

Thatcher Elementary School

“Nurturing Success”



Student Handbook

2026-2027

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	Pgs.4-7
Welcome Letter	
Mission and Beliefs	
Philosophy and Goals	
Daily School Schedule	
School Information	
Academic Dishonesty	
Curriculum and Assessments	
Grading Policy	
Homework	
Specials	
Promotion/ Retention Policy	
Mod-5/ R.E. Fridays	
Attendance.....	Pgs.11-12
Absence Policies	
Tardy Policy: Arrival and Departure	
Drop-off/Pick-up	
School Policies.....	Pgs.13-17
Accidents and Injuries	
Bus Policy	
Bicycles, Scooters, Skateboards, and Rollerskates	
Cafeteria	
Closed Campus	
Controlled Substance Policy	
Dress Code	
Electronic Devices	
Lost and Found	
Medication	
Parties, Birthdays, and Holiday Treats	
Personal Items	
School Insurance	
Visitors	
Volunteers	

Code of Conduct.....	Pgs.18-21
Eagle P.R.I.D.E	
Positive Recognition	
Bullying, Harassment, Intimidation	
Hands-off Policy	
Personal Rights of Others	
Property Rights	
Responsibility and Respect	
Maintaining an Orderly Campus.....	Pgs.21-22
Collecting Money	
Extracurricular Activities	
Food/Beverages	
Litter	
Lunch Time Rules	
Nuisance Items	
School Representation	
Sidewalks & Crosswalks	
Supervision	
Foundation of Respect.....	Pg.23
Safe and Orderly Environment.....	Pgs.24-32
Discipline Points	
Consequences	
Discipline Points Guide	
Discipline Follow-Up	
Possible Additional Consequences of Misconduct	
Glossary of Terms related to Conduct/ Violations	
Agreement Form.....	Pg.33

Thatcher Elementary School

1386 N. 4th Ave, Thatcher, AZ 85552 | 928.348.7250



Dear Thatcher Elementary School Students and Families,

August, 2026

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! I hope your summer has been filled with laughter, adventure, relaxation, and quality time with family and friends. Whether you spent your days traveling, swimming, reading, or simply enjoying time at home, I hope you’ve been having a fun summer.

It is with great excitement and gratitude that I welcome you back to Thatcher Elementary School as your new principal. Having served as Assistant Principal over the past two years, I have had the privilege of getting to know many of our amazing students, dedicated staff, and supportive families. I am honored to continue serving our school in this new role and look forward to another incredible year together.

At Thatcher Elementary, we believe every child can learn, grow, and succeed. Our mission is to provide a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment where students are challenged academically, encouraged to think critically, and inspired to become kind, responsible citizens. We are committed to helping every child reach their full potential while fostering a love of learning that extends beyond the classroom.

We also believe that success is not only measured by academic achievement, but by character, compassion, resilience, and the effort we give each day. Our goal is to promote and develop a school community where each student is challenged to grow, encouraged to persevere, and supported every step of the way.

With that being said, I believe that it takes all of us to help your child learn to soar. We cannot wait to begin another year of learning, growth, and success. Here’s to an outstanding school year! #TogetherWeSoar

With Eagle Pride,

Anthony Vincent

Principal, Thatcher Elementary School

928.348.7251 | vincent.tony@thatcherud.org

MISSION AND BELIEFS

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. Our motto is “*Nurturing Success.*”

WE BELIEVE...

- We have the responsibility to provide a variety of educational experiences in the classroom and throughout extracurricular activities.
- We have the responsibility to provide students with, at the very least, the basic knowledge and skills necessary to function well in society.
- That every student can learn and achieve.
- 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.
- Students can be taught to take responsibility for their own choices and each student should be held responsible for their own behavior.
- Each student has the right to attend school in a safe environment.
- No student should be allowed to infringe on the rights of others to gain an education.

Fight Song

On dear old Thatcher, Hail to the fray...

Down hearted never, In strong array---

“Fight, Fight, Fight”

Raise high the Eagle!

We’ll guard the “T” ...

While bold Mt. Graham stands, Fight for victory!

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 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.

DAILY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

8:00am - 2:15pm

Office Hours

Monday - Friday (while school is in session)

7:00am – 4:00pm, 928-348-7250

Regular School Day Schedule

7:25am Breakfast Begins

7:30am Before School Recess

7:50am First Bell

8:00am Start/ Tardy Bell

Lunch Times

11:15-12:00pm, 3rd Grade

11:35-12:20pm, 4th Grade

11:55-12:40pm, 5th Grade

12:15-1:00pm, 6th Grade

2:15pm **Dismissal**

Early Release Schedule

There are four mandatory Fridays, two at the start of each semester. On these days, as well as parent-teacher conference days, students will be released early at **1:15pm**. On that last day of school, students will be released at **10:15am**.

ACADEMICS

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 our school's philosophy and will not be tolerated. A grade of zero (0) will be assigned in addition to disciplinary action. **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; this includes AI programs/apps. Failure to credit the source of those ideas, words, or facts properly constitutes an act of plagiarism.

CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENTS

The Arizona Department of Education ([ADE](#)) has published instructional requirements, including grade-level standards and recommended instructional minutes, for each grade level and subject/content area. To meet these requirements, the District Governing Board has adopted the **Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH)** curriculum for all grades 3rd-6th. It is used for English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies, with the following exceptions: 6th grade uses the Savvas Science Curriculum, and 3rd grade utilizes supplemental resources to meet the Arizona Social Studies requirements. Throughout the school year, a variety of formative and summative assessments are used. This includes the **NWEA** online diagnostic tool, which is used to measure student learning at the beginning, middle, and end of the year. The **DIBELS** (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) Oral Reading Fluency assessment is also used three times per year. For students identified with oral reading concerns, the Title 1 Reading program utilizes the Orton-Gillingham program to identify and specifically address gaps in literacy development.

Each spring, the **Arizona Academic Standards Assessment (AASA)** is administered to ensure students are on track to successfully meet the Arizona Academic Learning Standards. All students in grades 3-6 will take parts 1 and 2 of the AASA Math and Reading exams, including the AASA Writing Exam (a typed essay). Students in Grade 3 must also take the AASA Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) exam, and students in Grade 5 must take AzSCI, Arizona's statewide achievement test for Science, which covers 3rd-5th grade content. Students in the 3rd grade must meet the **Move on When Reading [requirements](#)** to be promoted to the 4th grade.

GRADING POLICY

Throughout the school year, parents will receive progress reports at the middle of each quarter, and report cards at the end of each quarter. Progress Reports are simply snapshots of how your student is doing, whereas a report card represents the final grade for that quarter. If you believe an error has been made on the report card, an appeal must be filed. We highly encourage parents to use the ParentVue app to check grades, missing assignments, and report absences. The following 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

HOMEWORK

It is the philosophy of Thatcher Elementary School that student homework consists of:

1. Work that is not finished during the regular school day,
2. Make-up assignments (due to illness, family emergency, etc.), and
3. Regular encouragement of at-home reading with family.

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. Unless stated otherwise, homework is due the next day after an assignment is given. If someone other than the student completes the homework, a grade of zero (0) will be assigned. We ask that parents provide guidance as needed, but not provide answers. Students are responsible for the care and safekeeping of any textbooks, library books, or other school resources that they use or borrow. Students will be charged for school materials that are damaged, marked on, or lost.

SPECIALS: In addition to receiving instruction in Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies, students will attend at least two specials weekly.

- **Art/Music:** Attend once per week. Students will develop an Art Portfolio and perform in one musical performance per school year. If tax credit monies permit, students will also be allowed to attend a Gila Valley Arts Council (GVAC) sponsored performance once per year at the David M. Player Center for the Arts (CFA) in Safford.
- **Library:** Attend once per week. Students will be able to check out a book, complete research projects, and/or receive instruction in Digital Citizenship. The library has an outstanding supply of books, magazines, and reference materials. Materials can be checked out for a period of two weeks. Reference materials cannot be checked out from the library.

Other Specials/ Extracurricular Activities:

- **Choir:** Grades 4-6 may elect to participate in Choir, which practices after school.
- **Band/Orchestra:** Students in Grades 5-6 may participate in Band and/or Orchestra. Instruments are available to borrow from the school on a first-come, first-served basis. Instruments may also be rented locally.
- **Physical Education:** We encourage parents to volunteer and communicate with the office and classroom teacher to reserve a time/location to lead a physical activity. This can be completed on the TUSD website, under Employment, General Volunteer ([link](#)).
- **Social Emotional Learning:** Students in grades 3-6 will receive, at minimum, monthly lessons led by the school's counselor on a variety of social-emotional topics, such as courage, perseverance, respect, etc. based on the Character Strong curriculum.
- **Wrestling:** 6th grade students are allowed to participate in the Middle School Wrestling program during the Winter sports season. A fee of \$60 is required to participate.
- **Robotics:** Typically offered to students in grades 5-6 during R.E. Fridays, a fee of \$30 is required to participate. The fee covers the cost of the materials and competitions.

PROMOTION/RETENTION POLICY: Retention of students is a process that is followed when the professional staff, in consultation with the parent, determines it to be in the best interests of the student. The student will have individual consideration, and decisions will be made only after a careful study of facts relating to all phases of the student's growth and development. The student's academic achievement level and mental ability are important, but physical and social characteristics are also important factors. A decision should be based on sufficient data, collected over a period of time and motivated by a desire to place students in school programs where they will be the most successful. The promotion of a student from grade three (3) shall be conditioned on the satisfaction of the applicable competency requirements prescribed by Move on When Reading (A.R.S. 15-701), and depicted in Administrative Regulation IKE-RB. In addition to the above, such decisions, when applied to students enrolled in special education, shall be on a case-by-case basis, consistent with the individualized education program and in accordance with A.A.C. R7-2-301 and R7-2-401.

MOD-5 (R.E. FRIDAYS): Each R.E. (Remediation/Enrichment) Friday is broken up into 4 45-minute blocks (8am-8:45am, 8:45-9:30am, 9:30-10:15am, 10:15-11am). The purpose is to provide targeted assistance or enrichment in a small-group setting. As a result, students may only attend the assigned block(s) by appointment only. The appointment will be determined based on the student's academic progress during each week as well as mastery of standards on prior year state assessments. There will be limited transportation available on Fridays. Buses will run 3 times each Friday. See the school district website for times and stops. All normal school rules, including the Code of Conduct and the dress code, also apply during Friday attendance. All students should be off campus by 11:15am each Friday.

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. After **14.6 absences** (10% of the school year), whether excused or unexcused, the student is deemed to have an excessive number of absences, considered habitually truant by state law, and could be subject to truancy. 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 credit cannot be justified. All students must be signed out from 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. If the student returns to school that same day, they must be signed back into the Office, or an absence may be incurred.

ABSENCE POLICY

Each time a student is absent, a parent must notify the school. If unable to call, a note must be sent with the student to the Office upon their return to school. Attendance can also be reported using the online ParentVue portal. Absences not reported to the office will automatically be considered unexcused. The school may call and check on students at any time deemed necessary. Excessive absences without good reason may warrant the school to report truancy to the School Resource Officer 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 may not be allowed for unexcused absences unless prior arrangements were made with the student's teachers. That work should be completed prior to the return of the student to school.

Thatcher Elementary School Absence Policy: Per *A.R.S. 15-803*, "absences may be considered excessive when the number of absent days exceeds ten percent of the number of required attendance days," or **14.6 total school days**. Notification will be sent to families when students approach excessive absences. If attendance does not improve, a student will be referred to a court of jurisdiction for further prosecution of the school attendance law concerning habitual truancy.

TARDY POLICY: ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Arrival: Breakfast begins at 7:25am and before school recess begins at 7:30am. Before this time, no student should arrive on campus unless previous arrangements have been made. No supervision is available prior to that time.

Tardies: After 8am, students who are not in their homeroom class will be marked as tardy. Our school counselor will check in with students who are habitually tardy. If tardiness continues to become an issue, it will then be turned over to the principal for disciplinary action.

- ★ Once students have exceeded 14.6 tardies (or 10% of the school year), they will begin to be assigned 5 discipline points for every 5 additional tardies (at intervals of 20, 25, 30, etc.) and assigned any consequences due to their point accumulation.
- ★ Please note that this policy applies only to unexcused tardies. Excused tardies are exempt from this policy (ex. late bus, doctor appointment, etc.).

Students who arrive after 8am must be signed into the office by a parent/guardian. Similarly, students who need to leave during the school day must also be signed out from the office by a parent/ guardian. If they return during the day, they must also be signed back in.

Departure: All students are dismissed at 2:15pm by the bell and are to leave the school grounds immediately unless prior arrangements have been made (parent meeting, after-school activity, etc.). Students waiting to be picked up must wait in front of the office.

Drop Off/Pick Up:

- **Bus riders** are dropped off and picked up in front of the school. During morning drop-off, during the school day, and during after-school dismissal, no parents/guardians are allowed to park in the bus lane.
- **Parent Drop-Off/Pick-Up** have three options. Please note that the staff parking lots are not designated drop-off/pick-up locations.
 - Option 1: visitor parking lot (by the playground). Pull up to the furthest drop-off sign.
 - Option 2: use West 2nd St, parking near the football field stands.
 - Option 3: use West 2nd St, parking lot/ stalls near the cafeteria and TMS/JDPS.
- **Bike/Scooter Riders:** Students may store their bikes/scooters by the KC Building or by the basketball courts (near the staff parking lot). Students are not to ride their bikes/scooters until they are off of the school campus. When students arrive at a crosswalk, they are to walk their bike/ scooter across before riding again.

The attendance of students plays an important role in the success they will experience in school. We appreciate the effort that our students and parents make daily in regard to attendance.

SCHOOL POLICIES

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

All accidents and injuries occurring at school must be reported immediately to the 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.

BUS POLICY

Students who are bused to/from 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. Any transportation changes must be called into the office no later than 12:00 pm. Students may only ride their designated bus. Temporary bus passes will not be given. Parents/guardians are encouraged to download the *Remind* app to receive bus updates.

BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS, AND ROLLER SKATES

Thatcher Elementary School cannot assume responsibility for damage or theft of bicycles, scooters, skates, or skateboards. Students who ride these items to school should lock them securely in the bike racks or the scooter rack. Electric scooters will not be charged at school and will not be allowed in the building. Any theft or damage should be reported immediately to the Thatcher Police Department as well as the office.

CAFETERIA

We encourage all students to use the cafeteria. Courteous behavior and cleanliness are required in the cafeteria. Breakfast and a hot lunch can be purchased at a reasonable rate. Free and reduced lunch applications can be completed online using the link on the district website. 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 in grades 4-6, whose parent(s)/guardian(s) have given permission to eat at the Eagles’ Roost need to be aware that they are off campus. 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 designated tables unless accompanied by an adult. 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. Students who are not eating in the cafeteria, signed out to eat lunch at home, or are buying lunch from Eagles Roost are not permitted to go anywhere else.

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 2:15 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.

The only exceptions to our closed-campus policy:

- If a student resides within the identified area, they may eat lunch at home. A signed form must be on file in the office. The allowed student must sign out and sign in each time they leave campus.
- If a student eats lunch at Eagle's Roost, parents must give electronic permission on the Online Enrollment Form. Students in grade 3 are not permitted to leave campus to eat lunch at Eagles Roost.

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 been in possession of 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.

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. The dress code also applies to Friday Reteach attendance. 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.

Dress Code:

- 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.
- All shirts must have sleeves. Spaghetti straps, tank tops, see-through blouses, crop tops, low-cut tops, muscle shirts, and bare midriff shirts are prohibited. Shirts without proper undergarments, or designed to be worn as undergarments, that are being worn improperly are prohibited.
- Shoes are to be worn at all times. No flip-flops or unsecured shoes shall be worn. Any Crocs must have a back strap on them. Your child will participate in P.E. and other activities that require proper footwear. No slippers may be worn.
- Hats, caps, and/or sunglasses may be worn outside only. At all other times, they must be put away, or they may be confiscated.
- 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. Pajamas are not to be worn unless scheduled as a dress-up day.

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.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Per H.B. 2484 & A.R.S. § 15-120.05, electronic devices are not to be seen, heard, or used by students while on the Thatcher Elementary School campus. 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.

Please help your child learn important phone numbers; the office phone is available for them to contact a parent/guardian if necessary. If you find it necessary to talk with your child during the school day you may leave a message with the building secretary. Students may not use the phone to arrange after-school playdates.

The school reserves the right to confiscate these devices. For the first offense, a parent/guardian will be allowed to pick the device up after school. On the second offense and any thereafter, discipline points will be assigned, and the school will confiscate the device for up to 5 school days. This includes but is not limited to cell phones, smartwatches, Bluetooth headphones, and any other electronic games or electronic communication devices.

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. Any unclaimed lost and found items will be donated at the end of each quarter. We strongly encourage student items to be labeled with their name.

MEDICATION

If it becomes necessary for a student to take any form of medication at school, including inhalers, 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.**

PARTIES, BIRTHDAYS, AND HOLIDAY TREATS

All birthday treats, class parties, holiday treats, etc. should be scheduled in coordination with the teacher, parent, and/or school office. The office will not distribute treats before lunch as to not interfere with the required instructional minutes during core instruction. Please be advised that effective July 1st, 2026 the Arizona Healthy Schools Act (A.R.S. § 15-242.01) prohibits schools from serving, selling, or allowing for the distribution of ultra-processed food on the school campus during the school day. Parents can provide any food items (including prohibited items) to their own child, however, prohibited items can't be shared or distributed to other children at school during regular hours. **Prohibited ingredients include:**

- Potassium bromate, propylparaben, Titanium dioxide, brominated vegetable oil, and
- Food dyes: Yellow 5, Yellow 6, Blue 1, Blue 2, Green 3, Red 3, and Red 40.

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.

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.

VISITORS

All visitors are to report to the Office upon entering the building. After stating your business at the school, either the secretary and/or building will choose to grant/deny access. If permission is granted, all visitors must sign in at the visitor's log, pick up a visitor's pass at the office, wear it throughout the duration of their visit, and sign out before leaving. We welcome visitors, but the safety and the integrity of the learning environment come to the forefront of all requests. This is to include visits, tours, and observations (KI-R). Conflicts with the school schedule shall be avoided.

Visitors must comply with the understanding that, in visiting a classroom, the teacher's first responsibility is to the class as a whole, and the teacher will be unable to converse at any length with the visitor. If a conference is desired, arrangements will be made by the teacher for an appointment with the parent either before or after school hours. All visitors must abide by school policies and procedures.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers or parents/guardians of children in the District who provide services to students are required to complete a General Volunteer application on the Thatcher Unified School District website under employment. Depending on the services provided to students, a fingerprint clearance card may not be required. Upon approval, the District office will notify the volunteer applicant and place their name on the Approved Volunteer List for District-wide distribution to each school.

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.

To put simply, “be kind, be responsible, and be safe.”

EAGLE P.R.I.D.E.

Perseverance. We keep trying, even when things are hard.

Respect. We treat ourselves, others, and our school with kindness.

Integrity. We do the right thing, even when no one is watching.

Determination. We work hard and never give up on our goals.

Excellence. We always strive to do our very best.

Positive Recognition

Eagles Wings. Students who demonstrate Eagle P.R.I.D.E. will be recognized by earning an Eagle Wing. These will be turned into the office, and “winners” will be selected throughout the school year, including being recognized at school assemblies to promote positive school behavior.

Student of the Month. Each month, one student from each class will be nominated as the Student of the Month. The criteria for being selected include:

- One absence or fewer absences and 3 or fewer tardies.
- Maintain C’s or higher.
- No major discipline (in-school or out-of-school suspension).

Perfect Attendance. Students who have been present for all 146 school days shall be awarded a certificate and special recognition for their outstanding achievement.

Bullying/ Harassment/ Intimidation (District Policy JICK)

Bullying is *repeated acts over time that involve a real or perceived imbalance of power* with the more powerful child or group attacking those who are less powerful. Bullying can be physical in form (e.g., pushing, hitting, kicking, spitting, stealing); verbal (e.g., making threats, taunting, teasing, name-calling); or psychological (e.g., social exclusion, spreading rumors, etc.).

Disciplinary action may result for bullying, harassment, or intimidation which occurs outside of the school and the school day when such bullying, harassment, or intimidation **results in a substantial physical, mental, or emotional negative effect** on the victim while on school grounds, school property, school buses, at school bus stops, or at school-sponsored events and activities, or **when such act(s) interfere with the authority of the school system to maintain order**. All suspected violations of law will be reported to local law enforcement.

- **Bullying:** Bullying may occur when a student (or group) engages in any form of behavior that includes such acts as intimidation and/or harassment that (a) has the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm or damage to property, (b) is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that the action, behavior, or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive environment in the form of physical or emotional harm, (c) occurs when there is a real or perceived imbalance of power or strength, or (d) may constitute a violation of law.
- **Cyberbullying:** any act of bullying committed by use of electronic technology or electronic communication devices, including telephonic devices, social networking and other Internet communications, on school computers, networks, forums and mailing lists, or other district-owned property, and by means of an individual's personal electronic media and equipment.
- **Harassment:** intentional behavior by a student (or group) that is disturbing or threatening to another student or group of students. Intentional behaviors that characterize harassment include, but are not limited to, stalking, hazing, social exclusion, name calling, unwanted physical contact and unwelcome verbal or written comments, photographs and graphics. Harassment may be related, but not limited to, race, religious orientation, sexual orientation, cultural background, economic status, size or personal appearance.
- **Intimidation:** intentional behavior by a student or group of students that places another student (or group) in fear of harm of person or property. Intimidation can be manifested emotionally or physically, either directly or indirectly, and by use of social media.

Please Note: Knowingly submitting a false report under this policy shall subject the student to discipline up to and including suspension or expulsion.

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, 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 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.

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. 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 online computer services to acquire and/or view sexually explicit material is a serious offense.

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, drawing, or writing on desks, tables, walls, chairs, books, bathroom stalls or any furniture. “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).

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 positively about each other and about the school's staff. 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 harmful 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.

MAINTAINING AN ORDERLY CAMPUS

Collecting Money: Collecting money on campus for any purpose, other than approved fund-raisers, is not allowed.

Extracurricular Activities: Conduct during activities that occur outside of normal school hours (M-Th, 8am-2:15pm) must still abide by school handbook rules and school policies. Students absent from school may not participate in extracurricular activities that day. This includes sports events, sports practices, music performances, etc.

Food/ Beverages: No food or beverages are allowed inside of the school building without principal approval. Chewing gum on campus is not permitted. If breakfast is brought with a child, it must be eaten at the outside tables.

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.

Lunch Time Rules: During lunch, students are to stay away from Thatcher Middle School and activity areas. After eating, students are to report to their designated playground area. Food and drinks (other than water) are not allowed on the playground. 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 (ex.tackling/wrestling) will be tolerated. Baseball/softball, “Wall Ball,” and all similar games are prohibited. Students need to be safe and stay in safe, supervised areas.

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(s).

School Representation:

1. Assemblies/ Presentations: 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.
2. Extracurricular Activities: 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.
3. 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.

Sidewalks & Crosswalks: Students should use sidewalks and crosswalks when walking around the campus. Students should not run across the grass or rocky areas, or veer from the common path. In addition, all bicycles, scooters, and skateboards must remain in the designated parking areas. When arriving or leaving campus, they are to be walked off campus. When crossing crosswalks, the students must get off and walk their equipment across before proceeding to ride. It is prohibited for students to bring/wear Heelys or rollerblades on campus, even when school is not in session.

Supervision: Students may not be in classrooms, the cafeteria, the Keith Claridge (KC) Building, on the playground, or other areas of campus without a teacher present, or in possession of a pass (ex. office pass, bathroom pass, etc.). 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.

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 do 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 THEIR CONSEQUENCES!

SAFE AND ORDERLY ENVIRONMENT

Discipline Points

Thatcher Elementary School students will be held responsible for their own behaviors. 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 for 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:

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

CONSEQUENCES FOR # of DISCIPLINE POINTS ASSIGNED AND/OR ACCUMULATED

Points	Consequences
1-10	Warning; 15 minutes of detention; up to 45 minutes of detention.
11-20	45 minutes minutes detention/ community service up to 1 day of In School Suspension (ISS)
21 - 35	1 to 3 days of In-School Suspension, up to 1-day Out-of-School Suspension
36 - 50	Parent Meeting, and/or Behavior Contract; 2 to 3 days of In-School Suspension, up to 1 day of Out-of-School Suspension
51 - 99	Students who have accumulated more than 50 points will be suspended until a behavior contract has been put in place. Continued violations will result in up to multiple days of ISS or OSS being assigned and/or loss of extracurricular privileges.
100+	Referral for Long-Term Suspension Plus 10 days OSS

Discipline Points Guide

Each category has a range of how many discipline points will be assigned. When a student is assigned discipline points, the number of points assigned could vary due to the severity of the behavior, if it is a repeat offense, and/or the student's honesty and desire to improve behavior. If a student is dishonest during the investigation and/or does not desire to improve their behavior, more discipline points may be assigned.

CATEGORY 1 **5 10 15 points**

- Collecting Money/ Selling Goods
- Disrespect for School Property, Littering
- Dress Code Violation
- Excessive Unexcused Tardies (5 Discipline Points at 20, 25, etc. total tardies)
- Hands-Off Policy Violation/ Inappropriate Conduct (Minor)
- Inappropriate/ Disrespectful Language (Minor)
- Repeated Violation of Rules (Class, Lunch, Recess, etc.)
- Riding bikes, skateboards, scooters, etc. on campus
- Toys/Items From Home (without permission)

CATEGORY 2 **10 15 20 points**

- Bus Referral
- Cell Phone/ Electronic Device/ Disruptive Object (Plus Confiscation)
- Cheating (Plus Mandatory Zero for Assignment)
- Defiance, Disrespect, Insubordination
- Disruptive Behavior (Major or repetitive)
- Failure to Comply with a Reasonable Request
- Horseplay/Injury Prone or Unsafe Behavior
- Inappropriate Use of Computers
- Out of Class Without Permission
- Profanity, vulgarity, racial slurs, & obscene gestures
- Public display of affection

CATEGORY 3 **15 20 25 points**

- Defacing school property (with reparations)
- Fighting (Defender)
- Incitement
- Toy Weapons or Realistic Replicas
- Truancy/ Ditching and/or On Campus Without Permission
- Profanity/ Vulgarity/ Obscenities Directed at Staff

CATEGORY 4 (Police may be notified) **20 25 30 points**

- Possession of E-cigarettes, Chemical Inhalation Devices, Tobacco
- Fighting (Aggressor)
- Harassment, Bullying, Cyberbullying
- Theft
- Threats, verbal or written abuse
- Vandalism/ Destruction of School Property (with reparations)
- Possession of a Knife
- Use/ Distribution of Pornographic Materials/Images

CATEGORY 5 (Police will be notified) **35, 50, or 75 points**

- Alcohol Violation
- Assault of a Student
- Possession and/or Use of E-cigarettes, Chemical Inhalation Devices, Tobacco
- False fire alarm/911 call
- Indecent Exposure
- Intentional Battery of a Student
- Operating a Vehicle on Campus in a Reckless/Dangerous Manner
- Sexual Contact/ Groping
- Sexual Harassment
- Under the influence of a controlled substance

LONG-TERM SUSPENSION (POLICE NOTIFICATION) **100 Discipline Points**

- Arson
- Aggravated Assault of a Student
- Assault of a District Employee
- Bomb Threat
- Severe Vandalism/ Destruction of School Property
- Possession of a Controlled Substance or Drug Paraphernalia
- Possession of a Weapon, Dangerous Device, or a Firearm
- Possession of an Explosive

Fighting Policy: All students involved in mutual aggression towards one another, whether as the defendant or aggressor, will be suspended for at least the remainder of the school day.

Illegal Activity: All students involved in any illegal activities (ex. possession of a vape), including withholding information, will be suspended a minimum of 3 school days. Parents will be contacted immediately and/or a School Resource Officer/ Law Enforcement will be contacted.

Discipline Follow-Up

Many of our students will often make at least one poor choice in a school year. None of us are perfect, but it is my desire that students learn from their mistakes, just as they would learn from a math or reading lesson. School exists not only for academic progress, but for social-emotional development as well. Discipline points are a means to an end. It represents that poor behavior will lead to expulsion. For students to learn, they must realize that their behavior cannot continue to occur. If it does, a parent meeting will be held to collectively address and find solutions to the behavior being exhibited. If the behavior continues and/or a major offense has occurred, a behavior contract will be put into place. This typically occurs when a student has accrued between 36-50 discipline points.

A behavior/academic contract will provide the student the opportunity to reduce their discipline points and ensure the student remains in good standing at Thatcher Elementary School. Points can be reduced each week the student meets their goal, which could include one or more of the following: a behavior goal, academic goals, attendance, number of missing assignments, etc. Community service hours and/or diversion courses may also be able to reduce the number of discipline points accrued. Students on a behavior contract who have more than 50 total disciplinary points will NOT be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities, including athletics, music programs, school-sponsored trips, etc.

In general, upon being assigned discipline points, the student will receive a written referral describing the infraction, the number of discipline points, and the consequence assigned. Parents will also be notified via phone call, email, etc. of their child's infraction. Parents have the right to schedule a meeting concerning disciplinary infractions.

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

POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL CONSEQUENCES OF MISCONDUCT

(LIST IS NOT ALL INCLUSIVE)

1. **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.
2. **Counseling:** The student will be referred, with parent approval, to a School Counselor.
3. **Expulsion:** The student will be referred to the Thatcher Unified School District Governing Board for permanent removal from the school environment.
4. **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.
5. **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.
6. **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.
7. **Parent Conference:** A conference conducted between the student, their parent and appropriate school personnel. This conference will be documented.
8. **Parent Notification:** Parents are notified by telephone, e-mail, personal contact, or letter regarding disciplinary infractions on a timely basis.
9. **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.
10. **Required Parent Conference (RPC):** The student will be suspended until a parent or guardian is able to meet with the principal.
11. **Restitution:** The student is informed that they are liable for replacement, repair, or monetary reimbursement for the damage to property.
12. **Student Conference:** A formal conference held between the student and one or more school officials. During this conference the student must agree to his/her behavior. This conference will be documented.
13. **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.

Glossary of Terms Related Conduct/ Violations

1. **Alcohol Violation:** The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession or use of intoxicating alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol. This includes being intoxicated at school, school-sponsored events and on school-sponsored transportation.
2. **Assault** (*A.R.S. §13-1203*). A person commits assault by: (1) Intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing any physical injury to another person; (2) or intentionally placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent physical injury; or (3) knowingly touching another person with the intent to injure, insult, or provoke such person.
3. **Aggravated Assault** (*A.R.S. §13-1204*). A person commits aggravated assault if the person commits assault as defined in section 13-1203 under any of the following circumstances: (1) If the person causes serious physical injury to another, (2) if the person uses a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, (3) if the person commits the assault after entering the private home of another with the intent to commit the assault, (4) if the person is eighteen years of age or older and commits the assault upon a child the age of fifteen years or under, (5) if the person commits the assault knowing or having reason to know that the victim is a peace officer, or a person summoned and directed by the officer while engaged in the execution of any official duties, or (6) if the person commits the assault knowing or having reason to know the victim is a teacher or other person employed by any school and the teacher or other employee is upon the grounds of a school or grounds adjacent to the school or is in any part of a building or vehicle used for school purposes, or any teacher or school nurse visiting a private home in the course of the teacher's or nurse's professional duties, or any teacher engaged in any authorized and organized classroom activity held on other than school grounds.
4. **Bullying** (*District Policy JICK*). This is described in detail earlier in the handbook. Simply put, bullying is repeated acts over time that involve a real or perceived imbalance of power.
5. **Combustible:** Student is in possession of a substance or object that is readily capable of causing bodily harm or property damage, i.e., matches, lighters, firecrackers, gasoline, and lighter fluid.
6. **Defiance, Disrespect Towards Authority, and Non-Compliance:** Student engages in refusal to follow directions, talks back, or delivers socially rude interactions
7. **Disorderly Conduct:** A person commits disorderly conduct if, with intent to disturb the peace or quiet of a neighborhood, family or person, or with knowledge of doing so, such person: (1) engages in fighting, violent or seriously disruptive behavior; or (2) makes

unreasonable noise; or (3) uses abusive or offensive language or gestures to any person present in a manner likely to provoke immediate physical retaliation by such person; or (4) makes any protracted commotion, utterance or display with the intent to prevent the transaction of the business of a lawful meeting, gathering or procession; or (5) refuses to obey a lawful order to disperse issued to maintain public safety in dangerous proximity to a fire, a hazard or any other emergency; or (6) recklessly handles displays or discharges a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument. Possession of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument must also be reported as a weapon violation to ADE and to local law enforcement.

8. **Disruption:** Student engages in behavior causing an interruption in a class or activity. Disruption includes sustained loud talk, yelling, or screaming; noise with materials; horseplay or roughhousing; or sustained out-of-seat behavior
9. **Endangerment:** (A) A person commits endangerment by recklessly endangering another person with a substantial risk of imminent death or physical injury. (B) Endangerment involving a substantial risk of imminent death is a class 6 felony. In all other cases, it is a class 1 misdemeanor.
10. **Fighting:** Mutual participation in an incident involving physical violence, where there is no major injury. Verbal confrontation alone does not constitute fighting.
11. **Fire Alarm Misuse:** Intentionally ringing fire alarm when there is no fire. This would result in law enforcement contact and student suspension.
12. **Harassment, Nonsexual** (*A.R.S. §13-2921*): A person commits harassment if, with intent to harass or with knowledge that the person is harassing another person, the person: (1) anonymously or otherwise communicates or causes a communication with another person by verbal, electronic, mechanical, telegraphic, telephonic or written means in a manner that harasses. (2) Continues to follow another person in or about a public place for no legitimate purpose after being asked to desist. (3) Repeatedly commits an act or acts that harass another person. (4) Surveils or causes another person to surveil a person for no legitimate purpose. (5) On more than one occasion makes a false report to a law enforcement, credit or social service agency. (6) Interferes with the delivery of any public or regulated utility to a person.
13. **Harassment, Sexual:** Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that denies or limits a student's ability to participate in or to receive benefits, services, or opportunities in the school's program. It can include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Because sexual harassment of students is a form of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, it is governed by this statute and

corresponding guidance. Title IX applies to any public or private school receiving federal funding. Does not include legitimate nonsexual touching or other nonsexual conduct, for example, a high school athletic coach hugging a student who made a goal or a kindergarten teacher's consoling hug for a child with a skinned knee. Relevant factors in determining whether behavior rises to the level of sexual harassment include: the degree to which the conduct affected one or more students' education, the type, frequency and duration of the conduct, the identity of and relationship between the alleged harasser and the subject or subjects of the harassment, the number of individuals involved, the age and sex of the alleged harasser and the subject or subjects of the harassment, the size of the school, location of the incidents, and the context in which they occurred, and other incidents at the school.

14. **Harassment, Sexual with Contact:** Sexual harassment that includes unwanted physical contact of non-sexual body parts (This is technically sexual harassment, but this section includes areas not covered in A.R.S.)
15. **Hazing** (*A.R.S. §15-2301*): "Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a student, whether individually or in concert with other persons, against another student, and in which both of the following apply: (a) The act was committed in connection with an initiation into, an affiliation with or the maintenance of membership in any organization that is affiliated with an educational institution. (b) The act contributes to a substantial risk of potential physical injury, mental harm or degradation or causes physical injury, mental harm or personal degradation.
16. **Indecent Exposure/Public Sexual Indecency** (*A.R.S. 13-1402*): A person commits indecent exposure if (s)he exposes his or her genitals or anus or she exposes the areola or nipple of her breast or breasts and another person is present, and the defendant is reckless about whether the other person, as a reasonable person, would be offended or alarmed by the act.
17. **Language, Inappropriate:** Student delivers verbal messages that include swearing, name calling, or use of words in an inappropriate way.
18. **Minor Aggressive Act:** Student engages in non-serious but inappropriate physical contact, i.e., hitting, poking, [pulling] or pushing. Other behaviors that may be considered under this violation are pulling a chair out from underneath another person, or other behaviors that demonstrate low-level hostile behaviors.
19. **Negative Group Affiliation:** Specific attitudes and actions of a student affiliated with a negative group typically include most of the following: may or may not have a recognized leader; do most things together, especially socially; stick together on issues; act bored, disinterested, or imposed upon by teacher ideas, suggestions, or requirements;

involve themselves in each other's problems; therefore, perpetuate each other's problems; claim loyalty and righteousness if reprimanded. All the interference they cause is in the name of friendship; likely to confront authority as a group when one member has been disciplined; usually uncooperative, and possibly hostile; as a group, likely to be either very good or very poor students; conduct themselves as though no other individuals exist in the school, including other students; not objective: they turn-off to everything, sometimes without even knowing what they are doing.

20. **Pornography:** Pornography is the sexually explicit depiction of persons, in words or images, created with the primary, proximate aim, and reasonable hope, of eliciting significant sexual arousal on the part of the consumer of such materials.
21. **Public Display of Affection:** Holding hands, kissing, sexual touching, or other displays of affection in violation of school policy.
22. **Recklessness:** Unintentional, careless behavior that may pose a safety or health risk for others.
23. **School Threat** (Threat of destruction or harm) or interference with or disruption of an educational institution: Any threat (verbal, written, or electronic) by a person to bomb or use other substances or devices for the purpose of exploding, burning, causing damage to a school building or school property, or to harm students or staff.
24. **Threat or Intimidation** (*A.R.S. §13-1202*): When a person indicates by word or conduct the intent to cause physical injury or serious damage to a person or their property.
25. **Trespassing:** To enter or remain on a public school campus or school board facility without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry. This includes students under suspension or expulsion and unauthorized persons who enter or remain on a campus or school board facility after being directed to leave by the chief administrator or designee of the facility, campus or function.
26. **Vandalism or Criminal Damage** (*A.R.S. §13-1602*). Willful destruction or defacement of school or personal property. Examples: Destroying school computer records, carving initials or words in desk top, spray painting on walls, or damaging vehicles.
27. **Verbal Provocation:** Use of language or gestures that may incite another person or other people to fight.

Agreement Form

Thatcher Elementary School

***This form is simply a “quick-reference” for the teacher/office. Each year, during registration or verification, you complete this. The choice you make below does not “override” that choice. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call the office.

1. Student Handbook

Yes, my child and I have read and agreed to follow the Student Handbook. Printed copies can be requested at the school office (limit 1 per family).

2. Eagles Roost Permission (grades 4th-6th) _____ (write yes, no, N/A)

*By writing yes, you acknowledge that you are giving your child permission to leave campus for the sole purpose of buying lunch at Eagles Roost and returning to campus to eat it. While students are off-campus, you agree that it is unreasonable to expect the school to provide supervision and as such, will not be held responsible for any off-campus occurrence. You also acknowledge that this is a privilege that can be temporarily taken away.

3. Photo Release _____ (write yes or no)

One of our goals as a school is to recognize accomplishments and positivity! This could include being recognized in a board report, in a school newsletter, or on the district’s Facebook page/ website for such things as Student of the Month, Perfect Attendance, or other awesome accomplishment, etc. By writing yes, you authorize Thatcher Elementary School to do so.

Student Name

Date

Parent Signature

Date

This page must be returned to your classroom teacher within the first week of school. 😊