# Saddle Mountain Unified School District Employee Handbook 2015-2016



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# Introduction

Please read through this handbook carefully. It is your responsibility to be aware of what is in this handbook and to follow the procedures and guidelines therein.

# Communication

## ADVERTISEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

No commercial announcements or vendor letters are to be placed in the teachers' mailboxes or distributed to students without written authorization from the Superintendent's office; if approved, stacks of 30 will be provided by that particular organization, to be sent to the schools. The school's office personnel will not copy or count. Personal announcements must be cleared through the administration before being distributed through mailboxes.

# BOARD COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF MEMBERS

Official communication between the Board and employees will occur as follows. An employee will first communicate on school or employment related matters at the administrative level, starting with the assistant principal or principal. Any employee who feels this level has been exhausted may then seek an appointment with district level administration. Should the matter still not be settled, the employee may then communicate with the Board in writing. No anonymous communication will be considered by the Board. Any employee who wishes to address the Board in the employee's capacity as a parent, district resident, or individual, rather than as an employee, may do so by following the procedures in Policies BEDH and BHD (complete a form Request to Address Board – give this form to the Board Secretary prior to the start of the meeting).

# ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Please refer to the technology user agreement, Policy IJNDB-E. This document is signed annually by all staff members.

Acceptable use: I will use the service to support personal educational objectives within the educational goals and objectives of the School District. Inappropriate use may result in cancellation of use of information services and/or appropriate disciplinary action. I will not view, submit, publish, display, or retrieve materials forbidden by local, federal or state statutes, laws and regulations, or District Software Guidelines & Procedures on District-owned hardware.

## PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

There will be a minimum of two (2) formal Parent/Teacher Conferences scheduled during the school year. Teachers should plan well in advance for conferences. Samples of student work, test results, books and materials being used, and other information may be useful during the conference. The conferences should be a two-way exchange of information between the parent and teacher. Improvement in student performance should be the end result of the conference. Conference notice forms will be distributed by the office.

## INFORMING PARENTS

Teachers will notify parents of poor work as soon as it is clear that the progress of a student is not satisfactory or if a significant decline in academic performance occurs. Teachers should work to secure the cooperation of parents in improving the student's work. Contact with parents can be done by phone, letter, email, or conference. Teachers should keep a record of the method of contact and notification for future reference. Please utilize a parent contact log. All phone calls are to be returned within a 24 hour period. If necessary, the principal will gladly assist you in making home visits. Newsletters and other "published" communication—whether electronically or in print—to parents should receive **prior approval of the principal**.

## MAIL BOXES & E-MAIL

A mailbox is provided for each teacher. Please check your mailbox upon arrival at work in the morning and during the lunch period. Please read e-mail upon arriving at school and before departing at the end of the day. Employees are responsible for deleting messages that are not needed and are not pertinent to their job functions during the fiscal year. Email mailbox sizes are monitored to avoid account from being locked.

## NAME/ADDRESS CHANGE

Employees are expected to complete a Personnel Information Form each school year. If your contact information, **especially your home address**, should change during the school year, please notify the payroll office. It is important to make the necessary changes and keep information current. If a new district login and email account is desired due to marital status changes, please get with the District Office to fill out a new Technology Account form.

## TELEPHONE

School telephones are business telephones, and should be used as such. Teachers are responsible for supervising and training students in the use of the phone. The office phone is for business use only; students must ask permission to use the phone. Students may not make arrangements for after school activities with friends, etc. These arrangements are to be made prior to leaving the home for school – please go over this with your students. Students should not call their parents directly to pick them up during the day; they should be sent to the school office or the health aide to initiate such communication. Teachers are not to receive incoming phone calls during normal classroom hours unless cleared through their Principal or due to emergencies. All outside incoming calls should be directed to their voicemail and checked during non-instructional time.

# **District Procedures-Business**

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All employees must complete a conflict of interest form. Arizona Revised Statutes § 38-501 to 38-511 require all of our employees to disclose if they or a relative have a substantial interest in any SMUSD contract, sale, purchase or service. SMUSD is required by law to make known any such interest in our official records. In general terms, if a SMUSD employee or their relative has any ownership interest or employment relationship with a SMUSD vendor or an entity that does business with the District, this relationship must be disclosed. State law prohibits SMUSD employees from participating in a matter that is considered a conflict of interest. The law prohibits the employee from identifying that SMUSD needs goods or services from a business for which a substantial interest was disclosed. The law also prohibits the employee from selecting the business for goods or services, supervising the work of the business on behalf of SMUSD, voting on or approving the award of a SMUSD contract to the business and approving invoices for payment.

If you, or any of your relatives (*spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother or sister –whole or half blood-and their spouses and parents, or a brother, sister or child of a spouse)* have a "substantial interest" in any SMUSD vote, decision, contract, sale or purchase; you must disclose this relationship. If you do not have a conflict at this time, but one arises in the future, you must promptly contact the Human Resources Department and complete a revised disclosure form.

#### FUND RAISING/DONATIONS

Staff members should not contact businesses or other vendors seeking donations without prior consultation with the school's principal.

### FACILITIES USE

All use of facilities by outside groups will be reserved through the Human Resources Manager at the District Office

### PAY PROCEDURES

Paydays of the District are every other week. If you have questions, call the payroll office at extension 5109. The District Office will handle any payroll deductions you may want to establish on regular payroll withholdings at the beginning of each school year. The number of exemptions claimed for tax purposes may be changed at any time during the year.

An official college transcript is required to substantiate your hours earned for salary schedule advancement. An official transcript must be received prior to  $\underline{\text{October 1}}^{\text{st}}$  if you wish advancement for the current school year. Before credit for courses will be granted for lane change, the course needs approval of the superintendent/principal, and the school board.

#### DISTRICT PROPERTY

Any damage is to be reported to the principal's office. Employees are responsible for the care of their own rooms and the equipment therein and shall be additionally responsible for missing or damaged equipment. Employees will be required to sign out district property (technology items) such as computers, laptops, and tablets that will be in their possession for extended periods of time. The Technology Checkout Form indicates the extent of the employee's responsibility for such equipment. Property obtained through grants written by the teacher remains the property of the school district, unless the grant specifies otherwise.

#### DISTRICT CREDIT CARD USE POLICY

The District has Credit Cards available for use by District Staff to make specific purchases for your school/department programs and clubs. These cards are for Home Depot, Lowe's, Walmart, Sam's Club, and Fry's Food. Gas cards are also available for use from Chevron and Shell Oil. All of these cards are located in the District Office and may be signed out, as needed, as long as an approved District Purchase Order **or** Student Activity Club requisition and Club minutes is in place prior to the use of a credit card.

ALL EMPLOYEES, requesting a credit card, MUST sign a current Credit Card Agreement Form before any card(s) can be signed out. When credit cards are signed out, they must be returned to the District Office the following business day that you are at work. Along with returning the credit card to us, you **must** include your **signed** store or gas station receipt(s) because they are the invoices the District uses to support and pay the monthly credit card statements sent by the Vendors. You may make a copy of any receipts for your own records. **PLEASE DO NOT TRANSFER A CREDIT CARD THAT WAS SIGNED OUT BY YOU TO ANY OTHER EMPLOYEE**. You, personally, are responsible for this credit card while it is in your possession. Unauthorized use of any District cards may result in disciplinary action and may include termination of employment.

## SUPPLIES-PURCHASING

Before any purchase may be made, a Purchase Order Requisition must be completed, signed by the principal and forwarded to the Business Office. Employees will be held responsible for costs encumbered through unauthorized purchases.

# SECURITY/KEYS

Policy ECA-R refers to possession of keys. Individuals who are assigned keys may not duplicate or loan them. The loss of a key must be reported to the Principal upon discovery of the loss, and the employee may be required to pay for rekeying or replacing all affected locks. Any person who, for oneself or for another, misuses a key to any building or other area owned, operated, or controlled by the District, without authorization from the Governing Board./Superintendent, is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. (See policy)

# **Other District Procedures**

## HOUSEKEEPING CHORES

Each staff member is to follow these daily guidelines, in order to have a clean and comfortable environment.

- 1. Students and teachers are asked to please use the last few minutes of the day to tidy up the room. Pick up papers and other objects on the floor, put chairs on top of the desks, and straighten desks.
- 2. Please use blue painters' tape only on the walls, carpet or chalkboards. Avoid using masking tape.
- 3. Coffeemakers, microwaves, toaster ovens, refrigerators or other small appliances are not to be used in the classrooms.
- 4. Please consider possible student allergies before bringing animals into the classroom. The principal's permission is required prior to bringing any animal, reptile, insect or bird into the classroom.
- 5. Please use discretion when chewing gum.
- 6. Fire code does not allow boxes to be stacked to the ceiling.
- 7. Fire code prohibits the hanging of items from the ceilings, and around doors or windows.
- 8. No classroom drinks are allowed except water.
- 9. NO FOOD OR DRINKS OF ANY KIND IN COMPUTER LABS.
- 10. Please turn computers monitors, projectors and all electornic devices off at end of each day; please do not move computers to other locations without prior consultation with your principal.
- 11. Turn off all lights when not in use.
- 12. Please work through your principal on any repair requests.
- 13. Storage Areas and Staff Lounges are to be kept clean and free of excess clutter.
- 14. Please do not place extension cords across the floor or connect several together. Code requires ground (i.e. three-prong) cords.

## VEHICLES

**Per policy EEB, a district-owned vehicle shall not be taken to an employee's home at night without prior approval.** Employees are to complete a Vehicle Request Form in order to secure a district vehicle. The form is to be sent to the Transportation Director first to verify availability. Please make requests as far in advance as possible.

## VISITORS

Per state law all visitors must register at the school office. This includes parents and guardians of students. No one shall go directly to classrooms or other areas without first registering in the office.

## **VOLUNTEERS/PARENT HELPERS**

All volunteers should read the SMUSD volunteer handbook and sign the receipt form, returning it to the principal's office. All volunteers working in the classroom or accompanying students on field trips **must be fingerprinted**. All parent helpers MUST be trained on the use of the machines in the teachers' workroom BEFORE they are allowed to use them. Please take time to

provide an in-service for all parent/student helpers you may have in your room. All visitors and/or helpers are to sign in daily at the front office.

# **Food Service**

The government reimburses the Food Service Department for a small portion of each student meal served. However, there is no reimbursement allowed for any portion of an adult meal, resulting in higher prices charged for the adult meal, the actual cost of producing the adult meal.

## CHARTWELLS

Chartwells is our Food Service Provider. The employees in the food service program are Chartwells employees.

## FIELD TRIP PLANNING

If you need sack lunches, Food Service requires at least 2 weeks' notice. This will ensure that items for the meal will be available. Lunch for field trips usually includes meat & cheese sandwich on whole wheat bread, fresh fruit, another fruit or carrot and celery sticks, package of graham crackers or something similar, condiments and milk. The meal must be offered with milk or it cannot be counted as a reimbursable meal for the foodservice. Please notify the cafeteria if your students or class will be absent during lunch.

Special Diets/Allergies: If a student has an allergy or special diet is needed, please make sure this is reported to the Health Office. Any changes to the diet must be provided in the form of a doctor's prescription. The exception is lactose intolerance which can be accommodated with a signed note from the parent/guardian of the student.

## NUTRITION STANDARDS

Any snack provided to students must be pre-packaged.

## STAFF MEALS

The price of meals for students and staff are approved by the School Board. Adult breakfast is \$1.50 and lunch is \$3.00. This entitles you to larger portions than students receive. A meal consists of an entrée, vegetable/starch, side salad, fruit or dessert and bottled water or milk. A la carte pricing is available if you do not want to purchase the whole meal.

Meals are served during the student breakfast and lunch periods. They may be purchased by staff with cash or on account. Staff members may set up a meal account with the cashier. You may deposit any amount of money and your meal cost will be deducted from your account as you purchase meals. Adults may charge no more than two meals.

# **Professional Duties and Responsibilities**

### **BT** (Beyond Textbooks) Non-Negotiables

- \*Follow BT Math, Reading (Grades K-12) and other Subjects, as available (Grades 5-12)
- \*All Essential Questions evident for Math and Reading in lesson plans (Grades K-12)
- \*Math and Reading student friendly objectives posted (Grades K-12)
- Administer Formative Assessments for Math and Reading (Grades 1-12) and count as a grade
- Math Skill Builders will be aligned and implemented (Grades 2-8)

\*These apply to all subjects available on BT

## CLASSROOM SECURITY - CLASSROOM SUPERVISION

**Students shall not be left unattended at any time.** Classrooms are to remain locked when the room is not occupied. Student supervision must be conducted by a certificated staff member.

## DAILY LESSON PLANS (Policy I-720)

Please use the district template. It will be available in the Teacher Evaluation Handbook and as a digital template on your Google Drive.

### **DRESS STANDARDS**

Staff members play an important role in modeling appropriate attire to students. Staff shall follow the dress code below, which is governing board policy.

## **Staff Dress Code**

Staff members shall maintain an appearance reflecting the respect and authority due them and their position. General appearance shall not be detrimental to the educational program of the district.

## Academic and Office Staff

• The following apparel items are not considered in dress code and shall not be worn: T-shirts, blue jeans, shorts, sweats, and flip-flop shoes.

## **Physical Education**

- Physical education staff shall follow the Academic/Office staff dress code in general.
- Physical education staff may wear shorts that would be considered appropriate attire for that particular teaching assignment shorts must be of appropriate length (fingertip length).

## **Career and Technical Education Department**

• Agriculture and construction – staff shall follow the Academic/Office staff dress code in general, but blue jeans, which are not worn, torn or dirty, would be considered appropriate attire.

## Maintenance, Custodial, Grounds, Transportation

- Staff shall follow the Academic/Office staff dress code in general.
- Blue jeans would be considered appropriate attire for this department.

## **Food Service**

- Staff shall follow the Academic/Office staff dress code in general.
- Blue jeans would be considered appropriate attire for this department.

## Support Staff – Instructional Aides

• Staff shall follow the Academic/Office staff dress code.

*Occasionally*, Fridays may be designated "Spirit Days." Staff may wear school colors including school t-shirts and blue jeans. *Board approved July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003* 

## DUTIES

Per Policy GCL – Professional Staff Calendars and Schedules – All staff members shall report to their duty stations on time each workday and shall, as scheduled, be available there until the designated time(s) they are scheduled to leave. Teachers will perform duties other than classroom teaching. Extra duty assignments and meeting attendance may be assigned by the Administration as needed. Teachers are to exercise supervision over students on the playgrounds, during recess, going to and returning from specials classes, and during lunchtime if assigned such duty. Teachers are to accompany students to the bus area and remain until students depart.

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Staff members should not utilize personal electronic devices during the work day, such as IPod's or Blue Tooth extensions. Cell phones should not be utilized or answered during scheduled class times, while on assigned duties, or during staff meetings or trainings. Personal phone calls, text messaging or other electronic communication is appropriate only during the teacher's preparation period or lunch time.

# **EMPLOYEE ABSENCES**

For accurate accounting of employee absences, it is essential that an Employee Absence Request be submitted electronically into the current software program. The submission is to be completed in advance or immediately upon the employee's return to work. Certified and classified employees who deal directly with students should note that a substitute is needed. Remember that the software system does not make calls for substitutes **after 6:00 A.M**. For staff that does not use electronic submissions of their absences, an Absence Request Form must be submitted in advance to your supervisor or immediately upon the employee's return to work. Requests for discretionary absences should be submitted five (5) days in advance. **Three discretionary days are allowed each year to conduct business** which cannot be scheduled on a non-work day. Discretionary Leave may not be used for Vacation.

Principals are responsible for approving the Absence Request in said software program or by Absence Request Form in a timely manner.

Governing Board Policies GCC, GCCA, GCCD, GCCE, GCCH, GCD and GDD contain further details on absence procedures.

## **EMPLOYEE WORK HOURS**

Classified employees will utilize time clocks at each work site. Teachers' work hours are generally nine (9) hours per day unless the principal designates otherwise. Teachers are salaried employees, and administration may alter or extend the school day for meetings, special events, and activities.

# END OF YEAR CHECKOUT Procedures

Digital Checkout Procedures will be implemented at the conclusion of the academic year. Please follow these directions in order to make your end of year check-out and activities as smooth as possible. Special Education staff will need to check-out with the Special Services office as well. Staff will receive their final paycheck once contractual obligations have been fulfilled.

## MEETINGS

Teachers are expected to attend ALL meetings called by the administration. Please make all other appointments around these scheduled meetings. All phones shall be turned off and/or turned to vibrate during any meetings.

## PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

Personal possessions should be under lock and key. Items of value should not be left in the classroom unattended.

## SMOKING

The Board recognizes that smoking during school hours and on school property presents a health and safety hazard that can have serious consequences for the smoker, the nonsmoker, and the safety of the District and therefore decrees a smoke-free environment. For purposes of this policy, smoking shall mean all use of tobacco. In order to protect students and staff members from a harmful environment, the Board cannot, even by omission, condone the use of tobacco. The Board prohibits smoking by employees on or in any district property and during any school sponsored activity, event, or trip. The preceding prohibitions include electronic cigarettes.

## STAFF CONDUCT/STAFF ETHICS

Each staff member is responsible to review Policies GBEB to GBED, and Policy GBEA. These policies pertain to expectations with respect to Staff Conduct, Ethics for School Employees, Conduct with Students, Dress, Prohibition of Tobacco and Alcohol.

## SUBSTITUTES

Each teacher is required to have a well-developed "Substitute Folder" available; it should include the following:

- 1. Seating Chart
- 2. Duty Roster
- 3. Detailed Lesson Plans
- 4. Specific directions to help a Sub understand the workings of the day.
- 5. Renew lesson plans after use.
- 6. Note special education or 504 students and necessary accommodations.
- 7. Supply medical information or food sensitive issues.
- 8. Discipline Plan
- 9. Substitute evaluation to be submitted to the principal.
- 10. AESOP evaluation instrument.

Emergency Response Plan - please note where this is located in your room - list Buddy class in sub folder.

## **TEACHER CERTIFICATION**

Teachers are expected to maintain current certification for their classroom assignment. Teachers seeking recertification may need fingerprint renewal. See the Human Resources office for forms and other assistance in recertifying. The District Office will complete fingerprints for the employee.

## **TEACHER EVALUATION**

The process of evaluation for professional staff members shall lead to improvement of the quality of instruction and the strengthening of the abilities of the professional staff. Full details are in the teacher evaluation handbook. Additional information will be presented annually at school sites.

## **GUEST SPEAKERS**

All visitors and guest speakers should be **cleared in advance with the principal**. They should be instructed to report to the office when first arriving at school. All visitors are required to secure a visitor's badge in the school office. School employees are to request visitor to return to office for a visitor's badge if individual is not wearing this identification.

# **Safety Procedures**

### **ABUSE OF EMPLOYEE**

A person who knowingly verbally abuses a teacher or other school employee on school grounds violates ARS \$15-507, or interferes with an employee who is engaged in the performance of his duties, is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor (*Refer to ARS* \$13-2911 interference of educational facility.) If a person commits physical assault against a school employee that is a violation of ARS \$13-1204 and it is considered Aggravated Assault, a felony.

## ACCIDENT REPORTS

Report all student and/or staff accidents. Written accident reports are to be filled out immediately after each accident of serious (or potentially serious) nature. The supervising teacher is responsible for filing the report in the nurse or principal's office for any injured student.

Employees who are injured in the course of their work are also to fill out a form in the nurse or principal's office. These forms are to be turned in to the Business Manager upon receipt of all required signatures.

### FIRE PROCEDURES

The fire bell will be an intermittent ring or siren. There is to be an evacuation route map in every classroom/room in each building. Below are the Evacuation Drill Procedures.

- 1. Line students up at the door (check your in-class restroom).
- 2. Take class roster.
- 3. Leave lights as they are; if on, they remain on, if off, they remain off.
- 4. Shut the door and leave it unlocked.
- 5. Escort students out to designated exit.
- 6. Take roll at assigned location.
- 7. Do not re-enter building until the "ALL CLEAR" announcement is given.
- 8. Support staff will cover assigned areas.
- 9. If fire alarm sounds during recess time or before or after school and you are not on duty, meet your students in the prescribed meeting place.
- 10. If you are on duty and with students on the playground, instruct students to go to their meeting area. (Assist in keeping order until classroom teachers arrive).

### SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited by district policy and state and federal law. Please report any inappropriate conduct to your supervisor.

## STUDENT SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Policy JIH speaks to authority of employees and administrators in searching students and school property.

## STUDENT VISITORS

Non-enrolled student visitors may not attend classes, or accompany classes on a study trip.

### VERBAL THREATS/HARASSMENT BY STUDENTS

By law, staff members must report to administration any threats made by one student to another individual.

# **Students: Policies & Procedures**

### ATTENDANCE

AZ revised statutes charge the parent or guardian with responsibility for the student's consistent school attendance. The Principal will place emphasis on the prevention and correction of the causes of absenteeism. Teachers will check and formally

record attendance daily and verify discrepancies regularly. High School teachers and Ruth Fisher  $5^{th} - 8^{th}$  Grade teachers and Tartesso  $7^{th} - 8^{th}$  Grade teachers should take attendance within the first 5 minutes of each period.

## ENTERTAINMENT VIDEOS/MOVIES

All videos/movies must be that of G rating. Per policy IJND, only movies and videos which reinforce and/or extend the concepts being taught are to be shown in the classroom. These movies/videos are to have been planned for in advance. Any videos shown need to be approved by the principal and the teacher would need to provide advance notification to each student's parent(s), or other responsible adult on the title of the movie or video and the date on which it will be shown. Per federal copyright law movies/videos may not be shown for entertainment purposes only. Any videos labeled, "For Home Use Only," are not to be shown in the classroom - violation of copyright laws.

## FEES (Policy JQ, Student Fees, Fines, and Charges)

The Board recognizes some students are not able to pay certain fees; no student will be denied an education as a result of inability to pay any supplementary charges. Students will not be required to supply specific types of school supplies or equipment as a prerequisite to successful completion of a required course or project. Students will, however, be responsible and accountable for loss of or damage to school property, including textbooks, library books and district issued technology devices.

## FIELD TRIPS & STUDENT TRAVEL

**Field trips must be approved by the principal** and scheduled through the Transportation Department on the approved form. District vehicles must be used for transportation outside of the district. Reservations must be made and all paperwork completed ten (10) days in advance. Study trips should provide educational opportunities for all students in the class. An itinerary is to be supplied to the transportation department and school office and the following guidelines observed.

- 1. Ten (10) business days (minimum) written notice, administrative approval and transportation request.
- 2. Funding source identified in advance.
- 3. Goals and objectives of the study trip.
- 4. Restrooms and eating facilities along the way, if necessary.
- 5. Supervisory Help (fingerprinted volunteers).
- 6. Bus passenger list.
- 7. Supervision until all students are home, picked up or dismissed from school.
- 8. Student understanding of bus rules.
- 9. Permission slips, Emergency Card for each student.
- 10. Tentative approval from place you wish to visit, checking on the following:
  - a. Size of group they can accommodate.
  - b. Accommodations available (restrooms, water, eating facilities)
  - c. Accessibility for the inclusion of special needs students
  - d. Cost
  - e. Hours/days of operation
- 12. Student-paid funds are to be kept in the school's safe (not in the classroom or office desk). Follow the correct banking, cash collection and deposit procedures. Your principal, secretary/registrar, or district office business staff can assist you with compliance. Be sure that when you are calculating the cost of your field trips to the students, please include the entry fees, if applicable, PLUS the estimated transportation costs including the bus driver, payroll benefits of 25% and the cost of fuel.

## GIFT EXCHANGES

Classroom gift exchanges are not permitted, unless gifts are made in the classroom with materials provided by the teacher.

## **BULLYING/CYBER-BULLYING PREVENTION**

Employees are expected to review Policy JICK as summarized in classroom postings. This policy indicates that any form of bullying, hazing, or cyber-bullying must be reported immediately. JICK further prescribes that "failure by an employee to report a suspected case of bullying may result in disciplinary action up to suspension without pay or dismissal pursuant to Board Policies GCQF and GDQF.

New policy and federal law place particular emphasis on vigilance with regard to cyber bullying and inappropriate use of technology. The Children's Internet Protection Act, now in Board Policy IJNDB, says "it shall be the responsibility of all employees to educate, supervise, and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network . . . . "

# PARTIES

Each elementary teacher is permitted to have **three** (3) parties. Volunteers may help with parties. Students may have one surprise party per year for their teacher with **principal approval**. Unless otherwise approved by the principal, parties should be held the last 30-40 minutes of the day.

## **RECORDS (Policy JR-R, Student Records)**

In order to meet the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA), all personnel in the district are expected to fulfill the requirements of the policy and procedures listed therein in order to protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information at collection, storage, disclosure, and destruction stages. Teachers will be expected to keep an accurate record of student achievement. Grade books and lesson plans must be kept up to date, including student name, attendance, entries and withdrawals, subject marks, etc. These records will be turned in at the end of the year; a printed electronic version is acceptable.

## **REPORTING CHILD ABUSE (Policy JLF and ARS 13-3620)**

When a staff member suspects that a parent or other adult is abusing a child, or is contributing to substance-using behavior of a student, that staff member shall confer with the principal or assistant principal. Such a conference with the administrator does not change the duty of the person making the observation to report to the appropriate child protective service as required by law. The staff member shall make the report, or cause the report to be made, but the administrator still must be notified of the call to Child Protective Services. A written report must be submitted within 72 hours. All staff members are mandated reporters.

## RETENTION

Your principal has information on the process and requirements for considering student retention.

## SCREENING FORMS--45 DAY

Each kindergarten student and each student enrolling without appropriate records of screening, evaluation and progress in school shall be screened within 45 calendar days of entry. A 45-Day Screening form shall be in each student cumulative file. Areas to be screened include, but are not limited to: Academics, Vision, Hearing, Social/Emotional Behavior, Communication, and Psychomotor skills.

## STUDENTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

What to do if parent does not pick up child after Special Events – parents are to be notified in advance of pick-up times. If a parent does not pick up a child at the scheduled time, contact the parent by phone (using the emergency phone contact form). Students are not to be left unsupervised at any time. Should the parents arrive extremely late, they are to be notified that continued lateness in the future may jeopardize their child's continued participation in the activity. Employees are not to transport students in their own vehicles. If necessary, a district vehicle may be used to transport a student, if the employee is CPR/First Aid certified. If these options are not available to the employee, the local law enforcement agency is to be called and requested to return the child home.

Coaches and/or Club Advisors are to remain until the last student is picked up by a guardian. Students may not be left alone at any time.

## STUDENT INTERVENTION TEAM (SIT)

Detailed information on Special Education referral procedures and services can be found in the Saddle Mountain Unified School District Special Education Handbook.

## STUDENTS' USE OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

Students are NOT to use the following equipment, unless directly supervised by a staff member: paper cutter, copiers, and laminators, kitchen, stove (kitchen equipment; can opener, knives, etc.) microwave, soda, juice or candy machines in relation to the teacher's work areas.

## TRANSPORTING STUDENTS BY TEACHERS

Teachers are NOT to transport pupils in non-district vehicles.