

September 14, 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are fortunate to work in a school with supportive parents and respectful students. Research shows that a positive and safe school climate has a direct relationship to academic achievement. As educators, we want to partner with parents to mold and nurture Creek Valley kids. With your child, please review and sign the Creek Valley behavior plan. Thank you for your help on this important journey that we share.

Creek Valley Elementary School Policy and Behavior Agreement
<http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/creekvalley/>

Mission

The mission of Creek Valley Elementary School is to educate each person in a safe environment with shared, active and meaningful learning through careful planning and an emphasis on partnership and the practice and application of ethical values.

We believe that:

- Every learner has unique capabilities that should be encouraged, developed, and strengthened.
- We need to educate the whole child to prepare for lifelong learning in a global society.
- Successful learning best occurs in an environment filled with respect, caring and trust.
- A positive, supportive environment allows people and their ideas to be accepted and respected. Meaningful learning is facilitated through an integrated curriculum connected to the real world.
- Technology is a useful component of education and can be used to facilitate learning, assessing, reporting, and efficiency.
- Meaningful change is a planned process.
- The Creek Valley Community is committed to learning which values a variety of learning styles, cooperation, diversity, citizenship, and mutual respect.
- When parents and teachers actively partner to support students' development, students succeed

Each person at Creek Valley is trusted and expected to contribute to a safe and respectful school climate. It is our ideal approach to educate on behavior issues before they arise rather than manage afterwards. However, occasionally, in consideration of everyone's needs, a student may benefit from a more structured approach. For minor infractions, verbal reminders are usually effective. For repeat offenses and/or more serious situations, students will be asked to complete a 'Better Choice' written protocol. Questions include: 'My actions were disrespectful or unsafe because', 'I made this choice because', and 'I could have made a better choice by'. The intent is to help students think about their actions thus equipping them with strategies to better deal with conflicts in the future. Parent signatures are required on 'Better Choice' charts for communication purposes. Conferences will be scheduled if needed. When necessary, the Students Rights and Responsibilities handbook will be consulted for disciplinary purposes. This can be found on-line at:

<http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/parents/rightshandbook.pdf>

Please see the back of this sheet for additional information.

Please sign this portion, detach and return it to school no later than **Thursday, September 23, 2010**.

I/We have read and discussed the Creek Valley School Policy and Behavior Agreement and understand that it will be in effect for my/our child throughout the school day.

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Student's Signature

Date

Creek Valley School Rule

I will act in a safe and respectful way.

This rule is posted in every room and is referred to often. It is the umbrella under which more specific guidelines are established in each class.

STOP Sign

- *Say your feelings*
- *Tell what you want*
- *Own up to your part*
- *Peaceful partners*

Our social workers visit each classroom at the beginning of the year to teach the STOP sign. Students are encouraged to follow this protocol when encountering a conflict.

ICCCAR Values

- *Integrity*
- *Compassion*
- *Courage*
- *Commitment*
- *Appreciation of diversity*
- *Responsibility*

These values were adopted by the district and have been engrained in our culture and language. They are highlighted each month at our all school Pride Day assemblies.

Bobcats

A Bobcat, a CV reward certificate, acknowledges students' good choices that demonstrate our school rule and ICCCAR values. Bobcats are deposited into classroom Bobcat buckets. One Bobcat per class is randomly drawn and those students are recognized at Pride Day as representatives of good behavior.

General Guidelines for a Safe and Respectful Climate

- In order for teachers to maximize their instructional planning and collaboration time, students are not to arrive at school before 9:10 AM.
- For safety reasons, students not picked up 4:00 PM will be walked to the office.
- Harassment (as defined in School Board Policy) will not be tolerated.
- Toys, trinkets, and gadgets will be left at home. This includes skateboards, in-line skates and scooters, headsets, pocket video games, lasers, squirt guns, etc.
- Gum will be left at home.
- As a matter of respect, hats are generally not worn in the building; there are some authorized exceptions.
- Proper apparel for recess is required: tennis shoes; coats, snow pants, boots, hats, and gloves.
- For safety reasons, talking during fire drills or stay put drills will not be allowed.
- Give me five (voices off, ears listening, eyes on speaker, hands to self, sit on pockets) will be used to solicit students' attention during assemblies. Response should be nearly immediate.
- No vocal cheering during assemblies; clapping or silent cheers only.
- No running on the bus ramp.

Guidelines for Bus Behavior

Students must obey the driver, use an inside voice and remain seated while the bus is moving. Students must not: use/possess tobacco, alcohol, drugs, weapons, or laser pens; throw objects in side the bus or out the window, leave the bus through the emergency exit without authorization, eat or drink while on the bus, hang out the bus window, tease or harass others, spit, hit, or swear, vandalize the bus. (Bus incident reports will be issued if these guidelines aren't followed.) <http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/support/transportation/index.html>