It is the policy of Katy ISD not to discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, religion, color, gender, age, or national origin in its educational programs and/or activities, including career and technology programs, nor in its employment practices and to provide equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.
The contents of this handbook are not contractual, and do not give rise to a claim of breach of contract against KISD. Further, the contents of this handbook apply to all students of the District, as the contents now appear in the handbook or may be amended in the future.

Revised 9/19
Katy Independent School District Supports a Heart Safe School Community
Automatic External Defibrillators are on-site at all campuses and major district facilities.
## Table of Contents

I. **Absences**  
   Notifying School of Child’s Absence  
   Tardies  
   Compulsory Attendance  
   Attendance for Credit  
   Attendance Accounting  
   Common Absence Types  
   Attendance Recognition

II. **Academic Eligibility**

III. **Bullying**  
   SpeakUP Anonymous Reporting

IV. **Nutrition and Food Service**  
   Charge Policy  
   Payment Options  
   Notifications  
   Free and Reduced Meal Program  
   Severe Food Allergy/Diagnosed Disability  
   Peanut Allergy  
   Personal Food in Cafeteria, Restricted Foods  
   Smart Snack Rules

V. **Child Abuse/Neglect and Sexual Abuse**

VI. **Clinic**  
   Illness  
   Immunizations  
   Medications  
   Screenings  
   Food Allergies  
   Head Lice

VII. **Communication Between Home and School**  
   Concerns/Complaints  
   Conferences  
   Home Access Center  
   Katy *OnTheGo* App  
   SnapCode  
   Remind 101 App  
   Insurance  
   Student Directories
VIII. Procedures/Routines

Audio Recording
Birthday Treats
Campus Advisory Team
Cellular Phones
Classroom Observations
Change of Clothes
Deliveries
Dress Code
ID Badges
Mobile Learning Devices
Picking-Up Students
School Hours
Selling Items at School
Start of the Day
Toys/Valuables
Unauthorized Persons
Videotaping/Recordings and Cameras
Visitors
Withdrawals

IX. Instructional Topics

Fees
Exemptions from Fees or Deposits
Opting Out of Instructional Activities and Tests
Mandated Assessments
Student Success Initiative (SSI)
Students with Learning Difficulties
Special Education Referrals
Section 504 Referrals
Response to Intervention (RTI)
Students with Physical/Mental Impairments
Physical Education
Promotions/Retention
Child Find
Textbooks

X. Responsible Use Guidelines

XI. Student Welfare

Asbestos Management Plan
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
XII. Transportation

- Bus Eligibility
- Bus Notes
- Bus Drop-Off
- Student Trips
- Walkers
- Homeless Students

XIII. Safety/Security

- Emergency Contacts on Enrollment Card
- Playground Safety
- SpeakUP
- School Closing/Late Start
- Security

XIV. Katy ISD Instructional Calendar

XV. Campus pages
Directory Information

1. What information does Katy ISD consider “directory information?”

Certain information about district students is considered directory information and will be released to anyone who follows the procedures for requesting the information unless the parent or guardian objects to the release of the directory information about the student. If you do not want Katy ISD to disclose directory information from your child’s education records without prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing within two weeks of enrollment. Katy ISD has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student name
- Address
- Primary telephone listing
- Photograph
- Honors and awards received
- Dates of school attendance
- Grade level
- Most recent educational institution attended
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams.

2. Is directory information confidential?

Directory information on a student, as defined above, is not confidential unless a parent/guardian indicates that it should be made so. This is the reason that parents/guardians are asked to select a privacy code at the beginning of each school year. The privacy code chosen informs the District as to what, if any, directory information about a child is to be released.

3. What are the privacy code options from which a parent/guardian can choose?

There are three privacy codes from which a parent/guardian may choose: Y - Yes, O - Other, and N - No. Parents who do not fully register through Power School will default to the “N - No” code. Please refer to the chart for the implications of each code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Privacy Code Selections and Implications</th>
<th>“Y”</th>
<th>“O”</th>
<th>“N”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School-Confined Publications</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs for Performances</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yearbook</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional School Group or Class Photos</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officially-designated vendors for school-related purposes</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Public: Anyone making a public information request</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Releases</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Directories</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Publications (Available to Public)</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District/Campus Webpage</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs Released to the Public</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media Platforms</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Under what circumstances may directory information be released?

Katy ISD is required to provide information to any member of the public who asks for it under the Texas Public Information Act unless the parent selects a privacy code of “N - No” or “O - Other.”

5. Is a privacy code selection confidential?

Yes. A privacy code selection made by a parent/guardian is confidential and is only released to employees who have a legitimate need to know, under the law.

6. Is it possible for a parent/guardian to change their student’s privacy code during the course of the year?

Parents/guardians do have the right to change their student’s privacy code. However, it is not recommended that parents/guardians change their student’s privacy code after the school year has started because most campuses have a process in place whereby teachers are expected to become knowledgeable about the privacy codes of their individual students so that they can adhere to these codes consistently. Additionally, the District has no ability to recall information that was released prior to a change of code.

7. How can a parent/guardian prevent their student’s directory information from being released to an outside third-party?

Katy ISD, as stated previously, is required to provide information to any member of the public who asks for it under the Texas Public Information Act unless the parent selects a privacy code of “N - No” or “O - Other.”

8. Why do parents/guardians have to designate a separate choice for military recruiters and institutions of higher learning?

Federal law requires districts receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 USC Section 6301 et seq.) to provide a military recruiter or institution of higher education, on request, with the name, address, and telephone number of a secondary student unless the parent has advised the district that the parent does not want the student’s information disclosed without the parent’s prior written consent. If a parent decides to opt out of directory information being released to the military or institutions of higher learning, their student’s address, and telephone number is confidential and will not be released. This code may not be split to allow only military recruiters or institutions of higher education access but not the other. This selection is treated separately from the “Y,” “N,” and “O” code chosen for directory information purposes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shared with Military Recruiters or Institutions of Higher Learning</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I. Absences

Notifying School of Child’s Absence:

● On the day that the student is absent, the parent/guardian should contact the Attendance Clerk as early as possible to notify the school of the absence. If a parent/guardian does not make telephone or personal contact with the Attendance Clerk, the student must bring a note or email signed by the parent or guardian on the date(s) of return to school. The note must include the reason for the absence, the student’s grade level, first and last name, and the dates of absence. **Telephone or personal contact by the parent with the Attendance Clerk is the preferred method of reporting a student absence.**

● If the school does not receive timely notification regarding an absence, the parent will be contacted by school staff or the automated phone system to verify the absence.

● Failure to establish parent telephone or personal contact with the school on the date of an absence or to provide a written note or email to the Attendance Clerk, within three days of absence, will result in an unexcused absence. A lapse in parental notification may trigger a compulsory attendance notification and/or court a warning notification from the Katy ISD Police.

● On the student’s first day of return to school, the student will follow campus procedures related to class re-entry. Some schools issue permits, other schools do not.

Tardies:
A student is considered tardy when the student is not in the proper place with all needed materials before the tardy bell rings. There are no excused tardies for those students who arrive by a mode of transportation other than riding a school bus. Students with excessive tardies will be assigned disciplinary consequences as outlined in the **Katy ISD Discipline Management Plan/Student Code of Conduct.** In addition, tardies may be used in presenting a student’s overall attendance record to the court when a student has violated compulsory attendance laws. Students who miss more than 50% of a given class period will be counted absent for attendance purposes. Students checking out of school for the day during a given class period will be recorded as absent if the student leaves before 50% of the class
period has elapsed. At the elementary level, class periods are identified on the teacher’s daily schedule.

Compulsory Attendance:
Texas requires a child who is at least six years of age, or who is younger than six years of age and has previously been enrolled in first grade, and who has not yet reached his/her 19th birthday to attend school for the entire period the program is offered unless exempt by TEC 25.086. While students are not required to enroll in pre-kindergarten or kindergarten programs in Texas, once enrolled the students are required by law to attend school. TEC 25.085 and Board Policy FEA (LEGAL)

The parent/guardian commits an offense of criminal negligence under TEC 25.093 if the student accrues voluntary unexcused absences for 10 or more days or parts of days within a six-month period.

If a warning is issued as required by Section 25.095(a), the parent with criminal negligence fails to require the child to attend school as required by law, and the child has absences for the amount of time specified under Section 65.003(a), Family Code [25.094], the parent commits an offense. (c) An offense under Subsection (a) is a [Class C] misdemeanor, punishable by fine only, in an amount not to exceed:

(1) $100 for a first offense;
(2) $200 for a second offense;
(3) $300 for a third offense;
(4) $400 for a fourth offense; or
(5) $500 for a fifth or subsequent offense

A child not exempt from compulsory attendance laws may be excused for temporary absence as the result of, but not limited to: 1) personal illness; 2) religious holy day; 3) health care appointment; 4) documented juvenile court proceeding; and 5) Board-approved extracurricular activity. [TEC 25.087 and Board Policy FEB (LEGAL)] Absences for vacations, business trips, babysitting, working, and other such reasons shall be considered unexcused. If a parent elects to take a student out of school for one of these reasons or questions
whether or not an absence will be considered excused or unexcused, the parent is encouraged to contact the school in advance of the absence. **Students will not be given assignments in advance for prearranged absences.**

A parent/guardian of a school-age child has the responsibility to require that his/her child attend school regularly. When sickness or another reason necessitates an absence a note signed by the parent/guardian or phone call, explaining the reason for the absence, is required prior to or when the student returns to school. If a student fails to submit a note from the parent or the school does not receive a phone call from the parent, the absence will be considered unexcused. A campus may establish an online attendance reporting application in lieu of requiring a written note or phone call. When a student’s absence for personal illness exceeds five (5) consecutive days, the student must return to school with a statement from a physician or health clinic verifying the illness or other condition requiring the student’s extended absence from school. A student who has been absent a total of eight (8) cumulative days or more will be required to bring a note from a physician or health clinic verifying the illness or other condition. In either of the above instances, all future absences will also require a note from a physician or health clinic or the student may be taken to school to be assessed by the nurse, within the first hour of the school day, in an effort to determine whether any symptoms of communicable illness exist that would prevent the student from attending class. If the student’s symptoms persist beyond one day (other than for communicable illness), a campus nurse excuse cannot be issued and a doctor’s note would be required for any subsequent days of absence. Once a student is required to provide a note from a healthcare professional for future absences, failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence. **Therefore, any time a student is absent and is seen by a healthcare professional, a note from the healthcare professional is always in the best interest of the student so that the absence can be specified as either a doctor (or health care) appointment (full day) or health care appointment (partial day) rather than for personal illness.**

**Attendance for Credit:**

In addition to the statute related to compulsory attendance, a student must also be in compliance with the attendance for credit statute which states that the student must be in attendance for at least 90%
of the days a class is offered in order to gain credit or be promoted. The 90% rule will be calculated from the student’s first day of enrollment. **All excused and unexcused absences are counted for the purpose of determining attendance for credit/promotion.** For each course/class in which a student falls below the 90% threshold, a review of the record will be conducted and the student may be required to complete a plan created by the principal in order to be promoted. Once a student falls below the 75% attendance threshold, only a campus Attendance Review Committee will meet to develop a plan for the student to complete in order to be promoted. *TEC 25.092* and Board Policy FEC (LOCAL)

Parents are strongly discouraged from removing a sibling from school to attend a campus event during the school day. Such unexcused partial day absences will be documented and may negatively affect compulsory and/or attendance for credit absence reporting.

**Attendance Accounting:**
In an effort to ensure parents are adequately notified of all absences, report cards for students in Katy ISD will reflect all absences that affect either compulsory attendance or attendance for credit issues. All absences, including those for health care appointments for which the student cannot be penalized under compulsory attendance, are counted on the report card because these absences are not exempt from attendance for credit promotion mandates. Parents are able to access current attendance data via the online [Home Access Center](#) or via the [Katy OnTheGo Mobile App](#).

**Common Absence Types:**
Since school attendance is compulsory, a reason must be given whenever a student misses school per FEA (LEGAL). Based on the reason, an absence can be coded as unexcused, or excused. Examples of excused and unexcused absences can include, but are not limited to the following:

**Excused:**
- Appearing at a governmental office to complete paperwork required in connection with the student's, not the parent's, application for U.S. citizenship (with documentation requiring student’s appearance and proof of attendance)
• Taking part in the student's own U.S. naturalization oath ceremony
• Death of an immediate family member (immediate family is defined as parent, guardian, grandparent, sibling of the student or a person living in the home) – note required
• Death of an individual who has had a significant impact on the family (approved by the campus administration)
• Health Care Professional appointment/medical excuse (with doctor's note)
• Illness resulting from ongoing medical treatment (ie: chemotherapy with doctor's note on file)
• Nurse sent home from school
• School-sponsored or extracurricular events that occur within school day
• Family emergency approved by the campus administration
• Juvenile probation appointment (with written verification)
• Removal of CPS/law enforcement and related days
• Lice (1 day excused)
• Personal illness (5 days without doctor note)
• Private therapy (ABA, OT, speech) for students identified on autism spectrum; on-going with health care professional note on file
• Required court appearance (with documentation).
• Immunizations (with doctor’s note)
• In-school and out-of-school suspension (assigned by campus administrator)
• Active military visits (see ADA clerk for details)

Unexcused:
• Any absence for which no reason is provided by parent
• Failure to bring required doctor's note related to excessive absences
• Doctor's appointment for someone other than the child
• 4-H activities
• Private lessons, tutoring, counseling and other services
• Family vacation, reunion, wedding, family business (sibling graduation, award ceremonies, accompany parent on business trip, etc.)
• Non-school sponsored activities
• Religious retreat or other non-obligated church events, scheduled prayer
Transportation issues (car trouble or no one to drive)
- Runaway and/or truancy (skipping school/class, leaving campus/class without permission)
- Welfare/WIC appointments

**Attendance Recognition:**
To earn an annual exemplary attendance certificate:
- A child must be enrolled in Katy ISD on the first day of school and must be present the entire school year. If a child enrolls after the first day, he/she must have a documented record of perfect attendance from his/her previous school.
- Absences from natural disasters or uncontrollable factors will not be counted if officially designated by the Superintendent as being such, i.e., weather conditions.

Note: An exemplary attendance recognition will not be earned if a student has five (5) or more TOTAL tardies and/or early check-outs, regardless if reason is excused or unexcused.

**II. Academic Eligibility:**

In order to participate in extracurricular and club activities, state law requires that a student must have a 70 or better average in all classes posted to the report card. This pertains to activities such as the Katy ISD District Choir, Destination Imagination, Elks Hoop Shoot, Campus/District Spelling Bee, etc. Students with a failing grade on a report card are restricted from participating in extracurricular activities for the next grading period. There is an opportunity to regain eligibility earlier if the student earns averages of 70 or above in all classes at each three-week progress check.

Loss of eligibility is based on report card averages below 70. **Students and parents should be aware that an “I” (Incomplete) on a report card or progress report has the same impact on eligibility as an “F” (average below 70).** A student with an “Incomplete” grade is ineligible at the end of the seven day grace period unless the “Incomplete” is replaced with a passing grade prior to the end of the seven day grace period. Students with an “Incomplete” grade either
within or beyond the end of the seven day grace period may regain eligibility if the work is made up in accordance with District policy in regard to time allowed for make-up work and the conditions under which make-up work is allowed.

At times, music classes require demonstration of the mastery of the essential knowledge and skills in a public performance. For such courses, certain on-campus co-curricular performances are not governed by the academic eligibility rule.

State and District policies place much value on daily student attendance. While not a UIL rule, students scheduled to participate in extracurricular events are expected to be in attendance during the given school day. Extenuating circumstances may be discussed with a campus administrator. Participation decisions are made by the campus principal according to established organization rules and procedures.

III. Bullying

Students who believe that they have been bullied are encouraged to promptly report such incidents to a teacher, counselor, principal, assistant principal, or the SpeakUP app (see below). Failure to promptly report alleged bullying may impair an administrator's ability to investigate and address the bullying. Investigative guidelines are in place at each campus. If an incident of bullying meets the definition of bullying as defined in State law, the administrator shall promptly notify the parents of the victim and of the student who engages in bullying. Disciplinary consequences will be assessed as appropriate. Refer to Board Policy FFI (LEGAL and LOCAL) for related policies. Refer to the Katy ISD Discipline Management Plan and Student Code of Conduct for the state definition of bullying and other related information.

SpeakUP Anonymous Reporting:
SpeakUP is the anonymous reporting platform that students, parents, and patrons can use to report safety concerns, bullying, threats of violence, drug use, mental health concerns, as well as any other Concerns related to student physical or mental health. SpeakUP is available for download in Apple or Android format. It is available on
all district websites, computers, and district devices. SpeakUP provides an opportunity for the Katy ISD community to anonymously provide valuable information to district administration and law enforcement that will help keep our students safe.

**IV. Nutrition and Food Service**

Breakfast and lunch meals are available for all district students each school day. A la carte options are also available for additional costs. Free and reduced meal prices are available to those who qualify. The menus and application for free and reduced meals are available on www.SchoolCafe.com/KatyISD. Payments can be submitted online through https://KatyISD.RevTrak.net. Meal periods and serving times are designated by the campus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Meal Prices</th>
<th>Junior High &amp; High School Meal Prices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Price Breakfast</td>
<td>Reduced Price Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Price Lunch</td>
<td>Reduced Price Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Breakfast</td>
<td>Adult Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Lunch</td>
<td>Adult Lunch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

  $1.25  

  $2.25  

  $0.30  

  $0.40  

  $1.75  

  $3.75  

  $1.25  

  $2.75  

  $0.30  

  $0.40  

  $1.75  

  $3.75

Katy ISD students are expected to eat lunch on campus per Board Policy FEE (LOCAL). Customers are encouraged to make all purchases for meals and a la carte before sitting at the cafeteria table. Katy ISD student ID cards should be carried to be scanned for account information when making purchases. Students are expected to pay for meals purchased daily.

Additional information is available on the district website www.katyisdfoodservices.com or on www.SchoolCafe.com/KatyISD.

**Charge Policy:**

District charge policy allows students without meal money to receive the menu choice with the expectation the parent will reimburse all meals charged. The elementary charge policy allows for the value of 10 breakfast meals and 10 lunch meals to be charged. When the charge limit is reached, the elementary student will receive a milk for breakfast or a milk and cereal for lunch. Parents will be alerted when their child charges a meal by receiving a courtesy call and/or email through the district automated call out system, if the district parent
information is correct and up-to-date. Parents are responsible for monitoring the amount of money in their child’s account and paying back any borrowed money in a timely manner. If a student owes money, he/she will not be allowed to purchase snacks and/or a la carte on this account until the account is paid in full.

Payment Options:

**Pay N’ Go - Online Credit Card or E-Check Deposits:**
- Pay N’ Go is the fastest and easiest way to prepay to assure money is in the account for meals and a la carte purchases
- This is the recommended and preferred method of payment
- Pay N’ Go can also be accessed on Katy OntheGo Mobile App
- Credit cards, Debit Cards and E-checks are accepted (includes VISA, MasterCard or Discover)
- Parents may set up automated payments using a certain threshold
  - Ex: If account balance falls below $10, deposit $50
- Student’s district ID number and last name is required to register each child in Pay N’ Go
- Funds are placed in the student account within 48 hours
- There are no fees charged through Pay N’ Go. What you pay is what you get!
  - Ex: Want to deposit $50 into a student’s account? That is the total amount paid– exactly $50
- Any restrictions to your student’s account must be made online for each child by the account holder through SchoolCafe.

**Cash and Checks:**
- The Nutrition and Food Service Department cannot reimburse claims of lost cash or check payments.
- For safest and fastest processing, it is encouraged to deposit funds online through Pay N’ Go.
  - There are no online processing fees!
- If sending check or cash payment, send to the school in a sealed envelope with your child’s name, teacher, and Katy ISD ID number noted or present to Cashier at the time of service.
- Make checks out to Katy ISD Food Service.
- Checks must include full name, address, phone number and be signed.
Any restrictions to your student’s account must be made online for each child by the account holder through SchoolCafe. Katy ISD is not responsible for designating Meal versus A la Carte only from check or cash payments.

Student food service account history can be viewed at www.SchoolCafe.com/KatyISD. Parents can access account history without adding funds to the account. Parents may set a low balance email message reminder, check the amount of money in the account and determine what the student has been purchasing, even without using a credit card to pay. SchoolCafe is also the website where parents may fill out an online free and reduced meal application or access menus, nutritional information or transfer funds from one sibling to another.

Notifications:
The Katy ISD Nutrition and Food Service Department uses an automated calling system and email system to alert parents when their child has a negative balance in the cafeteria. Alerts are sent out by both phone and email Monday through Friday. Low balance alerts and automated account replenishing can be set up on Pay N’ Go. Notification information is tied to the most current information provided to the registrar at your child’s campus so it is important that any changes in home/cell phone numbers or email addresses are updated by parents on the Home Access Center or reported to the front office at your campus as soon as possible to be sure you receive all district alerts. Any questions regarding your student’s cafeteria accounts can be directed to the cafeteria manager at your campus between 6:30AM to 2:30PM Monday through Friday or the Nutrition and Food Service Office, 281-396-6240.

Free and Reduced Meal Program:
- The fastest way to receive free or reduced meal benefits is by submitting an online application at SchoolCafe
- A student’s district ID number and last name is required to register each child
- Create 1 account online and add ALL students to the account
- Other parents or guardians can also create an account but they will NOT have access to view a free and reduced application
that you submitted if it was on a different account (you can only see the application if you submitted it personally)

- Eligibility notification letters will be available online through SchoolCafe
- Reminder to only submit 1 application per household (all students should be added to 1 application)
- Once all students are added to SchoolCafe, each year moving forward it will retain your student information and automatically prompt you to add those students on future free and reduced applications. This will help make it a faster and easier process.
- Parents in need of financial assistance can apply at any time during the school year for their students
- A new application must be submitted every school year
- Students in Pre-K automatically qualify for free breakfast and lunch meals
  - If you have additional students attending Katy ISD, please remember to also add your Pre-K student to the application so they are included as a household member
- Paper applications are available at each campus front office or the Nutrition and Food Service Office, if needed, but online applications are preferred

**What menu components must be taken to pay the meal price?**
The federal Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 requires students paying the set meal price to take menu components that meet the meal pattern. The meal pattern consists of FIVE components: meat/meat alternate, grain, fruit, vegetable and milk.

If the minimum number of components for each meal are not chosen by the student, a la carte charges will be charged.

**Breakfast:**
- Must choose at least three of the four offered components to make a meal.
- Must choose **one fruit or a juice** as one of the components to pay the meal price.

**Lunch:**
- Must choose at least three of the five offered components to make a meal.
• Must choose at least a half cup of fruit or vegetable to pay the meal price.

Severe Food Allergy/Diagnosed Disability:
The District requests to be notified when a student has been diagnosed with a severe food allergy or disability that requires a modification be provided by the cafeteria to the student’s meal. Severe food allergies include those that could result in dangerous or possibly life-threatening reactions either by inhalation, ingestion, or skin contact with the particular food. It is important to disclose the food to which the student is allergic as well as the nature of the allergic reaction. Please contact the school nurse on your child’s campus regarding any known food allergy or as soon as possible after any diagnosis of a food allergy.

The District has developed and annually reviews a food allergy management plan. When the district receives information that a student has a severe food allergy that places the student at risk for anaphylaxis, the student will be referred to 504 so an individual health plan can be developed to assist the student in safely accessing the school environment.

Students with life threatening food allergies or disabilities requiring diet modifications may have an alert posted on the cafeteria point of sale/cashier’s computer system. In order for the alert to be activated, the child’s physician or other recognized medical authority must complete the Katy ISD Diet Modification Form and the Food Allergy Action Plan detailing the student’s diagnosed disability or life-threatening allergy, the food or foods to be omitted, and the food choices that can be substituted. The parent should return the completed form to the school nurse to be shared with the Nutrition and Food Service Department. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) requires school districts to ensure that they have the most current information on a student’s dietary needs. If there is a change made to a student’s life threatening food allergy or diagnosed disability, an updated Diet Modification Form must be submitted to reflect the changes. To ensure the district has the most current information on a student’s dietary needs, a new Diet Modification Form must be submitted at minimum every three (3) years for every student currently receiving a modification from the cafeteria.
Peanut Allergy:
Allergies to peanuts are not always limited to ingestion of the food item. Peanuts can also cause damage through the air as an airborne allergen. Peanut allergies may lead to life threatening situations. The following precautions have been taken in order to create a safe environment for all children.

- No peanut products are offered on the menu, however some a la carte products may contain or be processed in a facility that also processes nuts.
- Parents are encouraged to avoid sending peanut butter sandwiches to school.
- Treats brought for the two (2) parties allowed each year need to be peanut and peanut oil free. No homemade treats, only treats purchased in a store that have a label indicating the ingredients of item.
- Birthday treats sent to school should be peanut-free. No homemade treats, only treats purchased at a store that have a label indicating the ingredients of item.

There are situations in which a student’s medical condition requires that the student be allowed to carry peanut butter crackers as an accommodation in the event that the crackers are needed. When conflicting needs arise, the students will not be placed in the same class and every effort will be made to keep both students safe.

Personal Food in the Cafeteria, Restricted Foods:
Students may bring their own lunch or breakfast to school to eat in the cafeteria during designated times. Parents are encouraged to provide food items for their children only. Sharing food is strongly discouraged at the meal table for reasons of hygiene, allergic reactions and nutrition. Students may not bring glass containers on campus.

Smart Snacks Rules:
The Smart Snacks in Schools standards published by the USDA will build on healthy meal changes through the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. As of July 1, 2014, revised nutrition standards are in effect for all foods and beverages sold to students on campus during the school day with school day defined as from midnight to 30 minutes after the end of the instructional day. Related to these standards, any and all campus food sales during the school day must meet Smart Snack standards. This includes campus
and PTA/PTO sales events and fundraisers. Any and all food sale
days/events exempt from food standards are prohibited per Katy ISD
guidelines. Currently according to Katy ISD guidelines, food sales
outside of the cafeteria are not allowed anywhere on the school
campus during the school day. General program information is
available on the Smart Snack Brochure.

V. Child Abuse/Neglect and Sexual Abuse
Reference Board Policy FFG (LEGAL)

While any person who has cause to believe that a child's physical or
mental health or welfare has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect
by any person is required by law to report the action, any professional is
required to make such report within 48 hours after first suspecting abuse
or neglect. A report of alleged or suspected abuse or neglect and the
identity of the person making the report is confidential. A person acting
in good faith who reports alleged abuse or neglect is immune from any
civil or criminal liability. Sexual abuse will, likewise, be reported. The
District has developed methods for increasing teacher, student, and
parent awareness of issues regarding sexual abuse of children, including
knowledge of the likely warning signs indicating that a child may be a
victim using a variety of resources and interventions and informing
individuals about available assistance that a child victim may obtain
including counseling options. Students who are aware of any form of
abuse or neglect should be encouraged to report the incident to any adult
in a position of authority, including school employees such as a teacher,
counselor, nurse, or administrator. Education Code 38.004 and 38.0041.

VI. Clinic

Illness:
Students who become ill at school are sent to the clinic for evaluation
by the campus nurse. The campus nurse will call the parent if a
student needs to go home or needs to talk personally to the parent. An
ill student must leave school through the clinic. Parents should
remind their child(ren) to ask a teacher to send him/her to the clinic
if he/she is not feeling well, and the campus nurse will call the parent.
It is essential that such students leave through the clinic for purposes
of attendance accounting and student safety.
To help control the spread of communicable diseases, the following health measures should be followed:

1. Remind your child to practice good hand-washing techniques at all times and to avoid drinking from bottles, cans, or glasses after other people;
2. Keep your child at home if he or she is exhibiting signs and/or symptoms of illness — but not as a preventative measure. Do not send a sick child to school just to take a test; performance is generally lower when a child is ill;
3. Keep your child at home if he/she has a fever of 100 degrees or higher, is vomiting or has diarrhea. Students must be symptom free for at least 24 hours without preventative medication. (For a student sent home from the clinic, at a minimum, the 24-hour rule begins when the student is signed out from school.);
4. Encourage students to dress appropriately for the activity and weather conditions;
5. Set a routine which allows adequate rest and sleep; and
6. Let the campus nurse know if your child has been diagnosed with any communicable disease.

Should any campus experience an unusually high number of students with the same illness Katy ISD will follow the Texas Administrative Code Title 25, Part, 1 which states that notifiable conditions will be reported to the public health authority for emergencies and suspect cases.

It is very important to let the school know of any changes in work, home or cell phone numbers so parents can be contacted in case of an emergency. Parents should update email and phone numbers on the Home Access Center (HAC). If a parent is unable to electronically update information on the HAC, a note should be sent to the attendance clerk so the change can be made on the school records used by the nurse.

Immunizations:
A student must be fully immunized against certain diseases or must present a certificate or statement that, for medical reasons or reasons of conscience, including a religious belief, the student will not be immunized. Please see the school nurse and district website for information regarding immunizations and documentation requirements.
For a list of immunization requirements and exemptions, procedures for medication administration and other health related concerns contact your campus nurse or refer to the District website for further information.

**Medication:**
All medications, prescription and nonprescription, including cough drops, brought to the school must be taken to the school clinic immediately upon arrival. Students may transport prescription/nonprescription medication to and from school as long as the medication is not a controlled substance. Parents are strongly encouraged to personally drop off and pick up medications in the campus clinic. Students may not be in possession of any prescription or nonprescription drug on school grounds during school hours unless officially authorized by the campus nurse for possession. According to Texas Education Code 38.013, a student with diabetes, asthma or anaphylaxis is entitled to possess and self-administer his/her prescription diabetes, asthma or anaphylaxis medication while on school property or at a school-related event or activity, provided that certain criteria are met. Before a student can possess and self-administer his/her diabetes, asthma or anaphylaxis medication, all required paperwork must be completed and on file in the school clinic. Forms can be obtained from the campus nurse.

The following procedures are in place regarding medications:

- All prescription drugs dispensed through a physician’s office must be in their original pharmacy container or packing and labeled by the pharmacist or physician. The label must be current and must clearly state the following:
  o Names of student and physician
  o Prescription information including name, strength, dosage amount, dosage frequency, and date filled.

- All nonprescription drugs must be in their original container. The written request for administration of these over-the-counter drugs, made by parent, guardian, or physician, must contain the following:
  o Full name of student and date of request.
  o Drug information including name, dosage amount, dosage schedule, and reason drug is given.
  o Parent/Guardian signature.
● There shall be no more than one type of drug per properly labeled container.

● Written permission must be obtained from a parent to dispense prescription or nonprescription drugs to a student when the drugs are to be administered for 15 calendar days or less. Following the 15-day period, 30 days must lapse before a medicine considered to be in the same category (e.g. antihistamine, decongestant, pain reliever) can be administered with parent permission only.

● When long-term administration of medication is necessary (over 15 calendar days), for either prescription or nonprescription drugs, written permission from the parent and the physician must be obtained. This applies to all drugs to be given on a regular, prn (given as needed), or emergency basis for more than a 15-day period.

● Medications prescribed or requested to be given three (3) times a day or less are not to be given at school unless a specific time during school hours is prescribed by a physician or the campus nurse determines that a special need exists for an individual student.

● Permits to administer medications must be renewed at the beginning of each school year.

● Natural and/or homeopathic-like products, not FDA approved, will not be dispensed in the school setting by school district personnel.

When a cycle of prescription/nonprescription medication is completed or at the end of the school year, a parent or parent’s adult designee must pick up any excess prescription medication from school. The parent may give written permission for the medication(s) to be destroyed at school. If authorization is given by the parent/guardian to transport medication home on the Administration of Medication at School forms (less than 15 days or more than 15 days), then the Disposition of Excess Medication form will not be necessary.

**Screenings On Campus**

Vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings will be conducted per Department of State Health Services guidelines in selected grade levels to identify those children with problems that may hinder their academic performance at school. If a problem is detected by the campus nurse, a parent will be notified and referred for a professional examination.
Acanthosis Nigricans (AN) is an additional screening that will be conducted in selected grade levels by the campus nurse. This screening is to identify any student that may be at risk of developing Type II diabetes.

**Food Allergies**

Upon enrollment, parents/guardians should disclose to the school (on a form provided by the campus nurse) if the child has a food allergy or severe food allergy that, in the judgment of the parent/guardian, should be disclosed to the school to take any necessary precautions regarding the child’s safety and to specify the food to which the child is allergic and the nature of the allergic reaction. A severe food allergy means a dangerous or life-threatening reaction of the human body to a foodborne allergen introduced by inhalation, ingestion, or skin contact that requires immediate medical attention. The information will be kept confidential and only disclosed to appropriate school personnel. *Texas Education Code 25.0022*

**Head Lice**

Head lice, although not an illness or a disease, is very common among children and is spread very easily through head-to-head contact during play, sports, or nap time and when children share things like brushes, combs, hats, and headphones. If a student has been assessed by the campus nurse and the findings indicate the presence of “live lice,” the parent is called to pick the student up. After the student has undergone one treatment, the parent will then bring the student back to the campus nurse to be cleared to go back to class. If any live lice are found in the child's hair, he/she will be sent home until no evidence of “live lice” exists.

** VII. Communication between Home and School**

**Complaints:**
The Board encourages students and parents to discuss their complaints through informal conferences with the appropriate teacher, principal, or other campus administrator. If a parent utilizes the informal process, the timeline for filing a formal complaint can be extended by mutual consent of the parties involved. Ordinarily, a student or parent must file a formal complaint within fifteen (15) days of the date they knew or should have known about a situation.
However, the fifteen (15) day window for filing a formal complaint would not begin until a decision had been made in the informal process if the parties had agreed in advance of the informal conference.

If informal resolution is not possible, District policy provides formal grievance procedures. A student or parent may not present a formal complaint to the Board until all administrative remedies (appeal processes) have been exhausted.

Some complaints, such as those related to certain disciplinary actions, bullying, sexual harassment, instructional resources, or loss of credit require procedures specific to the topic. Any campus can provide information regarding the specific processes for these complaints. In addition, information can be found in the Board Policy Manual on the District’s website.

**Conferences:** Reference Regulation GKC
Parents/Guardians requesting a conference with the teacher should make prior arrangements at least one day in advance with the principal, principal’s designee, and/or the teacher unless the principal or designee believes there are extenuating circumstances requiring an immediate conference. Campus administrators, counselors, and support teachers often attend conferences in efforts to address all needs of the student discussed.

**Home Access Center:**
The Home Access Center enables parents to access students’ grades, assignments, test scores and absences, as well as allow parents to update basic contact information.

**Katy OntheGo Mobile App:**
The Katy ISD App, Katy OntheGo mobile app allows parents to view their child's grades, assignments, attendance record and cafeteria balance. Parents are strongly encouraged to download the free Katy OntheGo mobile app to access student, school and district information on mobile devices.

How to Download the App:
- Go to the App Store or Google Play
• Search "Katy ISD"
• Select "Free" and then "Install"
• You will need to know your Apple or Google account password
• After it has installed select "Open"
• You have now downloaded the app

SnapCode:
For all enrolled Students at Katy ISD, the parent or guardian will be required each August, to electronically update their child’s information by submitting an Annual Information Update. In early August, each parent will receive a unique snapcode to the email address that is on file. If you are not sure you have an email address on file, please log into the Home Access Center (HAC) or contact your child’s campus. The snapcode is a key to each child’s data for the upcoming school year and a unique snapcode is sent for each child.

Remind App:
Remind, formerly Remind101, is a free mobile app that many schools use to text information to subscribers. This is especially helpful during severe weather dismissals. Contact your campus for more information.

Insurance:
Katy ISD offers Voluntary Student Accident Insurance coverage for parents to purchase for their children who are enrolled in grades Pre-K through 12. There are a variety of plans and options to select from and premiums are annual and may not be prorated. Coverage is considered to be in force upon receipt of payment with enrollment at any time during the school year. For a detailed explanation of the plans offered and premium cost, or to enroll your child online, visit East Texas Insurance Associates or call 800-900-9750 or 979-268-5333 for an application.

Student Directories:
Campuses or parent organizations may choose to create and publish a student directory to help students and families stay connected. Students for whom a parent has selected a privacy code of “A” will automatically have their name, address, and primary phone number included in the student directory unless a parent specifies otherwise. However, since email addresses are not considered standard
directory information, written consent must be obtained from each parent wishing to have this information included. Students for whom a parent has selected a privacy code of “O” or “N” may not be included in the student directory. There will be no exceptions if a parent has chosen “O” or “N”.

While parent organizations can also elect to publish a student directory, these organizations operate separately from a campus. A student’s name, address, and primary phone number can be provided to a parent organization without parent consent if the parent has selected a privacy code of “A” on the student’s enrollment card. The organization will have to obtain directory information and written consent from all other parents before including their child’s directory information in the student directory. The inclusion of emails will require written consent from all parents who wish to have this information included. Parent organizations are not subject to a public information request.

It is important for parents to be aware that once a student’s directory information has been published in a student directory, the District does not have the ability to restrict how the information is disseminated by individual parents. Therefore, parents should make their decisions with this factor in mind.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Privacy Code Selections and Implications</th>
<th>“Y”</th>
<th>“O”</th>
<th>“N”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School-Confined Publications</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs for Performances</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yearbook</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional School Group or Class Photos</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officially-designated vendors for school-related purposes</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Public: Anyone making a public information request</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Releases</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Directories</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Publications (Available to Public)</td>
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<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District/Campus Webpage</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs Released to the Public</td>
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<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media Platforms</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VIII. Procedures/Routines**

**Audio Recording:**
Using any device or technology to record the voice of another in any way that disrupts the educational environment invades the privacy of
Birthday Treats:
It is a campus decision regarding when birthday treats are served. It is recommended that birthday treats be served after the lunch period ends so that treats do not interfere with students’ appetites for a nutritious meal. Parents may send a birthday treat of their choice to be shared with the child’s classmates on his/her birth date. Usually these treats will be shared at recess (if after lunch) or during the last ten (10) minutes of the instructional day. Because of the time constraints, the treat is limited to one item per classmate and it is preferred that the treat be a single-serve item (i.e. cupcake, cookie, etc.) so that it can be served, eaten, and cleaned up within the 10 minutes allotted. Birthday treat items must be purchased at a store with all ingredients clearly labeled. Parents should keep in mind that there are many students who have food allergies (i.e. peanuts, gluten, etc.) The birthday treat exception does not constitute a birthday party; therefore, no other items (party favors) may be distributed.

Per Regulation GKDA, invitations for birthday parties or other special events are defined as non-school related materials and may not be distributed to students at school since no other flyers from similar groups are allowed to be directly distributed to students.

Campus Advisory Team:
The Campus Advisory Team acts in an advisory role to the principal in most cases. There are several meetings during the year which cover topics such as school budget, professional development, staffing and organization, review of student achievement, preparation of the Campus Improvement Plan and other topics of interest/need at the campus. The Campus Advisory Team must approved campus’ professional development plan.

These meetings are open meetings and may be attended by interested members of the school community. There is a visitor’s forum time set aside for anyone who wishes to speak to the committee. The times, dates and meeting places will be announced by the campus. For Details, reference Board Policy BQB (LEGAL).
Cellular Phones:
Refer to *Discipline Management Plan & Student Code of Conduct* for information regarding student telecommunication possession and use at the elementary level.

Classroom Observations:
Parents/Guardians wishing to visit their child’s classroom shall make arrangements at least one day in advance with the principal, the principal’s designee, and/or the teacher unless the principal or designee believes there are extenuating circumstances. Every effort will be made to reach a mutually agreed-upon time for classroom visits. However, no visits will be scheduled on test days or on other days deemed inappropriate by school personnel. To maintain an orderly educational environment, parents/guardians should not bring the child’s siblings or other children with them and must turn off all cell phones and paging devices while in the instructional setting.

Parents/Guardians in classrooms are there as “silent observers” and are asked to sit in the location specified by the teacher in an effort to minimize distractions to students. Parents/Guardians should not become involved in discussions or classroom activities unless invited to do so by the teacher. If a parent/guardian has need for discussion with the teacher, a conference must be scheduled outside instructional time. Classroom visits are limited to one class period or a maximum of 50 minutes per day unless otherwise approved by the principal or designee. Principals or other administrative designees may restrict classroom visits per Regulation GKC if requests become excessive in terms of frequency, length of visit, and/or number of requests. Volunteers and Katy ISD employees shall follow the same procedures as other parents/guardians when requesting to observe in their children’s classrooms.

Change of Clothes:
A student may soil his/her clothing during the school day to the extent that a change of an item or outfit is needed. Parents are strongly encouraged to provide a change of clothes for their child which can be kept in the student’s backpack. Having their own clothes to change into is more comforting to the children. If clothing is not available, parents may be contacted to bring clothes to school immediately. In these situations, the student(s) involved often miss learning time in
the classroom while they wait in the office/clinic for clothes. At times, the campus may have suitable garments to loan the student(s). The campus/clinic are not responsible for providing clothing. Also, a student who requires a clothing change because of not abiding by dress code will be reported to an administrator for possible discipline consequences or given dress code appropriate clothing.

**Deliveries:**
The District highly values instructional time. The District expects parents/volunteers to not interrupt classroom time. See campus pages for campus delivery instructions. Balloons, flowers, or other gifts cause distractions in the classroom. These items should not be sent to school.

**Dress Code:**
For specific details related to Dress Code, see Board Policy FNCA (LOCAL) and the *Katy ISD Discipline Management Plan and Student Code of Conduct*. For any additional campus-based expectations, see the campus section in this handbook.

**ID Badges:**
Each student will receive a photo ID badge at the beginning of the year at no cost. The badge and its unique student ID number will be used to check out library books and textbooks, to purchase food items in the cafeteria, to permit passage to certain club meetings and to provide easy identification of students in common areas of the school. Students will follow campus procedures related to wearing the ID badge. Students in grades PK-5 will continue utilizing their badges during lunch and library times. Fourth and fifth grade students should wear their badges throughout the school day, when practical. Each campus will have a system for managing and replacing student badges. If a student loses the ID, a replacement must be purchased promptly from the designated school office/location.

**Mobile Learning Devices: Restricted to Grade 2 and above**
Students are allowed to bring personal telecommunication devices for academic classroom use as determined by the teacher. Each campus will develop procedures for use and management.
Picking-Up Students:
Parents/Guardians or other authorized individuals picking up a student prior to the end of the school day must show a valid government-issued photo identification, sign the student out, and wait in a designated waiting area for the student. A student needing to leave during the school day for appointments should remain in the classroom to maximize instructional time until a parent/guardian arrive(s). School personnel will inform the student that the parent/guardian has arrived. [See FEE (REGULATION) for more specific details.]

Parents/Guardians of prekindergarten students are required to pick up their students at the appropriate prekindergarten dismissal time. Students attending the morning prekindergarten session are not allowed to remain at school beyond the mid-day dismissal time.

School Hours:
Elementary
Group 1: 8:00 AM to 3:20 PM
Group 2: 8:20 AM to 3:40 PM

Early Dismissal
Group 1: 8:00 AM to 12:20 PM
Group 2: 8:20 AM to 12:40 PM

Selling Items at School:
Students are not permitted to sell items at school for personal gain or for outside organizations. School-approved fundraiser sales will be governed by the local campus administration. At the elementary level, this includes the option of one food related fundraiser per month. Food items sold must meet the USDA Smart Snack mandate.

Start of the Day:
Per TEC 25.082, students are to recite daily the Pledges of Allegiance to the United States flag and Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag. A student may be excused from reciting a Pledge of Allegiance with a written request from the student’s parent/guardian. Following recitation of the pledges, a minute of silence is observed during which time a student may, as a student chooses, reflect, pray, meditate or engage in any other silent activity that does not distract or interfere with another student.
Toys/Valuables/Personal Items:
Toys are not to be brought to school. Besides being distracting to classroom instruction, toys are often lost or misplaced at school. Toys include: electronic games, skateboards, yo-yos, trading cards or anything that disrupts the teaching/learning environment. Please do not add toys or key chains to backpacks. They serve as a source of distraction and noise while the teacher is teaching or preparing the class for dismissal. Elementary students are not permitted to listen to music on cell phones/electronic devices during the school day or at school-related activities. Students are not allowed to bring glass containers on campus. For Mobile Learning Devices, refer to pg. 21.

Unauthorized Persons:
In accordance with Education Code 37.105, a school administrator, school resource officer (SRO), or district police officer shall have the authority to refuse entry or eject a person from district property if the person refuses to leave peaceably on request and;
1. The person poses a substantial risk of harm to any person; or
2. The person behaves in a manner that is inappropriate for a school setting, and the person persists in the behavior after being given a verbal warning that the behavior is inappropriate and may result in refusal of entry or ejection.
Appeals regarding refusal of entry or ejection from district property may be filed in accordance with FNG(LOCAL) or GF(LOCAL) as appropriate.

Videotaping/Recordings and Cameras:
A District employee may, without consent of a child’s parent, make a videotape or recording of the child if the videotape or recording is to be used only for:
- Purposes of safety, including the maintenance of order and discipline in common areas of the school or on school buses; [see FO (LEGAL)]
- A purpose related to a co-curricular or extracurricular activity; [see FM (LEGAL)]
- A purpose related to regular classroom instruction; [see EHA (LEGAL)] or
- Media coverage of the school.

*Education Code 26.009(b); FL (LEGAL)*
Due to confidentiality issues related to directory information and to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), parents, students, and visitors may not use video recorders, voice recorders,
or cameras unless used during a performance open to the public or during a private conference with permission by an administrator. If a recording or photo is taken in violation of FERPA, the item in question will need to be deleted.

Public events are those events that occur when the general public has an opportunity to view students (i.e. outside for field day) or when students are not required to participate (i.e. a talent show performed after the end of the school day). If the event is during the instructional day (i.e. classroom or grade-level performance), students are considered a “captured” audience and directory information and FERPA rules apply. This is true even if parents are invited to observe. The principal at each campus has the authority to determine which school-related events will be considered public performances at which photographs or videos can be taken.

Visitors: Regulation GKC
Parents/Guardians and other individuals are welcome to visit District schools. For the safety of those within the school setting, all visitors are expected to demonstrate the highest standards of courtesy and conduct; disruptive behavior will not be permitted. Each campus principal has the authority to permit or deny any person access to the campus, as deemed appropriate, in order to maintain student safety and/or an orderly environment. It is the principal’s responsibility to minimize interruptions during instructional time. To support the attainment of this goal, the following guidelines will apply to all visitors to the schools:

- Upon arrival to a campus, visitors, including volunteers, must report to the front office to be entered into the visitor tracking system.
- All adult visitors needing to go beyond the front office area must present a government issued photo identification such as a driver’s license, state identification card, immigration visa, consulate card, or passport.
- A computer-generated identification badge will be printed and must be worn at all times while on campus.
- Visitor passes will allow an individual access to the areas of the campus specified on the badge only.
- Parents/Guardians may escort their children to class on the first three (3) days of the school year only. Parents/Guardians must leave the classroom area before the tardy bell on these days.
• Visitors are expected to follow all campus and district-based rules.
• Visitors must return to the front office area, return their visitor passes, and exit through designated doorways upon completion of their visit to the campus.
• Visitors may be asked to leave the classroom and/or campus if their presence disrupts the educational process or school activities in any way. If the visitor refuses to leave, as requested, the visitor may be arrested for or charged with trespassing.

The principal is authorized to establish check-in and check-out procedures for assemblies and programs depending on the location and type of event. Visitors to any area of the building other than a special event, for which regular check-in procedures have been waived, must sign in and obtain a visitor’s pass prior to proceeding to areas other than the special event area of the building.

Private service providers, other than those contracted by the District, are not permitted to provide on-site services to students during the instructional day. Private service providers may reserve District facilities in accordance with Board Policy and Administrative Regulation GKD. Private service providers, advocates and attorneys hired or contracted by parents are expected to follow all campus and district-based rules, and these individuals are not permitted to make classroom observations.

Withdrawals:
Parents should notify the attendance clerk’s office several days in advance when a child is withdrawing. Teachers will receive a withdrawal form from the office to complete. The completed form is returned to the Attendance Clerk. The parent must come to the office to complete final withdrawal procedures. Records will be sent to the new school when release of records documentation has been received on campus.

IX. Instructional Topics

Fees:
Materials that are part of the basic educational program are provided without charge to a student. A student is expected to provide his or
her own supplies such as pencils, paper, erasers, and notebooks, and may be required to pay certain other fees or deposits including:

- Materials used in any program in which the resultant product is in excess of minimum requirements and, at the student’s option, becomes the personal property of the student. Fees may not exceed the cost of materials.
- Membership dues in student organizations or clubs and admission fees or charges for attending extracurricular activities when membership or attendance is voluntary.
- Items of personal use or products which a student may purchase at his or her own option, such as student publications or yearbooks.
- Fees specifically permitted by any other statute.
- Any authorized, voluntary student health and accident benefit plan.
- Items of personal apparel which become the property of the student and which are used in extracurricular activities.

Exemptions from Fees or Deposits:
If a student and his or her parent or guardian are unable to pay required deposits or fees, the following procedures will be followed for waiving such fees:

- The student’s parent/guardian will complete the Application for Waiver of Fees provided by the District.
- If after reviewing the application for a waiver, the principal determines that, according to District guidelines, the family is unable to provide the necessary supplies or fees, the principal or designee will grant the waiver.

Opting Out of Instructional Activities and Test:
Parents may request that their child be excused from participation in daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag. The request must be in writing. State law does not allow students to be excused from participation in the required minute of silence or silent activity that follows. However, each student is allowed to use this time to reflect on his or her day or some other silent activity during this time.

Parents may also remove their child temporarily from the classroom if an instructional activity in which the child is scheduled to participate conflicts with the family’s or moral beliefs. The removal
cannot be for the purpose of avoiding a test and may not extend for an entire semester. Further, students must satisfy grade-level and graduation requirements as determined by the school and by state law. This includes state mandated assessments.

**Mandated Assessments:**
The State of Texas requires annual assessments of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) for the elementary areas:

3rd grade: STAAR reading, math
4th grade: STAAR reading, math, writing
5th grade: STAAR reading, math, science

Scores are considered in promotion/retention decisions. For the 2019-20 school year, by law students in grade 5 must pass the STAAR reading and mathematics assessments in order to be promoted to grade 6.

STAAR tests are required by law and all eligible students in attendance on testing days will be administered the required assessment. In addition, district learning assessments and campus common course assessments are given periodically to measure academic progress. Students receiving special education, ELL, and GT services are required to be assessed periodically as specified by the program guidelines.

**Student Success Initiative (SSI)**
**Summer Acceleration** – 5th grade students by law must pass the STAAR Reading and Math exams in order to advance to the next grade level. Any student who has not passed either exam after two (2) attempts must attend the SSI Summer Acceleration program and test a third (3rd) time.

**Aiding Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need Special Education or Section 504 Services:**
For those students who are having difficulty in the regular classroom, all school districts and open enrollment charter schools must consider tutorial, compensatory, and other academic or behavior support services that are available to all students, including a process based on Response to Intervention (Rtl). The implementation of Rtl has the
potential to have a positive impact on the ability of districts and charter schools to meet the needs of all struggling students.

If a student is experiencing learning difficulties, his or her parent may contact the individual(s) listed below to learn about the school’s overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links student to a variety of support options, including making a referral for a special education evaluation or for a Section 504 evaluation to determine if the student needs specific aids, accommodations, or services. A parent may request an evaluation for special education or Section 504 services at any time.

**Special Education Referrals:**

If a parent makes a written request for an initial evaluation for special education services to the director of special education services or an administrative employee of the school district or open enrollment charter school, the district or charter school must respond no later than 15 school days after receiving the request. At that time, the district or charter school must give the parent a prior written notice of whether it agrees to or refuses to evaluate the student, along with a copy of the Notice of Procedural Safeguards. If the school district or charter school agrees to evaluate the student, it must also give the parent the opportunity to give written consent for the evaluation.

If the district or charter school decides to evaluate the student, it must complete the student’s initial evaluation and evaluation report no later than 45 school days from the day it receives a parent's written consent to evaluate the student. However, if the student is absent from school during the evaluation period for three or more school days, the evaluation period will be extended by the number of school days equal to the number of school days that the student is absent.

There is an exception to the 45-school-day timeline. If a district or charter school receives a parent's consent for the initial evaluation at least 35 but less than 45 school days before the last instructional day of the school year, it must complete the written report and provide a copy of the report to the parent by June 30 of that year. However, if the student is absent from school for three or more days during the evaluation period, the June 30th due date no longer applies. Instead, the general timeline of 45 school days plus extensions for absences of three or more days will apply.
Upon completing the evaluation, the district or charter school must give the parent a copy of the evaluation report at no cost.

Additional information regarding special education is available from the district or charter school in a companion document titled Parent's Guide to the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Process.

**Contact Person for Special Education Referrals:**
The designated person to contact regarding options for a student experiencing learning difficulties or regarding a referral for evaluation for special education services is:

Contact Person: Refer to Campus website for this information.

**Section 504 Referrals:**
Each school district or charter school must have standards and procedures in place for the evaluation and placement of students in the district’s or charter school’s Section 504 program. Districts and charter schools must also implement a system of procedural safeguards that includes notice, an opportunity for a parent or guardian to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with an opportunity for participation by the parent or guardian and representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

**Contact Person for Section 504 Referrals:**
The designated person to contact regarding options for a student experiencing learning difficulties or regarding a referral for evaluation for Section 504 services is:

Contact Person: Refer to Campus website for this information.

**Additional Information:**
The following websites provide information and resources for students with disabilities and their families.

- Legal Framework for the Child-Centered
- Special Education Process
- Partners Resource Network
- Special Education Information Center
- Texas Project First
Response to Intervention (RTI):
Response to Intervention (RTI) is a multi-tiered system of supports designed to meet the academic and/or behavioral needs of struggling students. It relies on collaborative, interdisciplinary teams that work together to lend support to the efforts of regular classroom teachers and to bring about improved academic performance for students who are achieving below expected levels based upon learning, behavioral, and/or District standards.

The goal of RTI is to foster classrooms where teaching is directed toward the variable learning needs of a diverse student population. To achieve this goal, school personnel enrich and supplement the curriculum through analysis of individual student performance, consultation/collaboration, and differentiated instruction.

An RTI Committee also serves as the referral committee when there is evidence that the student’s response to intervention is not producing the desired results. The committee will consider whether there is evidence to support the need for a student’s referral to either Special Education or Section 504, or whether the student needs more intensive interventions. A parent may also request an evaluation for Section 504 or special education services. Contact the campus RTI Coordinator for questions regarding the RTI process.

Students with Physical or Mental Impairments Protected under Section 504:
A student determined to have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, as defined by law, and who does not otherwise qualify for special education services, may qualify for protections under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Section 504 is a federal law designed to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities. When an evaluation is requested, a committee will be formed to review the results of the evaluation and to determine whether the student is in need of services and supports under Section 504 to receive an appropriate education as defined in federal law.

Each campus has designated one or more assistant principals as Section 504 Coordinators. The student’s grade level assistant principal should be contacted to initiate a referral.
Physical Education:
For physical education classes, it is suggested girls wear shorts under their dresses or skirts. All students are required to wear athletic shoes with a non-marking rubber sole with laces and/or Velcro closures. Shoes should be closed-toe with full support around the heel. The following shoes are not allowed:

- flip flops
- dress shoes/boots
- cleats
- ballet/jazz shoes
- sandals
- shoes with wheels
- felt bottoms/soles
- Crocs
- Toms
- Bobs

When a student returns to school following an illness/injury, a written excuse from activities is required if the student is not able to participate in physical activities. A doctor’s note is required to excuse a child from P.E. for more than ten (10) days. Any medical or disabling conditions that hinder a child’s full participation in P.E. should be communicated to the teachers.

Promotion/Retention:
Students eligible for promotion have met the following criteria:

- In grades 1 – 5, promotion to the next grade level shall be based on a combined overall average of 70 on a scale of 100 based on course-level, grade-level standards (TEKS) for the core subject areas (language, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies)

AND
- A grade of 70 or above in each of the following subject areas: reading, language, and mathematics.

AND
- For the 2019-2020 school year, by law, students in grade 5 must pass the STAAR reading and mathematics assessments in order to be prompted to the 6th grade.
PreKindergarten – There is not a retention option at PreK level. Due to the State’s age eligibility requirements for PreK, all PreK students must be advanced to Kindergarten.

Students enrolled in Kindergarten will be promoted to 1st grade at the end of the school year based on academic achievement and demonstrated proficiency of subject matter taught during the Kindergarten year. Promotion/Retention considerations include the recommendation of the student’s teacher; the student’s competency-based report card grades; the student’s performance on assessment instruments administered during the school year; and any other necessary academic information, as determined by the campus.

Students who do not meet the above criteria are not eligible for promotion. The campus Promotion/Retention Review Committee must meet to determine whether the student will be retained in the current grade level or placed in the next grade level. The committee composition includes the parent, classroom teacher, campus counselor and the principal or principal’s designee.

Timeline: Teachers are responsible for keeping parents informed of unsatisfactory student progress. Each February, students are identified as possible retention candidates. Parents are notified by letter from the campus that their child is at risk of retention. Documented communication from teacher(s) with parents continues throughout the spring addressing a collaborative approach to assisting the student. In May, the campus will hold official Retention Review Committee meetings to discuss student grades and progress. Decisions related to retention, placement, or promotion are to be completed by the last instructional day of the year.

Child Find:
Katy ISD is responsible for identifying and evaluating students who within the intent of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 need special services or programs in order that such students may receive the required free appropriate education. A student who may need specialized instruction or programs within the intent of Section 504 is one who:

- Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of life’s major activities; or
- Has a record of such impairment; or
- Is regarded as having such impairment.
Students may be eligible under the provisions of Section 504 even though they do not require services pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Parents who believe that they have a child who may qualify for special services or programs under Section 504 should contact the Campus 504 Coordinator at the home campus. In addition, parents who believe that they have a child who may qualify for special education services or programs under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) should contact the home campus office for more information.

**Textbooks:**

Textbooks are one of many instructional resources initialized in Katy ISD. Some textbooks are printed and bound while others are available online. All textbooks are the property of Katy ISD. State-approved textbooks are provided free of charge to students. Students shall treat textbooks with care and must keep the textbooks covered at all times. A student who is issued a damaged book should report that fact to the teacher at the time the textbook is issued. Fines, up to the actual replacement cost of the textbook, will also be assessed for damage based on severity. It is important to note that textbooks can be expensive, ranging in price from $25 to over $100 depending on the book. A student failing to return a textbook issued by the school shall lose the privilege of having textbooks assigned until the book is returned or paid for by the parent or guardian. A student owing for textbooks shall be allowed to use textbooks at school during each school day.

**X. Responsible Use Guidelines**

Refer to Katy ISD *Discipline Management Plan & Student Code of Conduct* for detailed information regarding District expectations for responsible use of electronic devices and applications.

**XI. Student Welfare**

**Asbestos Management Plan:**

The District is committed to providing a safe environment for workers, building occupants, students, parents, and legal guardians. An Asbestos Management Plan has been developed to address all Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) and Texas Asbestos Health Protection Act (TAHPA) requirements. A copy of the
District’s Asbestos Management Plan is available at each campus for review. The plan contains information on friable and/or non-friable asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM). 40 CFR 763.93 and KATY ISD POLICY CKA (LEGAL)

Integrated Pest Management (IPM):
Decisions concerning whether or not pesticides should be applied in a given situation will be based on a review of all available options. Efforts will be made to avoid the use of pesticides by adequate pest-proofing of facilities, good sanitation practices, selection of pest-resistant plant materials, and appropriate horticultural practices. When it is determined that a pesticide must be used in order to meet pest management objectives, the least hazardous material, adequate for the job, will be chosen. Signs will be posted 48 hours before application. Parents who want to be notified prior to pesticide application inside their child(ren)’s school assignment area may contact the District’s IPM Coordinator at 281-396-2514. Additional information can be found on the Katy ISD website, www.katyisd.org. The consumer information sheet can be downloaded from the Texas Department of Agriculture site: www.texasagriculture.gov.

XII. Transportation

Bus Eligibility:
To be eligible for regular bus transportation services, elementary students must live beyond approximately ½ mile from school property. Parents may confirm bus eligibility at https://apps.katyisd.org/public/katyisdcampusmap/ and inserting the residence address.

Bus Notes:
From time to time it is necessary for a student to ride a bus other than the one to which the student is assigned. Before students may ride any bus other than their own or get off at a different stop, the principal/designee must approve a note from the parent requesting that a different bus be ridden. The note must include the student’s name, the number of the bus to be ridden, the date the student needs to ride the bus, and the reason for the request. The note must be signed by the parent and include work or cell and home phone numbers. The student must turn the bus note into the front office before noon.
Generally, a request to ride a different bus is for one day only. If the request is for an extended period, the transportation department must also approve it.

**Bus Drop-Off:**
It is suggested that a parent or other responsible party be at the bus stop or home five minutes prior to bus arrival at the end of the school day. In the event that a parent is unable to be home when a student arrives at the bus stop, alternate plans should be made by the parent with the child. Depending on the age of the student, plans may include where to go, how to find a hidden key, going to a neighbor, etc. For safety purposes, each student should know his/her full name, address, and phone number to reach an adult family member in an emergency. Kindergarten students must have a responsible adult or older sibling receive them at the bus stop. Should there be no one at the stop to receive the student, the child will be taken back to the school for the parent to pick up. Should this occur more than once, the second time will serve as a final warning, and the third occurrence will result in the child losing bus riding privileges.

**Student Trips:**
Students are required to ride to and from school-sponsored activities in District-provided transportation. In the event of an extenuating circumstance involving a conflict between two (2) school-sponsored activities occurring on the same day, the parent may complete a form to obtain approval from the director/sponsor and campus principal or designee for parent-provided transportation from the first activity to the second activity.

All students must return with the group unless prior to the trip a parent/guardian submits a Request for Post-Activity Student Release or a written request for approval to have his/her son/daughter released to his/her custody at the completion of the activity. Approval of the director/sponsor and campus principal or designee must be obtained prior to the departure of the group.

All designated chaperones are required to ride the school bus or other district approved transportation. Chaperones are expected to help maintain order and appropriate student conduct.
Chaperones and school personnel whose purpose is to provide adequate supervision will not bring family or friends. Adults traveling with the group must be designated chaperones.

**Walkers:**
Students who walk to school should walk on sidewalks where available and cross streets in the crossing zone or at an intersection. Students must adhere to the directions of the crossing guard or other adults. Students who walk home are expected to leave campus promptly after the dismissal bell. Pre-K - 1st grade will not be allowed to walk home independently. Every child/family should be issued a dismissal tag to ensure they are matched to parent(s) or designated adult. If a kinder or first grade student walks home with an older sibling, parent permission should be in writing. According to **Katy ISD Discipline Management Plan and Student Code of Conduct**, skateboards and roller blades are not permitted on campus. Bicycles should be walked while on district property. Family dogs (leashed) are to remain off campus property to prevent a child from becoming fearful or possibly injured.

**Homeless Students:**
As required by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements Act, the district shall serve homeless children according to their best interests. Any parent or student who desires more information regarding homeless students may contact the Homeless Liaison, at 281-396-2612. **KATY ISD POLICY FFC (LEGAL)**

**XIII. Safety/Security**

**Emergency Contacts on Enrollment Card:**
Each year parents/guardians are asked to designate persons on a student's enrollment card who can be contacted in the case of an emergency occurring at school when a parent/guardian cannot be reached. An emergency may be as simple as a child with fever who needs to be taken home to a child who needs to be taken to the hospital via an ambulance for a severe medical condition. As a reminder, the enrollment card states, "Emergency contacts are only authorized access to information regarding the student and authority to transport the student in an emergency situation occurring at school when the parent/guardian cannot be reached. At any other time, emergency contacts have no rights regarding
the student and must have written authorization from the parent/guardian for a specific date/time to pick up the student from school.” It is important that the names and phone numbers listed for emergency contacts are accurate at all times.

**Playground Safety:**
Students will have an opportunity to play on the school playground during recess while supervised by teachers/staff. Students are encouraged to wear rubber bottomed, closed-toe shoes for safety. Shoes must be worn at all times while on the playground. Students must follow all safety rules and procedures established by each campus. No visitors are permitted on the playground during school hours without campus permission.

**SpeakUP:**
SpeakUp, an anonymous reporting system, empowers Katy ISD students, parents, and community members to anonymously submit safety and well-being tips to help prevent school-related incidents that could cause harm to others. In addition to submitting anonymous and secure tips, users can upload video and photo evidence. All tips are thoroughly investigated by campus personnel, police, and/or crisis management team. Students are encouraged to share information of a serious nature by submitting a tip through SpeakUP or telling an adult personally. By being well informed, the school can prevent most problems from happening.

**School Closing/Late Start:**
Inclement weather, power failure or other conditions beyond the control of Katy ISD may make it necessary to alter the school day. Should inclement weather or other conditions necessitate the closing of schools or a delayed start, all major Houston metro-area media will be notified. This information is provided by 6:00AM, prior to the scheduled start of school or as soon as possible if school has already started. It is also available on the [Katy ISD website](#).

**Security:**
Safety and security of students and employees are of utmost importance. To help ensure the safety of all children, the procedures listed under Visitors in this handbook should be followed. In addition,
• ANY visitor WITHOUT a name tag will be taken to the front office to register.
• Students and staff are NOT to open the Cafeteria/Gym/Exterior doors for visitors.
• Exterior doors are locked after school begins.
• All late arrivals should enter through the front doors.
• Approved after school programs are to keep all exterior doors locked at all times.
• The building is officially closed at 4:15PM daily.

The front office phones will be answered until 4:25PM.
Calendar Highlights

**JULY**
- 4 Holiday • Staff

**AUGUST**
- 1-2 New Teacher Professional Learning Days
- 6 Convocation
- 7 Secondary District Professional Learning Day
- 8 Elementary District Professional Learning Day
- 9 Campus Professional Learning Day
- 12 Campus Professional Learning Day
- 13 Teacher Preparation Day
- 14 First Day of Fall Semester

**SEPTEMBER**
- 2 Holiday • Students and Staff
- 18 Family Night (No Homework Assigned)
- 23 2nd Secondary Grading Cycle Begins

**OCTOBER**
- 7 Early Dismissal - Elementary Parent Conferences and Secondary Professional Learning
- 14 2nd Elementary Grading Cycle Begins
- 16 Family Night (No Homework Assigned)
- 18 Early Dismissal - Elementary Parent Conferences and Secondary Professional Learning

**NOVEMBER**
- 4 3rd Secondary Grading Cycle Begins
- 25 Thanksgiving Break Begins • Holiday • Students and Staff

**DECEMBER**
- 4 Family Night (No Homework Assigned)
- 20 Early Dismissal, End of Semester
- 23 Winter Break Begins • Holiday • Students and Staff

**JANUARY**
- 3 Winter Break • Holiday • Students and Staff
- 6 Teacher Preparation Day
- 7 First Day of Spring Semester
- 20 Campus Professional Learning Day • Student Holiday
- 22 Family Night (No Homework Assigned)

**FEBRUARY**
- 14 Early Dismissal for Campus Professional Learning
- 17 District Professional Learning Day • Student Holiday
- 18 5th Secondary Grading Cycle Begins

**MARCH**
- 4 Family Night (No Homework Assigned)
- 9 Spring Break Begins • Holiday • Students and Staff
- 16 4th Elementary Grading Cycle Begins

**APRIL**
- 3 Early Dismissal for Campus Professional Learning
- 6 6th Secondary Grading Cycle Begins
- 10 Holiday • Students and Staff

**MAY**
- 6 Family Night (No Homework Assigned)
- 9 Last Day of School for Graduating Seniors
- 12 Early Dismissal, Last Day of School
- 22 Teacher Preparation Day
- 25 Holiday • Staff

**JUNE**
- The District will be closed June 29 through July 3, 2020.

**Bad Weather Make-Up Days:** Jan. 20* Feb. 17*
- *If used, employees will need to make up the day on a Saturday. This calendar contains enough minutes to cover bad weather days.

**Minutes Calculations Include:**
- **E:** Total Days of Instruction: 177
- **JH:** Minutes Per Full Day: 440
- **HS:** Minutes per Early Release Day: 260
- **Total Minutes:** 76,800
- **Waived Minutes:** 1,160
- **Total Minutes:** 77,960

**Symbols Key:**
- Begin Elementary Grading Cycle
- End Elementary Grading Cycle
- Begin Secondary Grading Cycle
- End Secondary Grading Cycle
- New Teacher Professional Learning Day
- Teacher Preparation Day • Student Holiday
- Early Dismissal
- Early Dismissal - Parent Conferences and/or Professional Learning
- Holiday • Students and Staff
- Convocation
- Secondary District Professional Learning Day, Elementary Campus Professional Learning Day
- Elementary District Professional Learning Day, Secondary Campus Professional Learning Day
- Campus Professional Learning Day • Student Holiday
- District Professional Learning Day
- Family Night (No Homework Assigned)
- Last Day of School for Graduating Seniors
- District and Campuses Closed

Note: Adjustments may be necessary upon the final release of the 2019-2020 TEA testing calendar, specifically to possible testing dates in April and May of 2020.
Parents and students should be familiar with this handbook and the practices and procedures of the school.
Introduction
Welcome to Mayde Creek Elementary!
It is very important to the faculty and staff that children and parents find the elementary school experience rewarding. We strive to serve you with exemplary service and want you to know that we truly care about our students and school. We also feel the more informed you are about the school, the greater the student successes will be. A+ Customer Service is our goal each day!

General Information
Mayde Creek Elementary School
2698 Greenhouse Road
Houston, Texas 77084
281-237-3950 (main office)
281-644-1555 (fax)
mccecommunications@katyisd.org (email address for changes of transportation)

Principal: Mrs. Felicia A. Sheedy
feliciaasheedy@katyisd.org (email address)
281 237-3956

Mayde Creek Elementary is a vibrant, diverse and welcoming school whose success is founded on the teamwork of children, parents, faculty, staff, community members and business partners. Everyone strives for excellence each day as children are nurtured in physical, intellectual, emotional and social realms.

Brand our GREEN on Social Media
Facebook- https://www.facebook.com/mcegators/
Twitter- @mcegators
Instagram- mcemaydecreekelementary
School Mission Statement
Make a difference,
Choose to be,
Excellent and Unique,
MCE

School Mascot: Alligator
School Colors: Green and White

Student Enrollment
It is the Katy ISD expectation that a student reside within the Katy ISD attendance boundary, unless a child of a Katy ISD staff member. The student must also attend the school within their residency attendance boundary.

Parents may access the Katy ISD registration information on the Katy ISD website at:
   http://www.katyisd.org/registration/Pages/default.aspx

Residency Requirements
At the time of registration, parents must bring proof of residence dated within the past 30 days, showing the parent/guardian's name and street address. A recent utility bill (electric, water, or gas), a house or apartment lease agreement, or an earnest money or purchase contract and a letter from a mortgage company indicating loan approval or proof from the home builder/realtor of cash payment verification. If a lease agreement or purchasing paperwork is provided at the time of registration, a utility bill must be provided within 30 days of occupancy. If a student's residence is questioned, MCE may contact Katy ISD Police for a residency check.
Bona fide residency documents are required to be updated annually. Parents/guardians must inform the school anytime there is a change of address and provide new proof of residency. Parents/guardians must inform the school anytime there is a phone number change.

Returning Student Update
During the week of August 1, all parents and guardians will receive a unique SnapCode for each child currently enrolled in Katy ISD to their email address on file. If you do not have an email address on file, a letter will be mailed to you. A returning student is defined as any student that was actively enrolled on the last day of the prior school year on any Katy ISD campus. You are a returning student even if you have moved within the Katy ISD boundaries and are attending a new campus in 2019-2020 or if you are attending a new school due to promotion (i.e. moving from 5th grade elementary to attend 6th grade Junior High or moving from 8th grade Junior High to attend 9th grade High School). FAQs can be found on the Katy ISD Website.

What is a Returning Student Update?
This electronic, online process will replace the First Day Packet where many various forms had to be filled out manually and returned to the campus. With PowerSchool Registration, you will be able to update all of your child’s information in one spot and electronically review and sign all documentation. All parents will be updating their student’s information, yearly, using PowerSchool Registration. We ask that your child’s PowerSchool Registration be updated by August 31, 2019. Changes can be made throughout the school year.
If you have received a SnapCode and you have a currently enrolled student at Katy ISD for the school year (2019-2020), please complete the update process online.

If you have any questions about Returning Student Update, you can contact your child’s campus during regular business hours.

**Home Access Center (HAC)**
A newly upgraded HAC allows Katy ISD parents to access their student’s schedule, homeroom teacher, grades, assignments, test scores and absences. Parents can also update basic parent/guardian contact information. To access the site, go to: [http://www.katyisd.org/pages/home-access-center.aspx](http://www.katyisd.org/pages/home-access-center.aspx). The same username/password apply from year to year. If a username and/or password is needed, please contact your child’s campus or teacher.

**Absences and Early Check Out**
We believe that consistent attendance is an essential part of the MCE learning experience. We feel it is important that all students are in class learning and enjoying the learning experience. We encourage you, as parents, to support this philosophy too by having your student(s) at school on time and refraining from checking student(s) out early during the school year. We also encourage parents to schedule medical appointments after school hours. Please note that parents will be contacted by MCE staff regarding excessive tardiness, early check out, and/or absences.

If an early check out becomes necessary please note that the parent/guardian will not be allowed to go to the classroom to
retrieve the child. All students **MUST** be signed out through the front office. Students cannot be called away from instruction or out of the classroom ahead of time, so please plan accordingly. Students will be called to the front office when the parent/guardian arrives at the front office, provides the required identification, and signs the student out.

MCE prepares for dismissal and finalizes all communication with classrooms at 3:00pm daily (12:00pm on early dismissal days). To ensure a safe and orderly process, students may not be checked out after 3:00pm (12:00pm on early dismissal days).

**Only a parent or guardian listed in PowerSchool may check out a student.** If other arrangements are necessary, a letter must be sent to the school prior to the early check out allowing for someone other than the parent/guardian/emergency contact to pick up the child.

This letter must also include the **name of the person**, as shown on their Driver’s License, who will be picking up the child and a copy of the parent/guardian’s ID.

Students who are checked out early (unexcused) five or more times, are not eligible to receive an Exemplary Attendance Certificate.

**Clinic Check Outs**
If the nurse calls a parent/guardian to pick up a student because of illness, the student must be signed out through the clinic. **Emergency contacts** will be notified if the parent is not responsive to repeated phone calls. *Emergency contacts can check out a child through the clinic only per parent request.*
Reporting Absences
Parents are required to call the school office and report an absence, or a note must be received by the attendance clerk within 3 days of a student’s return to school. When reporting an absence by phone, please call our ADA at 281-237-3955, and leave a detailed message. The message or note must include the following information:

- Student’s name as shown in PowerSchool Registration
- Date(s) of absence
- Teacher’s name
- Reason for absence
- Name of person calling the absence in
- Signature of parent/guardian, if a note is written
- Contact phone number, in case the Attendance clerk has questions for parent/guardian.

If the parent/guardian does not call the school to report a student’s absence or send a note upon the student’s return to school, the absence is considered unexcused. Students who are habitually truant for unexcused reasons will be reported to the Katy ISD Attendance/Truancy Officer.

Student Attendance
MCE would like to make you aware of attendance policies and campus procedures that could affect your child.

In compliance with Texas Law, if your child has three unexcused absences within a four week period, you will receive a notice about those absences from the school district. MCE will then work to create an Attendance Intervention Plan (AIP) with the goal of understanding and solving the attendance problem. Part
of this plan includes informing parents about the attendance requirements and tracking attendance for twenty days through the campus Response to Intervention process. We have noted significantly improved attendance when an AIP is put in place. Unfortunately, if the AIP does not improve attendance, we may be required to refer the issue to the Katy ISD Attendance/Truancy Officer. It should also be noted that in compliance with state guidelines a student must be in attendance for the full day for at least 90% of the days that school is in session to be promoted to the next grade level, regardless of whether the absences are excused or unexcused.

MCE reviews attendance data each nine weeks to identify students who are below the 90% attendance requirement. When students are identified, they are then placed on a Principal’s Plan for Regaining Credit in order to encourage attendance. When a student is placed on a Principal’s Plan for Regaining Credit, parents are notified about attendance requirements.

Please know that we understand that children are occasionally sick. When students are sick it is important that they not attend school. In these instances please call the Attendance Clerk to report the absences and send in a doctor’s notes when necessary.

**Truancy Enforcement**

The truancy enforcement officers work closely with campus administrators to prevent unexcused absences.

However, when all interventions fail, criminal charges are brought against the students or parents who intentionally violate the state compulsory attendance statutes. For more
information about compulsory attendance laws, call the Katy ISD Police Department at (281) 237-4000.

**Tardiness**
Parents please help the classroom teachers and your students by getting your child to school by **7:55am** each day. Students are expected to be in their classroom ready for instruction by 8:15 am. For families utilizing the morning car rider line, we suggest that you are in line no later than 8:00am.

**Arrival/Dismissal**
*Beginning at 7:25 am, MCE offers early morning drop off. Students may be dropped off on the bus ramp beginning at 7:25am and ending at 7:55 am.*

Between 7:55am and 8:15am, all students arriving in cars must be in the line that forms in the front circle driveway. Staff and Student Safety Patrol will open car doors to allow students to exit the car on the passenger side of the car. Please remain in a single file line and pull forward to the next available open spot for your child to be exited from your vehicle by staff or Student Safety Patrol member. No passing will be allowed in the car line for the safety of your student(s) and staff. Do not drop your student off without a safety patrol or staff member opening the car door.

If you do not wish for your child to be exited from your vehicle at the available spot, please park your car and walk the child to the front door of the school. Children and adults are asked to use marked crossing areas and sidewalks in the parking lot areas. Please do not park or drop-off children on the bus ramp.
As children are expected to arrive at school on time and be in their classrooms by 8:15 am, any child entering the building after 8:20am will be considered tardy. **If your child reports to school after the 8:20am tardy bell, he/she MUST report with a parent/guardian to the front office before proceeding to class, as parent/guardian must sign their student(s) in.** The student(s) will then be given a tardy pass to class.

Parents/guardians are also REQUIRED to accompany their student(s) to the front office upon returning to school after being checked out for an appointment during the school day and sign them back into school. Please note, five or more tardies will result in a child losing eligibility for an **Exemplary Attendance Certificate.** In the unlikely event of a bus running late, students will **not** be marked tardy.

**If a child is not present when attendance is taken at 9:50 am, he/she is counted ABSENT FOR THE ENTIRE DAY. (Exception: a healthcare appointment with a doctor’s note.)**

Please do not leave your children unattended at the front of the school. We do not have supervision at the front of the building.

**For safety and security reasons, we require that all afternoon student checkouts be done by 3:00pm. All early check-outs must be done through the front office.** Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**Walkers in PK, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades MUST have an adult waiting at the dismissal location. In an effort to ensure the safety of our students, the student and parent will have matching tags that must be presented. If no one is there, the child will be brought back to the campus front**
office. If the parent wishes to by-pass the safety procedures and allow their child to walk without an adult, a written note must be on file with the principal each academic year.

All children must leave campus at their class dismissal time in the afternoon. The buses will bring children home promptly.

Parents/guardians of Kindergarten children MUST be present at the child’s bus stop in the afternoon or the student will be brought back to the campus front office. If the bus brings the student back to the campus, the parent/guardian will be called to pick up their student. Please encourage your children to think carefully before they leave school for the day so that they will have everything needed for homework and projects. The school doors will be locked at 4:25pm unless there is a special activity taking place after regular school hours. Students will not be permitted back into their classrooms after 4:00pm.

**Bicycle Riders**
All parents should discuss with their children safety when biking to and from school. All bikers should cross at the designated crosswalks only. If you plan for your children to bike to school, please ride their route with them several times before you permit them to ride alone. Bicycles should have locks which will properly secure them to the racks in the front of the school or at the back of the school. The school does not assume responsibility if bikes are stolen or damaged.

*For your child’s safety, we ask that BICYCLE HELMETS BE WORN BY ALL BIKE RIDERS.*

**CAR RIDERS**
Parents will be given a car rider tag/sign to use for staff to quickly identify students in the car rider lines. *You must place*
this sign in the front window of your vehicle each day when you enter the car pick up line. This will assist us in expediting the process of our parent pick up system. Replacement cards are readily available in the front office. If you do not have your card, you will be asked to park, come inside the school, present a picture ID, and sign out your child.

Several cars will be loaded at one time, so please pull as far forward as possible as directed by the teacher on duty to the next available station so that we may quickly load cars at dismissal time. We ask that parents remain in their cars. Please do not park and walk across the pick-up area to get your children. This causes added congestion and delays and poses a safety hazard to the children and our staff.

The side of the school has been designated as the PARENT DRIVE for picking up students at 3:40pm. MCE Car Rider Line starts lining up around 3:10pm. Staff members stop taking car rider numbers at 3:50pm. If you are not in Car Rider Line at that point, you will need to walk inside of the front office to pick up your student. Should it be necessary to pick up your child in the front office due to running late or no car rider tag, you must pick your student up no later than 4:00pm. Upon entering the front office, you must present an ID or car rider tag to pick up your child. There are no early pick-ups from the car rider line.

Car Rider Pick Up Directions
To pick up your child through the car rider line, cars must enter off of Ashley Road. This is different from previous years. Cars will not be allowed to travel around Mayde Creek Junior High. Cars will follow a drive from Ashley Road, turn on to Mayde Creek High School Rear Access Road (in between Transportation fence and Transportation Day Care), turn right
on to Transportation Drive, turn left into the MCHS Football Field parking lot, follow the road around the football field, baseball field, and softball field, and turn right between the softball field and our recess playground. Cars will stop at the MCE Back Parking Lot until buses are dismissed from the bus ramp.

After the buses leave, cars will enter the bus ramp to load students. Students will be assisted into cars under the awning on the north side of the elementary school. Students will be loaded on the driver’s side of the vehicle. Once students are in the car, cars will proceed out and turn right on Greenhouse Road. Cars will not be permitted to cross Greenhouse Road to travel southbound on Greenhouse. Please do not pass other cars in the pick-up line unless directed by the campus staff. Please be aware that there will be students walking through this route. **And always remember, it is illegal to text or use your phone while in school zones.**

**Changes in Transportation**

**On the first day of school, please let the teacher know how your child will be going home from school each day.** We encourage that the 1st day of school be the same as every day of the school year. This will be your child’s “primary mode of transportation”. Thereafter, any change in this primary mode of transportation will be considered a “change of transportation”. All changes in transportation must be made in writing or emailed at mcecommunications@katyisd.org. Please note, if a student has a sibling attending MCE, parents must issue a written change of transportation for **each sibling** to give to their teacher. All changes of transportation must include the following information and can be emailed to mcecommunications@katyisd.org or in a note sent to the school with the student to be given to their teacher.
• Student’s name as shown in PowerSchool Registration
• Teacher’s name and grade
• Date(s) to be affected by change
• The change in method of how parent wants their child to go home during this change (examples: car rider, bus rider and bus#, walker (front or back)/biker (front or back)/ day care)
• Parent’s name, signed and printed please
• Parent’s contact phone number
• Copy of Parent’s Driver’s License.

Changes of transportation must be received no later than 2:00pm on a regular schedule day and 10:00am on Early Dismissal Days.

Please Note: We only accept changes of transportation from parents/guardians. Emergency contact(s) or students themselves cannot make or request student(s) changes of transportation.

ANY CHANGES IN THE NORMAL TRANSPORTATION OF YOUR CHILD MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE FRONT OFFICE BEFORE 2:00 PM. CHANGES OF TRANSPORTATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER 2:00PM.

PHONE CALLS and TEACHER’S VOICE MAILS ARE NOT AN ACCEPTABLE WAY TO NOTIFY THE SCHOOL OF A CHANGE IN TRANSPORTATION. THIS IS FOR THE PROTECTION OF YOUR CHILD.

WE WILL NOT PERMIT STUDENTS TO CHANGE THEIR MODE OF TRANSPORTATION WITHOUT WRITTEN NOTIFICATION FROM THE PARENT/GUARDIAN.
Parents who pick their child up after 3:55pm, will be required to come inside to the front office, provide ID and sign their child out on the school iPad. A google doc tracks persistent late pickups. **Parents, please be advised that persistent late pick-ups will warrant a notification to the Katy ISD police.**

**Day Care Transportation**

Some children ride a day care bus to and from school daily. Please inform the day care to bring your children between 7:55am - 8:15am and to pick up your children PROMPTLY at dismissal time (3:40pm)!

Please be sure your child’s teacher knows what day care bus your child will be riding.

**BE SURE YOUR CHILD’S TEACHER HAS WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE DAILY PLAN OF HOW YOUR CHILD GOES HOME EACH DAY.**

If your child is absent or goes home ill from school during the day, **PLEASE NOTIFY THE DAY CARE CENTER** that your child
will not be riding the day care van/bus for their afternoon dismissal pick up.

**Bus Transportation:**
All children residing within a ½ mile distance from school are permitted to ride the bus. There is no charge for bus service. Bus schedules and routes are available throughout the year through the Katy ISD website at [www.katyisd.org](http://www.katyisd.org). Click “Bus Schedule” at the top of website. Enter your street address number and the first three or four letters of your street name, enter the grade level and click on “Go”. A list of streets will appear at the bottom of the screen – click on your street name. Click on the school code number for more route information.

The best way to determine when the bus will arrive at your children’s bus stop is to refer to the KISD bus schedule and watch for the bus the first few days of school.

Maps of all bus routes are located in the school office. Your help will be greatly appreciated in determining the bus your children should ride and the location of the bus stop.

Students **MUST** abide by the school and Katy ISD bus rules.

**Riding the school bus is a privilege, not a right.**

**BUS RULES:**

1. Speak in a reasonable tone of voice.
2. Obey and respect the bus driver.
3. Keep hands, feet and all objects to yourself.
4. Remain seated until it is time to unload at your stop.
CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR ON THE SCHOOL BUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Referral</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Referral</td>
<td>Conference with a principal/parent called</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Referral</td>
<td>Conference with principal/parent called and student is suspended from riding the bus for a minimum of three (3) days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Referral</td>
<td>Conference with principal/parent called and student suspended from riding the bus for a minimum of ten (10) days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Referral</td>
<td>Bus suspension for the remainder of the semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: In the case of a severe behavioral infraction, bus privileges may be revoked immediately and/or permanently.

Dismissal and Severe Weather Alerts:
We sometimes experience severe weather during the school day and at dismissal time. If the Katy area is under a severe weather warning issued by the National Weather Service, the district will issue a Severe Weather Alert and the school will take shelter. A blackboard message will go out to parents to let them know. When the weather alert is removed, dismissal will continue in the normal manner.

Breakfast Visitors:
- Parents are encouraged to have breakfast with their children from 7:25 am to 7:50 am. At 7:55 am, the Pre-K students enter the café to have breakfast as a class. All parents are expected to leave the café each morning by 7:50 am. If the parent is wanting to volunteer for the
day, the parent will need to go to the front office and obtain a Raptor Identification badge.

**Lunch Visitors:**

- Due to the limited time and space, visitors may have lunch with their child **on Monday and Friday of each week except on Early Dismissal Days.**
- Only parents and guardians are allowed. Grandparents can eat lunch with their grandchild with a written note from the parent/guardian, and must adhere to all lunch guidelines. Due to time and space concerns at MCE, plus our eagerness for lunch to be social development time for our children, **visitors are only allowed to have lunch with their child twice a week.**

However, during the first two weeks of school, the District asks that parents do not visit students for lunch as students are learning independence with routines and procedures. **Visitors are allowed starting September 6, 2019.**

- Parents must enter through the front office and obtain a Raptor badge by presenting required identification to the front office staff, no exceptions. All visitors must comply with this requirement before being allowed to enter the secure student area of the school.
- Due to space and safety concerns, lunch visitors are restricted to parents/step-parents/guardians, non-school aged siblings, grandparents (with written permission from the parent) and campus mentors (per GKC Regulation). Visitors do not include aunts, uncles, or neighbors.
- Lunch visitors are limited to three (3) guests per students per day, except on days designated by the campus as a special event (i.e. Grandparent Day).
Unusual circumstances may be approved/addressed by the principal.

- All parents are asked to remain in the cafeteria and **MUST** eat at the parent table on the stage during their lunch.
- Parents eating with their child may not visit other areas of the school and should not walk their child back to class or to the playground after lunch.
- **Parents are not allowed to bring food for other children** when they visit for lunch and students cannot ask their friends to eat with their parents during lunch.
- **Please refrain from cell phone or other technology usage while visiting for lunch.** Due to privacy issues outlined in FERPA, no photos/videos with cell phones or other electronic devices or cameras are allowed in the cafeteria per GKC (Regulation).
- Visitors who repeatedly disregard cafeteria expectations may lose the privilege of coming to the lunchroom.
- Parents are not allowed to remove their children from the cafeteria for any reason without permission from a staff member on duty in the cafeteria. Any parents wishing to check out their child must do this through the front office.

**Birthday Treats**

Parents are allowed to bring treats to allow their student to celebrate their birthday. Birthday treats must be limited to one item per classmate. Cupcakes or individually packaged items are preferred. Birthday treat items must be purchased at a store with all ingredients clearly labeled. Parents should keep in mind that there are many students who have food allergies (i.e. peanuts, gluten, etc.). **No homemade items will**
be allowed. The birthday treat exception does not constitute a birthday party; therefore, no other items (party favors or treat bags) may be distributed. Birthday treats will be given to the class during the last 10 minutes of the grade level lunch.

Per GKDA (REGULATIONS), invitations for birthday parties or other special events are defined as non-school related materials and may not be distributed to students at school since other flyers from similar groups are allowed to be directly distributed to students.

Deliveries
You may bring items your child needs during the school day, such as a lunch or eyeglasses, to the front office. Please do so by 10:00am so that the item can be delivered to your child. (Please see district guidelines regarding not being able to allow deliveries of flowers, balloons, etc.) Lunches are to be placed on the table outside the second doorway in the front foyer. At 10:00am, lunches are delivered to the table outside the Cafeteria for students to pick up on their way to the Cafeteria. When dropping off the lunch, please fill out the yellow form to ensure the name of the student and teacher name is on the item.

Parents who drop off lunches or birthday treats after 10:05 am will be expected to show their ID so that the parent can place the item on the table outside the cafeteria. Parents are expected to not wander around the building after dropping off the item inside the school. Parents are only allowed to eat with their child on Monday and Friday each week.
Safety & Security
A safe learning environment for all students is the top priority of the Katy Independent School District and Mayde Creek Elementary. Assessment, planning, development of protocols, training and evaluation are key components in ensuring that our students’ education will not be disrupted by any safety concerns and that our staff are properly trained to respond to any emergency situation.

Student Safety
Each Katy ISD campus has a school safety liaison that is responsible for planning, mitigating, and responding to safety and security issues. To report a safety and security concern related to school property or a school-sponsored event, call the school safety liaison.

Bullying
The Texas Education Code defines bullying as engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that occurs on school property, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or in a vehicle operated by the district that:

1. Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student’s property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property, or
2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating,
threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

**Food Allergies**
A written statement **must be renewed annually** and kept on file for any food allergy, including milk, which requires substitutions on the lunch menu. Until the required documentation is received, no substitutions will be made. The form can be accessed upon request through the school nurse.

**Clinic (24 Hour Rule)**
Students who demonstrate signs and symptoms of illness at school will be referred to the school clinic for further assessment. Those with an elevated temperature of 100.0 degrees or above, or those who vomit or have diarrhea must be isolated and sent home. **The student must be fever free without fever-reducing medication for 24 hours before he/she will be allowed back into school. Those who have suffered from vomiting or diarrhea must also be free of symptoms without the use of preventative medications before being allowed back into school.** (Administrative Regulation FFAD) The 24-hour period is used as the standard length of time to determine if symptoms have subsided.

**Head Lice**
Head lice, although not an illness or a disease, is very common among children and is spread very easily through head-to-head contact during play and sports, and/or when children share things like brushes, combs, hats, and headphones. **If a student has been assessed by the campus nurse and the findings indicate the presence of “live lice”, the parent is called to pick up the student.** When the parent arrives, the campus nurse will discuss treatment with an FDA-approved medicated shampoo or cream rinse that may be purchased from any drug or grocery store. **After the student has undergone one treatment, the**
parent needs to bring the student back to the campus nurse to be cleared to go back to class. If any “live lice” are found in the child’s hair, he/she will be sent home until no evidence of “live lice” exists. Nit (lice eggs) removal, though tedious, is the most effective way to eliminate lice.

**Medicine Dispensed at School**
The Texas Legislature and Katy ISD board policy mandate that school personnel dispense medication to students if certain requirements are met by the parent/guardian. All prescription drugs must be in original pharmacy containers and labeled by the pharmacist. The label must include the student’s name, physician’s name, name of drug, amount of drug to be given, frequency of administration and the date the prescription was filled. All nonprescription drugs must be in original containers. The written request for administration must include the student’s name, name of drug, amount of drug to be given, when drug is to be given, reason drug is given, date and signature of parent/guardian. All prescription and nonprescription drugs must be accompanied by a written request signed by the parent/guardian. All prescription or nonprescription drugs to be administered at school for longer than 15 days must be accompanied by a written request that has been signed and dated by the prescribing physician. Medications prescribed or requested to be given three times a day or less are not to be given at school unless a specific time during school hours is prescribed by a physician, or the school nurse determines that a special need exists for an individual student. Only one medication is allowed per properly labeled container.

*Students may not have prescription or nonprescription drugs (including cough drops) in his or her possession on school grounds during school hours.*

In accordance with the Nurse Practice Act, Texas Code Section 217.11, the school nurse has the responsibility and authority to
refuse to administer medications that in the nurse’s judgment are not in the best interest of the student.

**Specialized Care**
Parent request and physician authorization forms for the administration of a specialized healthcare service at school must be renewed annually and kept on file in the school clinic. New forms may be obtained from the school nurse. These forms are required, but not limited to blood glucose testing, breathing treatments, injections (intravenous or intramuscular), catherizations and/or tube feeding.

**Water Bottles**
Students are encouraged to drink water throughout the day. Students are allowed to bring water only in a spill-proof bottle with a sports cap or a snap-on or screw-on lid cups.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences**
Parent/Teacher conferences are an essential part of the process of reporting student progress (academic or behavioral) to parents. At least one conference per student is required each year and conferences are held in the fall semester.

If a child has committed one or more major behavioral infractions and/or academic concerns are noticed, additional conferences may be scheduled. For minor infractions, the school will determine if a conference is necessary. If you desire a conference with your child’s teacher, please schedule this with the teacher in advance. Teachers will not be available to conference with parents when they are with students. All conferences will be scheduled during the teacher’s planning period or before or after school. Please contact the teacher prior to coming to the school as they will not be available should you arrive without a scheduled appointment.
Counselor
MCE utilizes the services of one full-time, certified counselor. The counselor has a variety of duties and responsibilities that are directly related to the parent and child. There may be conferences throughout the year involving the teacher and the counselor. Some of the major functions of the counselor are:

- Conferring with teachers, principals and parents regarding student progress in academic or behavioral areas.
- Leading group counseling sessions in the classroom/counselor's office.
- Providing guidance counseling lessons for classes.
- Responding to individual emotional needs of students.

The counselor is available to speak with concerned parents. Due to varied duties, she may not be available when you drop in and visit. Scheduling an appointment in advance guarantees that the counselor will be available to meet with you at a mutually agreed upon time.

Student Behavior and Discipline
Acceptable behavior is important and required at MCE, as it is in society. Proper discipline will be discussed with all students and expectations will be defined. Positive encouragement and reinforcement will be given to students who display appropriate behaviors and consequences will be assigned to students who display inappropriate behaviors. Continuing communication and cooperation between home and school, results in the most desirable outcomes.

A reflection sheet will be completed by students who are unable to meet MCE expectations. This reflection sheet will be
sent home for parent signatures. Explanation of the MCE Expectations are listed and explained in this handbook.

Students will not be allowed to disrupt the learning process. The goals of the school cannot be achieved if a disproportionate amount of time and resources must be given to maintaining order. The school is obliged to serve all students until they, through persistent and serious acts, disrupt school and violate the rights of others. Students exhibiting unacceptable behavior will be disciplined according to the school board policy.

Only on rare exceptions are children sent to an administrator for a first offense. Our discipline procedures include student conferences, teacher-parent conferences and phone calls, counselor conferences, think time in another classroom, reflection sheets, use of incentive charts, loss of privileges, and administration-student discipline.

If your child is sent to administration for discipline, and an incident is identified, you will receive a telephone call to report the incident. A discipline referral will also come home with your child for you to review, sign and return the next day.

Please carefully read the Katy ISD Discipline Management Plan and Student Code of Conduct available on the KatyISD.org website.

**MCE Expectations**
The following are expectations for behavior at MCE with clearly defined explanations. These expectations are known to all,
clearly stated, and fairly and consistently enforced. These expectations are important for the general good and safety of all students at Mayde Creek Elementary and are to be followed at all times while at school, including while in the cafeteria, specials, recess, and evening activities.

1. **Listens well** – defined as whole body listening (eyes on speaker, sitting up, hands and feet still) and following directions given orally.

2. **Demonstrates organizations skills** – includes acquiring necessary signatures, having supplies, caring for supplies, and using proper heading on paper.

3. **Completes class work assignments** – includes completing quality work (work that is legible and turned in on time.)

4. **Completes homework assignments** – includes completing quality work (work that is legible) and it must be turned in when due.

5. **Complies with requests** – defined as doing what is asked the first time with a friendly face and body and with a positive attitude, and being respectful of school property.

6. **Controls talking** – defined as waiting your turn to talk, raising your hand to speak and quietly waiting to be called on. Controlled talking also means that voices are turned off during instruction and while in the hallways (and all other quiet zones/periods) and using an inside voice when appropriate.

7. **Disciplines self** – includes keeping hands and feet to self, using kind words, respecting school property and the property of others, being honest and “owning” your own behaviors and staying on task.

8. **Interacts appropriately** – includes respecting others’ personal space, keeping hands and feet to self when
interacting with others, using kind words when interacting with others, using positive verbal and nonverbal communication and using good manners.

MCE Positive Reinforcements

- Hallway behavior recognition
- Verbal praise
- Chomp Chomp Tickets, Tokens, tickets, stickers, food coupons, etc.
- Positive notes, calls to parents
- Extra privileges granted by teachers and administration
- Gator Rally
- Gator Store

MCE Consequences

- Warning
- Reflection Sheet
- Timeout/conference with teacher or “think time” in another classroom
- Loss of privilege
- Parent phone call
- Office referral
- Parent conference
- Loss of recess time, lunch detention, after school detention, ISS, OSS, or over-night suspension (administrative assignments only)

Severe Clause – if a student harms another student or staff member, or damages school property, he/she will receive an automatic referral to the office.
**Conduct grades** – are based on the number of reflection sheets in a single nine week period. Each nine weeks begins with a clean slate for the student. Cafeteria will send Cafeteria Notices for inappropriate behavior while in the Cafeteria for lunch. Cafeteria and Specials reports will count towards conduct grades.

- 5 or less Reflection Sheets in a single area = S on the report card
- 6 – 10 Reflection Sheets in a single area = N on the report card
- 11+ Reflection Sheets in a single area = U on the report card
- 8 Reflection Sheets = N in Discipline Self
- Office referral with assigned consequences – N (at minimum) in Discipline Self on the report card

Please note: A total of 8 Reflection Sheets will equal an “N” under “Disciplines Self” on the report card. A total of 14 Reflection Sheets will equal a “U” under “Disciplines Self” on the report card. Office referrals with assigned discipline will result in a U (at a minimum) in the Disciplines Self category on the report card.

Students that participate in extracurricular activities such as Student Council, Choir, Safety Patrol, and Pep Squad are expected to have excellent behavior and strong academic progress.

If a student gets an office referral with assigned administrative consequences, for too many Reflection Sheets, the student may be placed on probation for a month. If the student gets a
second referral or detention, the student may be removed from
the extracurricular program for the remainder of the school
year.

Response to Intervention (RTI)
When students are identified as in need of additional
intervention (academic, behavior, attendance) teachers may
request an increase in the level of intensity of intervention.
This request is made in a collaborative meeting involving our
campus RTI Coordinator, classroom teachers, academic
support teachers, and administrators.

The purpose of this meeting is to develop a plan of
intervention that will help the student improve in the
identified area. For more information about RTI, please
contact your child’s teacher or the campus RTI Coordinator.

State Testing
The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness
(STAAR) is given to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. Third grade
students are required to take the Reading and Math STAAR
assessments. Fourth grade students are required to take the
Reading, Math, and Writing STAAR assessments. Fifth grade
students are required to take the Reading, Math, and Science
STAAR assessments. The State also has specific Student
Success Initiative (SSI) requirements for the fifth grade
Reading and Math assessments. Due to the State mandates,
the school campus will be closed to all visitors and student
deliveries on STAAR Testing Days. These days will be
publicized through campus communication.
Field Trips
Grade levels 1st – 5th will take a minimum of one field trip each school year as part of the instructional program. Kindergarten may take one field trip each school year; however, it is not a KISD or MCE requirement. If this optional activity is selected by the MCE Kindergarten and Administrative Teams, the trip must correlate with the Kindergarten curriculum and instructional goals. Field trips are never to be considered recreational in nature as parents have the ability to attend special events with their children at other times.

Teachers will send home information regarding field trips at least 1 to 2 months prior to the date of the field trip. Any payments from parents will be expected to be paid by a specified due date. This allows MCE to follow the proper procedures for requesting payment checks to present to the field trip destination. **Students will not be allowed to attend the field trip if the Annual Student Update has not been updated during the current school year or if Field Trip Permission forms and payments have not been received by the specified due date. Students who do not attend the field trip will be placed in a comparable grade level classroom to continue instruction.**

The following is the standard practice for field trips at Mayde Creek Elementary - classroom teachers must determine the appropriate number of parent chaperones to assist in keeping students safe. Selection of chaperones is at the teacher’s discretion and can vary according to field trip location and grade level of students. Chaperones must wear Raptor I.D. badges at all times during the field trip. Field trip chaperones may be required to ride the school bus. If selected as a bus riding chaperone, the parent MUST pay $4.00 for riding the bus
and sign a Katy ISD Hold Harmless Agreement. Chaperones are expected to assist with maintaining safety for the students and **monitoring them** at all times. Chaperones are not permitted to discipline children at any time. Chaperones and school personnel whose purpose is to provide adequate supervision will not bring family or friends. Adults traveling with the group must be designated chaperones.

Students must ride in district provided transportation to the field trip destination. KISD is responsible for all students on the field trip and the bus must be taken to and from the field trip site.

As appropriate, parents who are not bus riding chaperones may drive their own vehicles and meet the grade level at the field trip site. In these instances, parents are welcome to follow a group throughout the activity, but a parent should not attempt to segregate their child from the group to which they are assigned.

**All parents, chaperones or others, attending the field trip must wear a Raptor ID badge.** It is not in your student’s best interest to bring along younger siblings. This is a special instructional opportunity for your school age child, not a family outing.

Parents should not plan to attend some field trip experiences such as an inside performance style trip. A specific number of tickets will have been purchased by MCE/KISD, and no extras will be made available.

Field trip money cannot be refunded. Please have your child bring the exact amount of money needed for the trip. Change
will not be made. **No checks will be accepted from parents or staff.** Staff are not permitted to pay for children whose parents do not pay. Parents who cannot afford to pay will be encouraged to contact the school counselor.

In case of an emergency, illness or accident an attempt will be made to reach the emergency contact that is listed on the field trip form. Students with fever, vomiting, diarrhea or communicable disease symptoms must be picked up from the field trip site and remain home for 24 hours until they are free of symptoms.

**Homework**
Homework is an essential part of the academic program at MCE. As such, homework will be assigned on a regular basis. Here is a list of our basic homework guidelines:

- Homework is designed to reinforce skills that have been taught at school, both academic and organizational. It can involve a task such as taking papers home to be signed. Correcting papers with your child may also be considered homework.
- Work that has been introduced and studied in class will be assigned for homework.
- Oral and written practice with reading, writing, spelling and math skills is highly beneficial for your child. Although the school is responsible for providing children with educational opportunities, no child learns to read or to compute exclusively at school. The home/school connection is vital to your child’s educational success.
• Each grade level will distribute guidelines for homework practice. Parents will be made aware of the grade level expectations so as to know what to expect and how to provide the necessary home support.

• Completed homework will be checked and will not be counted more than ten percent of the total grade.

• Homework for students who are absent for MORE THAN ONE DAY must be requested **before 10:00am** through the absence/ADA phone number (281-237-3955). The requested homework may be picked up after 2:00pm at the front office.

• Please encourage your child to remember his/her papers, books, etc., at the end of the day. Students will not be permitted back into the classrooms after 4:00pm.

**Library**
Katy ISD is pleased to offer school libraries and media centers. It is the district’s desire to serve patrons with a broad selection of materials to satisfy the reading and informational needs of the students, faculty and community members.

When you sign the parent handbook, it is important to understand that you are accepting the responsibility for any materials checked out by your child. If a book is lost or damaged, a replacement fee is required so the material can be replaced by the library media specialist. The damaged item will
then be disposed of as per Katy ISD’s property disposal procedures. Self-selection is encouraged. Every book is not the best choice for every child. Please familiarize yourself with the materials your child borrows from the library media center. If a book is unappealing in anyway please have your child return it and choose another.

The Mayde Creek Library Media Center instructs students in the use of KISD databases and online encyclopedias that are available through the Katy ISD website. Students also have access to online e-books through the Mayde Creek Destiny website. Children are encouraged to participate in reading incentive programs promoted by the library media center such as Texas Blue Bonnet and 2 X 2 Award programs and numerous book clubs. The library sponsors two book fairs each year that provide funds to make reading incentive programs and author visits possible.

The Mayde Creek Library is an exciting and important part of each student’s learning experience. Parents are invited to take part in the learning adventure by reading with their child at home and helping their child take responsibility to return books on time and in good condition.

**Lost & Found:**
PLEASE mark all items of clothing, lunch boxes, and supplies with your child’s first and last name and the name of his/her homeroom teacher. This enables us to return lost items to a child. Student property that is not labeled will be placed in the school “Lost and Found” cart that is located on the stage in the café. Items will be hung and or placed the bins according to how the item is labeled.
PTA
Mayde Creek Elementary has an active PTA. There will be a membership drive at the beginning of the school year.

Historically, we have enjoyed a large PTA membership and the enthusiastic and active involvement of our members! We encourage all parents to join our PTA. If paying cash, dues for a one year membership are only $7.00. They are $8.50 if you pay online. The site to pay online is [http://www.joinpta.org/](http://www.joinpta.org/).

The PTA is extremely supportive of our school, and this support benefits every Mayde Creek Elementary student. There will be many opportunities for all parents to become active in PTA functions throughout the year. If you are interested in becoming active in our PTA, please fill out the Volunteer Information Form, and send it back to your child’s homeroom teacher (the Volunteer Information Form will be sent home with your child the first week of school). You may also contact a committee chairperson.

Classroom Parties
There are two school grade level parties each year, one first semester and one second semester. Teachers will send home information prior to the party regarding items being donated for the party. The flyer will also include information for any parents who wish to attend the party. All parents wanting to attend the party must enter the building through the front office and present a picture ID. The parent must wear the Raptor ID tag the entire time while attending the party.

**School age children enrolled at other Katy ISD schools are not permitted to attend class parties during their regular school day.**
No student(s) will be checked out after their party in their classroom. If a parent must check a student out after their party it MUST be done in the front office. Siblings cannot be checked out and then return to school to attend their siblings party.

Safety Patrol
The Safety Patrol is a trained group of fifth grade boys and girls organized to promote safety in and around the school. These students are recognized as leaders of Mayde Creek Elementary. Children in every grade level are expected to obey our Safety Patrol students.

A staff member will organize, instruct, and maintain the Safety Patrol. Students on the Safety Patrol must maintain satisfactory grades and demonstrate appropriate behavior and work habits. A student receiving a “D” or “F” in an academic area or “U” under conduct will be suspended. If a student receives a “C” or an “N”, he/she will be placed on probation for at least three weeks. Students receive written guidelines for Safety Patrol when they are selected. Parents are responsible for transportation of these students. Students involved in after school Safety Patrol must be picked up by 4:00pm.

Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS)
MCE welcomes volunteers. Volunteers should complete a volunteer form supplied by the PTA and return it to your child’s homeroom teacher. Parent volunteers are adored by all the staff members. Please remember that volunteers are not allowed to walk their students to class in the morning or after lunch. If the volunteer parent needs to speak to the teacher about a work basket, morning event or activity to be
completed, please refrain from talking to the staff member or teacher until after announcements are completed.

**Sister School**

We are very fortunate to maintain a partnership with Creech Elementary in Katy ISD as our Sister School! Creech has enriched our school with their most generous sharing of both people and products, and we look forward to continuing the collaboration in a manner beneficial to both campuses.

**Specialty Classes**

All students at MCE receive regular instruction in Art, Music, and Physical Education. This instruction is provided by certified Art, Music, and Physical Education teachers.

To ensure the safety of our students, students are asked to dress appropriately for Physical Education each day. Please see the Physical Education section in the front of the handbook for the district guidelines for dress.

Throughout the year, students participate in various grade level musical performances, physical education performances and Art Shows. During the night events, please attend these events with your students. **DO NOT** drop the students off and pick them up later in the evening.

**Gifted and Talented / Challenge (G/T)**

Students who transfer to KISD with a prior Gifted and Talented (G/T) identification must provide documentation. Parents of these students should request a parent checklist from the school. When the school receives the signed parent checklist and documentation, the screening process will then begin. Parents must request screening within 2 weeks of enrollment.
Transfer students may be screened anytime throughout the school year.

Students who are not new transfers with a documented prior identification will be screened during the window corresponding to their grade level. Parents can initiate the screenings by submitting a Parent Checklist by the published deadlines.

Please watch for campus and district communication regarding the screening deadlines and know that they are typically different from the rest of the school for students in kindergarten and students moving from elementary to junior high.

**Student Council**

Student Council will give fifth grade students the opportunity to take on leadership positions and be a part of student government on campus. Two representatives and one alternate will be elected from each homeroom. Once elected, these students will meet at least twice monthly (calendar to be provided at the beginning of the school year) with their sponsors to organize various service projects for the students/campus.

Requirements for Student Council Representatives:
1. Student must maintain a “C” average or better academically.
2. Student must maintain a conduct grade of “S” in all classes.
3. Student is required to attend weekly Student Council meetings at 7:30 AM. Special meetings may be called as required.

4. Student must provide his/her own transportation to all meetings.

5. Representatives must be in fifth grade.

Students may run for 5 leadership positions (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Historian, or Secretary). Those students are allowed to make 1 – 2 posters which are approved by the Student Council Sponsor and give a speech to the entire grade level. The speeches are due the Wednesday prior to the presentation of speeches to allow time for the Student Council Sponsor to approve the speech.

Excessive campaigning for positions in the form of passing out gum, chips, juice, etc., is not allowed. Stickers, tags, etc. are allowed. Please contact the Student Council Sponsor for approval. After the 5 leadership positions are voted on, each homeroom class will vote for 2 homeroom representatives (one boy/one girl). These representatives are voted on by the homeroom class. They are not required to give a speech or make a poster. One alternate is also selected per homeroom.

**MCE “Gator” Choir**
The “Gator” Choir consists of students in 3rd through 5th grade. To become a member of the school choir, each student must successfully pass a vocal audition. Choir practice is held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 7:45am. The choir performs for school and community audiences.
MCE “Gator” Orff Ensemble
The Orff Ensemble consists of students in 3rd through 5th grade. This is a small performing group and membership is by invitation only based on classroom performance. Orff practice is held on Wednesday and Friday mornings at 7:45am. The Orff Ensemble performs for school and community performances.

MCE Pep Squad
The MCE Pep Squad consists of girls and boys in 4th and 5th grade. The purpose of the “Gator” Pep Squad is to promote exercise, self-motivation, responsibility, community involvement, and school spirit.

MCE Read, Deed, & Run
What is Read, Deed, and Run? RDR is an all-encompassing program for the WHOLE child. Students entering 4th and 5th grades, commit to a 25 week program in which they will read 26 books (or 2600 pages), perform 26 good deeds in the community, and run a total of 26.2 miles. Students run their final 1.2 miles in a “race” to earn their finisher's t-shirt and medal.

Read Requirement:

- Students are required to read 26 books or 2600 pages.
- Books read in school can count towards the Read requirement.
- Books must be on the student’s reading level.
- Record of the books read will be kept in the student’s RDR book.
Deed Requirement:

• Students are required to perform 26 deeds in or for the community.
• One deed = one hour of service
• Deed opportunities will be communicated throughout the program.
• A Deed opportunity is NEVER required; it is completely up to the student and their family to decide if they wish to participate.
• Students may earn up to 6 Deed credits for deeds performed for teachers or PTA on campus.

Run Requirement:

• Students are required to run a total of 25 miles throughout the course of the program.
• On Run Days, students will run a mile on a course supervised by coaches. Staff will be with students at all times.
• Students will need to dress appropriately – shorts, t-shirts, and tennis shoes.
It is the policy of Katy ISD not to discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, religion, color, gender, age, or national origin in its educational programs and/or activities, including career and technology programs, nor in its employment practices and to provide equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.