

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>MISSION &amp; BELIEF STATEMENTS</u>	-	2
-		
<u>PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS</u>		3
-		
<u>CODE OF CONDUCT</u>		4-7
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY	MAINTAINING AN ORDERLY CAMPUS	SCHOOL REPRESENTATION
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES	PERSONAL RIGHTS OF OTHERS	-
DRESS CODE	PROPERTY RIGHTS	
LUNCH TIME RULES	RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPECT	
 <u>STUDENT POLICIES</u>		 8-13
ATTENDANCE	HANDS-OFF POLICY	PERSONAL HYGIENE
ABSENCE	HARASSMENT	PERSONAL ITEMS
ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES	HOMEWORK	PHONE CALLS
ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE	INCENTIVE PROGRAMS	PROMOTION POLICY
ASSEMBLIES	LIBRARY	SCHOOL INSURANCE
BUS POLICY	LITTER	TARDY POLICY
BICYCLE	LOST AND FOUND	TEXTBOOKS
CAFETERIUM	MAKE-UP WORK	TIME SCHEDULE
CLOSED CAMPUS	MEDICATION	VISITORS
GRADING POLICY	NUISANCE ITEMS	
HALLS	PERFORMANCE ETIQUETTE	
 <u>FOUNDATION OF RESPECT</u>		 14
 <u>SAFE AND ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT</u>		 15-20
DISCIPLINE POINTS		
POINTS OF CLARIFICATION		
CONSEQUENCES OF MISCONDUCT		
-		



## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Thatcher Elementary School is to create a positive, caring and safe learning environment for all students, faculty and staff, where risk taking is encouraged and learning is expected.

## BELIEF STATEMENTS

**WE BELIEVE** we have the responsibility to provide a variety of educational experiences in the classroom and in extracurricular activities.

**WE BELIEVE** we have the responsibility to provide students with, at very least, the basic knowledge and skills necessary to function well in society.

**WE BELIEVE** that every student can learn and achieve.

**WE BELIEVE** we have the responsibility to teach life skills such as promptness, dependability, self-motivation, discipline, mutual respect, personal pride, and elements of integrity such as honesty and responsibility.

**WE BELIEVE** students can be taught to take responsibility for their own choices and each student should be held responsible for their own behavior.

**WE BELIEVE** each student has the right to attend school in a safe environment.

**WE BELIEVE** no student should be allowed to infringe on the rights of others to gain an education.



## PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS

Thatcher Elementary School is committed to a school environment that provides a quality education for all students. To do this, we will teach the basic academic disciplines along with a foundation of basic values. We believe the school must:

- Provide classroom instruction with high academic standards.
- Assist students in developing their physical, emotional, mental, social, moral and creative potential.
- Provide resources for students with special needs.
- Supervise and enforce a fair system of discipline.
- Provide students with activities that develop self-worth.
- Recognize the unique problems associated with elementary students and provide counseling to assist with related problems.
- Provide a smooth transition for all students from the primary school, to elementary, and on to middle school.
- Encourage all students to strive for the best possible education by maintaining high standards of excellence both in and out of the classroom.
- Work together with parents and the community to provide for the total education of all students.
- Provide instruction and resources to help align student abilities with state and district academic standards.



## CODE OF CONDUCT

Thatcher Elementary School expects exemplary conduct from its students. Positive student behavior is based upon recognizing the inherent dignity of every human being. Students learn effectively in an environment in which the expectations of good conduct are clear and the consequences of unacceptable behavior are defined. This Code of Conduct applies to any student who is on school property, in attendance at school or at any school sponsored activity. Therefore, it is essential to examine the rules of good conduct at Thatcher Elementary School.

### ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

It is the fundamental belief at Thatcher Elementary School that any work presented by students will be their own. Academic dishonesty, in any form, is inconsistent with the school's philosophy and will not be tolerated.

Cheating on a quiz, test, project, homework, or examination includes any case of assistance sought, received, or offered without prior notification of the teacher. It also includes the possession of an unauthorized test and/or teacher materials that would give the student an unfair advantage.

Plagiarism is defined as borrowing someone else's words, ideas, or facts and passing them off as one's own. Failure to credit the source of those ideas, words, or facts properly constitutes an act of plagiarism.

### CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE POLICY

Thatcher Elementary School prohibits the possession, use, dispensing, selling, and/or giving of any alcohol, drugs, tobacco, vape/e-cigarettes, and/or weapons. If it is established that a student has been transmitting, selling, using, or has in possession any alcohol, drugs, tobacco, vape/e-cigarettes and/or weapons the following procedure will be followed. The principal will notify the parent and disciplinary action will be taken. A written report will then be sent to the Superintendent and the Thatcher Police will be notified. If, after review by the Principal and Superintendent, a "Long-Term Suspension" or "Expulsion" hearing is needed, a certified letter will be delivered to the parent describing the charges and the time, place, and date of the hearing. The administration views these actions as very serious, by nature, and recognizes that the student's removal by no means solves their problem. Any student in violation of this policy will be removed from extracurricular activities.

### DRESS CODE (Board Policy JICA-R).

At Thatcher Elementary School, we respect the right of students to express their individuality; however, we also respect the right of all students to receive an education free from unnecessary distractions and disruptions. Because of this fundamental right, we expect students to express themselves in a way that highlights their uniqueness, yet respects the rights of others to unhindered learning. This is one reason why an effective dress code, and enforcement of that code, is necessary.

Parents are strongly urged to pay particular attention to the cleanliness, modesty, and appropriateness of their child's school attire. The school requires that students dress in such a way as to not distract or disrupt the educational process. The principal will make the final determination as to whether a student's dress or appearance is acceptable. The principal has the authority to allow items for special occasions or special circumstances.



- Any gang apparel, jewelry, hat or hair ornaments that suggest gang affiliation are strictly forbidden and will be confiscated. Belts and chains are not to hang more than six (6) inches from the waist.

- Clothing, belts, jewelry or any other items suggesting identification with the drug culture, having lewd, vulgar or suggestive statements or pictures, or anything with racist slurs, gender derogatory, sexual orientation, or disability are prohibited. Clothing advertising tobacco or alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

- Shorts and skirts are permitted as long as they are no more than five (5) inches above the center of the kneecap, with the waistline worn properly. If leggings are worn under a skirt/shorts, the length must come to the middle of the thigh. Spandex shorts, cutoffs or rolled up shorts are prohibited. Shorts must have a factory finish.

- Spaghetti straps, tank tops, see-through blouses, short tops, muscle shirts, bare midriff shirts are prohibited. Shirts without proper undergarments or designed to be worn as undergarments, that are being worn improperly are prohibited. All shirts must have sleeves.

- Shoes are to be worn at all times. No flip-flops or unsecured shoes shall be worn. Your child will participate in P.E. and other activities that require proper footwear. No slippers may be worn.

- Hats and caps may be worn outside only. At all other times they must be put out of sight in a backpack.

- Sunglasses are not permitted, unless they are prescription glasses and are worn on advice from the doctor. Sunglasses will be confiscated if brought on campus during the school day.

- Clothing is to be worn so as not to distract from the learning atmosphere of the school setting. Sagging, with the crotch of the pants near the knees and the waistline across the middle of the buttocks is not permitted. Pants are to be worn at the waistline (top of the hips). Clothing with holes, shreds, rips or tears should not show exposed skin higher than five (5) inches above the knees. Instead cloth should be used beneath the hole to cover exposed areas.

Any violation of the dress code may result in one or more of the following: (1) A phone call home for proper clothing to be brought to school, (2) The student changes into proper clothing they may already have available, (3) If clothing is not available, the school will make available proper clothing that may be worn for the remainder of the day, or (4) The student will be sent home for the remainder of the school day. If a student is sent home to change, they will be issued an unexcused absence. Discipline points will also be awarded for dress code violations. Repeated violations may result in loss of privilege, or suspension, depending upon the circumstances involved. (A repeated violation occurs on the second offense).



## LUNCH TIME RULES

During lunch, students are to stay away from all Thatcher Middle School classrooms and activity areas. After eating, students are to report to their designated playground area. For their safety we ask that students not congregate in the parking lots. All games and activities that occur during lunch should be safe...no rough play will be tolerated. "Wall Ball" and all similar games are prohibited. Students need to stay in safe, supervised areas.

## MAINTAINING AN ORDERLY CAMPUS

Students may not be in the Keith Claridge Building or classrooms without a teacher present. No bicycles, skateboards, Heelys, scooters or rollerblades will be allowed on campus, even when school is not in session. Collecting money on campus for any purpose, other than approved fund-raisers, is not allowed. No food or beverages are allowed inside of the school building without principal approval. Chewing gum on campus is not permitted.

## PERSONAL RIGHTS OF OTHERS

Ethnic, racial, religious, and sexual slurs will not be tolerated. Slurs regarding physical differences are likewise banned. Lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct is unacceptable. Bullying, hazing, and intimidation are a serious breach of proper conduct. Foul language will not be tolerated. It is prohibited to knowingly publish or circulate false information which is damaging to another (i.e. spreading false rumors). Fighting will not be tolerated. Threatening physical violence to another student or teacher will not be tolerated.

## PROPERTY RIGHTS

Stealing and vandalism of any form, including unauthorized "borrowing" of another's belongings, removal of anything from the classroom without the teacher's consent, or the removal of books from the library without signing them out is not permitted.

Defacement of school or personal property will require restitution as well as written apologies and disciplinary consequences. This includes destroying or writing on desks, tables, walls, lockers, chairs, and yearbooks. Vulgar messages written in yearbooks are forbidden. "Upon complaint of the Governing Board, the parents or guardian of the student who has injured school property shall be liable for all damages caused by their children or wards." (ARS 15-842)

Lying to a teacher, another adult, or the principal to avoid punishment for a wrongdoing is a serious offense. Forging a parent's signature is a serious offense and will carry disciplinary action. Intentional disruption of school activities will not be allowed. Disorderly conduct of any kind is prohibited. Gambling is prohibited. Using on-line computer services to acquire and/or view sexually explicit material is a serious offense.



## RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPECT

Students are expected to demonstrate courteous behavior. In assemblies, students are expected to come to order and give their attention to those presenting the assembly. Students must behave for, and cooperate with, substitute teachers. Students reported by a substitute teacher for misconduct will receive disciplinary action. Public displays of affection (holding hands, hugging, kissing, etc.) are not acceptable.

Students are expected to speak in positive ways about each other and about the staff of this school. The “golden rule” of communication in our school is in effect: “Don’t talk about someone else in a way that you wouldn’t want them to talk about you.” Too much time is wasted when our staff has to deal with students who verbally backstab one another and the emotional results of this behavior. There are four guidelines we expect our students to adhere to in their conversations:

1. Don’t say hurtful or offensive things to or about other people.
2. Don’t repeat hurtful or offensive things that other people have said.
3. Try to ignore what other people say about you; when you react to what they say, you are giving them exactly what they wanted – and they win.
4. Be honest about your role in any dispute when dealing with a teacher or the principal.

Punctuality is important. Detentions will be issued for tardiness. Bus misconduct will not be tolerated and may result in the loss of riding privileges. Students absent from school may not participate in extracurricular activities that day. This includes sports events, sports practices, music performances, etc.

## SCHOOL REPRESENTATION

All students involved with extracurricular activities assume the responsibility to conduct themselves properly while participating. This is especially important when traveling to “away” contests. Proper conduct becomes the responsibility of each person while on the bus, at the game, and while in commercial businesses. If the conduct of the student brings a bad name upon them, the team, or the school they will have disciplinary action invoked and possible termination from extracurricular activities.



## STUDENT POLICIES

### ATTENDANCE

Consistent with state law, Thatcher Elementary School holds to the philosophy that parents are responsible for the attendance of their children. Parents have the right to have their child out of school for any reason deemed important, but in exercising that right, they assume the responsibility for the loss of any academic material presented during the absence, and may be responsible for the loss of credit, if absences are excessive. Parents cannot expect the school to educate students, who are not physically in attendance. The school reserves the right to set limits on the number of absences a student may have, beyond which course credit cannot be justified.

All students must be signed out, in the Office, before leaving campus during the school day. If a parent desires to have their student released to another person it must be approved by the principal.

### ABSENCE

Each time a student is absent, a parent must notify the school. If unable to call, a note must be sent with the student upon their return to school. The school may call and check on students any time deemed necessary. Excessive absences without good reason may warrant the school to report to the truancy office to investigate the problem.

**Excused Absence:** Those caused by unavoidable circumstances such as illness of immediate family, funeral, doctor or dentist appointments, or other emergencies. Each of these absences should be followed by a note or phone call from a parent. If the work missed during an excused absence is made up as far as possible, there is no grade loss or penalty.

**Unexcused Absence:** Those absences in which the student and parent had a choice. Examples are shopping, pleasure trips, vacations, hunting, etc. Make-up work is not allowed for unexcused absences unless prior arrangements were made with the student's teachers. The work should be completed prior to, or upon the return of the student to school.

**Thatcher Elementary School Absence Policy:** If absences become excessive, greater than 5 unexcused absences or 10 excused, the student will be referred to a court of jurisdiction for further prosecution of the school attendance law concerning habitual truancy. After a student is absent 10 days in one semester a Doctor's note, for verification of illness, will be required for each absence thereafter.

### ACCIDENTS & INJURIES

All accidents and injuries occurring at school must be reported immediately to proper authority. An incident report will be completed and filed in the office. Failure to do this may cause "non-coverage" of some insurance policies.



## RE Friday

Students will be invited to campus by appointment only. The appointment will be determined on the student's academic process during each week. Standard Mastery is the focus for all students. Other situations may occur for students to be on campus for Friday activities and will be communicated through email, phone or other district methods of communication. ALL activities will be under the direction of the inviting teacher. There will be limited transportation available on Friday's. Buses will run 3 times each Friday. See the school district website for times and stops. Contact the teacher for help rather than falling behind in your classes.

## ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Unless the student has arranged to meet with a teacher.....no student should arrive at school before 7:15 AM. Limited supervision is in place from 7:05 - 7:30. Students are to leave the school grounds immediately at the end of the day or school sponsored activity.

## ASSEMBLIES

An indication of the cultural level of a school is the conduct of students at an assembly. Each student is responsible for the impression made by the school as a whole. Unacceptable conduct would include whistling, boisterousness, and talking during the program. Students who choose to participate inappropriately at assemblies will lose the privilege of attending.

## BUS POLICY

Students who are bused to school must conduct themselves properly. If problems occur the bus driver will file an Incident Report. If this problem is not corrected the privilege of riding the bus will be suspended and a parent will be responsible for the transportation of the student. Bus misconduct will not be tolerated.

## BICYCLES / SCOOTERS / SKATEBOARDS

Thatcher Elementary School cannot assume responsibility for damage or theft of bicycles, scooters, or skateboards. Students who ride these items to school should lock them securely in the bike racks. Any theft or damage should be reported immediately to the Thatcher Policy Department as well as the office.

## CAFETERIUM

We encourage all students to use the cafeteria. Breakfast, a hot lunch or salad bar can be purchased at a reasonable rate. Courteous behavior and cleanliness are required in the cafeteria. Parents may pay any amount toward the student's lunch account. Free and reduced lunch applications are available in the office. At no time are students allowed to take food outside the cafeteria. Students who bring their lunch from home will be required to eat in the cafeteria.

Students whose parent/guardians have given permission to eat at the Eagles' Roost need to be aware that they are off campus, and that the privilege of exercising this exception to our closed-campus policy WILL be revoked if they behave inappropriately or if they litter our campus. Food bought at the Eagles' Roost MUST be eaten at the Eagles' Roost or at the designated tables. It is not to be brought onto the playground. Parents should be aware that while the cafeteria is required by law to provide nutritionally balanced meals, the Eagles' Roost is not.



## CLOSED CAMPUS

Thatcher Elementary School students will observe a **CLOSED CAMPUS POLICY**. During school hours all students will remain on campus. This applies from the time the students arrive until 2:16 p.m. Students who don't follow one of the listed exceptions and are found to be off campus will be subject to disciplinary action. Due to this policy, parents must assume full liability and responsibility for their students who leave campus during lunch. (3rd grade students are not allowed at Eagle's Roost)

The only exceptions to our closed-campus policy:

- If a student resides within the identified area, they may eat lunch at home. A completed form must be on file in the office.
- If a student eats lunch at Eagle's Roost, a completed form must be on file in the office.

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic devices are not to be seen, heard or used by students while on the Thatcher Elementary School campus. These devices have no place at school unless they are part of a class presentation or project to be used under the supervision and direction of school personnel. They become a serious problem when they are lost or stolen. The school will not be held liable for any lost or stolen electronic devices. The school reserves the right to confiscate these devices. Any student using an electronic device without teacher/staff consent will forfeit that device for 5 school days. This includes but is not limited to cell phones, IPODS, CD-players, laser pointers and any other electronic games or electronic communication devices. More serious discipline will follow on the second offense under defiance of authority.

## GRADING POLICY

A percentage grading policy has been adopted by the District Governing Board. The following scale will be used:

A = 90 - 100%    B = 80 - 89%    C = 70 - 79%    D = 60 - 69%    F = 59 – below

Parents can view grades via ParentVue.

## HALLS

Students are to be in class and are not allowed in the halls during class time unless they have a "hall pass" from their teacher. Students who are out of class without a "hall pass" may be subject to disciplinary action.

## HANDS-OFF POLICY

It is the policy of Thatcher Elementary School to strictly enforce a hands-off policy on campus. Students are not to push, shove, trip, slap, or otherwise strike another student either in play or anger.

1. A discipline referral may be written for a **Violation of the Hands-Off Policy** when a student has feigned or actually made physical contact as previously defined.
2. A discipline referral may be written for **Physical Assault** when a student violates the Hands-Off Policy and there is intent to cause physical harm or injury and/or strike with anger or malice.
3. A discipline referral may be written for **Fighting** when two or more students have jointly violated the Hands-Off Policy and there is intent to cause physical harm or injury and/or strike with anger or malice.
4. A discipline referral may be written for **Incitement** when a student has made threats of physical harm or



injury, harassed or intimidated another student, acted or promised to act as “back-up” to a fight, and/or promoted or supported a fight between other students through verbal or physical actions which may include congregating at the scene of a fight when directed by school employees to leave the scene.

## HARASSMENT

Harassment is any verbal, visual, or physical conduct which is sufficiently severe, persistent or persuasive that it adversely affects, or has the purpose of interfering with the student’s educational program or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school atmosphere. Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, or other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Harassment whether it is by students, staff or third parties in the school community, is strictly prohibited, and will subject the perpetrator to disciplinary action. Any conduct of this kind will not be tolerated and the School Resource Officer will be involved with each documented case of harassment.

## HOMEWORK

It is the philosophy of Thatcher Elementary School that student homework consists simply of work that is not finished during the regular school day. Unless stated otherwise, homework is due the next day after an assignment is given. There are two types of homework: Homework designed to practice a certain skill area, and homework designed to test whether you understand that skill area. Neither of these goals is accomplished if someone other than the student completes the homework. For this reason, we assign a grade of zero (0) to assignments turned in that are completed by someone other than the student whose name is on the heading of the page. We ask that parents provide guidance as needed, but not provide answers. Students learn much more as they work out the problems in their own minds. Teachers and parents are encouraged to work together to make sure that all students turn in all of their assignments. If requesting homework because of illness, the work is expected to be completed when the student returns to school. If not requested, the student will receive one day for each day absent to complete the work.

## INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

**POPS (Power of Positive Students) ...** Positive way to reward students on a daily basis. This reward earns the student a pencil and out early for lunch. The student turns their POPS into the office for a drawing at the end of each quarter.

**Student of the Month.....**At the end of each month, teachers will nominate a boy and girl from each grade that best exemplified these standards.

- One absence or less
- No unexcused tardies
- Turned in all homework
- Maintained a grade of 75% or higher
- No major discipline problems

## LIBRARY

The library has an outstanding supply of books, magazines, reference materials, and technology. Materials can be checked out for a period of two weeks. Reference materials cannot be checked out from the library.



## LITTER

Students are responsible for their own trash disposal. Be aware of littering and deposit discarded trash in containers provided throughout the campus. Students observed littering will be assigned trash duty.

## LOST AND FOUND

Thatcher Elementary School will not be responsible for any personal items lost or stolen on school grounds or school related activities. Lost items should be reported as soon as possible to the office. Students are expected to bring any valuable items found immediately to the office.

## MEDICATION

If it becomes necessary for a student to take any form of medication at school, a signed medication form must be on file in the office. All medications will be kept in and dispensed from the nurses' office.

**STUDENTS ARE NOT TO SELF-MEDICATE AT ANY TIME.**

## NUISANCE ITEMS

Items not directly associated with the educational setting (i.e. cell phones, electronic games, devices or toys, cameras, skateboards, yo-yos, rubber bands, etc.) are not allowed at school. They become a serious problem when they are stolen or lost. Students found in possession of such items will have the items confiscated and may be subject to disciplinary action. Confiscated items may be returned to the student's parent.

## PERFORMANCE ETIQUETTE

These guidelines are provided to help create an atmosphere conducive to the enjoyment of all those attending fine arts performances:

- Quiet conversation is permissible ONLY before the start of a performance.
- Talking, whispering and other distractions are not appropriate during performance.
- Remain seated during the entire performance or until you are dismissed.
- Applause is appropriate and welcome.
- Please leave all food outside.
- Any person not in conformance will be asked to leave.

## PERSONAL ITEMS

All articles and valuables are brought to school at the owner's risk. If you bring valuables to school, give them to a teacher or place them in the office. Please be sure that all coats, musical instruments, and other personal items are marked appropriately. Misplaced items can then be returned to their proper owners.

## PHONE CALLS

Students will not be allowed to make personal phone calls from the office excessively. If you find it necessary to talk with your child during the school day you may leave a message with the building secretary.



## PROMOTION POLICY

Parents of students who are academically deficient will be notified by the school as early as possible. If these deficiencies still exist in May, the parent will be notified of possible retention. Parents are encouraged to maintain contact with teachers and monitor their child's progress, especially in problem classes.

## SCHOOL INSURANCE

Parents have the option of purchasing low-cost insurance from a school-authorized carrier, or to maintain insurance from some other source. The school maintains no health coverage for its students. Questions about insurance can be answered at the school office.

## TARDY POLICY

If students are not in their assigned classroom when the bell rings, they are considered tardy. If a student is more than 10 minutes tardy, it is considered an absence. The attendance of students plays an important role in the level of success they will experience in the educational process. We appreciate the effort that our students and parents make daily in regard to attendance. The tardy policy starts over each semester. The consequences for being tardy are:

<u>Tardy Number</u>	<u>Consequence</u>
1 — 3	None
4 & 5	AM Recess Detention w/ teacher or in ISS
6 & 7	Lunch Recess Detention w/ principal or in ISS
8 and more	After school Detention w/ principal until 2:45

## TEXTBOOKS

Students are responsible for the care and safekeeping of the textbooks and library books they use. Students will be charged for school materials that are damaged, marked on, or lost.

## TIME SCHEDULE

The first bell rings at 7:55 a.m. Students are tardy after 8:00 a.m. Lunches start at 11:20 a.m. School is dismissed for students at 2:16 p.m.

## VISITORS

All visitors are to report to the Office upon entering the building. Anyone wishing to spend time visiting the school must pick up a visitor's pass at the office. Students may not bring their friends to attend school with them. Parents are welcome to spend time in classrooms at any time. While school is open, we do require that all visitors abide by all school policies.



# **FOUNDATION OF RESPECT**



It is expected that all students, teachers, staff members, and Thatcher Elementary School associates will embrace, internalize and practice the universal principle of **RESPECT**.

**RESPECT** will drive all decisions and behaviors.

**RESPECT** for self, **RESPECT** for others, **RESPECT** for community, **RESPECT** for country, and **RESPECT** for school.

Each teacher, staff member, student, and parent will embrace high **EXPECTATIONS** for themselves and those with whom they work and serve. We truly believe all students can achieve and progress leading to a happier and more fulfilling future.

Through research and evidence we concede that manipulation, coercion, anger, and humiliation does not motivate students to greatness. Belief in oneself, excellent teachers, a foundation of consistently reinforced corrective **CONSEQUENCES**, and the overarching ability to **CHOOSE** will improve motivation, achievement, and innovation.

**STUDENTS CHOOSE THEIR CHOICES. THEY DO NOT CHOOSE THE CONSEQUENCES!**



## SAFE AND ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT

### Discipline Points

Thatcher Elementary School students will be held responsible for their own behaviors. Very few students have trouble managing their behavior, and we recognize that everyone has occasional lapses of judgment. With this in mind, we note that the following guidelines will not apply to most students, nor will all of them apply to any one student; however, all students are to understand and follow the “Big Three.”

The following guidelines have been developed for a safe and orderly environment. If a problem should occur, parents, teachers, guidance personnel, administrators, and police may be involved in conferencing, counseling and advising the student.

We are committed to the ideal that all students will be successful and get along as they follow the rules at Thatcher Elementary School. Students who are referred to the office will be dealt with according to the approved policies. Students may be assigned **discipline points** for each infraction in which they receive a disciplinary referral.

-

When students accumulate 100 points of infractions during the school year they may lose the privilege of continuing as a student in good standing at Thatcher Elementary School and will have the following options:

-

- Be referred to the Superintendent of Schools for possible long-term suspension from Thatcher Elementary School.
- If “long-term” suspension has been enforced, the student will be referred to the Governing Board for possible expulsion from Thatcher Unified School District.
- Withdraw from Thatcher Elementary School.



*The following is the Discipline System followed at Thatcher Elementary School.*

**CATEGORY 1**

Skates, scooters, skateboards, etc. on campus	2	5	10
Repeated Playground Violations	2	5	10
Disrespect for School Property, Littering	2	5	10

**CATEGORY 2**

Dress code violation	5	10	15
Profanity, vulgarity & obscene gestures	5	10	15
Public display of affection	5	10	15
Cell Phone/Electronic Device Disruptive Object	5	10	15
Hands Off Policy Violation	5	10	15
Horseplay/Injury Prone or Unsafe Behavior	5	10	15

**CATEGORY 3**

Cheating (Plus Mandatory Zero for Assignment)	5	15	20
Disruptive Behavior	5	15	20
Defacing school property (with reparations)	5	15	20
General Bus Disruptions	5	15	20
Failure to Comply with a Reasonable Request	5	15	20
Out of Class without Permission	5	15	20
Fighting (Defender)	5	15	20
Incitement	5	15	20



#### CATEGORY 4

Defiance, Disrespect, Insubordination	10	20	30
Inappropriate Use of Computers	10	20	30
Truancy/Ditching	10	20	30
Profanity/Vulgarity/Obscenities Directed at Staff	10	20	30

#### CATEGORY 5

Theft	15	25	30
On Campus without permission	15	25	30
Vandalism/Destruction of School Property	15	25	30

#### CATEGORY 6

Use/Distribution of pornographic material/images	20	25	35
Possession of a Knife	20	25	35
Fighting (Aggressor)	20	25	35
Harassment, Bullying, Cyberbullying	20	25	35
Threats, verbal abuse or written abuse	20	25	35
E-cigarettes, Chemical Inhalation Devices, Tobacco	35	40	50

#### CATEGORY 7(Police will be notified)

Assault of a Student	50	75
<i>False fire alarm/911 call</i>	50	75
Under the influence of a controlled substance	50	75
Alcohol violation	50	75
Indecent Exposure	50	75
Sexual Harassment	50	75
Operating a vehicle on campus in reckless and dangerous manner	50	75
Sexual Contact/Groping	75	
Intentional Battery of a Student	75	



## CATEGORY 8 (Police will be notified)

Arson	100
Aggravated Assault of a Student	100
Assault of a district employee	100
Bomb threat	100
Severe vandalism/Destruction of school property	100
Possession of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia	100
Possession of a weapon, dangerous device or a firearm	100
Possession of an explosive	100

### **NOTE:**

All **Category 3 & 4** infractions may include **In School Suspension (ISS)** in addition to points.

All **Category 5** infractions may include **1 Day Out of School Suspension (OSS)** in addition to points.

All **Category 6** infractions may include **3 Days Out of School Suspension (OSS)** in addition to points

All **Category 7** infractions may include **5 Days Out of School Suspension (OSS)** in addition to points

### **PARENTS**

Parents will be notified when their student has been referred to the office for a handbook infraction.

A parent conference may be scheduled when their student has a total of 50 points.

Students having a semester total of 70 points or more will NOT be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities. This includes athletics, music programs, school sponsored trips and attendance at school dances.

### **POINTS OF CLARIFICATION**

All procedures will be in accordance with Thatcher Unified School District Board Policy. Any act that violates the law or is not specifically covered in these policies will be dealt with by the administration. Any extreme violations, in any category, will be dealt with more severely than the policy prescribes. Police will be notified if an infraction is also a legal matter.



## **CONSEQUENCES FOR POINT ACCUMULATION**

1-10 points-warning

11-16 points-30 minutes community service/ISS

17-24 points-90 minutes community service/ISS

25-34 points-1 day ISS

35-44 points-3 days ISS

45-54 points-1 day OSS

55-66 points- 2 days OSS

67-77 points-3 days OSS

78-89 points-5 days OSS

90-99 points-8 days OSS

100+ points-Referral for long term suspension plus 10 days OSS

## **Positive Consequences**

Throughout each year varying positive consequences for both outstanding and improved behaviors will be developed and utilized by teachers, administrators, and student leaders.

In addition to these positive consequences, students may remove discipline points during each semester by doing the following:

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** A student may remove discipline points by serving community service hours after school.

**GOOD CONDUCT/BEHAVIOR:** A student may remove discipline points by displaying good behavior for a prescribed period of time without a referral to the office.

## **BEHAVIOR CONTRACT OR PLAN:**

Student discipline may be modified by the administration by creating a behavior contract agreed upon by the student and parents. This may include enrollment in diversion courses that will be prescribed and assigned to students for various handbook infractions. A student may have a reduction of points one time for completing a prescribed diversion course. If a student commits the infraction again, discipline points will be assessed without an opportunity for reduction

Appeals to the process outlined in this section are made through the Superintendent.



**POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL CONSEQUENCES OF MISCONDUCT (LIST IS NOT ALL INCLUSIVE)**

- **Behavioral Contract:** The student is placed on a contract that lists the disciplinary consequences that will be used for future behavior problems. This contract is signed by the principal, student, and parent.
- **Counseling:** The student will be referred, with parent approval, to a Guidance Counselor.
- **Expulsion:** The student will be referred to the Thatcher Unified School District Governing Board for permanent removal from the school environment.
- **In-School Suspension (ISS):** The student is suspended from one or more classes, but remains at school during these class periods. Class assignments will be sent to the office for the student to complete.
- **Long-Term Suspension:** The student will be referred to the Superintendent for removal from the school environment for a period of time longer than ten (10) school days.
- **Out-of-School Suspension (OSS):** The student will be removed from the school environment for a period not to exceed nine (9) school days. During out-of-school suspensions, the student is not allowed on campus or at any school related function.
- **Parent Conference:** A conference conducted between the student, their parent and appropriate school personnel. This conference will be documented.
- **Parent Notification:** Parents are notified by telephone, e-mail, personal contact, or letter regarding disciplinary infractions on a timely basis.
- **Removal from Extracurricular Activities:** The student is informed by the principal that they will not be permitted to participate in athletics, band, and/or school sponsored activities.
- **Required Parent Conference (RPC):** The student will be suspended until a parent or guardian is able to meet with the principal.
- **Restitution:** The student is informed that they are liable for replacement, repair, or monetary reimbursement for the damage to property.
- **Student Conference:** A formal conference held between the student and one or more school official. During this conference the student must agree to his/her behavior. This conference will be documented.
- **Work Detail:** The student will be given a work assignment (sweeping sidewalks, picking up trash, raking, etc.) in place of suspension, or as a disciplinary consequence.