

"NURTURING SUCCESS"

Thatcher Elementary School

Student Handbook
2025-2026

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.



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Welcome to Thatcher Elementary School

2025-2026 School Year

Dear Families,

Welcome to a brand-new school year! We hope your summer was filled with rest, joy, and meaningful time together. As we begin this new chapter, we want to extend our warmest greetings to all returning families and a special welcome to those who are joining our school community for the first time.

We are excited about the year ahead and the opportunities it brings for growth, learning, and connection. Our dedicated teachers and staff have been working hard to prepare a safe, supportive, and engaging environment where every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

At Thatcher Elementary, we believe that strong partnerships between home and school are key to student success. We encourage open communication and invite you to stay involved through our school events, parent-teacher conferences, and volunteer opportunities.

Let's work together to make this school year an inspiring and successful one for all our students. Thank you for your continued support and trust in our school. We are truly honored to be part of our child's educational journey.

With gratitude and enthusiasm,

Michelle Ferrin, Principal

Anthony Vincent, Assistant Principal

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 throughout extracurricular activities.

WE BELIEVE we have the responsibility to provide students with, at the 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 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

Regular School Day Schedule (8:00am - 2:15pm)

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, students will be released early at **1:15pm**.

Office Hours

Monday - Friday (while school is in session)

7:00am – 4:00pm, 928-348-7250

ACADEMICS

GRADING POLICY: Parents can view grades via ParentVue. 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

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.

LIBRARY: 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.

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.

R.E. FRIDAY: Students will be invited to campus by appointment only. The appointment will be determined on the student's academic progress during each week as well as mastery of standards on prior year state assessments. Standard Mastery is the focus for all students. Other situations may occur for students to be on campus for Friday activities which 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 Fridays. 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. The dress code also applies for Friday Reteach attendance.

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..

INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

1.) Student of the Month

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

- One absence or less and less than 3 unexcused tardies
- Turned in all homework
- Maintained a grade of 75% or higher
- No major discipline problems

2.) Eagle Wings

Students demonstrating Eagle P.R.I.D.E (Positive Attitude, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and/or Excellence) will receive an Eagles Wing. These are turned into the office and winners will be selected throughout the year to promote positive school behavior.

3.) Perfect Attendance

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

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 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**. As part of the 14.6 (10%) total school days, if absences become excessive, greater than 5 unexcused absences, or 10 excused absences, 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. If a student has 10 consecutive unexcused absences, they are subject to withdrawal.

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 principals 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 15, 20, 25, etc.) and assigned any consequences due to their point accumulation (see discipline points section).
- ★ Please note that this policy applies 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 (ex. leave for lunch only or for an appointment), 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.).

Please Note:

- 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 lot is not a designated drop-off/pick-up location.
 1. In the visitor parking lot (by the playground). In the morning, there are posted signs where you should drop-off at.
 2. The parking areas nearest the football field stands.
 3. By the cafeteria.
- 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 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.

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, this includes AI programs/apps. 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 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. 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. 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.

- 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 (A repeated violation occurs on the second offense).

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

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. 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 **5 school days**. This includes but is not limited to cell phones, iPods, CD-players, laser pointers, smartwatches, Bluetooth headphones/earbuds, and any other electronic games or electronic communication devices.

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 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.

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 all Thatcher Middle School campus and activity areas. After eating, students are to report to their designated playground area. Food is 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 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 (KC) 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. If breakfast is brought with a child, it must be eaten at the outside tables. 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.

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.

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, 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)

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.

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.

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.

SCHOOL POLICIES

ACCIDENTS & 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 for their child(ren).

BICYCLES / SCOOTERS / SKATEBOARDS/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.

CAFETERIUM

We encourage all students to use the cafeteria. Breakfast and a hot lunch 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 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.

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 (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 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.

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, 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.**

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

The use of cell phones, including text messaging, is prohibited during the school day. 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.

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. 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 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 THE 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 POINT ACCUMULATION

Points	Consequences
1-10	Warning; up to 30 minutes of detention/ community service.
11-15	90 minutes detention/ community service up to 1 day of In School Suspension (ISS)
16 - 30	1 to 3 days of In-School-Suspension
31 - 50	1 to 3 days of In-School-Suspension, Parent Meeting, and/or Behavior Contract
50 - 59	1-day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
60 - 69	2-days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
70 - 79	3-days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); loss of extracurricular activity privileges.
80 - 89	5-days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
90 - 99	8-days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
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
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Disrespect for School Property, Littering● Dress Code Violation● Excessive Unexcused Tardies<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 5 Discipline Points are assigned at intervals of 15, 20, etc. total tardies.● Hands-Off Policy Violation● Inappropriate Conduct (Minor)● Inappropriate/ Disrespectful Language (Minor)● Repeated Playground Violations● Riding bikes, skateboards, scooters, etc. on campus			
CATEGORY 2	10	15	20 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 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 & obscene gestures● Public display of affection			
CATEGORY 3	15	20	25 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Defacing school property (with reparations)● Fighting (Defender)● Incitement● Truancy/ Ditching● On Campus Without Permission● Profanity/ Vulgarity/ Obscenities Directed at Staff			

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

- 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
- 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 the remainder of the school day. A parent meeting will be held before the student returns to school.

Discipline Follow-Up

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. However, once a student has accrued more than 30 discipline points, a parent meeting will be held before the student returns to class. In addition, a behavior contract may be put into place to ensure the student remains in good standing at Thatcher Elementary School. Based on the behavior and infractions, the contract will provide a means for the student to reduce the number of discipline points they have and/or the discipline points received based primarily on good conduct over several weeks in addition to but not limited to school attendance, grades including number of missing assignments, assigned diversion courses, and/or community service hours.

Students having a total of 70 or more disciplinary points will NOT be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities including athletics, music programs, school-sponsored trips, etc.

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)

- **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.