Dear Falk Families,

Welcome to the 2011-12 school year. It will be an important one for you and your child. We are proud of our educational history and look forward to providing another year of successful learning experiences for our students. This handbook is provided to you to promote a common understanding of expectations and opportunities. Please read the information thoroughly and save it for future reference.

On behalf of the staff at Falk, we invite you to be an active participant in your child’s education. You can keep in touch with your child’s teachers by participating in conferences and emailing or calling us at school, when you have a question. You are encouraged to join us for special events. Please consider becoming connected with our parent organization (PTO) in its efforts to support Falk School or join us for our Open Schoolhouse program held on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the LMC, gymnasium, and computer lab. We ask you to support your child’s learning daily by reading together, talking about school activities and homework, encouraging your child to do her/his best, praising your child’s successes, and getting your child to school on time – every day. Your support at home is critical to your child’s education.

We extend a special welcome to Falk’s first 4K classrooms this year and look forward to getting to know these young learners.

Your interest and support are greatly appreciated, as we provide your child with a high quality learning experience in a safe, respectful, friendly, and diverse school environment.

Sincerely,

Lynn Winn, Principal

Other Important School Numbers and Contact Information:

Falk School Main Office: 204-2180
Safe Arrival: 204-2201
Fax Number: 204-0479
School Nurse: 204-2182
School Social Worker: 204-2203
School Psychologist: 204-2199

School Mission and Overview

MISSION STATEMENT

In order for all students to make their greatest contribution to humankind, the mission of Falk School is to help students to develop their maximum potential as independent learners by providing opportunities which challenge, nurture and promote an understanding of diversity.

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Falk Elementary School serves children from kindergarten through grade five. Built in 1963, it is named in honor of Philip H. Falk, Madison Superintendent of Schools from 1939 to 1963. The third addition to Falk School was completed in 1996. The addition, provided to accommodate increased enrollment, included eight new classrooms, a much larger library media center, and a new double gym.

Falk School is supported by an active parent organization (PTO). Cultural and social events, money for special projects, and a forum for discussion about educational issues are among its many valuable contributions.

Our school has a long-standing tradition of providing an effective educational experience for Falk students. The key to our success will continue to be the cooperative spirit that exists among students, staff and parents.

Falk Elementary School is projected to serve 400 students in 13 EC-5 instructional teams this year. Although all subjects are important, reading/language arts and mathematics receive greater emphasis, especially in the primary grades. Once children develop proficiency in these skills, greater emphasis is placed upon the “content” areas of social studies and science.

Children at Falk identify with an instructional team consisting of at least two regular education teachers and one specialized teacher. These teachers team-teach, so children will interact with a number of adults. Collaborating and teaming also occurs between classroom teachers, special education teachers, English Language Learner teachers (formerly ESL), Title I teachers, a building instructional resource teacher and a district talented and gifted resource teacher. This will allow all students to benefit from more teacher attention and diverse staff expertise. Kindergarten and 1st grade classes are provided as single grade classrooms. Our 2nd and 3rd graders will be together in eight multi-age 2/3 classrooms, and our 4th and 5th graders will be together in four 4/5 multiage classes. Teachers at each level plan and coordinate their programs together. The school district has developed grade level performance standards for all content areas. These standards are available from the office.
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- Spring Break – No School April 2nd through April 9th
- Good Friday
- Passover
- Yom HaSho’ah
- Ridvan Festival
- Declaration of the Bab
- Open Schoolhouse 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
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**Notes:**
- Spring Break – No School April 2nd through April 9th
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- **June 3**: FT- Excursion Day (5th graders)
- **June 10**: 4K Last Day of School
- **June 12**: Last day of school
  - Morning early release
  - Elem: 9:15
  - End 4th quarter & 2nd semester
- **June 24**: Summer School Begins
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Notes:
II. Introduction

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS, 2011-12

Maya Cole
1818 Keyes Ave (11)
(11) 259-0549 (H)
239-1484 (Other; mcole@madison.k12.wi.us)

James Howard,
President
2102 Brentwood Pkwy. (04)
(04) 244-5278 (H)
231-9376 (other; jhoward@madison.k12.wi.us)

Ed Hughes, Clerk
2226 Lakeland Ave (04)
(04) 241-4854 (H)
ej Hughes@madison.k12.wi.us

Lucy Mathiak
716 Orton Court (03)
(03) 255-0939
lmathiak@madison.k12.wi.us

Beth Moss, Treasurer
2 Highgate Circle (17)
(17) 833-3166
bmoss@madison.k12.wi.us

Marjorie Passman, Vice President
3118 Todd Drive (13)
(13) 271-0645 (H)
334-2043 (Other; mpassman@madison.k12.wi.us)

Arlene Silveira
5760 Barbara Drive (11)
(11) 270-0435 (H)
516-8981 (Other; asilveira@madison.k12.wi.us)

Filippo Bulgarelli
Student Representative

Menideth Paker, Alternate Student Representative

BOARD OF EDUCATION MISSION AND MMSD STRATEGIC PLAN

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to cultivate the potential in every student to thrive as a global citizen by inspiring a love of learning and civic engagement, by challenging and supporting every student to achieve academic excellence, and by embracing the full richness and diversity of our community

BELIEF STATEMENTS

1. We believe that excellent public education is necessary for ensuring a democratic society.
2. We believe in the abilities of every individual in our community and the value of their life experiences.
3. We believe in an inclusive community in which all have the right to contribute.
4. We believe we have a collective responsibility to create and sustain a safe environment that is respectful, engaging, vibrant and culturally responsive.
5. We believe that every individual can learn and will grow as a learner.
6. We believe in continuous improvement informed by critical evaluation and reflection.
7. We believe that resources are critical to education and we are responsible for their equitable and effective use.
8. We believe in culturally relevant education that provides the knowledge and skills to meet the global challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century.

PARAMETERS

1. The district’s highest priority is to create and sustain a learning environment that enables all students to maximize their potential.
2. All individuals are treated with dignity and respect.
3. Expectations are high and clear for all.
4. Community input is valued and actively sought.
5. Families, schools, businesses, organizations and communities work as partners.
6. Communication is timely and accessible.
7. Data informs decisions.
8. Decision-making processes are transparent.
9. The district’s culture is one of accountability for work, actions and results.
11. A culture of creativity and innovation is nurtured.
12. Leadership and collaboration are fostered at all levels.
13. Our practices are held to an environmentally ethical standard.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Student:
   We will ensure that all students reach their highest potential and we will eliminate achievement gaps where they exist. To do this, we will prepare every student for kindergarten, raise the bar for all students, create meaningful student-adult relationships, and provide student-centered programs and supports that lead to prepared graduates.

2. Curriculum:
   We will improve academic outcomes for all students and ensure student engagement and student support by strengthening comprehensive curriculum, instruction, and assessment systems in the District.

3. Staff:
   We will implement a formal system to support and inspire continuous development of effective teaching and leadership skills of all staff who serve to engage and support our diverse student body while furthering development of programs that target the recruitment and retention of staff members who reflect the cultural composition of our student body.

4. Resource/Capacity:
   We will rigorously evaluate programs, services and personnel through a collaborative, data-driven process to prioritize and allocate resources effectively and equitably, and vigorously pursue the resources necessary to achieve our mission.

5. Organization/Systems:
   We will promote, encourage, and maintain systems of practice that will create safe and productive learning and work environments and that will unify and strengthen our schools, programs, departments, and services as well as the district as a whole.
Welcome From Superintendent July, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2011-12 school year. This time of the year is an exciting time for families and for our school district. More than anything, we hope your child is looking forward to the new school year. Our commitment as a school district must be to ensure we do all we can to welcome your child back to school and to make the school year a successful one for him/her. Working with you, we know we can make this happen.

Our mission as a school district is “to cultivate the potential in every student to thrive as a global citizen by inspiring a love of learning and civic engagement, by challenging and supporting every student to achieve academic excellence, and by embracing the full richness and diversity of our community.”

This mission is grounded in a belief that all of our students have vast potential to achieve great things. For us to be successful as a school district, we must do all we can to ensure your child develops well both as a learner and as a citizen of our democracy.

As a staff, we are dedicated to working with you to ensure these outcomes happen for your child. We know, though, our work is incomplete without you as partners. When we work together, greater things can happen for your child. As this new school year begins, let us recommit to making this happen.

The following are things that we can both do to help your child do well in school:

• **Have high expectations for your child.** When we believe children can do well, they more often than not, will.

• **Support your child’s learning at home and at school.** Our responsibility is to provide a quality learning experience for your child. Don’t underestimate the great things you are doing to help your child. Talk about school. Show support for what your child is learning. Ask your child what s/he learned in school and find ways to build on these experiences. Also, offer to help in any way you can with school work.

• **Get to know each other.** When we know each other and have a relationship in support of your child, great things can happen. The more your child sees us working together, the better. Part of this involves contacting each other when there are concerns.

We hope you have had a great summer and we truly look forward to the start of the new school year. If you have questions about your child’s education, contact your child’s teacher. If more help is needed, your child’s principal is available to assist you.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve your child. Let’s have a great school year!

Sincerely,  Daniel A. Nerad, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
III. General Information

**ANIMALS AT SCHOOL**

The presence of animals in schools provides many opportunities for addressing academic standards and supporting the social/emotional growth of students. Animals are part of our natural environment and can be used effectively as teaching aids. The positive benefits of the human-animal bond are well established.

The purpose of this policy is to allow animals in the classroom while providing for the health and safety of school staff, students, and animals. Animals will be removed from the classroom and/or the school when this cannot be achieved.

**ANIMALS ON SCHOOL PREMISES POLICY SUMMARY**

School Board Policy 4615 adopted on August 7, 2006
(Refer to [www.mmsd.org](http://www.mmsd.org) for the entire Board Policy)

The purpose of the Animals on School Premises policy is to allow animals in the classroom while providing for the health and safety of school staff, students and animals. The policy identifies five (5) categories of animals and the procedures to be followed in order to bring animals on school premises. It specifies conditions under which animals must be removed from school premises.

**ATTENDANCE**

There is a powerful link between attendance and academic success in school. To give students the best opportunity to reach their potential both academically and socially, they must attend regularly. When students are tardy or absent, they miss out on valuable learning and social experiences that cannot be replaced.

Wisconsin requires that any person having control of a student enrolled in Kindergarten and up to age 18 is required to cause the child to attend school regularly until the end of the semester in which the child becomes 18 years of age.

Students are expected to attend school every day unless they are ill. A significant number of absences will require the school to initiate procedures outlined by Wisconsin State Statutes and school district policy regarding attendance. These procedures are outlined in this section.

The following attendance definitions and procedures apply to all Madison students, unless otherwise specified.

**Excused Absences**

The following absences can be excused as per Board of Education Policy:

A. Physically and/or emotionally unable to attend:
   A student may be legally excused from school if s/he is not physically or emotionally able to attend school. This includes:
   1. A pupil who is ill to the extent that he/she is not in proper physical or mental condition to attend school.
   2. Absences related to dentist, doctor, chiropractor, psychologist and other medical appointments that cannot be scheduled at any time other than school time.

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| Animals Used in Educational Presentations (single event) | 1. Identify instructional purpose or social/emotional objective  
2. Provide statement of animal health & temperament or verify that the animal is part of a presentation conducted by an experienced animal handler who engages in demonstrations in a school setting on a regular basis  
3. Obtain principal's signature of approval to proceed to next steps  
4. Notify parents of upcoming presentation (Parent consent not required; Appendix E given to parents upon enrollment)  
5. Provide modifications for students who have animal fears or allergies  
6. Obtain principal's final approval |
| Cold Blooded Animals NotHandled by Children (for 1 semester, renewable) | 1. Identify instructional purpose or social/emotional objective  
2. Provide statement of animal health & temperament or verify that animal is provided by a certified program or agency  
3. Obtain principal's signature of approval to proceed to next steps  
4. Notify parents of proposed presence of animal (Parent consent not required; Appendix E given to parents upon enrollment)  
5. Provide modifications for students who have animal fears or allergies  
6. Obtain principal's final approval |
| Classroom Animals (for 1 semester, renewable) | 1. Identify instructional purpose or social/emotional objective  
2. Provide statement of animal health & temperament or verify that animal is provided by a certified program or agency  
3. Obtain principal's signature of approval to proceed to next steps  
4. Send letter to parent and obtain parent consent (Appendix F)  
5. Provide modifications for students who have animal fears or allergies  
6. Obtain principal's final approval |
| Animals Excluded from School or Classroom Use | - Poisonous, venomous animals  
- Family pets unless all policy requirements are met |
| Animals Exempt from Compliance With Policy | - Trained & certified service animals supporting individuals with disabilities  
- Animals used in K-8 Science Curriculum  
- Invertebrates used in Grades 9-12 Science Curriculum |

(Absences related to a student's medical appointments should be arranged to fit the student's school schedule whenever possible).

(3) Serious illness or medical condition of a member of the immediate family, when the student is definitely needed at home.

(4) Bereavement due to death in the immediate family.

(5) Inclement weather (Parent(s)/guardian(s) may choose to keep their children home during extreme weather conditions, when a concern for safety is a factor).

(6) Religious instruction/religious holidays. When a student has more than 10 excused absences, a doctor/physician written excuse may be required.

B. Elected Officials:

The following reason for absence is also allowed under state statute:

(1) Serving as an elected official/pollster (the student must have
C. Pre-approved Planned Absences:

Pre-approved planned absences are absences in which any child shall be excused in writing for up to 10 days by his/her parent or guardian before the absence. A child excused pursuant to this provision shall complete any course work that was missed during the absence.

SAFE ARRIVAL

PARENTS: THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION COULD AFFECT THE SAFE ARRIVAL OF YOUR CHILD!

1. For your convenience, the Safe Arrival Phone Line is open 24 hours a day. As soon as you know your child will be absent/late, you may call us night or day.

2. Please call the Safe Arrival Phone Number, 204-2201, by 8:15 a.m. A recorded message will ask you to leave your name, your child’s name, the classroom teacher, and the date and reason for being absent/late.

3. Each day, for any child who is absent but for whom we have not received a phone call by 8:15 a.m., we will call you to make sure your child is safe.

4. Is your most current home/work phone number on file with us? We need this ASAP if there are any changes.

Thanks For Your Cooperation!

Absence Procedure

For each day a student is absent for reasons listed above, except C above, the following should occur:

1) The parent/guardian should call the school’s Attendance Line by 7:45 a.m. to explain the absence, or

2) If no contact is made on the day of the absence, upon returning to school, the student must bring a written excuse signed by the parent/guardian to the appropriate school secretary. The note must list the date(s) of the absence and explain the reasons. Excuses that are submitted late and do not contain exact dates, times and reasons for absence will not be honored and the absence(s) will be unexcused.

3) The principal will determine if the reason for the absence is excusable based on Board of Education Policy. The determination of whether an absence from school is excused or unexcused must be made on the day the student returns to school so that the school can notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) if the absence is unexcused.

4) The Principal is responsible for confirming and determining whether the reasons for absences are valid. To that end, the Principal and/or student services staff may ask the parent/guardian of a child to obtain a written statement from a licensed medical provider as sufficient proof of the child’s physical or emotional condition. Except as otherwise provided by law and/or Board Policy, if a parent/legal guardian fails to cooperate with a school’s request to provide specific information about an absence, and/or if the Principal believes the reason for the absence is not valid, the absence may be recorded as unexcused or changed from excused to unexcused. If a request of a parent is denied, the school should be advised by the Principal of the probable consequence.

Pre-Approved Planned Absences Procedure

For planned absences under C, parent(s)/guardian(s) should make every effort to plan vacations, trips, medical appointments, dental and orthodontist appointments, and campus visits, etc., outside of the school calendar or outside of the school day. To do otherwise has an adverse effect on the student’s opportunity to learn.

However, from time to time it is necessary for a student to be absent for reasons other than those listed above. Pre-approved planned absences should occur only for special circumstances and only after the student or parent has completed the procedure outlined below.

a. For all pre-approved planned absences, a Parent Request for a Planned Absence form must be completed and submitted to the student’s principal before the scheduled absence. This form can be obtained from the school office and requires the signatures of parent(s)/guardian(s), teacher(s) and the student’s principal.

b. The absence shall be included in the student’s permanent record.

c. Up to 10 days per school year is the maximum time period for which a parent/guardian can excuse a student from school attendance by excusing the student in writing before the absence.

d. Arrangements shall be made for the completion of schoolwork missed over the course of the absence(s).

Unexcused Absences

In accordance with Board Policy, a student’s absence will be recorded as unexcused when there is no good cause or recognized legal grounds for the absence as described above. In deciding whether to record an absence as excused or unexcused, the school principal is responsible for confirming and determining in some cases whether the reasons for absences are valid. To that end, the principal and/or student services staff may ask for documentation. Except as otherwise provided by law and/or Board Policy, if a parent/legal guardian fails to cooperate with a school’s request to provide specific information about an absence, and/or if the principal believes the reason for the absence is not valid, the absence may be recorded as unexcused or changed from excused to unexcused.

Habitual Truancy

When a student’s attendance meets the legal definition for habitual truancy, MMSD is required to initiate interventions that can include interviewing, conferencing, on-going monitoring of attendance, contracting and/or referral to Dane County Municipal or Juvenile Courts. These requirements are based on Wisconsin Statute 118.16 which defines an habitual truant as “a pupil who is absent without an acceptable excuse under sub. (4) and s. 118.15 for part or all of 5 or more days on which school is held during a school semester.”

In order to prevent students from becoming habitually truant, MMSD has developed a comprehensive attendance improvement approach. Students, and/or their parent(s)/guardian(s), are strongly encouraged to contact the student’s principal or a member of the school’s Student Services Team (Nurse, Social Worker, School Counselor, or Psychologist) as soon as attendance becomes a problem, and schedule a meeting to discuss the causes of the student’s attendance problems, and work together to find solutions that address these causes. When patterns of problematic attendance become evident, contact with the student and family can also be initiated by members of the school staff.

For those students that become identified as habitually truant, a number of interventions will be attempted including interviewing, reviewing attendance history and problem-solving. The parent/guardian and the student will be invited to attend a Habitual Truancy conference and a case coordinator will be assigned to further examine the obstacles to attendance for the student. The purpose of these interventions will be to identify the cause(s) of the attendance problems, develop an appropriate attendance improvement plan, and identify supports within the school and community that can assist the student and family.

All students who are classified as being habitually truant are in violation of Wisconsin law, and as such the student, and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s), may be required to appear in court. Depending upon the age of the student and circumstances related to the absences, the court may levy sanctions, and require that the parent/guardian cause the child to attend school. In addition, the court may require that the student receive counseling and/or perform community service.

Tardy

Students are expected to be on time for school at the start of the school day and for their classes throughout the school day. A student is considered tardy if they arrive at school up to 15 minutes after the designated start time.

In addition to missed learning opportunities for the tardy student, tardiness to class or to school causes disruption to the learning environment for all students. Patterns of severe tardiness call for intervention by the teacher, the principal, and/or the school’s student services staff.

Questions about your school’s absence procedures can be directed to your school administrator(s).

Last Revised June, 2011
General Information (continued)

CHILD CARE – BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL ON-SITE PROVIDERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Provider</th>
<th>School/s</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Services Provided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East YMCA</td>
<td>Elvehjem Elem.</td>
<td>Ali Johnson 711 Cottage Grove Rd. 221-1574 x3018</td>
<td>before and after school childcare</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gompers Elem.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Kennedy Elem.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSCR</td>
<td>Allied Learning Center*+</td>
<td>Jean Gascho 3802 Regent St. 204-3008</td>
<td>** Safe Haven childcare &amp; Community Learning Center (CLC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alis Elem.+</td>
<td></td>
<td>+ Safe Haven childcare only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emerson Elem.+</td>
<td></td>
<td>All programs - after school only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Falk Elem.**</td>
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<td>Hawthorne**</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nuestro Mundo +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Caboose</td>
<td>Lapham Elem.</td>
<td>Lisa Fiala 654 Williamson St. 251-5432</td>
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<td>Marquette Elem.</td>
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<tr>
<td>West YMCA</td>
<td>Huegel Elem.</td>
<td>Cora Kruzicki 5515 Medical Circle 276-6006 x4010</td>
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<td>Olson Elem.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Orchard Ridge Elem.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wisconsin Youth Company</td>
<td>Chavez Elem.</td>
<td>Marylou Grzadzielewski 1201 Mc Kann Blvd. 276-9782 x15</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Crestwood Elem.*</td>
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<td>Shorewood Elem.*</td>
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<td>Stephens Elem.*</td>
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<td>Thoreau Elem. *</td>
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<td>Van Hise Elem. *</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Updated for the 2011-12 School Year.

There is additional programming and childcare for Falk students at and around Falk. The MSCR uses the Falk gyms to run after-school childcare from dismissal time until 5:45 p.m. Contact the MSCR at 204-3030 for more information.

At Falk, we are very fortunate to have a Community Learning Center (CLC). The CLC plans and sponsors family nights throughout the year. We have helped Falk staff plan the Valentine’s Day Family Fun Night, the Kindergarten Math Night, as well as Healthy Self Family Nights. See the Falkon Flier for upcoming CLC events!

You can also check out the CLC bulletin board near the gym for more information and upcoming events. Registration forms for CLC programs can be found in the main office at Falk School. The phone number for the CLC program is 204-2208. Feel free to call with any questions and suggestions, or if you’re interested in volunteering!

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Wisconsin law allows the District to disclose directory information about students unless parents/legal guardians desire that all or any part of this information not be released. If parents/legal guardians wish to have information about their child(ren) withheld they must complete the “Request to Withhold Directory Information” form for each child. This form is available in all school offices.

Directory Data/Information means those pupil records which include the pupil’s name, address, telephone listing (unless the number is unlisted), date and place of birth, major field of study (e.g. 3rd grade elementary education at Leopold School), names of parents and people with legal rights to information, names of siblings, names of prior school attended by the student, dates of attendance, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weights and heights of members of athletic teams, student’s photograph, the most recent previous school attended by the student, and degrees and awards received.

Census Verification

Parents/legal guardians are reminded of the importance of the Census Verification which is available online for all students information can be updated and verified prior to August enrollment dates. Information on this verification is very important, since it is the only way for school personnel to locate a student’s parent/legal guardian or alternative contact person in the case of illness or emergency.

Change Of Address/Phone

For your child’s safety, please inform the school whenever you have a phone or address change or if your alternative emergency contacts change. Please inform us if you will be temporarily out of town and your child will be staying with someone else.

Instructions for Family Information

The Madison Metropolitan School District believes that it is important for both parents/legal guardians to be informed about a student’s progress. If your child does not live with both parents/legal guardians, we strongly urge you to provide the names of all persons with legal rights to information to the school so that we can communicate with them.

Follow these instructions for the family information section:

1. If parents/legal guardians live apart, fill out both sides of the household form, indicating which household is the primary household. If the parent/legal guardians live apart be sure to list both households when filling out the online household information piece of the registration or enrollment form.

2. The primary household should be the household the student declares as primary for enrollment purposes. The primary household is the household the student declares as primary for enrollment purposes, this establishes the attendance area the student resides in.

3. The online registration and census form allow for additional contact people should to be added, if the student has a secondary household that information can also be added. If someone other than the parent has rights to records it needs to be indicated on the form:
   a. LEGAL CUSTODY OF THE STUDENT and/or
   b. LEGAL ACCESS TO THE STUDENT’S RECORDS.

program offers many of the same opportunities as Safe Haven but with a dedicated instructional program provided in either Reading or Mathematics based on student eligibility.

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   a. LEGAL CUSTODY OF THE STUDENT and/or
   b. LEGAL ACCESS TO THE STUDENT’S RECORDS.
4. In addition to the people with legal custody or legal access to records, you may include the names of other adults or other student with whom the student lives. Please indicate the relationship of each adult to the student.

FOR EXAMPLE, if each of the following applies in a family situation:

- Parents/legal guardians are divorced; Parent filling out form should include the other parent as a secondary address either household or mailing.
- Student lives with mother and stepfather, mother would have to sign rights to records for stepfather to have rights.

Student Records

All student records maintained by the Madison Metropolitan School District are confidential, as required by federal and state law.

Parents/legal guardians should be sure to read the brochure on student rights that children bring home during the first week of school. This brochure explains the rights of parents/legal guardians and eligible students to have access to student records.

Several types of educational records are maintained for MMSD students. They are:

- **Behavioral records** means those pupil records which include psychological tests, personality evaluations, records of conversations, any written statement relating specifically to an individual pupil’s behavior, tests relating specifically to achievement or measurement of ability, the pupil’s physical health records other than his or her immunization records or any lead screening records required under s.254.162, law enforcement officers’ records obtained under s.48.396 (1) or 938.396 (1)(b)2 or (c)3 and any other pupil records that are not progress records.
- **Progress records** means those pupil records which include the pupil’s grades, a statement of the courses the pupil has taken, the pupil’s attendance record, the pupil’s immunization records, any lead screening records required under s.254.162 and records of the pupil’s school extracurricular activities.
- **Pupil physical health records** means those pupil records that include basic health information about a pupil, including the pupil’s immunization records, an emergency medical card, a log of first aid and medicine administered to the pupil, an athletic permit card, a record concerning the pupil’s ability to participate in an education program, any lead screening records required under s.254.162, the results of any routine screening test, such as for hearing, vision or scoliosis, and any follow-up to such test, and any other basic health information, as determined by the state superintendent.
- **Pupil records** means all records relating to individual pupils maintained by a school but does not include notes or records maintained for personal use by a teacher or other person who is required by the state superintendent under s.115.28 (7) to hold a certificate, license or permit if such records and notes are not available to others, records necessary for, and available only to persons involved in, the psychological treatment of a pupil and law enforcement unit records.

Requests by parents/legal guardians to review student records must be submitted in writing to the building principal, who will help to arrange a time when parents/legal guardians can review the records which they wish to see.

Questions or concerns about access to student records should be addressed to the building principal.

**FEES**

**School Activity Fee Waiver**

To encourage all students to participate in all school activities regardless of the student’s financial situation, it is the policy of the Board of Education to waive the payment of part or all of student fees if the student or the student’s parent/guardian demonstrates an inability to pay such fees, and to notify students and parent/guardian of this fee waiver policy.

Student fees for the purpose of the waiver policy include fees for school day field trips and fees that are on the yearly student fee schedule, except for library and textbook fines.

Fee Waiver/Reduction request forms are available at all schools, and may be completed by the parent/guardian each school year in which a waiver or fee reduction is requested. If a fee waiver or reduction is granted, it shall be for the entire school year unless the student or the student’s parent/guardian subsequently demonstrates the ability to pay such fees.

**FIELD TRIPS**

Teachers frequently plan field trips and excursions to provide students with educational experiences, which are extensions of the classroom. These trips are essential to the educational program, and all students are expected to participate.

Parents/legal guardians will receive written notification in advance about field trips and should take care to sign all forms and send money to school if requested. Scholarship money is available if payment of field trip fees creates a hardship for a student’s family. In such cases parents/legal guardians should contact their child’s teacher or the school office.

Medications which are normally given to students during the school day will be given by school staff during field trips. No additional permission is required. If your child needs medication on an overnight or extended day field trip which is NOT regularly given at school, Board policy requires written parent permission and a written order from the health care practitioner. This includes over the counter, non-prescription medication. The medication permission forms are reviewed by the school nurse before the overnight or extended day field trip. Some medications (such as inhalers) may be self-administered but a school staff person will give most medications.

When riding a school bus as part of a field trip, students are expected to obey all rules governing school bus transportation (see “Bus Transportation”).

**FOOD & NUTRITION**

**BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

The Falk breakfast program, available to all children who choose to participate, will begin on the first day of school. The breakfast menu will be included with the monthly lunch menu. The price for breakfast is $1.25 and the reduced price is free this year. Payment for breakfast should be added to the monthly or weekly lunch payment.

Students who eat breakfast should enter the gym at 7:30 a.m. directly through the gym door on the playground which is on the south side of the school. The breakfast period runs from 7:25 a.m. until 7:40 a.m.

**LUNCH PROGRAM**

Students can either bring a cold lunch from home or participate in the hot lunch program. We cannot provide refrigeration or access to a microwave oven. Many students bring a cold lunch every day, others eat hot lunch every day, and still others take hot lunch some days and cold lunch on other days. Students bringing a cold lunch can purchase 2% white milk or low fat chocolate milk for $0.60 per day in the lunchroom. You can prepay this expense via check. Milk is included in the cost of hot lunch. Children eat in one of three 35-minute sessions with approximately 20 minutes for lunch and 15 minutes for recess. For those packing cold lunches, we recommend using either a reusable bag or lunch box CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE CHILD’S NAME AND TEACHER since lunches are carried to and from classrooms in baskets and are frequently misplaced.

The hot lunch is prepared in a central kitchen and trucked to elementary schools daily. Everything is prepackaged, with a meal consisting of two packages (similar to meals served on commercial airplanes) and milk. One package is a hot pack that is heated in our convection oven just prior to serving. The other is a cold pack, containing such items as tossed salad, jello, fruit, dessert, etc.
General Information (continued)

Each morning within the first 15 minutes after school starts, each teacher takes a daily count so we do not order lunches for those who are absent. Therefore, it is imperative that all children arrive at school on time. If for some reason (e.g., dental or doctor appointment) your child will be coming to school later in the morning, please call the school office (204-2180) before 8:15 a.m. so that we may include her/him in our lunch count.

HOW TO ORDER MEALS. Monthly menus with payment envelopes attached will be sent home on the second to the last Friday of the preceding month. The menus will are posted on the website (www.mmsd.org) or can be viewed on Cable TV 10. Completed envelopes should include student name, date, teacher name and room number, and amount enclosed. Payment by check (to Falk School) is preferred, but cash is certainly acceptable. Monthly payments are preferred, but weekly payments may be made as well. Payments received are deposited into the child’s computerized food account. Envelopes for those paying by the month are due on the Wednesday of the week prior to the beginning of the month. Envelopes for those paying by the week are due on the Wednesday of the week prior to the week being paid for. Notices of a negative balance will be sent home weekly. Call Food Services (204-2144) regarding your child’s food service account or anything else related to the lunch/breakfast program at Falk. It’s a good idea to contact Food Services just before the last month of school to determine account balances. Any balance at the end of the school year remains in your child’s account for use the next school year.

Regular lunch is $2.50. Reduced lunch is 40¢ and milk is 50¢.

Dear Parents & Guardians,

The MMSD Food & Nutrition Department welcomes you to the 2011-2012 school year. We are eager to provide your family with healthy and nutritious options for Breakfast and Lunch at all of our Elementary, Middle and High Schools. We strive to meet nutritional requirements as well as cater to the likes of young children. As your child progresses into Middle and High School, they will have more selections for their meal choices. All of our menus in the USDA Breakfast and USDA Lunch programs are designed to meet nutritional standards. Each menu is analyzed to ensure it meets 8 specific nutritional targets. Five different vitamins and minerals are analyzed as well as monitoring the fat content, providing no more than 30% of the calories from fat, while no more than 10% of the calories come from saturated fats. There are specific guidelines for calorie ranges for each of the different menus we offer. Meeting the above mentioned guidelines ensures that our meals provide students with one third of their dietary requirements for lunch and one fourth for breakfast. Studies have shown that eating balanced meals, in combination with physical activity, will help with child development. What better way to establish healthy eating patterns than as a participant of our meal programs!

Sincerely, Your FAN Team

Our Food & Nutrition Program Serves...

Nutrition  Value  Quality
Safe Food  Convenience

Feeding Appetites for Learning

Food Safety
MMSD Food & Nutrition Department operates under regulations from the FDA Food Code, the State of Wisconsin Food Code and the Public Health Department. We are committed to providing safe food for our customers at every step of our process including standards for ordering, receiving, storage, preparation, cooking and serving. Each school and our central kitchen are inspected twice a school year by Public Health Madison Dane County.

All school sites as well as the Food Production Center operate under comprehensive written “School Food Safety” plans. Plans are based on the principals of HACCP (Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Points), a systematic preventive approach to food safety.

Our FAN Team includes a Quality Assurance Specialist to ensure that the 20,000 plus meals served daily are served safely. All of our staff receives initial and on-going training using the National Restaurant Association’s “ServSafe” Food Safety Course materials.

Breakfast Program
All schools in the Madison Metropolitan School District offer breakfast daily. Breakfast is served 15 ~ 20 minutes prior to the start of the school day. A school breakfast generally consists of milk, fresh fruit or 100% fruit juice, and an entrée that includes grains and/or a protein source. Families may qualify for free breakfast as determined by their financial situation. For more information, please see the section on Free & Reduced Meals.

Please note: USDA regulations require that we serve a complete meal. Individual items, such as milk, can not be provided free to supplement a meal from home.

Lunch Program
Lunch is available daily at all of the Madison Metropolitan Schools. Serving times vary per location. Lunches consist of a milk, entrée containing protein and whole grains, fruits and vegetables. Our Nutrition Team is constantly searching for different and healthy choices to offer our students. We are committed to offering meals that are both great tasting and nutritious. Families may qualify for free lunch as determined by their financial situation. For more information, please see the section on Free & Reduced Meals.

Please note: USDA regulations require that we serve a complete meal. Individual items, such as milk, can not be provided free to supplement a meal from home.

Lunches To Go
Let us help with Field Trips with our ‘Lunches To Go’. Cold lunches are available and may be ordered ahead and sent to your child’s school. For more information, please go to our website and check out our Menus.

Free and Reduced Price Meal Information
The Madison Metropolitan School District participates in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals.

To apply for Free and Reduced price meals please complete either:
A paper application available at registration
or
An online application at http://lunchapp.madison.k12.wi.us.

If you do not have access to a computer, they will be available at registration or Madison Public Libraries.

If you have other questions or need help, call (608) 204-4001. Office hours beginning August 18th are 7:00 am to 2:30 pm.

Meal Prices

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General Information (continued)

USDA Lunch

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<td>High School Full Pay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult at MS &amp; HS</td>
<td>$3.70+</td>
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</table>

Milk may be purchased for 50 cents.

Please note: USDA regulations require that we serve a complete meal. Individual items, such as milk, can not be provided free to supplement a meal from home.

Payment Options
MMSSD Food & Nutrition Department has implemented an online payment option called MealPayPlus. Use www.MealPayPlus.com to check account balances online. Make payments to your students meal account. Monitor breakfast and lunch purchases. Receive email reminders when your student’s balance is low. You can even set up auto-replenish payments. You will need your child’s MMSD student ID number in order to set up a MealPayPlus account. If you do not know the account number for your child, please inquire at your child’s school, or call Food & Nutrition at 204-4001.

Please Visit Our Website
For more and up to date information, please visit our website. Our website can be found on the MMSD website or by entering www.foodsvcweb.madison.k12.wi.us

Gifts for Staff (Board Policy 8254A)
In accordance with Board of Education policy 8254A, staff members are not permitted to “accept or solicit for personal use a gift worth more than token value from a pupil or parent...[however,] the Superintendent may make exceptions in extenuating circumstances such as cases of bereavement, illness or death.”

Because many children enjoy giving things to their teachers, the District suggests that gifts take the form of a book, tape or game for the classroom or Library Media Center. In this way, all students can benefit from gifts given to teachers and other staff members.

Guest Speakers
Occasionally, teachers invite guest speakers into their classrooms. Teachers planning to use outside resource personnel must clear this with the principal prior to their “guest” appearance. Guest speakers report to the main office upon arrival at school.
Kindergarten Screening for Early Entrance

Board of Education Policy states that a child who becomes five years of age between September 2 and December 31 may enroll in kindergarten only after satisfactory completion of preliminary student assessments. A child being assessed for early entrance into kindergarten should have superior intellectual growth and language skills and must demonstrate the social, emotional, physical and mental maturity normally expected for successful participation in kindergarten. Parents who have concerns about school readiness should contact the school psychologist. They will be asked to complete a request form for placement on the early entrance evaluation schedule. If you need further information on the early entrance procedure, please contact your school's psychologist or see www.mmssd.org. Children born after December 31 may not be screened for early entry. (Wis. Statute). BOE Policy 4011

Lost and Found

Each year, we have many, many belongings lost and not claimed. It is absolutely essential that your child's belongings (i.e. tennis shoes, lunch boxes, mittens, etc.) be clearly marked with your child's name. Items not claimed at the end of each quarter are given to charity.

We encourage you to come to school often and check the lost and found box located near Room 105.

Parent/Legal Guardian Involvement (Board Policy 4500)

All elementary schools have committees and PTO/PTA groups that provide opportunities for parents/legal guardians to participate actively in their children's school. Through these activities parents/legal guardians can become better informed about, and can influence and gather community support for local school programs and policies.

Parent participation in the School Improvement Plan (SIP) process is encouraged. Through their involvement in SIP, parents contribute to the identification of school goals and the action plans for implementation.

Many parents/legal guardians share their talents and interests by assisting teachers with classroom projects and activities. Other parents/legal guardians provide leadership for enrichment programs to enhance the school’s curriculum.

The Board of Education also forms occasional task forces and/or committees to advise the District on specific issues. In recent years these groups have examined such school-related issues as racial integration, family change and space utilization. Citizens, parents/legal guardians and non-parents alike have shown their support by becoming involved in the schools as part of these advisory groups. Please contact 663-1659 for further information.

Research has shown that children whose parents/legal guardians are involved with the school are more likely to achieve and to feel good about their school experiences. MMSD elementary schools encourage parents/legal guardians to become involved in their children’s educational programs in whatever way is most comfortable and interesting for them. The most important way for parents/legal guardians to be involved with their child's education is by spending time each day with their child and by reading to them.

School And Families Working Together

A school-family partnership is a vital component of a child’s success at school. Families are invited and encouraged to stay involved at Falk in your child’s education by attending conferences, participating at school events, volunteering, working with the PTO, and keeping in touch with your child’s teachers and other Falk staff. Falk families are an important part of making Falk a great school. Here are a couple of basic reminders that will help your child be safe and successful:

1. Children need to be at school, on-time everyday.
2. Notify the office immediately of any telephone or address changes. Your child’s safety depends on this.

Visitation to School or Classrooms (Board Policy 4005)

We welcome and encourage parents/legal guardians to visit their children’s school. However, when you come to school be sure to secure a visitor’s pass from the school office when you arrive. This allows us to keep your child safe as unauthorized persons or visitations are prohibited. Should unauthorized persons enter or remain on school premises, the principal or his/her representative may request assistance from the appropriate police department to remove such unauthorized persons.

Parent/Teacher Communications

Scheduled Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parents/legal guardians receive formal reports on their children’s progress four times during the school year. All elementary schools schedule parent/teacher conferences at the end of the first quarter to give parents/legal guardians and teachers an opportunity to share information about the child.

Written reports are sent home at the end of the second quarter, third quarter, and at the end of the year.

When parents are divorced or separated both parents/legal guardians have the right to receive information about their child’s school progress, unless the court has ruled otherwise. Please stop at the school office to confirm if duplicate information is needed.

It is vital that parents/legal guardians and teachers be in communication with each other frequently so that the child understands that everyone is working together. If you have any questions about your child’s progress or educational program, do not hesitate to call your child’s teacher or the school principal.

Return from Discipline

There are two forms of student discipline that involve an interruption of a student’s attendance at school; the first being an out-of-school suspension and the second being an expulsion. The District’s procedure for a student to return to school for each of those disciplinary interruptions includes a meeting involving the Principal, parent/guardian, and student. During the meeting those attending discuss strategies to enable the student to successfully re-engage with the school community. The specific procedures regarding out-of-school suspensions can be found in Board of Education Policy 4043 and for Expulsion, in Board of Education Policy 4045.

Positive Behavior Support

All MMSD elementary schools aim to be positive places where students, staff, and families feel good about school and where important learning occurs.

Each school has been working on developing a school-wide system that helps children understand behavioral expectations, teaches social skills and creates a sense of belonging or community, and provides positive recognitions and celebrations. The Positive Behavior Support model also provides more consistent responses to misbehaviors and processes that aim to help students grow in responsibility for their actions.
General Information (continued)

A critical aspect of this response is the communication with the home and the home’s support of the school’s behavioral expectations. For this reason we have built home communication into our plan of procedures that the school staff will follow.

Through our plan staff aim to communicate clear boundaries for behaviors and work in a coordinated way to help students make good decisions.

Please take a moment and review the ideas of “above the line” behaviors (positive behaviors) as well as “below the line” and “bottom line” behaviors with your child. This will be the common language used across all elementary schools in the district. You will often see this common language posted in charts around the school. Each classroom may further clarify these ideas and provide examples for students.

Working together, staff and families can partner to help all students experience school positively by creating safe environments while supporting growth in responsibility.

If you have further questions about our school’s plan, please contact your child’s classroom teacher, principal, or other staff.

Falk Elementary School

Peaceful, Respectful, Kind, Honest, Fair, Safe, Prepared, Helpful, Responsible, Giving, Generous, Productive, Proud

ABOVE THE LINE
Positive behaviors that are conducive to a sense of community in a classroom and a school

BELOW THE LINE
Misbehaviors that detract from a sense of community in a classroom and a school

BOTTOM LINE
Serious misbehaviors that make a school unsafe

Our school will work to help all of our students stay “above the line” through specific programs, engaging learning experiences, and the relationships we foster each day.

When students “fall below the line” staff and principal will work together with the student to address issues through consequences and a “fix-it” plan. Depending on the severity, frequency, and other factors, parent/guardians may be contacted.

When students fall to “bottom line” the principal will determine consequences and “fix-it” plans in light of the district’s Code of Conduct. At this level of behavior, parent/guardians will be contacted.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE PLAN

Falk students are expected to behave in a manner that shows respect for others and respect for property at school. The Falk School Behavioral Expectations are as follows:

1. I AM SAFE - I use safe behavior inside and outside Falk School.
2. I AM KIND - I treat others, as I would like to be treated.
3. I AM RESPONSIBLE - I take care of myself and others.
4. I AM RESPECTFUL - I show respect for my school and the personal property of others.

The school behaviors associated with these expectations will be taught throughout the school year. Non-compliance with these rules will result in consequences that are set by teachers and principal. Parent involvement will be expected. Disciplinary action for illegal or serious misconduct, such as fighting, follow the MMSD Student Conduct and Discipline Plan outlined in this handbook.

Falk School will move into the sixth year of our (Above the Line/Below the Line) Behavior Plan. All families will receive a brochure, explaining the program at our fall registration.

STUDENT SERVICES

Health Services

The Health Office is staffed by the school nurse and/or nurse’s assistant during the majority of school hours for direct health/illness management of students. Health education is taught formally in the classroom and informally in the Health Office. Any child can be screened upon parent or teacher request. The school nurse is available for individual and/or group consultation regarding health issues and/or health resources. Prescription and non-prescription medication may be administered at school with written permission from parents and health care providers. Medication forms are available in the School Health Office.

Psychology

Each elementary school has a psychologist on staff who is at the school for a period of time ranging from 2 days to 5 days per week, depending on the size and other demographics of the school. Psychologists provide: individual and group support to help students solve problems, support for students concerned about grades or other issues, assistance when a crisis occurs at school or home, mental health assistance referrals, testing as part of school evaluations for learning or social-emotional-behavioral issues and support to parents/guardians seeking guidance regarding the best ways to support their children to be successful in school.

Social Work

Each elementary school has a social worker on staff who is at the school for a period of time ranging from 2 days to 5 days per week, depending on the size and other demographics of the school. Social workers help students in crisis or in conflict, give guidance in family/friend relationships, help students learn protective behaviors, keep track of student attendance concerns and provide referrals to outside community services. They also provide assistance to parents who are seeking guidance regarding the best ways to support their children to be successful in school.

Speech/language Therapist

The speech/language therapist is available four to five days per week. The therapist works with students who have been identified as needing help with speech sound development, voice problems (such as voice nodules), stuttering, and language development. Students may receive therapy individually or in small groups depending on the identified problem. Referrals or questions about speech/language can be made directly to the therapist or through the child’s teacher.

TRANSFERS (BOARD POLICY 4023)

Internal Transfers

An internal transfer can be requested by parents to allow their student(s) to attend a MMSD school while not living in that school’s attendance area. If granted the student may continue to attend the school to which the transfer was granted and other MMSD schools in the normal progression without filing another Internal Transfer Application Form. Completed transfer form should be turned into a school or enrollment office. The transfer form can be filled out online at mmsdenroll.org. Appeals of the decision of the must be filed with the Assistant Superintendent in writing within ten days of the denial. The assistant superintendent
shall make final determination of an appeal within ten days of the receipt of the appeal. For all students attending school on an internal transfer, the parents are responsible for transportation of the student.

By change of residence:
   a. Upon a change of residence from one attendance area to another attendance area within the MMSD, including homeless families who establish a permanent residence during the school year, a pupil may enroll in his/her new school of residence immediately, or
   b. The parent may complete an Application For Student Internal Transfer Form requesting that the pupil remain at the school in which the pupil has been enrolled. Such requests shall automatically be granted.

Internal transfer request by parents for the current school year:
   a. Parents requesting a transfer to have their student attend a school outside of their current MMSD attendance area. Each request will be considered on an individual basis.
   b. In judging an internal transfer request, the enrollment office will use the following major criteria:
      1. Whether granting the internal transfer will exceed the pupil-teacher ratio and/or school/program capacity as defined and approved by the Board of Education for external transfers by using actual enrollment numbers and actual staffing positions.
      2. Options for special education students.
   For criteria used for requesting a transfer on a priority basis, or criteria used for an Assistant Superintendent to grant a transfer based on specific circumstances, refer to instructions for completing the Internal Transfer Form or refer to board policy 4023.

Internal transfer request of parents for the next school year:
   a. Parents requesting a transfer to have their student attend a school outside of their current MMSD attendance area. Each request will be considered on an individual basis.
   b. Annual application for an Internal Transfer will be accepted for the next year beginning on the 1st Monday in February. Internal applications that are filed on or after the 1st Monday in February and before 4:00 p.m. on the 3rd Friday in March shall be given preference over applications filed under the Open Enrollment Policy.
   c. In judging an internal transfer request, the Enrollment office will use the following major criteria:
      1. Whether granting the internal transfer will exceed the pupil-teacher ratio and/or school/program capacity as defined and approved by the Board of Education for external transfers by using projected enrollment numbers and projected staffing positions.
      2. Options for special education students.
   For criteria used for requesting a transfer on a priority basis see the instructions for completing the Internal Transfer Form or refer to board policy 4023.

REVOCATION OF AN INTERNAL TRANSFER
A principal may revoke an internal transfer for reasons related to discipline, absenteeism, tardiness, and/or academic performance of the student. If a transfer is revoked, the elementary student shall immediately be enrolled in his/her school of residence. For middle and high school students, the revocation becomes effective at the end of the term. If the transfer was granted under specific criteria by an Assistant Superintendent then that Assistant Superintendent has the discretion to revoke the transfer.

TRANSPORTATION

Bikes
   The following guidelines apply to students who ride their bikes to school:
   1. Do not ride bicycles in the parking lot.
   2. Do not ride bicycles on sidewalks and school grounds. Walk them to the bicycle racks.
   3. Bicycles must be kept in the bicycle racks.

   4. Bicycles must be licensed.

   5. If possible, bicycles should be locked. The school is not responsible for theft or damage.

   If the student does not abide by the above rules, he/she will not be allowed to ride a bicycle to school.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Falk School has two buses. Students who are living west of Gammon Road ride the bus. Information is provided about bus stops and times. Bus riding is a privilege and appropriate behavior is expected at all times.

Student Rules, Responsibility and Discipline

Bus Transportation

Bus transportation is provided free of charge for all elementary students who live more than 1.5 miles away from their school or who are on a hazardous route, as determined by the city and the county. The Board of Education views transportation to and from school as part of the school day. Parents and students must assume that bus transportation is a privilege to the student, not a right. Pupils who do not conform to the rules relating to safe transportation may have their riding privilege withdrawn by the bus company.

The following actions have been identified by the Board of Education as justification for refusing a pupil the privilege of riding a school bus:

1. Yelling, cursing, obscene language;
2. Throwing objects within the vehicle or out of the windows;
3. Extending head, arms or hands out of the windows;
4. Fighting, scuffling, smoking in the vehicle;
5. Moving about in the vehicle while it is in motion;
6. Damaging property;
7. Any other conduct which might jeopardize the health, safety, welfare or rights of other people and does not align with the MMSD Code of Conduct.

Drivers are responsible for the maintenance of order among children being transported and are instructed to use every reasonable means necessary to maintain order on the bus. The District supplies a three-pty “incident report” form to be used by school bus drivers in reporting violations of established rider rules. It is the duty of the driver to immediately report severe misconduct to the principal and to the bus company office.

Guidelines for action to be taken in conjunction with the bus company if a student violates the rules for safe bus riding are as follows:

1. First Incident—Discuss appropriate behavior with student and forward a copy of incident report to parent/guardian;

2. Second Incident—Confer with parent(s)/legal guardian(s) and student(s). Students may be refused transportation for one to three days.

3. Third Incident—Student may be suspended from transportation for a period of four to seven days. Parents/legal guardians must be notified in writing of their right to a hearing and/or appeal.

Severity of offense may dictate acceleration of progression outlined above. Parents/legal guardians may appeal this decision to the Assistant Superintendent for the area involved. However, students whose bus riding privileges have been suspended are required to attend school and parents must assume responsibility for alternate means of transportation. Continued refusal to abide by established rules may result in suspension of bus riding privileges for the remainder of the school year.
General Information (continued)

If an adult supervisor from the School District is on the bus, a student may be subject to discipline in accordance with the Student Conduct and Discipline Plan. The Madison Metropolitan School District is concerned about the health, safety, welfare, and rights of your child. Please go over appropriate school bus riding practices with your child. Student behavior on the school bus and the driver’s management of the behavior are two key elements to a safe and enjoyable bus ride for all students. Your child’s bus may or may not be equipped with video monitoring equipment. The video camera is an aid used to monitor bus discipline. It does not replace the discipline policy, the driver’s authority, or the responsibility of the school officials. If you have any questions, including questions regarding the use of video equipment on board buses, please call the District’s Transportation Office at 663-5288.

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Fire drills - Tornado Drills -- Fire drills are conducted every month, and a tornado drill is conducted in the Spring.

Lock Down -- Every school will conduct a lockdown drill each semester. Drills are conducted to prepare staff and students in the event of an emergency.

Safety Plans

Every classroom in all of our schools has an Emergency Procedures pamphlet, which provides directions on responding to a variety of emergencies that may be encountered at the school.

Safety and Security Committee -- Every school has a Safety and Security Committee, which meets during the year to address issues around safety and security. The committee is composed of parents, staff, and administrators at the elementary schools and students are also included at secondary schools.

Supervision of the Building and Grounds -- School grounds are supervised by school personnel fifteen minutes before classes begin in the morning and during the day when students are participating in scheduled school activities until school is officially dismissed. School personnel do not supervise playgrounds after classes are dismissed in the afternoon.

In accordance with Board of Education policy, the following shall not be allowed on school grounds:

1. Hardball or tackle football (except in approved areas and under proper supervision);
2. Throwing of stones, snowballs or other missiles;
3. Tripping, shoving, unwanted touching, fighting or other disturbances;
4. Thoughtless running or chasing through other activity areas;
5. Climbing on fences, buildings, ledges, fire escapes, downspouts, swinging gates, etc.;
6. Making snow or ice slides on walks;
7. All powered vehicles, including go-karts, powered bikes, minibikes, motorcycles, snowmobiles, etc.;
8. Dogs or other pets.

School Entrances/access

In order to ensure the security of our schools, entrance will be restricted to one main door, as well as to a handicapped entrance. Please check with your school for the appropriate designated entrances.

EMERGENCY - WEATHER

When weather conditions appear dangerous, district staff members review the situation beginning early in the morning. They talk with the City Streets Department, Police Department, bus companies and the National Weather Service to see if buses will be able to travel safely to and from school. Building Services staff advises whether all buildings are adequately heated and accessible for students. The decision to close schools is made by 6:30 a.m. and radio and television stations are given that information. If you have a question about whether schools will be closed, please listen to local media instead of calling the school office.

If a tornado or other storm threatens our area during the school day, students will be kept at school in the safest area of the building until the “all clear” message is sounded by Dane County emergency government officials.

HELPING HANDS

MMSD elementary schools participate with the Madison Police Department in the Helping Hand program. This program has been developed to help children travel safely on the streets to and from
Health, Safety & Security (continued)

school. A child in distress, whether she/he is lost, injured or needing protection from a threatening situation, can get help from any home which displays a Helping Hand sign.

All Helping Hand providers are aware of the importance of reporting any questionable incident to the police. They serve as friends and protectors of all children.

ILLNESS

Is Your Child Well Enough To Go To School?

It is not always easy to decide if your child is sick enough to stay home or well enough to be in school. Children who come to school are expected, with few exceptions, to participate fully in school activities. Here are some guidelines that might help in a parent’s decision-making:

1. Fever: A fever of 100 or higher is a sign of more signals an illness that will is probably going to make a student uncomfortable and unable to function well in class. Your child should stay home until he/she is feeling better and fever free.

2. Vomiting, Diarrhea or Severe Nausea: These are symptoms that require a student to remain at home until a normal diet is tolerated the night before and the morning of school.

3. Infectious Diseases: Diseases such as impetigo, pink eye with thick drainage, and strep throat require a doctor’s health care provider examination and prescription for medication. Contacting the doctor and it is important to use the medication as directed and for the full recommended duration of the medication is necessary. Once medication has been started and the child is feeling well, he/she may return to school.

4. Students with chicken pox may return to school when all the scabs are completely dried and no new lesions are developing (usually 5-7 days).

5. Rashes: Rashes or patches of broken, itchy skin need to be examined by a doctor if they appear to be spreading or not improving.

6. Injuries: If a student has an injury that causes continuous discomfort, the student should not attend school until the condition is checked by a doctor health care provider or it improves. Injuries that interfere with class participation need a medical evaluation. If participation in physical education classes is not recommended, a doctor’s excuse is required.

MEDICATION

Medication Policy

1. Students who take daily or as needed medication at school must have the following in place with the school nurse before any medication can be given:
   - Written Order for Medication Administration from the prescriber
   - Parent/Guardian Medication/Procedure Consent Form
   - Medication provided in the original pharmacy labeled container supplied by the parent/guardian with the following information
     a. Student’s full name;
     b. Name of the drug and dosage;
     c. Effective date;
     d. Directions;
     e. Time to be given; and
     f. Prescribing practitioner’s name.

2. Non-prescription (over the counter) medication must be supplied by the student’s parent/guardian in the original manufacturer’s package and the package must list the ingredients and recommended therapeutic dose in a legible format.

3. The student will take the medication at the designated time supervised by authorized school personnel.

4. Only limited quantities of any medication should be kept at school.

5. All medication administered at school will be stored in a locked cubicle, drawer, or other safe place.

6. Parents/legal guardians must notify the school when the drug is discontinued and/or the dosage or time is changed. If the medication is changed, a new order must be received from the practitioner.

7. No over-the-counter medication will be administered to students unless the above process has been completed.

8. New written permission from the prescriber and parent/legal guardian must be received each year for students who take medication on a long-term basis.

The practitioner Order for Medication Administration and the Parent/Guardian Medication/Procedure are both available on the district website: http://stusvcweb.madison.k12.wi.us/node/100

Expanded Health Services for Emergency Situations

All schools provide expanded emergency treatment for serious asthma problems and serious allergic reactions when the school nurse is in the building. This includes (1) nebulizer treatments for serious breathing problems and (2) injection of epinephrine for students who have serious allergic reactions. The goal is to initiate treatment before 911 responders arrive. Look for more information in your child’s school newsletter or talk with the school nurse. Information is also available on the school district’s website at http://stusvcweb.madison.k12.wi.us/node/102

Medical Insurance

The Madison Metropolitan School District does not carry student medical insurance. Parents/legal guardians are, therefore, responsible for medical expenses for pupils injured on school premises.

Even with the best safety precautions, there is an element of risk to children during normal school activities such as recess and physical education. Parents/legal guardians are encouraged to consider the adequacy of their medical insurance.

Immunization Law

For the health and safety of all students, Wisconsin law requires that students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12 have at least minimum protection against certain communicable diseases. Required immunizations include:

- diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine (DTaP, DT, Td, Tdap),
- polio vaccine,
- measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine,
- Hepatitis B vaccine, and
- varicella vaccine or a history of chicken pox disease.

The age and grade specific requirements can be found at http://stusvcweb.madison.k12.wi.us/node/101. The vaccine doses required by state law are minimum requirements. Additional vaccines may be recommended for your child. Please check with your clinic or the public health department for complete recommendations. You can submit new immunization dates electronically by going to the MMSD website: http://stusvcweb.madison.k12.wi.us/node/101

After the 30th school day, the district is required to exclude elementary and middle school students who do not meet the minimum requirements as established by the State of Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) stores a child’s immunization records electronically in a secure system. The WIR is maintained by the Immunization Program of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). When your child receives health care, your health care provider can access this information to (1) determine which, if any, immunizations are due at that time; and (2) update your child’s immunization records as needed. Parents and legal guardians can also access this information via the Internet. More information on parent access is at http://dhs.wi.gov/immunization/WIR.htm. (Revised June 2011)

PLAYGROUND RULES & SAFETY

Playground Information

Peaceful playgrounds is a program which encourages children to have more fun at recess by spending more time playing games of their choice and less time waiting in long lines or in conflict over
Health, Safety & Security (continued)

rules! All students are learning a variety of playground games in physical education, which can then be played during recess time. Games include four square, tetherball, around the world, and soccer.

Key to the success of this program is that children play cooperatively, play by the rules, and play fairly. Ways you can help include:

Talk with your child about playing fairly and following the rules. When playing games with your child, agree upon rules before you start and stick to them. This is especially important when your child may be losing.

Talk to your child about being a good friend at school and allowing others to play. One of our goals is that all students are included in a game. This doesn’t mean that bully behavior or aggression will be tolerated. We have disciplinary measures for these behaviors.

Post the conflict resolution ideas, which are printed on the backside of this page in your home. When conflicts occur between siblings, encourage them to use an idea, which they have learned, at school. These ideas are simple and encourage a win-win result, meaning both people get what they want or need.

Keep your children’s sport equipment at home. Balls, jump ropes etc. from home cause problems on the playground as they can lead to one person making up the rules, because it is her/his ball and/or excluding others from play.

THE FALKON’S PLAYGROUND RULES!

PLAY FAIRLY!

TAKE TURNS!

BE A GOOD SPORT!

INCLUDE EVERYONE!

BE SAFE WITH YOUR BODY!

FOLLOW ADULT DIRECTIONS!

ON THE PLAY STRUCTURE

• Share the structures with others
• Walk while on the structures
• Slide in a forward, seated position
• One way traffic on the monkey bars

ON THE PLAYGROUND

• No tumbling on the playground.
• Stay in the playground boundaries. This means stay away from the parking lot, the hill, and the fence line.
• No play fighting.
• Play by the rules in every game.

Lining up Rules

• Put your brakes on before you get to the line.
• Quiet your body and your voice.
• No pushing or shoving in line.
• Backpacks, jackets need to be placed against the wall. They cannot be used to save a place in line.
• Line up behind the last person. No budging or allowing friends to save places.

THE FALKON SAYS,

“When you have a problem when playing a game, don’t fight, pout, cry, or shout, WORK IT OUT!!!

THE FALKON’S CONFLICT RESOLUTION CHOICES

• Use rock, paper, and scissors to solve the problem.
• Check the rules to see if you are playing the right way.
• Talk to the person...Say how you feel.
• Walk away.
• Get help from an adult.

Releasing Children from a School During the Day

If it is necessary for you or someone authorized by you to take your child out of school during the instructional day (after school has started and before the end of the day), we ask that you follow the procedures below:

1. You or the authorized adult must sign the logbook in the office and record the reason for requesting the release of your child.
2. The adult must have the authority to pick up the child, either
   • he or she is the legal guardian or parent
   • he/she is verified as the emergency contact listed on the official registration form or
   • your child has brought a note signed by a legal guardian or parent to the office saying that this adult has authority to pick up your child.
3. If the office staff does not know the adult, then
   • identification matching the parent’s note must be secured or
   • the child’s parents or someone listed on the official enrollment form must be called to verify the person’s identity and their authority to pick up the child.

Your child will not be released if appropriate identification or verification of authority cannot be obtained.

4. Your child’s teacher will be notified by the office to send your child to the office.

To ensure the safety of your child, we will ask that any authorized adult (including parents) picking up a child will do so in the school office under the supervision of an office staff person.

Once school is in session, no non-school staff (including parents) will be allowed to go to a classroom unaccompanied and pick up a child.

(Revised June 2010)

Traffic Safety

School Safety Patrols

At Falk School we currently have approximately forty 5th grade students serving on the safety patrol. Staff members organize the patrols. There are a number of outside posts. The Falk School Mosaic-PTO supports the patrols. The PTO funding provides raincoats, hats, belts and badges, and an end of the year trip.

The patrols are encouraged to:

1. Help students cross the streets safely on the way to and from school.
2. Report unsafe practices while students are coming to and from school.

There are four stations for the patrols to watch:

1. The intersection of Hammersley Road and Prairie Road (with the adult crossing guard).
2. The intersection of Piping Rock and Woodington Way.
3. The intersection of Frisch Road and Woodington Way.

Becoming a patrol is a right and a responsibility that is earned in school by doing well on schoolwork and displaying mature behavior. We are very proud of the job that our patrols do at Falk and hope we can continue this tradition of excellence.

Parents/legal guardians are encouraged to urge their children to cooperate with school safety patrols to promote:

• Acceptance of responsibility
• Being valuable members of a team
• Being responsible citizens
• Volunteering and helping fellow students
• Becoming leaders and pathfinders.

City Crossing Guards

The Madison Police Department provides adult crossing guards to ensure the safety of school children at busy intersections.
Wellness Policy On Physical Activity And Nutrition
(Refer to www.mmsd.org for complete Boe Policy 4610)

Children and adolescents need access to healthful foods and opportunities to be physically active in order to grow, learn, and thrive. Good health fosters student attendance and education. The Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) is committed to providing school environments that promote and protect the health and well-being of all students by supporting healthy eating and physical activity which are important for their ability to learn. It is the policy of the Madison Metropolitan School District Board of Education that

• Schools shall provide nutrition education and physical education to foster lifelong habits of healthy eating and physical activity, and shall establish linkages between health education and school meal programs, and other activities that occur within the school day.
• All students in grades K-12 shall have opportunities and encouragement to be physically active on a regular basis.
• Foods and beverages sold or served at school during the school day, at school sponsored events and in MSCR programs for students shall meet the nutrition recommendations of the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2005.
• To the maximum extent practicable, all schools in the MMSD shall participate in available federal school meal programs.

Wellness Policy
The “Wellness Policy on Physical Activity and Nutrition” has been approved by the BOE. (For detailed information see BOE Policy 4610.) The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all students have “access to healthful foods and opportunities to be physically active in order to grow, learn and thrive.” The intent of this document is to provide highlights within each of the five areas covered by the policy.

I. School Nutrition Education Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Schools</th>
<th>Nutrition competencies will be integrated into existing curriculum/programs. Grades 1 and 3 are targeted for implementation. Teaching and Learning will develop and pilot nutrition activities/curriculum during the 2006-07 school year with full implementation expected in 2007-2008.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-12</td>
<td>Increased emphasis in the curriculum on physical fitness and life time sports skills.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Physical Activity Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Schools</th>
<th>Classes meet for 30 minutes three times a week all year.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A la carte</td>
<td>Limit foods with minimal nutritional value; restrict fat and added sugar; increase fruit, vegetable and whole grain offerings.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Vending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary/Middle</th>
<th>No vending permitted.</th>
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</table>

Beverage Portion Size

| Elementary: Up to 8 oz. |

Snacks

| Elementary: List of suggested snacks will be developed annually. (List follows) |
| Candy: Cannot be given or sold to students during the school day. After 9/1/2008, candy cannot be used as item for school fundraising |
| Candy/Food as Reward: Cannot be used as a reward or manipulative. |

Food Allergies

| Elementary: No peanuts or peanut products provided by MMSD Food Services. Classroom projects should not contain peanuts, tree nuts or edible seeds. |

Meal Times

| Elementary: No peanuts or peanut products provided by MMSD Food Services. Classroom projects should not contain peanuts, tree nuts or edible seeds. |

Where Food Eaten

| Breakfast: 10 minutes. Lunch: At least 30 minute break. Eat in a clean healthy environment. |

Food at MSCR After School Programs, MSCR Summer Programs, MMSD Field Trips or MMSD School Sponsored Events

| When MMSD provides food to students outside of Food Services program during the school day, during an after school or summer program or at school sponsored event, the food must adhere to nutritional standards listed above. |

Pot Lucks

| Sponsors of any events that are open to the public must contact the local health department to get appropriate permit; state law exempts parent teacher organizations from obtaining permits for pot lucks--other groups may need permits and should consult with the local health department before scheduling an event. |

Class parties or celebrations

| Are allowed. Principals are encouraged to limit the number of parties and celebrations that involve food and to promote non-food based parties and celebrations. |

Classroom Food preparation

| Classes can prepare and eat food during class when it is directly related to the curriculum; no peanuts or nuts, and adhere to safe food handling practices. |

Food safety

| Prepare food in accordance with School Potluck Food Safety Guidelines. |

Sustainable food practices

| Are to be strongly encouraged. |

Nutrition Education

| Education and marketing regarding nutrition and physical activity that supports students making healthful choices for food and beverage items. |
**Health, Safety & Security (continued)**

MMSD Wellness Committee Recommended Snack List

Snacks containing peanuts or other nuts may not be served at school. This includes snacks made with almonds, Brazil nuts, cashews, hazelnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nuts, pistachios, and walnuts. Items on this list have been selected because, at this time, they do not contain peanuts or nuts products and the fat content meets the standard set by the Board of Education Policy. The intention of this list is to provide guidance to parents about snacks that are peanut and nut free. Parents whose children have peanut or nut allergies should check product labels every time to be sure that the products are peanut and nut free, free from cross contamination during processing and safe for their child to eat. Checking manufacturer web sites may also provide helpful information.

Food prepared at home to be served at school should be accompanied by a general list of ingredients or sent with a checklist indicating whether any of the following ingredients are included: milk, eggs, fish, shellfish, wheat, soy. Along with peanuts and tree nuts, these ingredients are responsible for 90% of all food allergy reactions in children.

### Fruits/Vegetables
- Fresh fruit (any, such as oranges, apples, bananas, grapes, pears, plums, tangerines)

### Dairy
- Yogurt in individual cups or tubes
- Jello brand pudding in individual cups or tubes
- Hints Snack Pack Puddings (Vanilla, chocolate)
- String cheese or other individually packaged cheeses (1 oz)
- Frozen yogurt bars
- Whole milk

### Juices
- 100% fruit or vegetable juices
- Frozen 100% juice pops

### Crackers/Snack items
- Nabisco/Kraft
  - Crackers (Wheat Thins, Triscuits or Vegetable Thins)

- Honey Maid Graham crackers or sticks (Dora Explorer, honey, cinnamon, apple cinnamon, chocolate chip, chocolate flavor)
- Ritz (original, whole wheat, roasted vegetable, honey butter, Sticks) Ritz Mini Slimmin' Snack Saks (NO Ritz bits/sandwiches)
- Cheese Nips or Better Cheddarers
- Teddy Graham's or Teddy Graham character brands
- Nilla Wafers, Barnum's Animal Crackers
- Nabisco Bug Bites Graham Crackers
- Nabisco Twigs
- Nabisco Premium Saltines
- Ritz Dinosaur
- Newtons and Newtons Minis (Fig, Strawberry, Raspberry, Apple)
- Red Oval Farms Stoned Wheat Thins
- Keebler:
  - Wheatables (wheat or honey flavors)
  - Club Crackers Original
- Team House Crackers Original
- Scooby Doo Cheddar Crackers and Graham Cracker Sticks
- Graham's (original, honey and chocolate)
- Golden Vanilla Wafers (regular and mini)
- Saltines (Zesta Originals)
- Toasted Crackers
- Cheddar Sandwich Crackers
- Munch'em Baked Snacks (original and cheddar)
- Sunshine
  - Cheez-it Original, Cheddar Jack, Twizzler Cheez-it
- Saltine Crackers (Krispy Originals)
- Shur Fine at Woodman's
  - Graham (honey or cinnamon)
  - Woven Wafers
  - Wheat Snacks
  - Cheese Cracker
  - Great Value (Walmart)
  - Animal Crackers (Original)
  - Double Cross Snacks (like triscuits)
  - Cheese Crackers
  - Crackles butter crackers
  - Snack Crackers
  - Honey or Cinnamon Grahams
  - Pepperidge Farm
  - Goldfish and Giant Goldfish Crackers (NO Sandwich Snackers, party mix or peanut butter flavor)
  - Goldfish Crisps
  - Rold Gold Pretzels (NO Bucky Badger, Schultz, Snyder's or Great Value as they are not nut free)
  - Rold Gold Cheddar Tiny Twists
  - Rold Gold Honey Mustard Tiny Twists
  - Rold Gold Braided Twist
  - Rold Gold Butter Crackers
  - Rold Gold Snack Mix and Munchies

### Cereal Bars
- Kellogg's NutriGrain Bars
- Kellogg's All Bran Honey Oat Bars
- Kellogg's Special K Bars (strawberry, blueberry, vanilla or chocolate)
- Rice Krispies Treats (original)
- Rice Krispies Treats Split Stix
- Nabisco Honey Maid Soft Baked Bars

### Cereals
- Malt-o-Meal
- Apple Zings
- Frosted Mini Spooners
- Honey Buzzers
- Cinnamon Toasters
- Colossal Crunch (regular or berry)
- Tootie Fruities
- Coco Roca
- Maltol Mates
- Kellogg's
  - Apple Jacks
  - Fruit Loops
  - Mini Wheats
  - Crispix
- Mom's Best Naturals (at Woodmans)
- Toasted Wheat-fuls
- Mallow Oats
- Honey Grahams
- Honey-flu Wheels
- Great Value (Walmart)
- Toasted Rice
- Corn or wheat squares (like Chex)
- Shur Fine
- Toasted Oats
- Crunchy Corn Cereal
- Crunchy Corn and Rice
- Value Time at Woodman's
- Toasted Oats Original (not Honey Nut)
- Corn Flakes
- Frosted Fruit
- Crisp Rice

**Please remember that in order to be candy and nut-free, these items are not acceptable as daily classroom snacks:**
- Peanut butter, nuts or other nut butters
- Candy
- Bakery items
- Bulk bin items
- Granola or granola bars
- Cheez or other party snack mixes

**Please read labels carefully to make sure products are nut free. Some manufacturers have discontinued labeling products that may have nuts or are produced on equipment also used for products with nuts.**

Updated June 2011
**ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUG POLICY (BOARD POLICY 4235)**

Board Policy 4235 provides that no student shall possess, consume, sell, give away or be under the influence of and dependency on alcohol and other drugs. No student shall possess, consume, sell, give away or be under the influence of alcohol and/or other drugs in the school, on school grounds, in motor vehicles used by the school, or at school-sponsored events or activities on or off school grounds.

The Madison Metropolitan School District shares with the community the responsibility to provide an optimal school environment for the intellectual, emotional, and physical development of its students and recognizes that alcohol and other drug use/abuse seriously affects that school environment. The Madison Metropolitan School District will join family and community efforts in providing necessary information, skills, role models, incentives, and experiences, which discourage alcohol and other drug abuse and dependency as well as discourage enabling behaviors in its schools, and will strive to make the school environment supportive to students who are experiencing problems related to alcohol and other drugs.

**ADA/504**


A person with a disability is someone who:

1. has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (e.g., caring for one’s self, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating and working); or
2. has a record of such an impairment; or
3. is regarded as having such an impairment.

In order to fulfill its obligations under these laws, the Madison Metropolitan School District Board of Education and the Madison Metropolitan School District recognize a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices in the Madison Metropolitan School District.

If the parent or legal guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the Madison Metropolitan School District, she/he has the right to file a complaint with the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, the City of Madison Equal Opportunity Department, or the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Opportunity Department, or the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

If there are any questions, please contact:

ADA Coordinator - Level/Area Special Education Coordinators:
Ted Szalkowski – East/La Follette elementary schools
Joanne Grassman – Memorial/West elementary schools
Noelle Sapiro – Middle & high schools
MMSD
545 West Dayton Street
Madison, WI 53703-1995
608/663-8442

**ANTIBULLYING POLICY**

Schools must create a culture in which bullying is not tolerated. We must encourage students to take a part in this culture by reporting known bullying and being helpful to classmates who are bullied.

We must support and assist the person being bullied, giving him/her tools to empower him/herself and overcome the negative effects of bullying and we must also intervene with the student who engages in bullying behavior to ensure the bullying behavior stops by (1) teaching new skills of communication and empathy, (2) communicating with parents and (3) providing appropriate, gradual discipline. Students, parents or guardians, and other persons who become aware of bullying incidents are encouraged to make a verbal or written report. Written reports may be made on the form entitled “Report of Bullying Incident” and submitted to any teacher, student services staff or administrator. This form can be found on the MMSD website or in the school office.

[For more detailed information, refer to: A Policy Guide for Families & Students of MMSD Elementary Schools.]

**CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES (BOARD POLICY 3170)**

Board Policy states that the study of and teaching of controversial issues shall be in an academic atmosphere as free as possible from bias and prejudice. In the teaching of controversial issues, a teacher must, among other things, respect and withhold the expression of his/her personal opinions unless asked by a direct question, develop a classroom atmosphere in which pupils feel free to express opinions and to challenge ideas; and choose suitable instructional materials presenting data on varying points of view on issues being discussed.

A citizen of the school community may register a protest with the Principal and request that he/she change the way in which a controversial issue is being handled.

0/4/04 (Revised 2/7/05)

**DRESS CODE (BOARD POLICY 4211, 4600)**

The Board of Education has the following policy regarding student behavior, dress and grooming:

1. Reasonable rules of conduct shall prohibit behavior which disrupts, hinders, or interferes with the education of other pupils and conduct which endangers the health, safety, or welfare of students, faculty, and staff.
2. The BOARD will support the action of any teacher, custodian, supervisor, or administrator which is necessary to prevent disruption of any function of the school system.

Pupils found to be guilty of such conduct shall be suspended by the PRINCIPAL and may be expelled by the BOARD. (See Student Code of Conduct – Suspension Code 107)
Electronic Devices
(Board Policy 4403)

Possession of a Personal Electronic Device

1. Pupils are permitted to possess a cellular phone, personal digital assistant, personal music/video/gaming device, camera, or other personal electronic device with communications functions or the capability to capture/record voice or image information, (collectively within this Policy, “Device” or “Devices”), provided that the Device remains stored, powered off, and unused (1) throughout the entirety of the educational day that has been established for the applicable school, (2) in a school bathroom, locker room, or other dressing area at any time, and (3) at such other times as have been identified in advance by a school-issued policy, rule or directive. Such a Device shall be considered stored if it is outside of view and reasonably secured in a locker, backpack/purse, or pocket. Any headphone, ear piece, or similar equipment associated with a Device shall also be stored and not worn.

2. Any pupil who possesses or uses a Device and/or associated equipment that is not stored, that is not powered off, or in a manner that violates this Board Policy or any other policy or school rule shall be subject to consequences, including but not necessarily limited to disciplinary action, required surrender of the Device, and/or potentially having his/her right to possess a Device at school further restricted by the school PRINCIPAL or his/her designee. In any case where a Device is confiscated by a school, the Device shall be returned to the pupil or to a parent/guardian at an appropriate time.

3. Pupils who possess a Device do so at their own risk to possible loss, damage or liability.

4. The following situations represent limited exceptions to Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Policy:

   a. If a school PRINCIPAL or his/her designee determines that a Device was used appropriately by a pupil in an emergency situation, the school shall not discipline the pupil for such possession/use.

   b. An individual pupil, or parent or guardian on behalf of an individual pupil, may request permission in advance from the pupil’s school PRINCIPAL or his/her designee to possess and use a Device for a medical, educational, or other legitimate purpose that the PRINCIPAL/designee determines is necessary for the pupil’s education. This shall include one-time permissions that are granted by a staff member with authority from the PRINCIPAL/designee to an individual pupil to make a specific telephone call or other specific communication.

   c. For an educational or other legitimate purpose, a PRINCIPAL or his/her designee may authorize in advance the limited use of a Device by pupils during the school’s educational day in a manner that is otherwise prohibited under Paragraph 1 of this Policy, with the following limitations:

      i. No exception to Paragraph 1 may be authorized under Sub-paragraph 4.c as applied to the use of any Device’s communications functions during the school’s educational day.

      ii. No exception to Paragraph 1 may be authorized under Sub-paragraph 4.b or under Sub-paragraph 4.c with respect to the possession or use of any Device in a school bathroom, locker room, or other dressing area.

   d. The PRINCIPAL or his/her designee shall determine whether the possession and use of a Device is within the scope of any advance authorization.

   e. The school PRINCIPAL, an ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, or the SUPERINTENDENT shall have discretion to prospectively revoke any prior authorization that operated as a limited exception to Paragraph 1 and Paragraph 2 of this Policy.

5. Pupils shall annually be provided with a copy of the rules that govern the possession and use of the Devices covered by this Policy.

6. Nothing within this Policy shall be construed to limit a pupil’s ability to use a Device in a manner that functions as assistive technology necessary for a pupil’s education and that is required under an Individualized Education Plan or a Section 504 agreement.

Student Computer & Internet Use: Policy, Procedures & Rules