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City route bus schedule change to help traffic

To help avoid traffic congestion at Eagle Lake Middle School, the schedule for the City Route of the evening school bus driven by Ada Tillman has been changed.

The change also affects Eagle Lake Primary School since one bus serves students from both schools.

This year at the Primary School all students will be excused from classes at the same time: 2:40 p.m. Last year, kindergarten students on the afternoon half-day schedule were not excused until after 3 p.m.

The bus first will leave the ELPs about 2:40 p.m.,

drop students from the Guadalupe & Rice Mill areas, then go to the Middle School.

Since that school now has Third grade students (that were at the Primary School last year), there are more students on that campus, and more traffic is expected when parents stop to pick up kids.

So, at that school, students in the lower three grades — third, fourth and fifth — will be excused fifteen minutes earlier than students in the higher grades. Principal Charles Abel plans to have those students off campus by the time

the upper grades let out for the day. That way, traffic from the younger grades will be out of the way when the traffic for the older grades starts stacking up.

When the bus from ELMS leaves with the grade 3, 4, & 5 students, it will drop them off on the way back to the Primary School. About 3:15 p.m. the bus at the Primary School will pick up the rest of the kids and head back toward the Middle School.

About 3:30 p.m. the bus will accept its last load of Middle School students, then finish rounds for the day.

Garwood School waiting to see Pre-K numbers

The staff at Garwood School is waiting until the first day of school to see how classes might be shuffled around.

In case you think that might be poor planning, think again.

First, the new state law that requires schools to hold classes for underprivileged four year olds takes affect for the first time this year and school officials don't know exactly how many kids will be signing up.

Second, the law that requires a teacher for each 22 students also applies, complicating estimates. Wanting to hold the line on expenses, the school district doesn't want to hire a teacher for that grade level when there might not be enough students to need the additional staff.

So, the whole school district is in a wait and see holding pattern. There are two possible outcomes: One, with about 36 four year old students pre-registered at the Eagle Lake Primary School, and about 13 at the Garwood school, school officials think there will be two pre-kindergarten classes in Eagle Lake, and one in Garwood. In that case, Garwood Principal John Mader will have one half-day session.

Or, if there are more than 44 who show up in Eagle Lake — and that is possible even though there are no new recent registrations (school officials think that once school starts word of mouth will spur other parents to enroll their children) — it could force two sessions in Garwood, and other arrangements will have to be made.

Otherwise, the Garwood School looks for a pretty normal start when students begin classes on Tuesday, Sept. 2.

Not counting the four year olds, Mader said the school enrollment will be up from last year by about four or five students. He is expecting 158 students. Mader said that during an economic recession, enrollment in little country schools goes up; when the economy improves it goes down. I guess, he said, that is because people move back to the city when the economy gets better to find new jobs that pay more.

There will be new teachers on the campus, and as in other schools, the staff, students and parents are involved with the new discipline management plan.

The new teacher is Robert Bales, replacing Suzanne Baros. He was a geophysicist in Houston and turned to teaching when the oil industry decline began. He will teach Math & Science.

While the discipline management plan is a thick and complicated document that has

been approved by the Rice Consolidated board of education and the state education agency, it calls for implementation participation by all involved.

Tuesday, Mader spent time with teachers going over it rather thoroughly. At least several times during the year, parents will be

asked to come to the school, so the discipline plan and other matters can be discussed with them.

When the school is the only center of public social life in a small community, Mader would like to see more activities held that draws the public into the school. He also likes the idea of

parent-teacher organizations, but in Garwood there isn't that much parent participation.

Students in grades 1 through 6 will have new supplementary readers, while students in grade seven get new life science books and students in grade eight receive new American history books.

Garwood School supply list announced

Listed below are the school supplies needed by students at Garwood School for the 1986-87 school term.

Kindergarten: 2 No. 2 pencils; 1 box (16) crayons; 1 small bottle Elmer's glue; 1 box kleenex; 1 roll regular Scotch tape; 1 pair safety cut scissors.

First Grade: 1 medium bottle Elmer's glue; 1 pair scissors; 1 large box kleenex; 1 box (24) crayons; 4 No. 2 pencils; 2 first grade tablets; 1 medium size school box; 1 roll transparent tape; 1 red marker.

Second Grade: 1 medium bottle Elmer's glue; 1 pair scissors; 1 large box kleenex; 1 box (24) crayons; 4 No. 2 pencils; 1 medium school box; 1 roll Scotch transparent tape; 2 Nifty primary composition books (1/2 inch ruled, 36 sheets, 10"x8").

Third Grade: Binder and notebook paper; 1 pair scissors; 1 large box kleenex; 1 box (24) crayons; 2 No. 2 pencils; 1 roll Scotch transparent tape; 1 ruler; 1 medium bottle Elmer's glue; 3 composition books.

Fourth Grade: 1 notebook; notebook paper (no college rule); 1 spiral; 2 blue erasable pens; 3 No. 2 pencils; 1 box kleenex; 1 pair scissors; 1 ruler; 1 large ring plastic floppy folder; 1 red marking pencil; map colors; magic markers; crayons.

Fifth Grade: Markers; notebook paper; 1 compass; 1 protractor; handwriting paper; 1

spiral (wide rule); 1 roll Scotch tape; 1 pair scissors; 1 bottle Elmer's glue; 1 ruler; 1 red box kleenex; 2 No. 2 pencils; 1 grading pen; 1 large box kleenex; 2 No. 2 pencils; 1 ball point pen (blue or black); 1 ball point pen (blue or black); 1 drawing paper; graph paper (large squares).

Sixth, Seventh & Eighth Grades: Notebook paper; 1 pair

scissors; 1 bottle Elmer's glue; 1 red grading pen; crayons; 1 large box kleenex; 2 No. 2 pencils; 1 ball point pen (blue or black); 1 ball point pen (blue or black); 1 drawing paper; graph paper (large squares).

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