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Beaverton School 5 Year District Goal:

Increase academic achievement district-wide, for each and every student, with a special emphasis on literacy and mathematics gains for each student.

Revised January 2008

All I Really Need To Know About How To Live and What To Do And How To Be, I learned in Kindergarten.

These are the things I learned:

Share everything.

Play fair.

Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them.

Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

Wash your hands before you eat.

Flush.

Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.

Live a balanced life--learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap every afternoon.

When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands,

And stick together.

Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the Styrofoam cup:

The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

Goldfish and hamsters and white mice

and even the little seed in the styrofoam cup; they all die.

So do we.

And then remember the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned; the biggest word of all-- LOOK.

Everything you need to know is there somewhere.

The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation, ecology, and politics and sane living.

Think of what a better world it would be if we all, the whole world,

had cookies and milk about 3 o'clock every afternoon

and then lay down with our blankets for a nap.

Or we had a basic policy in our nation and other nations,

to always put things back where we found them and clean up our own messes.

And it is still true; no matter how old you are, when you go out in the world,

it is best to hold hands and stick together.

--- Robert Fulghum

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS...

To register your child in kindergarten at a Beaverton School for the upcoming school year, your child must be five years old on or before September 1. This date must be verified with a **birth certificate or other proof of birth date** at the time of registration.

Your school will give you forms to complete in order to register your child. Give these completed forms to the school secretary.

They include:

- completed student enrollment form
- certificate of immunization status
- birth certificate (we will make a copy of your original)
- transportation form
- migrant questionnaire

Your child's registration is complete when these forms are returned to the school!

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS...

Upon registration, you will fill out an Oregon Certificate of Immunization Status. Oregon Law requires that this immunization certificate is completed before your child may attend school. Immunizations are available through private physicians, clinics, and the Washington County Health Department (503-648-8881) in Beaverton and Hillsboro.

DPT	5 injections - series of 3 doses, 2 boosters
Polio	4 doses - series of 2 doses, 2 boosters
MMR	Measles, Mumps, Rubella - Combined injection or proof of disease.
MMR	Second dose of measles vaccine
Hepatitis B	Series of 3 doses
Chicken Pox	Varicella - 1 dose or child has had chicken pox

ATTENDANCE...

Attendance is important! It's the ticket to your child's success at school!

Research strongly supports the connection between academic achievement and attendance. Regular and punctual attendance in school is essential to a student's success. Families, schools and community members must work as a team to support school attendance. In elementary schools, parents are key players in reinforcing the habits of good attendance and punctuality. Thank you for making school attendance a priority.

It is extremely important that children begin good attendance habits early in life- starting in kindergarten. Here are just a few of the reasons why your child needs to be in school each day:


- ⌚ Students need to be in class to learn.
- ⌚ The teaching/learning process builds on lessons previously taught.
- ⌚ Lessons usually involve hands-on and teacher facilitated activities that cannot be duplicated with paper and pencil assignments outside of class.
- ⌚ Students who miss a day of school suffer because that day of instruction cannot be retrieved.
- ⌚ Students develop the habits of good attendance and punctuality for future careers.


The importance of an education cannot be underestimated. A student who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the year. Children can make up an assignment, but they can never get back what's most important: the discussions, the questions, the explanations by the teacher and the thinking that makes learning come alive.

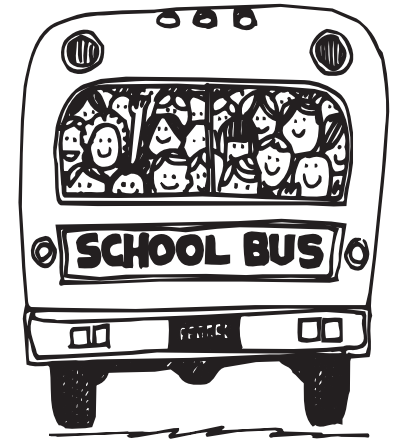
We ask all parents to join with us and make **REGULAR ATTENDANCE** an expectation and **SCHOOL** a priority each and every day. Schools are responsible for teaching your child, but schools can't do their job if your child is absent. Learning builds day by day. A child who misses a day of school, misses a day of learning.

SAFETY IN OUR SCHOOLS...

In the Beaverton School District, your child's safety is our number one concern. Our schools operate under a "closed campus" policy. This policy requires that parents sign their child "out" in the school office whenever:

 students leave the building or grounds with parent permission.

 parents want to take children out of school for appointments, illness, or transfer.



Additionally, parents and visitors entering the school building for any reason must sign in at the office and obtain a visitor sticker/badge to wear for the remainder of their stay.

Supervision for students begins when school begins and continues until the last bus leaves at dismissal time, unless special arrangements have been made for specific events. We cannot stress too strongly your responsibility to continually remind your child of the basic safety rules. It is always safest to walk your child to and from school, as well as the bus stop. It is also strongly encouraged that parents personally supervise their child at the bus stop until the bus arrives. This is also a wonderful time to get to know your neighbors! A note from home is required when there is a change in a child's bus riding or walking routine.

Safety is a partnership between school, students, and parents. If at any time you feel there is an unsafe situation at any school, please contact your school principal.

MEDICAL INFORMATION...

In order to achieve a healthy and safe school environment for all children, we need your assistance in several areas:

1. + Emergencies +

If your child is seriously injured or becomes ill, every effort will be made to contact you. Please keep your emergency information up to date, by contacting the school office, with current phone numbers of other responsible adults to call in case you are not available.

2. + Illness +

A sick child needs to be at home to protect that child and prevent exposure to other students. A child with a fever greater than 100° F may return when their temperature decreases without the use of a fever reducing medicine. A child who does not feel well may have a difficult time concentrating and will not benefit from the instruction received during that time.

3. + Health Problems +

If your child has a health problem or condition that needs to have special consideration, please contact the school.

4. + Medications required at school +

If your child needs medication during school hours, please bring that medication in the original container and check it in with the school secretary. For safety reasons, it is critical that you transport the medication and complete the necessary forms at the school. Prescription and non-prescription medication must be in the original container. When requested, pharmacists are usually willing to provide two labeled containers, one each for home and school. Listed below is additional medication information.

- Administration of non-prescription medication by school personnel requires written instructions from the student's parent. Physician orders are no longer necessary, with the exception of dosage requests that contradict the safe dosage on the bottle/container.
Self-medication of a non-prescription medicine is not allowed in elementary or middle school.

This includes only non-prescription (over-the-counter) medications. The definition of non-prescription medication is: commercially prepared, non alcohol-based medication to be taken at school that is necessary for a student to remain in school. Do not hesitate to call us if you have concerns related to the health of your child.

PREPARING FOR KINDERGARTEN...

The move from preschool to "real" school is exciting (and sometimes tearful) for both the child, as well as their parents. There's a lot you can do to make the transition to kindergarten enjoyable.

Ensure a Healthy Start: A complete physical before the start of school, including vision and hearing tests, is a good idea. Several weeks before school starts, start your child on a daily routine of regular bedtime and wake-up time. We recommend your kindergartener be in bed by 7:30 and asleep by 8:00. At this age, children need ten to eleven hours of sleep to do their very best. A good breakfast every morning will help keep them fueled until lunch.

Learning Social Skills: Sharing is a regular part of the day in kindergarten. Help your child learn to take turns by sharing toys, crayons, and games with friends and family members. Waiting is tough for preschoolers, but you can help them get used to it by saying things like, "We'll go to the park after lunch." Teach your child to communicate with words, not actions, when upset. Emphasize that screaming, crying, hitting, kicking, and other "temper tantrum" behaviors are not acceptable at school.





All by Myself: Your child should know how to zip, snap, tie, button, and fasten velcro. Be sure that your little one can also take care of his or her bathroom needs well before the first day of school. It is important that your child feels confident and secure in making decisions and handling separation from parent(s) for an extended period of time.

Begin with Basics: Go beyond teaching your child the "ABC" song by working on letter and sound recognition. Talk about the colors and shapes around you such as the round clock or the red umbrella. Make simple counting a part of your preschooler's day by counting aloud as you put each piece of silverware in the drawer, climb stairs, or bring in bags of groceries. Help your little one learn important concepts by "acting out" the differences between up and down, in and out, high and low, over and under, small and tall.





Get to Know Your School: Most importantly, you and your child will want to get to know your school. Visit the school's web page. Take your child to play at the school playground throughout the summer. Think about how you want to get involved in your child's kindergarten classroom. Do you want to teach Art Literacy? Do you want to volunteer in the classroom on a regular basis? Would you like to organize a Family Night? Contact the parent organization, as well as the school, to let them know that you want to be involved! All of these things will help you, as well as your child, get excited and feel comfortable when the school year begins.

READY OR NOT, HERE WE COME...

Getting ready for Reading:

-  holds a book and turns pages correctly
-  understands the sounds that letters make
-  recognizes a few simple words (sight words such as a, the, and)
-  reads every day/enjoys listening to stories









Getting ready for Writing:

-  can write first and last name
-  understands that words are written from left to right
-  can print letters and numbers 1 to 10
-  writes often, enjoys writing

Getting ready for Math:

- counts objects from 1 to 10
- ▲ recognizes numerals 1 to 10
- recognizes shapes: circle, square, triangle, oval, rectangle
- ◆ knows basic colors

Getting ready for Learning:

-  can correctly hold and use a pencil and crayons: traces, colors
-  cuts with scissors: cuts on line, holds correctly
-  organizes own materials: backpack and coat
-  works independently
-  follows directions
-  handles disappointment appropriately
-  cooperates with other children: sharing, taking turns
-  keeps hands and feet to self

OUR KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM IS...

- Student-Centered:** The best starting point for schooling is young people's real interests all across the curriculum.
- Experiential:** Active, hands-on, concrete experience is the most powerful and natural form of learning.
- Holistic:** Children learn best when they encounter whole ideas, events, and materials in purposeful contexts.
- Authentic:** Real, rich, complex ideas and materials are at the heart of the curriculum.
- Challenging:** Students learn best when faced with genuine challenges, choice, and responsibility for their own learning.
- Developmental:** Children grow through a series of definable, but not rigid stages. Activities match the developmental level of students.
- Expressive:** Students regularly employ the whole range of communicative media: speech, writing, drawing, poetry, music, movement, and visual arts.
- Reflective:** Learners reflect, debrief, and abstract from their experiences to process how they feel, think, and learn.
- Social:** Learning is always socially constructive and often interactive. Teachers create classroom interactions that support social growth.
- Collaborative:** Cooperative learning activities tap the social power of learning better than competitive and individualistic approaches.
- Democratic:** The classroom is a model community; students learn what they live as citizens of the classroom, as well as the school.

- **Best Practices** by Zemelman, Daniels, and Hyde -

HELPFUL HINTS...

Your child's attitude toward school is usually established long before entering school in September. The following "helpful hints" will help you and your child make a smooth transition to kindergarten:

- ✓ Point out the school as you drive or walk past and say, "Look! That's **YOUR** school. You are going to have so much fun in kindergarten!" Talk about school as an exciting milestone in their life.
- ✓ Help your child to think of teachers and principals as positive, supportive adults. They are here to help you become the best learner possible. If you have questions or concerns, they are the first people that you go to while at school.
- ✓ Visit your local library and book stores. Read a variety of stories with your child. Reading the same story more than once.... Get your child excited about books!
- ✓ Actively listen to your child and encourage verbal expression of thoughts and feelings. Help your child use language to describe experiences by asking "what, when, where" questions.
- ✓ Provide your child with opportunities for a wide variety of experiences. Take trips to zoos, parks, museums, historical sites, and special events. You can even visit the playground at your child's school.
- ✓ Give your child some "at home" responsibility such as putting toys away, setting the table, or bringing in the mail.
- ✓ Spend some "special time" with your child. This may include reading, drawing, coloring, playing with the toys, playing games, or just having fun.
- ✓ Most importantly, read, read, and read some more! 😊

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