm-related injury and deaths in our community.

Sincerely,

Abbe Mattson

Superintendent

¹ Riedman, D. (2023). K-12 School Shooting Database. <https://k12ssdb.org/all-shootings>

² National Threat Assessment Center. (2019). Protecting America's Schools: A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Targeted School Violence. U.S. Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security. <http://bit.ly/3SfmSgw>

³ National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention. (September 19, 2023). Fast Facts: Firearm Violence and Injury Prevention. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/firearms/fastfact.html>

⁴ Miller, M., & Azrael, D. (2022). Firearm Storage in U.S. Households With Children: Findings From the 2021 National Firearm Survey. JAMA Network Open, 5(2): e2148823.

⁵ Grossman, D.C., Mueller, B.A., Riedy, C., Dowd, M.D., Villaveces, A., Prodzinski, J., Nakagawara, J., Howard, J., Thiersch, N., & Harruff, R. (2005). Gun Storage Practices and Risk of Youth Suicide and Unintentional Firearm Injuries. <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/200330>.



"Personalizing Education – Challenging Minds."

Helpful Resources

More information about safe firearm storage and practices can be found below. Please feel free to read and share with family, friends, and neighbors.

This list below is included for the reader's convenience and contains examples of potentially useful products and resources. Inclusion of such information does not constitute an endorsement by the Department or the Federal government, nor a preference/support for these examples over others. The Department does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of any outside information. Customize this entire form field to only include the resources that you would like to feature in the final letter disseminated.

- [Safe Firearm Storage Fact Sheet](#), U.S. Department of Justice
- [Preventing Mass Attacks in Our Communities Webinar](#), U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center
- [Securing Your Firearm](#) and [Explaining Gun Safety to Kids](#), Project Childsafe
- [Be SMART, Guide to Secure Gun Storage Devices, Which States Have Child-Access and/or Secure Storage Laws?, Solutions: Secure Gun Storage](#), Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund
- [Secure Storage of Lethal Means: Keeping Children and Families Safe](#), Sandy Hook Promise
- [Understanding Firearm-Related Injury and School Violence Podcast Series](#), Institute for Firearm Injury Prevention

This letter was created by the REMS TA Center, which is operated by Synergy Enterprises, Inc. under Contract #GS-00F-115CA awarded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Supportive Schools. All materials created or disseminated by the REMS TA Center, including the contents of this letter, should not be presumed to reflect the positions or policies of the U.S. Department of Education or to imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education.

ATTENDANCE

in the early grades

Many of our youngest students miss 10 percent of the school year—about 18 days a year or just two days every month. Chronic absenteeism in kindergarten, and even preK, can predict lower test scores, poor attendance and retention in later grades, especially if the problem persists for more than a year. Do you know how many young children are chronically absent in your school or community?

Who Is Affected

Kindergarten and 1st grade classes often have absenteeism rates as high as those in high school. Many of these absences are excused, but they still add up to lost time in the classroom.

1 in 10 kids

in kindergarten and 1st grade are chronically absent. In some schools, it's as high as 1 in 4.¹



2 in 10
low-income kids

miss too much school. They're also more likely to suffer academically.¹



2.5 in 10
homeless kids

are chronically absent.²



4 in 10
transient kids

miss too much school when families move.²



Why It Matters

If children don't show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers.

Preliminary data from a California study found that children who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade.

Who Can Read on Grade Level After 3rd Grade?³



64%

of kids with good attendance in K and 1st (missed 9 or fewer days both years)



43%

of kids with at-risk attendance (missed more than 9 days both years)



41%

of kids chronically absent in K or 1st (missed 18 or more days one year)



17%

of kids chronically absent in K and 1st (missed 18 or more days both years)

What We Can Do



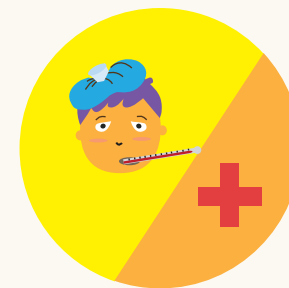
Engage Families

Many parents and students don't realize how quickly early absences can add up to academic trouble. Community members and teachers can educate families and build a culture of attendance through early outreach, incentives and attention to data.



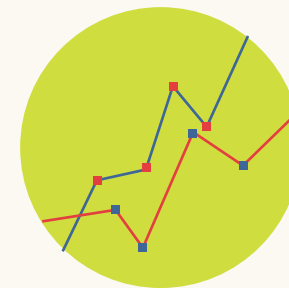
Fix Transportation

The lack of a reliable car, or simply missing the school bus, can mean some students don't make it to class. Schools, transit agencies and community partners can organize car pools, supply bus passes or find other ways to get kids to school.



Address Health Needs

Health concerns, particularly asthma and dental problems, are among the leading reasons students miss school in the early grades. Schools and medical professionals can work together to give children and families health care and advice.



Track the Right Data

Schools too often overlook chronic absence because they track average attendance or unexcused absences, not how many kids miss too many days for any reason. Attendance Works has free data-tracking tools.

These are a few steps that communities and schools can take. How do you think you can help?

¹ Chang, Hedy; Romero, Mariajose, *Present, Engaged and Accounted For: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades*, National Center for Children in Poverty: NY: NY, September 2008.

² *Chronic Absence in Utah*, Utah Education Policy Center at the University of Utah, 2012.

³ *Attendance in Early Elementary Grades: Association with Student Characteristics, School Readiness and Third Grade Outcomes*, Applied Survey Research. May 2011.



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

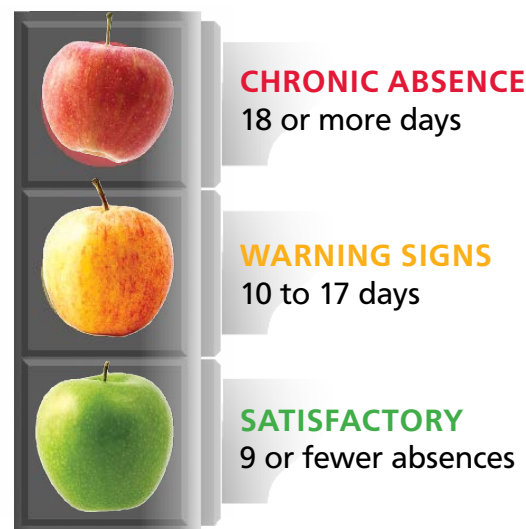
Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-urgent related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

Revised September 2023

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.



Keep Your Child On Track in Middle and High School: Pay Attention to Attendance

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days a month, over the course of the school year, can affect a student's academic success.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and non-urgent related medical appointments during the school day.
- Keep your student healthy, and if you are concerned about Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your children must stay home because they are sick, make sure they have asked teachers for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.

Help your teen stay engaged

- Find out if your children feel engaged by their classes, and feel safe from bullies and other threats.
- Make sure your teens are not missing class because of challenges with behavioral issues or school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, contact the school and work with them to find a solution.
- Monitor your teen's academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors when necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage your child to join meaningful after-school activities, including sports and clubs.
- Notice and support your students if they are showing signs of anxiety.

Communicate with the school

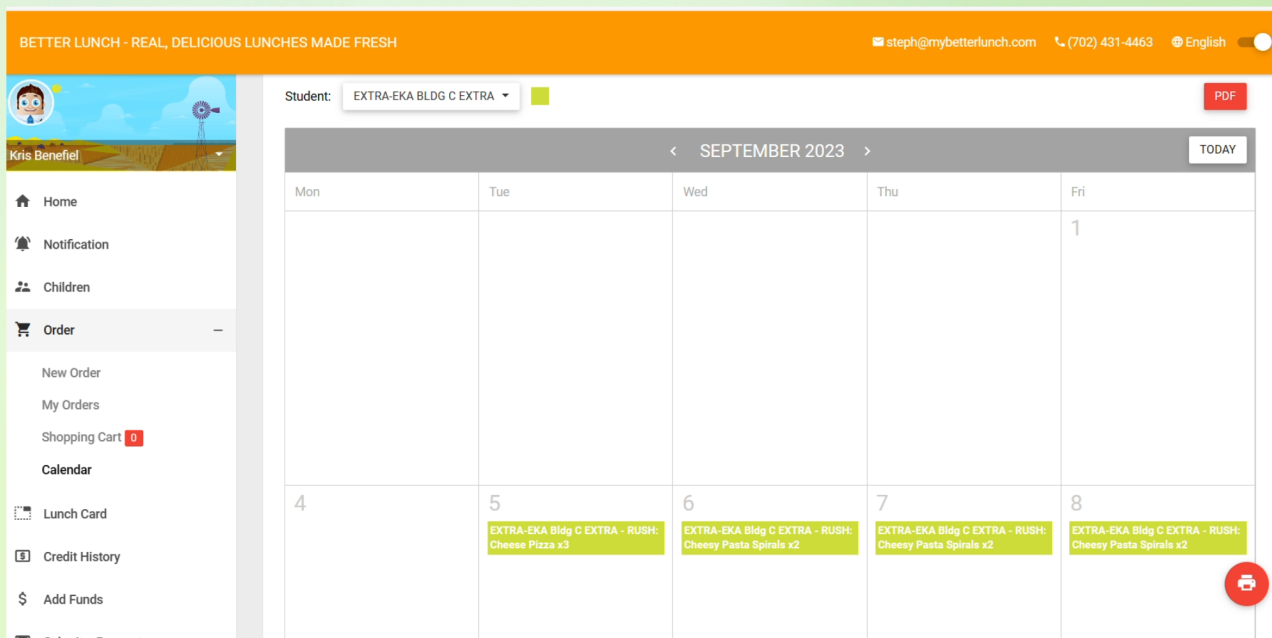
- Know the school's attendance policy – incentives and penalties.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not adding up.
- Seek help from school staff, other parents, or community agencies if you need support.



Revised September 2023

Visit Attendance Works at www.attendanceworks.org for free downloadable resources and tools!

How to print your student's My Better Lunches



CALENDAR:

1. Login to your BL account
2. On the left side of the page, click ORDER
3. Using the drop down menu, choose CALENDAR
4. The current month will appear, showing you see which days your child has orders placed.

If you have more than one child, each child who has orders placed, will show on the calendar in a different color. You can see a red PDF button top right side, this means, you can download the calendar and print it out for your records. At the top center of the calendar, you see the current month and arrows on the left and right sides, this enables you to change the month to look at past months or future months.

ORDERS:

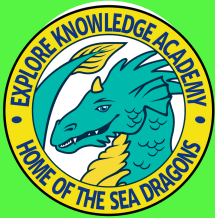
1. Login to your BL account
2. Click on ORDER
3. Choose "MY ORDERS"
4. All of your orders placed will appear
5. Under the "ORDER ID" column, you will see blue order numbers, simply click on an order number to view the order.
6. You can also download the INVOICE/ORDER and print for your records

My Orders								
*Unpaid Orders: \$0.00 VIEW SHOPPING CART								
Campus Explore Knowledge Acad - KINDER			Status All					
ORDER ID	NAME	MENU	ORDERED ON	AMOUNT	CREDIT USED	CANCELLATIONS	AMOUNT PAID/DUE	PAID DATE
4103432	EXTRA-EKA Bldg A EXTRA	RUSH MENU	31 Aug, 23 15:15	16.50	17.88		0.00	31 Aug, 23 15:15
4018157	EXTRA-EKA Bldg A EXTRA	August Menu	19 Aug, 23 13:34	63.00	68.28		0.00	19 Aug, 23 13:34
3966972	EXTRA-EKA Bldg A EXTRA	August Menu	06 Aug, 23 16:52	27.00	29.26		0.00	06 Aug, 23 16:52

ELEMENTARY PLACARDS

\$2
each

ORDER YOUR
ADDITIONAL OR
REPLACEMENT
PLACARDS NOW!



SMITH
123

EKA WILL PROVIDE
FAMILIES WITH THE
FIRST TWO PLACARDS
AT NO COST.

ADDITIONAL OR
REPLACEMENTS MUST
BE PURCHASED ON
OUR WEB STORE.

ORDERS RECEIVED BY NOON WILL
BE READY FOR PICK UP AT THE
CONCLUSION OF THAT SCHOOL DAY.

[HTTPS://ekacademy.org/product/additional_placard/](https://ekacademy.org/product/additional_placard/)

April

2023 - 2024

Dress up Days

4/4 (Thursday)
Kilt Day



4/12 (Friday)
Scrabble/ Wear Words Day

May

2023 - 2024

Dress up Days



5/1 (Wednesday)
Flower Power Day

5/10 (Friday)
College/ University Day



PLUS get a FREE gift
& enter to win
Vegas Golden Knights tickets!*

Check Out Your FREE Personal WiFi Card*

← Sign up at the Library today!*

Qualified library customers can visit a participating Library District branch to check out a FREE Personal WiFi Card, which will provide FREE internet access until June 30, 2024. For cardholders in areas where Cox WiFi service is limited, please visit your nearby branch to check out a Library District hotspot device.

Service
available
now through
June 30, 2024!

- In order to qualify for this FREE service, you must:
- Be age 18 years or older.
- Have a FREE Las Vegas-Clark County Library card.
- Not currently have internet access to meet your educational and/or employment needs.



Sign up at these locations: Centennial Hills Library, Clark County Library, East Las Vegas Library, Enterprise Library, Meadows Library, Rainbow Library, Sahara West Library, Spring Valley Library, Summerlin Library, Sunrise Library, West Charleston Library, West Las Vegas Library, Whitney Library, and Windmill Library.

For library cardholders in areas where Cox WiFi service is limited, please visit your nearby branch to check out a Library District hotspot device.

* While supplies last; giveaways may vary by branch.



For full details, visit
TheLibraryDistrict.org/FREEWiFi

¡ADEMÁS recibe un regalo GRATIS
& participe para ganar entradas
Vegas Golden Knights!*

Adquiere la Tarjeta de Acceso WiFi GRATIS*

¡Inscríbanse hoy mismo en la Biblioteca!

Los clientes de la biblioteca que califican pueden visitar una sucursal participante del Distrito Bibliotecario para solicitar una tarjeta personal WiFi GRATUITA, la cual proporciona acceso GRATIS al internet hasta el 30 de junio de 2024. Los tarjetahabientes en las áreas en donde el servicio de Cox WiFi está limitado pueden visitar su sucursal más cercana para solicitar prestado un punto de acceso al internet del Distrito Bibliotecario.

¡Servicio
disponible ahora
hasta
el 30 de junio
de 2024!

- Tener 18 años o ser mayores de 18.
- Tener una tarjeta GRATUITA de la Biblioteca de Las Vegas-Condado de Clark.
- No tener actualmente acceso a internet para cubrir sus necesidades educativas y/o de empleo.



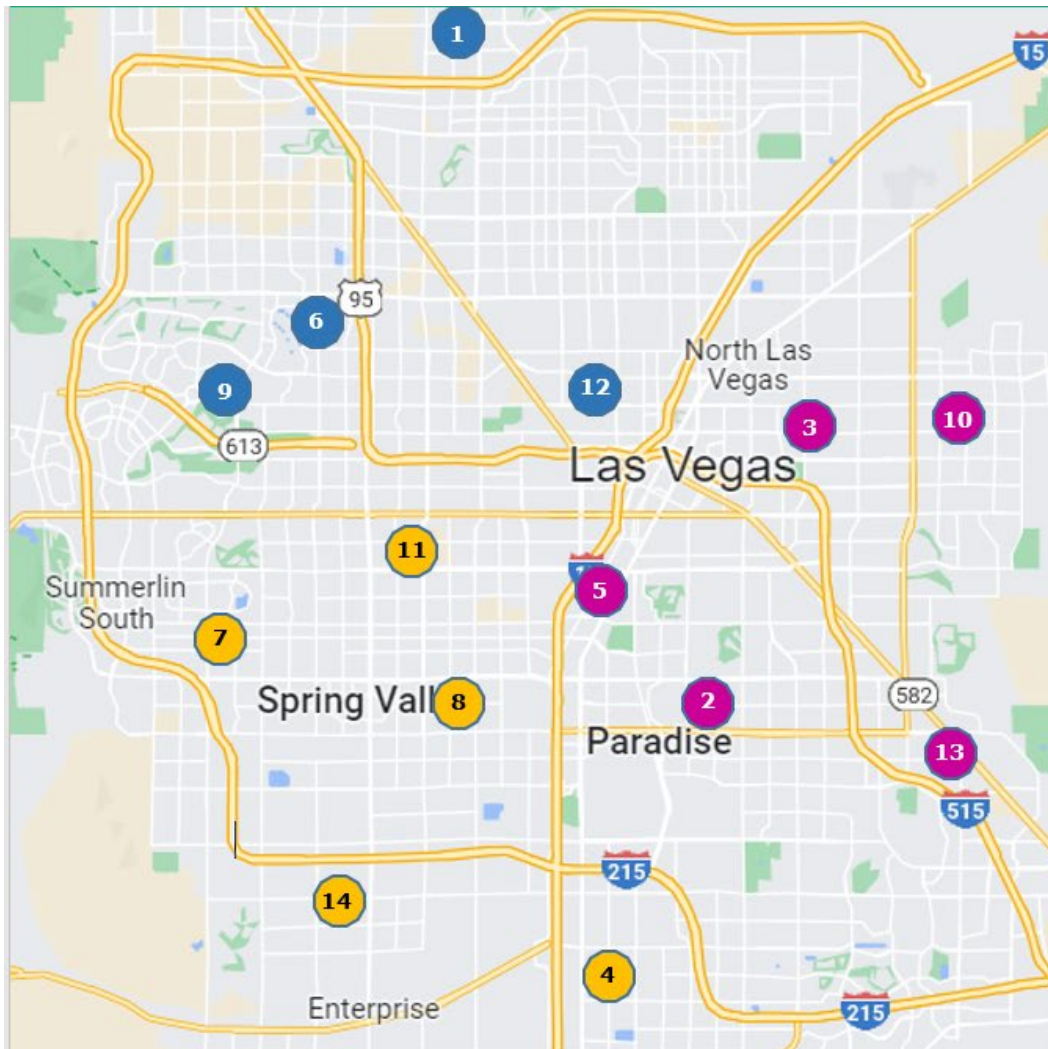
Regístrese en estas sucursales: Biblioteca Centennial Hills, Biblioteca Clark County, Biblioteca East Las Vegas, Biblioteca Enterprise, Biblioteca Meadows, Biblioteca Rainbow, Biblioteca Sahara West, Biblioteca Spring Valley, Biblioteca Summerlin, Biblioteca Sunrise, Biblioteca West Charleston, Biblioteca West Las Vegas, Biblioteca Whitney, y Biblioteca Windmill.

Para los titulares de tarjetas en áreas donde el servicio WiFi de Cox es limitado, visite su sucursal más cercana para retirar un dispositivo de punto de acceso del Distrito Bibliotecario.

* Mientras duren las reservas; Los obsequios pueden variar según la sucursal.



Para más detalles, visite
TheLibraryDistrict.org/FREEWiFi



Library Branches to get Free Personal WiFi

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Centennial Hills | 6. Rainbow | 11. West Charleston |
| 2. Clark County | 7. Sahara West | 12. West Las Vegas |
| 3. East Las Vegas | 8. Spring Valley | 13. Whitney |
| 4. Enterprise | 9. Summerlin | 14. Windmill |
| 5. Meadows | 10. Sunrise | |

WHITNEY LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES CALENDAR

5175 E Tropicana Ave.

APRIL 2024

702-507-4015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Hey Teens! The Teen Zone is open Mon-Sat from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.! based on staff availability	1 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	2 10:30 a.m. Hip-Hop Storytime 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	3 10:30 a.m. 5 and Under Storytime 11:15 a.m. Baby Time 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	4 10:30 a.m. Music & Movement Storytime 11:00 a.m. Stay and Play 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	5 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	6 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. LEGO League 
7 	8 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun NO TUTORING TODAY	9 10:30 a.m. Hip-Hop Storytime 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	10 10:30 a.m. 5 and Under Storytime 11:15 a.m. Baby Time 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	11 10:30 a.m. Music & Movement Storytime 11:00 a.m. Stay and Play 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	12 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	13 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. Robot Lab 
14 	15 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	16 10:30 a.m. Hip-Hop Storytime 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	17 10:30 a.m. 5 and Under Storytime 11:15 a.m. Baby Time 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	18 10:30 a.m. Music & Movement Storytime 11:00 a.m. Stay and Play 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	19 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	20 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. Family Game Party 
21 	22 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	23 10:30 a.m. Hip-Hop Storytime 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	24 10:30 a.m. 5 and Under Storytime 11:15 a.m. Baby Time 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	25 10:30 a.m. Music & Movement Storytime 11:00 a.m. Stay and Play 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun All Day Customer Appreciation Day NO TUTORING TODAY	26 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	27 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. Earth Day Craft Fest 
28 	29 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	30 10:30 a.m. Hip-Hop Storytime 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. After School Fun	Programs for Kids, Teens, & Families! <i>Turn this page over for event ages and descriptions!</i> Free Homework Help Monday - Thursday 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Grades K - 12 Free After School Snacks Monday - Friday 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Kids and Teens ages 6 - 18			

Program Descriptions and Ages

For questions about any of our free programs, please call 702-507-4015 or stop by.

Storytimes & Play Groups for Ages 0-5

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. for ages 2-5: Hip-Hop Storytime with Mr. Billy - Children ages 2-5 and caregivers will participate in a vibrant story time experience as we share songs, rhymes, and stories to hip hop instrumentals with Mr. Billy.

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. for ages 0-5: 5 & Under Storytime - This story program is for all children ages five and under and their caregivers. Families will enjoy books, songs, rhymes, and a craft while building language and literacy skills!

Wednesdays at 11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. for ages 0-18 months: Baby Time - Babies from birth to 18 months and their caregivers will enjoy songs, nursery rhymes, and fingerplays together. This brain-building program includes book sharing time and language enrichment activities followed by play time!

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. for ages 0-5: Music & Movement Storytime - Children ages 0-5 and their caregivers will enjoy an action-packed, movement-focused interactive story time featuring music, books, and more!

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Stay and Play - Enjoy this play-based program for ages 0-5 and caregivers. Drop in, play with a variety of toys, and meet other families with young children in a relaxed environment.



Weekly & Special Events

Monday - Thursday from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. for grades K - 12: Homework Help and Tutoring - Students in grades K-12 are welcome to drop in any time Monday through Thursday between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. for tutoring and homework help from CCSD teachers and teacher aides through Andson. Students must bring work with them, and tutoring is provided in small group settings.

Monday - Friday from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. for all ages: Kids Cafe - Free Meals for ages 6 - 18 - Free meals are provided in the Youth Services Department for kids and teens ages 6 - 18 every weekday while supplies last. Meals at this location are shelf stable and must be eaten in the library. Children must be present to receive meals. Food is provided by Three Square.

Monday - Saturday from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. for teens (grades 6 - 12): Teen Zone Open Hours* - Teens in grades 6 - 12 are invited to hang out in the Teen Zone! Check out a chromebook, play video games, make crafts, or just enjoy your own space to chill with friends or relax and read. **Dates and times may change based on staff availability.*

Monday - Friday from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. for all ages: After School Fun - Join us after school between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. for a variety of fun and engaging activities for all ages. Choose from board games, STEM activities, art projects, and more at the tables in our Youth Services Department!

Saturday, April 6th from 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. for ages 6-12: LEGO League - Kids ages 6 - 12 are invited to create their own LEGO masterpiece to be displayed all month long in the library.

Saturday, April 13th from 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. for ages 6-12: Robot Lab - Drop in and learn some coding basics by tinkering with a variety of technology and creating and coding robots! Featured tech may include Ozobots, Code and Go Mouse, LEGO WeDo, Dash, and more.

Saturday, April 20th from 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. for all ages: Family Game Party - Get your game on! Kids and families are invited to play a variety of card games, board games, and video games.

Thursday, April 25th all day for all ages: Customer Appreciation Day - Join us for Customer Appreciation Day at your local branch for activities + giveaways + more! This year, we want to show you how to "MAKE the Library Yours" with fun maker activities! Each branch will offer unique crafts, workshops, and kits for all ages, while supplies last.

Saturday, April 27th at 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. for grades K - 12: Earth Day Craft Fest - Get crafty! Join us for an afternoon of crafts to celebrate Earth Day! Supplies are limited. First-come, first-served.





WHITNEY LIBRARY SECOND ANNUAL TEEN EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT



SUNDAY
APRIL 7
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.
WHITNEY LIBRARY
5175 E. TROPICANA AVE.



Calling all teens aged 12-18! Get ready for an empowering and inspiring day at the "EmpowerME" Teen Empowerment Summit! This is your chance to be part of a dynamic event featuring local influencers who truly understand and connect with teens.

- Hear from cool speakers sharing their stories and wisdom.
- Engage in breakout sessions covering social justice, career exploration, and more.
- Access mental health resources and have your voice heard in a supportive environment.
- Explore different opportunities and resources available to you.

Each participant will receive an awesome swag bag! We'll also give away grand prizes including PlayStation 5s and Xbox Series X consoles!

Registration opens on February 20th and closes on March 25th.

Free and open to the public. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis and may be limited. For more information, please scan the QR code or call 702.507.4015.



WHITNEY LIBRARY

Free Tutoring

provided by Andson

**STARTING
SEPTEMBER
5TH**

Students in grades K-12 are welcome to drop in for tutoring and homework help from CCSD teachers and teacher aides through Andson.

Students must bring work with them. Tutoring may be provided in small group settings.

MON. - THURS. 4 P.M. - 6 P.M.

*Certain dates
excluded.
See web site for
current schedule.*

Whitney Library
5175 E Tropicana Ave.

702-507-4015

www.thelibrarydistrict.org

Explore Knowledge Academy

Student Attendance Calendar

August 2023 - May 2024

2023

August 10	Classes Begin
September 4	Labor Day - Business Office Closed
October 13	End of 1st Quarter
October 27	Nevada Day - No School Business Office Closed
November 10	Veteran's Day - No School Business Office Closed
November 20 - 24	Thanksgiving Break - No School Business Office Closed
November 28	Classes Resume
December 14	Student Early Release
December 15	Staff Development Day - No School Business Office Closed End of 2nd Quarter - End of 1st Semester
December 19 - Jan 1	Winter Break - No School Business Office Closed

2024

January 2 - 3	Staff Development Days - No School Business Office Closed
January 4	Classes Resume (Thursday)
January 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Day Business Office Closed
February 19	President's Day - Business Office Closed
March 8	End of 3rd Quarter
March 12 - 22	Spring Break - No School Business Office Closed
March 26	Classes Resume
May 17	Student Early Release End of 4th Quarter - End of 2nd Semester End of the 2023-2024 School Year
May 21	Graduation 2024

EXPLORE KNOWLEDGE ACADEMY PRE-ARRANGED ABSENCE REQUEST

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE FRONT OFFICE AT LEAST 1 WEEK PRIOR TO THE REQUESTED ABSENCE

NOTE: Prearranged absences WILL NOT be approved immediately preceding or following any scheduled EKA break. Prearranged exceeding the limitation on total absences WILL NOT be approved.

The Parent/Legal Guardian or student is responsible for checking Google Classroom for make-up work from all teachers and submitting the work as specified.

PLEASE NOTE: Nevada State Law allows a parent or legal guardian to arrange absences in advance. EKA allows up to **4** pre-arranged absences during a school year. All absences whether approved or unapproved count towards the total of absences for the year. Any arranged absence, for which the makeup work is not completed and submitted as required, is considered unapproved.

1 EKA School Day = 1.3 Days

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Date(s) Requested: _____

Reason for pre-arranged absence(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Print: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

OFFICE PERSONNEL ONLY

Name of Student: _____

Administrative Signature: _____ Date Received: _____

Dates Approved: _____

Parent Notified Date: _____

Office Personnel Initials: _____

Teacher(s) Notified Date: _____

Office Personnel Initials: _____

Absence Note

5871 Mountain Vista Street

Las Vegas NV 89120

Phone: (702) 870-5032

Fax: (702) 871-5032

www.ekacademy.org



*** Three (3) or more consecutive absences will require a note from a medical provider.

1 EKA School Day = 1.3 Days

Please use this form when your child misses school. Additional forms may be downloaded from the website and are available at the office.

Date(s) of Absence	
Period(s) Missed	
Student Name	
Student's Advisor	Grade

Reason for Absence(s)	
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
Home Phone	Work/Cell Phone
Parent Email	

Students who have been absent must provide written notice from the parent/guardian to the school explaining the reason for the absence within 3 school days after their return from the absence AND turn in **any missing work**.

Failure to provide an excused absence note within 3 days AND turn in missed school work will result in an

unexcused absence. In accordance with NRS, an unexcused absence is deemed truant.

It is the parent/guardian responsibility to request homework from the advisor.

Please Note: EKA must report habitual truancy to Child Protective Services for educational neglect.

For Office Use Only: ☐ Excused ☐ Unexcused ☐ Unexcused Due To Incomplete Work

EKA Administration and Office Staff Email Addresses

Position	Name	Email
Superintendent	Abbe Mattson	amattson@ekacademy.org
Principal	Dawn Gustafson	dgustafson@ekacademy.org
Assistant Principal	Donna Childers	dstewardchilders@ekacademy.org
Dean of Students	Butch Heiss	bheiss@ekacademy.org
Special Ed Facilitator	Maureen Turnbull	mturnbull@ekacademy.org
Operations Manager	Hope Vivas	hvivas@ekacademy.org
Finance Manager	Lori Rogers	lrogers@ekacademy.org
Technology Manager	Wil Jones	wjones@ekacademy.org
School Nurse	Kaitlyn Nichols	knichols@ekacademy.org
Counselor	Imelda Keyer	ikeyer@ekacademy.org
Social Worker	Addison Moses	amoses@ekacademy.org
Literacy Specialist	Stephanie Estores	sestores@ekacademy.org
Registrar	Rita Walls	rwalls@ekacademy.org
Office Specialist	Darlene Acosta	dacosta@ekacademy.org
Office Specialist	Bobbie Gonzalez	bgonzalez@ekacademy.org
FASA (First Aid Safety Assistant)	Michelle Hay	mhay@ekacademy.org
FASA (First Aid Safety Assistant)	Jazmen Locquiao	jlocquiao@ekacademy.org
General Communication / Attendance	Office Staff	parentportal@ekacademy.org

EKA Teacher Email Addresses

Grade Level	Teacher Name	Email
Elementary	Ryan Arguelles	rarguelles@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Jen Cook	jcook@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Sandon Edmonds	sedmonds@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Meggan Fowler	mfowler@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Sonia Guevara Zarate	sguevarazarate@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Mary Harper	mharper@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Annie Jacobites	ajacobites@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Kailene Krukowski	kkrukowski@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Dawn Maahs	dmaahs@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Brenda McNulty	bmcnulty@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Heather Mills-Jaramillo	hmills-jaramillo@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Tania Ordinola	tordinola@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Kelly Perea	kperea@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Judith Rodriguez	jrodriguez@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Nataly Rodriguez	nrodriguez@ekacademy.org
Elementary/Secondary	Joanne Sanders	jsanders@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Amanda Snyder	asnyder@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Randy Soddors	rsoddors@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Samantha Steel	ssteel@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Frank Sullivan	fsullivan@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Jeter Tavares	jtavares@ekacademy.org
Elementary	Jason Wright	jwright@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Samantha Barnett	sbarnett@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Renee Berto	rberto@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Donna Childers	dchilders@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Kyle Dammeir	kdammeir@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Kara Donnelly	kdonnelly@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Daniel Fuller	dfuller@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Butch Heiss	bheiss@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Deni LaBree	dlabree@ekacademy.org
Secondary	David Lujan	dlujan@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Samantha Malcolm	smalcolm@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Abbe Mattson	amattson@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Brittany Mattson	bmattson@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Kimberly McArthur	kmcarthur@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Erin Mc Iver	emciver@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Tonna Purtle	tpurtle@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Anthony Quan-Williams	aquanwilliams@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Patrick Quinn	pquinn@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Kate Smith	ksmith@ekacademy.org
Secondary	Cynthia Winterringer	cwinterringer@ekacademy.org