2023-2024 Vick Elementary

Parent/Student Handbook



Pushing Forward with Panther Pride

Ms. Annette Faison, Principal Mr. David Lott, Assistant Principal Mrs. Lisa Ellis, Secretary/Bookkeeper

> 504 North Carroll Street Wilson, NC 27893 252-399-7886 fax # 252-399-7873

Find us on Facebook or visit our Website at www.wilsonschoolsnc.net, click on Schools and then select Vick Elementary





WELCOME

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Vick Elementary! We are thrilled to have all our students back on campus and are eagerly anticipating the amazing things we will accomplish together.

This year, we have chosen a theme that reflects our commitment to molding outstanding individuals and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. Our theme for the 23-24 school year is "Under Construction: Building Leaders and Learners." Just like a construction site, our classrooms and school community are buzzing with activity and potential. We are excited to watch our students transform into confident leaders and brilliant learners. At Vick Elementary, we strongly believe that every student has unique talents and strengths waiting to be discovered. With the right support and guidance, we can help each student construct a solid foundation upon which they can build a successful future. We are committed to providing a nurturing environment that encourages creative thinking, academic excellence, and personal growth.

Just like the different stages of construction, we understand that learning is a process that involves steady growth and continuous effort. Our dedicated and passionate educators will create engaging lessons that not only challenge students intellectually but also ignite their curiosity and inspire a lifelong love for learning.

We are confident that with your support, we can create an enriching and empowering experience for all our students. As we embark on this journey together, we encourage you to actively participate in your child's education. We value the partnership between parents, students, and our school community, and believe that open communication and collaboration are essential for fostering success. We are genuinely excited about the endless possibilities that this year holds. Together, let's build a thriving community of leaders and learners. Here's to a fantastic school year "Under Construction"!

With Panther Pride,

Annelle Faison

Annette Faison, Principal





Vick Elementary

Mascot: Panthers Colors: Blue & White

Vision Statement

Vick Elementary School staff members are committed to the maximum academic and social growth of every student. The classroom learning environments are designed to engage students in rigorous activities that provide access to the curriculum by meeting their individual needs. The students at Vick are supported by administrators, school coaches, teachers, and parents who work together to ensure that they each experience learning led by people who believe in their future.

Mission Statement

Our mission for Vick Elementary School is to create an environment where every child is special; every child has a sense of belonging; every child is expected to achieve success; every effort is made to involve parents and the community in supporting student learning and development.

Motto

Pushing Forward With Panther Pride

23-24 School Theme

Under Construction: Building Leaders and Learners





School Calendar

Mark your calendar for the following dates. Our parent workshops, grade level performances, progress reports, and report card dates are included. Other dates and events may be added during the school year. An updated calendar of events will be sent home every month.

Important Dates To Remember!!!

Wednesday, August 16 First Day For Staff

Thursday, August 24 Open House 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Monday, August 28 First Day of School Monday, September 4 Holiday (Labor Day)

Wednesday, September 13 Annual Title I Night/Panther Expectation Night

6 - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, September 19 Candy Man Fundraiser Begins

Monday, September 25 Progress Reports

Monday, October 2 Custodian Appreciation Day
Tuesday, October 3 Candy Man Fundraiser Ends

Friday, October 20 Fall Picture Day/Nine Weeks Ends

Monday, October 23 Optional Teacher Workday
Tuesday, October 24 Red Ribbon Week Begins

Monday, October 30 Panther "BOY" Check-In/Report Card Pickup

4 - 6:00 pm

Tuesday, October 31 Red Ribbon Week Ends/Halloween

Friday, November 10 Holiday (Veterans Day)

Tuesday, November 21 Candy Man Main Event – 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Wed, Nov. 22- Fri. Nov. 24 Fall Break (Thanksgiving)

Monday, November 27 Progress Reports
Wednesday, November 29 Fall Picture Retakes

Thursday, December 21 Early Release Day/Nine Weeks Ends

Friday, December 22 Winter Break Begins
Wednesday, January 3 Optional Workday
Thursday, January 4 Mandatory Workday
Friday, January 5 Mandatory Workday

Monday, January 8

New Semester Begins/Report Cards
Thursday, January 11

Panther "MOY" Check-In 4 – 6 pm
Holiday (Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Monday, February 5 Counselor Week Begins

Thursday, February 8 Progress Reports



Tuesday, April 18

2023-2024 Parent/Student Handbook



Friday, February 9 Counselor Week Ends Monday, February 19 Optional Workday

Thursday, February 22 School Bus Driver Appreciation Day Monday, March 4 School Social Worker Week Begins Tuesday, March 5 Mandatory Teacher Workday Friday, March 8 School Social Worker Week Ends

Friday, March 15 Nine Weeks Ends Thursday, March 21 Report Cards

Friday, March 29

Monday, April 1

Friday, April 5

Holiday (Good Friday)

Spring Break Begins

Spring Break Ends

Monday, April 8 Assistant Principal Week Begins

Thursday, April 11 School Librarian Day

Friday, April 12 DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) Day

Assistant Principal Week Ends STEM Night 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Wednesday, April 24 Administrative Professionals Day

Tuesday, April 30 Progress Reports

Wednesday, May 1 Panther "EOY" Check-In/Art Show 4 – 6:00 pm

Principal's Day

Thursday, May 2 School Lunch Hero Day
Friday, May 3 Optional Teacher Workday

Monday, May 6 Teacher Appreciation Week Begins

Wednesday, May 8 School Nurses Day

Friday, May 10 Teacher Appreciation Week Ends
Tuesday, May 15 Rising Panther Night 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Monday, May 27 Holiday (Memorial Day)

Wednesday, June 5 Last Day of School/Early Release (1:00 pm)

Thursday, June 6 Mandatory Teacher Workday
Friday, June 7 Mandatory Teacher Workday
Monday, June 10 Mandatory Teacher Workday
Tuesday, June 11 Mandatory Teacher Workday

Monday, June 17 Report Card Pick Up





WILSON COUNTY SCHOOLS - 2023/2024 TRADITIONAL CALENDAR

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2023-2024

Elementary Schools Progress Reports & Report Card Schedule

1st Nine Weeks

Progress Reports: September 25, 2023 **Report Cards Go Home:** October 30, 2023 (Report Card Pickup)

2nd Nine Weeks

Progress Reports: November 27, 2023 **Report Cards Go Home:** January 8, 2024

3rd Nine Weeks

Progress Reports: February 8, 2024 **Report Cards Go Home:** March 21, 2024

4th Nine Weeks

Progress Reports: April 30, 2024 **Report Cards Go Home:** June 17, 2024

WCS Testing Calendar

Reminders will be sent out to parents about upcoming test throughout the year.

2023-2024 Testing Calendar





Vick Elementary School Title I Parent Engagement Policy 2023-2024

Vick Elementary is dedicated to the success of our students. We believe students receive the best education when parents and school staff work together. Ultimately, parent involvement is essential to helping our students be their best!

The administrative team at Vick Elementary is committed to working collaboratively with teachers, parents, and guardians to actively support the staff, the VES PTO, and the parents to enhance parent involvement by:

- Respecting parents as partners in the education of their children and honoring their role as first and life-long teachers
- Setting high expectations for excellent parent relations
- Expecting high student achievement for all students
- Promoting parent involvement in site-based leadership and decision making
- Fostering a welcoming and responsive environment for all parents
- Establishing and promoting communication as a source of trust and understanding between the Vick staff and parents

At Vick Elementary, we expect parents/guardians to be involved in their children's learning and education by:

- Taking the initiative to seek the best educational opportunities for their children
- Respecting the teachers and supporting the Vick Elementary staff as partners in the education of their children
- Utilizing two-way communication between parents and the Vick Elementary staff on the instruction, achievement and conduct of their children
- Participating in site-based leadership and decision making
- Participating in opportunities to volunteer or be actively engaged in appointed school activities

Opportunities for Parent Engagement

Administrators at Vick Elementary will facilitate parent involvement by providing a variety of opportunities for parents to be informed, communicating with the staff, and participating actively in the education of their children. Parents of Vick Elementary students have the opportunity to stay informed and communicate with the staff through the following resources:

- Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook
- School/Parent Compacts
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- School Website
- Teachers' Websites
- Teachers' Emails
- School Messenger Phone System
- School Marquee
- Virtual Meetings
- Administrative Conferences/Meetings





The parents and staff of Vick Elementary have opportunities to interact by attending:

- Open House
- Curriculum Nights
- Book Fairs
- Music Programs
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- PTO Meetings and Events
- Celebrations/Awards Day Ceremonies
- STEM Nights

The parents of Vick Elementary students are invited to become directly involved in daily school activities by participating in:

- PTO
- Field Trips
- Appointed Parent Engagement Activities
- Wednesday Folders

Parent input is valued at Vick Elementary. Parents have the opportunity to contribute to the decision making process at our school through:

- Parent Surveys
- PTO/School Improvement Team Parent Representative







Vick Elementary School Title I Compact 2023-2024

Student As a STUDENT, I will be	Parent As a PARENT, I will be responsible	Teacher As a TEACHER, I will be responsible
 Attending School Regularly. Coming to class on time and being prepared to work. Actively participating in all aspects of my education. Respecting the rights of others to learn without distraction and disruption. Showing respect and cooperating with all adults in the school. Completing all assignments to the best of my ability, and Spending time at home daily studying or reading. 	 Ensuring that my child attends school regularly and on time. Providing a home environment that encourages my child to learn. Actively participating in the parent meetings and parent night events Collaborating closely with classroom teachers to ensure student success. Providing regular time at home for working with my child on school-related activities, and Helping my child to meet his or her responsibilities. 	 Coming to class prepared to teach. Helping each student achieve his/her goals. Providing an environment conducive to learning. Allowing students to be successful through the use of many engaging instructional experiences Maintaining communication on an ongoing basis through student progress reports, classroom/school newsletters, and parent meetings, and Supplying clear updates of student progress and achievement to both student an parents.



"Things to Know"

ARRIVAL TIME:

The building opens at 7:30 am daily. Our instructional day is from 8:00 to 3:00. Students should not arrive before 7:30 am.

Vick staff members are on duty beginning at 7:30 am to supervise students who must be dropped off before 8:00 am. The tardy bell rings at 8:00 am. Students must be in their classroom before 8:00 each morning to avoid receiving a tardy.

Our teachers are using their early time at school to prepare for the day. Please give them that time, **uninterrupted**. Only Vick staff will be permitted in the building before 7:30 unless you have a scheduled conference with them.

ATTENDANCE:

Students will be expected to participate daily in instruction activities and sessions. Attendance will be recorded.

- School opens at 7:30 a.m.
 - Breakfast is served from 7:30 -8:00. Students will eat breakfast in the classroom.
- Tardy bell rings at 8:00 a.m.
 - Please have car riders dropped off by 7:55 a.m. to give them enough time to walk to class before the tardy bell rings.
- Early Checkout ends at 2:30 p.m.
- School dismisses at 3:00 p.m.

All students are expected to attend school daily unless they are ill. A written note explaining the absence is required when the child returns to school. Students who accumulate repeated tardies (6 tardies or more) or 6 unexcused absences may be asked to provide evidence of a doctor's appt. or other medical reasons for being absent, tardy, or leaving early. For excessive absences/tardies/early pick-ups, the problem may be turned over to the counselor and/or school's social worker. The counselor and/or social worker will be asked to investigate and help the child/family develop a plan to get the child to school on time or a plan to ensure the student remains in school for the entire instructional day.

ACCIDENTS:

Parents will be notified of accidents that need medical or immediate attention. You should be certain that the school ALWAYS has a current contact phone number and address for you in the Scribs system. Also, emergency contact information must be provided in case we are unable to reach you.





ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Student addresses and phone numbers should always be kept up-to-date. Notices from the school/teacher will be mailed to the address on file at the school. Unless you notify us of any changes or update the information in Scribs, what we have on file is what we use for mailing. Please update in Scribs your latest contact information or call the front office with this information. These numbers should allow the office/teacher to contact you between the hours of 7:30 am and 3:30 pm.

Messages, notes, papers to be signed, and progress reports delivered by the student from the school or messages deleted from answering machines causing a parent not to receive a message is a matter between the parent and child – not to be handled by the school, but by the parent. In some cases, the parent/guardian may be required to attend a parent conference before the student may return to school. Information will be given to the legal guardian where legal guardianship is provided. If one parent does not live within the Vick School district, messages will be delivered to the address that provides the student the right to attend Vick. In the case of joint custody, messages will be sent to the parent with whom the child will spend the night's lodging.

BEHAVIOR and DISCIPLINE: Policy Code: 4300 Code of Student Conduct

Students at Vick Elementary will be expected to learn and follow the Behavioral Expectations established to ensure that instruction and proper behavior in both the school and classroom are in keeping with our school mission statement.

At Vick Elementary School, we use **P**ositive **B**ehavioral **I**nterventions and **S**upports (PBIS) to help students learn behavioral expectations. We call it "Panthers PAWS" to Success!

- 1) Give your **P**ersonal Best in our learning community;
- 2) Exhibit a positive ATTITUDE toward ourselves and others;
- 3) Make WISE choices both inside and outside of the classroom; and
- 4) Maintain the **S**AFETY of ourselves and others at all times.

The Vick Elementary Behavioral Expectations Matrix is posted throughout the school and in each classroom. Please take the time to review these expectations with your child both before the first day of school and periodically throughout the school year. A reward system will be established to encourage students to maintain proper decorum in the classroom, the cafeteria, restrooms, the playground, and the hallways. Consequences will be given to students who fail to follow school and behavioral expectations. Consequences include but are not limited to warnings, phone calls home, parent conferences, time out, office referrals, and if necessary, suspensions.



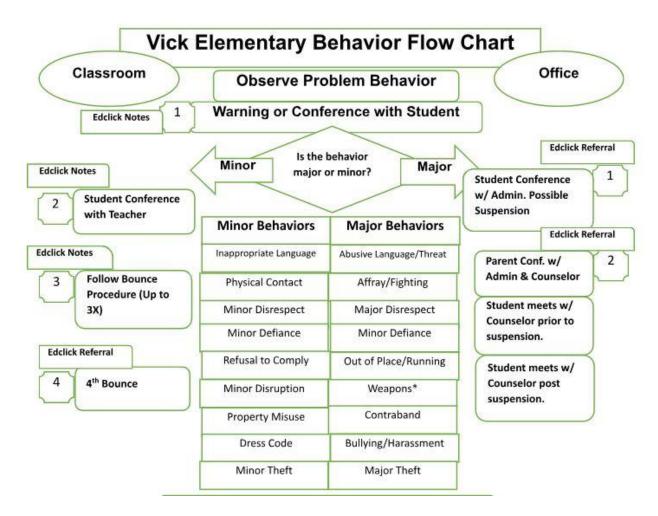


Vick Elementary Behavioral Expectations Matrix

Panthers	Classroom	Cafeteria	Restroom	Playground	Hallway	Buses
P Personal Best	Stay on task. Be prepared. Be responsible.	Get all needed food and other items the first time through the line. Be quiet in line.	Return to class promptly. Clean up after yourself.	Take care of equipment.	Be respectful of others. Lines straight.	Be respectful of school property.
A Attitude	Be courteous and respectful.	Use good table manners. Clean up after yourself.	Respect the privacy of others.	Be fair, take turns, and share. Be friendly.	Always display your panther pride.	Be respectful of others, including the bus driver.
W Wise Choices	Raise your hand to speak. Follow hand signals. Use time wisely.	Eat first, and then talk. Follow hand signals.	Go. Flush. Wash. Exit. Use toilet correctly. Follow hand signals.	Follow all hand signals quickly.	Walk on the right side of the hallway. Remain silent. Follow hand signals.	Follow all bus rules. Follow hand signals. Remain seated at all times.
S Safety	Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself. Follow directions. Use appropriate volume.	Use inside voices. Remain seated in your seat until you are dismissed.	Keep restroom clean.	Always stay in your teacher's zone. Walk safely to and from the playground. Report problems and injuries to the nearest adult.	Hands at your side. Walk at all times. All eyes forward. Maintain a single-file line.	Wait for bus to come to a complete stop to load or unload. Watch for bus driver signals. Be silent at all railroad crossings. Use whisper voices while on the bus.







Policy Code: 4300 Code of Student Conduct

All decisions related to student behavior are guided by the board's educational objective to teach responsibility and respect for cultural and ideological differences and by the board's commitment to creating safe, orderly, and inviting schools. Student behavior policies are provided in order to establish (1) expected standards of student behavior; (2) principles to be followed in managing student behavior; (3) consequences for prohibited behavior; and (4) required procedures for addressing misbehavior. Teachers, school-based administrators, parents, and law enforcement will be consulted when existing student behavior policies are revised or new such policies are created.

A. Principles

The reasons for managing student behavior are to (1) create an orderly environment in which students can learn; (2) teach expected standards of behavior; (3) help students learn to accept the consequences of their behavior; and (4) provide students with the opportunity to develop self-control. The following principles apply in managing student behavior.





- 1. Student behavior management strategies will complement other efforts to create a safe, orderly, and inviting environment.
- 2. Positive behavioral interventions will be employed as appropriate to improve student behavior.
- 3. Responsibility, integrity, civility, and other standards of behavior will be integrated into the curriculum.
- 4. Disruptive behavior in the classroom will not be tolerated.
- 5. Consequences for unacceptable behavior will be designed to help a student learn to comply with rules, to be respectful, to accept responsibility for his or her behavior, and to develop self-control.
- 6. Strategies and consequences will be age and developmentally appropriate.

B. Communication of Policies

Board policies related to student behavior are codified mainly in the 4300 series. The superintendent shall incorporate information from such policies into a Code of Student Conduct that notifies students of the behavior expected of them, conduct that may subject them to discipline, and the range of disciplinary measures that may be used by school officials. At the discretion of the superintendent, the Code of Student Conduct may include additional rules needed to implement the board's student behavior policies. To elaborate further on processes for addressing student misbehavior and the use of intervention strategies and consequences, each school will create a student behavior management plan that is consistent with the law, board policies, and the Code of Student Conduct (see policy 4302, School Plan for Management of Student Behavior). The Code of Student Conduct must incorporate by reference any additional student behavior standards, prohibited conduct, or disciplinary measures identified in student behavior management plans developed by individual schools. The Code of Student Conduct must not impose mandatory long-term suspension or expulsion for specific violations unless otherwise provided in state or federal law.

At the beginning of each school year, principals shall make available to each student and parent all of the following: (1) the Code of Student Conduct; (2) any board policies related to behavior that are not part of the Code of Conduct; (3) any related administrative procedures; (4) any additional discipline-related information from the school's student behavior management plan, including behavior standards, prohibited conduct, or disciplinary measures; and (5) any other school rules. This information must be available at other times upon request and must be made available to students enrolling during the school year and their parents.





For the purpose of board policies related to student behavior, all references to "parent" include a parent, a legal guardian, a legal custodian, or another caregiver authorized to enroll a student under policy 4120, Domicile or Residence Requirements.

C. APPLICABILITY

Students must comply with the Code of Student Conduct in the following circumstances:

- 1. while in any school building or on any school premises before, during, or after school hours;
- 2. while on any bus or other vehicle as part of any school activity;
- 3. while waiting at any school bus stop;
- 4. during any school-sponsored activity or extracurricular activity;
- 5. when subject to the authority of school employees; and
- 6. at any other place or time when the student's behavior has or is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, students will not be disciplined for constitutionally protected behavior. School officials are encouraged to consult with senior administrators before regulating student expression that may be protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

D. Consequences for Violations

Violations of the Code of Student Conduct must be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines established in the school's behavior management plan (see policy 4302, School Plan for Management of Student Behavior).

1. Minor Violations

Minor violations of the Code of Student Conduct are those less severe infractions involving a lower degree of dangerousness and harm. Examples of minor violations include the use of inappropriate or disrespectful language, noncompliance with a staff directive, dress code violations, and minor physical





altercations that do not involve a weapon or an injury. Aggravating circumstances, however, may justify treating an otherwise minor violation as a serious violation.

Minor violations of the Code of Student Conduct may result in disciplinary measures or responses up to and including short-term suspension. Further information regarding the procedures for short-term suspensions is provided in policy 4351, Short-Term Suspension. Other disciplinary measures or responses may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. parental involvement, such as conferences;
- b. isolation or time-out for short periods of time;
- c. behavior improvement agreements;
- d. instruction in conflict resolution and anger management;
- e. peer mediation;
- f. individual or small group sessions with the school counselor;
- g. academic intervention;
- h. in-school suspension;
- i. detention before and/or after school or on Saturday;
- j. community service;
- k. exclusion from graduation ceremonies;
- 1. exclusion from extracurricular activities;
- m. suspension from bus privileges; and
- n. placement in an alternative school.





The student's parent is responsible for transportation that may be required to carry out a consequence. With the exception of suspension from bus privileges, if a parent is unable to provide transportation, another consequence will be substituted.

2. Serious Violations

Serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct may result in any of the consequences that may be imposed for minor violations. In addition, serious violations that threaten to substantially disrupt the educational environment may result in long-term suspension, and serious violations that threaten the safety of students, school employees, or school visitors may result in long-term suspension or expulsion. Certain violations involving firearms or explosive devices may result in a 365-day suspension. Further information regarding the standards and procedures for long-term suspensions, 365-day suspensions, and expulsions is provided in policies 4351, Short-Term Suspension, and 4353, Long-Term Suspension, 365-Day Suspension, Expulsion. (See also policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety, for information regarding 365-day suspensions for certain violations involving firearms or explosive devices.)

E. ENFORCEMENT

The superintendent is responsible for supervising the enforcement of the Code of Student Conduct to ensure that school disciplinary policies are uniformly and fairly applied throughout the school system and consistent with students' constitutional rights.

F. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

1. Skipping School/Class

Students are prohibited from leaving school grounds during the instructional day and/or being in an unauthorized area during the school day without prior approval from school personnel.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: Parental notification and student will receive an unexcused absence.
- b. Each Subsequent Offense: Parental notification, student will receive an unexcused absence, and student may be subject to a 2-day suspension. Any violation of this policy shall not result in more than a two-day suspension.





2. Possession, Display, or Use of Tobacco Products

Students are prohibited from using or possessing any tobacco products, including, but not limited to, cigars, cigarettes, e-cigarettes (including vape pens and vaporizers), snuff, chew packets, and smokeless tobacco, in accordance with policy 4320, Tobacco Products – Students.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: Parental notification and the product will be confiscated.
- b. 2nd Offense: Confiscation of the product and may receive up to a 3-day suspension.
- c. 3rd Offense: Confiscation of the product and may receive up to a 5-day suspension.
- d. 4th and Subsequent Offenses: Confiscation of the product and may receive up to a 10-day suspension.

3. Electronic Devices

Students' use of personal technology devices (including, but not limited to, cell phones, tablets, and laptops) must be in accordance with policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use Policy. Students are prohibited from using personal technology devices to engage in misconduct such as bullying or harassment or to maliciously or intentionally disrupt, damage, or destroy school system technological resources or networks (hacking or introducing viruses).

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: Parental notification.
- b. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension.
- c. 3rd Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension only if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

4. **Gambling**

Students are prohibited from participating in any unauthorized games of chance involving money, action, or statement which relies on chances for the monetary advantage of one participant at the expense of others.





Consequences

a. 1st Offense: Parental notification.

b. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension.

c. 3rd or Subsequent Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension only if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

5. Conduct on the School Bus

Students must adhere to the Code of Student Conduct at all times when at bus stops and on school transportation. Failure to follow the directives of the school bus driver and the rules and regulations of school bus safety while at a school bus stop, in the school bus parking lot, or while riding on a school bus or other school vehicle may result in disciplinary consequences for the respective rule violation(s) of the Code of Student Conduct and policy 4315, Disruptive Behavior, as well as the temporary or permanent suspension from the privilege of school transportation services or suspension from school. Parents will be responsible for transportation during suspension from the bus.

Consequences

 a. 1st Offense: Parental notification and counsel with student; may receive up to 3 days off the bus.

b. 2nd Offense: May receive up to 5 days off the bus.

c. 3rd Offense: May receive up to 10 days off the bus.

d. 4th Offense: May receive up to 10 days off the bus or may be suspended from the bus for the remainder of the school year.

6. **Medication**

Students are prohibited from possessing or using any prescription or non-prescription medication except as authorized under policy 6125, Administering Medications to Students and regulation 6125-R, Administering Medications to Students.





Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension.
- b. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 5-day suspension.
- c. 3rd and Subsequent Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension.

7. Disruptive or Obscene Literature and Illustrations

Students are expected to adhere to policy 4315, Disruptive Behavior and are prohibited from possessing or distributing literature or illustrations that are obscene or that significantly disrupt the educational process.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: Confiscation of the item(s) and may receive up to a 3-day suspension.
- b. 2nd Offense: Confiscation of the item(s) and may receive up to a 5-day suspension.
- c. 3rd Offense: Confiscation of the item(s) and may receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension only if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

8. Academic Integrity; Civility

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic integrity and civility set forth in policy 4310, Integrity and Civility. Additionally, students are expected to adhere to policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use.

Consequences

- a. Students may receive a zero on the assignment if the violation pertains to schoolwork and may be recorded on the student's discipline file in the office with the teacher maintaining a record.
- b. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension.
- c. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 5-day suspension.
- d. 3rd Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension only if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more





severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

9. **Disruption**

Students are prohibited from disrupting teaching, the orderly conduct of school activities, or any other lawful function, mission, or process of the school or school system consistent with policy 4315, Disruptive Behavior.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension.
- b. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 5-day suspension.
- c. 3rd Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension only if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

10. Verbal Abuse or Disrespect towards other Students

Students are prohibited from participating in serious or persistent verbal action that prevents an orderly and peaceful learning environment and shall not curse or use vulgar, obscene, or abusive language. Students are to adhere to policy 1710/4021/7230, Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying; policy 1725/4035/7236, Title IX Sexual Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process; and policy 4310, Integrity and Civility.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 3-day suspension.
- b. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 5-day suspension.
- c. 3rd Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension only if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

11. Verbal Abuse or Disrespect toward a Staff Member

Students are prohibited from using any language directed towards a staff member which is disruptive, abusive, or insulting. Students are to adhere to policy 1710/4021/7230, Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying; policy 1725/4035/7236, Title IX Sexual





Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process; and policy 4310, Integrity and Civility.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 5-day suspension.
- b. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension.
- c. 3rd or Subsequent Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension only if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

12. **Dress Code Violations**

Students must dress in a manner that is conducive to learning and are expected to adhere to policy 4316, Student Dress Code.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: Parental notification and counsel with the student where the student will be offered a reasonable opportunity to change; May receive before- or after-school detention for failure to comply after being offered an opportunity to change.

13. Theft

Students are prohibited from stealing or attempting to steal school or private property from staff or students and/or from knowingly being in possession of stolen property in accordance with policy 4330, Theft, Trespass and Damage to Property.

Consequences

All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension or no suspension, if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.



14. Hacking and Unauthorized Computer Access

Students must comply with all state and federal laws and regulations, including policy 3225/4312/7320, Technology Responsible Use, governing access to computers, computer networks, stored data, passwords, and other technology systems and resources. Students are prohibited from hacking, willfully or knowingly attempting to obtain or obtaining unauthorized access, stealing, altering, modifying, destroying, introducing viruses, or otherwise causing harm to school system technological resources and networks.

Consequences

All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension or no suspension, if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

15. Communicating Threats

Students are prohibited from directing toward any other person any language that threatens force, violence, or disruption, or any sign or act that constitutes a threat of force, violence or disruption in accordance with policy 4331, Assaults, Threats, and Harassment and policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension or no suspension, if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

16. **Extortion**

Students are prohibited from attempting to extort money, personal property, or personal services from fellow students by use of implied or stated threats or intimidation.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension or no suspension, if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating





circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

17. Sexual Behavior

Students are prohibited from engaging in behavior, consensual or otherwise, which is lewd, indecent, or of a sexual nature and are expected to behave in accordance with policy 4315, Disruptive Behavior.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension or no suspension, if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

18. **Bullying/Harassment**

Students shall not engage in conduct prohibited by policy 1710/4021/7230, Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension or no suspension, if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

19. **Sexual Harassment**

Students shall not engage in conduct prohibited by policy 1725/4035/7236, Title IX Sexual Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process.

Consequences

a. Students determined to be responsible at the conclusion of the grievance process described in policy 1726/4036/7237, Title IX Sexual Harassment – Grievance Process will be disciplined in accordance with the written decision issued by the Superintendent or appeals panel, if applicable. Disciplinary measures are based upon the severity of the conduct, up to and including expulsion.





20. Hazing

Students are prohibited from subjecting another student to physical injury as part of an initiation, or as a prerequisite to membership, into any organized school group including any society, athletic team, fraternity or sorority, or other similar group. Students must comply with policy 4331, Assaults, Threats, and Harassment.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

21. Affray/Fighting

Students are prohibited from assaulting or physically injuring any other person consistent with policy 4331, Assaults, Threats, and Harassment. Students are prohibited from hitting, shoving, scratching, biting, blocking the passage of, or throwing objects at another person. An "affray" is any voluntary altercation or fight between two or more students.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

22. Gang-Related Activity

Students are prohibited from participating in any gang-related activity and must adhere to policy 4328, Gang-Related Activity. "Gang-related activity" means (1) any conduct that is prohibited by another Board policy and is engaged in by a student on behalf of an identified gang or as a result or the student's gang membership or (2) any conduct engaged in by a student to perpetuate, proliferate, or display the existence of any gang.

Consequences





a. 1st Offense- If the 1st offense is possessing, displaying, or distributing any gang-related literature or materials; wearing or displaying any gang-related clothing, jewelry, emblems, or signs; or communicating verbally or non- verbally with the intent to convey gang affiliation or membership, a student may receive an individualized warning, parental notification, and the opportunity to change or remove the attire or object.

If the 1st offense is soliciting others for gang membership; tagging or defacing school or personal property with symbols intended to convey gang membership or affiliation; intimidating, threatening, or inciting violence against any other person related to gang activity; or committing any other illegal act or violation of policy or school rules in connection with gang-related activity, a student may receive up to a 5-day suspension.

b. 2nd and Subsequent Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long- term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances, such as that the violation was gang-related, warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

23. Fireworks or Ammunition

Students are prohibited from possessing, handling, using, or transmitting, whether concealed or open, any weapon or any instrument that reasonably looks like a weapon or could be used as a weapon, including fireworks and ammunition, in accordance with policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: Parental notification, confiscation of item(s), and may receive up to a 10-day suspension; may receive a lesser suspension if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

24. Damage to Property or Vandalism

Students are prohibited from damaging or attempting to damage, vandalizing, or defacing school or private property from staff or students and must comply with policy 4330, Theft, Trespass and Damage to Property.

Consequences





- a. Up to \$1,000.00 Damage, Replacement or Repair Cost
 - 1. *1st Offense*: May receive up to a 10-day suspension, payment of the cost of replacement, repair, or restoration of the property.
 - 2. 2nd Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension, payment of the cost of replacement, repair, or restoration of property; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.
 - b. Property Damage, Repair or Replacement Cost Exceeds \$1,000.00
 - 1. *All Offenses*: If the damage to property or loss of property exceeds \$1,000.00, the student may be suspended for up to 10 days with a recommendation for long-term suspension and shall be required to pay the cost of replacement, repair, or restoration of the property.

25. Trespassing

Students are prohibited from trespassing on school property in accordance with policy 4330, Theft, Trespass and Damage to School Property.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension.
- b. 2nd or Subsequent Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for a long-term suspension.

26. Assault or Attempted Assault

Students are prohibited from assaulting, physically injuring, attempting to injure, or intentionally behaving in a way that could reasonably cause injury to any other person, including engaging in a fight consistent with policy 4331, Assaults, Threats and Harassment.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension for all involved students; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.





27. Possession of Weapons Other Than Firearms

Students are prohibited from possessing, handling, using, or transmitting, whether concealed or open, any weapon or any instrument that reasonably looks like a weapon or could be used as a weapon, such as, but not limited to, knives, razors, BB gun, slingshot, blackjack, brass knuckles, in accordance with policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warranted a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.
- b. 2nd Offense: Will receive a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension; may receive a lesser suspension if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty.

28. Fire Alarm

Students are prohibited from engaging in behavior that constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students or employees in accordance with policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety. Students are prohibited from setting off, attempting to set off, or aiding and abetting anyone in giving a false fire alarm. Students are also prohibited from interfering with or damaging any part of a fire alarm, fire detection, smoke detection, or fire extinguishing system.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension.
- b. 2nd Offense: Will receive a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension; may receive a lesser suspension if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty.

29. Sale or Distribution of Tobacco Products

Students are prohibited from selling, distributing, or delivering any tobacco products, including, but not limited to, cigars, cigarettes, e-cigarettes (including vape pens and vaporizers), snuff, chew packets, and smokeless tobacco, consistent with policy 4320, Tobacco Products – Students and policy 4325, Drugs and Alcohol – Students.





Consequences

a. All Offenses: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warranted a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

30. Failure to Comply with a Lawful Directive

Students must adhere to established safety rules, standards, and regulations, including on busses and in hallways in accordance with policy 4315, Disruptive Behavior. When notified, Students must follow directives of school during any period of time when Students are subject to the authority of such school personnel.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: May receive a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension if the principal determines that aggravating circumstances warrant a more severe response and provides notice of those aggravating circumstances in the notice of suspension.

31. Possession or Use of Drugs or Alcohol

Students are prohibited from possessing, using, or being under the influence of unauthorized or illegal drugs or alcohol, including, but limited to, narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic drugs, amphetamines, and marijuana, in accordance with policy 4325. Drugs and Alcohol – Students.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension.
- b. 2nd and Subsequent Offenses: Will receive a 10-day suspension with a recommendation for long-term suspension, unless the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty.

32. Threats of Death or Serious Bodily Injury

Students are prohibited from directing toward any other person any language that threatens force, violence, or disruption; any sign or act that constitutes a threat of force, violence, or bodily injury consistent with policy 4331, Assaults, Threats, and Harassment and policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety.

Consequences





- a. 1st Offense: May receive up to a 10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension.
- b. 2nd Offense: Will receive a 10-day suspension with a recommendation for long-term suspension, unless the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty.

33. Use of a Weapon

Students are prohibited from using, whether concealed or open, any weapon or instrument that reasonably looks like a weapon or could be used as a weapon, including but not limited to, destructive devices, knives, metal knuckles, stun guns, or fireworks, consistent with policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: Will receive a10-day suspension; may be recommended for long-term suspension; may receive a lesser suspension if the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty.

34. Sale, or Distribution of Drugs or Alcohol

Students are prohibited from selling, delivering, distributing, or manufacturing unauthorized or illegal drugs or alcohol, including, but limited to, narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic drugs, amphetamines, and marijuana, in accordance with policy 4325, Drugs and Alcohol – Students.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: Will receive a 10-day suspension with a recommendation long-term suspension, unless the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty.

35. Arson

Students are prohibited from damaging or attempting to damage school or private property consistent with policy 4330, Theft, Trespass and Damage to Property. Students are prohibited from damaging or attempting to damage school or private property by burning or attempting to burn any school building or private property. as in accordance with policy 4330, Theft, Trespass and Damage to Property. Students are prohibited from possessing incendiary material, (i.e., gasoline, kerosene, or other flammable liquid) as provided for in policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety for the purpose of burning or the attempted burning of school property.

Consequences





a. All Offenses: Will receive a 10-day suspension with a recommendation for long-term suspension, unless the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty.

36. Threat or False Threat of Mass Violence on Educational Property

Students are prohibited from making, aiding, and/or abetting in making a threat of mass violence against any person, group or persons, or school property in accordance with policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety.

"Mass Violence" is defined as a means of physical injury that a reasonable person would conclude could lead to serious injury (including mental or emotional injury) or death to two or more people.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: Will receive a 10-day suspension with a recommendation for long-term suspension, unless the principal determines that mitigating circumstances support a lesser penalty.

37. Possession or Use of a Firearm

Students are prohibited from possessing, handling, using, Possession, handling, using, transmitting, whether concealed or open, a firearm as described by policy 4333, Weapons, Bomb Threat, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety.

Consequences

a. All Offenses: Will receive a suspension for 365-calendar days unless the Superintendent recommends placement in an alternative program approved by the Board of Education.

BATHROOMS:

Every effort will be made to make sure that students have the opportunity to use the bathroom when needed. However, students should not be in the bathrooms unless they have permission or it is a scheduled break. Teachers have bathroom breaks scheduled every 90 to 120 minutes. Students may be asked to wait to go to the bathroom if it is close to break time. If a student's request to go to the bathroom is frequent and appears to be a possible medical problem, the student will be referred to the counselor or school nurse. The counselor or school nurse may want to talk with the parent or request a doctor's note stating that a medical problem exists. Please let us know of problems that may exist by sending a doctor's note as soon as possible to the counselor or school nurse so that all assigned teachers might be alerted.





BOOK BAGS:

Parents should supervise their children in packing their book bags. Only necessary items for school should be in the bags – NO TOYS, UNESSENTIAL ITEMS LIKE PLAYING CARDS, HAND-HELD COMPUTER GAMES, ELECTRONICS, FIDGET SPINNERS, WEAPONS, ETC. Items should be limited to materials needed for school (books, pencils, pens, paper, assignments, etc.) Students do not need to carry their backpacks to lunch or to the playground. Book bags may be moved from one classroom to another during the day.

ROLLING BOOKBAGS OR BOOKBAGS WITH WHEELS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED AT VICK. ALL STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO CARRY THEIR BOOK BAGS FOR SAFETY REASONS.

Students who ride the bus must hold their book bags in their laps. Book bags cannot be set in the aisle of the bus.

BOOKS:

Students are expected to show respect for library books. When books are damaged or lost, they must be paid for promptly. Students and parents are held responsible for all books assigned, loaned, or checked out of the library or classroom.

COMMUNICATION:

Stay connected to the school through the Vick Facebook and Instagram Page (@VESPANTHERS1), school web page, and WCS App. You must keep your phone numbers and email address up-to-date so that the notification system will be able to reach you via phone and/or email with any announcements regarding the school or school system.

Ms. Faison will send out weekly Sunday night phone and email messages every Sunday at 5:00 pm.

Teachers will maintain contact with parents and students through Dojo, newsletters, phone and/or email. Teachers will be the first point of contact for parents and students to answer any questions or address concerns. Messages will be responded to within 24 hours.

DRESS CODE: Policy Code: 4316 Student Dress Code

Students should wear clothing that is appropriate for school. Rooms are air-conditioned, so keep this in mind when your child dresses for school. Prevention is the key here. Know what your child is wearing before he/she leaves for school in the morning. If your child's clothing is not appropriate, the parent will be contacted to bring a change of clothing or pick up the child. Below are specific guidelines from WCS Board Policy: 4316.

- 1. Clothing and appearance must be age appropriate, not disruptive to the teaching-learning process and cannot be provocative, indecent, vulgar or obscene.
- 2. Hats, sweatbands, bandanas, or sunglasses will not be worn inside the school buildings.





- 3. Shorts must be of adequate length to reach the ends of one's fingertips when the student is standing and the arms are by one's sides.
- 4. Skirts and dresses must be no higher than three (3) inches above the top of the knee.
- 5. Clothing will not be allowed which promotes alcoholic beverages, tobacco or the use of controlled substances, depicts violence, profanity, vulgarity or obscenity, is of a sexual nature, or is of a disruptive nature.
- 6. Shirts and blouses must cover the waist and midriff and go past the waistline. Tank tops or spaghetti-strap tops may not be worn as an outer garment.
- 7. Footwear is required. Bedroom shoes are not allowed. Students in laboratory or shop environments must wear closed-toe shoes. Students in physical education classes must wear athletic shoes. Shoes that have laces must be laced and tied.
- 8. Clothing is not to be sheer or mesh and cannot have excessive holes.
- 9. Undergarments are not to be visible.
- 10. Clothing must be worn appropriately (nothing inside-out or backwards, no rolled-up pant legs or unfastened bibbed overalls, no sagging pants, belts must be buckled and worn at the waistline, etc.).
- 11. Clothing will not be allowed that is intentionally shredded or torn.
- 12. Tight clothing, such as knit pants, spandex bicycle/biker pants, or overly tight pants, is not allowed.
- 13. Students shall not wear clothing articles with the intent to convey membership or affiliation in a gang.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION:

We cannot stress enough the importance of keeping your telephone number and address up to date in the Scribs system. Notify the office immediately if you move or change your home, work, or cell phone numbers during the year. Also, please provide the office with the contact number and address of a trusted friend or relative we may contact in case of emergencies or who will know how to reach you at all times. Please make sure this person is trustworthy and will deliver messages to you, the parent/guardian about a sick child, school problems, homework, discipline, and attendance problems. This may be the only way to contact you in an emergency so please make sure that you update this information if it changes. Children get very anxious during emergencies if their parents cannot be reached. Parents or guardians who have not provided numbers/addresses or an emergency contact person who can be reached between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm will be contacted by a social worker to update this information.





FIELD TRIPS:

Teachers may plan two field trips a year for students connected to instruction. Any student who does not have a signed permission form will not be permitted to leave campus for field trips. The teacher will write receipts for all fees for field trips paid by the student/parent. Students who exhibit safety concerns while in school may not be allowed to participate in field trips unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. Money for field trips will not be refunded unless the school has to cancel the trip. You should keep your original Vick receipt in case the school has to submit a refund in the event of a canceled trip; receipts must be returned to the school before a refund will be issued. When the field trip is over, students may be checked out and leave with their parents. Students who leave with their parent/guardian will be counted as an early checkout and it will be logged on attendance data for that day. Keep in mind that early checkouts are considered tardy.

IMMUNIZATIONS and KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENT - MEDICAL:

Every student entering Kindergarten and those in the first through fifth grade must have a current immunization record and a health assessment on file in the office within 30 calendar days from the first day of school. Failure to do so may lead to suspension from school. Students who enroll after that date have 30 days from the date they enrolled in the Wilson County Schools system to furnish proof of immunizations, or the student will not be allowed to return to school until such proof is provided. If you do not know what immunizations are required, please contact our school counselor or the Wilson County Health Department.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES:

Through the Blackboard Connect System, parents will be notified of any school schedule changes due to inclement weather. Information will also be posted on the WCS website and Social Media. Vick will post to social media as well. TV stations will also share if school is closed or delayed. Make-up days will be announced by the district once students return to school. Please do not call the main school number for this information as it ties up the lines and prevents calls from weather services or the superintendent.

Dismissal during inclement weather can be hectic. Please ask your child to follow the instructions given to them by any Vick staff member. We ask that you not enter the building while we are trying to get students out since we are trying to dismiss students in an orderly manner. Students will be allowed to stay inside out of the weather until their ride picks them up. Teachers will stay until all students are safely on their way home.

WCS has a 24-hour weather line that gives the status of the school day. The number is 252-265-4037.

LOST AND FOUND:

Please be sure to mark your child's clothing with his/her name so that it can be returned when found. Items not marked/identified are placed in the lost and found area. Unclaimed clothing will be taken to the Salvation Army periodically.





LUNCH:

All WCS elementary students will receive free lunch this school year. Lunch will be served in the cafeteria, and parents/guardians are always welcome to dine with their children. Students may purchase additional items.

If students bring their lunch, they may get milk, a vegetable, and fruit as they walk through the lunch line. NO CANNED, CARBONATED, OR BOTTLED SODA-TYPE DRINKS should be sent to school since these tend to be dangerous when shaken or at the very least messy when opened after being shaken. Parents, please do not bring fast-food lunch items to school to be delivered to your child. When packing student lunches, please do not pack microwavable items. Microwaves in the cafeteria are for adult use only!

We invite you to eat lunch with your child. Lunch is scheduled according to the classrooms. Be sure to ask the teacher when your child's lunchtime is so that you can be on time to eat with him/her. A special table will be marked in the cafeteria for you to have lunch with your child. If you are eating lunch with your children, a **visitor's pass is still required**, and you can **only go to the cafeteria**. When lunch is over, visitors can not accompany their student(s) back to the classroom but instead must come back to the office to sign out of our check-in and out computer system.

MEDICATION:

School personnel may not administer medication, prescription or otherwise, without the written instructions and a completed medication form signed by the doctor prescribing the medication and the parent/guardian.

School personnel may not apply any treatment beyond first aid, which is to wash the affected area with soap and water and apply a bandaid if the injury is bleeding. Prescription medications must be brought to the school by the student's parent/guardian in a pharmacy-labeled bottle that contains instructions on how to administer, how often, and in what dosage. Most pharmacists are aware of this and if asked will split the prescription into two bottles so that one can be brought to school and be properly administered. Bottles containing any type of medicine should be given to the teacher. Over-the-counter medications must be in the original container and will be administered according to the physician's and parent's written instructions. Students are not permitted to bring medication to school.

OFFICE:

Our office is located on the right of the main entrance. All parents, PTO officers and members, grandparents, spouses, children, and visitors/volunteers are expected to sign in and receive a visitor's badge. Mrs. Ellis, our school secretary, will be happy to help you. She can also help give you directions to all parts of our building as well as check the schedule to see if children are in their regular classrooms. Messages are delivered to teachers, teacher assistants, and other support staff members during non-instructional periods so that they may return telephone calls. This is to minimize the disruption of instructional time.

PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (P.T.O.):

We are very proud of our Parent Teacher Organization and the support that it has provided in the past years. Parents are encouraged to attend the meetings and be actively involved.





PARTIES:

If you would like to provide a small amount of store-bought refreshments for your child's class on his/her birthday, you may do so (cupcakes or cookies and a juice box). According to Federal School Lunch Guidelines, refreshments may only be served after 1:30 pm. Please check with your child's teacher before bringing or sending any snacks to the class so the teacher can help plan a time for students to enjoy the refreshments. We ask that you not plan an elaborate "birthday party" at school, only one food item and juice, please.

We have school-wide classroom parties/snacks during the school year. Your child's teacher will contact you with information before any parties. All food brought in must be purchased from a store.

Balloons, flowers, and other similar gift items for students should not be delivered or brought to school. Such items create distractions and interrupt instruction. Due to safety, this practice is not allowed.

PHONE USE:

The telephones are for teachers and staff to make necessary school-related business calls. Students should be aware of how they are getting home in the afternoon before leaving for school in the morning. They should not be expected to call during the day to obtain this information. Students should be prepared to come to school. That means they should have books, homework, lunch or lunch money, etc. all organized the night before so that it will not be necessary to use the phone after they have arrived at school.

Per board <u>policy</u>, cell phones and other personal devices are allowed on campus but must be turned off during the instructional day. Students are not allowed to have cell phones, or other personal devices turned on on the school bus. The use of cell phones or personal devices must be authorized by school personnel. **Students must keep cell phones in their bookbags**. The use of cell phones and personal devices must adhere to protocols set forth by WCS board policies. <u>Policy 3225/4312/7320</u> Technology Responsible Use, <u>Policy Code</u>: 4318 Use of Wireless Communication Devices

PROMOTION & STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY-

Students in grades 1-5 must be in attendance for 85 percent of the days enrolled, and students in grades 6-8 must be in attendance 90 percent of the days enrolled to be promoted to the next grade. Students in Grades 1-8 who are not present for the required number of days during the school year shall be retained unless a waiver or modification of the consequences is granted pursuant to section 4400-E2.

Students in Kindergarten who are absent more than thirty (30) days during a year shall be referred to an interdisciplinary attendance committee which shall recommend whether the student should be considered for retention. The committee will review any additional educational experiences that the child might have received during the absences as it makes its recommendations.





Grade	K-2 Reading Assessment	Math Proficiency	Teacher Grades		
K	420	80 percent	Satisfactory		
1	441	80 percent	Satisfactory		
2	439	80 percent	Satisfactory		
Grade	EOG	EOG	EOG	Mclass/	Teacher Grades
	Math	Reading	Science	Lexile	
3	Level III	Level III		Mclass-445 Lexile- 725	60 or Above in Reading and Math
4	Level III	Level III			60 or Above in Reading and Math
5	Level III	Level III	Level III		60 or Above in Reading, Math, and Science

SAFETY:

We are always concerned about the safety and well being of our students. <u>Use the front door that is on the Carroll Street side of the building.</u> To enter the building, you will need to use the buzz in system. You will need to press the silver triangle and be prepared to share your name and the reason for your visit. Guests must stop by the front office, sign in, and secure a visitor or volunteer pass before going further into the building. <u>Vick values instructional time</u>. <u>Visitors will not be allowed to visit classrooms at any time without prior approval from the administration with a set time for the visit. For safety reasons, an administrator or counselor must be present during the classroom visit. Again, this is to ensure the safety of all our students.</u>

When asking another person to pick up your child from school, please call the front office or send a written note by your child to the teacher. This person should be listed on the student identification sheet you complete at the beginning of the year. Ask the person to be ready to show identification to us





upon arriving and requesting the child. PLEASE DO NOT ASK FOR YOUR CHILD TO BE CALLED TO CHECK OUT AFTER 2:30 PM UNLESS IT IS AN EMERGENCY! Dismissal time can be confusing, and we want to be sure every child gets home safely. If classrooms are interrupted during this time to release children early, the interruptions often result in children being left by a van, or by bus. Early release of children interferes with keeping everyone on schedule for their departure places and times.

SNACK TIME:

Each teacher decides if and when her class will observe snack time. This is partially determined by the time students eat breakfast and the time they eat lunch. The teacher will notify you about the rules regarding snacks. Parents are encouraged to send nutritious snacks if their child will be observing snack time.

TRANSPORTATION:

Call the school by 2:30 p.m. to request a change in how your child will go home. Only students assigned to a bus will be allowed to ride buses.

• BUS RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Our #1 goal daily is to safely transport all student bus riders to and from school. To accomplish this goal, we need the cooperation of parents and student bus riders. Good student behavior while entering, riding, and leaving the bus contribute in many ways to safe transportation. Such conduct makes it possible for the driver to give full attention to the roadway and other drivers. Please take a few minutes to review the information below concerning student conduct on the bus with your child. The primary purpose of rules and procedures on the buses is for the safety of all students. Your child's cooperation following all rules and procedures is appreciated by the drivers.

SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER SAFETY

- 1. Use the handrail when entering or leaving the bus
- 2. Take a seat as quickly as possible.
- 3. Observe classroom conduct while riding.
 - i. Be courteous
 - ii. Respect the rights of other students.
 - iii. Cooperate with the driver in every way. A distraction could cause an accident.
 - iv. Stay in your seat.
 - v. Talk softly and don't talk to the driver.
 - vi. Help keep the bus neat.
 - vii. Enter and leave the bus without pushing or crowding.
 - viii. Do not throw objects inside the bus or from the bus.
- 4. Keep head, arms, and hands inside the bus.
- 5. Keep the aisle clear of objects that could cause a passenger to stumble. All passengers are to stay behind the vertical bar.





- 6. Do not eat or try to do homework on the bus. A sudden stop could send food, papers, books, pencils, etc. flying into someone. Garbage on the floor could cause someone to fall.
- 7. The bus driver is authorized to assign seats if necessary.
- 8. Students are permitted to only ride the assigned bus.
- 9. Cell phones and other personal devices are not allowed to be out and used on the school bus.
- 10. All school rules apply to the bus.

The bus driver is responsible for transporting passengers to and from school daily and reporting students who misbehave to school administration. Students must adhere to the Code of Student Conduct at all times when at bus stops and on school transportation. Failure to follow the directives of the school bus driver and the rules and regulations of school bus safety while at a school bus stop, in the school bus parking lot, or while riding on a school bus or other school vehicle may result in disciplinary consequences for the respective rule violation(s) of the Code of Student Conduct and policy 4315, Disruptive Behavior, as well as the temporary or permanent suspension from the privilege of school transportation services or suspension from school. Parents will be responsible for transportation during suspension from the bus.

Consequences

- a. 1st Offense: Parental notification and counsel with student; may receive up to 3 days off the bus.
- b. 2nd Offense: May receive up to 5 days off the bus.
- c. 3rd Offense: May receive up to 10 days off the bus.
- d. 4th Offense: May receive up to 10 days off the bus or may be suspended from the bus for the remainder of the school year.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Arrival Procedures (Building opens at 7:30 a.m.)

Bus Drop Off

- Buses drops off students at the rear of the school.
- Students will enter the building in a single file line to travel to the cafeteria to pick up breakfast before heading to homeroom class.
- Bus parking area is closed to passenger vehicles.

Car Drop Off

- Car rider students enter the school using the front parking lot.
- Only one lane is used for morning drop-off.
- 5th graders are dropped off at the first walkway
- K-4 students are dropped off at the front door.



Walkers

• Walkers enter at the front of the school. Staff members will be on duty to help students cross over the car line to enter the building safely.

Dismissal Procedures

Bus Riders

• Students load buses in the bus parking lot. Buses will pull off-campus at 3:00.

Walkers

 Walkers will be picked up by designated staff members to be escorted down the crosswalk on Carroll Street.

Car Riders

- Car riders are picked up in front of the school. For safety and to cut down on confusion, parents must stay inside their cars during pick-up. Students will be escorted to their cars.
- Within the 1st 2 weeks of school, parents will be given a car tag to display in car windows to make car dismissal more efficient.

Van Riders

• Van Riders are dismissed from the auditorium side of the building by assigned staff members.

VISITORS Check-in/Check-out:

Visitors will be strictly limited on school campuses to pre-arranged appointments only. Please enter through the designated entrance and exit doors. Visitors will be required to adhere to the same safety protocols as staff.

EVERYONE visiting our school must first check in at the office and pick up a visitor's badge. <u>Vick values instructional time</u>. <u>Visitors will not be allowed to visit classrooms at any time without prior approval from the administration with a set time for the visit. An administrator or counselor must <u>be present during the classroom visit for safety reasons</u>. This is to ensure the safety of all our students. If you need to speak with your child's teacher, we will gladly schedule a conference in order not to disrupt instruction.</u>

VOLUNTEERS:

There are many opportunities to serve the school community from going on field trips to serving at field day. All volunteers must complete and be approved through a volunteer application. Volunteers can complete a volunteer application by following the link below:

https://appgarden6.app-garden.com/VolTrackNC980.nsf

The first time you access the system you will need to click on the registration link to register your email address and create a password. You will receive an email confirming your email address. Then, go to your email and click on the link in the email to access the registration page. Once the application is





submitted, you will receive an email that the application is submitted. Background checks will be initiated if needed based on the activity level selected. An email will notify the volunteers when they are approved. Thank you for volunteering in Wilson County Schools! Your contributions are invaluable!

VALUABLES:

Money, cards, electronic equipment/games, and other valuables should not be brought to school or on field trips. If the item is taken by the teacher, it will be held in the office for a parent to pick up at the end of the day or year. Although school personnel try to prevent losses, they are not responsible for students' personal property.

WHAT TO LEAVE AT HOME:

Any item not needed for school/class should be left at home (i.e. cards, toys, electronic devices, iPods, balls, etc.). ITEMS SUCH AS MATCHES, SHARP OBJECTS, LIGHTERS, FIREWORKS, FIREARMS (or ANY LIKENESS OF A FIREARM, INCLUDING WATER PISTOLS), tobacco products, alcohol, and illegal drugs are ALL BANNED FROM THE SCHOOL'S CAMPUS AND VIOLATE STATE AND LOCAL LAWS. Possession of any of these will result in an automatic suspension with the possibility of long-term suspension.

WITHDRAWALS:

Please notify your child's teacher and the office if you plan to move or change schools. We need to know one day in advance to prepare a progress report and transfer slip. All textbooks and library books must be accounted for or paid for before withdrawing your child. If you are moving outside of the county or state, please be prepared to give us the name and address of the school to which we will be sending the student's records. School records are sent from VES when the school to which the student has transferred requests them.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Opt-Out.

Wilson County Schools' <u>Policy 4700</u> and <u>Administrative Regulation 4700-R</u> outline the right for parents and guardians to opt-out of sharing directory information. More information about your FERPA rights may be viewed HERE.

Schools use directory information to publish items such as yearbooks, honor roll, newsletters, and graduation announcements. This also includes information about opportunities for scholarship programs and colleges to be sent to you. A school may disclose directory information to third parties for non-commercial use only.

Schools will never sell information to third parties for commercial purposes. Directory information will only be used for official purposes and to colleges and universities if you so choose



Parent's Guide to K-2 Standards-Based Grading & Elementary Report Cards

In Wilson County Schools, we envision a student-friendly report card with clearly identified learning targets aligned to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study, while providing high-quality instruction and assessments. Our Standards-based report card provides meaningful feedback so both students and parents can track student progress toward mastery of key academic concepts/standards and reflect upon strengths and areas for improvement.

What is standards-based grading?

Standards-based grading is a grading system, which involves measuring students' mastery of a set of clearly defined standards. Its purpose is to identify what a student knows or is able to do based on these pre-established standards, rather than averaging grades/scores, which may not provide an accurate picture of what a student has or has not learned.

What is a standards-based report card?

A standards-based report card lists the most important skills students should learn in each subject at a particular grade level.

How does standards-based grading differ from traditional grading?

In a traditional grading system, a student's performance for an entire quarter is averaged together.

A standards-based grading system measures a student's mastery of standards by prioritizing the most recent, consistent level of performance, allowing a student who struggled early to demonstrate mastery by the end of the grading period. Variables such as effort, participation, timeliness, cooperation, attitude, and attendance are reported separately, not as an indicator of a student's academic performance.

How are my child's grades determined?

A student's performance on summative assessments will be used to determine a student's overall grade. Formative assessments, which occur throughout the grading period, are used to identify areas of strength and weakness of students in order to guide the teacher in providing targeted instruction.

Will my child still receive teacher comments on the report card?





Yes. Individualized feedback is an essential component of standards-based grading. Effective feedback is a more useful source of information than simply assigning a numeric value or letter grade to student work.

What will the grading scale represent?

- M- Indicates that a student has mastered a standard
- S Indicates that a student has exhibited satisfactory progress towards a standard
- N Indicates that a student needs additional support and practice with a standard
- U Indicates that a student has exhibited unsatisfactory progress towards a standard

How will I know if my child needs help?

Receiving an 'N' or 'U' on a progress report/report card can be a sign that a student is in need of extra support in the areas where he or she is receiving low grades. This is another benefit of a standards-based report card – areas in need of support are clearly evident.

What courses will my child receive a grade in?

Each student will receive a grade in at least one standard for the following subjects per grading period:

- ELA (English Language Arts)
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education
- Music
- Visual Arts
- Homeroom (The Homeroom grade will be based upon a student's conduct/behavior.

Grading periods will be marked as:

- Q1 (First Quarter/Nine Weeks)
- Q2 (Second Quarter/Nine Weeks)
- Q3 (Third Quarter/Nine Weeks)
- Q4 (Fourth Quarter/Nine Weeks)

RECOGNITION CRITERIA FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WCS PBIS Recognition Criteria

- No more than six absences and/or tardies in the grading period
 - No behavior (bus or school) referrals for the grading period

WCS Academic Recognition Criteria

- K-2 Honor Roll (M's and S's every 9 weeks)
- 3-5 Honor Roll (All A's and B's across all subject areas)
- 3-5 Principal List (All A's across all subject areas in 3-5)

School Award: Pushing Forward

 Students that have shown significant growth in one or more areas in behavior, academics, and attendance.

Throughout the school year, the school will hold small recognition activities to reward students for meeting the criteria. At the end of the year, the school will host an award day ceremony to include parents and guardians.





WCS Board Policies

(for additional Board Policies please visit wilsonschoolsnc.net)

Please click on the board policy link below to read the WCS Board policies:

Policy Code: 3400 Evaluation of Student Progress

Policy Code: 4300 Student Behavior Policies

Policy Code: 3135 Homework

Policy Code: 3420 Student Promotion and

Accountability

Regulation Code: 6125-R Administration of

Medication

Policy Code: 4316 Student Dress Code

Policy Code: 4400 Attendance

Policy Code: 4700 Student Records

Regulation Code:4700-R Release of Directory

Information

Policy Code: 3220 Technology in the Educational

Program

Policy 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible

Use

Policy 3226/4205 Internet Safety

Policy 1510/4200/7270 School Safety

Policy Code: 4210 Release of Students from School

Policy Code: 1730/4022/7231 Nondiscrimination

on the Basis of Disabilities

Policy Code: 1720/4015/7225 Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Complaint Procedure









Annette Faison, Principal David Lott, Assistant Principal Lisa Ellis, Secretary/Bookkeeper