
July 24, 2026

Dear Anna Henry Families,

I am pleased to welcome our students, families, and team members to the 2026-2027 academic school year! Our team is busy preparing for this very exciting school year to start, and we can't wait to see you! We have many great learning opportunities and events happening this year. I encourage families to make sure you sign up for Class Dojo to receive important communication from classroom teachers. Additionally, consider joining our Henry PTA or attending Site Council to stay informed with all the events taking place at Anna Henry. Anna Henry will continue to offer both FREE breakfast and lunch for ALL students. This means that families do not need to submit applications to participate in receiving free meals.

Our team strives for excellent communication with you. The front office will provide Anna Henry families with communication through our "Parent Square" messages via text, telephone and email. Please verify with our front office team that we have your correct telephone number and email address. Monthly Newsletters will also be shared via Parent Square and posted on our school webpage at www.tusd1.org/Henry. The Parent Square platform will send communication only to working telephone numbers and email addresses. It will not be able to send communication to land line telephone numbers.

School Safety continues to be our top priority at Anna Henry. Last spring all families and team members were invited to participate in a survey pertaining to morning drop-off safety procedures. After careful review of all considerations, the following changes will be implemented at the beginning of the 26/27 school year. Perimeter gates will remain locked during morning drop-off. Primary students, siblings and bike riders will enter the main front doors, and intermediate students will enter the doors on the intermediate side of campus by the drive-thru lane. Students will use our doorbell system to enter campus at the front doors daily at 7:00 a.m. if they are eating breakfast. Henry staff members wearing vests will be out front facilitating traffic flow and greeting students at 7:25 a.m. during morning drop-off. Parents entering the building to go into the cafeteria will need to check in at the front desk and trade their state I.D. for a visitor's badge during their time on campus. Preschool parents will have an expedited process to drop students off in our preschool classroom. Preschool parents need to see our front office staff to obtain your expedited badge. Prior to the start of the school day, only students and Henry Employees will be outside on the primary and intermediate playgrounds. This measure allows Henry Employees to monitor student supervision and provide support when necessary. Students will line up with their classes at our 7:42 a.m. bell, and the school day begins at 7:45 a.m. Students arriving after 7:50 a.m. are considered tardy. **K-2 students and families with siblings will use the north drive-thru and students in grades 3-6 will use the south drive-thru.**

Dismissal is at 1:55 p.m. daily except Wednesdays which is at 12:55 p.m. Dismissal procedures will follow the same drive-thru process. We ask that every vehicle pull all the way up to the very front of the drive-thru lanes to ensure safety for all students exiting campus. For safety reasons, please do not pass other vehicles in our drive-through unless directed by a Henry staff member. At dismissal, we offer a

valet service where all teachers are radioed to release students to staff when parents are next in the drive-thru lanes. We need your support while we get to know you, your vehicle, and your student. Please post your vehicle placard on your front dashboard so we can expedite the process.

The Arizona Department of Education defines students **being chronically absent** during the 2026-2027 school year as follows. Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing **10% or more** of enrolled days in a school year for both excused and unexcused absences. Which equates to about **two days per month**. Chronic absenteeism looks at how much learning time a student misses and counts both excused and unexcused absences.

At Henry Elementary, we believe student success grows from consistent participation in learning and a shared commitment between home and school. When students are frequently absent, they miss valuable opportunities to access grade-level instruction, build on previously taught skills, form strong friendships, and develop confidence as learners. Regular attendance helps ensure every child can fully engage, grow, and thrive, in our school community. Additionally, regular attendance plays an important role in how our school is evaluated by the state. Arizona's school letter grades and achievement measures are influenced by student progress, academic performance, and participation in classroom instruction. I ask that each family make regular school attendance a priority in our educational partnership this year.

It is also that time of the year to complete your TUSD Volunteer Application. To ensure student safety, TUSD requires all parents, guardians, and other relatives to complete the official volunteer clearance process before participating in student activities and / or events. You are encouraged to apply as early as possible to ensure your volunteer clearance is approved in time for these activities. Please stop by our front desk or go to our TUSD website to conveniently scan the QR code to complete this process.

Here are a few important dates to begin with:

August 4,	Anna Henry Meet the Teacher event from 10:00-11:30 a.m.
August 6,	School starts for all Anna Henry Students at 7:42 a.m.
August 18,	Annual Title 1 Meeting 5:30 p.m. & Open House 6:00-7:00 p.m.
August 25,	School Picture Day
September 7,	Labor Day, No School
September 16-18,	Extra Early Release at 11:00 a.m. for Parent / Teacher Conferences

Respectfully,

Thomas Heminger, principal