Carlisle Area School District

Elementary Student Code of Conduct & Handbook



2023-2024

www.carlisleschools.org

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We would like to take this opportunity to welcome new and returning families to the Carlisle Area School District. We are looking forward to partnering with you in our efforts to provide your child with a quality educational experience.

The contents of this handbook will provide you with basic information about our elementary program. We would ask that you review the contents of this handbook with your child and refer to it often throughout the school year as we believe that it will answer many of the questions that you may have, particularly among our new families.

We firmly believe that parents or guardians are the first and most important teachers. You have the strongest and most permanent influence on your child's life. Again, we are looking forward to working with you as we embark on the new school year.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate at any time to contact the principal or administrator of your child's school.

Jeff Bell, Principal Bellaire Elementary School

Aaron Carmichael, Principal Crestview Elementary School

Rebecca Mintiens, Assistant Principal Crestview Elementary School

Todd Kilmer, Principal Hamilton Elementary School

Virginia Lopez, Assistant Principal Bellaire and Hamilton Elementary Schools Kyle Slusser, Principal Mooreland Elementary School

Molli Davis, Principal Mt. Holly Springs Elementary School

Brian Gochenour, Principal North Dickinson Elementary School

Barb Wohlgemuth, Principal LeTort Elementary School

ABSENCE/ATTENDANCE (Board Policy #204)

Good school attendance is essential to academic success. While education is a right, attendance is a responsibility. Minors are compelled to attend school until they are eighteen years old.

Absences from school are excusable if they are due to illness, quarantine, or exceptionally urgent reasons that affect the student. Written excuses, including emails, stating the reason for each absence must be presented to the school's grade level office/attendance secretary within three days of the student's return from the absence. Failure to present notes within this time frame will cause the absence to be declared unexcused.

By 8:30 a.m., parents should telephone the school office to report their child's absence from school. In addition, the school district policy for absences states that parents shall furnish an explanation for the absence of a child. A maximum three (3) school day grace period will be permitted for presentation of written explanation for the absence after which time, if no note is presented, the absence shall be recorded as unlawful. The mere fact that a parent has sent a written excuse does not mean the absence is excused. An absence becomes excused when the responsible school official classifies it as such. By law, students are required to attend school every day that school is in session. Only the following excuses constitute legal absences: illness, death in the family, impassable roads, quarantine, emergency medical/dental attention, authorized religious holiday, pre-arranged absences, and "exceptionally urgent reasons."

Pre-arranged absence for educational purposes: Participation in events and other family activities may be excused if they are <u>prearranged</u> and the student travels with an identified adult. Students may be excused for a total of five days. Prearranged Absence Forms are available on the District website or in each school office. The request must be returned to the school office at least one day prior to the absence for permission to be granted. To obtain your children's schoolwork for the trip, parents must complete and return the form to school at least FIVE days prior to absence. Each child has a maximum of five days that can be approved for educational trips.

Medical Excuses: A medical excuse will be required if students miss 15% of the current school year, or have an excessive history of absences. A letter will be sent to the parents explaining this requirement. If a medical excuse is required and not provided, the absences will be marked as unlawful/unexcused. Students may also be medically excused by the school nurse.

Tardiness - Prompt arrival at school is expected of all students. Students who arrive late to school without a note signed by a parent or guardian will be considered tardy- unexcused or unlawful. Excessive tardiness is considered an unexcused absence and may result in disciplinary action.

Unlawful: All other absences will be considered unlawful. Parents will be issued a first notice when their child accrues three unlawful days of absence. Parents may be fined in accordance with the law for each additional unlawful absence.

The following are reasons for unlawful absence under the provisions of the PA School Code. This list is not intended to be a comprehensive list of absences which are unlawful or unexcused.

- failure to submit a written note/excuse within three (3) days of the absence (see Excuses)
- truancy
- missing the school bus or a ride to school
- trips not approved in advance (according to the pre-arranged guidelines)
- birthdays, anniversaries, or other celebrations
- overslept or slept in

- babysitting or translating
- weather conditions not recognized by the District as reason for school delay or cancellation

For more information, go to www.carlisleschools.org/attendance

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL TIMES

Students are <u>not</u> permitted to enter the building until 8:15 a.m., unless they have the permission of the building principal. All students must be in their classrooms by 8:35 a.m.

8:15 - 8:35 a.m. Students arrive and report to classrooms. School begins. Late arrivals are tardy. Dismissal.

3:30 p.m. Dismissal.

Parents who walk to school to pick up their children at dismissal time are asked to wait outside the school to prevent congestion in the building. We ask that parents who drive to school to pick up their children park in the designated parking locations. Also, please note: There is no smoking or pets permitted on school grounds.

BOOKS, SUPPLIES and TECHNOLOGY

All necessary texts, supplementary books, school supplies and digital tablets/iPads are furnished by the school district. Students are responsible for all books, supplies and technology in their possession. If a student loses or destroys such school resources, the cost of the item must be reimbursed to the school.

CHANGE OF BUILDING REQUEST

Any parent/guardian requesting a change in his/her child's building assignment must do so preceding the new school year. Parents who move within the CASD to a new location during the school year and who wish to remain at their current school may apply at the time of the move.

All requests must be made in writing to the Director of Elementary Operations. Forms are available in all school offices and on the district website.

All requests will be evaluated on the basis of the student's behavior and attendance at the current school and the class size in the receiving school. Transportation will be the responsibility of the parent. The parent/guardian will be notified in writing as to the outcome of his/her request.

CHILD NUTRITIONAL SERVICES

Free and Reduced Meal Benefits: Families suffering financial hardships can apply for free milk benefits for kindergarten children, free breakfast benefits and free and reduced price lunches for their children. Information about this program is available at www.carlisleschools.org/FreeandReduced. Any new families or families whose financial situations change during the year can receive information about the program by contacting or your building principal, secretary, nurse, or counselor.

Breakfast: Students may purchase a school breakfast. Students are not permitted to bring a breakfast from home.

Lunches: Students may bring their lunch from home or purchase a school lunch. If a student brings a lunch from home, he/she may not bring soda or glass containers.

Students who wish to purchase a school lunch have two choices: a hot lunch, which changes daily and is established on a monthly schedule, and a cold lunch that follows a weekly menu.

The hot lunch menu is sent home prior to the beginning of each month. All lunches are posted on the monthly menu and available on the district website.

Parents/Guardians may visit the school to have lunch with their child(ren). If a parent/guardian plans to eat lunch at school, they should notify the school of their intention to do so no later than 10:00 a.m. on the day of the visit. Parents/Guardians will be charged the adult price for their meal, which is \$4.20. A parent/guardian may choose to bring in outside food for their student only, but may not provide outside food to other students during the lunch period.

SchoolCafe: Through School *Cafe*, parents have the ability to view their child's cafeteria activity (dates of meals purchased) and a secure online prepayment service to deposit money into a child's school meal account. By having money in each child's account prior to entering the cafeteria, we find the lunch lines move along much faster so your child has more time to eat and be with friends.

Go to www.carlisleschools.org/SchoolCafe to create a username and password and your student(s).

- If you have more than one child in the District you can handle all online prepayments from the same online account.
- You can make deposits to multiple students in your account with one transaction.
- You can setup automatic low balance e-mail notifications for the students enrolled in the program
- Payments may be made through most major credit and debit cards.
- Auto-pay options are available

If you choose not to take advantage of the online prepayment service you may continue to make advance meal payments via check, which should be made payable to "CASD Food Service". Please write your child's full name and ID number on the check.

CHILDCARE

ChildTime provides supervised activities for children of working parents, both before and after school. There is a fee for this program. For further information, please call 717-243-8315 or visit their website at https://www.ctsac.com.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Classroom management is the responsibility of the classroom teacher. Each classroom teacher will establish guidelines for appropriate behavior and will organize instruction to minimize disruptions. However, when disruptions occur, the teacher will respond as necessary to insure the educational rights of all.

While each administrator will establish the building's procedures for dealing with student disruption. The following are possible disciplinary actions: loss of recess, lunch detention, after school detention, In School Suspension, Out of School Suspension and recommended assignment of alternate program.

CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS

Information received in confidence from a student may be revealed to the student's parents, the principal or other appropriate authority where the health, welfare or safety of the student or other person is clearly in jeopardy.

DIRECTORY, MEDIA and PUBLICATIONS

The District will provide directory information to other educational institutions and others with a legitimate education or public interest in compliance with State and Federal laws.

The following is considered directory information by the Carlisle Area School District:

- student's name
- student's photo
- address
- telephone listing
- date and place of birth
- participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- awards received
- most recent previous educational agency or institutional attended by the student

There are times when local media and/or school staff may publish photos or information about school or district-wide events on a website, social media platform, or other publication. Parents who do not want their student's name or photo to be exposed to media or District publications must submit a written request, each school year, to their student's principal and contact the principal to ensure that the request was received.

DRESS CODE (Board Policy #221)

Board policy states that pupils shall conform to the rules of the schools and be clean in person and dress. Although hair styles and styles of clothing are matters of individual taste, building administrators may impose restrictions when grooming and/or attire cause a disruption of the educational process, create disorder, constitute a health/safety hazard or are immodest in any respect.

The dress policy is an effort to improve the educational setting and school environment which will contribute to greater student success in the classroom.

With this aim in mind, the following limitations shall apply:

- Athletic sweatbands are not allowed.
- bandanas are not to be worn or displayed.
- Only prescription sunglasses may be worn in the building.
- Chains, spiked collars, spiked wrist bands or spikes of any kind are not to be worn.
- Low cut tops that expose cleavage will not be allowed.
- Shirts and tops with low cut backs are not to be worn.
- Spaghetti straps, midriff tops, tube tops, tank tops, transparent, or revealing clothing that expose personal body parts or attract undue attention are not allowed.
- The stomach area must be covered at all times.
- Pants must be worn at the waist. Sagging is not permitted.
- Underwear (boxers, thongs, panties, bra straps) may not be visible.
- Spandex (ex. running or biking shorts) is not allowed.
- Shorts and skirts must be of a modest length. Short shorts and skirts that do not reach tips of finger tips when arms are extended at the waist are not to be worn.
- Clothing with pictures or slogans that depict the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and weapons is not allowed.

- Clothing with pictures or slogans with sexual connotations, or that is degrading to any group on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, etc. is not allowed.
- Shoes are to be worn at all times. Bedroom slippers are not allowed.
- Sleepwear is not permitted.

When in doubt cover up!

Any student in violation of dress policy is to be sent to the office immediately for appropriate disciplinary action to be determined by the building administration.

The administration reserves the right to amend these guidelines when the circumstances of dress interfere with safety of students or cause a disruption of the educational setting. This action will include offering a change of clothing to acceptable wear.

FIRST OFFENSE

- 1) Change of clothing to acceptable wear
- 2) Review dress code with student
- 3) Parent notification
- 4) Written warning

SECOND OFFENSE

- 1) Change of clothing to acceptable wear
- 2) Review dress code with student
- 3) Parent notification

THIRD OFFENSE

- 1) Change of clothing to acceptable wear
- 2) Review of dress code with student
- 3) Parent notification

FOURTH OFFENSE

- 1) Change of clothing to acceptable wear
- 2) Review of dress code with student
- 3) Parent notification
- 4) One-half day In-School Suspension

FIFTH OFFENSE

- 1) Change of clothing to acceptable wear
- 2) Review of dress code with student
- 3) Parent notification
- 4) One day In-School Suspension

SIXTH OFFENSE

- 1) Change of clothing to acceptable wear
- 2) Review of dress code with student
- 3) Parent notification
- 4) Two days In-School Suspension

SEVENTH OFFENSE

- 1) Change of clothing to acceptable wear
- 2) Review of dress code with student
- 3) Parent conference scheduled
- 4) Out-of-School Suspension

DRUGS, ALCOHOL, PARAPHERNALIA AND LOOK-ALIKES

The Carlisle Area School District recognizes that substance abuse is one of society's greatest problems. Since the school is an integral part of society, substance abuse must be addressed.

Suspected cases of substance abuse will be considered medical emergencies. The well-being of the student will be primary. However, when students abuse substances or possess, sell or distribute drugs, alcohol, paraphernalia or look-alikes, they are violating school rules and, in most cases, breaking state laws. These students will be excluded from school and referred to the appropriate legal authorities.

It is the responsibility of every member of the school community to assist in providing a drug-free environment so that our students may best address their true purpose for attending school --to learn, mature, and prepare for adulthood. The complete Carlisle Drug, Alcohol, Paraphernalia and Look-Alike Policy is located at www.carlisleschools.org/AnnualNotices

ELECTRONIC DEVICES (Board Policy #237)

Student use of headphones, radios, tape/CD/iPODS, MP3 players, DVD players, handheld game consoles, cellular phones, beepers/pagers, laser pointers/pens, and other digital devices, unless supplied by the District, are prohibited in the school buildings. Any of these items found on students, may be confiscated by school officials. The school assumes no responsibility for this equipment.

ELEMENTARY STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – eSAP (Board Policy #236)

The Pennsylvania Elementary Student Assistance Program (eSAP) is a systematic team process at the elementary level used to mobilize school resources to remove barriers to learning. eSAP is designed to assist in identifying issues including alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and mental health issues which pose a barrier to a student's success.

Each elementary school in the District has identified a team of individuals to serve on an eSAP Team. All team members have been trained by qualified, trained specialists through *Compass Mark* and are certified to serve on their school's eSAP Team.

Any and all individuals at each elementary school can refer a student to the eSAP Team to help eliminate issues that pose a barrier to a student's success at school.

Once a referral is made, the eSAP Team determines whether the referral warrants further supports identified through the eSAP process or whether other school-based supports are necessary.

If the eSAP Team determines the referral warrants further supports and interventions identified through the eSAP process, families are notified and request for permission to begin the process is initiated. Families reserve the right to deny participation in the eSAP process at any time and can revoke participation if so desired. eSAP can only occur with family and parental support and permission.

Once permission has been received, the eSAP team identifies and determines appropriate supports and interventions to aide in a student's success and well-being at school. The ultimate goal of eSAP is to eliminate barriers that hinder a student's success at school.

The eSAP Team will continue to assess each student case and make modifications and recommendations as appropriate and when necessary. When a student has shown that he or she has overcome the obstacles identified in the initial referral and is demonstrating success at school, the eSAP Team can make the determination to close the case, as which time parents and guardians will be notified. Cases may last

longer than one school year, but parent permission must be received at the start of every school year to continue with the eSAP process.

All eSAP files will remain on file at each elementary school until a student transitions to middle school or the eSAP Team determines that a student's file is no longer educationally useful, as specified by the Carlisle Area School District *Records Retention Policy*.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act can help provide school stability for families that do not have a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and are:

- Doubled-up and staying with friends or family due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- Living in a shelter, including transitional programs
- Staying in a hotel/motel or campground because they cannot get their own home
- Living on the streets, in a vehicle, tent or other nonpermanent structure, abandoned building, or bus/train station

Students experiencing homelessness have several rights, including:

- Staying in the same school, even if they move; and receiving transportation to that school, as long as it is in the student's best interest
- Enrolling in school immediately without the documents schools usually require
- Receiving free school meals
- Getting help with school supplies and other needs including medical, dental and mental health services
- Extra support for youth who are on their own (unaccompanied youth)

Carlisle Area School District's homeless liaison, Sandy Seaux, works with students and families to ensure all needs are met and students have support to succeed in school. She is available for information and assistance, and may be reached at seauxs@carlisleschools.org.

For more information please visit the Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homeless website for Region 3 at http://ecyeh.wikispaces.com/.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Emergency information must be completed for each child; families will complete this information online through the PowerSchool Parent portal. It should be filled out as accurately and as completely as possible because in the event of an emergency it will be used to contact the parent or the person designated as the emergency contact. We ask you to list local persons to be called in case neither parent can be reached. Please list only local residents who will be available. **Do not list people who live in Harrisburg, Shippensburg, etc.**

Address and Telephone Number Changes - In the event that your home or work address or telephone number changes during the school year, please notify the school either in writing or by phone. Also, notify the school of any changes involving emergency contact persons. It is important that our records are accurate, especially during an emergency situation.

<u>Emergency Early Dismissal Form</u> - Occasionally an emergency arises when it is necessary for the District to dismiss students at an earlier time than the regular dismissal time. In the event of an emergency early dismissal, we need to know whether to send your child home or to a neighbor's home. The information on the form will help insure your child's safety in the event of an emergency early dismissal. This form will be kept on file at the school.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. This privilege may be taken away as the result of misbehavior in the general school community or misbehavior while involved in extracurricular activity. Unless it is clear that the health, safety or welfare of the school community is threatened, students will be advised of the reason for disciplinary action and given an opportunity to respond before the privilege of extracurricular participation is withdrawn.

Students who are suspended out-of-school may not participate in extracurricular activities and/or sports. This rule also applies to students who are absent from school.

FIELD TRIPS

If your student is in attendance at school on the day of a field trip, they are expected to and will participate in the field trip. The only exceptions to be considered are religious exemptions per School Board Policy #105.2: Exemptions from Instruction.

In the event a student has committed numerous disciplinary offenses, permission to go on a field trip may be revoked or a parent may be required to accompany his/her child on the trip. In either case, the parent will be notified in advance. All school rules apply on all field trips.

FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Board Policy #807)

It is the responsibility of every citizen to show proper respect for his/her country and its flag. Students who refrain from saluting the flag due to personal belief or religious convictions must respect the rights and interest of classmates who wish to participate.

FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (FID)

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) approved the use of Flexible Instruction Days (FID) as an alternate form of instruction in place of a day otherwise cancelled due to inclement weather or District emergency. PDE will count this as a full day of school. The District has been approved to use up to a maximum of five (5) FID for this school year. The FID will be held on the day of the District closure.

Notification: All decisions related to weather closures and/or the use of FID will be communicated to you via the notification system for school closures and schedule changes.

Assignments: Students will be provided with assignments using standard, online platforms used throughout the year; Seesaw (grades K - 5) or Schoology (grades 6 - 12). Students are expected to complete assignments for all classes that would normally meet on the FID as this would count as a typical school day. Younger students or students with accommodations may require support from an adult.

Work Completion: Recognizing that students may face other circumstances or a lack of Internet connection on a day of inclement weather, students will have three days beyond the FID to complete all assignments. Students that do not complete the assignments within three days for the designated FID will not receive credit for work

due.

Attendance: Students will be noted as absent for that day following the District's attendance policy.

Teacher and Staff Availability: Your child's teacher(s) will be available for assistance via email from 9 am - 12 pm and 1 pm - 3 pm during the FID. Your school's principal, counselor and nurse will also be available on a FID via email.

The District believes that using a Flexible Instructional Day will allow students and teachers to continue the learning process while responding to a weather closure in an efficient manner. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your school principal or visit www.carlisleschools.org/FID for more information and FAQ.

GRADING

Students will be measured and evaluated using a standards-based report card. A standards-based report card focuses on growth of skills over time. Evidence such as teacher observations, student work, formal assessments and informal assessments, will be reviewed and students will be evaluated using rubrics in Language Arts. Evidence in mathematics is collected through teacher observations, student work, formal assessments and informal. This standards-based report card model features the following report criteria:

E: Exceeds the Standard:

The student exceeds proficiency in essential skills and concepts by demonstrating an in-depth, higher level expectation. An E is available for specific language arts and math skills as indicated by an *. In mathematics, students earning an E have exceeded expectations for that skill.

M: Meeting the Standard:

The student demonstrates proficiency in essential skills and concepts. Performance is characterized by the ability to apply this knowledge with accuracy, independence, and quality.

P: Progress Toward the Standard:

The student is developing an understanding of essential skills and concepts, but has not yet met the standard. Performance is characterized by varied consistency, independence, and quality.

I: Intensive Progress Needed to Meet the Standard:

The student has not yet begun to demonstrate an understanding of essential skills and concepts. The student is making minimal progress towards meeting the standard at this time. Considerable teacher support and guidance is needed.

NT: Not Taught This Marking Period:

Further information can be found by contacting your child's teacher and/or going to the building website.

HARASSMENT/BULLYING/CYBERBULLYING (Board Policy #248 and #249)

Harassment and bullying of students by other students, school officials, and volunteers who have direct contact with students will not be tolerated in the school district. Therefore, harassment, bullying, hazing, or any other victimization based on real or perceived race, sex, creed, color, national origin, religion, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, physical appearance, and/or personality characteristics are prohibited.

This provision is in effect while students are on school property; while on school-owned and/or school-operated vehicles; while attending or engaged in school sponsored activities; and while on

their way to school or on their way home from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district. Bullying, as defined in the School Board Policy, includes cyberbullying. If after an investigation students are found to be in violation of these provisions, students shall be disciplined by measures up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Harassment as set forth above may include but is not limited to the following behavior/overt acts and or circumstances.

- Verbal, nonverbal, physical or written harassment, bullying, hazing, or other victimization that have the purpose or effect of causing injury, discomfort, fear, or suffering to the victim;
- Repeated remarks of a demeaning nature that have the purpose or effect of causing injury, discomfort, fear, or suffering of the victim.
- Implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, achievements, property, etc. that have the purpose or effect of causing injury, discomfort, fear, or suffering to the victim;
- Demeaning jokes, stories, or activities directed at the student that have the purpose or effect of causing injury, discomfort, fear, or suffering to the victim; and/or
- Unreasonable interference with a student's performance or creation of an intimidating, offensive or hostile learning environment.

Sexual harassment means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to the conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of the student's education or benefits;
- Submission to or rejection of the conduct by a school employee is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that student; or
- The conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with the student's academic performance by creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive education environment.

In situations between students and school officials, faculty, staff, or volunteers who have direct contact with students, bullying and harassment may also include the following behaviors:

- Requiring that students submit to bullying or harassment by other students, either explicitly or implicitly, as a term or condition of the targeted student's education or participation in school programs or activities; and/or
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by students is used as a basis for decisions affecting the students.

Retaliation against students because the students have filed a bullying or harassment complaint or assisted or participated in harassment investigation or proceeding is also prohibited. Students who knowingly file false harassment complaints or give false statements in an investigation shall be subject to discipline by measures up to and including suspension and expulsion, as shall any students who are found to have retaliated against others in violation of this policy.

School officials will promptly and reasonably investigate allegations of harassment. The building principal will be responsible for handling all complaints by students alleging harassment, conducting the investigation, and following through with the results.

HEALTH SERVICES

The school health program is designed to maintain, improve, and promote the health of every school child. The school nurse is responsible for supervising the physical well-being of the students. She provides routine health care and immediate first aid in case of accident or illness. The school nurse keeps a health record on each student and evaluates the health status of the students through a variety of means including screening. It is important for parents to inform the

school nurse of any significant health problems or surgery occurring before or during the school year.

Children are weighed and measured each year to note growth and development. Body Mass Index (BMI) is calculated on all students and parents are notified via email. If parents are not interested in receiving this information, they should contact the school nurse. Vision screenings are completed for students in grades K-5 and hearing screenings are completed on students in grades K-3. Private or school dental exams are required by the state in grades K or 1 and 3. Upon school entry, either K or 1, a physical exam is required as well as the following immunizations:

All Students K-5

- 4 doses of tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 4 doses of polio (4th dose on or after the 4th birthday) **
- 2 doses of measles, mumps rubella***
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella vaccine or history of chickenpox disease
 - *Usually given as DTaP or DTP or Td
 - ** 4th dose is not necessary if the 3rd dose was given at age 4 years or older **and** at least 6 months after previous dose
 - ***Usually given as MMR

When a child needs to be sent home due to illness or accident, the parent will be called to come and get the child. In the event that a parent cannot be reached, an individual whose name appears on the electronic Emergency Form will be notified. Therefore, it is important to provide the school with up to date information regarding phone numbers, baby sitters, etc.

All medication will be administered by a Registered Nurse (RN). All medication will be recorded in a medication log after it is given.

Prescription Medication:

- 1. All prescriptions must be in a prescription bottle with a current date and the name of the student.
- 2. A written order from the physician and the signed medication permission form from the parent/guardian must accompany the medication.
- 3. Medication that is to be given 3 times a day may be given before school, after school, and at bedtime. Therefore, this medication should not be brought to school.
- 4. Only the doses to be given at school should be brought to school. For a long-term medication, a 4-week supply may be brought to school. The district requests that parents of elementary students bring the medication to school.
- 5. Students may carry prescription inhalers under some circumstances. This decision is made on an individual basis with the parent and school nurse.

Non-Prescription Medication: Parents may send a non-prescription medication to school with their child provided it is kept in the nurse's office and is accompanied by a note from the parent requesting that it be given. The medication must be in its original container or packaging. **NO UNLABELED TABLETS IN ENVELOPES OR BAGGIES WILL BE GIVEN.**

Parental permission is given to the school nurse to give the student acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen (Motrin), cough drops, or an antacid by signing the electronic Emergency Form which is issued every August or upon registration.

Communicable Diseases: The Pennsylvania Department of Health requires that children be immunized prior to admission to school for the first time. Non-compliance with said regulation could result in exclusion from school. Parents, please be aware of the state regulations pertaining to school attendance when a child has developed one of the common communicable diseases.

School authorities shall exclude from school any child suspected to be suffering from any one of the diseases mentioned below. The child showing symptoms of any one of these diseases should be taken to a doctor. If the illness is confirmed, the child shall be restricted to his own premises and not permitted to attend school during the interval specified. Likewise, any parent or guardian with the mentioned diseases will not be permitted to visit the school.

Disease: Chicken Pox

Excused from school: Until scabbed over or when skin is dry

Readmitted: School nurse inspection

Disease: Measles Excused from school: Acute stage

Readmitted: School nurse inspection or family doctor

Disease: German Measles

Excused from school: Acute stage

Readmitted: School nurse inspection or family doctor

Disease: Mumps
Excused from school: Acute stage

Readmitted: School nurse inspection or family doctor

Disease: Ringworm

Excused from school: Unless under treatment and covered Readmitted: Written statement from private physician

Disease: Scarlet Fever and streptococcal infection of the

upper respiratory tract

Excused from school: Until specific therapy has been started and

family doctor recommends return

Readmitted: School nurse inspection

Disease: Impetigo, Conjunctivitis, Scabies

Excused from school: Until in non-contagious state

Readmitted: When has received limited treatment and doctor

recommendation

Disease: Whooping Cough

Excused from school: 4 weeks, unless recommended by family doctor

Readmitted: School nurse inspection

In addition, any child who is **SUSPECTED** to be suffering from infectious diseases with a temperature of 100.4 or greater shall be excluded from attending school. Students should not

return to school, until fever free for 24 hours, without the use of fever reducing medications such as Tylenol or Motrin. Also, children with stomach upset, should remain at home, free of vomiting, for a period of 24 hours, before returning to school.

HOMEWORK

Homework assignments are designed to supplement and reinforce the learning that takes place at school. Homework should:

- Promote good study habits.
- Develop a sense of responsibility and independence.
- Help the child master skills.
- Enhance and stimulate the child's creativity.
- Encourage the child to learn new things.
- Reinforce understanding of what has been taught.
- Inform parents what is being taught.

The amount and type of homework assigned by teachers will vary by class and even by student. A "suggested" guide for determining the total amount of time to be given to nightly assignments for all subject areas is 10 minutes times the grade level. Depending on the course load the student is carrying, the amount of time devoted to nightly homework may vary slightly.

Homework Responsibilities for Students: The major responsibility of the student is the completion of homework assignments within the specified time period and demonstrating the student's best effort.

Homework - How Parents Can Help: Parents may best assist their children with homework by providing an atmosphere in the home that is conducive to study. The quality of concentration on an assignment is as important as allowing sufficient time for its completion. Students need to learn early in their school experience that the completion of quality work is important and is to be expected. Parents' support and encouragement are essential if students are to put forth maximum effort in the completion of homework assignment.

Other considerations for parents are:

- 1. Require your child to read a minimum of 15 minutes per night.
- 2. Check if the assigned work is done neatly and accurately.
- 3. Help your child with homework assignments at his/her request, but never do the work for him/her.
- 4. Encourage the child to inform the teacher if he/she does not understand skills or concepts.
- 5. Send a note to your child's teacher if an emergency prevents the successful completion of homework.
- 6. Share your interests in reading, writing, learning or special interests with your child so that he/she knows that you value learning.

INSURANCE

The school district does not carry insurance on students and assumes no financial responsibility for routine student injuries. Parents/Guardians should strongly consider providing appropriate insurance coverage for cost of injuries during school through private insurance.

Please Note: ALL injuries occurring on school property must be reported to the teacher and school nurse at once. This is absolutely necessary for your insurance coverage to be effective.

MISBEHAVIOR AND RESPONSES

Each building administrator will establish a building conduct code to deal with the variety of misconduct observed at the level. The range of responses the building administrator may utilize includes but is not limited to the following:

- A. verbal reprimand
- B. special assignments
- C. withdrawal of privileges (recess, assemblies, parties, field trips, etc.)
- D. notification and conference with parents
- E. requirement to apologize to abused/aggrieved parties
- F. detention
- G. assignment to time-out rooms
- H. counseling
- I. temporary removal from class
- J. requirement to repair, clean or make restitution of property or damage
- K. in-school suspension (1 to 10 days)
- L. out-of-school suspension (1 to 10 days)
- M. prosecution through law enforcement agencies
- N. recommendation of expulsion

Depending on the circumstances and nature of the student's misbehavior, the administrator may select any response(s) deemed appropriate and necessary.

OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

A student shall be considered in attendance and subject to all school rules and policies when engaged in field trips, sporting events/practices (either as a participant or a spectator), social activities sponsored by the school or its groups or when traveling to and from school (i.e., at bus stops, etc.).

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

The parent/teacher organizations are actively involved in helping promote student achievement and school improvement projects. Each year the PTO sponsors fund raising projects. With the help of all parents, these projects can be very successful. Also, there are many other opportunities for parents to become involved with the PTO.

PARTY INVITATIONS

Many hurt feelings have been encountered when students issue party invitations at school. To prevent this, invitations are NOT allowed to be delivered at school. Please arrange to have invitations issued outside the school setting.

PICTURES

Individual pictures of students are taken yearly. Parents are under no obligation to purchase pictures. The school receives a small percentage of the total picture sale money that is deposited in the PTO treasury.

POLICE INVOLVEMENT

The District employs their own school police who work with local law enforcement agencies. In general, misbehavior which is deemed a police matter outside school will be viewed a police matter if it occurs in our schools.

The police will be notified in all cases of the following:

- A. Possession or sales of controlled substances (to include alcohol and pills).
- B. Defiant trespass Students on out-of-school suspension are not permitted on school property. They will be arrested if they return illicitly.
- C. Theft or extortion.
- D. Assaults on students or school personnel.
- E. Vandalism, tampering with signaling device or other physical threat to the school.

- F. Weapons (as specified by Act 26 of 1995: Amended June of 1997), to include look-a-likes.
- G. Fighting (disorderly conduct) charges may be filed.
- H. Failure to promptly report a situation that may constitute danger to other students, including, but not limited to, the possession by another student of a weapon, which term includes any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shot gun, rifle, any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.

The local police may be notified for use of controlled substances or other offenses deemed appropriate by the building administrators and school security officers.

POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL

Parents/guardians are required to complete registration forms for new students and complete returning student forms for each continuing year. Questions about your account can be directed to your school office.

RECESS GUIDELINES

All students are given recess each day unless daily recess schedules are changed to accommodate school or class curriculum needs. Decisions to have outside recess depend upon temperature, rain, and other weather factors. Always dress your child for outside recess. Only students with written medical excuses from parents will be allowed to remain in the building during scheduled outside recess. Students may miss recess in order to complete unfinished schoolwork or for disciplinary reasons.

REPORT CARDS AND PARENT CONFERENCES

In order to keep you informed of your child's progress in school, standards based report cards are issued three times during the school year. Report cards will be issued electronically for all three marking periods. Conferences allow for interaction between the parents and the teacher in an effort to help your child develop to the fullest extent possible. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend the conferences.

If at any time during the school year parents would like to confer with a teacher concerning the progress and welfare of their child, arrangements should be made with the teacher. These conferences will be held at the mutual convenience of parents and the teacher.

On occasion teachers or other school authorities might find it necessary and desirable to ask parents to come to the school for a conference concerning their child. In this case the school personnel requesting the conference will contact parents by phone or letter.

RETENTION

When students experience difficulty, parents will be informed and invited to participate in Child Study Team meetings. The Child Study Team process will be utilized to identify and document specific areas of concern and it will be used to develop interventions to assist the student. Possible reasons for retention include poor academic achievement, lack of skill mastery, and lack of progress in the curriculum. Every effort will be made to remediate student difficulties before retention is recommended.

- I. The principal will ensure that teachers have an understanding of the standards-based report card, assessment results, and the retention process.
- II. Teachers will explain the standards-based report card to parents at the first Back-To-School Event.

- III. At the first parent conference, the teacher should:
- explain the student's report card
- explain the reporting criteria on the standards-based report card
- review the student's assessment results
- explain the student's reading level and math abilities
- IV. If a student experiences difficulty at any point beyond the first trimester, the teacher will initiate the Child Study Team process. During this process the educational team collaborates with parents to assist the student. The Child Study Team exists as a tool to identify and document specific areas of concern, develop interventions to assist the student, and monitor the effectiveness of these interventions. Parents will receive a copy of the Child Study Team notes. Every effort will be made to remediate student difficulties before retention in recommended.
- V. Possible reasons for retention include:
- poor academic achievement, in general
- lack of skill mastery and progress in the curriculum

Note: immaturity is never a sole reason for retention.

- VII. After consultation with the educational team, the principal will make the final recommendation concerning student retention.
- VIII. If parents do not accept the recommendation by the building principal, they may appeal this decision to the Assistant Superintendent by June 30.
- IX. If the building principal recommends a child for retention who had been recommended the previous year but promoted because of the parent's request, the retention will be final with no appeal.

ROLLERBLADES AND SKATEBOARDS

Rollerblades and skateboards are not permitted on school property.

RULES FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC EVENTS

We would appreciate parents reminding their children about these rules before they attend any school district sports events.

- 1. Loitering/standing along the fence at the stadium or other areas will not be permitted.
- 2. All students must be seated except for appropriate times.
- 3. All school rules apply at any athletic event. (Parents: Due to state law, this includes the prohibition of smoking.)
- 4. Signs and artificial noisemakers (bells, sirens, whistles, etc.) are not permitted.
- 5. If necessary, students will be prohibited from attending sports events for one year or while enrolled in the Carlisle Schools.
- 6. Students in grades K-8 must be accompanied by a paying adult/season pass holder for all winter athletic events.

It is important that parents provide supervision for younger children. Parents should explain the athletic rules to older children. These rules have been established for the safety of everyone.

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION (Board Policy #810)

School Bus Transportation is a privilege that may be withdrawn for inappropriate behavior. The normal rules of conduct are applicable to our students while on our buses. School buses are considered district property and therefore, the rules concerning actions or behavior must also be obeyed.

All students must abide by the following rules:

- 1. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before approaching it. Students are required to arrive at the stop location **five (5) minutes** before the scheduled pick-up time.
- 2. Students must remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- 3. Food, drink and chewing gum are not permitted on the bus.
- 4. Refrain from tampering with the bus or its equipment, charges for damages will be submitted to parents.
- 5. Do not extend hands, arms, legs or any body parts out of the bus windows.
- 6. Refrain from using profane language or obscene gestures. (In the event this occurs, charges may be filed for disorderly conduct.)
- 7. Refrain from throwing items inside or outside of the bus.
- 8. Refrain from distracting the driver by loud talking or disorderly behavior.
- 9. The possession of tobacco products and/or weapons is strictly prohibited.
- 10. Pets and animals are not permitted on school buses.

The bus is seen as an extension of the classroom and the bus driver should be listened to and treated with the same respect as expected in the classroom. The bus driver submits misconduct notices to make administrators and parents aware of problems. All school buses in the district are equipped for the use of video cameras, which are used to monitor student behavior. In the event misconduct occurs, disciplinary actions may take effect. Certain offenses (fighting, refusing to obey driver) may result in immediate and indefinite suspension of riding privilege.

All students are required to ride their assigned bus to and from their assigned stop. Bus drivers will require a <u>SCHOOL BUS PASS</u> for students to change buses or stop locations. Changes are made for emergency reasons only, and will not be honored for sleepovers, get togethers, sports events, etc. Parents of students requiring an emergency change should send a note to the school principal/secretary. If students need to ride another student's bus, a note from <u>both</u> student's parents must be presented to the school principal.

In the event that a student becomes disruptive at the end of the school day or ill during the school day, the student will not be permitted to travel on the school bus. For a sick child the motion of the bus and the higher temperatures that occur may aggravate the student's condition and result in more severe actions, vomiting, etc. A bus driver has limited options when this occurs, such as return to school or continue on his/her run. In most cases this not only places the ill student at risk (choking), it may jeopardize other students who are in a relatively small confined area and may come in contact with exposed bodily fluids. In either case, school staff will contact the parents/guardians in order to make other arrangements for the student's transportation.

SCHOOL PARTIES and BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

The PTO sponsors three classroom parties each year. In addition, school events are scheduled throughout the year. The school calendar and newsletter will publish the dates of these events.

Please do not arrange to have birthday celebrations at school. Flowers, gifts, balloons, etc. are not permitted to be brought to school for students. Pre-packaged/store-bought birthday treats may be given to the entire class during snack time. Birthday treats may NOT be distributed during lunch time.

SEARCHES (Board Policy #226)

School officials do have the right to conduct searches for contraband when there is <u>reasonable suspicion</u>. School officials reserve the right to utilize surveillance equipment on busses, district buildings and to ensure the safety of all students. During the time that students are under the jurisdiction of the school, surveillance equipment may be used to monitor their behavior.

STANDARDIZED TESTING PROGRAM

The district-wide testing program is designed to provide pertinent information concerning the proficiency of students in the district on standardized tests of academic achievement and aptitude. During the school year, students will participate in a variety of local assessments and selected grades will participate in state assessments. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Michael R. Gogoj, Assistant Superintendent, at gogojm@carlisleschools.org or 717-240-6800 x 16806.

TECHNOLOGY USE (Board Policy #815)

Computers, tablet devices, and a variety of network resources are available for student use to support instruction and student learning. Students and parents should reference the guidelines at http://www.carlisleschools.org/aup.

TELEPHONE CALLS

Students who want to use the phone must have permission from a staff member. Emergency calls may be made from the office.

VISITORS and VOLUNTEERS/CHAPERONES (Board Policy #907)

Visitors: All visitors are to report to the office as they enter the building. Visitors must bring a state issue ID to access the building. Visitors must secure a visitor's pass and are required to wear the visitors pass on their person. No student visitors will be permitted to be in the building during the school day.

Guidelines for Parent Classroom Visits: The District encourages classroom visitation by parents/guardians to enhance and support the success of instruction for each child. Parents/Guardians requesting to visit the classroom to observe specific academic instruction will need to have the building principal's approval prior to the visit. Therefore, they should provide the principal with twenty-four hours' notice and a statement regarding the purpose of the visit. The decision to permit classroom visits is entirely up to the building principal based upon the purpose of the request.

This stipulation is necessary for the protection of all students and the instructional program because many children in the classroom setting receive special services (ELL, Special Education, Speech, etc.) during the school day to accommodate their individual academic needs, and this information is confidential. Due to FERPA (federal law), requests will be closely monitored to ensure the safety and confidentiality of our student population along with their individual programming needs. Upon receiving permission to visit/observe classroom instruction, the follow criteria must be followed:

- Sign in at the main office to receive a visitor's pass (name tag). You will be escorted to the classroom.
- Refrain from distracting (engaging the attention of) the teacher or students through conversation or other means during your visit.

- Do not record data that is considered confidential about how <u>other</u> children are learning or the services they are receiving.
- Remain inconspicuous and non-disruptive at all times.

Please note that:

- Classroom visits are limited to only one class period (elementary will be defined by the principal) during the school day.
- The main purpose of classroom visits is for individual parents or guardians to gather information on their child to facilitate student learning and classroom success.

When leaving the classroom, please return to the main office to sign out and return your name badge. If you have any questions concerning your visit, please share them with the building principal.

Volunteers/Chaperones: Volunteers are parents and other interested adults who volunteer their time to help the school. Parents interested in working as volunteer aides should call the school office. Due to concerns for student welfare and safety the district does reserve the right to select and limit the number of volunteers. Volunteers are required to submit clearances and TB test results to the school **prior** to volunteering. More information can be found at http://www.carlisleschools.org/volunteer.

The issue of authority and responsibility for discipline on school buses during field trips should be clearly expressed to chaperones/professional staff prior to the field trip. The school district has established guidelines which outline these responsibilities.

- Each school bus involved on a field trip must be accompanied by at least one professional staff member employed by the school district.
- All parent chaperones must provide their updated clearances to the school district.
- When sufficient chaperones are available on the school bus, they should position themselves in the front, middle and rear locations of the bus. Throughout the trip, the chaperones should periodically move up and down the aisles of the bus to make sure that students have not changed seats or that no inappropriate behavior is occurring. This should occur when the bus is stopped.
- It is the responsibility of the professional staff member to maintain student behavior and discipline students when necessary.
- All rules concerning school bus transportation are in effect during field trips.
- In the event that the school bus driver becomes concerned with the student behavior or decorum he or she will report to the professional staff member in charge. The professional staff member should take action to correct the situation immediately.

Note: Chaperones should be reminded that field trips remove the school bus driver from their normal travel environment. For that reason, it is imperative that a driver's attention be devoted to traffic and road conditions which occur during the field trip.

Please review clearance process, guidelines, and application for volunteers/chaperons at www.carlisleschools.org/volunteer.

WALKERS

Students walking to school need to obey the pedestrian safety and adult crossing guards. Students must walk to school on sidewalks and along safe routes. They are not permitted to walk in alleys, on the streets, on railroad tracks, through yards, parking lots, etc. Children who need to cross railroad tracks need to be especially careful.

WEAPONS (Board Policy #218.1)

The Board of Directors wishes to bring to the attention of all persons entering this school certain sections of Act 26 of 1995 (amended 1997) as enacted by the Pennsylvania State Legislature. A weapon for the purposes of this section shall include, but not be limited to, any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nun-chuk stick, firearm, shotgun, rifle, look-alike and any tool, instrument, or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily harm.

A person commits a misdemeanor of the first degree if he/she possesses a weapon in the building, on the grounds, or in any conveyance providing transportation to or from any elementary or secondary publicly funded educational institution, any elementary or secondary private school licensed by the Department of Education, or any elementary or secondary parochial school.

Any person carrying a weapon or look-alike weapon on school property (as described by this act) may be liable to prosecution by the law enforcement agency and will be suspended from the school by the Carlisle Area School District.

WEATHER EMERGENCY

In case of severe weather conditions, the superintendent will decide:

- 1. to cancel school for the entire day
- 2. to move to a virtual day (See Flexible Instruction Day)
- 3. to dismiss school earlier than usual
- 4. to begin school later than usual
- 5. to hold school sessions as usual

In the event of school closings, virtual days, early dismissals or late starts, an announcement will be made through the District's notification system and website.

Parents are urged not to call the schools for such information. In the event that a school bus does not arrive, students are required to wait for 25 minutes after the scheduled pickup before returning home.

Notification System (School Messenger): The District has implemented a parent notification system designed to provide you with important information in an efficient and timely manner via your phone number, text/SMS, and/or email account.

The district will only notify you when there is a situation that will require you to take action regarding your child. Examples which constitute notification include delayed starts, early dismissals, school cancellations, move to a virtual learning format, and school attendance. Notifications will be made between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 9 p.m.

One of our greatest challenges to maintaining an effective and efficient system is the maintenance of accurate parent information. The notification system will use the phone number/e-mail address initially given us for your student. Should your information change you may call or email the school with the changes. It is extremely important that you notify the school anytime the notification information changes. All families must register their children in InfoSnap which is our district's online registration system.

WITHDRAWALS & TRANSFERS

The school laws of Pennsylvania require that students reside within the boundaries of the school district which they are attending, except for circumstances when tuition is paid. When parents move they should supply the school with their new address. If their child is going to withdraw

from the school, the school needs to be given the exact date of withdrawal and the name and address of the new school their child will be attending.

If a student moves within the Carlisle Area School District, the school should be promptly notified of the new address and transfer assignments will be made. Requests to remain in the same school for a specific period of time can be made to the Assistant Superintendent.

APPENDIX A: Vision, Mission and Believe Statements

VISION

"Empowering Every Learner"

MISSION STATEMENT

The Carlisle Area School District is committed to providing all students with educational and leadership opportunities to meet the challenge of personal responsibility, enabling them to become contributing members of our diverse society. The district will excel in student achievement, community engagement, and financial stewardship.

BELIEF STATEMENTS

- **Student Achievement:** All students will have the opportunity to achieve academic excellence in order to become life-long, responsible and resourceful learners who think critically and creatively, communicate effectively and collaborate in a global world.
- **Professional Learning Community:** Highly qualified, innovative and compassionate staff will be committed to life-long learning and professional growth in order to meet the individual learning needs of all students in a safe and supportive environment.
- Academic and Extra-Curricular Programs: A diverse, challenging and academically rigorous instructional program will meet the college and career readiness goals of all students. Extra-curricular programs will provide opportunities for students to develop leadership, interpersonal and team-building skills.
- **Student Services:** A wide range of support services will be provided to students in order to meet their academic, emotional and social needs.
- **Diversity:** Each student will have an educational experience that values and accepts diversity as an integral part of a global society.

Community Engagement: Partnerships with the community will allow our students to engage in service learning experiences and career opportunities, will provide increased access to community services and resources, and allow members of the community to participate in a variety of educational opportunities.

Financial Stewardship: Resources and financial assets will be managed in a fiscally responsible manner that supports and enhances the academic, extra-curricular and support services in order to meet the needs of every student.

APPENDIX B: Annual Notices for Parents and Guardians

Please refer to <u>www.carlisleschools.org/AnnualNotices</u> to review important information regarding the topics listed below. If you have trouble accessing the website, or would like a printed copy, please see your building principal for detailed information.

ADA Grievance Procedure

Asbestos Notification

Bullying/Cyberbullying

Code of Conduct – Handbooks

Code of Conduct – Discipline

Drugs, Alcohol, Paraphernalia, and Look-Alikes

Hearing Rights (Suspensions and Expulsions)

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Suspensions and Expulsions

Child Nutrition: Free and Reduced Meals

CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program)

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA): Limited English Proficiency Program

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA): Title I Parent Involvement

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Health Screening Program

McKinney Vento Homeless Act

Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability

Equity and Non-Discrimination Statement/Title IX/Section 504

Pesticide Application Notice

Protection of Pupil Rights (PPRA) for Student Rights/Surveys

Racial, Ethnic, Religious Statement

Special Education Services and Programs, Services for Gifted Students, and Services for Protected

Handicapped Students

Terroristic Threats/Acts