Compton-Drew 2025 – 2026 Back to School

Dear Families and Students:

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year at Compton-Drew Investigative Learning Center! We know you have choices and thank you for choosing our team for your child's middle school experience. This letter will address the processes that will guide our back-to-school events.

We are super excited to start the school year on August 18, 2025.

Doors will open at 6:30am and we ask that all students be dropped off before 7:05am and they enter through door 2. Breakfast is available in the cafeteria. After 7:05am students may enter Door 1; however, they may be late for their first class - students will be heading to their first class at 7:10am for a prompt 7:15am class start.

Please plan to join us on August 14th between Noon and 3pm for our Back-to-School open house.

Your child will receive their Student ID, Bus RFID ID, School Supplies, Locker Assignments, Health Check-in, information about our activities and sports, their anticipated schedule, their assigned iPad, and have an opportunity to walk our facilities to help them feel extra-comfortable on their first day of school. In addition, we will have a computer lab available to support your enrollment in our new FOCUS student information system.

We are very excited to have ZUM as our bus partner and strongly encourage you to send your student to school via ZUM on the first day of school.

Safety and Security is an important part of helping our children and families feel confident in the safety of their child and we have three safety officers to support your children through the day. As you prepare for the first day of school, please review the list of items that are prohibited at Compton-Drew ILC:

Prohibited Items

- All Drinking Cups/Vessels
- Snack packages more than 2.5 ounces
- More than 2 bags of snacks of any size
- More than 2 bags of any sizes (e.g., book bags, over the shoulder, totes, purposes, et. al)
- Over the ear headphones
- Items in other than lightweight (e.g.,
 Ziploc style) plastic-type packaging
- Items with sharp points (e.g., picks, combs, utensils)

- Sunflower/pumpkin/other types of seeds
- Powdered drink mixes
- Vaseline in containers more than 5.5 grams
- Spray bottles and canisters (perfume, body spray, deodorant)
- Open containers (including but not limited to chips/snacks)
- Any item deemed by our Safety and Security team to pose a threat or risk to student safety

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Drop-off

Before 7:05 AM

- Parents will drop off their children near <u>Door 7</u> and the children will <u>walk to the</u>
 <u>sidewalk</u> along Dolphin Drive and <u>enter Door 2</u> (Center of Building).
- Students will be subject to a screening of their bags, drop-off their cell phone in the container with their 6th period teacher's name or the early dismissal box.
- Students will swipe their ID badge and then proceed immediately to the cafeteria, where they will be dismissed at 7:10 to proceed to their first period class.

After 7:05 AM

- Parents will drop off their children near <u>Door 7</u> and the children will <u>walk to the</u> <u>sidewalk</u> along Dolphin Drive and <u>enter Door 1</u> (Main Entry). **There may be a <u>slight delay while our Safety and Security Team transition from Door 2 to Door 1**
 </u>
- Students will be subject to a screening of their bags, drop-off their cell phone in the container with their 6th period teacher's name or the early dismissal box.
- Students will swipe their ID badge and then proceed immediately to the cafeteria, where they will be dismissed at 7:10 to proceed to their first period class.

Early Dismissal (Before 1:45pm) or Late Drop Off (after 7:10am)

**<u>Early Dismissal is Discouraged</u>. We will be <u>unable to allow for early dismissal after to</u>

1:45pm, as it takes all available personnel to prepare for the dismissal of more than 400 students **

<u>Students will only be dismissed to the individuals approved of in our Student Information System</u> and never to individuals under 18 years of age.

Dismissal and Pickup

Dismissal Procedures at 2:10pm

- 1. Students will receive their cell phones back at about 2:05pm from their 6th period teacher.
- 2. Students will be dismissed by PA and grade level to their busses or to the cafeteria to wait for parent pickup at about 2:10pm.
- 3. Students riding buses will be dismissed at Door 2 to buses
- 4. Students waiting for parent pickup will be dismissed to the cafeteria, where parents will be waiting in the parking lot, following the same procedures for morning drop-off).

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Traffic will be heavy, and parents are encouraged to wait until 2:20 pm to pick up their children, at which time we expect all buses to have departed from Compton-Drew.

Buses will have priority both for entering and exiting the property



We are absolutely thrilled to have your student with us this year at Compton-Drew and look forwarding to partnering with you to ensure your child becomes the "Portrait of a Graduate" through high-quality and engaged learning, everyday at 5130 Oakland Street.

Thank you for your trust!

Cordially,

Dr. Frederick W. Polkinghorne Principal, Compton Drew ILC 5130 Oakland Street St. Louis, MO 63110 frederick.polkinghorne@slps.org 314-652-9282