

# Parent Handbook

For

# Happy Valley East School

2020-2021



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## **SCHOOL MISSION**

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT THAT WILL IMPROVE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN THE BASIC SKILLS AND RECOGNITION OF EACH STUDENT'S STRENGTHS. OUR COMMITMENT IS TO HAVE A TEACHER IN EVERY CLASSROOM WHO CARES THAT EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY, LEARNS AND GROWS, AND EXPERIENCES SUCCESS. WE TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND ARE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE PROGRESS OF EACH STUDENT.

WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPERATIVE TO FOLLOW THE ADVICE OF THIS NATION'S FOUNDING FATHERS AND INSTRUCT STUDENTS IN THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF ITS CONSTITUTION AND FREEDOMS TO EDUCATE THEM IN MORALS AND CHARACTER AND STRENGTHS.

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## Daily Schedule

**School begins at 7:55 a.m. with morning assembly**

**Students will be given a tardy slip after 8:00 a.m.**

School begins at 7:55 a.m. with a morning assembly on the basketball court. Parents are welcome to observe the morning assembly and are encouraged to participate in the singing of patriotic songs and the pledge of allegiance. For a smooth and orderly morning transition, we also ask parents to not walk their child(ren) to their class.

### Parent drop off:

To assist in the smooth and safe flow of traffic through our drive-through and parking lot, please observe the following guidelines:

- ☺ Please **stop all cell phone conversations** while in the school parking lot.
- ☺ To use the drive-through, enter the school lot at the far East entrance on Westbrooke road. Follow the flow of traffic around the school looping through the parking lot before exiting.
- ☺ To park and walk your child to the gate, enter the school grounds through the same entrance and park in the large parking area. **DO NOT drop your child(ren) off in the parking area. It is extremely dangerous for students to walk through the drive-through line.**
- ☺ Exit the school through the exit on Westbrooke closest to Ironwood.

**Parent pick-up:** School ends at 3:00 p.m. with the exception of early release days. Please follow the guidelines when picking your child(ren) up after school:

- ☺ Please end all cell phone conversations while in the school parking lot.
- ☺ When using the drive-through please enter the parking lot at the far East entrance on Westbrooke road. You may exit immediately on the left after pickup without following the loop of the parking lot in the afternoon.
- ☺ If you want to pick up your child(ren) at the release door from the multi-purpose room, please use the main lot on the west side of campus to park and walk up to retrieve your students.
- ☺ If you arrive before your child's class has been released, you may be asked to park or return to the end of the line in order to keep the progress moving steadily.
- ☺ To help in the orderly flow of traffic, we ask parents who are in the drive-through line to remain in their cars until their child(ren) are escorted to them by school personnel:

Parents are responsible for their children before and after school hours and are expected to pick up their children *immediately* after school.

Students not picked up by 3:15 p.m. will be held in the office for parent pick-up. We ask that parents be timely in picking up their children after school. Our teachers and paraprofessionals have other work to complete before they leave the campus and are not able to supervise children after 3:15 p.m. Parents who are unable to get to the school by 3:15 p.m. must enter the office to retrieve their child.

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## Attendance & Timeliness

It is important that parents and students recognize the direct relationship that exists between academic success and regular school attendance. When students are absent, much of the classroom activity cannot be replicated. The benefit of lectures, discussions, and participation is lost forever. When students are absent, it places additional stress on teachers. Students should be absent only when it is absolutely necessary.

Students earn special awards for perfect or outstanding attendance and for being on time. Trophies are awarded for Perfect Attendance— **Zero days missed and no days tardy**. Outstanding Attendance Certificates are awarded for **no more than 1 absence and/or 3 times tardy**.

**Arizona State Law A.R.S. 15-901 (A) (1)** requires students to attend classes a minimum of 90% of the school year. This means students should be absent **no more than 18 days in a school year, whether they are excused or unexcused absences**.

**Excused Absence:**

**Arizona Law Concerning Student Absences: ARS § 15-807**

Understandably, there are circumstances when a student cannot make it to school, however, students should attend class every day that they are able.

**Absence due to Religious Reason:**

Students may be excused from school for religious purposes, including participation in religious exercises or religious instruction. An excuse can be granted when the parent or other person who has custody of the student provides written consent and the religious instruction or exercise takes place at a suitable place away from school property designated by the church or religious denomination or group.

**Doctor/Dentist/Orthodontist appointments, family emergencies, bereavement, or district approved family vacation:**



The school must be notified in advance or at the time of any absence by the parent or other person who has custody of the student. In cases of illness or other extenuating circumstances requiring attention from a medical provider, the parent is encouraged to schedule appointments during after-school hours or on non-school days. If an appointment with a medical provider is required during the school day, parents should sign the student out with the front desk shortly before the appointment and return the student to school shortly after the appointment has concluded.

**See Absence Reporting below.**

**Unexcused Absence:**

The state requires the school to administer consequences for excessive absences and tardiness. Further, the state penalizes the school if the school’s average attendance falls below the 90% level.

The following consequences may be administered by the school:

<b>Number of Absences</b>	<b>Consequence of Absence</b>
5	Parent will be notified by letter of the student’s absences and consequences of further absences.
8	Parent phone call or meeting with the principal or vice-principal.
10	Contact by truancy officer.
15	Possible citation by truancy officer.

**Excused Tardy:**

School begins at 7:55a.m. Students that do not arrive when students enter the classroom are considered tardy. Students that arrive after 8:00 a.m. will need to get a tardy slip to enter the classroom. If there is a reasonable explanation for the tardiness, the parent or guardian must accompany the child to the office, contact the school within one hour of the start of school to offer a verbal or written explanation. Only a parent or guardian will be able to have the tardiness excused.

**Unexcused Tardy:**

Failure to call or provide a written explanation will automatically be considered unexcused tardiness.

**The following steps will be followed should students be tardy to school for unexcused reasons:**

Number of Tardies	Consequences of Tardiness
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact to home made by classroom teacher</li> <li>• Loss of perfect attendance award</li> </ul>
5 or more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact to home made by principal</li> <li>• Attendance records will be affected</li> </ul>
10 or more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with principal, homeroom teacher and/or truancy officer will be conducted during school hours</li> </ul>
13 or more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Truancy officer will make an in-home visit.</li> <li>• Time management will be offered</li> <li>• Other options will be discussed</li> <li>• Other agencies may be notified</li> </ul>

**Early Removal:**

- Parents must not go directly to classrooms to remove students but should check in at the front office and the front office staff will call for the student.
- Students are required to stay in school until the dismissal time.
- Parents should not pick up students before that time.
- Students who are removed from the school before 3:00 must be signed out by the parent.
- Chronic early removals will result in administrative involvement.

**Absence Reporting**

**Arizona Law Concerning Student Absences: ARS § 15-807**

- Parents are required by law to notify the school when their children are absent. Parents will be asked to specifically identify the absence reason for school record keeping purposes.
- **When a student will be absent from school, the parent or guardian is required to call the school in advance or by 9:00 a.m. on the day of the absence.** Voice messaging is available before and after office hours. **Please identify yourself, your student, your student’s teacher, the date/time and the specific reason for the absence.**
- If your child needs to be picked up early from school, please call the school office in advance. Attendance is taken twice daily; at the beginning of the day and again in the afternoon.

- The parent/guardian is required to furnish the school with at least one telephone number where the parent/guardian may be contacted during the school day. If there is a change in telephone numbers during the school year, the parent/guardian is to promptly notify the school office.
- If a student is absent from school and the parent/guardian has not notified the school, school personnel will make a reasonable effort to telephone and notify the parent/guardian within two hours after the first class in which the pupil is absent.
- The school or governing board members of a school and employees or agents of the school are not liable for failure to notify the parent or other person who has custody of a pupil of the pupil's absence from school.
- We are responsible for reporting all absences and tardies to the Department of Education. Examples of excused absences and tardies are illness, doctor appointments and emergencies.

### **Make-up Work**

Students who are absent are expected to make up the work they have missed. If the parent knows in advance that the child will be absent, the teacher should be contacted, and missing work requested. This is best accomplished through the school's email system. Each teacher has an email that will be given out at Open House prior to the first day of school. If a request is made through the front office staff, make sure to get the request in before 10:00 a.m. of the day it is to be picked up by the parent.

### **Bicycles**

Students are permitted to ride bicycles to school. Bicycles must be parked and locked in **the bicycle rack in the back of the school. Students who ride bicycles must assume all responsibility for risks involved.** For students' safety, we recommend that students in kindergarten and lower form (first and second grade levels) not ride bikes to school. Students must walk their bicycles while in crosswalks and on school grounds.

### **Birthdays and other celebrations**

Students are recognized by their teachers on their birthdays.

Classroom birthday celebrations should follow these guidelines:



- ☺ **2:00 PM** - Reserve time at the end of the day for birthday celebrations.
- ☺ Drinks must be sealable to prevent spills and stains
- ☺ **Treats should be store-bought** or from a professional bakery.
- ☺ **Keep it Simple.**
- ☺ Please make sure treats are eaten before students leave for the bus.
- ☺ Birthday treats are not allowed during lunch due to state imposed nutritional requirements and time constraints in the cafeteria.
- ☺ Birthday party announcements should not be passed out at school unless the entire class is invited.
- ☺ Due to their distractive nature balloon bouquets are discouraged from being brought to school; however, they are permissible if delivered at the end of the day.

It is the responsibility of the administration to protect academic time on task. Holiday parties will be held at the end of the day. Halloween parties are not allowed due to their disruptive nature. Valentine parties may include card/candy exchanges if all students are involved, but not gift exchanges.



## Bus Rules

It is our privilege to transport your children to and from our wonderful school each morning and afternoon. Our number one transportation concern is the physical and emotional safety of all passengers on our buses. The bus is an extension of the actual school and all rules and expectations of the school are to be upheld at all times while on the bus. Riding the bus is a privilege and all students who maintain appropriate behavior will be allowed to utilize this service. Students who fail to follow these basic expectations or who fail to respond to the consequences of the school will have their bus privileges suspended or removed.

Please read these expectations with your child(ren) and remind them of their bus and school responsibilities throughout the year.

### Student Bus Expectations:

- Children are encouraged to bring something appropriate to read while on the bus, or quietly talk with their friends.
- Children should bring **water only** to drink while on the bus and at school. No food, gum, or candy is allowed on the bus.

### Bus Behavior:

- In order to maintain positive behavior on the bus, students are assigned a seat and must remain seated until the bus stops at the school or their assigned bus stop.
- For the physical safety of the students, and other drivers, students must keep their head, hands and all other items inside of the bus. It is extremely dangerous to have anything sticking or thrown out of the bus window. ***Parents will be responsible for any damage resulting from items thrown from the bus by their child(ren).***
- For the emotional safety of the bus passengers, students will use quiet, appropriate language. Loud, foul or inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
- For the physical and emotional safety of the bus passengers, students will keep hands, feet and other objects to themselves. Any negative physical or verbal conduct such as bullying, teasing, name calling, or fighting, will not be tolerated on the bus or at school. Repeated violations could result in suspension from the bus.
- For the safety of all bus passengers, students will keep the bus clean by picking up after themselves. All trash and paper will be deposited in the trash can at the front of the bus.

### Parent Bus Expectations:

- For the timely operation of the bus system, be at the bus stop 10 minutes early for pick up and drop off.
- If changes are made to the child's bus need, the parent must call the school prior to 1:00 PM to make changes.
- For the emotional welfare of your child, give him/her words of encouragement and a hug and a kiss before putting them on the bus.

### Parent concerns:

- When problems arise, please notify the transportation office at **480-567-8426**.
- For the safety of all and in keeping the bus schedule, never step onto or in front of the bus to address problems with the bus driver. Always use appropriate language to discuss concerns with the driver. Remember that we are role models for all students on the bus.
- For the health of all, no smoking near the bus.

- For the mental and emotional health of all, report behavioral concerns of other children to the transportation director **480-567-8426**. Never approach another person’s child about your concerns.

**Bus Consequences:**

For the physical and emotional safety of all, consequences must be administered for failure to follow the expectations outlined above. The bus drivers will use positive methods to encourage good bus behavior. Negative consequences will also be given for students who fail to respond to positive encouragement. School demerit consequences may also apply to negative bus behaviors.

The following consequences will be given for negative behaviors on the bus:

1st Behavior Write-Up	Note sent home to be signed by parent/guardian and returned the following day to the bus driver
2nd Behavior Write-Up	Note sent home to be signed by parent/guardian and returned the following day to the bus driver
3rd Behavior Write-Up	Phone call from Transportation Director and note sent home to set up a mandatory meeting to explain bus rules and 2-day suspension from bus services
4th Behavior Write-Up	Mandatory meeting with principal to explain bus and school expectations. Five day suspension from bus services
5th Behavior Write-Up	Phone call from Transportation Director and removal from bus services for the rest of the school year

**Carpool**

Parents must give their permission before their names and phone numbers can be placed on a carpooling list with other parents. This information is used for the sole purpose of carpool coordinating.

**Cell Phones**

Cell phones are highly discouraged as they are disruptive to the learning environment. However, it is understandable that some parents may rely upon this technology to keep in contact with their children. If they are brought to school, they must be turned off and left in their backpacks or given to the child’s teacher first thing in the morning. The school cannot accept any responsibility or liability for lost or stolen cell phones. Cell phones that are taken out of backpacks during school (to include field trips or other school sponsored activities) will be confiscated, held in the principal’s office, and released only to the parent or guardian.

**Change of Address & Contact information**

It is vital that parents keep their addresses and phone numbers current, so the school may contact parents and send out notices. Parents please report any changes in address or phone numbers to the front office immediately. The front office has update forms. Parents may fill these out or call in the information.

**Child Find**

All children with disabilities who are in need of special education and related services shall be identified, located, and evaluated as required by state law. This policy applies to highly mobile children with disabilities and children that are suspect of having a disability and in need of special education, even though they are advancing from grade to grade.

For all students new to the school, the classroom teacher will complete screening activities within 45 days of enrollment. The teacher will look at the child's ability in the areas of academics, vision, hearing, communication, social/emotional, and motor skills. If any concerns are noted, the child's parents will be informed by their teacher, and the child may be referred to the Child Study Team for additional help.

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## **Curriculum**

The school offers a basic, traditional program that is aligned with the Arizona State Standards and national content standards. The school also participates in the statewide testing program each year.

The curriculum includes phonics, spelling, reading, mathematics, penmanship, grammar, and composition, science, music, art, history and geography, computers, health and safety, physical education, strengths recognition, and citizenship.

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## **Custody Issues**

Parents must notify the school if there are custody issues or other considerations of which the school should be aware. The school cannot deny a parent access to a child without legal documentation stating custody restrictions. If there is any medical or legal alert, please give this information to the front office in writing. Where there is a divorce or legal separation, please include custody papers with your registration.

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## **Discipline Policy**

The school must maintain an orderly atmosphere. Every child should practice respect and courtesy at all times. Students are to follow classroom rules, school rules, dress code rules, transportation and playground rules. To ensure this, teachers establish, teach and enforce both school and classroom rules. Students are given positive reinforcement in many ways too when they are observed obeying the rules.

Consequences for inappropriate behavior are outlined below and are enforced. Every effort is made to keep parents informed. Teachers will contact the parent if a child has initial minor offenses. For chronic misbehavior or more serious offenses, students will be referred to the principal's office. The following consequences and demerit point system may be used when students are sent to the office for behavior/discipline problems. Administration has the final determination and authority regarding all behavior/discipline issues.

### **Demerit Points:**

A child may receive demerit points when sent to the principal's office for behavioral infractions. Points are determined by the infraction.

**Demerit Table**

STUDENT BEHAVIOR	No. OF POINTS	STUDENT BEHAVIOR	No. OF POINTS
Not following rules	2	Bullying/Harassment/Threats	10
Excessive talking in class	2	Drinking Alcohol	10
Talking at inappropriate time	2	Fighting	10
Dress Code violations	3	Gang Activity	10
Leaving area without permission	3	Possession of:	
Restroom violation	3	Alcohol	10
Severe teasing/Name calling	3	Dangerous objects	10
Swearing/Inappropriate language	3	Fireworks/Lighters/Matches	10
Throwing food	3	Pornography	10
Throwing rocks or other objects	3	Putting self/others at serious risk	10
Cheating/Lying/Deception	4	Smoking	10
Class disruption	4	Stealing	10
Disturbing the learning of others	4	Vandalism (minor)	10
Horseplay/Roughhousing	4	Violating state or federal laws	10
Endangering/Hurting other students	5	Arson/Serious vandalism	30
Disrespect for adults/peers	5	Possession/Distribution of drugs	30
Ignoring/Disobeying authorities	5	Possession of weapons/explosives	30
Vulgar language/gesture	5	Sexual harassment/acts/abuse	30
Other		Violence/Serious threats	30

**10 Points SUSPENSION for up to 5 school days**  
**20 Points SUSPENSION for up to 10 school days**  
**30 Points EXPULSION from Happy Valley School recommended**

**Suspension and Expulsion:**

**In-School-Suspension (ISS)** – In school suspension requires the student to remain at school but remain separated from the classroom environment. ISS may be for recess, lunch, partial or full day. A full day ISS requires the student to move his/her personal desk to a designated spot in the front office area. The student must remain seated and working quietly to earn his/her way back to the classroom. The student will be taken to the restroom and lunch by a staff member and then returned to the ISS area. While in ISS the student must remain at a desk in the designated area. The following rules apply to ISS:

1. No talking.
2. No sleeping.
3. Stay in your seat.
4. Work on school assignments.

**Off Campus Suspension** – This is a last resort consequence when the student has not responded positively to other teaching consequences. This consequence may also be used for violent or vulgar behavior in order to remove an offending student from the rest of the population.

If a child is suspended for any reason, the parent must pick the child up immediately when contacted. Students are not permitted on the school grounds for any reason while suspended or expelled. Students will be required to complete any missed schoolwork at home during times of suspension.

**Expulsion** – The school principal recommends a student for expulsion after meeting with the parents to explain why their student is being referred to the school board. Once the student is referred for expulsion, the student may not return to the school.

**Refusal to Re-Enroll** – The school reserves the right to refuse re-enrollment to any student who has been expelled or in the process of being expelled at the time of re-enrollment

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## **Dress Code**

*Please write your child(ren)'s name on clothing and all personal belongings brought to school.*

**SCHOOL UNIFORMS ARE REQUIRED.** School uniforms promote a positive, less distracting learning environment. School uniforms require the student to develop positive social skills rather than dependence on clothing as a statement. The dress code is designed to help encourage a wholesome learning environment, to provide safety, and to prevent any dress styles that would negatively affect students. Clothing should be clean, neat, and in good repair. It must conform to the style of school uniforms. **Solid colors only. School embroidered polo shirt and sweaters are required. You may place your order at [www.happyvalleystore.com](http://www.happyvalleystore.com) (Prices may vary depending on the material of shirt the shirt that you select.)** Dress code will be checked each day at morning assembly. Students out of dress code will have to call a parent to bring the correct clothing before going to class. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

**Polo Shirts/ Polo Tops with Happy Valley School embroidered in red, white, and navy blue is required.**

Must have solid colors only.

Must be modest, loose fitting, and appropriately cover midriff and chest area.

Must not have any language, pictures, or images.

Must have sleeves with no gaping armholes.

**Pants/Shorts/Skirts are required to be navy blue, khaki and solid color, Dockers' style only.**

Must be navy blue or khaki solid colors only.

Must not be baggy, saggy, or severely torn.

If pants are loose; a belt must be worn to hold them up.

Boxers or underclothing must not show.

Shorts are permitted as long as they are approximately 1 inch above the knee or longer.

Cargo pants and shorts are not allowed.

Athletic shorts such as basketball style are not allowed.

No denim shorts or skinny pants will be permitted. Denim of any color is not permitted.

**Dresses must be navy blue or khaki solid colors only.**

Must be modest, have sleeves, cover the chest area appropriately.

Must be no shorter than 1 inch above the knee.

Jean shorts and skirts are *not* to be worn.

On physical education days, shorts are to be worn under the dress.

Leggings/tights must be red, white, navy blue or neutral gray (solid colors only)

**Jumpers** must be navy blue or khaki and must be completely free of any pictures, logos, or images.

**Sweatshirts/Sweaters/Coats**

Must be red, white, navy blue or neutral gray.

Must not have any language, pictures, images, or striping on them.

In winter only, polo shirts must be worn underneath the sweatshirts. Please do not send students to school wearing only a sweatshirt.

Long-sleeve undershirts may be worn under a polo shirt; however, the undershirt must be red, white or navy blue.

Coats are encouraged in the winter weather. Coats must also be red, white or navy blue with no language, pictures, images, or striping on them. **Your child's name must be written inside the liner or on the tag of the coat.**

Coats are not to be worn in the classroom.



### **Shoes and Socks**

Tennis shoe, rubber sole, closed toe shoes are required.

Sandals, flip-flops or thong type shoes are not permitted.

Shoes with wheels in the soles are strictly prohibited from being worn to school.

Shoes must have a strap across the back.

Socks should be solid colors only, white, red, black, navy blue or gray.

### **Hats and Caps**

Are not to be worn in the classroom or the building.

If hats or caps are worn to school, they are restricted to outside and must be worn with the bill facing forward over the face.

No inappropriate symbols or language is permitted on hats and caps.

### **Hair**

Should be neatly groomed and clean.

Boys' hair must be kept trimmed out of their eyes and off of their collar.

Distractive or extreme hair styles and colors (i.e. bleached, highlights, colored streaks, mohawks, long spikes, etc.) are not permitted. Rat tails are not permitted. No headbands with animal ears.

No designs or words in haircut.

### **Make-up**

Conservative make-up may be worn by girls only.

Must be applied before coming to school.

Make-up applied during school will be confiscated and given only to the parents.

Strong smelling cologne is not allowed.

### **Jewelry**

Since jewelry is distracting in the classroom, and poses a hazard on the playground, the school discourages the wearing of jewelry. Jewelry often gets stolen or damaged.

Girls may wear 1 pair of small earrings in the earlobes (one in each earlobe).

Boys may not wear any pierced jewelry.

Chains are not permitted.

Medical alert bracelets *are* permitted.

HVE is not responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen jewelry.

### **Tattoos**

That are visible are not permitted.

Writing on skin is not permitted.

**Electronic Devices** are prohibited on campus. **Cell phones**, radios, CDs and CD players, iPods, MP3 players, Gameboys, Nintendo DS and PSPs. If you feel there is a reason your child needs these items, please contact the office. Abusing this policy will result in the confiscation of the device. Parents must come to retrieve it.

It is the principal's responsibility to make final decisions regarding dress code issues. Parents agree to encourage their children to adhere to the school's dress code. We are not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen property.

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## **Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco/Weapon Free Zone**

This school is a drug free zone which includes the area within 300 feet of the school and its accompanying grounds, any public property within 1,000 feet of the school and its accompanying grounds, a school bus stop or on any school bus or bus which transports pupils to our school. For the purposes of Happy Valley School, alcohol is considered a dangerous drug and will be treated the same as a drug violation.

### **Drug/Alcohol Free Zone**

A.R.S. **13-3411**. [Possession, use, sale or transfer of marijuana, peyote, prescription drugs, dangerous drugs or narcotic drugs or manufacture of dangerous drugs in a drug free school zone; violation; classification](#)

### **Tobacco Free Zone**

A.R.S. **36-798.03**. [Tobacco products prohibition at schools and school-related areas; exception; violation; classification](#)

- A. Tobacco products are prohibited on school grounds, inside school buildings, in school parking lots or playing fields, in school buses or vehicles or at Off-campus School sponsored events. For purposes of this subsection, "school" means any public, charter or private school where children attend classes in kindergarten programs or grades one through twelve.
- B. Subsection A of this section does not apply to an adult who employs tobacco products as a necessary component of a school sanctioned tobacco prevention or cessation program established pursuant to section 15-712.
- C. A person who violates this section is guilty of a petty offense.

Parents/staff may not smoke or consume alcohol on or around the school property. Students accepting, purchasing, selling, or distributing illegal substance will be expelled. Students in possession of illegal drugs will be expelled.

### **Weapon Free Zone**

A.R.S. **13-3101 – 3122** [Weapons and Explosives](#)

Weapons of any kind are prohibited on campus.

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## **English Language Learners**

If a student's enrollment papers indicate that the student speaks another language predominately, the student will need to be assessed for his/her English fluency. This will be done within 60 days of enrollment. Upon assessment, the student will be classified as either English Proficient or English Learner. English Learners will be placed in a classroom with other English Learners to assist with their English Fluency progression. Parents are permitted at any time to request a meeting to discuss his/her child's assessment and classification.

Pursuant to **A.R.S. 15-751 through A.R.S. 15-756**, all children will be taught in English speaking classrooms, and all English learners will be placed in Structured English Immersion (S.E.I.) classrooms. All of our teachers have been trained for the necessary methods these classrooms require. The instruction is designed to best develop student's mastery of the English language.

Before the end of the school year, all English Learners will be reassessed for their English proficiency. If they test above the publisher's designated score for their grade level, they will be reclassified as English Proficient. Happy Valley will monitor the students for 2 years after fluency is achieved to be sure he/she is still staying above the acceptable level for their grade. If, at any time, he/she falls below the acceptable range, the student

will be reclassified as an English Learner and a meeting will be scheduled with the parents to discuss the best academic options for their child.

If your child is classified as an English Learner and you do not want him/her to participate in a Sheltered English Immersion classroom, a waiver must be obtained by the Front Office exempting them from the program. There are three acceptable reasons that your child could be excluded from the classroom.

1. The child already knows English, and his/her results meet the requirements for the grade level.
2. The child is ten years of age or older.
3. The child has special individual needs (physical or psychological) that would hinder his/her ability to be involved with an alternate course of English acquisition and education.

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## **Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination Statement**

Happy Valley School is committed to a policy that opposes discrimination based upon race, color, gender, disability, religion, and national and ethnic origin with respect to our students, parents and staff members.

Acts of discrimination are not tolerated at Happy Valley School. Please report any occurrence to the principal immediately. Incidents will be kept confidential and discussed with the principal and the parties involved. If a resolution cannot be met, the Board will intervene to settle the dispute.

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## **Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

Annual Notification to Parents Regarding Confidentiality of Student Education Records and School Directory Information.

Confidentiality of education records is a right of public school students and their parents. This right is provided for by two federal laws, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Under these laws, "educational records" means those records that are: (1) directly related to a student; and (2) maintained by an educational agency or institution or by a party acting for the agency or institution. Of course, education records are maintained on every child enrolled in public school. The types of information gathered and maintained includes, but is not limited to: the student's and parents' names, address and telephone number; the student's date and place of birth, date of enrollment in the school, records from previous schools attended, attendance record, subjects taken, grades, school activities, assessment results, number of credits earned, immunization records, disciplinary records, if any, correspondence from parents, and child find and other screening results, including hearing and vision screening results.

In addition, for children with disabilities, education records could include, among other things, evaluation and testing materials, medical and health information, each annual Individualized Education Program (IEP), notices to parents, notes regarding IEP meetings, parental consent documents, information provided by parents, progress reports, assessment results, materials related to disciplinary actions, and mediation agreements.

The information gathered from a number of sources including the student's parents and staff of the school of attendance. Also, with parental permission, information may be gathered from additional sources including doctors and other health care providers.

This information is collected to assure proper identification of a student and the student's parents and the maintenance of accurate records of the student's progress and activities in school. For children with disabilities, additional information is collected in order to assure the child is identified evaluated, and provided a Free Appropriate Public Education in accordance with state and federal special education laws.

Each agency participating under Part B of IDEA must assure that at all stages of gathering, storing, retaining, and disclosing education records to third parties that it complies with the federal confidentiality laws. In

addition, the destruction of any education records of a child with a disability must be in accordance with IDEA regulatory requirements.

The federal Family Policy Compliance Office of the U.S. Department of Education has provided the following notice of parent's rights under FERPA. In accordance with IDEA, the rights of the parents regarding education records are transferred to the student at age 18.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parents or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.  
Parents or eligible students may ask a school district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading.

If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, a school may disclose education records, without consent, to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, if the school states in its annual notification of FERPA rights that it forwards records on request.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U. S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by a school to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U. S. Department of Education  
600 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20204-6005

A school may designate information in education records as "directory information" and may disclose it without parent consent, unless notified that the school is not to disclose the information without consent. The law defines "directory information" as follows:

The student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of the athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

Notices of these rights are available, upon request, on audio tape, in Braille, and in languages other than English. You may contact the Arizona Department of Education at 602-542-3111.

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## **Field Trips**

Parents sign a written permission form in order for their child(ren) to participate in field trips. While on field trips, students are required to follow all policies and rules that apply at school. Students who are transported by the school are under the authority of the operator of the school approved vehicle and all other supervising adults.

Parents, volunteers, and all who supervise students on field trips must read and sign our "Volunteer Agreement" prior to the trip. Parents and volunteers must speak English or bring a translator to facilitate supervision responsibilities. Adult supervisors/volunteers may ride school provided transportation. Siblings of students and other children **may not** ride school provided transportation and should not accompany or join the class on field trips, which are for the benefit of students in the class.

Please inform your child's teacher if they will need a school lunch or if you will be sending a home lunch when you return your permission slip. Students should not bring food onto the bus. If the student has a special dietary requirement, please notify the teacher and the student's food will be marked and kept with the field trip lunches.

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## **Grades**

Students are required to demonstrate mastery of all subjects at the 85% level. If the student does not achieve 85%, the material will be re-taught and re-tested (up to three times) until the student does achieve 85% mastery. If a student cannot consistently achieve 85% mastery, a move to a less rigorous academic class/level will be considered for the purpose of strengthening the student's academic foundation.

Grades are given in core classes, percentages to reflect actual achievement. At times it may be appropriate to give a student an "Incomplete = I" on their report card. In this instance the child has one month to complete the required work, or the grade becomes a failing grade.

**A = 94 to 100**

**D = 73 to 79.5**

**B = 87 to 93.5**

**F = 0 to 72.5**

**C = 80 to 86.5**

**Music, computer, & PE give letter grades only.**

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## **Harassment, Threats, Bullying**

Harassment, threats, bullying and other aggressive behavior have no place in the lives of our children. Such actions violate state and federal laws, and will not be tolerated at Happy Valley School. Teasing and making fun of others falls into the category of harassment. The Discipline Policy makes provisions for dealing with these violations.

Anyone who believes they are a victim of harassment, threats or bullying at Happy Valley School, or knows of someone else who is, should report it immediately to a staff member.

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## Homeless Students

Happy Valley School will enroll homeless children identified by school personnel and through coordinated activities with other agencies or entities.

Homeless children are enrolled in and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in Happy Valley School.

Homeless families and children will receive educational services for which such family's children are eligible including referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services and other appropriate services.

Parents or guardians of homeless children are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children. Parents of homeless children are encouraged to participate in the education of their children. Any enrollment disputes are to be mediated in accordance with Title X, Part C. Section 722(g)(I)(A) paragraph (3) (E).

Parents of homeless children are informed of all available transportation services at the school.

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## Homework

It is our philosophy that there is adequate time during school for students' academic learning. Happy Valley School requires parents to spend a minimum of 20 minutes per day listening to their child read. This is critical in kindergarten and lower form (first and second grade levels). The school may ask parents for additional help with students who need extra reinforcement of academic skills. Older grades may require more time to complete their reading. Parents need to help their children to remember to return readers and homework assignments the next school day. Parents are required to meet with the teacher and /or administration when requested. Parents are required to review their child's packet of sample work each week and provide encouragement and praise to their child.

The sixth grade will receive homework limited to 60 minutes per day in order to prepare them for the rigors of junior high school.

## Honor Roll

It is the intent of Happy Valley School to recognize students who demonstrate honor in their behavior and academic progress at school, students who don't demonstrate honorable character may not be eligible for honor roll. Honor Roll students will receive certificates in their classrooms every quarter. The criteria for making honor roll are:

<b>1st Honor Roll</b>	94% - 100% on quarterly grades
<b>2nd Honor Roll</b>	90% - 93% on quarterly grades

### **What can disqualify your child from Honor Roll:**

- *Math facts not being mastered*
- *D or F on the report card*
- *Pink Slip (Up to the discretion of the Principal)*

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## Immunization

Parents must give copies of immunization records to the school. The State of Arizona has revised the immunization requirements for kindergarten and first grade children entering school. Parents should contact their physicians, the Arizona Immunization Program Office at (602) 230-2552, or the school nurse if they have any questions or need clarification.

Inadequately immunized children must have at least one current dose of each vaccine to attend school. Additional vaccine doses must be received when they are due for children to continue attending school. If there is a personal or religious beliefs exemption, the parent must sign an Arizona Department of Health Services form provided by the school or health department. If there is a physical exemption, the same form must be signed by both the parent and physician. The school nurse can provide this form if you require one. In the event of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease, children who are exempt from immunization will not be allowed to attend school until the risk period ends.

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## **Insurance**

Parents are responsible for their children's medical or dental costs if they are injured during school activities.

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## **Kindergarten Acceptance**

Children entering Kindergarten must be five years of age prior to September 1st of the current school year. Parents and guardians are required to furnish proof of their children's date of birth. The school may admit children who turn 5 after September 1<sup>st</sup> if it is in the best interest of the child.

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## **Leave at Home**

Items that might disrupt class or cause injuries must be left at home. These items include such things as chewing gum, fidget spinners, skates, radios, squirt guns, skateboards, baseballs, electronic pets, yo-yos, toys, trading cards, smart devices. These and other items that become a problem will be taken away by the teacher or principal and returned only to a parent/guardian.

Weapons, including guns and knives of any type are prohibited on campus by any student or adult. Bringing a weapon of any type onto campus by a student will result in law enforcement being contacted and immediate expulsion of the student.

**Electronic Devices** are prohibited on campus. Cell phones, radios, CDs and CD players, iPods, MP3 players, Gameboys, Nintendo DS and other smart devices. These devices must be stowed in a secure backpack or given to the teacher upon entering campus. If you feel there is a reason your child needs these items, please contact the office. Abusing this policy will result in the confiscation of the device. Parents must come to retrieve it.

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## **Lost and Found**

*Please put your children's names on clothing and all personal belongings brought to school.* At the end of the year, or when the lost and found becomes too full, we donate everything to a charitable group.

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## **Lunch**

Hot lunch calendars are sent out monthly with a deadline date for ordering. Hot lunches must be ordered and paid in advance. Our catering company delivers fresh food every day that meets or exceeds national nutritional requirements, and milk is served with hot lunch.

Students may order milk even though they do not order hot lunch, or they may order an additional milk to go with their lunch.

Hot lunch orders cannot be adjusted on a daily basis. Our caterer requires that we order lunches in advance and does not refund payments we make to their company, regardless of the reason the student did not take the lunch that was ordered.

Happy Valley ~ East Campus participates in the National School Lunch Program and offers lunches free or at a reduced price. Free and reduced price lunch applications are sent out at the beginning of the school year and are also available in the office. Students on free or reduced lunch must fill out a lunch order with the days marked in order to receive hot lunch.

All lunch and milk orders must be paid by debit, credit, check or money order.

## **Nurse**

Either a nurse or health assistant is on duty during regular school hours. All medications checked in at the nurse's office. We ask that all parents complete an Emergency Card for each one of their children. These cards must be filled out completely on both sides.



Like you, we want to do what is best for your children. If we cannot reach you in an emergency, we will call paramedics who may decide an ambulance should be called. The cost of this service is the responsibility of the parents.

The school medication policies are:

- Parents must deliver and pick up medication to and from school.
- The school will give only medications that cannot be given at home. For instance, medication that is three times daily can be given by the parent before school, after school and before bedtime as directed by a physician.
- A signed medical consent form is required. Medication will be given for one day only with verbal permission.
- Medication must be in original prescription container. A separate school bottle can be obtained by the pharmacy when ordered by the physician.
- Physician must sign a consent form for prescription medication.
- If medical instructions change, a written doctor's order must be sent to the school nurse unless medication is brought in a new prescription bottle from the pharmacy reflecting the changes.
- Student may not carry an inhaler. These must be left with the nurse.
- The nurse will dispense cough or allergy medications or pain medication for only one day when parents give verbal permission by phone.
- The school reserves the right to refuse to give any medication.

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## **P. E. Excused or Limited**

If your children need to have their P. E. activities excused or limited, please send a written note. The staff office may make a phone call to verify parental permission.

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## **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Due to the amount of time it takes from teaching and teacher preparation time, we do not have formal parent teacher conferences. Teachers are very involved with students from 8:00 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. If you need to contact them to set up a meeting, call the front desk and leave a message for the teacher to call you or email the teacher at their School email address. They will contact you before or after the times above. Teachers send home samples of school work every week. We have found this to be a more effective way of keeping parents informed of the progress of their children. Parents may arrange a visit with teachers when it is deemed necessary. We suggest that parents arrange such visits with teachers before and after school.

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## Phone Calls

Please have your children arrange for rides home, going to friends' homes, etc. before school hours. We discourage students from using the phone unless an emergency occurs.

It is better for parents to call before or after school if they find it necessary to talk to their children's teachers during the day. Parents may leave a message at the front office, and teachers will return these calls as soon as possible.

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## Report Cards

Report cards are issued every nine weeks, taken home by the students, signed by the parents and the envelope returned. The information on the report card includes numeric grades reflecting achievement in all academic subjects. Students are tested at the beginning and at the end of the school year to determine academic progress in reading, spelling and math.

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## Resumes

All employees' resumes are on file in the front office. Parents can request a teacher's resume at any time.

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## Rules

Rules are an important part of the educational environment. Each teacher sets the rules for his or her classroom. The principal and directors, with input from teachers and parents, set the rules for the school. School rules include those listed under the Discipline section in this handbook and the following:

- Follow directions immediately.
  - Keep hands and feet to yourself.
  - Keep eyes and ears on the teacher or task.
  - Use positive words and actions.
  - Walk quietly and orderly in the hallways.
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## School Pictures

The school sponsors fall uniformed pictures. Pictures are mainly for the school yearbook and computer programs. Therefore, *students must be in uniform* for fall school pictures. We generally offer spring pictures in which students may dress up and uniforms are not required. Thank you for your help and support during school pictures.

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## Special Education

### Public Awareness AAC R7-2-401.C

It is Happy Valley School's responsibility to inform the general public and all parents of students enrolled in our school of our responsibility to make available special education services for students with disabilities aged 3 through 21 and how to access those services. In addition, we provide information regarding early intervention services for children age birth through 2 years of age.

### Child Identification and Referral AAC R7-2-401.D

We establish, implement and make available written procedures to identify and refer all children with disabilities aged birth through 21 including children with disabilities attending private schools and home schools regardless of the severity of their disability

## **Free and Appropriate Public Education**

We provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) which includes special education and related services for students with disabilities.

We do not limit admission based on ethnicity, national origin, gender, income level, disabling condition, or proficiency in the English language, or athletic ability; and we will enroll all eligible students who submit a timely application, unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a class, grade level or building.

This school maintains documentation and annually reports to the Arizona Department of Education the number of children as well as their categories of disability.

The Parent Information Network, available through the Arizona Department of Education website ([www.azed.gov/ess](http://www.azed.gov/ess)) has information about organizations that offer information and training for parents of students with disabilities.

If you have any concerns about your child, please contact Ms. Bishop at 480-888-1342 for more information.

Happy Valley School Special Education Policies and Procedures are available for review.

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## **Technology**

### **Academic Technology**

Happy Valley School has embraced technology for learning. We have recently upgraded our computer lab with new computers and the most up-to-date educational software.

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## **Visitors & Volunteers**

We welcome and encourage parent visits; however, remember that parent visits can be distracting to the learning environment. Unless a parent is scheduled to help the teacher as a volunteer, surprise visits should be avoided, if possible. We encourage parents to make these visits as brief as possible. To ensure the security of students, all visitors must check in at the front office and sign the Visitor/Volunteer Register. Visitors are welcome at our assemblies, but they must obtain a visitor's pass and go directly to and from the area of assembly. Students may not bring friends, younger siblings, or other relatives to school with them. Volunteers are welcome and appreciated at all grade levels. Their help and special skills are always welcome and greatly needed. We love our volunteers to help throughout the school year in the following areas: 1st week of school helpers, Picture Day assistants, School-sponsored events, cafeteria assistance, and health office assistance with vision & hearing screenings. Frequent parent volunteers must be fingerprinted and receive clearance prior to volunteering at the school. Parents needing fingerprinting information may contact the office.

Visitors and volunteers should never:

- Pick up a student; place a student on their lap; hold a student close physically; massage, caress, or kiss them; or express affection toward any student physically or verbally other than their own child.

- Verbally or physically punish their child in front of other children.

- Yell at, grab, touch, strike, or be physically antagonistic toward any child, staff member or other adult.

- Correct, discipline, question, or give order to any student other than their own, except to prevent immediate injury.

- Physically examine any child in any way (hair, mouth, feet, areas beneath clothing, etc.).

- Pick up or move a student who has fallen, been injured or has become ill. It is imperative that proper first aid procedures be followed when any emergency situation occurs. Visitors or volunteers should summon the nurse or other staff member to take care of the problem unless they have professional knowledge, experience and training regarding the situation at hand or unless a life-threatening condition exists.

Allow themselves to come in contact with the blood, saliva, or other body secretions of students or anyone else on campus, field trips or school related activities. The use of gloves and taking other precautionary measures to protect themselves is imperative.

Parents and visitors should not accompany students to classes in the morning, or attempt to visit with students or teachers after 8:00 a.m. when teachers are going to the morning assembly. We encourage parents to contact the teacher via email during the day, or to call either before or after school if you need to speak with them.

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### **Water Bottles**

Students are permitted to bring water bottles with water only. When the weather is warm, we would like parents to send water bottles with their child's names clearly written on them for use on the bus and in the classroom. Water bottles are placed on a back shelf in the classroom and not permitted at students' desks.

