

Brownsville Area School District



ELEMENTARY STUDENT HANDBOOK



Brownsville Area School District

Network & Internet Use Policy



Brownsville Area School District

NO student will be permitted to gain access to the Internet unless the Internet Policy Guide form is completed.

To Parent/Guardians:

At the September 16, 1999, Regular Board Meeting, the Brownsville Area School District Board of Directors approved a new Internet Policy-Number 815. This policy replaces the previous policy that was adopted on October 31, 1996.

Access to the Internet will be provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others about the educational topics related to class or approved by a teacher. Students will often exchange messages with other Internet users around the world and work independently to acquire information from thousands of resources such as libraries, databases, and bulletin boards.

Obviously, access to such a vast network of information has drawbacks. The Internet offers the same open access that exists in other information media. You should be aware that some materials accessible via the Internet might contain items considered offensive to some people. While our goal is to make the Internet available to support educational goals and objectives, the nature of the activities makes it impossible to guarantee that some resourceful student will not access inappropriate materials. A teacher will monitor students while they use the Internet to reduce the possibility of this happening, but student users must also exercise responsibility for their actions.

Before any student will be permitted to gain access to the Internet, two requirements must be met:

1. The student must have a Parent/Guardian agreement form, with proper signatures, on file with his/her building Principal. Before signing this form, the Parent/Guardian should review the district's policy on the subject. A copy is submitted herewith.
2. The student must agree, in writing, to abide by the district's policy in regard to access to and use of the Internet.

Network storage and usage will be treated like school lockers. Administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that students are using the student responsibility. Access to the Internet is a privilege, not a right. If it is determined that a student has been using the system for activities, which are considered to have no relevance to the district's educational program, the privilege will be withdrawn.

If you decide to permit your child to have access to the Internet, complete and sign the Parent/Guardian agreement form in the registration packet.



Brownsville Area School District

5 Falcon Drive
Brownsville, PA 15417
(724) 785-2021

The Mission of the Brownsville Area School District is to provide an educational experience in which all students will learn so that they will be prepared to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow in a global society.

The administration, professional and non-professional staff members, school directors, and related educational agencies are dedicated to providing our students many opportunities for student achievement and growth. Your cooperation and dedication are necessary for continued success.

The Discipline Code Policy of the Brownsville Area School District is offered to guide students and parents so that an organized school community can provide the understanding and atmosphere necessary for student achievement.

PARENT/GUARDIAN and STUDENT:

You will be required to sign a document to verify the receipt and reading review of the information contained within this policy. If you have any questions pertaining to any section of the Discipline Code, please contact your child's principal.



Brownsville Area
School District

Attendance Policy



Brownsville Area School District

Annual Public Awareness



Brownsville Area School District

Elementary Student Handbook



Brownsville Area School District Student Handbook

The Brownsville Area School District is an equal education institution, and as such, will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, parental status, and handicap in its employment and promotional practices or in admission, access, and treatment of its various programs or activities as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

School Hours

School hours are from 8:55 AM until 3:05 PM on Monday through Friday. Children SHOULD NOT arrive earlier than 8:35 AM or remain on the school grounds later than 3:15 PM unless they are participating in a supervised activity. SCHOOL DOORS WILL NOT OPEN UNTIL 8:35 AM EACH SCHOOL DAY. Supervision WILL NOT be provided for students who arrive before 8:35 AM or remain later than 3:15 PM. These procedures are designed for the safety and well-being of your children. Any student arriving after 8:55 AM will be marked as tardy.

Health Requirement

Immunizations: "No Shots, No School." All students entering for the first time are required to have proof of immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, mumps, measles, rubella, and chicken pox.

Procedures for Student Enrollment

Basic requirements for student enrollment:

1. Copy of birth certificate
2. Copy of social security card
3. Shot record
4. Copy of address of former school for transfer students
5. Proof of residency

A registration packet for a student enrolling will contain:

1. Student Demographic Information
2. Copy of Student Handbook
3. Student Discipline Code
4. Internet Use Policy
5. Lunch Application form
6. Emergency contact form
7. Public Awareness Notice
8. School Code 1304A/Suspension/Expulsion verification
9. Home Language Survey

A permanent record folder will be established and maintained on every student.

Change of Address

Any change of address or telephone number after the opening of the school year must be made known to the office so that the change can be made on the student's record.

POLICIES

Attendance

Regular attendance in the classroom is conducive to learning and frequent absences of students from regular classes disrupt the continuity of the instructional process.

Excused Absences

Excused absences will include the following:

1. Illness as certified by a written explanation signed by a parent/guardian or licensed practitioner.
2. Death in the family
3. Impassable roads when certified by the School District
4. Religious holidays as certified by a written explanation signed by the student's parent/guardian or clergy person.
5. Field trips, special programs, athletic and activity events pre-approved by the administration.
6. Professional healthcare when not practical to receive outside of school hours.
7. Special circumstances approved in advance by the administration not to exceed five (5) days.
8. Suspension both in school (ISS) and out of school (OSS).
9. Educational trips pre-approved by the administration, not to exceed five (5) days.

Upon returning to school following an absence, students are to present written, dated excuses from their parent/guardians to the homeroom teacher identifying the reasons for absence. Students' absences that are not accompanied by a written excuse from their parent/guardian will be considered either illegal or unexcused. After three (3) days of illegal absence, a first offense notice will be issued. All further days of illegal absences will result in an arrest notice being filed with the district magistrate.

Tardy

In order to establish a full day of attendance credit, a student must arrive before 8:55 AM. Students tardy four (4) times shall be charged with one-half (1/2) days of unexcused/illegal absence. Tardies shall aggregate accordingly.

Early Dismissal

Parents are asked not to request early dismissal from school except in cases of absolute necessity. Medical, dental, and all other appointments should be made after school hours, when possible. Leaving school or class after the beginning of the student day shall be for

excused reasons. Failure to provide documentation supporting an excused reason will result in an unexcused/illegal absence. Four (4) unexcused early dismissals will result in the student being charged with one-half (1/2) day of unexcused/illegal absence. Unexcused early dismissals shall aggregate accordingly.

Bus Regulations (See the Discipline Code)

Riding a school bus is a privilege. We are very concerned about safety and behavior on the buses. The school and bus driver must be alert to maintain a safe situation on the school buses.

Students will be expected to conduct themselves on buses in an orderly manner. Courtesy toward others and respect for the law and people are expected.

Warnings or suspension from riding the bus will be given to the student by the principal. Bus drivers will fill out bus conduct reports to the principal. If inappropriate behavior persists, the student could possibly lose the privilege of riding the school bus for an indefinite period of time. A loss of bus privilege does not excuse a student from attending school.

Discipline

To guarantee a good social and educational climate, it is important that students understand that acceptable standards of behavior will be expected at all times. Discipline will be administered when any individual's actions interfere with the right of the teacher to teach students to learn.

COURTESY AND GOOD MANNERS SHOULD BE THE KEY TO A STUDENT'S CONDUCT AT SCHOOL. The following are some examples of student behavior that violate school rules. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive:

1. Fighting
2. Disrespectful or disruptive behaviors
3. Use of obscene abusive language
4. Threatening, intimidating, or causing bodily harm
5. Possession or use of tobacco, drugs, or alcohol
6. Possession of knives or other dangerous articles
7. Rowdy behavior: running, pushing, yelling, hooting, whistling
8. Leaving the classroom or school without permission
9. Vandalizing, damaging, or stealing school or private property
10. Cheating or lying
11. Tardiness or truancy
12. Acting in any manner which impedes the learning climate of our school

The Brownsville Area School District Discipline Code is in effect. New students will be given a copy upon registration. Copies are also available in the office.

Weapons (ACT 26 of 1995 – Pennsylvania State Schools)

Weapons and replicas (look-alikes) of weapons are forbidden on school property. School property means the school, school grounds, school buses, or any premises, grounds, or vehicle used for official school purposes. Disciplinary and legal action will be taken against any student who violates the policy and/or any student who assists another student in violating the policy in any way.

Electronic Devices

Radios or any other type of electronic devices are not permitted on school property. Such devices will be confiscated and kept until a parent conference is held. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken. Toys and electronic games are to stay at home.

Dress Code (Refer to DRESS CODE POLICY)

We take pride in the appearance of our students. Dress reflects the quality of the school, of conduct and of school work. Any pattern of dress that is distracting or disruptive to the education process or dangerous to the health and safety of the student will not be permitted. All head covering shall be removed upon entering any school building. Footwear must be worn at all times. Any garment that overly exposes the body is not permitted. Any article of clothing or jewelry, or other item with indecent, suggestive, offensive, or obscene language, pictures or symbols is not permitted.

Cafeteria Regulations

Students must

- Deposit all litter in wastebaskets.
- Return all trays and utensils to the dishwashing area.
- Leave the table and floor area around their eating place in a clean condition.

No food or drinks may be taken from the cafeteria. No soda is permitted in the cafeteria; however, you may purchase juice. If your financial status has changed since the beginning of the school year, you may be eligible for free lunch or reduced lunch status. Notify the school for the appropriate forms.

The prices for breakfast and lunch are as follows:

Breakfast – Full Price: \$1.25
Reduced Price: \$0.30

Lunch – Full Price: \$1.80
Reduced Price: \$0.40

Medication

All medication must be reported to and handed in to the office for distribution. No teacher will dispense medication. All medication will be kept in a locked container or drawer to ensure safety. The required form can be obtained in the school's Main Office.

Homework

The student, teacher, and parents must all understand their responsibilities in relation to homework assignment. Co-operation and communication between the home and the school is essential. The degree of success of home study assignments will reflect the degree to which this understanding and co-operation has been established. Refer to the Brownsville Area School District Homework Policy for additional details. It is available in the school's Main Office.

Grading Policies

All grading for this year will be done on a nine-week basis. Progress reports will be available to all parents halfway through the nine weeks period; if a parent does not have computer access, then progress reports will be sent home *via your child*. Brownsville Area School District encourages frequent communication with parents concerning the student's academic progress, as well as, behavior in the classroom. If the parent desires a conference with a teacher, an appointment must be made through the school due to scheduling restrictions. Arriving at the school without an appointment will not ensure a meeting with the teacher. Teachers can be contacted by e-mail. All teachers have an email address through @basd.org. A list of addresses can be found through the Brownsville Area School District's Homepage – www.basd.org.

Grading Scale

The Brownsville Area School District uses an alphabetical and percentage system of grading in grades 1 – 12. The method is weighted in the following manner:

A	=	100% – 93%
B	=	92% – 83%
C	=	82% – 73%
D	=	72% – 65%
F	=	64% & below

A 55% with a circle indicates the lowest possible F grade permitted to be given on the report card, however, that percentage grade does not indicate the actual percentage grade earned by the student.

Any student whose work is below basic or failure will be provided with a program for improvement.

Academic Standards

Brownsville Area School District is trying to fundamentally improve public education in our schools. At the heart of those improvements are rigorous academic standards for our students and our schools.

Measurable standards that outline what students should know and be able to do by the end of each grade level have been addressed and benchmarks have been determined. Parents and teachers will have a clear picture of how well their children understand what they learn in school.

Assessment

The Brownsville Area School District, through its strategic plan, has a three-prong system of assessment. State, District, and Classroom assessments have been incorporated to appraise the students' progress on the Standards. Classroom assessment strategies are part of the student's daily learning. DIBELS Assessments will be given to students in Grades K, 1, 2. PSSA Reading, Mathematics, and Writing Assessments will be given to students in grades 3 – 8. PSSA Science Assessments will be given to students in grades 4, 7, and 11. Beginning in 2012–13, Keystone Exams will be given to high school students in the following areas: Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.

Valuables

Students are not to bring large amounts of money or valuable merchandise such as: cameras, electronic devices, leather jackets, etc. to school. If a student wears glasses or jewelry, he/she is to keep track of them at all times. Students, not the school, are responsible for their personal property.

School Security

PLEASE NOTE:

Security cameras monitor the entrances and other areas of the elementary schools. School officials review the videotapes that are recorded by the cameras. These tapes will be used in legal proceedings when deemed necessary.

In order to provide a safe environment for our students, all doors, except for the main door in the front of each building will be locked.

All visitors must report immediately to the office before going to any place in the buildings. Any person wishing to visit the schools must make arrangements in advance with the principal (Main Office). Any visitor, having received authorization to be present for the purpose of conducting business, must register at the office and receive a pass issued at the office.

Students are requested not to invite friends from other schools, small children, or former students to visit the school, sine permission will be denied.

No visitor may confer with a student in school without the approval of the office of the principal.

School Property

All materials provided by the Brownsville Area School District shall be treated with respect. Any student who destroys or defaces school property must make restitution and will be subject to action as outlined in the Brownsville Area Discipline Code.

Homebound Instruction

Homebound instruction is available to any eligible student who complies with the following requirements:

1. A request for homebound instruction form must be obtained from the office, signed and dated by the attending physician and returned to the student's school principal immediately.
2. A licensed doctor must specify the student's illness or injury, thus indicating a need for homebound instruction.
3. The doctor must also state the length of time the student will remain out of school.
4. Upon approval, the school district will assign the homebound instructor to begin instruction at the home of the student. The parent/guardian will be notified and arrangements will be made for the instruction times.

Additional Services Provided by the Brownsville Area School District

Health Services

Any student becoming ill during the school day may request help from the nurse. The nurse will decide if the parent/guardians should be notified. If the nurse is not in, students should report to the office and the office secretary will telephone the parent/guardian. All first aid is administered in the health suite. The nurse will only dispense doctor-ordered medicines. If the student is involved in an accident, the attending teacher must report and student involved in an accident on the provided accident form. All accident forms must be completed as soon as possible after the accident. The forms are available in the Main Office.

Field Trips

Students participating in officially sponsored field trips must complete a parental permission slip and return it to their teacher prior to the day of the field trip. Students' behavior on a field trip must meet the same standards as in the classroom; also school rules will be in effect on field trips. Instructional time will be given first priority and all field trips must be integrated into the curriculum. Parents are not permitted to follow the buses on school-sponsored field trips.

Counseling Service

Guidance services are available to every student in the school. These services include assistance with understanding test scores, study help, help with home and/or social concerns, or any questions the student may feel he/she would like to discuss with the counselor. Teachers and parents may also request the services of the counselor for their student or child. Forms are available from the counselor.

Fire Drills

Fire drills at regular intervals are required by law and are an important safety precaution. It is essential that when the first signal is given, everyone obeys orders promptly and clears the building by the prescribed route as quickly as possible. All electrical equipment and lights will be shut off, as well as all windows will be closed. Teachers will escort their students to the appropriate areas. Once outside, the teachers will be sure that all students are accounted for. The fire drill is for the safety and protection of all to learn what to do and do it well. In the event of an actual emergency where students would have to be removed from the premises, the student body will move to the designated area and be loaded into buses to take them to a safe area. No student will be excused to anyone.

School Delays/Closings

In the event of severe weather or mechanical breakdown, school may be closed or the starting time may be delayed. School closing or delayed starting time will be announced on radio stations WMBS (590AM), KDKA (1020AM), WTAE (1250AM), and 96.1FM beginning at 6:00 AM. Delays and cancellations will also be announced on television stations KDKA, WTAE, and WPXI; and this information will be listed on the Brownsville Area School District's homepage (www.basd.org). If no report is heard, it can be assumed that school will be in session; please do not call the school.

Fund Raising

There will be no solicitation in the school. The selling of any merchandise for the purpose of fund raising is strictly prohibited. Tickets or articles of any kind, other than those associated with school sponsored and approved activities, are not to be sold on school property by students or outside organizations during school hours.

Computer Network Acceptable Use

Students and parents must sign the Brownsville Area School District Internet Use Policy. The use of the network is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges. The principal will deem what is inappropriate use and make recommendations to the superintendent. The faculty and staff may request the principal to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user access.

Special Education

In order to obtain any information regarding Special Education Services provided to Brownsville Area School District in the areas below, contact the school's principal or guidance counselor.

- ☐ Program offerings and locations
- ☐ Guarantees for confidentiality of information
- ☐ Rights of parents and students
- ☐ Storage of records

The IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1997) is an attempt to remedy problems that contribute to the barriers that children with disabilities face. IDEA will make these changes by:

1. Raising expectations for children with disabilities.
2. Increasing parental involvement in the education of their children.
3. Ensuring that regular education teachers are involved in planning and assessing children's progress.
4. Including children with disabilities in assessment, performance goals, and reports to the public.
5. Supporting quality professional development for all personnel who are involved in educating children with disabilities.

Distribution or Posting of Literature

Students may distribute literature to fellow students, or post literature or announcements, provided the material would not interfere with the orderly operation of the school or community, does not encourage unlawful activity or interfere with another person's rights and does not violate the School District's Policy.

Procedures for distribution or posting are:

1. The principal must pre-approve materials at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to distribution or posting.
2. Materials may be only distributed on school grounds or school transportation vehicles before or after school or during the lunch period.

Non-School District Sponsored Educational Trip

Chapter II, Pupil Attendance (22 PA Code 11.26 Non-School District sponsored educational tours and trips) states that

"(a) A school district may excuse a pupil from school attendance in order to participate in a non-school district sponsored educational tour or trip if the following conditions are met:

1. The pupil's parents or guardians, prior to the trip, submit to the school written request for excusal.
2. The pupil's participation on the trip or tour has been approved by the district superintendent or designee.
3. There is an adult who is directing and supervising the pupil during the trip or tour who is acceptable to both the parent/guardian and the district superintendent.

Non-School District Sponsored Educational Trip (continued)

(b) A school district may limit the number and duration of trips or tours for which excused absences may be granted pupils during the school term.”

Upon the child’s return to school, a written report stating the educational value of the trip must be submitted to the principal.

In accord with the Brownsville Area School District’s Attendance Policy, approved by the Board of School Directors on January 18, 2001, educational trips pre-approved by the administration are not to exceed five (5) days.



Brownsville Area School District

DISCLAIMER

The Brownsville Area School District guarantees that no person shall, on the basis of sex, race, color, or creed, be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity conducted in this school district. The School District prohibits discrimination in the admission and recruitment of students, in the treatment of students in educational programs and activities, and in the employment practices of this educational agency.

Contact the following with complaints or concerns regarding discrimination or harassment:

Office of the Superintendent
Philip J. Savini, Jr., Ph.D.
Brownsville Area School District
5 Falcon Drive
Brownsville, PA 15417
(724) 785-2021

Date Adopted: January 21, 1982

Revised: July 7, 1983
August 29, 1985
April 15, 1992 (A-Item E, Level IV Possession – dangerous weapons)
August 19, 1992
August 17, 2000



Brownsville Area
School District

Student Discipline Policy



Brownsville Area School District

Kindergarten Handbook



Brownsville Area School District Kindergarten Handbook

ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN

Robert Fulghum

“Most of what I really need to know about how to live and
what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten...These are
the things I learned:

Share everything.

Play fair.

Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them.

Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say you're sorry when you hurt someone.

Wash your hands before you eat.

FLUSH.

Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.

Live a balanced life—learn some and think some and draw and
paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap every afternoon.

When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold
hands, and stick together.

Be aware of wonder.”

Student Discipline Policy

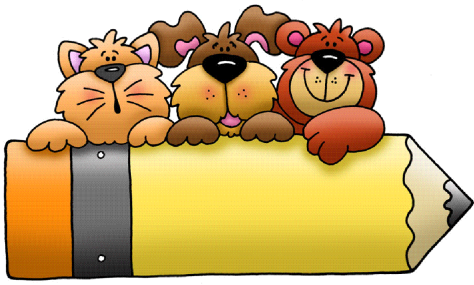


Philip J. Savini, Jr. Ph.D., Superintendent

Student Bullying Policy



Philip J. Savini, Jr. Ph.D., Superintendent



ADMISSION TO SCHOOL

The child must be five (5) years of age on or before September 1 of the present school year to enter kindergarten.

IMMUNIZATION

The Pennsylvania Department of Health requires the following immunizations by all new enrollees prior to entry into school:

- Four (4) doses of DT-Diphtheria AND Tetanus with one dose administered on or after the fourth birthday;
- Three (3) doses of the Polio vaccine;
- Three (3) doses of Hepatitis B vaccine;
- Two (2) doses of the measles AND mumps vaccines;
- One (1) dose of the rubella (German measles) vaccine;
- Two (2) doses of varicella (chicken pox) vaccine or written verification of chicken pox disease.

SCHOOL DAY

The kindergarten school day is a full six hour day.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Bus transportation to and from school is available to all kindergarten students. Bussing is often a concern to kindergarten parents. Please be aware that if there is no one at your child's bus stop when the bus arrives to bring your child home, the bus driver will return him or her to school.

If your child is going to be picked up from school or will be riding a different bus home, you must notify us **IN WRITING** of this situation. Without your **WRITTEN NOTIFICATION**, we **CANNOT** allow your child to ride a different bus or wait at school. Also, any time you pick your child up at school, you must sign the appropriate dismissal form.

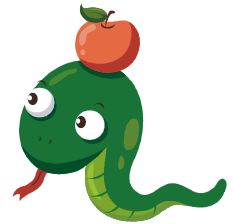
We recommend that your child uses the bus transportation available to him or her. This helps foster independence, a very important skill that is developed in kindergarten.





SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS

As stated in the Brownsville Area Elementary Handbook, school delays and cancellations will be announced on the WPXI, WTAE, and KDKA television stations as well as on radio stations WMBS, KDKA, and FROGGY. This information will also be listed on the Brownsville Area School District's Homepage—www.basd.org.



BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM

Kindergarten students may participate in the breakfast and lunch programs at school. You must complete a lunch application form if you wish to be considered for free or reduced breakfast/lunch. If you do send money for lunch with your child, please place it in a sealed envelope with your child's name. All money is sent directly to the cafeteria. Students may also bring a lunch from home. Milk is available for \$.50.

The price for breakfast is \$1.25; reduced breakfast price is \$.30. The price for lunch is \$1.80; reduced lunch price is \$.40. All students will be given a 5 digit PIN that the student will be required to enter when eating breakfast or lunch daily. Please review and practice this number with your child.



FOLDERS

Kindergarten students will receive a folder when the school year starts. This folder will be sent home every day. One side of the folder will be labeled "KEEP AT HOME". Any papers placed in this side of the folder should be kept at home. When your child has papers in this side, ask him or her to share those papers with you. As the year progresses, this side of the folder will contain study sheets and home activities that will be used to reinforce academic lessons.

The other side of the folder will be labeled "RETURN TO SCHOOL". Here you will find the papers that require your attention and must be returned to school. Please check your child's folder everyday, and have him or her bring the folder to school each day. You can also include any correspondence for the teacher in your child's folder. The use of this folder is a very effective home-school communication tool and helps to develop responsibility for the kindergarten student.



KINDERGARTEN REPORT CARD

Your child will receive a report card at the end of each nine week grading period. Academic areas as well as social and emotional behaviors will be assessed. The areas of social growth, work habits, and basic skills will be marked on the report card with “S”—(Satisfactory); “N”—(Needs Improvement); or “U”—(Unsatisfactory) and are assessed by teacher observation.

The academic areas of Language Arts and Mathematics will have their assessments done by using a percentage grading scale. The percentage grade, as well as the corresponding “S”, “N”, or “U”, will appear on the report card. Following the district’s grading policy, a 55% circled in red will indicate that the actual percentage was lower than 55%.

The kindergarten grading scale is listed below:

S Satisfactory	100% – 73%
N Needs Improvement	72% – 65%
U Unsatisfactory	64% – below



ATTENDANCE

Good attendance is vital for success in school. Please stress the importance of this to your child. When your child is absent from school, please send an excuse when he or she returns. Excuses from the parent/guardian or licensed physician **MUST** be received so that the absence will be “EXCUSED”. Absences that do not have an excuse from a parent or guardian are marked as “UNLAWFUL/UNEXCUSED”.

More specific information concerning the attendance policy can be found in the policy guide book you received.



ITINERANT CLASSES

Kindergarten students will have classes in music as well as health and physical education. They will also have the opportunity to use the school library.



KINDERGARTEN DRESS CODE



The kindergarten students in the Brownsville Area School District must follow the mandates in the district dress code. In addition, tennis or athletic shoes are required for Physical Education days; and girls may not wear skirts or dresses on these days. For your child's safety, backless shoes, flip-flops, etc. may not be worn by kindergarten students.

TEXTBOOKS

Our kindergarten classes use the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt reading series and the Harcourt math series as part of our kindergarten curriculum. The math series are geared to the Pennsylvania State Standards for Education., and the language arts textbook is geared towards the Pennsylvania Common Core.



STUDENT PROPERTY/MONEY

Please write your child's name in his or her coat, backpack, etc. In the event that you are sending money to school with your kindergarten student, please place the money in a SEALED envelope with your child's name, the amount of money enclosed, and the reason for the money. Kindergarten students, in the event of an accident, should bring two changes of clothes that will be kept in the classroom.

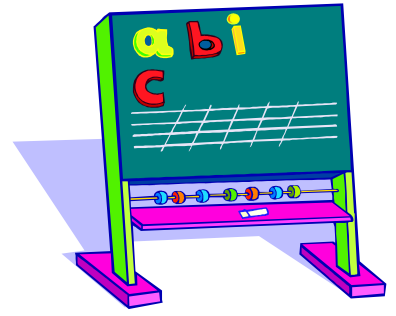


YOU!

You are the most important influence on your child! Encourage your child to discuss his or her day with you. Be aware of what is happening in your child's classroom. Praise all accomplishments, and review and reinforce the skills that we are learning in school at home. Be positive about school and your child's new-found abilities. Working together, we can provide the very best kindergarten experience for our students!

KINDERGARTEN KIDS...

Curriculum Overview



The following pages contain many of the things that children in the Brownsville Area School District will learn at the kindergarten level. They do not list everything that the students are taught, nor all the opportunities for learning that are made available to students. Each subject area indicates some of the skills that most of the students will master during the course of the kindergarten year. All children learn at different rates; some will learn these skills earlier; others, later.

Although the skills and concepts are listed in separate subject areas, they may be taught in coordination with one another. Children will be taught to recognize the relationship between and among various subject areas.

In addition to the skills and concepts taught at this kindergarten level, all elementary students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of enrichment activities throughout the school year. These may include assemblies, performances of the arts, guest speakers, and holiday activities.

The curriculum is reviewed and revised on a regular basis by the district curriculum committee.



BROWNSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

GENERAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

By the end of the school year, the kindergarten student should be able to

- Orally communicate in the school setting
- Participate in meaningful conversation using age appropriate grammar
- Contribute relevant ideas
- Speak in complete sentences
- Respond orally to stories
- Retell stories and poems
- Share information
- Contribute to group experience stories
- Listen attentively
- Focus and maintain attention
- Follow classroom and school rules

MATHEMATICS

By the end of the school year, the kindergarten student should be able to

- Read and write numbers to 20
- Orally count 0 – 100
- Sequence numbers
- Match quantity to numeral (1–20)
- Use comparative words
- Demonstrate awareness of addition and subtraction
- Estimate size and number
- Solve simple word problems
- Graph information
- Demonstrate basic understanding of measurement
- Identify and draw the basic shapes
- Compare and contrast objects
- Identify common two and three dimensional geometric shapes

LANGUAGE ARTS

By the end of the school year, the kindergarten student should be able to

- Follow oral directions
- Identify elements of a story
- Sequence events
- Draw conclusions
- Make inferences
- Predict outcomes
- Identify the uppercase letters on the alphabet
- Identify the lowercase letters of the alphabet
- Follow a line of print from left to right
- Follow a page of print from top to bottom
- Demonstrate proper book handling skills
- Distinguish between letters and words
- Identify and produce beginning, medial, and ending consonant sounds
- Identify and produce short and long vowel sounds
- Recognize high frequency sight words
- Decode simple words
- Read simple sentences
- Read short books
- Print first and last name correctly
- Print letters of the alphabet
- Spell simple words
- Demonstrate awareness of sentences and words
- Discriminate words and sounds
- Segment phonemes to form words
- Blend sounds to make words
- Acquire a vocabulary consisting of common words
- Distinguish between fact and opinion
- Recite rhymes, songs, and familiar text

SOCIAL STUDIES

By the end of the school year, the kindergarten student should be able to

- Identify the purposes and rules and laws
- Identify rights and responsibilities at school
- Identify and have a basic understanding of community helpers
- Identify important individuals who contributed to United States history

SOCIAL STUDIES (cont;d)

- Recognize national patriotic symbols and have a basic understanding of their significance
- Understand the significance of national holidays

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

By the end of the school year, the kindergarten student should be able to

- Use the five senses as tools to observe, collect information, classify and describe
- Identify similarities and differences in living things
- Describe the basic needs of plants and animals
- Recognize characteristics of different types of animals including pets, farm animals, and land and water animals
- Identify the basic parts of plants
- Understand basic concepts of weather, climate, and the four seasons
- Identify examples of technology and the impact of these technologies on daily life

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

By the end of the school year, the kindergarten student should be able to

- Identify and locate basic body parts and body organs
- Develop a basic understanding of the importance of proper nutrition and exercise
- Know and use personal health practices
- Know and demonstrate the importance of rules to ensure safety
- Recognize an emergency situation
- Report an emergency situation

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

By the end of the school year, the kindergarten student should be able to

- Demonstrate a basis of melody and lyrics in music
- Perform music and role play
- Use the elements of line, shape, texture and color
- Create original arts projects using a variety of techniques and material



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Now that your child is entering school for the first time, we have become partners in the important work of educating him or her. It is the willing, cooperative, and understanding parent whose child will develop his or her potential to the fullest extent.

Kindergarten is often considered to be only a social experience. This is, however, a great misconception. The kindergarten program in the Brownsville Area School District strives to develop the academic, emotional, and physical aspects of your child as well as his or her social well being. Kindergarten is the foundation for all future learning.

The purpose of this kindergarten handbook is to give you a greater understanding and appreciation of our kindergarten program and its importance to your child. Used in conjunction with the Brownsville Elementary Handbook, it will provide valuable information to you and your child. We have a very important common interest—your child. And, we want his or her kindergarten experience to be the best!

We welcome you and your child to the Brownsville Area School District!

