

# ELEMENTARY STUDENT HANDBOOK

Pierre School District 32-2



2009 - 2010

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## Pierre School District

Pierre, South Dakota

### SCHOOL OFFICES

Buchanan Elementary - Heath Larson, Principal	100 N. Buchanan	773-7310
Jefferson Elementary - Kevin Mutchelknaus, Principal	900 N. Poplar	773-7320
McKinley Elementary - Rob Coverdale, Principal	716 E. Dakota	773-7380
Washington Elementary - Rob Coverdale, Principal	106 S. Monroe	773-7370

Superintendent - Dr. Kelly Glodt	211 S. Poplar	773-7300
Business Manager - Darla Mayer	211 S. Poplar	773-7300
Director of Special Services - Dennis Champ	211 S. Poplar	773-7300
Director of Instruction - Ruth Smith	211 S. Poplar	773-7300

### SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 25	First Day of School
September 7	Labor Day ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
September 23	Early Dismissal (12:30) - Teacher In-service
September 24 & 25	Elem. Parent/Teacher Conferences ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
October 12	Native American Day ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
October 27	End of First Quarter
October 28	Early Dismissal (12:30) - Teacher In-service
November 11	Veterans Day ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
November 25	Early Dismissal (12:30) - Teacher In-service
November 26 & 27	Thanksgiving Break - ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
Dec. 23 - Jan. 1	Christmas Break ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
January 4	School Resumes
January 13	End of Second Quarter
January 18	Martin Luther King Day ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
January 27	Early Dismissal (12:30) - Teacher In-service
February 15	Presidents Day ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
February 25 & 26	Elem. Parent/Teacher Conferences ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
March 12	Spring Break ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
March 19	End of Third Quarter
March 24	Early Dismissal (12:30) - Teacher In-service
April 2 & 5	Easter Break ( <i>NO SCHOOL</i> )
April 28	Early Dismissal (12:30) - Teacher In-service
May 23	High School Graduation
May 25	Last Day of School (Early Dismissal)

## PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

### PREAMBLE:

Recognizing that the future of America depends upon an informed and educated citizenry; and acknowledging that it is the responsibility of the public schools to provide the opportunity to acquire knowledge, to inspire learning, and to foster personal responsibility in the young people entrusted to them, the Pierre Board of Education sets forth the following statement of philosophy.

### STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY:

It is the intent of the Pierre Board of Education that each student who attends the Pierre Schools be encouraged to develop his or her academic and social potential to its fullest.

Furthermore, it is the intent of the Pierre Board of Education that students in the Pierre School District be afforded the opportunity to acquire and develop intellectual

and physical skills and aesthetic appreciation, under conditions which stimulate ethical choices, responsible citizenship, effective leadership, and respect for the rights and freedoms of others.

In striving to attain these goals, the Pierre Board of Education acknowledges the obligation to seek and maintain (a) academic and social participation of students regardless of race, sex, creed or economic background; and (b) open lines of communication among students, parents, teachers, administrators, and counselors for effective understanding and guidance of students within the Pierre School District.

### ACCREDITATION

The Pierre School District #32-2 is accredited by the South Dakota Division of Elementary and Secondary Education. Each individual school is also accredited through the NCA school improvement process.

### SCHOOL HOURS

All students - Kindergarten through Grade 5:  
8:05 (tardy bell)      2:55 (dismissal)

*(Teacher supervision of the playground will begin at 7:50 am. Parents are requested not to send students to school before this time.)*

### ATTENDANCE

The importance of regular attendance cannot be overemphasized! A child should be in school every day that he/she is physically able. The law requires that a child shall attend school regularly during the entire school year. If a student is frequently absent for other than health reasons, appropriate authorities

will be notified. No child can be expected to successfully do his/her classroom work if attendance is irregular. Excessive absences may contribute toward a child's failure to progress satisfactorily in school. Students must attend at least one hour per session (AM/PM) to be counted as present.

**ABSENCES AND EXCUSES:** If a child is absent, the parents are requested to notify the school immediately. If a parent feels that it is necessary for a child to be absent for a reason other than illness, arrangements should be made with the teacher/principal in advance.

The student should assume the responsibility for making up all the work missed during the absence. If no phone call is made, then **the student must present a written excuse signed by the parent** at his/her first appearance following any absence. Students will not be excused from class for a part of the day without notification from a parent.

**TARDINESS:** All children are expected to be on time and parents are asked to cooperate fully in this matter. Tardiness is defined as failure to be in the assigned room at the time of the tardy bell.

### BICYCLES

Bicycles, roller blades, scooters, skateboards, etc., are not to be ridden on the school premises because of the danger to other students in a crowded area. Failure to follow appropriate safety rules may result in loss of privileges. Bikes, scooters and skateboards are to be parked in appropriate places. School personnel will not be responsible for bicycles lost or damaged at school.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

All address and telephone number changes **MUST** be reported immediately to the school office. The changes are needed in case of emergencies or child's illness. All information is kept confidential.

### COUNSELING

A fully certified elementary guidance counselor at each building serves students in grades K-5. Guidance activities are conducted in each classroom. These activities include topics such as self-esteem, self-understanding, understanding, accepting and encouraging others, decision making, coping skills, goal setting and career awareness activities.

### EMERGENCY & SECURITY DRILLS

Plans and procedures have been developed and will be followed in the event of fire, severe weather and

other emergency situations. Drills to practice safety procedures are held on a regular basis.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

In the event of inclement weather or other conditions which make it impossible or inadvisable to conduct school, an announcement will be made on the early morning news broadcast of local radio stations. Parents are requested to use their own judgment if they feel that conditions are too severe to send small children to school or to have children walk home from school. Please notify the school if you are keeping your child home because of bad weather.

### **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM**

The band program for elementary students begins with the fifth grade. Students who are interested in playing band instruments are encouraged to participate. Conferences should be held with the band director before purchasing an instrument. The instrument may be bought from any source after the conference with the director. **A minimum of one year of piano is a prerequisite for playing percussion.**

### **INSURANCE**

**ACCIDENT:** For those who wish to take advantage of it, an accident insurance policy is available at a moderate cost. This is offered through a private insurance company which has no connection with the Pierre School System. Details will be furnished at the beginning of the school year.

**DENTAL:** For those who wish to take advantage of it, a dental insurance policy is offered through a private insurance company which has no connection with the Pierre School System. Details will be furnished at the beginning of the school year.

### **INTERNET USE**

All students and parents are required to sign a Pierre Schools Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

### **KEEPING CHILDREN AFTER SCHOOL**

Teachers may occasionally give special help to children after school. The students will be kept no longer than 3:30 P.M. unless a call is made to the parents.

### **LEAVING THE SCHOOL GROUND**

When a student reports to school, he/she is not permitted to leave the grounds without permission, except at the regular dismissal time. If for some reason the child is needed earlier, a written request should be sent by the parent. If the student stays for

lunch, he/she may not leave the grounds without permission.

### **MILK PROGRAM**

Children may purchase 10 to 20 punch milk tickets for the classroom. Children can purchase milk or use a ticket with a sack lunch. There will be **no refund** on unused milk tickets at the end of the year.

### **MONEY AND VALUABLES**

Children are discouraged from bringing large sums of money or valuables to school. Money for lunch or milk should be put in an envelope and labeled with the child's name and teacher.

### **NOON LUNCH**

Children have three options during the noon break: a) they may purchase the school lunch; b) bring their lunch from home, and if they wish, purchase milk to supplement it; or c) may go home for their lunch.

Lunch money should be forwarded to the school office. Account balances are not refunded, but are carried over to the next school year.

Free and reduced price lunches will be offered for those who qualify. Information on these will be sent home with each child, and will be available in the office.

Children eating lunch at school **will not be permitted** to leave the school grounds during noon hour without written permission from the parents.

***Parents wishing to join their children for lunch at school should call the school office by 8:45 A.M. to order lunch.***

Students CANNOT bring pop (soda) to the lunchroom. (Pop is sometimes permitted for parties or special meals in the classroom.)

### **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parents of students of the Pierre School District are invited to come to school for fall and spring parent/teacher conferences on the progress of their children. **On regular conference days, the students will not have school.**

### **PARENT CONCERNS**

If a parent has a concern regarding a situation with his/her child in school, the parent is encouraged to follow these steps:

- a. Child's teacher should be contacted to discuss the concern or question.

- b. Schedule a conference with the principal or school counselor.
- c. If the parent still feels the problem has not been resolved, he/she may contact the superintendent of schools.

### **PARENT GROUPS**

Parent groups (PTA, PTO, etc.) actively work to bring together more closely the home and the school. Parents are encouraged to attend, take an active part and participate in the meetings of these organizations.

### **PARTY INVITATIONS**

NO party invitations are to be handed out at school. Addresses and phone numbers will not be released by the office.

### **PICTURE PUBLICATION**

Signed parent permission is required to publish any pictures of students in the newsletter, school website or other public publications.

### **PLAYGROUND**

Teacher supervision of the playground will begin at 7:50 AM. **Parents are requested not to send students to school before this time.** Students should not bring personal items (toys, games, balls) to school for play purposes. All tackling games or games involving hard body contact are prohibited on the playground. Throwing snowballs on school grounds is dangerous and will not be allowed.

### **REPORTING TO PARENTS**

Report cards will be sent home with the children after the end of each quarter. It is recommended that the parents carefully go over the report card with children, giving encouragement where needed and praise where deserved.

### **SCHOOL PICTURES**

A professional photographer will take individual pictures of students enrolled in the Pierre School District. Complete information on the packages will be sent home with the children prior to the school picture dates. The packages will be sold on a **prepay** basis. The student will be required to bring the payment on or before the day that the pictures are taken. "Retake" policy is at the discretion of the photographer.

### **SCHOOL PROPERTY**

The child should develop a sense of responsibility and respect for public property. Any damage to school property may be charged to the student causing the damage. Children should take special care of their textbooks.

### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

Each school has a supply list by grade level. The teachers may request additional materials during the year.

### **SEASON ACTIVITY TICKETS**

A season ticket for all home high school basketball, football, gymnastics, volleyball, wrestling, music and plays is may be purchased for elementary students in grades 1-5. Parents are encouraged to have their child sit with them at such events so that the child remains under the direct supervision of the parent. Students are reminded that their attendance at high school activities depends on conduct and their ability to handle their independence when not sitting with a parent.

Students should:

1. Attend with parents or sit in specified section for elementary students.
2. Show respect for others who are trying to watch the game/activity.
3. Reserve visits to the concession stand to between games or at half time.
4. Refrain from running around behind the stands or in the halls.
5. Show proper respect for the flag and national anthem.

**Tickets can be revoked or canceled for misbehavior at games and/or events.**

### **STUDENT HEALTH**

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Periodically the school nurses do eye screening, general health checks and scoliosis screening. Parents are contacted about any concerns or recommendations for professional medical follow-up. Height and weight measurements are done annually for each child.

**HEALTH SAFEGUARDS:** To protect the health of all children and to check contagion, the cooperation of all parents is requested. If the child has a contagious disease, please inform the school office as soon as possible. Parents are urged to keep the child at home if there are indications of illness. Students who have a fever or serious sore throat will be sent home until fully recovered.

In case of an accident at school, emergency first aid will be administered and parents will be notified. The school must have the telephone number or places of

employment of parents who are employed outside the home so parents can be notified if a child is ill. If parents cannot be contacted, the emergency person listed on the enrollment card will be called.

If there is special information concerning the health of the child such as a heart condition, diabetes, asthma, etc. the office and teacher should be informed. An explanation should be in writing and delivered to the office. If in doubt, call the school nurse.

**MEDICATIONS:** The presence of medicines on school property and/or taking of medicine by students during school hours must be carefully monitored to prevent harmful situations to students. Whenever possible, students are encouraged to receive medicines outside of school hours. In cases where medicine must be taken during the student's time at school, the following procedures are to be followed: 1) All medicines must be brought to the administrative offices of the school and placed in the custody of the principal or his/her designee. 2) Prescription medicine is to be stored in a locked cabinet or storage area. 3) Any medication to be administered to a student during school hours must be ordered by a physician. The form must be completed and signed and dated by a physician and parent. 4) All medications must accompany an Authorization for Medication Form. 5) The prescription medication to be administered or stored must be in a pharmacist's labeled container specifying the student's name, date of prescription, directions for use and prescribing physician's name. 6) A record of all prescribed medications given to all students must be kept. These will be retained for one year and then destroyed. 7) Unused medication must be picked up on or before the last day of school or one(1) week after the last dose is given. Medications not picked up will be destroyed. ***Students in grades K-5 MAY NOT self-administer any medication (over the counter or prescription).***

**HEARING SCREENINGS:** Hearing screenings are conducted for all kindergarten, first, third, and sixth graders during the year. Other students are screened following parent or staff referral. Those students in need of diagnostic hearing evaluation are referred with parent permission by the speech/language staff to a professional audiologist. The Pierre School District conducts audiology clinics at school each month during the school term.

### STUDENT DRESS

Students should dress appropriately for the school and learning environment. Clothing displaying crude or disrespectful language or messages is considered inappropriate at school. Short or tight shorts, halter or tank tops which are suggestive or too revealing would not be considered appropriate for school. Shoes are to be worn in school and should be

appropriate for playing and running during recess or physical education classes. Parent cooperation is appreciated to ensure that student dress is appropriate, safe and suitable for all school activities.

### SCHOOL VISITATION

Parents are encouraged to visit their child's classroom. Visitors who wish to confer with a teacher are asked to arrange for an appointment at a time outside regular class hours. **All visitors are asked to report to the principal's office before going to the classroom.**

### TELEPHONE CALLS AND MESSAGES

**Students will not be called from class to answer the telephone except in cases of emergency.** The office telephone should not be used by students for inconsequential matters including making arrangements for after school activity.

### WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

If a student is moving to a new school attendance area, the teacher and office should be notified as soon as possible so that transfer records can be prepared and the child's supplies collected for transfer. A "release of records" form should be signed by the parent or guardian before the child transfers so the records may be transferred to the next school.

### GENERAL SCHOOL RULES

1. Students are to behave in a manner that allows all students to learn and teachers to teach. Behavior that distracts students or the teacher is not appropriate.
2. Students not to use profanity or other inappropriate language.
3. Students are to behave in the lunchroom in a manner that allows all present a pleasant atmosphere in which to eat their meal.
4. Students should not throw objects at other students, push other students, nor act in any manner that can bring harm to another individual.
5. Students are to dress in a reasonable manner that does not distract others from learning.
6. Students are to be prompt and consistent on their school attendance.
7. Students are not to leave the classroom, the school or school grounds without permission from the teacher or the principal.
8. Students are not to bring gum, candy, etc. to school unless for special activities with teacher approval.
9. Students are not to use the school telephone unless it is an emergency.
10. Fighting is not allowed at any time.

**OPEN ENROLLMENT POLICY**  
(adopted 8/9/99)

This policy is enacted to fairly allow admission and assignment of both resident and non-resident students in the Pierre School District.

A.2.a. In-district transfer applications (triplicate forms available at any school or administrative office) to move to a non-assigned school can be accepted at any time; however, the administration will only act upon these applications prior to the start of a semester for placement at the beginning of a semester. Decisions regarding transfers among attendance centers within a district will be based upon policies consistent with resident/non-resident transfers.

C.1.a. Open enrollment students at the elementary level will be placed in an attendance center which has an average class size below the average district class size for that grade level. When all sections of the grade level are the same size or within one student, open enrollment students may be placed in any section within the elementary schools. Kindergarten students will be assigned after screening has occurred.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY**  
(adopted 1/8/2007)

The **Pierre School District** is committed to providing a learning and working environment free of unlawful harassment based on an individual's race, color, religion, creed, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age or other basis prohibited by law.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student or any school personnel of the School District to harass a student, any school personnel, or any visitor through conduct or communication of a sexual nature or communication disparaging a person's race, color, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or age. For the purpose of this policy, "school personnel" includes School Board members, all school employees and agents, volunteers, contractors, or persons subject to the supervision and control of the School District. This policy applies on all School District property and to all School District sponsored, approved, or related activities at any location.

The School District will investigate all complaints of harassment and will discipline or take appropriate action against any student or school personnel who is found to have violated this policy.

**STUDENT GRIEVANCE**

A grievance is defined as a complaint alleging a violation of any policy, procedure, or practice which would be prohibited by Title IX, Section 504, and other federal and state civil rights laws, rules, and regulations.

Grievances are processed through three (3) levels:

1. Informally, to the building principal, or formally, to the building principal
2. to the superintendent, and
3. to the School Board.

LEVEL 1. A student should schedule an informal meeting with the building principal to discuss the grievance or may formally present the grievance in writing to the building principal. It is expected that many grievances may be resolved at this level.

LEVEL 2. If a student is not satisfied with the resolution made at level one (1), he/she may appeal to the superintendent.

LEVEL 3. Complaints that remain unresolved following any action of the superintendent might be referred in writing to the School Board for review. The Board's decision will be final.

A parent, student, employee, or district stakeholder who has a complaint regarding the use of federal NCLB funds and is unable to solve the issue, may address the complaint in writing to the district's superintendent. Disputes addressing the enrollment, transportation and other barriers to the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness are also addressed under this procedure. A copy of the complaint policy is available in all district school and administrative offices.

**BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board of Education meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. (if a holiday falls on a Monday, the board meeting will be the following Tuesday) in the Administration Building at 211 S. Poplar. Please contact the Superintendent in advance for placement consideration on the agenda.

**CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION  
PIERRE SCHOOL DISTRICT 32-2  
ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS**

The Pierre School District #32-2 adheres to policies and procedures on the confidentiality of information consistent with Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

As the parent of a student currently in attendance in the Pierre School District #32-2, or as a student who has reached the age of eighteen years, you have the right to do the following:

- 1.1 Inspect and review the student's education records;
- 1.2 Request the amendment of the student's education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights;
- 1.3 Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the Act and the regulations in this part authorize disclosure without consent;
- 1.4 File with the U.S. Department of Education a complaint under Sec. 99.64 concerning alleged failures by the Pierre School District #32-2 to comply with requirements of the Act and this part; and
- 1.5 Obtain a copy of the Pierre School District's policy.

Copies of the Pierre School District #32-2 Confidentiality of Information Policy are available at the Office of the Superintendent, 211 South Poplar, Pierre, South Dakota 57501 as well as at the office of the building principal in each school.

Concerns may be addressed to the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-5920

#### **NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Pierre School District #32-2 does not discriminate in its employment policies and practices, or in its educational programs on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, handicap, national origin or ancestry. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX should be made to the Superintendent's Office, 211 S. Poplar, Pierre, SD 57501, 773-7300. Section 504 inquiries should be addressed to Dennis Champ, 211 S. Poplar, Pierre, SD 57501, 773-7330. Inquiries concerning Affirmative Action and Americans With Disabilities Act should be addressed to Superintendent, Dr. Kelly Glodt, Pierre School District, 211 S. Poplar, Pierre, SD 57501, 773-7300. Inquiries may also be addressed to the Regional Director, Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 1244 Spear Blvd. Suite 310, Denver, Colorado 80202-3582. Phone: (303) 844-5695; TDB (303) 844-3417.



# SOCIAL / LIFE SKILLS

(From the Girls and Boys Town Education Model)

## **FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Look at the person.
2. Say 'Okay'.
3. Do what you've been asked right away.
4. Check back.

## **ACCEPTING CRITICISM/CONSEQUENCE**

1. Look at the person.
2. Say 'Okay'.
3. Don't argue.

## **ACCEPTING 'NO' FOR AN ANSWER**

1. Look at the person.
2. Say 'Okay'.
3. Stay calm.
4. If you disagree, ask later.

## **GREETING OTHERS**

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice.
3. Say 'Hi' or 'Hello'.

## **GETTING THE TEACHER'S ATTENTION**

1. Look at the teacher.
2. Raise your hand - stay calm.
3. Wait until the teacher calls on you.
4. Ask your question.

## **MAKING A REQUEST**

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a clear, pleasant voice.
3. Explain exactly what you are asking for. (Say 'please'.)
4. If the answer is 'Yes', say 'Thank you'.
5. If not, remember to accept 'No' for an answer.

## **DISAGREEING APPROPRIATELY**

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice.
3. Say, "I understand how you feel".
4. Tell why you feel differently.
5. Listen to the other person.

## **GIVING CRITICISM**

1. Look at the person.
2. Stay calm and use a pleasant voice.
3. Say something positive or, "I understand".
4. Describe exactly what you are criticizing.
5. Tell why this is a problem.
6. Listen to the person. Be polite.

## **RESISTING PEER PRESSURE**

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a calm voice.
3. Say clearly that you do not want to participate.
4. Suggest something else to do.
5. If necessary, continue to say 'No'.
6. Leave the situation.

## **MAKING AN APOLOGY**

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a serious, sincere voice.
3. Say, "I'm sorry for..." or "I want to apologize for..."
4. Don't make excuses.
5. Explain how you plan to do better in the future. (Your commitment for improvement.)
6. Say, "Thanks for listening".

## **TALKING WITH OTHERS**

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice.
3. Ask questions.
4. Don't interrupt.

## **GIVING COMPLIMENTS**

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice.
3. Speak clearly and enthusiastically.
4. Tell the person exactly what you like.

## **ACCEPTING COMPLIMENTS**

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice.
3. Say 'Thank you'
4. Don't look away, mumble or deny the compliment.
5. Don't disagree with the compliment.

## **VOLUNTEERING**

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant, enthusiastic voice.
3. Ask if you can help. Describe the activity or task you are offering to do.
4. Thank the person.
5. Check back when you have finished.

## **REPORTING OTHER YOUTH'S BEHAVIOR**

1. Look at the teacher or adult.
2. Use a calm voice. Ask to talk to him or her privately.
3. Describe the inappropriate behavior you are reporting.
4. Explain why you are making the report.
5. Answer any questions the adult has.
6. Thank the adult for listening.

## **INTRODUCING YOURSELF**

1. Look at the person.
2. Smile and use a pleasant voice.
3. Offer a greeting. Say, "Hi, my name is...".
4. Shake the person's hand. When you leave, say, "It was nice to meet you."

**PIERRE SCHOOL DISTRICT 32-2**  
**STUDENT – PARENT – TEACHER – COMPACT**  
**2009-2010**

**Student Responsibility:** *As a student, I agree to:*

- attend school regularly.
- always try to do my best in my work and in my behavior.
- show respect for myself, my school and other people.
- obey school rules.
- come to school with my homework completed.
- come to school with needed supplies.

**Parent Responsibility:** *As a parent, I agree to:*

- see that my child attends school regularly and is on time.
- provide a home environment that encourages my child to learn.
- see that all homework assignments are completed.
- communicate regularly with my child's teachers.
- talk with my child about his/her school activities every day.
- see that my child reads at home each day and sees me read.
- monitor my child's TV, video and computer use.
- support my child, the teacher, and the school.
- participate in decisions relating to the education of my child.

**Teacher Responsibility:** *As a teacher, I agree to:*

- believe that each child can learn.
- respect and support each child and his/her family.
- provide high-quality instruction in an environment conducive to learning.
- help each child grow to his/her potential.
- provide meaningful and appropriate homework activities.
- maintain ongoing communication with the student, parent and other teachers including semi-annual parent/teacher conferences and/or quarterly progress reports.
- seek ways to involve parents in the school program, including reasonable access to staff and opportunities to volunteer, participate and/or observe in accordance with building procedures.
- demonstrate professional behavior and a positive attitude.