

# **West Elementary**

## **Student/Parent Handbook**

2021-2022



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**West Elementary**  
*Where Every Student Thrives*

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Welcome to West Elementary!

We are excited to be a part of your child's educational experience. This year, your child will grow not only as a learner, but as individuals. The West Elementary Staff is made up of professional individuals that are dedicated to providing the care, compassion and tools to enhance the learning experience for your child.

At West Elementary, we believe cooperation between home and school is vital in ensuring student success throughout a child's educational career. Our staff is excellent and prides themselves on parent communication and contact.

This handbook is a tool that will help families understand the policies and procedures at West Elementary. Our administration and staff will abide by the information provided in this document. We highly recommend each family take the time to read this handbook thoroughly. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or an administrator.

Lastly, we are hopeful that the 2021-2022 school year is full of positive experiences and lots of learning.

**West Elementary School**  
**CHARACTER EDUCATION WORD LIST WITH DEFINITIONS**  
**2021-2022**

- September: **Respect-** *Appreciation for the importance of and efforts of others*
- October: **Honesty-** *Truthfulness and sincerity*
- November: **Sportsmanship-** *The ability to take winning and losing without gloating or complaining*
- December: **Generosity-** *Willingness to give and share unselfishly your time and talents in your community*
- January: **Kindness-** *Consideration and willingness to help others*
- February: **Dependable-** *Can be counted on; reliable*
- March: **Responsible:** *Accountable for ones actions*
- April: **Cooperative:** *Working together for a common purpose*
- May: **Trustworthy:** *Worth of confidence, reliable*

**West Elementary  
Daily Schedule  
2021-2022**

7:10-7:50	Breakfast is served; Library is staffed and open
7:25	A.M. Recess Staff to Duty
7:25-7:45	A.M. Recess
7:40	All Certified Staff on Campus
7:50	All Certified Staff at Classrooms to greet students
8:00	School Begins
10:45-11:35	3rd Grade Lunch and Recess
11:20-12:10	4th Grade Lunch and Recess
11:50-12:45	5th Grade Lunch and Recess
3:10	Dismissal
3:25	Certified Staff Dismissal (unless on duty)

Disclaimer: The Central R-III School District is not responsible for the supervision of students outside of the stated times. Parents are not allowed to drop off or leave children at school during unsupervised periods.

**West Elementary Staff**  
**403 West Fite Street Park Hills, MO 63601**  
**573-431-2616 573-431-2562 (Fax)**

Principal: Laurie Huff

Assistant Principal: Tracy Stam

Katelyn Bridges	Secretary
Mellissa Williams	Secretary
Amanda Boyd	Counselor
Candace Blunt	Nurse
Krista Bales	Third Grade
Randi Bess	Third Grade
Tammy Friend	Third Grade
Donyel Hedrick	Third Grade
Abby Inman	Third Grade
Jaci Moyer	Third Grade
Kayla Roland	Third Grade
Jeremy Bleckler	Fourth Grade
Angie Hassell	Fourth Grade
Jodi Jones	Fourth Grade
Sara Parks	Fourth Grade
Katie Mapes	Fourth Grade
Michelle Rutledge	Fourth Grade
Julie Scott	Fourth Grade
Heather Hites	Fifth Grade
Krista Kelly	Fifth Grade
Tara LaPlante	Fifth Grade
Dana Miller	Fifth Grade
Jordan Roark	Fifth Grade
Ryan Ruble	Fifth Grade
Travis Weber	Fifth Grade

Roxanne Simmons	Process Coordinator
Jessica Davis	Special Education
Tracy Haddock	Special Education
Katrina Miller	Special Education
MaryScott	Special Education
Blake Daugherty	Paraprofessional
Jacie Daugherty	Paraprofessional
Tamra McDowell	Paraprofessional
Mandy Voyles	Paraprofessional
Courtney Patterson	Library Aide
Bri Stevens	Art
Christy Jones	P.E.
Kara Wallace	Library
Laura Wines	Music
Jeffrey Womble	School Resource Officer
Kendra Pigg	School Service Worker
Shelby Sundhausen	Head Cook
Sherry Davis	Cook
Stacy Dodson	Cook
Misty Sheets	Cook
Andy Akers	Night Custodian
Jason Bohenkamp	Night Custodian
Ron Sundhausen	Day Custodian
Dale Whelehon	Night Custodian

# **Central R-3 Schools**

## **West Elementary Student/Parent Handbook**

### **ELEMENTARY ATTENDANCE POLICY**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Regular school attendance is critical to good academic achievement. Consistent attendance avoids gaps in a child's learning, learning important to class performance and a normal grade progression. Because a child's presence in the classroom is important to all who are involved with a student's school achievement, the following policy has been adopted.

#### **A. Morning Phone Calls To School**

1. In the event a student is absent from school, it is important that a phone call be made by the parent to the school advising the school of the situation. Phone calls reporting absences should be made between the hours of 7:45 and 8:45 a.m. on the date the absence occurs. All phone calls will be recorded in the office. Should a morning call be impossible, a note will be sent with the student, upon the student's return to school. The note is to be given to the classroom teacher, explaining the reason for the absence.
2. If a morning phone call is not received regarding a student's absence, the school's automated phone system will send out a message to the primary contact listed in our information system.
3. If a note is not received and we are unable to reach the parent by phone, the absence will be marked unverified.

#### **B. School Communications Regarding Excessive Absences**

- a. After five (5) days of absences during the first or second semester, a letter, automated message, and/or email informing the family of their child's absences will be sent home. The first semester consists of the first and second quarters of school attendance. The second semester consists of the third and fourth quarters of school attendance.
- b. Should a student be absent from school eight (8) days in a semester, a second letter, automated message, and/or email will be sent. This will inform the parents about the number of days missed, and a school resource specialist may be involved in cases of excessive absences. Extensive student absences may result in the parent receiving a citation from the city of Park Hills per the city ordinance 893-10.Section 210.040
- c. Only the following situations will excuses toward the attendance policy be accepted:  
\*hospitalization, under a doctor's care, funerals, school sponsored activities for which the pupil has been properly pre-excused, and court appearances.

### **C. Sign-in and Sign-out Procedures**

1. Any student who arrives at school after 8:00 a.m., no matter what the reason, must sign in at the office and receive an admission slip before going to class.
2. Any student who must leave school before dismissal time (3:10 p.m.) must be signed out of school through the office by a parent, guardian, or another authorized individual as indicated on the student's emergency information form. Students may only be signed out by individuals listed on the emergency form on file for that student. A teacher shall not release a student from their classroom unless they are given a release form from the office.
3. A student who leaves school grounds before school dismissal must accompany a legal parent or guardian. Should there be unusual circumstances prohibiting a parent or guardian from leaving with the student, arrangements must be made through the office before the student will be allowed to leave.

### **D. Dismissal Procedures**

1. Students will be given a hang tag to be placed on the rearview mirror of your vehicle. This tag lets school staff know the grade and last name of the student to be picked up.
2. Parents will line up in the driveway entering from West Elvins Blvd. Once your child is safely loaded, please remain in your place in line and do not go around any vehicles that are waiting ahead of you. Please drive slowly and watch carefully for children and other vehicles.
3. All students should be picked up by 3:35 p.m. Any students not picked up at 3:35 p.m. will be moved to the office. You will have to park in the front parking lot and go inside to get your child at that time. You will most likely be telephoned at this time since all students should have been picked up by 3:35 p.m.

### **E. Perfect Attendance Award**

Students will be recognized for perfect attendance each quarter. Perfect attendance is defined as not having missed any school days, hours, or minutes during the quarter. Students leaving after parties or field trips will **not** be considered for this award. A school day is considered to consist of the hours from 8:00 a.m. - 3:10 p.m. To qualify for a perfect attendance award, students may not miss any time from the regular school day (excused or unexcused). End of the year Perfect Attendance Awards will also be presented to students who have earned this distinction for all four quarters of the school year.

### **G. Tardiness to School**

It is important that all students are in their classes and prepared for the day's activities by 8:00 a.m., Monday through Friday. Reporting to class late can disrupt the progress in the morning's lesson. To help the school maintain a smooth routine for learning, please see that the student is prompt and prepared for the day.

After the five tardies in any quarter, a letter will be sent home informing the parents of these tardies. Consequences consistent with the school discipline policy will be assigned based on administrative decisions.

## **H. Make-up Work**

All students will have the opportunity to make up work missed due to school absence. For each day missed, the student will be given that many days to make up assignments and tests. As an example, a student misses two (2) days for illness, Monday and Tuesday, he/she will be given Wednesday and Thursday to make up the assignments missed while he/she was absent.

## **Bus Transportation Student Responsibilities**

Safety is the primary concern of all persons involved in the transporting of students to and from school. To make the transportation safe for everyone, it is necessary to follow certain rules and responsibilities.

1. The driver is in charge of the students and the bus, and students must obey the driver at all times.
2. Classroom conduct is to be observed by students while riding the bus.
3. Unnecessary conversation with the driver is prohibited.
4. Students are not to move about, change seats, or stand up at any time the bus is in motion. All students must be seated before the bus pulls away from a stop.
5. Students should never stand in roadway or street while waiting for the bus.
6. Students must not, at any time, extend arms, hands, or head out the bus windows.
7. Smoking on a bus is not allowed and is reason enough for a bus suspension or expulsion.
8. All emergency doors and windows are to be used only as such. These are not to be used at any other time.
9. Bus Drivers will not allow students to eat or drink on district transportation. Refer to District Regulation 2875, Student Allergy Prevention and Response, for more information. Glass containers are not to be brought on the bus at any time.
10. The throwing of any type of material is prohibited at all times on the bus.
11. No scuffling, wrestling, or fighting will be allowed at any time.
12. Students who must cross the road will do so in front of the bus after a signal from the driver. Students must not cross divided highways at any time.
13. Students and drivers must be on time. The driver cannot wait beyond the regular schedule for tardy students.
14. Students should always ride their regular bus. *If a transportation change is necessary, a student must present a note from the parent or guardian to the office and the office will notify the driver that a student is riding a bus other than their assigned bus. This exception should be for emergencies only. The office will NOT take telephone bus*

- changes after noon.
15. Students are to be picked up and discharged at their regular stop only, unless authorized in writing from the office.
  16. In the morning when the student gets off the bus he/she is to go directly to the cafeteria at West Elementary. In the evening after school dismisses the students riding late bus runs will be escorted to the cafeteria by designated staff members.
  17. Per the current guidelines and requirement of the federal government, any person riding public transportation such as a public school bus will be required to wear a mask regardless of age until the federal government determines otherwise.

### **GOOD THINGS TO LEAVE AT HOME**

1. All pets - animals on the playground or in the building are a potential danger and must not come onto school grounds without special permission from the principal.
2. All knives and other sharp objects, guns (including toy guns), bullets, screwdrivers, multifunction pliers or tools, etc.
3. Money in large amounts. Send only what a child needs for the day, since the risk of loss is present.
4. Valuables of any kind, including trading cards, such as Pokémon.
5. Toys - They distract a child from the school tasks he is expected to accomplish.
6. Skate boards are not allowed on school grounds.
7. Finger boards and toy skateboards should not be brought to school.
8. Play balls will be provided for activities at school. It is not necessary to bring play balls from home.
9. Video games, Walkman stereos, cell phones, iPods, Game Boys, and DS games are valuable items and risk being lost or broken at school. These items should remain at home.
11. Cell phones are not needed while at school and should not be brought to school by students. Should a student need to bring a cell phone to school, they should be left in the student's backpack and turned off.

### **TELEPHONE USE GUIDELINES**

#### **A. Student Use of School Telephones**

School telephones are business phones and are to be used by students only in emergencies or official school business. Telephones in other offices in the building are not to be used for students' personal calls. If the student needs to make a call related to official school business or if an emergency exists, the principal or designee may give permission to the student to use the telephone in the office.

## **B. Student Possession/Use of Cell Phones and/or Wireless Devices**

The Board desires to promote an environment that is conducive to instruction and learning. The Board recognizes that the use of cell phones and other wireless devices by students to communicate with others inhibits the creation of such an environment and is disruptive to the learning process. Additionally, the possession and use of camera phones impedes the preservation of an individual's privacy and is especially disruptive to a proper learning environment. The Board adopts this policy with the intention to regulate the possession and use of cell phones and wireless devices on campus and during off-campus school instructional activities.

Students are not to bring cell phones or other wireless devices to school at the elementary level. In the event of an emergency, elementary students may use the office telephones for emergency calls. If parents have an exceptional situation and it is felt that a cell phone is needed for their child, this should be discussed with the principal before the cell phone is brought to school. Without prior approval to have a cell phone at school, cell phones confiscated by staff will remain in staff possession until picked up by a parent or at the end of the school year.

Board Policy 2656 states: Development in cell phone technology and other electronic devices in recent years have resulted in enhanced communication opportunities. However, the use of cell phones in schools poses increasing risks of school disruptions, bullying, criminal activity, and academic dishonesty. As a result, student cell phones, digital cameras, iPod and similar electronic devices are prohibited during the instructional day, as well as in dressing areas during extracurricular activities. Images or pictures taken on school property are not to be posted to computers, or other devices, or distributed in any way without the express written consent of the administration. Use of any electronic device for bullying criminal activity, academic dishonesty, or any other offense not listed here will result in discipline per applicable board policy(ies). Bringing any electronic device to school implies the right to school officials to confiscate and search the device.

## **PROMOTION/RETENTION OF STUDENTS**

The purpose of promotion and retention is to provide maximum consideration for the long-range welfare of the student and to provide an opportunity for each student to progress through school according to his/her own needs and abilities.

It is expected that most students in the schools will be promoted annually from one grade level to another upon completion of satisfactory work, however, a student may be retained when his/her standards of achievement or social, emotional, mental or physical development would not allow satisfactory progress in the next higher grade. Retention normally occurs before the student leaves the primary grades.

Parents/guardians who wish to appeal the decision to retain must first contact the building principal. If parents/guardians do not accept the decision at the building level, an appeal may be made in writing to the Superintendent. All appeals must be requested within two (2) weeks after the close of school.

The process for reading assessments and remediation, and retention guidelines for students who fail to meet the District's objectives for reading are contained in Regulation

### **TEACHER REQUESTS**

Administrators work very hard to place students in appropriate classrooms. However, as a parent, your input is important. There may be factors you wish for us to consider in placing your child. For instance, to support our efforts, you may want to describe your child's particular learning style or a specific academic need. You are welcome to put these specific issues in writing, and use the specified form released by the West Elementary office on April 1, 2022 which should be returned by May 3, 2022. Your letters will be read and seriously considered as final placements are made, however, ***letters making requests for or against particular teachers will NOT be considered.*** Classes are formed into deliberate heterogeneous groups with the following factors in mind; an even boy-girl balance, a full range of aptitudes within each class, an even proportion of abilities and learning styles, and an equal number of pupils in each class within the grade level. West Elementary is fortunate to have a staff of professional educators who are committed to providing the best possible education for all children. We appreciate your comments and your continued support as we partner with you, our parents, to provide a positive educational experience for your child.

### **HONOR ROLL**

Improving academic performance and helping each child achieve their individual best is our purpose. To that end, we will recognize those students who distinguish themselves academically through Honor Roll and High Honor Roll. To qualify a student must have all "A"s in all of the core subjects for that grading period. To qualify for the Honor Roll, a student must have all "A"s and "B"s in all core subjects for that grading period.

### **BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM**

#### **A. MEAL APPLICATION**

For the 2021-2022 school year, the district food service department will be operating under the SSO Program. This will allow all students to receive free breakfast and lunch. However, it is very important that the free and reduced lunch forms are completed and returned in the normal fashion. Our district operates other programs based on this information. So it is vital that these forms be completed.

Meal applications will be sent home at the beginning of each school year. An application must be on record for each family each year. If an application is not submitted, the student's status will be designated as full pay. For applications approved for free or reduced lunches during the first 30 days of school, any full pay charges will be adjusted to reflect the qualifications of the application.

#### **B. BREAKFAST AND LUNCH**

- The cafeteria prepares hot meals daily which provide all the necessary nutrition for a healthy diet. We strongly recommend this program.

- Elementary students will be allowed to charge a maximum of ten (\$10.00) dollars. These meals will include only the menu items of the reimbursable meal.
- On May 15 annually all charging will be cut off. Parents/guardians will be sent a written request for “payment in full.” All charges not paid before the end of the school year will be carried forward into the next school year.
- Students bringing their breakfast/lunch that want a school milk will need money to purchase the milk, even if they receive free or reduced meals.
- Breakfast is served from 7:10 a.m. to 7:50 a.m. Breakfast is free for all students.

<b>BREAKFAST &amp; LUNCH PRICING CHART</b>	
<b>REDUCED PRICE</b>	<b>DAY</b>
<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>free</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>.40</b>
<b>FULL PRICE</b>	
<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>free</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>EXTRA MILK</b>	<b>.50</b>

### **C. MEAL SUBSTITUTIONS FOR MEDICAL OR SPECIAL DIETARY REASONS**

USDA Regulation 7 CFR Part 15b requires substitutions or modifications in school meals for children whose disabilities restrict their diets. A child with a disability must be provided substitutions in foods when that need is supported by a signed statement from a licensed physician.

#### **In Cases of Food Allergy**

- Generally, children with food allergies or intolerances do not have a disability as defined under either Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or Part B of IDEA, and the school food service may, but is not required to, make food substitutions for them. However, when in the licensed physician’s assessment, food allergies may result in severe, life-threatening (anaphylactic) reactions, the child’s condition would meet the definition of “disability”, and the substitutions prescribed by the licensed physician must be made.
- School food service may make food substitutions, at their discretion, for individual children who do not have a disability, but who are medically certified as having a special medical or dietary need. Such determinations are only made on a case-by-case basis. This provision covers those children who have food intolerances or allergies, but do not have life-threatening reactions (anaphylactic reactions) when exposed to the food(s) to which they have problems.

#### **Medical Statement for Children with Special Dietary Needs**

Each special dietary request must be supported by a statement explaining the requested food substitution and must be signed by a recognized medical authority. The medical statement must include:

- An identification of the medical or other special dietary condition which restricts the child’s diet;

- The food or foods to be omitted from the child's diet; and
- The food or choice of foods to be substituted.

**If we do not receive a medical statement from a recognized medical authority, your child will receive a regular lunch tray. Medical statements completed by parents or guardians will not be accepted.**

#### **D. DISTRICT WELLNESS NUTRITION STANDARDS**

The Board of Education approved the following nutrition standards on April 18, 2006. Policy/Regulation 2750 can be found on the district website at [www.central3.org](http://www.central3.org). Select your child's school building and then click on the Wellness Information link.

To ensure the safety of students and others, the distribution of foods prepared for parties, snacks, and other scheduled activities at school will be restricted to commercially prepared, ready-to-eat, packaged foods.

\*Ask your teacher if your class has any students with allergies.

#### **HEALTH POLICIES**

##### **Health Screening:**

General Health Screenings will be performed by the school nurse, with assistance from Mineral Area Nursing students.

#### **2021-2022 Missouri School Immunization Requirements**

- All students must present documentation of up-to-date immunization status, including month, day, and year of each immunization before attending school. Missouri State Amendment 19 CSR 20-28.010
- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices allows a 4-day grace period. Students in all grade levels may receive immunizations up to four days before the due date.
- For children beginning kindergarten during or after the 2003-04 school year, required immunizations should be administered according to the current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Schedule.

For more information/requirements see:

<https://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/immunizations/schoolrequirements.php>

## **Administering Medications to Students**

If a child is required to take medication during school hours the school nurse and/or Principal's designee will administer the medication in compliance with the regulations that follow:

### Prescription Drugs

1. The medication shall be in the original container labeled with the Physician's prescription.
2. The prescription medication must be accompanied by a letter/fax from the prescribing doctor indicating that the medication be given during school hours.
3. A parent must transport the medication to school. Medicine *cannot* be sent on the bus.

An authorized prescriber may recommend that an individual student with a chronic health condition, such as asthma or other potentially life-threatening respiratory illness, assume responsibility for his or her own medication as part of learning self-care. These students may self-administer medications, such as through the use of a metered-dose inhaler, provided that the conditions set forth in state law and board policy have been met.

### Non-Prescription Drugs

The administration of over-the-counter drugs requires the district form for over the counter medicines be completed by the parent/guardian prior to administering medications. For all medications administered, the school nurse or designee must maintain documentation. Non-prescription medication must be administered according to the specific directions outlined on the manufacturer's label and pursuant to established district administrative procedures. Topical over-the-counter medications are used for standard first aid and will be provided by the nurse and/or designee.

### Emergency Medication

Written standing orders will be obtained annually for the administration of emergency medication.

### Storage and Administration of Medication

A parent/guardian or other responsible party designated by the parent/guardian will deliver all medication to be administered at school to the school nurse or designee. All medication, prescription or over-the-counter, must be in a pharmacy or manufacturer-labeled container. The District shall provide secure, locked storage to prevent diversion, misuse, or ingestion by another individual.

## **Injury at School**

The school attempts to provide an environment in which the child will be safe from accidents and injuries. The District will be responsible for providing first aid or emergency treatment for students in cases of sudden illness or injury. Where necessary, and with notice to the parent/guardian, emergency health services will be secured.

***Emergency cards MUST BE returned to school; otherwise, it is very difficult to provide immediate action in an emergency. Phone numbers must be up to date and accurate.***

## **Illness**

If a child becomes ill at school, parents or a person designated by the parents will be called and asked to make arrangements for the care of the sick child. If the child is picked up from school by the parent, the parent must check the student out of school with the office. ***Children who have symptoms of illness such as temperature, vomiting, etc. should not be sent to school. Students should be symptom free (no fever, vomiting, diarrhea, etc.) without the use of medicine for 24 hours before returning to school.***

## **Regulations for Communicable Diseases**

Children with contagious or infectious diseases will be excluded from school for the period of time they are liable to transmit the disease to others. Building administrators employed by the District may require an examination by a physician to determine the diseased condition, or the liability of transmitting the disease. Statutory authority for such action is found in Section 167.191 RSMo Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Department of Social Services MISSOURI DIVISION OF HEALTH Jefferson City, Missouri MCH 16-S3v. 12/78

Please refer to the link listed here for the period of exclusion for contagious and infectious diseases.

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaccinations.htm>

## Head Lice Policy

The continued discovery of pediculosis (head lice) on the heads of some children in the Central R-3 School District indicates that a clear and workable policy needs to be in effect in order to control the spreading of head lice at school. The following will be implemented:

1. School nurses may screen students for the presence of head lice or indicators that head lice have been present.
2. Screening for head lice will be done by the school nurse and it is the nurse's responsibility to recommend whether or not the student should be removed from school. If a student is found to have head lice or nits, that child will be sent home and it is that child's parent(s) responsibility to pick the child up at school and provide transportation home. The child should return to school within twenty-four hours after being treated with a lice treatment product and there is no further evidence of head lice.
3. To be readmitted to school a child must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or relative, and be examined by the school nurse. If the child is found to be lice/nit-free, the child will be readmitted to the classroom. If head lice/nits are still present, the child will be sent home until the lice/nits are removed from the hair. In the meantime, the student will be excluded from school and prohibited from being transported on the school bus.
4. Once a student is found to have head lice/nits, students in close proximity of that students will be checked for head lice/nits. All buildings where siblings are located will be notified, so that they may be checked for head lice/nits by the school nurse.
5. When a student is sent home with head lice and/or nits, an instructional sheet will be sent home with the person picking up the child from school. When a student is found to have lice/nits, a parent/guardian will be notified and an instructional sheet will be sent home with the student at the end of the day.
6. If it appears the parent/guardian of a student with head lice/nits is failing to secure timely treatment for the infestation after having been given notice of the existence of head lice or nits in accordance with these procedures, the nurse will notify the school principal, who may report the matter to school resource specialist and/or the Children's Division of the Department of Social Services.
7. **Transportation on District School Bus**  
It is not the practice of the Central R-3 School district to transport students with head lice or nits. Parents of students identified as having head lice or nits will be required to pick their child up from school and return them to school after treatment. Only after receiving clearance from the nurse will students be permitted to ride district transportation.

## **STUDENT INSURANCE**

Student accident insurance is available on an optional basis. The insurance is offered to students by an agency outside of the school district. There are several program options. This information may be found at the following web address: <https://markel.sevencorners.com/>

## **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

To the extent possible, the emergency plan for the Central School District provides for the safety of and adequate supervision of all students during an emergency. Each elementary school has a written emergency plan that they follow in case of fire, tornado, earthquake, or intruder alerts. Members of the staff have a copy of the procedures to be followed and have been instructed in this procedure. Practice drills are held periodically so each child will know what to do in case of an emergency.

In time of an emergency, parents are asked to refrain from calling the school since the telephone lines may be needed for emergency calls. Parents should also refrain from picking up their children at school during emergencies. Such action causes traffic congestion and could further complicate the problem. If circumstances warrant, students will be dismissed and buses will run as soon as this can be accomplished safely. During an emergency, parents should listen to the following radio stations: KFMO, KTJJ, B104, or KREI. A district announcements will be made using our automated communication system via phone call and/or text.

## **SCHOOL CLOSINGS**

Whenever there appears to be doubt as to whether school will be in session because of severe weather conditions, the following radio stations will be notified:

KTJJ	dial	98.5	KREI	dial	800 AM
KFMO	dial	1240 AM	B104	dial	104.3 FM

Announcements concerning school closings will be made as soon as possible. Please avoid calling the school for closing information as such calls tie up phone lines, and many times the office personnel will not have the information any sooner than the radio stations.

For school closings during the school day, parents will be notified using the Blackboard connect automated calling system. This calling system contacts parents via telephone messages, giving notice regarding inclement weather and school closings.

## **13. SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

### **School/Parent Volunteers**

The District encourages participation of parents and citizens of the community to volunteer in the schools in order to serve as additional resources to the teachers and students.

**Screened Volunteers:** Individuals who assist our schools on an uncompensated basis and who may periodically be left alone with students are considered “screened volunteers” under state statute. These individuals may volunteer to assist in the supervision of student activities or chaperone students on field trips.

Prior to being left alone with students at school or school activities, screened volunteers must have a clear criminal records check from the State Highway Patrol and Federal Bureau of Investigation. For more information on this process, you may request directions and an application from the office.

**Non-Screened Volunteers:** Non-screened volunteers are those individuals who are not left alone with students at school or school activities. For these volunteers, they must complete and receive approval from a background/records check before volunteering at the school. The application for this is also available in the office at school. The District serves the right to deny individual applicants where the best interests of the educational program are served.

### **Visitors to Schools**

All visitors shall report to the office upon entering the building so that the office will be aware of their presence. When a patron of the school has a need for a conference with a teacher or counselor, an appointment should be made so the staff member may proceed with his/her assigned duties without undue interruption.

Students dismissed earlier in one school than others are not permitted to be on the grounds of any other school in the District unless it is part of the district transportation system.

All persons who do not obtain permission from the principal’s office to visit the school, or visitors who create serious distractions to the learning environment in the building or on the premises, shall be considered trespassers and subject to arrest and prosecution.

In order to minimize the potential harm to staff and students, persons listed on the sex offenders list may not be present in any school building, or on district property, in any district vehicle utilized to transport students, or be present at school activities without the written permission of the Superintendent. If permission is granted for a specific event or events, the Superintendent will notify the principal, where the sex offender will be present.

## **BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND PERSONAL INVITATIONS**

To avoid hurt feelings and unnecessary confusion at school, we would ask that students not use the school as a place to distribute party invitations. Please use the mail or the phone to invite friends to a party. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

If parents wish to bring snacks to school in recognition of a student's birthday, this should be discussed in advance with the classroom teacher. Snacks must comply with School Board policy. Classroom allergies should be discussed with the classroom teacher.

## **SCHOOL PARTIES**

Classroom parties will be scheduled throughout the school year. At West Elementary, teachers usually rotate classrooms with peer teachers and the parties are staffed with West Elementary employees. If the teachers need extra assistance from parent volunteers, the classroom teacher will reach out.

Oct.- Homecoming -- Homecoming is celebrated with stations and activities.

Dec. - Christmas Celebration - Christmas is celebrated on the last day of school prior to the Christmas break.

Feb. - Valentine Celebration – Students will exchange Valentine cards on this day. Parents are asked to provide a Valentine card for each student in your child's classroom.

May - MAP Reward--Students have a special field day to celebrate the successful state testing requirement.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Student field trips will be taken periodically throughout the school year. These trips are taken in conjunction with school-related learning activities, cultural experiences, and skill development. Parents will be notified about field trips and asked to sign a permission slip. No student will be able to participate in a field trip unless a permission slip is signed by the parent.

Field trips are for the benefit of students attending West Elementary. **All parents** who are selected to accompany the classroom on field trips as a chaperone must complete the required background/records check(s) in order to attend. Parents planning to accompany the classroom on field trips should plan to make child care provisions for younger siblings. No siblings are invited to attend field trips.

## **GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING**

COUNSELING SERVICES: Counselors will schedule whole class lessons and lead group counseling for specific student approach to schoolwork and responsibilities. West Elementary provides counseling services to all students on campus. Counseling services are delivered to students through four main types of activities:

1. GUIDANCE CURRICULUM—the guidance curriculum consists of structured developmental experiences presented systematically through classroom activities. The guidance curriculum is organized around three areas of learning: (1) Academic Strategies; (2) Career Exploration; (3) Social/Emotional Development

2. INDIVIDUAL PLANNING— Individual Planning activities help all students to plan, monitor, and manage their own learning, as well as their person and career development. Individual Planning is implemented through such strategies as Individual Appraisal, Individual Assessment, and Placement.

3. RESPONSIVE SERVICES— Responsive services and activities that meet immediate needs and concerns of students. These needs or concerns may require counseling, consultation, referral or information.

4. SYSTEMS SUPPORT—Systems Support consists of management activities that establish, maintain, and enhance that total guidance program. These activities may take the form of professional development, staff and community relations, and serving on school committees among others.

## **WEST ELEMENTARY STUDENT REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES**

1. ***Supervision begins at 7:10 a.m. in the cafeteria only. Parents or guardians who bring their students to school should do so no earlier than 7:10 a.m.***
2. Students are expected to obey the school district discipline code without question.
3. A student is not to endanger or hinder the health, safety, well-being or education of himself or another student.
4. Upon arrival at school, and prior to 7:25 a.m., all students will go directly to the cafeteria for breakfast or designated areas for their grade level.
5. Bicycles are to be placed in the bicycle rack and secured immediately on arrival at school.
6. Students who must go to a location other than their regular bus drop-off point after school need to have a written note signed by a parent requesting the change and submitted to the office or the request should be made via phone call to the school secretary. **DO NOT EMAIL or TEXT teachers with this information.**
7. A student may remain inside at recess times for health reasons if he/she has a note signed by a physician.
8. Students are to walk quietly in the buildings at all times.
9. Students are to use restrooms for their proper purpose and help to keep them clean.
10. Students are discouraged from having or using chewing gum at school.
11. Toys may be brought to school only if they are a part of a specific lesson or unit
  12. According to school district policy, NO weapons, including knives, sharp objects, guns (including toy guns), multi-function pliers or tools may be brought to school.
  13. Play balls will be provided for activities at school. It is not necessary to bring play balls from home.
14. Skateboards are not allowed at school.
15. Roller blades are not to be worn at school. Students rollerblading to and from school should change into street shoes while on school grounds.
  16. Shoes containing wheels or retractable wheels should not be worn while on school grounds. These present a safety hazard, particularly on the stairs.

## **STUDENT DRESS**

The Purpose of the West Elementary School dress code is to ensure that all students are able to attend school in an environment that is free from the distractions of inappropriately clothed students. Although the information given below details items that are not allowed, the teachers and the Administration reserve the right to determine that other items not listed here are causing interference to the educational process and, therefore, shall not be allowed.

The appearance of any student is primarily the responsibility of that student and the parent. Students' dress and appearance are required to be of such character as not to disrupt nor distract from the instructional procedures of the school. Students are to wear clothing which is clean and safe. Shoes must be worn at all times. Shoes with retractable roller skates should not be worn because of safety issues. Clothing that is revealing or suggestive may not be worn.

Summer tops should have straps for both shoulders and should extend to the waist. Tube tops, halter tops, midriff and see-through clothing are all considered inappropriate for school. Hats and caps may not be worn in the building. Sunglasses and dark glasses, unless prescription, are considered inappropriate attire. Clothing with offensive language, suggestive messages, pictures of illegal substances, alcoholic beverages or tobacco products will not be tolerated at school. A verbal warning will be given the first time, and the student will be required to change. The second incident will result in disciplinary action.

**For P.E. safety, please make sure your child has tennis shoes on PE days.**

## **GENERAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND PROCEDURES**

All school personnel have the responsibility to instruct, guide and supervise students during school and school-sponsored activities with the objectives of promoting positive learning experiences and responding effectively to unacceptable student behavior. Proper instruction and supervision is everyone's responsibility and, in large measure, will produce good student behavior. It is our hope that by fostering and encouraging self-discipline within each child, our students will be more successful, enhance their sense of security, their self-concept, and personal worth. To this end, our discipline plan is truly **character education** for all students.

Disciplinary actions from designated personnel for behavior violations can be expected. The discipline policies apply at all times while students are on school premises, on school transportation, or at any activity under the supervision of the school, even though the activity may be at another location, such as a school field trip.

While it is impossible to list every problem which might interfere with the smooth operation of the school, most types of school discipline issues have been included in this handbook.

Conferences, loss of privileges to participate and/or attend activities, detentions, alternative educational placement, and out-of-school suspensions are effective means for changing student behavior. These actions are often necessary in order to maintain a safe and orderly environment in school. Parents will receive notification of disciplinary actions. The school district reserves the right to contact the police and file a report whenever it is deemed appropriate. Note: All requirements and procedures will be followed for students who have Individual Education Plans (IEP) under IDEA or 504.

## **GENERAL OUTLINE FOR REMEDIATION AND/OR CORRECTION OF MISBEHAVIOR**

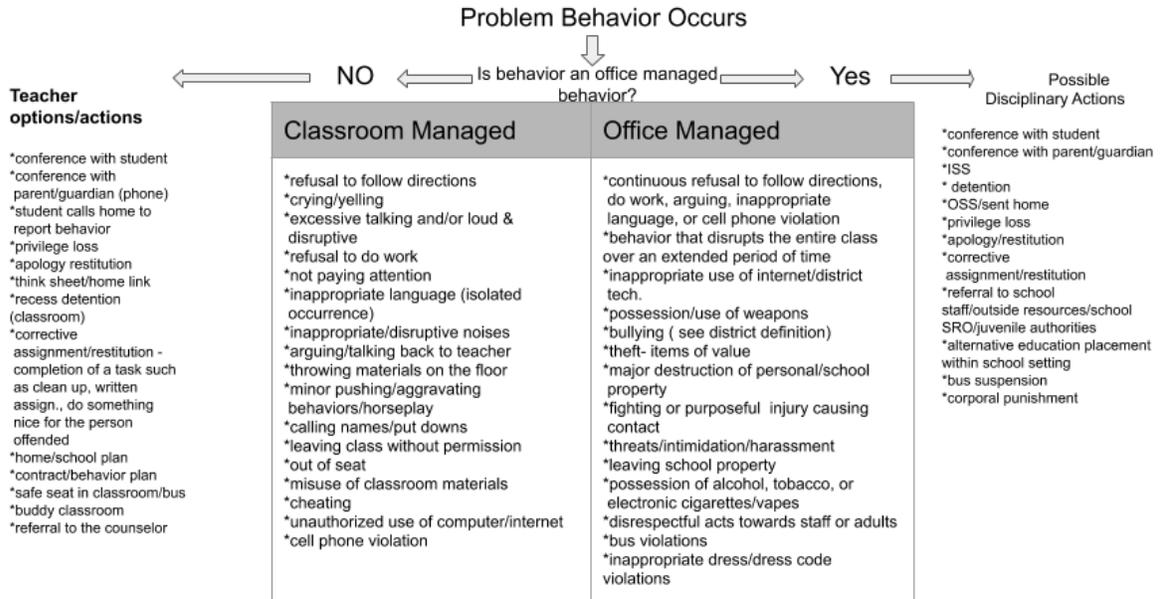
1. Conference with the student, the teacher and school administrator who has observed or who had responded to the unacceptable behavior to obtain all available information related to the incident. Such conferences are necessary to gather as much information as can be gathered in order to reach a just decision. Parents may be asked to participate in the conference(s) for additional information if the situation warrants. Their input may contribute to a solution and to make them a part of the disciplinary action taken.
2. The staff members and administrators will evaluate the information, review the school or classroom disciplinary policy and determine the appropriate disciplinary action.
3. The objectives of any disciplinary action to be used by the designated school staff are:
  - a. To achieve remediation and to correct any unacceptable student behavior,
  - b. To develop the student's character and power of self-control, and
  - c. To interact with the student in ways so that the disciplinary action results in a positive and acceptable behavior change.

Depending on the nature of the unacceptable student behavior, the indicated disciplinary actions or options may include the following:

1. A conference held with the student for a commitment, oral or written, for correcting the behavior.
2. Students may resolve conflicts through peer mediation, which is facilitated by the counselor.
3. The student is placed in recess detention by the teacher and given assigned tasks.
4. The student is referred to an administrator for appropriate action which could include one of the following:
  - \*Principal/Student Conference
  - \*Alternative Setting
  - \*Corrective Assignment
  - \*After School Detention
  - \*Lunch/Recess Detention in the office
  - \*Loss of Privileges
  - \*Restitution
  - \*Bus Suspension
  - \*In school suspension
  - \*Out of school suspension
  - \*Corporal Punishment
  - \*SRO/Juvenile Referral
  - \*Referral to outside agencies
  - \*Recommendation for Expulsion
5. Assignment to an alternative school placement outside of the school setting is an option

to be used with students in severe cases.

## West Elementary Decision Making Flowchart



\*\*These lists are only for the purpose of example and are not to be considered exhaustive. The district can discipline a student for any action that is disruptive to the school environment, whether it occurs on or off of school property.

## **Documentation in Student's Discipline Record**

The principal, designee or other administrators or school staff will maintain all discipline records as deemed necessary for the orderly operation of the schools. In addition, any offense that constitutes a "serious violation of the district's discipline policy" must be documented in the student's discipline record in accordance with law. A serious violation of the district's discipline policy is defined as one (1) or more of the following acts if committed by a student enrolled in the district:

1. Any act of school violence or violent behavior.
2. Any offense that occurs on school property, on school transportation or at any school activity and that is required by law to be reported to law enforcement officials.
3. Any offense that results in an out-of-school suspension for more than ten (10) school days.

## **Prohibited from being on or near School Property during Suspension**

All students who are suspended or expelled are prohibited from being on school property for any reason unless permission is granted by the superintendent or designee.

Any student who is suspended for any offenses listed in § 160.261, RSMo., or any act of violence or drug-related activity defined by policy JGF as a serious violation of school discipline shall not be allowed to be within 1,000 feet of any public school in the district unless one (1) of the following conditions exist:

1. The student is under the direct supervision of the student's parent, legal guardian or custodian.
2. The student is under the direct supervision of another adult designated by the student's parent, legal guardian or custodian, in advance, in writing, to the principal of the school that suspended the student.
3. The student is in an alternative school that is located within 1,000 feet of a public school in the district.
4. The student resides within 1,000 feet of a public school in the district and is on the property of his or her residence.

If a student violates this prohibition he or she may be suspended or expelled in accordance with the offense.

## **STUDENTS**

## **Policy 2655**

### **Discipline**

### **Bullying**

The District is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment free of any form of bullying or intimidation. Bullying is strictly prohibited on school grounds, or school time, at a school sponsored activity or in a school related context. Bullying is the intentional action by an individual or group of individuals to inflict intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment that is repetitive or is substantially likely to be repeated and causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property; substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of any student without exception; or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school. Bullying may consist of physical actions, including gestures, or oral, cyberbullying, electronic, or written communication, and any threat of retaliation for reporting acts of bullying.

Cyberbullying means bullying as defined above through the transmission of a communication including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound, or image by means of an electronic device including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager. The District may prohibit and discipline for cyberbullying that originates on any District campus or at a District activity if the electronic communication was made using the school's technological resources, if there is a sufficient nexus to the educational environment, or if the electronic communication was made on the District's campus or at a District activity using the student's own personal technological resources. Further, students who engage in significant acts of misconduct off campus which materially and adversely impact the education of District students will be subject to discipline.

Bullying, as defined in this policy, is strictly prohibited. Students are encouraged to report any incident of bullying which they have witnessed or incurred, by contacting their building principal. District employees are required to report any instance of bullying of which the employee has witnessed within two (2) school days of the occurrence. Employees shall report the occurrence to the building principal, who is the person the District designates to receive reports of incidents of bullying. A principal who receives a report of an incident of bullying shall initiate an investigation into the allegations within two (2) school days of receipt of the report. The principal may assign other employees to assist in the investigation, or request that the superintendent assign an outside investigator. The investigation shall be completed within ten school days from the date of the written report of bullying unless good cause exists to extend the investigation. No employee or student who reports an act of bullying shall be subject to reprisal or retaliation for making such a report. Any person who engages in reprisal or retaliation against an employee or student who reports an act of bullying shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Students who are found to have violated this policy will be subject to consequences depending on factors such as: age of student(s), degree of harm, severity of behavior, number of incidences, etc. Possible consequences to a student for a violation of this policy include: loss of privileges, classroom

detention, conference with teacher, parents contacted, conference with principal, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion and law enforcement contacted.

The District shall give annual notice of the policy to students, parents or guardians, and staff. This policy shall be included in all student handbooks. This policy shall also be posted on the District's web page (as a Board policy) and a copy shall be placed in the District Administrative Office.

The District shall provide information and appropriate training to District staff who have significant contact with students regarding the policy. All staff with significant student contact shall be trained on the requirements of this policy on an annual basis.

The District shall provide education and information to students regarding bullying, including information regarding this policy prohibiting bullying, the harmful effects of bullying, and other applicable initiatives to address bullying, including student peer-to-peer initiatives to provide accountability and policy enforcement for those found to have engaged in bullying, reprisal, or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying. The District shall instruct its school counselors, school social workers, licensed social workers, mental health professionals, and school psychologists to educate students who are victims of bullying on techniques for students to overcome bullying's negative effects. Such techniques include but are not limited to, cultivating the student's self-worth and self-esteem; teaching the student to defend himself or herself assertively and effectively; helping the student develop social skills or encouraging the student to develop an internal locus of control. District administrators will implement programs and other initiatives to address bullying, to respond to such conduct in a manner that does not stigmatize the victim, and to make resources or referrals available to victims of bullying.

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**School/Community Relations**

**Prohibition Against Firearms and Weapons**

The presence of firearms and weapons poses a substantial risk of serious harm to District students, staff and community members. Therefore, possession of firearms and weapons is prohibited on school premises at all times except for law enforcement officials and as otherwise provided in this policy. As used in this policy, the phrase *school premises* includes all District buildings, grounds, vehicles and parking areas. This prohibition also extends to the sites of school activities, whether or not those school activities are conducted on School District property.

Individuals found to be in violation of this policy will be dealt with severely. Students will be disciplined up to and including expulsion as provided in Policy and Regulation 2620 - Firearms and Weapons in School. Law enforcement officials will be notified and the individual violating this policy will be directed to leave school premises. Non-students violating this policy will be barred from all school premises and school activities for a period of one (1) year. Subsequent violations by the same individual will result in a permanent bar from school premises and school activities.

Student participation in school sanctioned gun safety courses, student military or ROTC courses, or other school sponsored firearm related events does not constitute a violation of this policy, provided the student does not carry a firearm or other weapon into any school, school bus, or onto the premises of any other activity sponsored or sanctioned by school officials. In addition, persons passing through school district property for purposes of dropping off or picking up a student do not violate this policy if they possess a lawful permitted weapon in the vehicle during this time.

**School Protection Officers**

Notwithstanding provisions to the contrary in this Policy, the District may designate one or more school teachers or administrators as school protection officers. School protection officers are authorized to carry a concealed firearm or self-defense spray device.

Prior to designating such officers, the Board will conduct a public hearing on the initiation of such Program. Notice must be given in a publication of general circulation in the city or court in which the District is located at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing. However, the Board may meet in closed session to determine whether to allow a school protection officer to carry a concealed firearm or self-defense spray device and to protect the School Protection Officer's identity.

Those employees seeking to be designated as a school protection officer must make a written request to the Superintendent along with proof of ownership of a valid concealed carry endorsement or permit. All teachers and administrators seeking designation as a school protection officer shall submit a certificate of school protection officer training program completed from a training program approved by the Director of Public Safety. If the District designates a school protection officer, the District must notify the Director of Public Safety of:

1. Full name, date of birth and address of the officer;
2. The name of the school district; and
3. The date such person was designated as a school protection officer.

Such identity information will not be considered public information under the State's Sunshine Law.

Such school protection officers will not be permitted to allow any firearm or device out of their personal control, while the firearm or device is on school property. Violation of this provision will subject the offending officer to termination proceedings

**Discipline****Student Use of Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs****Smoking**

The Board of Education believes that smoking; the use of any tobacco products; and substances appearing to be tobacco products are detrimental to the health and well-being of staff and students. This prohibition includes electronic cigarettes, vaping and similar objects used in conjunction with vaping. Therefore the Board prohibits the use, sale, transfer and possession of tobacco products and substances appearing to be tobacco products, i.e. e-cigarettes, vaping paraphernalia, at school and at school activities.

**Alcohol and Drug Use**

The improper use of controlled substances, alcohol and substances represented to be such is detrimental to the health and welfare of students and is detrimental to discipline in school. Such conduct, as well as the possession of drug paraphernalia, is prohibited and is subject to disciplinary action as set forth in Regulation 2610.

Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 705(20)(c)(iv), a student with a 504/ADA disability who is currently engaging in the illegal use of alcohol or drugs is not considered a student with a disability under those laws and the District, may take disciplinary action – to the same extent that disciplinary action is taken against nondisabled students – in relation to that use or possession of alcohol or drugs. In such cases, the due process procedures contained in the Section 504 regulations will not apply to protect those students. This provision does not apply to students who are identified as disabled under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. However, school personnel may remove an IDEA disabled student to an interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 school days without regard to whether that student’s behavior is a manifestation of his/her disability where that student knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs, or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance, while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the District’s jurisdiction. “Illegal drug,” as it pertains to the discipline of IDEA students, means a controlled substance but does not include a controlled substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional or under any other authority.

The determination of whether or not a student is under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance is based upon a variety of information including but not limited to, physical appearances, speech patterns, and witnesses’ statements. While not required, District administrators may request a student suspected of alcohol use to submit to a Breathalyzer. Conduct that includes possession of or use of alcohol or controlled substances as well as the possession of drug paraphernalia is prohibited and is subject to disciplinary action as set forth in Regulation 2610.

**CBD Products**

Due to the lack of consistency in labeling related to the potency of many CBD and similar products; due to the lack of research into the long-term effects of these products; and due to the overriding concern for the health and safety of District students, CBD and similar products are prohibited on school premises and at school related activities. Penalties for violations of this policy will be consistent with the penalties for alcohol and drug possession.

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**STUDENTS**

**Policy 2150**  
**(Form 2150)**

**Nondiscrimination and Student Rights**

**Searches by School Personnel**

School lockers and desks are the property of the Board of Education and are provided for the convenience of students, and as such, are subject to periodic inspection without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. The lockers and desks may be searched by school administrators or staff who have a reasonable suspicion that the lockers or desks contain drugs, alcohol, material of a disruptive nature, stolen properties, weapons, items posing a danger to the health or safety of students and school employees, or evidence of a violation of school policy. In addition, the Board of Education authorizes the use of trained dogs to sniff lockers or other school property to assist in the detection of the presence of drugs, explosives, and other contraband.

Students or student property may be searched based on reasonable suspicion of a violation of District rules, policy or state law. Reasonable suspicion must be based on facts known to the administration, credible information provided or reasonable inference drawn from such facts or information. The privacy and dignity of students shall be respected. Searches shall be carried out in the presence of adult witnesses, if such witnesses are available. Students may be asked to empty pockets, remove jackets, coats, shoes and other articles of exterior clothing for examination if reasonable under the circumstances.

No employee shall perform a strip search of any student. The exception to this would be if a school administrator reasonably believes that a student possesses a weapon, explosive, or substance that poses an imminent threat of physical harm to himself or herself or another person, and if a commissioned law enforcement officer is not immediately available. Strip searches may be conducted by, or under the authority of, a commissioned law enforcement officer.

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains the authority to conduct routine patrols of the student parking lots. The interior of a student's automobile on school premises may be searched if a school administrator has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal, unauthorized or contraband items, or evidence of a violation of school policy is contained inside the vehicle.

Law enforcement officials shall be contacted if the search produces a controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, weapons, stolen goods or evidence of a crime, in any case involving a violation of law when a student refuses to allow a search, or where the search cannot safely be conducted.

Parents may also be contacted. A student who refuses to submit to a search may be appropriately disciplined by school officials.

## MISSOURI SAFE SCHOOLS ACT

It is the policy of the Central R-III School District to report all crimes occurring on school grounds to law enforcement, including, but not limited to, the crimes the district is required to report in accordance with law.

The following acts, regardless of whether they are committed by juveniles, are subject to this reporting requirement:

1. First or second degree murder under §§ 565.020, .021, RSMo.
2. Voluntary or involuntary manslaughter under § 565.024, RSMo.
3. Kidnapping under § 565.110, RSMo.
4. First, second or third degree assault under §§ 565.050, .060, .070, RSMo.
5. Sexual assault or deviate sexual assault under §§ 566.040, .070, RSMo.
6. Forcible rape or sodomy under §§ 566.030, .060, RSMo.
7. Burglary in the first or second degree under §§ 569.160, .170, RSMo.
8. Robbery in the first degree under § 569.020, RSMo.
9. Possession of a weapon under chapter 571, RSMo.
10. Distribution of drugs under §§ 195.211, .212, RSMo.
11. Arson in the first degree under § 569.040, RSMo.
12. Felonious restraint under § 565.120, RSMo.
13. Property damage in the first degree under § 569.100, RSMo.
14. Child molestation in the first degree pursuant to § 566.067, RSMo.
15. Sexual misconduct involving a child pursuant to § 566.083, RSMo.
16. Sexual abuse pursuant to § 566.100, RSMo.

The principal shall also notify the appropriate law enforcement agency and superintendent if a student is discovered to possess a controlled substance or weapon in violation of the district's policy.

In addition, the superintendent shall notify the appropriate division of the juvenile or family court upon suspension for more than ten (10) days or expulsion of any student who the district is aware is under the jurisdiction of the court.

For the purpose of this section the terms "weapon" will mean firearm as defined under 18U.S.C.921 the following items, as defined in Section 571.010 RSMo: a blackjack, a concealed firearm, an explosive weapon, a firearm, a firearm silencer, a gas gun, a knife, knuckles, a machine gun, a projectile weapon, a rifle, a shotgun, a spring gun, or a switchblade knife. This definition will include the weapons defined in this section but also may include other weapons.

\***Acts of Violence** will be defined as, but not limited to, exertion of physical force by a student with the intent to do serious bodily harm to another person while on school property, including a school bus in service on behalf of the district, or while involved in school activities.

\*The Safe Schools Act contains the following consequences for failure to obey the standards of conduct set forth in the act. “The policy will provide for a suspension for a period of not less than one year, or expulsion, for a student who is determined to have brought a weapon to school in violation of district policy, except that (1) The Superintendent, or in a school district with no high school, the principal of the school which such child attends may modify such suspension on a case-by-case basis, and (2) This section will not prevent the school district from providing educational services in an alternative setting to a student suspended under the provisions of this section.”

**\*Due Process;** Students’ rights in school discipline are governed by state and federal law. By state statute, students are guaranteed certain rights prior to a disciplinary suspension. Section 167.171 RSMo provides for the following rights:

1. The right to oral or written notice of charges
2. If charges are denied, the right to an oral or written explanation of the facts supporting the charges
3. The right to present the student’s own version of the incident
4. The right to a hearing before the Board if the suspension imposed is to last more than ten days
5. The right to reinstatement pending Board hearing unless, in the judgment of the superintendent, the presence poses a “continuing danger to the persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process.

**Policy**  
**2785**  
**(Regulation 2785)**  
**(Form 2785)**

**Student Welfare**

**Student Suicide Awareness**

This policy and the accompanying regulation reflects the District’s commitment to maintaining a safe environment to protect the health, safety and welfare of students. The corresponding regulation for this policy outlines key protocol and procedures for this District in educating employees and students on the actions and resources necessary to prevent suicide and to promote student well-being. This policy is being adopted pursuant to Section 170.048, RSMo. This policy and corresponding regulation will go into effect no later than July 1, 2018.

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**INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES**  
**6190**

**Policy**

**(Regulation 6190)**

**Curriculum Services**

**Virtual Education**

The District will participate in the Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program (“Program”). The Program offers District students the opportunity to enroll in virtual school courses in a variety of grade level and content areas from Kindergarten through grade 12. The District may elect to offer specific courses as part of the program. Any on-line courses or virtual programs offered by the District prior to August 18, 2018 will be automatically approved for program participation, where the District course meets program requirements.



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Students and families that are interested in virtual coursework should contact the student’s Principal and inquire about the Missouri Course Access Program (MOCAP). The enrollment period will be ten (10) school days prior to each semester. Students who fail to timely enroll will be permitted to apply the next semester. New students enrolling during the school year will have five (5) school days from school enrollment to apply for a program course. MOCAP offers virtual online courses for students statewide. Students can take an entire course from any Internet-connected computer, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**Trauma-Informed Schools Initiative**

Parents and guardians seeking information regarding information on Trauma-Informed Schools Initiative can visit the website located at: <http://dese.mo.gov/traumainformed>

**Performance Evaluations**

**Communication with Students by Electronic Media**

Employee personal communication with students, in all forms including oral and nonverbal shall be appropriate and consistent with Board policy. Personal communication shall be deemed to be inappropriate if such communication is sexual in nature; is sexually suggestive; suggests romantic activity with student or students; or is otherwise inconsistent with Board policy. Violation of this provision will result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Communications between employees and students will be primarily direct, oral or written in nature. Employee's communication with students and/or teacher's electronic media must be made available to the student's parents/guardians. While the employee need not notify their building principal of the content of the electronic communication, the employee must notify the principal, in writing, of the date and time of the communication and the identity of the student with whom communication occurred. Such notification is not required where the communication is between the teacher and his/her children or siblings. When communicating via email, the district will keep an archived copy of the communication for not less than seven years.

The District does not have sufficient staff to monitor every communication between employees and students and does not, therefore, commit to monitoring such communication. Nonetheless, where there is reason to believe that an employee has inappropriately communicated with a student(s) they may require the teacher to provide access to the specific communication in question.

The District will provide official electronic media which may be utilized by employees for communication with students for dissemination of school related information (i.e. homework, practice schedules, supplemental instructional material.)

## **Central R-3 School District Notice of Nondiscrimination**

The District is committed to maintaining a workplace and educational environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, and retaliation in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs, services, activities and facilities. The District is committed to providing equal opportunity in all areas of education, recruiting, hiring, retention, promotion and contracted service. In accordance with law, the District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, disability, age, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law in its programs and activities. In addition, the District provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. Further, no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination based on the above listed characteristics under a school nutrition program for which the District receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA Food and Nutrition Service).

The following person has been designated as the District's Compliance Officer to handle inquiries or complaints regarding the District's non-discrimination policies:

Mr. Dereck Wilson  
200 High Street  
Park Hills, MO 63601  
573-431-2616 ext 5111

For information regarding how to report a claim of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, see Board of Education Regulation 1300. Policy and Regulation 1300 shall govern all complaints and concerns by parents, patrons, employees, or students of the District related to discrimination, harassment, or retaliation on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, disability, age, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Central R-3 School District has taken necessary steps to comply with the Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools Final Rule. This Rule was promulgated under authority of the Asbestos Hazard Energy Response Act, Title II of TSCA. The District Management Plan is available at the Superintendent's Office, 200 High Street Park Hills, MO. Building management plans are also available in the principal's office at each campus. Inquiries regarding the management plan may be directed to Dr. Ashley McMillian or the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

## **SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

It is the policy of the Board of Education to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment. It shall be a violation for any employee of the Central R-3 school District to harass another staff member or student through conduct or communication of a sexual nature. It shall also be a violation of this policy for students to harass other students through conduct or comments of a sexual nature. Furthermore, it shall be a violation of the policy for any person who is not an employee or student of the Central R-3 School District to harass a staff member or students of the District through conduct or comments of a sexual nature while such employee is engaged in the performance of duties for the District or while such student is under District supervision.

### **Standards for Privacy**

The following overview provides information regarding the *Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information* (the Privacy Rule), promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

OCR HIPAA Privacy, December 3, 2002; Revised April 3, 2003 [45 CFE 164.512(b)]

The Privacy Rule permits covered entities to disclose protected health information, without authorization, to public health authorities who are legally authorized to receive such reports for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability.

OCR HIPAA Privacy, December 3, 2002; Revised April 3, 2003  
[45 CFE Part 160 and Subparts A and E of Part 164]

The Privacy Rule permits certain incidental uses and disclosures of protected health information to occur when the covered entity has in place reasonable safeguards and minimum necessary policies and procedures to protect an individual's privacy. Covered entities must implement reasonable minimum necessary policies and procedures that limit how much protected health information is used, disclosed, and requested for certain purposes.

OCR HIPAA Privacy, December 3, 2002; Revised April 3, 2003  
[45 CF 164.502(a)(1)(iii)]

The Privacy Rule permits certain incidental uses and disclosures that occur as a by-product of another permissible or required use or disclosure, as long as the covered entity has applied reasonable safeguards and implemented the minimum necessary standard, where applicable, with respect to the primary use or disclosure.

### **Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

This guide explains how to file a complaint about any of the programs that are administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) under the Every Student Succeeds Act of

2015 (ESSA).

**Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Complaint Procedures for ESSA Programs  
Table of Contents**

**General Information**

1. What is a complaint under ESSA?
2. Who may file a complaint?
3. How can a complaint be filed?

**Complaints filed with LEA**

4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated?
5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?

**Complaints filed with the Department**

6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department?
7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated?
8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?

**Appeals**

9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated?
10. What happens if the complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?

**1. What is a complaint?**

For these purposes, a complaint is a written allegation that a local education agency (LEA) or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) has violated a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA.

**2. Who may file a complaint?**

Any individual or organization may file a complaint.

**3. How can a complaint be filed?**

Complaints can be filed with the LEA or with the Department.

**4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated?**

Complaints filed with the LEA are to be investigated and attempted to be resolved according to the locally developed and adopted procedures.

**5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?**

A complaint not resolved at the local level may be appealed to the Department.

**6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department?**

A complaint filed with the Department must be a written, signed statement that includes:

1. A statement that a requirement that applies to an ESSA program has been violated by the LEA or the Department, and

2. The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated.

**7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated?**

The investigation and complaint resolution proceedings will be completed within a time limit of forty-five calendar days.  
That time limit can be extended by the agreement of all parties.

The following activities will occur in the investigation:

1. Record. A written record of the investigation will be kept.
2. Notification of LEA. The LEA will be notified of the complaint within five days of the complaint being filed.
3. Resolution at LEA. The LEA will then initiate its local complaint procedures in an effort to first resolve the complaint at the local level.
4. Report by LEA. Within thirty-five days of the complaint being filed, the LEA will submit a written summary of the LEA investigation and complaint resolution. This report is considered public record and may be made available to parents, teachers, and other members of the general public.
5. Verification. Within five days of receiving the written summary of a complaint resolution, the Department will verify the resolution of the complaint through an on-site visit, letter, or telephone call(s).
6. Appeal. The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the U.S. Department of Education.

**8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?**

In addition to the procedures listed in number 7 above, complaints related to equitable services will also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, and they will receive all information related to the investigation and resolution of the complaint. Also, appeals to the United States Department of Education must be filed no longer than thirty days following the Department's resolution of the complaint (or its failure to resolve the complaint).

**9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated?**

The Department will initiate an investigation within ten days, which will be concluded within thirty days from the day of the appeal. This investigation may be continued beyond the thirty day limit at the discretion of the Department. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Department will communicate the decision and reasons for the decision to the complainant and the LEA. Recommendations and details of the decision are to be implemented within fifteen days of the decision being delivered to the LEA.

**10. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?**

The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the United States Department of Education.

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

**Regulation 1621**  
**(Form 1621)**

**Private, State and Federal Programs Administration**

**Title I**

The responsibility for implementation of the Title I policy is shared between the Title I Director and each building principal. The designation of these duties is described below.

**Title I Staff and Parent Responsibilities**

1. Development of the District's Plan will include input from parents of eligible students,

teachers, administrators and related personnel.

2. Provide letters to parents regarding Title I programs and curriculum, how their children were selected for Title I, how their progress will be measured, how much progress they are expected to make during the school year, and how their performance compares to that of their schoolmates.
3. Provide an orientation meeting for parents each school year before the end of the first quarter.
4. Provide parents of each school with the results of the annual review. This review is to include the individual school performance profiles.
5. Provide timely notification to parents, in the form of letters and flyers, regarding Title I meetings and workshops.
6. Offer professional development opportunities for teachers on increasing their effectiveness in teaching all students eligible for Title I services and on addressing the needs of Title I parents.
7. Offer workshops for parents on how to help assist in the instruction of their children.
8. The District will conduct an annual review meeting of Title I activities which will include, but not be limited to, parent evaluations and the school-parent compact. Meeting agenda sign-in sheets for parents and staff, as well as, meeting minutes will be maintained by the District.
9. Send data regarding year-end Title I program evaluation results to all parents.
10. Invite parents to and include parents in Title I program review team meetings.
11. Notify parents regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teachers.

**Regulation 1621**  
**Page 2**

### **Title I Staff Qualifications**

#### Teachers

Title I teachers hired after the first day of school for 2002-2003 must meet the following qualifications:

1. Have obtained full state certification as a teacher.
2. Hold at least a bachelor's degree.

3. Elementary teachers - have demonstrated subject knowledge and teaching skills in reading, writing, mathematics and other areas of the basic elementary school curriculum.

4. Secondary teachers - have demonstrated a high level of competency in each of the academic subjects that they teach.

Title I teachers hired prior to 2002-2003 must meet the same qualifications by the end of 2005-2006.

### Paraprofessionals

Title I paraprofessionals hired after January 8, 2002, must have a secondary school diploma or a GED and meet one of the following qualifications:

1. Completed at least two (2) years of study at an institution of higher education, or
2. Obtained an associate's (or higher) degree, or
3. Have demonstrated knowledge of, and the ability to assist in instructing reading readiness, writing readiness and mathematics readiness, as appropriate.

Title I paraprofessionals hired prior to January 8, 2002, must meet the above qualifications by January 8, 2006. Exceptions to these qualifications would apply to those Title I paraprofessionals who primarily serve as translators or whose duties consist solely of conducting parental involvement activities.

### **Title I Building Level Responsibilities**

Each Title I building administrator will invite all parents to attend their school's program planning meetings, school review and improvement meetings.

### **Regulation 1621**

#### **Page 3**

Title I teachers will provide parents with quarterly written reports on the progress of their children, so that parents can know the extent to which they are learning. Teachers will be available for individual conferences at the regularly scheduled District Parent/Teacher Conference dates and at other times by appointment through each building office. Meeting times will take into account the need to accommodate a variety of parent work schedules.

Through these reports and conferences, Title I teachers will provide parents with the results of evaluations of student progress. These evaluations will include, but will not be limited to, test results, measurements of homework turned in, homework completed, student attitudes and student behavior.

Each Title I school will:

1. Design and sponsor activities to address the needs of children which are unmet due to the absence of one parent.
2. Design types of parent involvement that do not involve being at school, such as helping teachers by assembling materials at home for use in classroom activities.
3. Offer opportunities and materials for parents to participate in classroom activities.

### **Parent Notification of Teacher Qualifications**

At the beginning of each school year, the District will notify the parents of each student attending any school receiving Title I funds that they may request information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, the following:

1. Whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
3. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications; and
4. What baccalaureate degree major and any other graduate certification or degree is held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

**Regulation 1621**  
**Page 4**

In addition to the information that parents may request, the District will provide to each individual parent:

1. Information on achievement level of the parent's child in each of the state academic assessments as required under this part; and
2. Timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not highly qualified.

Requests by parents for this information must be provided in a timely manner.

### **Title I Grievance Procedure**

This grievance procedure applies to all complaints regarding District operations under all programs authorized under the Federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) including Title I, Title

II, Title III, Title IV (Part A), Title V, Title VI, Title VII and Title IX (Part C).

A formal complaint may be filed by parents, member of the public, teachers, or other District employees. Complaints must be in writing; must be signed by the complainant; and must include facts, including documentary evidence that supports the complaint and the specific requirement, statute, or regulation alleged to have been violated.

All complaints must be filed with the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee and will be addressed in a prompt and courteous manner.

1. The District will notify the Commission of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the complaint.
2. The District will investigate and process the complaint within thirty (30) days of receipt of the complaint.
3. The complaint findings and resolutions will be disseminated to all parties and to the Board of Education.
4. If dissatisfied with the District's determination, complainant may appeal to DESE within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the District's determination.

Central R-3 School District - West Elementary  
403 W. Fite St.  
Park Hills, MO 63601  
573-431-2616 ext. 2

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Mrs. Laurie Huff  
Principal

Mrs. Tracy Stam  
Assistant Principal

NOTIFICATION OF TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Central R-3 School District is required to inform you of certain information that you, according to the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-95), have the right to know.

Upon your request, our district is required to provide to you, in a timely manner, the following information:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.
- What baccalaureate degree major the teacher has and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification.

In addition to the information that you may request, the District will provide to you individually:

- Information on the achievement level of your child in each of the state academic assessments as required under this part; and
- Timely notice that your child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

## Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Notice for Directory Information

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that the Central R-3 School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Central R-3 School District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Central R-3 School District to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for physical education activities, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

If you do not want the Central R-3 School District to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by August 26, 2022. Central R-3 School District has designated the following information as directory information: [Note: an LEA may, but does not have to, include all the information listed below.]

- |                          |                                  |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| -Student's name          | -Participation in officially     |
| -Address                 | recognized activities and sports |
| -Telephone listing       | -Weight and height of members of |
| -Electronic mail address | athletic teams                   |
| -Photograph              | -Degrees, honors, and awards     |
| -Date and place of birth | received                         |
| -Major field of study    | -The most recent educational     |
| -Dates of attendance     | agency or institution attended   |
| -Grade level             |                                  |

## **STUDENTS**

### **Student Educational Records**

#### **FERPA Educational Rights Annual Notification**

Each year the Central R3 School District is required to give notice of the various rights accorded to parents or students pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Parents and students have a right to be notified and informed. In accordance with FERPA, you are notified of the following:

**RIGHT TO INSPECT:** You have the right to review and inspect substantially all of your education records maintained by or at this institution.

**RIGHT TO PREVENT DISCLOSURES:** You have the right to prevent disclosure of education records to third parties with certain limited exceptions. It is the intent of this institution to limit the disclosure of information contained in your education records to those instances when prior written consent has been given to the disclosure, as an item of directory information of which you have not refused to permit disclosure, or under the provisions of FERPA which allow disclosure without prior written consent.

**RIGHT TO REQUEST AMENDMENT:** You have the right to seek to have corrected any parts of an education record which you believe to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of your rights. This right includes the right to a hearing to present evidence that the record should be changed if this institution decides not to alter the education records according to your request.

**RIGHT TO COMPLAIN TO FERPA OFFICE:** You have the right to file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D. C., 20202-4605, concerning the Central R3 School District's failure to comply with FERPA.

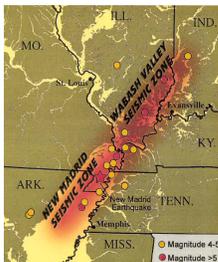
**RIGHT TO OBTAIN POLICY:** You have the right to obtain a copy of the written policy adopted by the Board of Education of the Central R3 School District in compliance with FERPA. A copy may be obtained in person or by mail from: Dr. Ashley McMillian, Superintendent, 200 High Street Park Hills, MO 63601, 573-431-2616.

## Earthquake Safety for Missouri's Schools

**The New Madrid Seismic Zone Extends 120 Miles Southward** from the area of Charleston, Missouri, and Cairo, Illinois, through New Madrid and Caruthersville, following Interstate 55 to Blytheville and on down to Marked Tree, Arkansas. The NMSZ consists of a series of large, ancient faults that are buried beneath thick, soft sediments. These faults cross five state lines and cross the Mississippi River in three places and the Ohio River in two places.

**The New Madrid Seismic Zone and surrounding region is Active, Averaging More than 200 Measured Events per Year** (Magnitude 1.0 or greater), about 20 per month. Tremors large enough to be felt (Magnitude 2.5 – 3.0) are noted every year. The fault releases a shock of 4.0 or more, capable of local minor damage, about every 18 months. Magnitudes of 5.0 or greater occur about once per decade. They can cause significant damage and be felt in several states.

**The Highest Earthquake Risk in the United States** outside the West Coast is in the New Madrid Seismic Zone. Damaging temblors are not as frequent as in California, but when they do occur, the destruction covers over more than 20 times the area due to the nature of geologic materials in the region. The 1968 5.5 magnitude Dale, Illinois earthquake toppled chimneys and caused damage to unreinforced masonry in the St. Louis area, more than 100 miles from the epicenter. A 5.2 magnitude earthquake in April 2008 in southeast Illinois, did not cause damage in Missouri, but was felt across much of the state.



**A Damaging Earthquake in this Area**, which experts say is about a 6.0 magnitude event, occurs about once every 80 years (the last one in 1895 was centered near Charleston, Missouri). There is estimated to be a 25-40% chance for a magnitude 6.0 – 7.5 or greater earthquake along the New Madrid Seismic Zone in a 50-year period according to the U.S. Geological Survey reports. The results would be serious damage to un-reinforced masonry buildings and other structures from Memphis to St. Louis. We are certainly overdue for this type of earthquake!

**A Major Earthquake in this Area - the Great New Madrid Earthquake of 1811-12** was actually a series of over 2000 shocks in five months, with several quakes believed to be a 7.0 Magnitude or higher. Eighteen of these rang church bells on the Eastern seaboard. The very land itself was destroyed in the Missouri Bootheel, making it unfit even for farming for many years. It was the largest release of seismic energy east of the Rocky Mountains in the history of the U.S. and was several times larger than the San Francisco quake of 1906.

**When Will Another Great Earthquake the Size of Those in 1811-12 Happen?** Several lines of research suggest that the catastrophic upheavals like those in 1811-12 visit the New Madrid region every 500-600 years. Hence, emergency planners, engineers, and seismologists do not expect a repeat of the intensity of the 1811-12 series for at least 100 years or more. However, even though the chance is remote, experts estimate the chances for a repeat earthquake of similar magnitude to the 1811-1812 New Madrid earthquakes over a 50-year period to be a 7 - 10% probability.

**What Can We Do to Protect Ourselves?** Education, planning, proper building construction, and preparedness are proven means to minimize earthquake losses, deaths, and injuries.

### Prepare a Home Earthquake Plan

- Choose a safe place in every room--under a sturdy table or desk or against an inside wall where nothing can fall on you. Practice DROP, COVER AND HOLD ON at least twice a year. Drop under a sturdy desk or table, hold onto the desk or table with one hand, and protect the back of the head with the other hand. If there's no table or desk nearby, kneel on the floor against an interior wall away from windows,

bookcases, or tall furniture that could fall on you and protect the back of your head with one hand and your face with the other arm.

- Choose an out-of-town family contact.
- Take a first aid class from your local Red Cross chapter. Keep your training current.
- Get training in how to use a fire extinguisher from your local fire department.
- Inform babysitters and caregivers of your plan.

### **Eliminate Hazards**

- Consult a professional to find out additional ways you can protect your home, such as bolting the house to its foundation and other structural mitigation techniques.
- Bolt bookcases, china cabinets and other tall furniture to wall studs.
- Install strong latches on cupboards.
- Strap the water heater to wall studs.

### **Prepare a Disaster Supplies Kit for Home and Car**

- First aid kit and essential medications.
- Canned food and can opener.
- At least three gallons of water per person.
- Protective clothing, rainwear, and bedding or sleeping bags.
- Battery-powered radio, flashlight, and extra batteries.
- Special items for infant, elderly, or disabled family members.
- Written instructions for how to turn off gas, electricity, and water if authorities advise you to do so. (Remember, you'll need a professional to turn natural gas service back on.)
- Keeping essentials, such as a flashlight and sturdy shoes, by your bedside.

### **Know What to Do When the Shaking BEGINS**

- DROP, COVER AND HOLD ON! Move only a few steps to a nearby safe place. Stay indoors until the shaking stops and you're sure it's safe to exit. Stay away from windows.
- In a high-rise building, expect the fire alarms and sprinklers to go off during a quake.
- If you are in bed, hold on and stay there, protecting your head with a pillow.
- If you are outdoors, find a clear spot away from buildings, trees, and power lines. Drop to the ground.
- If you are in a car, slow down and drive to a clear place (as described above). Stay in the car until the shaking stops.

### **Know What to Do AFTER the Shaking Stops**

- Check yourself for injuries. Protect yourself from further danger by putting on long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, sturdy shoes, and work gloves.
- Check others for injuries. Give first aid for serious injuries.
- Look for and extinguish small fires. Eliminate fire hazards. Turn off the gas if you smell gas or think it is leaking. (Remember, only a professional should turn it back on.)
- Listen to the radio for instructions
- Expect aftershocks. Each time you feel one, DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON!
- Inspect your home for damage. Get everyone out if your home is unsafe.
- Use the telephone only to report life-threatening emergencies.

*The information contained in the flier was extracted from the American Red Cross website [http://www.redcross.org/services/prepare/0.1082.0\\_241\\_00.html](http://www.redcross.org/services/prepare/0.1082.0_241_00.html), Missouri State Emergency Management Agency website (<http://sema.dps.mo.gov/EQ.htm>) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency website (<http://www.fema.gov/hazard/earthquake>). This flier could be distributed by school districts to each student annually to satisfy the requirements of RSMo 160.455*

**West Elementary School  
403 W. Fite St  
Park Hills, MO 63601  
573-431-2616 ext. 2**

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Mrs. Laurie Huff  
Principal

Mrs. Tracy Stam  
Assistant Principal

Dear Parents:

Please take some time to review and discuss this handbook with your child. Changes have been made to the handbook and it is important that you read carefully to acquaint yourself with those changes. After reviewing this handbook, please sign below and return this letter to school with your child.

Thank you for your continued support. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Laurie Huff  
Principal

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\_\_\_\_\_ My child and I have read and understand the contents of the Student/Parent Handbook including the discipline policy of West Elementary for the 2021-2022 school year.

\_\_\_\_\_ I give permission to Central R-3 to transport my child by school bus within the confines of the district (i.e. music practice at the high school). I understand I will be updated when trips are scheduled.

\_\_\_\_\_ I give permission for photographs of my child associated with activities at West Elementary to be published in newspapers, shown in the media, posted on the District Website &/or District Facebook page, scoreboard at the High School, or published in our yearbook or any other educational and news magazines or related publications that deal with public education issues.

\_\_\_\_\_ I **DO NOT** give permission for photographs of my child associated with activities at West Elementary to be published in newspapers, shown in the media, posted on the District Website &/or District Facebook page, scoreboard at the High School, or published in our yearbook or any other educational and news magazines or related publications that deal with public education issues.

\*\*\*\*\* The Central R-III District Informational Packet for the 2021-2022 School Year is provided as an electronic copy by visiting [www.centralr3.org](http://www.centralr3.org). Students and parents are responsible for all information contained. A paper copy is available and may be requested in the main office.

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Parent Signature

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Date

Student Name

Teacher's Name