

East Fork Lutheran School

WELS Mission School on the White Mountain Apache Reservation

Donations can be made at eastforklutheralschool.org



Help Brings Hope

Everyday when the UPS comes or the mail is picked up and we receive a donation or a note of encouragement; our spirits rise.

The support that has been shown to East Fork during this time is amazing. The school has dealt with so many maintenance issues on top of the strict COVID reservation restrictions and death of family leaders. It is easy to get down, but these notes, prayers and donations bring hope. God is Good!

1

PIPES

We are in the process of repiping the school due to gas leaks.

2

WATER

We have had water leaks. We have retired the leaks but have water damage.

3

APPLIANCES

We have had freezer and refrigerator failure and need to replace to have school lunch.



iPads

Students are able to have virtual school and 1-1 when we return to in person.



School Supplies

Our parents bought internet instead of school supplies.



Safer School

Needed repairs are being started.

COVID Update

A Blessing in Disguise

We have been remote learning since mid March 2020. We finished the 2019/2020 school year with packets but were able to restart the school year 3 weeks late via virtual learning. Our students access their lessons using iPads and watch videos prepared for them by their teachers. The students are assessed using online services and we are happy to say that the loss of learning has been minimal especially compared with the success that the rest of the country have experienced. Our families are supportive and our teachers work hard to meet the needs of our children. Internet has always been an issue on the reservation but it has been more stable than usual and outages have been short-lived. Donations have made this process possible. Everything from school supplies, personal protective equipment, technology and monetary donations have made this work.

“We have been able to have an uninterrupted school year while we make repairs.”

Unfortunately, during this time we have been plagued with maintenance issues. Historically,



the school, in an effort to keep the doors open, had postponed regular maintenance issues. During this time we have had nearly 20 gas leaks leading to the need to repipe the school building. In an interest of safety we have not run heat in the building since November. We have also had water leaks. This has led to having to turn off the water intermittently. Because our teachers and students are working from home we have been able to have an uninterrupted school year while we work on these repairs.

We have also had water and gas issues in teacher housing and the fellowship hall.

6 STAFF HAVE SURVIVED COVID

This summer our Principal, Scott Anthony, our receptionist, Marlene, and our custodian, Steve, tested positive for COVID. Scott and Steve spent time in the ER and Marlene a week in the hospital. In November our Financial Secretary, Lois, and Scott (again) tested positive and Lois was hospitalized for a week. In December, our K teacher, Bonnie, tested positive and she and her husband were hospitalized for a week. In January our 4th grade teacher, Ruth, tested positive and was sick at home. Scott is a long hauler and still has lingering heart and lung issues. Currently 12 staff members have been vaccinated.

