

General School Expectations A-Z

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Behavior Expectations

Our staff commits itself to the development of a safe, interactive learning environment that promotes respect, responsibility and community. Clearly defined expectations of student conduct, meaningful reinforcement of successful behavior and consistent implementation of behavioral guidelines highlight our program. Student behavior expectations follow the 4 R's and apply to all areas of the school and at all times. The 4 R's are:

- Respect for Self
- Respect for Others
- Respect for Environment
- Respect for Learning

It is expected that students will:

- Use appropriate and respectful language with other students and staff
- Follow directions of staff and volunteers
- Keep hands & objects to themselves (not hitting, kicking, biting, or using objects as weapons)
- Walk quietly in all areas of the school and keep to the right in hallways
- Assist all staff by waiting courteously and patiently

Bicycles and Skating

Due to the necessary skills and judgment required for safe riding, we recommend bike riding only for our older students (4th and 5th grades). Also, consistent with Washington State law, we require that all bike riders wear helmets. There is a bike rack available outside the multi-purpose room and near the upper playground. Students must provide locks for security. Bicycle riders must follow the following rules:

- All bicycles must be parked in the bike rack with a lock.
- All bicycles must be walked on and off the school grounds.
- No bikes shall be ridden on the school grounds between 8:30am and 4:00pm during school days.
- Bicycle riders shall use all hand signals.

Skating is not allowed on school grounds. "Waxing" of curbs, walkways, or any other area is prohibited. All risks are assumed by participants and parents/guardians. Supervision is not provided.

Birthday Invitations

We ask that students do NOT pass out invitations to parties unless each child in the class is invited.

Curriculum

Chautauqua Elementary curriculum is guided by the Vashon Island School District's sequential curriculum guidelines and the Essential Academic Learning Requirements established by the Washington State Commission on Student Learning. Our goal is to teach the whole child through integrated activities that are developmentally appropriate and approaches that reach the multiple styles in which children learn. Our teachers are life-long learners who regularly participate in staff development activities that emphasize these goals. As such, our staff continues to modify the curriculum to align with the Essential Academic Learning Requirements and "best practices".

Dress Expectations

We expect students to dress comfortably and arrive prepared for an active day at school. Inappropriate clothing may jeopardize student safety, limit student movement, and distract others from learning activities. Please observe the following dress code:

- Clothing or accessories making reference to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, violence, or sex shall not be worn.
- Crop tops, tank tops, revealing clothing, or any other attire that distracts from learning or restricts

movement shall not be worn.

- Shoes which make it difficult to navigate our many stairs or to participate in recess and PE activities (such as raised or platform shoes, wheelies, thongs, flip-flops, and untied or ill-fitting shoes) are prohibited.
- Pants will be worn at waist level even if a shirt covers the body; no "sagging".
- Makeup or other cosmetics must not interfere with student learning.

If a student arrives at school dressed inappropriately, parents/guardians will be contacted and asked to bring appropriate clothing or shoes. Please also keep in mind that students will participate in outdoor recess on a regular basis so we ask that you consider the frequent Western Washington potential for rain and chilly winds when you dress your child for school.

Fees

Occasionally a teacher or program will request a fee for participation in an activity. Some examples are to cover the cost of field trips, purchase music equipment, buy magazine subscriptions, etc. We currently have an Art Fee for consumable art materials. Students and families needing financial assistance to cover these fees can request a scholarship. Eligibility for specific scholarships or fee reductions can be determined by a student's eligibility to participate in the free/reduced food services program. If you are experiencing financial hardship you may qualify. Eligibility information will be kept confidential.

We also offer tuition-based programs where there are reduced-tuition options for those who qualify. We cannot waive or scholarship tuition program fees, but are happy to work with families on payment plans if it is warranted.

Please contact our office at any time you have a question about any fees or tuition payments that are due.

Field Trips

Classroom learning can be enhanced through off-site visits. This could include walking trips around Chautauqua's immediate neighborhood, excursions to local parks and beaches, or outings to zoos and museums off-island. Each time that a student will take part in an activity off the school campus, parents will be notified by the classroom teacher and required to sign our permission slip, "INFORMED CONSENT FORM". State recommendations for supervision are followed on these excursions.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance will be recited in each classroom, each day, and over the intercom school-wide on Mondays. Students are encouraged to stand and participate in the salute. Those with objections to doing so may sit or stand and must maintain a quiet, respectful atmosphere. The Pledge will be recited before each assembly.

Report Cards

Our grading terms are divided into three quarters, Fall, Winter and Spring. Fall and Winter report cards are sent home with students and Spring report cards are mailed after the end of the school year.

School Visitation

Our school prohibits students who are not currently enrolled in our school district from visiting the campus when school is in session. Our school district has implemented this policy to maintain a safe and healthy environment that supports our mission of academic achievement.

Testing

Student progress is carefully monitored through the Measure of Academic Progress. The is administered to third, fourth and fifth grade students in May. The Cognitive Abilities Test (COGAT) is given to third grade students in March and is primarily used to identify children for the Accelerated Learner Program. Fifth grade students also participate in the COGAT test to aid in program development and student placement for students attending McMurray Middle School. Individual test results are mailed home and kept confidential. School wide test results are dispersed through local

newspapers and district publications. Results of the tests are used to further adjust and develop curriculum and instruction at Chautauqua.

Valuable Items

We ask that all non-instructional valuables be kept at home. Examples include electronic/audio equipment like electronic headsets, electronic games (gameboys, playstations, etc), card or toy collections (pokemon, yu-gi-oh, magic, bakugan), and toys are at risk of theft when brought to school. Exceptions can be made with both parent and teacher permission when used within the classroom only.