



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOBLE AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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Welcome to the 2015 - 2016 School Year!

August 18, 2015

Dear Parents and Noble Avenue Families,

The faculty and staff at Noble Avenue School are delighted to welcome you and your children to our school for the 2015 - 2016 school year. We are excited about the many events we have planned this school year, and we look forward to the opportunity of meeting all of you and working together to help our students succeed.

We are here to provide students with a rigorous curriculum, meaningful enrichment, and/or targeted intervention in order that all students attain grade-level standards. We believe that with sustained and directed effort **all** students can achieve. We continue to implement the **Common Core State Standards** this school year, and invite you to become familiar with the specific grade-level standards and expectations for your child.

Noble takes pride in being at the top when it comes to attendance, with more than 98% of our students in attendance on any given school day. These successes are due to the entire Noble community—students, parents, teachers, and staff! By continuing to work together as a team this year, we will not only help all of our students achieve their goals, but we will inspire them to Reach for the Stars!

You are encouraged to be an active participant in the academic success of your children at Noble through events such as Back-to-School Night (scheduled for **Tuesday, September 1st**), Open House, Parent-Teacher Conferences, Coffee with the Principal, Student of the Month Assemblies, and the many parent workshops we have planned. You will have the opportunity to learn how best to help your children at home in support of the education they receive daily at Noble.

We ask you to emphasize to your child the importance of **attending school, completing homework, respecting self and others, and actively participating in the learning process**. We expect all of Noble's students to put forth sustained efforts to learn and we commit to providing the expert instruction they need to meet and exceed grade-level standards. If there is anything we can do to better serve the needs of the students at Noble, please visit me in the Main Office. No appointment is necessary.

The following information should prove helpful as you plan your schedule now and throughout the 2015-2016 school year. I recommend that you save this bulletin for reference. Thank you for taking the time to read each of these items.

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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2015 – 2016 PARENT OPENING BULLETIN

School Calendar and School Holidays

The 2015-2016 school calendar is enclosed as part of this packet. Please review the calendar closely and remember to check the monthly parent calendars for changes, updates, and special events. Take note of these special dates:

August 18	First Day of School	January 11	Second Semester Begins
September 4	Admission Day Holiday	January 18	Dr. King Day Holiday
September 7	Labor Day Holiday	February 15	Presidents Day Holiday
September 14	Unassigned Day (school closed)	March 21 – March 25	Spring Break
September 23	Unassigned Day (school closed)	March 28	Cesar Chavez Holiday
November 11	Veterans Day Holiday	May 30	Memorial Day Holiday
November 23-27	Thanksgiving Break	June 10	Last Day of School
Dec. 21-January 8	Winter Break		

School Hours

Regular school hours are listed below. Every Tuesday students in Grades K-5 will be dismissed one hour early (1:23 PM) to allow teachers to participate in professional development. Parents will be notified in advance when our daily schedule changes for minimum days.

Yard Opens*	7:30 AM	
Warning Bell	7:55 AM	Breakfast in the Classroom begins
Grades K – 5**	8:00 AM – 2:23 PM	(Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
	8:00 AM – 1:23 PM	(Tuesday)
	8:00 AM – 12:43	(Minimum Days)

*Please note that students may not arrive before 7:30 AM. The school playground is not open and there is no supervision for students until that time.

**Kindergarten students will be dismissed at 2:23 through the Noble Avenue kindergarten gates only. Parents who do not pick students up on time will meet students in the Library.

Before/After School Programs

Ready, Set, Go Program: This is a free, before-school enrichment program for students in Grades K-5. It operates on campus from 6:30-7:30 AM daily. Please call the school at (818) 892-1151 for information and/or to register. Students in this program must be walked to the Auditorium and signed in daily.

LA's BEST: This is a free, after-school enrichment program open to students in grades K-5. It operates from dismissal until 6:00 PM daily. Please contact the LA's BEST Office in Room 32 for information.

Youth Services (YS) operates an after-school playground program for students in grades 2-5. The after-school playground is open until 6:00 PM daily. Please call the school at (818) 892-1151 for more information.

Student Attendance

It is important that your child attend class each school day. When it is necessary for a child to be absent, a written note is required. The note should be brought to the teacher on the morning following the absence. Habits of promptness and regular attendance are established early in the child's school career, so please help your child be successful by ensuring that he/she arrive to school every day and on time. We have many positive incentives for students with perfect and outstanding attendance. Children who have been absent more than five days, or who have had surgery, stitches, casts, etc. must be readmitted through the office. Please bring a doctor's release with you when you bring your child back to school.

- ALWAYS send your child to school except when truly ill.
- ALWAYS send your child to school on time.
- ALWAYS send a note when your child is absent, explaining the reason.
- ALWAYS schedule medical and dental appointments after school.
- ALWAYS send a note from the doctor when your child is ill or has a medical appointment
- ALWAYS plan your vacations and out-of-town travel during the time your child is on vacation.

Questions: See Liat Broome, PSA Counselor.

School Telephone

The school office is open from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM on school days. We will not interrupt your child's instructional program except in emergency situations. Office personnel cannot leave a message for your child in a non-emergency situation. Please make all arrangements with your child before school.

Cell Phones

Students are allowed to bring cell phones to school to communicate with parents or to use in an emergency. However, phones must be kept in the student's book bag and turned OFF at all times during the school day. Students may only use cell phones before or after school. Cell phones will be confiscated from students who do not follow the rules and parents will have to pick them up in the Main Office.

School and Classroom Visitations

The first two weeks of school are critical for children and teachers to become acquainted with each other and to develop classroom routines. Please give your child's teacher this time to know your child as an individual and to assess his/her academic readiness and/or progress. After this get-acquainted period, parents will be invited to Back-to-School activities. Please save **Tuesday, September 1st** for this important event. You are strongly encouraged to attend and become knowledgeable about your child's instructional program for this year.

Parents who wish to visit their child's classroom during the school day may do so anytime with the permission of the principal or her designee. Visitors must check in at the office and receive a visitor's pass. Please remember to enter and leave the classroom as quietly as possible.

Teachers conduct parent-teacher-student conferences twice a year. The purpose of these conferences is to discuss your child's recent assessment results and his/her progress towards meeting grade-level standards. You will be sent an appointment for these conferences, which will take place from November 17-20 and from March 8-11. Teachers are available for conferences at other times by appointment. Please call the office to schedule an appointment. Teachers may not conference with parents during instructional hours.

NOBLE'S INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

Noble is a School for Advanced Studies and we are dedicated to providing a rigorous and enriching curriculum to advanced students and those who are identified gifted. Teachers are trained in implementing differentiated instruction for gifted and advanced students, and they collaborate to create lessons with depth and complexity that will challenge your child to extend his/her own learning.

English Learners

Our students who are learning to speak English are provided instruction daily to achieve the English Language Development standards. ELD lessons introduce new vocabulary and language forms to students. In addition, students interact with English-speaking students and teachers to practice new language and receive academic instruction in English.

Special Education Services

We are committed to serving the educational needs of each of our students. Children learn in a variety of ways and most of our students can learn in a traditional setting. Sometimes children have difficulties that interfere with their ability to learn and may require special education services. The attached brochure, "Are You Puzzled by Your Child's Special Needs?" contains important special education information for parents.

Homework

Homework is an important part of your child's instructional program. Noble Elementary students have homework daily Monday through Thursday; older students may occasionally need to continue homework on Fridays and weekends. Please make sure your child has a specific time and place to complete their homework. Homework provides students the opportunity to reinforce, strengthen and/or enrich skills learned in the classroom. Students also learn to budget their time, organize their materials, and increase their ability to work independently.

STUDENT SAFETY

Emergency Information

State law requires that every student who attends school must have on file the name, telephone and work phone of the adult(s) responsible for him/her. We also need the **current phone numbers of three adults who can be reached readily in an emergency**. This information is extremely important for the protection of your child in the event of any emergency or if your child becomes ill at

school. Please complete the emergency card attached to this packet and returns it to your child's teacher by **Thursday, September 3rd**. If the information listed on the emergency card changes, please visit the office so that we may update your child's card.

If a student must leave school during school hours, the parent or other adult listed on the emergency card must come to the school office to pick up the student and sign a release form. Students may not be released to anyone unless permission is on file in the office. If you wish more than one person to pick up your child, please list their names on the emergency card. For the protection of your child, release cannot be granted by phone.

Campus Safety – Closed Campus Policy

We welcome you on campus and hope to see you here on a regular basis. However, for the safety and security of students and staff, we maintain a Closed Campus Policy, which means all parents and visitors must sign in and receive a Visitor's Pass in the Main Office (or at the Visitor's Table) when on campus or visiting classrooms. If you would like to volunteer in your child's classroom, we invite you to visit our Parent Center in Room 4B. If you have any specific security concerns, please talk to any of our administrators.

Become a Watchful Eye

Please keep a watchful eye on our school, especially in the evenings and on weekends. If you have information concerning improper activities on the school campus, please call the Los Angeles Police Department or the LAUSD school police.

LAPD – Mission Hills Division	(818) 838-9800
LAUSD – School Police	(213) 625-6631

Walking To and From School

Attached is a map of safe walking routes to Noble Avenue School. Please take the time to walk the safest, most direct route to and from school. **Students should never walk alone, especially early in the morning.** Parents and students are reminded of the following safety rules:

- The pedestrian bridge accessible off Chase Avenue has been closed permanently by the City of Los Angeles.
- Cross streets only at marked intersections or with traffic signals or crossing guards. Always look both ways before crossing the street.
- Children must not talk to strangers.
- Children must not go to a friend's house after school without making previous arrangements with their parents.
- Students are not to be walked through or dropped off in the parking lot. It is reserved for staff parking only.

Safe Driving

The L.A. Police Department patrols the school on a regular basis to help ensure pupil safety around the school, especially at arrival and dismissal times. Citations have been issued for violations such include loading or unloading of students in the school parking lot, double parking, illegal U-turns, speeding, and failure to make complete stops at stop signs. We urge parents to follow these and all traffic regulations.

Buying Food from Vendors

There are many vendors selling food around Noble, and they present a serious health and safety issue for our students. Most of the vendors are unlicensed, which means that there is no way to monitor the cleanliness of their carts. Also, they create extra traffic congestion and litter around the school, which has a negative impact on us all. **For the safety of all students, please do not allow your child to purchase food from one of these vendors. The YS and LA's BEST coaches provide healthy snacks for all students who stay after school, so students are not permitted to leave campus to purchase a snack.**

Bicycle Safety

For their protection, only children in Grades 4-5 may ride their bicycles to school if these conditions are met:

1. Both parent and pupil have signed a Bicycle Registration card and it is on file in the school office.
2. The following safety rules are observed:
 - a. Bicycles must be walked on the school grounds.
 - b. Bicycles will be parked in racks located on the yard.
 - c. All bicycles must be locked.
 - d. Student wears a helmet.

Picking Up Children at Dismissal

Kindergarten students are picked up in their classrooms. Parents should enter through the Kindergarten dismissal gate on Noble Avenue. For the safety of students, the Noble gate is open from right before dismissal until 10 minutes after dismissal. Any Kindergarten student not picked up at that time will be taken to the Library.

Students in Grades 1-5 are to be dismissed at the Chase Street gate. For the safety of all students, parents are allowed to enter campus but are asked to not pass the cones that are set up on the playground. If you need to enter the campus for any reason, please go to the Visitors Table that is set up alongside the cones to receive a Visitor's Pass.

Parents are advised to set a prearranged place and time for meeting their children. **Do not double-park or ask your child to cross the street between cars in the middle of the block.** The streets around Noble Avenue School are very congested and it is unsafe to ask children to cross the street except at the corners. Remind your child to wait inside the school or on the sidewalk until you are parked on the school side of the street. Use the front gate on Noble Avenue for picking up students after 3:00 PM. **Students are not permitted to wait in front of the school to be picked up after school; all students in Grades 2-5 must wait on the playground.**

Medication

Students may not carry any form of medication on school grounds. If a doctor prescribes medication that your child must take during school hours, please contact the School Nurse immediately. Signed doctor's orders must be on file in the office before your child may take medication at school.

STUDENT POLICIES

School Clothing

The Local School Leadership Council, which is comprised of parents and school staff, adopted a School Uniform Policy for the students of Noble Avenue School. The uniform consists of white or blue shirts with jeans, dark blue or black pants and skirts. Comfortable, sturdy clothing is best for school. Athletic shoes with rubber soles are the safest and most long-lasting school shoes. (See School Uniform Policy.)

Since appropriate school clothing is similar in appearance, jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, etc. should be labeled with your child's full name. Please remember to check the Lost and Found for items your child may have left at school. The Lost and Found storage area is located in the small lunch pavilion.

Backpacks

Only students in the 5th grade are allowed the privilege of bringing backpacks to school. This privilege may be taken away if a student does not follow school rules. All other students may bring book bags or tote bags. This rule was developed with student health and safety in mind, and we appreciate your cooperation. Please talk to your child's teacher if you are unsure whether your child's bag meets this regulation. For your convenience, Noble Dolphins book bags are on sale in the Main Office (and at the Dismissal Gate for the first two weeks of school) for only \$5.00.

Personal Items

Children often misplace or forget about personal property. Toys and other personal items should not be brought to school. These items include, but are not limited to, skateboards, balls, iPods, iPads, electronic games, trading cards, special jewelry, and cash. Please check your child's bags periodically and remind him/her to keep these items at home.

Classroom Celebrations and Student Birthdays

Classroom celebrations are appropriate at the end of the first semester (before winter break) and also at the end of the school year. Individual student birthdays are best celebrated at home with family and friends, and are not part of the school day. **Please do not bring cakes, cupcakes, balloons, etc. to celebrate your child's birthday in the classroom.**

CAFETERIA AND FEDERAL MEAL PROGRAM

Free Meal Program

We will continue our school-wide free meal program. All students are offered one free breakfast (eaten in the classroom) and students in Grades TK-5 are offered one free lunch at school each day. You may also wish to send a healthy snack to school with your child for recess or after school. **Junk food such as Hot Cheetos, candy, gum, and sodas may not be eaten at school.**

Breakfast in the Classroom (BIC)

All students at Noble are offered a free and nutritious Breakfast in the Classroom, beginning at 7:55 AM. If your child eats breakfast at home, the teacher will have an appropriate academic activity for him/her during BIC.

Meal Applications

In order to continue to maintain a free meal program, Noble must have a completed meal application from all students. Over the summer you should have received a meal application. If you have completed it and mailed it using the self addressed envelope, thank you. If you haven't, please do so right away and return it to school. You also have the option to complete the application online by visiting <https://www.applyforlunch.com/Home/PickDistrict>. Thanks for your cooperation.

ATTACHMENTS

Please complete, sign, and return the following items by Thursday, September 3 or as soon as possible:

- ✓ **Emergency Card**
- ✓ **Student Code of Conduct**
- ✓ **Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for District Computer Systems**
- ✓ **Parent/Guardian Publicity Authorization and Release**

<p style="text-align: center;">The classrooms that turn in these materials first will receive a Watermelon Party. Please help your child's class win, and return these materials promptly. Thank you!</p>
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Please retain the attached special items for your reference. Contact our office if you would like further information.

- **Bell Schedule**
- **2015-2016 School Calendar**
- **School Uniform Policy**
- **Are You Puzzled?**
- **Safe Walking Routes**
- **Uniform Complaint Procedure**
- **Dismissal Procedures**