



Fall Creek Elementary School

336 East Hoover Avenue
Fall Creek, Wisconsin 54742
(715) 877-3331

Website: <http://www.fallcreek.k12.wi.us>

Principal

Ashley Mason

District Administrator

Brad Ceranski

Fall Creek School Board Members

Amy Kurtz
Jill Geske
Courtney Kneifl
Eric Ryan
Brock Wright

We are a community that works, learns, and succeeds together

August 2024

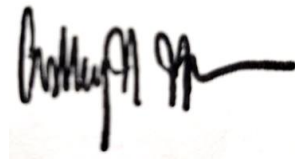
Dear Parents and Guardians,

This handbook is designed to provide information about the day to day operations of our school. We have made every effort to include important information for you to know. Please contact us with any questions, concerns, or ideas you may have. I encourage you to read the handbook and talk with your children about its contents.

Our goal at Fall Creek Elementary is: **SUCCESS FOR EVERY STUDENT** while making sure that our school is a safe, caring, and learning-filled place for everyone. We believe all children can learn appropriate social and school skills with our support and guidance. Please be certain to read the section titled School Climate, which discusses our beliefs more in depth.

We are looking forward to a great year at Fall Creek Elementary. This handbook is one way for us to communicate with you. Please communicate with us when there is something we should know which may affect your child's functioning at school. Home to school communication is so very important, and key to helping your child achieve excellence, both academic and personal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Mason', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ashley Mason

Elementary Principal /Curriculum Director

The School District of Fall Creek is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in relation to race, religion, sex or sexual orientation, age, national origin, handicap, marital status, political affiliation, arrest or conviction record, or other factors provided for by state and federal law.

MISSION STATEMENT

Fall Creek Elementary: Providing opportunities for a lifetime of success - - - one student at a time.

VISION STATEMENT

We are a community that works, learns, and succeeds together.

SCHOOL CLIMATE

Our goal is to make certain that Fall Creek Elementary is a safe and caring place full of learning for everyone. We use the PBIS framework along with Character Strong Curriculum for setting up our school climate. We believe in order to reach this goal we all must agree to the following:

1. Be Kind
2. Be Strong
3. Be Well

We believe that everyone can work independently and safely and has the self-control to participate with their class. We also know social skills and work habits are learned and developed throughout our lives. We will teach and practice skills all year long.

There is not a standard consequence for misbehavior, and a consequence will be generated for every situation following discussion in the classroom or with the teacher. Consequences must be related to the behavior, delivered respectfully, and must be reasonable. There are “minor” behavior circumstances and “major” behavior circumstances. Examples of both of these circumstances are shared with students at the beginning of the year as part of a review of our environment. A behavior matrix is set up so students know and understand the rules and expectations in our school. Minor infractions are handled by the student and teacher. Major infractions are handled by the office.

Consequences might look like:

- You break it, you fix it. The child will be asked to fix his/her behavior (i.e. apology of action).
- Loss of privilege. The child will lose a privilege for a period of time if one is misused, either in or outside of the classroom.
- Take a break. This is used when a child is not able to cooperate and/or is being disruptive to the group. The teacher or student will separate him/herself from the activity temporarily until he/she is ready to participate in a positive manner.

The following response plan may also be used when children interrupt the learning environment as they are working on developing their social and school skills.

1. Time away in the classroom: This is 1-3 minutes in a designated area.
2. Time away in a “buddy” classroom: The child is removed from the classroom to sit in a “buddy” classroom until the teacher picks the child up, and has time to discuss the interruption. This enables the teacher to continue teaching and find time for the child who has continuously interrupted the lesson.

3. Time in the office: A student may be sent to the office to spend some time with the principal. A contact with the parent may be made at this point depending on the severity of the infraction.

If a student is in need of more support, they may be placed on a program called Check In Check Out. This program is designed to help students focus on the positive aspect of their day. They meet with a staff member before school to set their day on a positive note and then again at the end of the day to see how things went based on a communication sheet. The program has been very successful for us and the students have made great gains with the added adult connections.

COMMUNICATION

Parents and guardians are invited to bring their ideas, questions, and/or concerns to our school community as part of the home/school partnership. You are urged to contact the person most closely involved with the issue (teacher, school psychologist, counselor, etc.) If a situation needs to be addressed further, contact the principal. If no resolution is reached, other possible avenues of communication include the Superintendent of Schools.

SCHOOL HOURS

Students who walk, bike or are dropped off should plan to arrive at school no earlier than 7:30 AM. There is no formal supervision for elementary students prior to that time. Students who arrive prior will not have access to enter the building. Classes in grades K-5 begin at 7:55 AM with dismissal at 3:05 PM. Morning 4K class will begin at 7:55 AM and dismiss at 11:05 AM. Afternoon 4K will begin at 12:00 PM and dismiss at 3:10 PM. The second Wednesday of every month will be an early release day. Students will be released at 1 PM. We start instruction promptly at 8:05 am, so attendance at this time will help your child be successful.

RECESS AND PLAYGROUND GUIDELINES

The purpose of recess and our playground is to provide a safe and fun environment for all students. The following procedures must be followed for this to happen:

STUDENT PLAYGROUND ATTIRE: Students must dress appropriately for the weather. Students are expected to bring boots and snow pants each day. When snow is present they are required wear full winter gear (snow pants, winter coat, hat, mittens, and boots). We understand some days, students may forget their boots and snow pants, they will then be asked to stay on the blacktop.

Please have your child's name written on inside tags of clothing items. This helps us return lost items to children quickly.

OUTDOOR WEATHER POLICY:

- "Feels like" temperature at 0 degrees and above: All children will be expected to go outside for recess.
- "Feels like" temperature below 0 degrees: All children will be kept inside for recess.

- Wind chill below 0 degrees: All children will be kept inside for recess.
- Playground conditions deemed unsafe: All children will be kept inside for recess.

The decision to have recess inside or outside will be made by the school office staff in cooperation with the playground supervisor(s).

Clothing expectations by temperature:

- Boots and snow pants are required when snow is on the playground
- Above 40-50 degrees: Must wear a long sleeve shirt or jacket
- Under 40 degrees: Must wear a jacket
- To play in the snow you must have snow pants and boots on
- We understand snow gear may be forgotten, on those days students must stay in designated areas

RECESS BEHAVIOR: All students and staff deserve, and will be treated with respect. Swearing, name-calling, bullying, threats, or intimidation are not tolerated. Children are to try to solve the problem themselves if a conflict arises. If this doesn't work, they should see the playground supervisor. Physical force is unacceptable. PBIS expectations for consequences will be followed.

- All toys/stuffed animals must be left at home

SAFETY: No games/activities will be allowed which involve tackling, tripping or pushing. The following or similar activities are NOT allowed on the playground:

- Crawling "up" a slide – slides are for sliding "down"
- Snowball throwing
- King of the Hill
- Jumping from a height higher than child's head
- Standing on swings

TRANSPORTATION

Students living within the village limits walk to school. There is a flashing pedestrian crossing sign at the intersection of Lincoln (Hwy12) and Wisconsin St. Student safety patrol members are stationed along Wisconsin St. and Hoover Ave. to assist students in crossing streets.

For students who live in the village across the railroad tracks, transportation is available. Please contact the district office to make arrangements.

Students living outside of the village limits will be transported by district school busses. Riding the bus to and from school is a PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT. The primary responsibility of the driver is to safely transport the student to and from school.

Misbehavior could result in the bus driver being distracted. Such distractions could endanger the lives of all students being transported. Therefore, behavior infractions will be reported to the

proper authorities and parents will be notified. The student's privilege to ride the bus may be suspended.

Upon entering the bus, students are to be seated and remain in that seat until arrival at their destination. No standing or moving around in the aisle will be permitted. Hands, head, etc. are to be kept inside the bus at all times. This is extremely important safety purposes.

Notes are required to be dated and signed by either the parent or school official if a child is to get off at a different location than their assigned one. No birthday parties or various groups will be allowed to ride unless the driver gives proper authorization. Please refrain from any toys/stuffed animals/food on the bus.

IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION FROM THE SCHOOL BUS

1. The following behaviors may result in suspension from riding the bus.
 - a. Refusing to follow instructions of the bus driver or others in charge. This also includes derogatory remarks to the driver.
 - b. Fighting/weapons: Defined to mean any act leading to verbal or physical assault upon a person or persons, regardless of whether or not promoted by the action of others.
 - c. Smoking, chewing tobacco, drugs and alcohol: Defined to mean any act leading to or participating in the activities.
 - d. Opening or tampering with the emergency door: Defined to mean any act regarding the opening of an emergency door or latching or unlatching the lock on the door.
 - e. Threats: Defined to mean any verbal, written, or gesture of a threat directed at another person.
 - f. Profane language, suggestive comments or body language: Defined to mean abusive or derogatory remarks intended to be uncomplimentary or unacceptable.
- b. Destruction of the bus: Defined to mean any act relating to the marring, cutting, tearing or general destruction of bus facilities. Students involved will pay for the damage incurred.
- c. Repeat offenders: Defined to mean students who have been referred for minor infractions of bus safety not less than one or more than three times inclusively.

The above rules and regulations apply to any trip under school sponsorship, such as field trips.

SCHOOL MEALS

Hot lunches are served throughout the school year. The price includes milk. Students carrying their lunch may purchase milk in the lunchroom. All students are required to eat in the lunchroom. Lunch money must be paid in advance and weekly statements are sent out if there is

a negative balance. Students will be given a number that is entered into the computer at the lunch line.

Students are expected to follow the lunchroom expectations.

A breakfast program is available this year for children if their parents wish, or need such an option. It will be available from 7:30-7:50 in the same location where lunch is served. The breakfast is designed as a “grab and go” while still meeting necessary guidelines for meals served at school.

Cost of breakfast and lunch can be found on the school district’s website under “Dining Services”.

MILK BREAKS

Afternoon milk break is available to all students K-3.

DRESS AND BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

The school administration and the school board, representing both the school and community, expect our students to dress and conduct themselves in a courteous and proper manner.

In accordance with recent court rulings, the school reserves the right to send students home if their dress and behavior are distracting or deemed dangerous to either the student or fellow students.

A student must be clean and well groomed. No hats or caps are to be worn in the school building during school hours. Student dress that is inappropriate and a distraction to the educational environment will not be tolerated.

SHOES IN SCHOOL AND PHY. ED.

Non-marking athletic type shoes are required for physical education classes. Students who wear some type of boot to school must change to their shoes upon arriving at school.

STUDENT LOCKERS/STUDENT VALUABLES

Students in kindergarten and first grade have open cubbies to hang their coats and backpacks. Students in grades 4K and 2-5 are assigned lockers at the beginning of each school term. The lockers are the property of the School District of Fall Creek. Appointed school personnel can check the lockers at any time.

Student’s lockers should be cleaned of any winter gear and food at the end of each week. Food must be sealed and properly stored in the locker.

A student's assigned locker is expected to be taken care of and cleaned properly upon checking out at the end of the school term. Any damage to the lockers should be reported to the office. Students are encouraged not to keep anything of value in their lockers. We also ask that stickers not be used

on lockers. The school is not liable for personal items that are lost or stolen. Things of value can be stored in the office or with their classroom teacher.

LOST AND FOUND

Students who find articles are asked to take them to the office, where their owner may claim them. Valuable items should not be brought to school. The district is not responsible for lost or broken personal items.

ATTENDANCE

When a student is absent, it is the responsibility of the parents or guardian to notify the school. An absence may be reported the following ways: in Skyward's Family Access portal, emailing the office or by calling the school office (877-3331).

Should your child need to see a physician, have the doctor write a note excusing any absences. This will be coded as medical and will not be in the attendance count. The State of Wisconsin allows students to miss up to ten days per school year. Both excused and unexcused absences are counted. We do not count any absences that have been doctor excused towards the ten-day allotment. Letters to update families on attendance and state statues will be sent at 5 days and 10 days absent. We are required to send out letters of concern should students approach or exceed that number. Subsequent letters will be sent should the number of absences continue to grow. These letters may require a meeting. Our mission is to work with families while living up to our responsibilities. If attendance does not improve, meetings will be requested with guardians.

Excusing pupils from school for family vacations, funerals, etc. is unavoidable. If this becomes necessary, we do request that you contact the teacher ahead of time and see what arrangements need to be made for make-up work.

LEAVING THE BUILDING

Any parents wishing to pick up students during school hours must sign their students out in the elementary office. If possible, please contact the office and the classroom teacher to let them know prior to picking up your child.

You may pick up your child at the end of the day, by waiting outside Door M6 or E13. Students will be dismissed at 3:05 pm.

MEDICATIONS

School staff, by law, cannot dispense any medication without written notification from parent and physician. Forms that authorize the dispensing of medications are available in the offices. These forms must be signed by the prescribing physician and parent and returned to the office. All medications, including over the counter, will be dispensed from the school nurse/office.

CHILDREN OF SEPARATED/DIVORCED PARENTS

Fall Creek Elementary will maintain strict neutrality between parents who are involved in an action affecting the family, unless otherwise directed by Court Order. Parents need to provide the elementary office with current information regarding any Court Order that provides specific rights to the child's parents. Neither parent shall be deemed to have rights superior to the other parent in the absence of a Court Order.

Both parents, custodial and non-custodial, are entitled to all grade reports, newsletters, disciplinary action and parent-teacher conference information, unless directed otherwise in the most recent Court Order. Delivery of all such information will be made in the same manner to both parents.

PETS

Any student wanting to bring an animal to school needs to have prior approval by the classroom teacher.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

If weather conditions during the night or early morning require that school not be opened on a particular day, this information will be broadcast over local radio and television stations. The district will also use an automated voicemail, email, Facebook, Twitter, a school district app, Remind101, and the school website to convey closing information.

Should it be necessary to close school early, this information will also be broadcast over the same stations. Parents are requested to make sure that there is a plan for their children should school be closed.

SAFETY

For the safety of our students and staff, all doors will be locked during the day. If you wish to enter the building you may do so at the elementary/middle school (M6) entry. Visitors will be asked to sign in and carry a visitor badge with them while inside the building. If you are dropping off something for your child, you may leave it in the office. We will make sure it gets delivered.

FIRE DRILLS

In case of fire or other emergency, a continuous alarm will be sounded. Students should follow the evacuation plans posted in their classrooms. The plan will tell students which route to exit the building and where to stand once outside. It is important to listen quietly for instructions.

TORNADO/SEVERE WEATHER

In the event of a tornado or other weather emergency, an announcement will be made over the public address system. Students will be told where and how to proceed.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Scheduled conferences will be held each year. We believe conferences are a valuable time to share information and show students that school and families work together. Parents/Guardians will be notified with dates and times of the conference along with the format of the conferences.

Parents are encouraged to arrange additional conferences with the teachers at any time throughout the school year in order to discuss the progress of your children.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be issued to the students at the end of each trimester. Parents are able to view and print report cards in the Skyward Family Access portal. A report card showing all three trimesters will be sent home at the end of the year.

If questions arise at any time during the school year, parents are encouraged to arrange a conference with the teacher to discuss concerns.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Any cell phones that are brought to school shall remain in backpacks or lockers during school hours. If this expectation is not followed consequence may ensue. The only device that can be at school are cell phones. No outside tablets, laptops, etc. are allowed.

FILMING, PHOTOGRAPHING OR VIDEOTAPING IN THE SCHOOLS

State and federal laws safeguard children and their families against release of student information used by schools or provided by schools to parties external to the school district. Photographs, films and videotapes of children in schools are subject to the provision of these laws.

The Fall Creek School District shall observe measures intended to protect children from their involvement in photographs, films or videotapes to which they or their parents or guardians might reasonably object under the law. The following provisions outline the extent to which that protection can and will be provided.

a. A signed parental consent form for each student shall be required at all times when photographing, filming or videotaping is to occur in private places (e.g., rest rooms, locker rooms, detention centers, and offices) where intrusion upon the privacy of a student of a nature highly offensive to a reasonable person may occur and for which charges of trespass may be actionable.

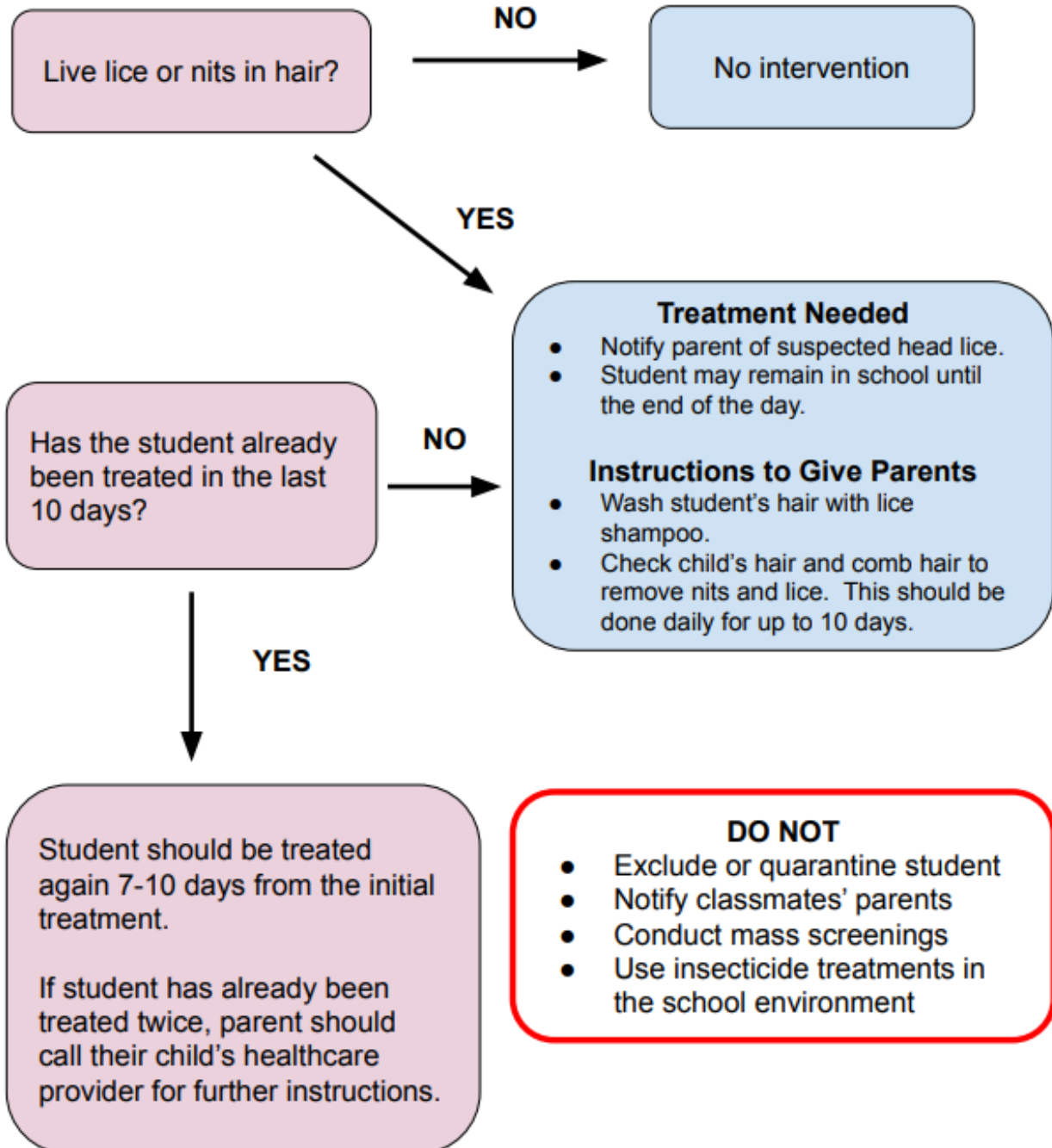
- b. A signed parental consent form shall be required at all times to videotape, photograph or film an individual student where that student is not a public figure by choice (e.g., victim, informant, witness), where the private life of the student is likely to be invaded, where the student's misconduct has come to public attention, or where a student's physical, mental or emotional condition/behavior is likely to be publicly exposed.
- c. Prior parental consent shall not be required for photographing, filming or videotaping purposes when a student has voluntarily chosen or been allowed by parents to participate in or be a spectator at a school-related activity that is open to the public (e.g., an athletic event, music concert, school play) or has chosen to be an officially designated school leader or role model (e.g., athlete, musical or drama star, student council president, homecoming queen, valedictorian). Rather, it will be assumed that the student and his/her parent or guardian has given tacit approval for the student to be photographed or videotaped. Such footage may also be replayed without parental permission.
- d. Prior parental consent shall not be required when stock or generic pictures, film or video footage is being obtained in public places (e.g., hallways, auditoriums, gymnasiums, general classrooms, playgrounds, athletic fields) by school district or external media sources. The staff and student body will be informed in advance when such photographing, videotaping or filming is to occur. Individual students will be allowed to exclude themselves from such shots if they so desire.
- e. Prior parental consent shall not be required when a photograph, film or videotape will be made of individual students for professional purposes, will be controlled by school district employees responsible for the setting in which the photographing, filming or videotaping occurred, and will be erased or destroyed when the original purpose for which the record was made has been satisfied.
- f. Parents may exclude individual students from other photographing, filming or videotaping activities not covered above by filing with the school principal an Opt-Out Form (491 Exhibit A). This form can be found in any of the school offices. This form will normally be filed at the beginning of the school year, but may be filed at any time that such privacy is needed. School personnel will be responsible for protecting the rights of these students. It is expected that students who have reached the 4th grade will assist school personnel in protecting their own rights.
- g. Because school grounds (e.g., playgrounds, athletic fields, parking lots) cannot be effectively shielded from the public, no assurance can be provided to students or parents that they are protected from photographing, filming or videotaping while using such facilities.
- h. During normal school hours' representatives of the press/media will be expected to obtain permission from the building principal or his/her designee prior to interacting with staff or students on school property for any purpose.

IMMUNIZATION RECORDS

All kindergarten and new students must, at the end of the first month of school, have a record of their immunizations on file in the school office. Transfer students at all grade levels may be asked to provide evidence of their immunizations.

ADDED FLOW CHART TO NEXT PAGE

Flow Chart for Managing Head Lice



WI DPI “Too Sick for School” GUIDANCE



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
Public Instruction

TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?



Below are guidelines to help parents and school districts determine when to keep children/students home from school. The recommendations are based on guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state public health professionals. They were developed to help prevent the spread of potentially contagious disease. Home is the best place for a child who is ill. If your child is sick with a diagnosed communicable disease, please notify the school as soon as possible. This notification will greatly assist others who, due to medical reasons and/or treatments, have weakened immune systems and may require immediate and specialized care.



FEVER



VOMITING/DIARRHEA



COUGH

With fever greater than 100.4° F*. Student may return when fever-free for **24 hours** (WITHOUT use of fever-reducing medicine).

Any unexplained vomiting episode. May return **24 hours** after last episode. Diarrhea = three or more unexplained episodes of watery or loose stool in **24 hours** **OR** sudden onset of loose stools. May return 24 hours after last episode.

Serious, sustained coughing, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing.



RASH



SKIN LESIONS/SORES



OTHER

Any new rash accompanied by a fever. May return after rash goes away or clearance given by a health care provider.

Drainage from a sore that cannot be contained within a bandage **OR** sores are increasing in size **OR** new sores are developing day-to-day.

Symptoms that prevent the student from active participation in usual school activities **OR** student is requiring more care than school can safely provide.

* Many authorities use either 100 (37.8 degrees Celsius) or 100.4 F (38.0 degrees Celsius) as a cut-off for fever, but this number actually can range depending on factors such as the method of measurement and the age of the person. CDC has public health recommendations that are based on the presence (or absence) of fever. What is meant by this is that the person's temperature is not elevated beyond their norm. In order to provide clarity the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction supports the use of 100.4°F.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Disease	Incubation Period	Common Symptoms	Re-admission to school
Chicken Pox	14-21 days	Low fever, headache, chills, water blisters that scab over	1 week after rash appears
Scabies	2-6 weeks	Rash is prominent with intense itching	After treatment prescribed by a physician
Head Lice	Eggs hatch in one week and lice mature in 10 days	Intense itching of the head- white or brown eggs firmly attached to hair shaft close to the scalp	After student has received treatment to their hair
Pink Eye	1-3 days	Itching and painful eyes accompanied by discharge. Eyes are often difficult to open in the AM because of discharge	After child pain level decreases and treatment is started
Impetigo	4-10 days	Characteristic pustule lesion	No open lesions or if covered
Ringworm	10-14 days	Rosy circular lesion with raw edges	No open lesions or if covered

HEALTH AND ACCIDENT POLICIES

In the event of an illness or injury to a student in class, serious enough to require the attention of a physician, the teacher will give immediate necessary First Aid and contact the office. The parents will be notified to transport the student to the doctor.

INSURANCE

The School District of Fall Creek does carry individual student insurance coverage. This plan covers only medical expenses, which are not payable by other insurance. The parent or guardian must first file a claim with his or her own insurer.

Dental benefits are limited to a flat fee for repair and/or replacement of each natural tooth. Repair or replacements of eyeglasses or contact lenses are not covered.

STUDENT SALES

Students are not permitted to bring personal or organizational items to school to sell. Fundraising for student organizations (school sponsored or community sponsored) must be done outside of the school day. We try to limit the amount of fundraising for school and understand that not everyone has the means to participate. Parents will be asked to sign off on opportunities to fundraise at the beginning of the year.

SCHOOL PARTIES

Grades 4K-5 may schedule room parties during the school year. The class and the teacher plan the parties and make arrangements with parents.

FIELD TRIPS

Students take field trips during the school year as a part of their school studies. Parents will be asked to sign a general field trip permission slip when they register their child for the first time, and then receive advance notice of field trips throughout the year. If you would like to revoke permission for field trips at any time, please contact the office.

VOLUNTEERS

All volunteers at our school, including parents, are required to complete a background check before volunteering at school. These forms can be obtained at the District Office or on the Elementary School Home Page (Volunteer Agreement/Background Check Form), and they are also distributed the first day of school. Visitors should sign in at the office and wear a visitor badge.

HARASSMENT POLICY

The Fall Creek School District will not permit any form of harassment based upon race, religion, gender, national origin, etc. Harassment undermines the integrity of the learning environment. Anything that interferes with a student's ability to learn or participate in extracurricular activities will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to verbal or physical intimidation, any manner of threats, ethnic jokes, slurs, cursing, name calling, vulgar remark, unwanted touching, graphic commentaries on a person's body, anything that is sexually suggestive, intimidating or degrading. If a student feels threatened or humiliated, he/she has probably been the victim of harassment and should contact the principal, the guidance counselor, the superintendent, or any staff member with whom the student feels comfortable. Even if a student is not sure that the problem(s) he/she has been experiencing is harassment, it is a good idea to contact someone on staff who can aid in making a judgment and eliminating the problem. It has been the procedure of the Fall Creek School System to handle harassment problems in a low-key and subtle fashion, protecting those who have been harassed from embarrassment and further negative experiences and providing an opportunity for harassers to make amends for past

infractions and make positive changes in future behavior. When an opportunity for change has been given and any form of harassment continues, a formal harassment complaint will be filed. Filing a harassment complaint will not reflect upon the individual's neither status, nor will it affect future employment, grades or work assignments. It can only help to make our school more comfortable for all who learn and work here. Generally speaking, harassment doesn't just go away, it has to be stopped. Those who take steps to stop it, not only improve the learning environment for others, they become stronger individuals themselves.

USE OR SALE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS

The School District of Fall Creek will not tolerate any use or sale of illegal drugs. The drug free zone will encompass all school buildings, school property, and extend 1,000 feet from the school property line. The School District of Fall Creek will practice "zero tolerance". A student using or selling illegal drugs will be referred to the police department for prosecution. A student using or selling drugs will also be referred to the Fall Creek School Board for expulsion purposes.

USE OF ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO

No student enrolled in the Fall Creek School District will be permitted to use alcohol or tobacco products on school grounds, school sponsored trips, or in school buildings. Any student violating this rule will be referred to proper authorities for legal prosecution. School authorities with one to three days of school suspension would also discipline the student.

OBSERVATION AND GROUP-BASED INTERVENTIONS

The Fall Creek School District has implemented a service delivery framework known as Response to Intervention (RtI). Response to Intervention is the educational practice in which high quality instruction is delivered to all students based on their individual needs, and using the related data to drive educational decisions. It is a prevention and intervention based framework for all students that applies to academic subjects as well as to behavior supports. These education "best practices" are nationally accepted standards of service delivery and evidence based, resulting in more efficient and effective education services being delivered to all students.

To assist in determining the appropriate instruction and interventions for all students within our framework, multiple forms of screeners/assessments are used in making this determination. Examples include academic and social emotional/behavioral screeners, curriculum based assessments and state assessments.

In addition, educational support specialists may, from time to time, conduct observations within the classroom setting. These people may include resource teachers, school psychologists, counselors, speech and language clinicians, occupational therapists or physical therapists. These observations are intended to generate intervention ideas for instructional staff to utilize as a part of RtI. These observations by themselves will not result in any curriculum changes for your child.

On other occasions, these professionals may team up with other staff members or may by themselves engage in group-based interventions based on data identified needs. If it is believed that your child would benefit from a group-based intervention, you would be notified prior to the group intervention beginning and given the chance to ask any questions you may have or to opt your child out at that time.

STUDENT RETENTION

BOARD POLICY Grade Advancement

I. LOCAL REQUIREMENTS IN RESPONSE TO WISCONSIN SECTION 118.33:

Effective September 2002, in order to advance from Grade 4 to 5 or from Grade 8 to 9 students in Fall Creek School District shall meet the requirements included in section 118.33 of the state statutes, as revised by 1999 Wisconsin Act 9.

In addition to meeting any local requirements outlined above, in order to advance a student shall demonstrate proficiency by earning at least eight points from these categories:

- A. Forward Examination,
- B. Academic Performance, and
- C. Other Academic Criteria.

These are not to be construed as sequential in nature, but carrying equal weight.

A. FORWARD EXAMINATION

A student may earn one point for each tested area in which his/her performance is at or above basic.

B. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

A student may earn one point for a passing grade in each of the following subjects: mathematics, science, social studies, and English/language arts.

C. OTHER ACADEMIC CRITERIA

1. A student may receive one point by documented demonstration of proficiency (through a district-approved project, portfolio, or other performance) in any area of the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards. Documentation will include the teacher's signature indicating the student has provided evidence of proficiency in meeting the Standards.

2. A student may earn 1 to 4 points by the satisfactory completion of a district-approved Standards-based intervention program.

3. A student may earn 1 to 4 points by the satisfactory completion of a district-approved Standards-based IEP.

D. REVIEW PROCESS

For a student who does not demonstrate proficient performance through earning at least 6 points as outlined above, decisions concerning grade advancement will be made through committee review. A committee consisting of, at minimum, teachers, including a teacher currently working closely with the student; a principal; and a parent or guardian will make a recommendation based on, but not limited to, the following considerations:

- overall academic performance
- performance on other tests
- any previous retentions
- performance in subject areas beyond mathematics, science, social studies, and English/language arts
- reports from outside agencies
- other developmental criteria, such as those in Light's Retention Scale

Considering the committee's recommendation, the principal will make a decision on advancement. This decision shall be final.

II. LOCAL REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADE ADVANCEMENT:

A. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

A student may earn one point for a passing grade (D or above) or attaining the basic level based on benchmarks set at the local level in each of the following subjects: mathematics, science, social studies, English/language arts.

B. OTHER ACADEMIC CRITERIA

1. A student may receive one point by documented demonstration of proficiency (through a district-approved project, portfolio, or other performance) in any area of the Wisconsin Model Academic Standards. Documentation will include the teacher's signature indicating the student has provided evidence of proficiency in meeting the Standards.

2. A student may earn 1 to 4 points by the satisfactory completion of a district-approved Standards-based intervention program.

3. A student may earn 1 to 4 points by the satisfactory completion of a district-approved Standards-based IEP/504 accommodation plan.

C. REVIEW PROCESS

For a student who does not demonstrate proficient performance through earning at least 6 points as outlined above, decisions concerning grade advancement will be made through committee review. A committee consisting of, at minimum, teachers, including a teacher currently working closely with the student; a principal; and a parent or guardian will make a recommendation based on, but not limited to, the following considerations:

- overall academic performance

- performance on other tests
 - any previous retentions
 - performance in subject areas beyond mathematics, science, social studies, and English/language arts
 - reports from outside agencies
 - other developmental criteria, such as those in Light's Retention Scale
- Considering the committee's recommendation, the principal will make a decision on advancement. This decision shall be final.

III. PROCEDURES

Accommodations to these requirements may be made for students with exceptional educational interests, needs or requirements consistent with state law and established district policies and procedures.

The district administrator (or his/her designee) shall be responsible for the general supervision and management of the advancement of students under this policy.

The District Administrator (or his/her designee) shall develop, review and recommend policies so that the schools of the District can help prepare students to satisfy the criteria in this policy and to otherwise implement this policy.

The District Administrator (or his/her designee) shall develop practices and procedures to inform students and parents/guardians of the policy requirements and to inform students and parents/guardians of the academic progress of students.

POSSESSION OR USE OF WEAPONS

443.6

The Fall Creek School District prohibits the use of weapons on school grounds, in school vehicles, or at school-related activities. A dangerous weapon or look-alike weapon is defined in state statute and may include any object which, by the manner in which it is used or intended to be used, is capable of inflicting bodily harm or could pretend to be capable of inflicting bodily harm or endangering the health and safety of students or staff. Ammunition and explosives are included within the weapons category.

A minor who violates this law is subject to the provisions outlined in Chapter 48 of the Wisconsin State Statutes. Weapon(s) or look-alike weapon(s) confiscated from a student shall be reported to the parents/guardians and to law enforcement authorities and disciplinary measures shall include immediate suspension and referral to the Board of Education for expulsion from school.

Policy exceptions include:

1. Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel.
2. Weapons properly registered and handled during the community use of school facilities.
3. Theatrical props used in appropriate settings.
4. Starter pistols used in appropriate sporting events.
5. Items pre-approved by the building principal as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision.

The Fall Creek School District shall not discriminate in the methods and practices used with students on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

This policy will be published annually in all district student and staff handbooks.

LEGAL REF.: Wis. Statutes Chapter 48

APPROVED: July 17, 1995

The Fall Creek School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or disability.

The Fall Creek School District's coordinator for IX (sex) and public nondiscrimination (multiple protected groups) is Brad Ceranski 336 E Hoover Ave Fall Creek, WI 54742. Phone 715-877-1001 email: bradceranski@fallcreek.k12.wi.us

The Fall Creek School District's coordinator for section, 504/Title II of the ADA (disability) is Kelly Speckien 336 E Hoover Ave Fall Creek, WI 54742. Phone 715-877-2123 ext. 276 email: kellyspeckien@fallcreek.k12.wi.