

**WELCOME BACK,
BULLD❤️GS!**

Parent and Student Orientation

Thursday, August 7, 2025



MEET YOUR ADMIN TEAM



Rebecca Barraza
Principal



Marissa Barboza
Associate Principal



ABOUT OUR SCHOOL



Mr. & Mrs. Fernandez
with Michael Fernandez

Vision

Speak love by teaching with courage, commitment, and compassion.

Mission

Our students will believe they are capable and important.

- Established in 1990
 - Celebrating our 35th Anniversary





SAFETY & SECURITY

Campus Safety

- Only one point of entry at Fernandez (front office).
- Visitors must sign in with a valid ID.
- If you wish to obtain a Fast Pass, you may obtain one at the front office, with your ID.
- Visitor badges or Fast Pass must be worn at all times while on campus.
- Daily door checks by admin. and staff each morning.
- NISD PD and Campus Safety Officer

**All parents must depart the building before 7:40 a.m., so that we can secure the building for all students and staff.
Includes Head Start parents.**

Safety Drills

It is important that all our Bulldogs know what to do in case of an emergency.

- Fire drills will be conducted monthly.
- Active Threat Drills (formerly Lock Down Drills) will be conducted several times throughout the school year.
- Other safety drills are conducted throughout the school year to include severe weather, evacuation, tornado, etc.

Student Safety Training

- K-2nd: Guidance Lesson with a Book
- 3rd-5th: Guidance Lesson with Run, Hide, Fight Video
 - Parent notification letter will be sent home
- All students must be trained by August 22nd





ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

Arrival

- **Drop Off:** Front of the school
- **Doors open at 7:00 a.m.**
- **Student & Parents Breakfast Time:** 7:00 - 7:35.
- Doors will be monitored and all adults will need a Visitor Pass or Fast Pass to enter the building. If you forget your Fast Pass, you will be required to check in at the front office with a valid ID.
- **All parents must depart the building by 7:40, so that we can secure the building for all students and staff.**



Dismissal

There are two dismissal areas:

Front Drive: ECSE, PreK - 1st Grade

Back Bus Loop: ALE and 2nd-5th Grade

Siblings of these students who are in 2nd – 5th grade will join their younger siblings in the front pickup area.

Parent Pick-up (by vehicle): Please have your student's name and iDismiss Tag # visible for our check-in staff.

Parent Walk-Up (Pick-up): Parents may walk to the front walkway on the side of building to pick up their students. Please have your student's name and iDismiss Tag with number available to expedite reuniting you with your student.

Change of Way Home for Students: If you need to change your child's normal dismissal routine, please call the office no later than 2:30 p.m. This is to ensure that the message reaches the teacher in time for dismissal.

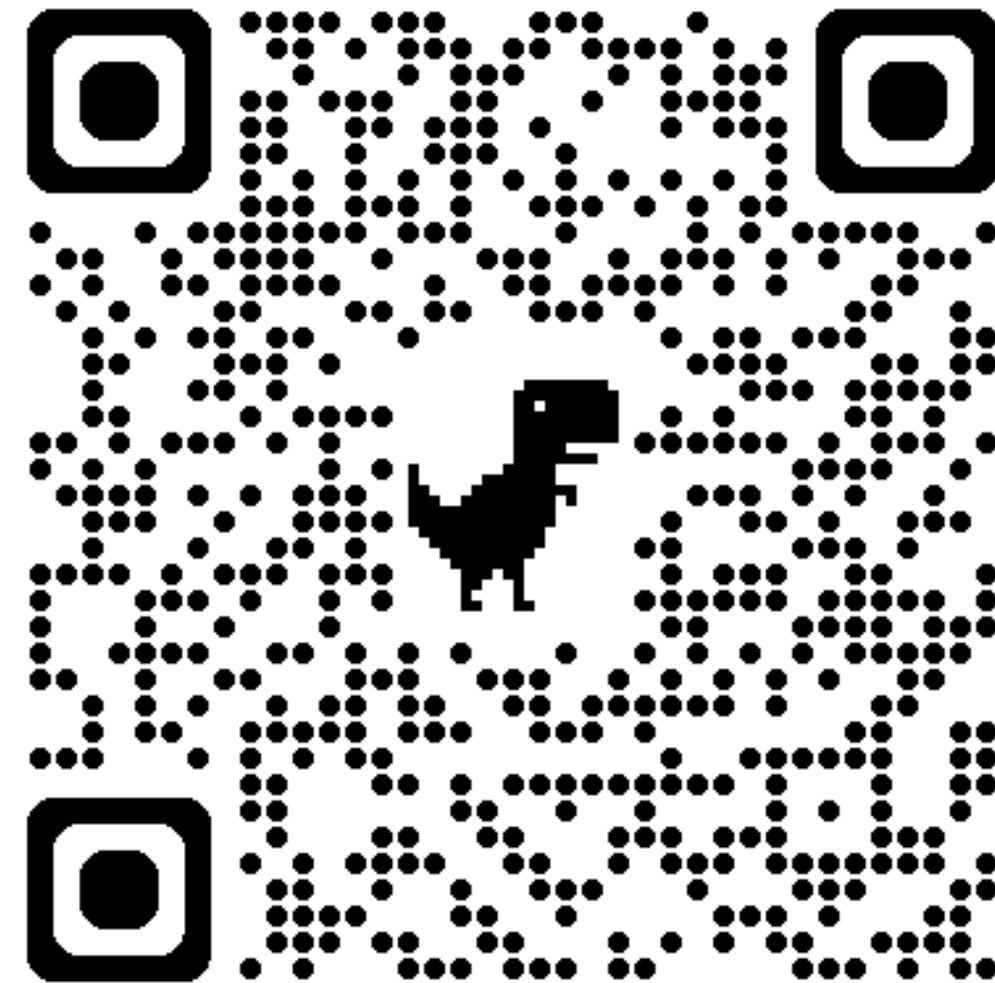


FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH THIS YEAR

Fernandez Elementary is a Community Provision Eligibility (CEP) campus. The information you provide will help our campus continue to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students.

Please fill out the CEP form using the QR Code, website, or paper form.

We appreciate your continued support.



FOOD: LUNCH & BIRTHDAYS

Parents are welcome to have lunch with their child. We ask that the following guidelines are followed:

- Only your child will be allowed to eat lunch with you at the parent table during their regular class lunch time. Please refrain from sitting at the classroom table.
- You are welcome to bring food for your child. Food is not allowed to be brought or shared with other students.
- Students must return to class with their teacher.
- Parents or lunch visitors are not allowed to take pictures, video, or make audio (voice) recordings of other Fernandez students during their visit.

Students are NOT allowed to share food or snacks to prevent any allergic reactions.

Students enjoy celebrating their birthdays at school. We celebrate them with a special birthday pencil and sticker when they come to the front office.

- You may send non-food items such as pencils, erasers, or stickers to celebrate birthdays.
- Store bought, pre-packaged cookies or cupcakes are permitted, to ensure that the teacher is able to pass out treats easily. Please deliver to the front office.
- Birthday party invitations should be distributed to all students, or all boys, or all girls.
- Please no flowers, balloons, treat bags, or drinks other than water.
- Reach out to your child's teacher to make sure we are keeping our students with food allergies safe.
- We will celebrate birthdays 10-15 minutes before dismissal.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Why is attendance so important?

Research shows that missing 10% of the school year (~17 days) negatively impacts a student's academic performance.

Students who don't attend school regularly will miss out on fundamental reading and math - this will start to show by 3rd grade, or sooner.

Help us reach our 95% attendance goal this year!

Attendance Incentives

- Campus Monthly Attendance Incentives
 - Dance party, special snack, board games
- Classroom Attendance
 - Stuffy day, extra recess

BARRAZA Classroom Attendance

We will color in each letter when our campus has 95% attendance to earn a campus-wide prize!

BULLDOGS

When should you keep your child home?

- If your child has a fever, is vomiting, has diarrhea, has an eye infection, or a communicable disease.

When can your child return to school?

- Fever free for 24 hours without using fever reducing medication.
- No longer vomiting or having diarrhea for 24 hours.
- No longer contagious or has seen a doctor and has begun taking appropriate medication or has been cleared by a doctor with a doctor's note.

What to do when your child is absent?

- Contact your child's teacher via email, Class Dojo, or call the school.
- If your child is sick, feel free to contact our school nurse.
- Send a doctor or parent's note when your child returns to school.

District Notifications

- Automated calls after 10:00 a.m.
- Attendance Warning Notices at 3 unexcused absences
- Attendance contracts



NISD STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Behavior & Discipline

All students are expected to abide by the Northside Independent School District Student Code of Conduct. One of the most important requirements of a good learning environment is appropriate behavior of each student. We use a progressive system of consequences that can begin with verbal reminders to the student or communication with parents for minor infractions.

NISD ELEMENTARY HANDBOOK

Student Dress & Grooming

- Shorts of mid-thigh length may be worn at all school levels.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn; footwear which has toes reinforced with steel, hard plastics or similar materials are specifically prohibited.
 - Please keep in mind that students have recess daily and attend PE every other day. Rubber soled shoes or tennis shoes are the safest shoes for your student to wear. Student shoes or clothing shall not excuse participation in school activities.
- Any clothes that are suggestive or indecent or which cause a distraction will be prohibited. Specifically, oversized clothing, tank tops, muscle shirts, halter/crop tops, spaghetti straps, exposed backs or midriffs, and see-through garments are prohibited.
 - If students are dress inappropriately we will contact their parent and/or provide alternate clothing.
- Hair must be neat and clean. Unconventional hair styles that distract from teaching and learning will be prohibited.
 - This includes unnatural dye-colored hair or hairstyles; regardless of gender.



HB 1481 LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES

All personal communication devices must be kept in backpacks and/or out of sight throughout the instructional day and placed in a designated area (cubbies). This is consistent with our current practice but now includes all communication devices. Personal communication devices include, but not limited to, cell phones, SMART watches, personal tablets, Air Pods and other technology devices.

Texas House Bill 1481, also known as the "Phone-Free Classrooms" bill, mandates that all public school districts and open-enrollment charter schools in Texas must implement policies prohibiting students from using personal communication devices, including cell phones, smartwatches, and other devices, during the school day.



WE ARE A PBIS CAMPUS

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AUP & MAP TESTING

Student Acceptable Use Policy

- The agreement to abide by Northside's Acceptable use of the District's Technology Resources policy must be renewed each academic year.
- Any student who does not have a "Yes" response for Acceptable Use **cannot** be rostered for NWEA MAP nor be allowed to use a district technology device.

MAP Fall 2025 BOY Administration Dates

Test Administration Grades 2-5	2nd & 5th: August 18th 3rd & 4th: August 19th	2nd & 5th: August 25th 3rd & 4th: August 26th
Test Administration Grades K-1	September 8th & 9th	September 15th & 16th



ADDITIONAL CAMPUS INFORMATION

STAAR Test Dates

We are a closed campus on state assessment days. Parents are not able to have lunch with their child on these days. We encourage you to schedule doctor appointments on another day.

STAAR RLA

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

STAAR Science

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

STAAR Math

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

PTA & Campus Events

August 11th ~ Boohoo Yahoo Breakfast
September 10th ~ Back to School Dance
October 29th ~ Trunk or Treat
November 11th ~ Veterans Day Ceremony
December 13th ~ Bulldog Day & Winterfest
January 27th ~ Kinder Round-Up
February 11th ~ Love of Learning Night
March 6th ~ Field Day & Walk-A-Paw
March 31st ~ Multicultural Night
April 23rd ~ Fiesta Parade
May 7th ~ GT Showcase
May 21st ~ 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony

Parent & Teacher Communication

School Messenger

School and district's primary means of mass communication via phone or email.

Class Dojo

Teachers may not respond during the school day (instructional time). Please call the front office for urgent needs and/or to change your child's end of the day transportation.

School website

nisd.net/fernandez
Newsletter & Announcements

STAFFING LETTER FYI~

Staffing of the District's schools is based on projected enrollment figures. The process of staffing begins in February preceding each upcoming school year and continues after the school year begins. As principal, I will be working daily with Central Office personnel on staffing allocations based on our most current registration numbers in order to finalize the 2025 - 2026 classes for our students.

If circumstances arise, it may be necessary to revise your child's class schedule during the first few weeks of the school year. We will try to avoid this if possible; however, we want to inform you that it might be necessary to consolidate classes and move teachers between classes, grade levels, or schools. We will notify parents whose children are affected as soon as possible.

Raul B. Fernandez Elementary

Northside Independent School District
6845 Ridgebrook
San Antonio, TX 78250-3838
Phone: (210) 397-1900 Fax: (210) 706-7376
www.nisd.net/fernandez



Rebecca Zamora-Barraza
Principal

Marissa Barboza
Associate Principal

Dr. John M. Craft
Superintendent

August 11, 2025

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

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Due to circumstances in our current situation, it may be necessary to revise your child's class schedule during the first few weeks of the school year. We will try to avoid this if possible; however, we want to inform you that it might be necessary to consolidate classes and move teachers between classes, grade levels, or schools. We will notify parents whose children are affected as soon as possible.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact the school.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Barraza
Principal, Fernandez Elementary

THANK YOU!

**NOW, IT'S TIME
TO MEET YOUR
TEACHER**

4:30-5:30 P.M.

**VISIT THE PTA TABLE
TO PURCHASE YOUR
25-26 PTA
MEMBERSHIP (\$10)
AND
A FERNANDEZ SPIRIT
SHIRT (\$10)**

