



HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Website:
www.kewaskumschools.org

"KIDS COME FIRST"

Our school is a place where active learning and exploration are fostered. We hope that students, parents, and staff will all work together to make this school the BEST! Remember, this is our school; it will reflect our ideas, attitudes, and care. Our success in this school relies upon all of our efforts. The more committed each of us are to working together, the more success we will create for our school community. If you have any questions or concerns, please address them with your child's teacher as soon as possible. You may also request a meeting with the building guidance counselor or building principal.

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

It is the policy of the Kewaskum School District, that no person, on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, religion, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability, may be denied admission to any school in this district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extra-curricular, pupil services, recreational, or other program (Policy #411). If any person believes that they have been discriminated against they may bring a complaint to the administration office at Kewaskum School District (Policy #411.5).

1. FARMINGTON PHONE NUMBERS -
692-9032 or 626-8427 ext. 3000
FAX - 692-6863
2. OFFICE HOURS-
7:45 am - 4:15 pm
3. STUDENT DAY** -
9:00 am - 3:50 pm

**4 Year Old KINDERGARTEN DAY
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:

AM CLASS 9:00 am - 11:50 am
PM CLASS 1:00 pm - 3:50 pm
There is no 4K on Wednesday.

Our school busses are to arrive with the pupils between 8:40 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

***For the safety and well-being of our students, we ask that students not arrive at school until after 8:45 a.m. or be picked up after 3:50 p.m. Supervision is only available from 8:50 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.*

4. We are a secured building. The front doors (Door #1) are unlocked from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 3:50 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The entrance by the gym (Door #3) is unlocked from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Students who arrive after 9:00 a.m. should enter through the front doors (Door #1).

From 9:00 a.m. to 3:50 p.m., the front doors are locked. Please press the buzzer, located to the left of the front doors, to be admitted to the school.

PHONE CALLS

Students will not be called from class for phone calls **except in extreme emergencies**. Students will only be allowed to use the office phone with building staff permission. Room phones will ring before 9:00 a.m. or after 3:45 p.m. If you call between these times, you will need to leave a message on voice mail.

SCHOOL CLOSING

In the event that school is to be closed due to bad weather or other emergency conditions, you should not call the school. School closings will be announced, according to school board policy #324, on radio stations: WBKV (92.5 FM and 1470 AM) in West Bend, WHBL (97.7 FM and 1330 AM) in Sheboygan, KFIZ (107 FM and 1450 AM) in Fond du Lac, and WTMJ (620 AM) in Milwaukee. Closings are also announced on television channels 12 and 4.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is an important factor in achieving success. Wisconsin laws provide that all school age children must attend school unless they are ill or officially withdrawn from school. The state statute 118.16(1)(a), as of July 1, 1998, defines habitually absent/tardy students as those who miss any part of five or more days during a single semester (1/2 year).

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

A. All excused absences require parent or guardian written or verbal verification to the school attendance officer, school attendance secretary, or designee. Parents are encouraged to call school early in the day of the absence, rather than waiting for the school to contact them.

B. A parent or guardian may excuse his/her child from attendance at school under the following conditions:

1. The parent or guardian provides the

school a written notice in advance of the absence of the child.

2. The parent or guardian may NOT excuse the child for more than 10 days of school during a school year.

C. The school attendance officer is empowered to approve a legal excuse to any student for the following reasons:

1. Evidence that the student is not in proper physical or mental condition to attend school or an education program. The district may require the parent or guardian to obtain a written statement from a physician or licensed practitioner as proof of the physical or mental condition of the student. Such excuse shall be made in writing, shall state the period of time for which it is valid and shall not exceed 30 days. The excuse can be renewed for additional 30 day periods as required.

2. An illness in the immediate family which requires the absence of the student because of family responsibilities. The district may require the parent or guardian to obtain a written statement from a physician or licensed practitioner as proof of need.

3. A death in the immediate family or funerals for close relatives or close friends.

4. Religious/Ethnic holidays - The school needs to be informed in advance of these absences.

5. A quarantine as imposed by a public health officer.

6. Approved school activities during class time.

7. Special circumstances that show good cause which are approved in advance by the school attendance officer or designee.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES: All unexcused absences will result in a letter mailed home to inform the parents or guardian of their responsibilities under the law. Truancy cases, as defined by Wisconsin Statutes, will be referred to the Dept. of Social Services.

A. Students who are absent from school, but whose reason for absence does not fall under the reasons above, shall be considered unexcused. The school attendance officer may assign detention, in school suspensions, or other penalties to a student who has been unexcused absent.

B. The parent or guardian of each student who is absent unexcused from school shall be notified by the school within two school days. At least one attempt shall be made by telephone, but if this is unsuccessful, the school will mail a written notice to the parent or guardian.

C. Absences due to suspension out of school shall be considered unexcused, but shall not be considered to be truant.

D. Students who are truant for more than three times in a semester shall meet with the school attendance officer or guidance counselor on their return to school for a conference to attempt to improve the student's attendance.

E. Students who are absent unexcused may be apprehended by the local police or by the school attendance officer and/or designee during the school day and returned to school immediately. The parents shall be notified as soon as possible about the student's unexcused absence and his/her return to school and shall be encouraged to come to school for a conference at that time or later. The student will meet with the school attendance officer and then be returned to class or assigned to another school location for the remainder of the day.

TARDINESS: A student arriving late must report to the office whether or not he/she has a written excuse with him/her from home. The parent or guardian should sign the student in before sending the child to class advising the office as to the reason for the child's tardiness.

PERMIT TO LEAVE THE BUILDING: Once students arrive at school, they are not to leave school grounds without a written permission slip from a parent or guardian.

Students must be signed out in the school office. If it is necessary for a student to leave school because of illness, he/she must report to the office so a parent or guardian may be contacted.

MAKE-UP WORK: Whenever the absence excuse is acceptable, work missing during that time must be made up (Board Policy #431.2,C).

ILLNESS: When a child becomes ill at school, we will first contact the parent. If the parent cannot be reached, we will then contact the emergency number on the child's current enrollment card. **Please be sure to keep emergency cards updated.**

When the school determines the child is too ill or injured to remain in class, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to pick your child up and provide care for them.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please inform the office if you change your address, telephone number, or **emergency medical information** at any time during the year.

INSURANCE

The school district does not carry student accident insurance. There is no general student coverage and there is no insurance on athletes. If parents are interested in purchasing general accident insurance, they should consult their insurance agent.

VISITORS

Immediately upon entering the building, visitors are required to register at the office and pick up a visitor tag. This will assure the

safety and well-being of everyone in our building and will allow visitors to receive a warm welcome upon beginning their visit.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Appointments can be made with teachers, the counselor, or the principal any time throughout the school year by calling the office at **692-9032**. Scheduled conferences are held in the fall and spring of each school year.

RETENTION

Retention is rare, but at times it is necessary to assist students with their learning. Parents will be notified of possible retention and will be involved in the planning meeting to monitor the student's progress. The parents' acceptance or refusal of the recommendation will be documented in the student's permanent record folder (Policy #448).

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

FIRE DRILLS

Drills are held monthly during the school year. In order to evacuate the building safely, students must follow teachers' instructions and directions posted in each room.

1. Walk at all times, and keep walking until you are at least two hundred feet away from the building.
2. Maintain silence when leaving or returning to the building so that teachers' verbal instructions may be heard and understood.
3. Listen for a bell to signal your return to the building.

TORNADO DRILLS

The building is not to be evacuated in the event of a tornado or other severe weather threat, unless staff and students are so directed. Any severe weather warning will be related to you via the public address system. Remain calm and quiet in order to hear directions. The teacher will direct students to move to a designated area in the building that will provide the greatest safety.

LOCK DOWN DRILLS

In the event of an intruder alert, teachers will be designated to lock down the building. Students are to follow teacher instructions. In most cases, students will not be aware a drill is occurring.

FIRST AID

Any injury which occurs at school or at a school activity is to be reported to the staff person in charge. Needs will be addressed through the office staff. Please inform the school if your child sustained an injury during the school day which required medical attention.

STUDENT MEDICATION

Students requiring medication at school shall be identified by parents to the building administrator through the school office staff.

1. Prescription medication to be given in school must be accompanied by a medication permission slip signed by both the physician and the parent.
2. All medication must be brought to the school office in a properly labeled container. Prescription medication must be in the original bottle issued by the pharmacy. The following information must be on it:
 - a. student's name
 - b. name of medication
 - c. dosage and time to be administered

3. Inhalers may be kept in the locked first aid cabinet located in the school's office area or may be carried by a student when a parent permission form to that effect is on file in the school office.

PRAYER IN THE SCHOOL

No district employee shall require children to say prayers in classrooms, nor shall students or staff be prevented from the exercise of private prayer within the school district (Board Policy #323.3)

LUNCH

Students may purchase lunches daily or for an extended time period. Purchased lunches do **NOT** have to be used on consecutive days.

Lunches are available to be purchased each morning. It is recommended that lunches be purchased in minimum units. Please refer to the letter from our Child Nutrition Director for greater detail.

Students use a computerized lunch system.

1. Each student will be issued a 4-digit pin number (I.D. number) and assigned a lunch account that the computer will keep track of. The system will be set up using family accounts, not individual accounts. It is a prepaid system with a variety of payment methods (weekly, monthly, semester, etc.) If you have more than one child, you make one **FAMILY** deposit.
2. Parents should send a check to Child Nutrition Office, Kewaskum High School, 1510 Bilgo Lane, Kewaskum, WI 53040, or it may be brought to any of the school offices. **Please make your checks payable to: Child Nutrition Program.** Since the daily

lunch charge is \$1.50 for our elementary students, it is suggested that a minimum of \$7.50 per child be deposited. Families receiving reduced price meals should deposit \$4.00 per child. Students approved for free lunches will automatically receive a PIN number.

3. When going through the lunch line, each student will submit their PIN number to the cashier and the amount of purchase is subtracted from the appropriate account balance.
4. This system is similar to a checking account. It is necessary to put money into the account in order to buy a lunch. If your account balance falls below a determined amount, we will let you know.

Any remaining funds in the family accounts at the end of the school year will be carried over to your account for the next school year. Or, the remaining funds will be returned to you at your request.

There are many advantages to this computerized program. It offers a more efficient accounting system for your children, you and the district. The computer will notify the cashier of any restrictions the parents feel necessary such as: lactose intolerance, diabetic, one meal per day only, etc.

MILK

A carton of milk may be purchased for consumption at lunch time for a cost of \$0.30 which will be deducted from the family account. White and chocolate milk are available. Milk is purchased in the lunch area each day.

Students in grades Kindergarten through five (5) wishing to participate in a daily morning milk break may do so on a semester basis **ONLY**. The cost per semester is \$27.00.

If a child does not choose to drink milk, a beverage may be brought to school, however, no soda is permitted. **SEPARATE CHECKS MUST BE MADE OUT FOR LUNCH, MILK, AND OTHER SCHOOL PURCHASES.**

Lunch and milk for lunch checks should be made payable to: **Child Nutrition Program.**

Milk break and other checks should be made payable to: FARMINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

In the check memo area please identify the purpose for the individual checks; such as lunch money, milk break money, field trip money, etc.)

FIELD TRIPS

Written parental permission is **always** obtained before any pupil may take part in a field trip outside the district.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students are required to participate in physical education unless excused for a medical reason. A written excuse is required to be turned into the office. A doctor's excuse is required for extended absence from class.

DEPARTURE OF PUPILS IN THE AFTERNOON

All pupils will be dismissed at 3:40 p.m. Pupils who ride the busses are to go directly from their classes to the waiting busses. If you are planning on picking up your child from school, please send a note with your

child that day.

Parents, who pick up their children, should park at the south end of the parking lot and enter the school through the doors by the gym/cafeteria (Door #3)

Please wait in the cafeteria for the dismissal of your child(ren) and check in with the staff member in charge. We request that you sign-out your child with this staff member prior to leaving. The staff member will have the sign out sheet with her/him.

If your child is staying for an after school activity, please also send a note indicating that.

BUSSES

Busses will load and unload at the front entrance of the school. It is important that pupils leave the building in an orderly manner and walk to their respective bus to avoid accidents from running, pushing, etc. If a pupil misses his/her bus, the parent/guardian will be called to pick him/her up.

Students may alter their regular bus stop by bringing a completed **"Bus Slip" form (goldenrod colored)** identifying a bus stop change for the evening from a parent or guardian. All bus stop slips are to be taken to the office in the morning for authorization. Authorized slips will be returned to the students before they board the buses; slips must be given to the bus drivers. ***Bus drivers will NOT allow students to ride altered busses/routes without the authorized slips and this will be reinforced by the school.*** This is a safety issue for the protection of students. Bus slips are given out at registration and additional slips may be obtained at any time from the school office.

Please note that if you do not want your

*child to ride home on the bus, we **must** have a note. We cannot take the child's word for it.*

Long term changes need to be addressed through Johnson Bus; 626-4414 (Policy #751.1).

ROLLER BLADES, ROLLER SKATES AND SKATE BOARDS

As in the past, roller blades and roller skates will be permitted to be used during lunch recess only. For safety purposes, any student who wishes to use them must wear helmet, kneepads and elbow pads. Skating will not be allowed unless safety equipment is worn. Skateboards will not be allowed to be used.

DRESS CODE

Students' dress and grooming needs are to meet the general decency standards of the Kewaskum community at large and the students in the various schools in the district. The students' dress may not endanger the public health and safety of others or be disruptive to the educational process (Policy #443.1).

Students may not wear any article of clothing depicting alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, violence, obscene words, gestures and/or pictures, or any suggestive words, pictures and/or gestures. Shirts/blouses, which expose the midriff, may not be worn. Shirts with shoulder straps that expose the shoulders must be at least one inch wide so as no undergarment can be exposed. Short shorts and short skirts are not allowed. Flip flops are highly discouraged because of the number of foot and toe injuries we see on the playground. Parents of students wearing inappropriate clothing to school may be called and asked to bring a change of clothing for their child, or school clothing may be borrowed, if available.

During the school day, students are not

allowed to wear any head coverings or other articles of clothing that create a disruption to the learning process unless prescribed by a doctor, as part of a religious tradition, or as part of an all-school activity. This includes but is not limited to hats, scarves, caps, bandannas, etc. When caps are worn outside on school grounds, they should be worn with the brim facing forward to discourage the appearance of gang affiliations.

We all know that clothing costs are very high. Because of this, all articles of clothing should be taken home every day after school. We keep acquiring entirely too much clothing during each school year and this should not be happening. Articles kept in the hall must be hung up or put away neatly every day. Anything found should be taken to the school office or the lost and found box in the school entrance. **We encourage shoes, boots, mittens, etc. to be labeled with the student's name.** Any clothes which remain at the end of the school year will be donated to a local charity.

VIDEO TAPING & PHOTOGRAPHING

Students may be video taped or photographed during the year to be used for school district related purposes. If you have any concerns regarding this matter, please contact the superintendent.

RECESS

An important part of the students' school experience is that of socialization. One key component to this occurs through recess. All students are expected to participate in such activities. Recess times allow the children opportunities to develop/ refine their communication skills, manners/respect for others, and motor skills, while taking a break from their academic learning.

If children are healthy enough to be at school, they are expected to participate in recess activities. In special circumstances, or with a doctor's excuse, prior arrangements need to be made by the parent/guardian with the child's classroom teacher. Such arrangements will be made on an individual basis with the goal of having all students participate in recess activities.

In accordance with Policy #453.6, students will remain outside except in inclement weather defined as rain, heavy snow, temperatures below +5 degrees F or a wind chill below -10 degrees below F.

FEES AND FINES

All fines are expected to be paid by the last day of school. If fines are not paid, your child's report card may be withheld. Any unpaid fees or fines may be turned over to a collection agency.

ANIMALS IN SCHOOL

Parents or children wishing to bring animals to school must receive prior permission from the principal to insure the guidelines of Policy #455.6 are followed. No kittens or puppies less than 3 months old, no turtles and no prairie dogs are permitted in the building due to health related issues. Dogs are not permitted on school property without specific permission.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS AND INTERVENTION

Please read over the Farmington Elementary Behavior Handbook and have your child sign it. Please keep it on hand as a reference during the school year.

Also, please note the new Policy #447.2 regarding classroom code of conduct.

SNACKS IN SCHOOL

Snacks are to be eaten at recess or noon. In accordance with the school's new health policy, snacks should be as healthy as possible. Fruit, granola bars, etc. are strongly encouraged. Candy, soda and sugar based snacks are not permitted.

CAFETERIA

All pupils eating hot or cold lunch are to make sure their place setting at the lunch table is cleaned up after they have finished eating. Food from the cafeteria may not be taken outside the cafeteria area.

HALL MANNERS

The halls in this school are used by all pupils every day of the school year. At times many pupils may be in the halls at one time. ***To keep this movement as smooth as possible, there is to be no running or pushing at any time.*** When in the halls, pupils should be as quiet as possible. The halls are to be used only when necessary and aimless walking or constant inside/outside movement during recess or noon hours will not be permitted.

USE OF BATHROOMS

The bathrooms of the school are to be kept clean at all times. Anyone writing on any surfaces, locking bathroom stalls, or messing up a bathroom area may be suspended. Consequences will result. Pupils are not to loiter in these areas.

PUPIL'S DESKS

The desks used for storage of school supplies are school property and should not

be abused in any way. Because of our organization, some pupils use different desks during the school day. No one has any right to go into any desk that does not contain his or her school supplies and books.

RESPECT FOR FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT

We have a great amount of valuable furniture and equipment throughout our school. Pupils are expected to use the furniture and equipment with great care. Any pupil who deliberately damages any furniture or equipment will be disciplined according to the severity of his/her actions and parents/guardians may be asked to make restitution for such damages.

PLAYGROUND

The playground will be used by the primary and intermediate pupils at different times. This is done to alleviate problems or injuries during the lunch hour and during recesses.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Playground equipment should be highly respected by all pupils. Equipment belonging to any room should be clearly marked so that it remains with that room. Pupils taking equipment from any room will be responsible for its return.

Our playground equipment is located on the north and east side of the playground. Falling from any of this equipment can cause injuries. Pupils should not get careless while playing on any of the playground equipment. Baseballs (hard balls) and bats (metal and wooden) are not allowed.

SNOWBALLS

Throwing snowballs can be very dangerous. Because of this possible danger, there is to be absolutely no throwing of snowballs at any time on the school grounds unless supervised by an adult. The snowball throwing should then only take place in a designated place and at designated targets if applicable. This also includes the throwing of chunks of snow, ice, stones, dirt or woodchips.

PUPIL RESPECT

Pupils who have and show respect are well liked and admired by others. Respect is to be shown by all pupils to other pupils and members of this school staff. This includes teachers, office help, cooks and custodians. Parents/guardians can be of great assistance by teaching respect at home, which will then carry over into school.

CELL PHONES, ETC.

Use of electronic devices such as cell phones, CD players, MP3/iPOD players, headphones and laser pens is prohibited in school buildings, school grounds and in school vehicles during regular school hours. The building principal may permit a student to use these items as deemed necessary.

INCENDIARY DEVICES

Children are not allowed to bring incendiary devices or look a likes within, on, or at school sponsored events or trips. Violation can result in a range of suspension to expulsion. (Policy #443.61)

DANGEROUS WEAPONS

Possessing of or use of a dangerous weapon, or its look alike is prohibited within, on, or at school sponsored events or trips. Violation of this Policy #443.6 could result in immediate expulsion.

USE OF THE SCHOOL BY ORGANIZATIONS

Organizations, who wish to use the school building, whether on a regular basis or just one time during the school year, must complete a "Use of Building" form and submit it to the building principal for approval. Organizations will also be required to provide a certificate of insurance.

DIRECTORY/DATA INFORMATION

Please take note of the letter and form both in your registration packet as well as in the back of this handbook.

VANDALISM

Over the last few years, we have noticed some incidents of vandalism within the school.

Each year, we address this with the students along with their role in reporting any destruction of school property when they see it. We ask that you reinforce this with your child, so we can keep our school in the best possible condition and the repairs to a minimum.

Students who are caught destroying school property will be asked to make restitution for the damage.

Through a joint effort, we are able to provide your children a great environment in which to

learn and keep the costs of building maintenance and taxes down.

CONCLUSION

We hope this handbook will be of help to all pupils and parents/guardians and that it will enable all to make school an enjoyable and successful experience.

I would like to thank the parents who have helped contribute to this handbook over the years. Your suggestions have helped clarify and simplify information for other parents. If any parent has a suggestion for the handbook, please feel free to contact the principal.

Please feel free to come to school and discuss problems or questions that you have.

We want your child to learn in a happy and safe environment.

Sincerely,

Janet Molebash
Principal