



Ottawa River Elementary STUDENT HANDBOOK

Toledo Public Schools Mission and Vision

District Mission: Toledo Public Schools' mission is to produce competitive college and career ready graduates through a rigorous curriculum across all grade levels by implementing Ohio's New Learning Standards with fidelity.

District Vision: Toledo Public Schools strives to be an 'A-rated' school district whose graduates are college and career ready.

Toledo Public Schools Core Commitments

Student-Centered: District-wide decisions and operations will be built around the best interest of students.

Accountability-Based Management: Maintain an accountability system that will have a direct impact on student growth.

Building Stronger Relationships: Continue to strengthen and broaden the relationships TPS has with all stakeholders and local organizations while working to establish full community inclusion.

Technology Oriented: Maintain a technology-based environment that meets the needs of the new digital age, which consists of current and future students.

Rigorous Curriculum: Continue to research best practices and offer relevant professional development that aligns with 21st century national and state standards, thus ensuring students gain the competitive skills required to succeed in a global economy.

Develop a Culture of High Expectations: Establish a district-wide climate and belief system that all students, staff, and schools have the ability to achieve EXCELLENCE.

WELCOME LETTER

Dear Parent/Guardians and Students:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Ottawa River Elementary School. The faculty and staff join me in saying we are happy to have each of you as a part of our Ottawa River family. We hope this will be a successful and satisfying year for you.

The pages of this handbook are filled with important information regarding school policy and procedures. I suggest that parents and students review the contents together. If you have any questions regarding the handbook, please call the school office. We feel that open and clear communication between home and school is important to the success of our educational program.

Ottawa River Elementary School parents are our partners in the important job of educating the children of this community.

We welcome your participation and support during the school year and solicit your partnership with the PTO. Working together, we will be able to reach our collective and individual goals. We look forward to celebrating with you the achievements of our students.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Tamra Griffin
Principal

School Contact Information-Ottawa River Elementary

Address: 4747 290th St.

Phone Number: 419-671-6350

Fax: 419-671-6359

Absence Line: 419-671-6351

Principal: Tamra Griffin

Assistant Principal: Eric Urban

Secretary: Tracy Cook

Counselor: Megan Kronovich

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VISITORSVOLUNTEERINGWEATHER RELATED & OTHER EMERGENCY SITUATIONSEmergency EvacuationSchool Closing and Delays for Inclement WeatherSevere Weather Procedures[APPENDIX: standard packet from Printshop?](#)

*Information in this handbook is subject to change. Please stay updated on current Toledo Public Schools Board of Education policies at <http://www.boarddocs.com/oh/tps/Board.nsf/Public>; and current news and information at <http://www.tps.org>.

ACADEMIC REPORTING

Formal parent/teacher conferences are scheduled once a year to facilitate open communication between parents and teachers regarding students' progress. Refer to the School calendar for specific dates.

Report Cards/ Interim Progress Reports/ Parent Teacher- Conference

- Pupil Report Cards are issued to the students at the close of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarters.
 - Quarter 1 report cards will be given to parents of students at Parent/ Teacher conferences.
 - Kindergarten classrooms will hold conferences, but will not send home reports for 1st quarter.
 - Grades K-8 Report Cards will be mailed
 - IPR (Interim Progress Reports) or Midterms are sent home at the conclusion of the 4th week of each quarter.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

We encourage students to walk to and from school for their health and the environment. Please remember we are an elementary school. Patience at arrival and most especially, dismissal, is encouraged & appreciated! Please remind your student that they should ALWAYS cross the street at a corner and only cross when the light indicates "walk". Also remind them to make sure cars are stopped before walking with the light. Students should be dressed to brave the elements ~ wind, snow, rain and cold.

Arrival

As school doors/ hallway access is not open until 8:45 am (breakfast at 8:40 am), students should not arrive early as they will be waiting outside until the bell rings (unless it is extremely cold weather, severe wind chill, etc.)

If walking is not an option, when students are dropped off in the morning, please be EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS in the center lane!! Please do not allow students to exit the vehicle on the driver side!! ALL students should use the passenger side only for entering and exiting to avoid the center lane vehicle traffic. Your child should be independent enough to enter the building and go to their classroom alone. (An exception is made for Kindergarten and 1st grade students for the first few weeks of school)

Staff members are stationed around the building to assist students as needed.

Parents are encouraged not to walk their student to the classroom in the morning. Teachers are instructed to NOT hold parent-teacher conferences in the AM as they have students to supervise and the school day to prepare for. Your understanding with this is appreciated.

Students are considered tardy if they are not in their room at 9:00 am.

BREAKFAST is not mandatory, but it is free and ENCOURAGED.

Dismissal –

Students that are walkers will be released at 3:00 out their assigned door. If you are meeting your child we ask that not to crowd the door so students may exit safely.

If you are picking your child up please have your sign posted in your car and wait patiently for the line to move. We will start calling students by 3:05 and we will be done by 3:20. If you don't want to wait, just come around 3:15 and you should be able to pull right up.

The end of the day at an elementary school tends to become very busy. IF your child needs to be released early, please do so before 2:50 (and DO NOT do so on a regular basis as this goes against O.R.C. compulsory attendance laws). Please make sure your child knows where you will be meeting.

If your plans change from the normal procedures, please notify the teacher via note/ agenda book; call the school office ONLY in the event of an emergency.

Students MUST be picked up by 3:20 (there is no supervision after 3:25)

ATTENDANCE**Compulsory Attendance**

All educable children between the ages of six and eighteen are compelled under Ohio law to attend school unless properly excused. In accordance with this and other Ohio law and the Ohio Board of Education Standards (cited below), the following policy prescribes the manner in which any child may be excused for past absence from school for good and sufficient reasons.

The following reasons are considered **EXCUSED** for elementary students by the State of Ohio:

- 1. Personal Illness:** Certification from a physician is required if student misses **more than 10 days** a school year;
 - 2. Quarantine of the Home:** Notice by city, county, or state public health officials;
 - 3. Death of an Immediate Relative:** **Three day limit** unless reasonable cause has been shown for a longer absence;
 - 4. Observance of Religious Holidays**
 - 5. Emergency set of circumstances** which in the judgment of Superintendent of schools, constitutes a good and sufficient cause of absence from school. Such circumstance would include absence due to weather, other acts of God and labor stoppage.
 - 6. Other circumstance-** Includes immunization or measles exclusion, dental and medical appointment, and public performance (school sponsored) during the school day may be excused by the principal.
- **excused absences are still considered absences when considering 'perfect attendance'*

UNEXCUSED Absence:

Unexcused absences are absences that do not meet the categories described above. Vacations outside of the school calendar are unexcused absences. Make-up work for unexcused absences, suspensions, or expulsions is at the discretion of the teacher.

Excessive Absence:

Students with excessive excused and unexcused absences shall be so identified and referred to the appropriate school personnel for a parent conference and/or attendance hearing.

Reporting Absences:

In accordance with The Missing Children Act (April, 1985) parents are required to contact the school whenever

a student is going to be absent from school.

Call the school **(419-671-6350)** to report that your student will not be in attendance. When you call, please speak slowly and clearly. Include your name, your child's name, your child's teacher's name, the date, and the reason for the absence.

If the school does not receive a call and a note is not received upon your child's return to school, the absence will be unexcused. Please send in a note and any medical documentation with your child upon their return to school.

More than 10 absences requires a doctor's note.

10 consecutive or 15 absences per semester will result in a referral to TPS Pupil Personnel Office.

Make Up Work:

If the student, confined at home for a short period of time, is physically able to do some schoolwork, please make arrangements with his/her teacher. Please give the teacher at least ONE DAY'S NOTICE IN ORDER TO PREPARE WORK.

Early Dismissal:

Please attempt to schedule all appointments outside of the school day. We know this is not always possible, therefore, if a student must leave the building during the school day for any reason, the person picking up the child must come into the office to sign the student out of the building. If the parent is not picking up, please send a note to the office with who you are allowing to pick your child up and what time.

- Please be prepared to show a picture ID when picking up the child.
- Please make sure other authorized persons know to also bring a picture ID.
- If you know in advance your student will need to leave early, please write a note to the teacher.
- Office personnel will call the student to the office from the classroom when the parent or designee ARRIVES to the office. DO NOT go to the classroom to pick up your student.
- Students will only be released to the parent or other authorized people on the emergency medical card. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Please know that early dismissals negatively affect your child's attendance; and impacts 'perfect attendance'.
- No student will be allowed to leave the building without this procedure being followed.

Dental and other Medical Appointments-

Try to make appointments outside the school day. When impossible to make appointments outside the school day, students must bring a note from home stating the time of the appointment and the time the parent wishes to pick him/her up. The absence will be excused upon return with a doctor's/dentist's slip to verify the appointment.

Students are to be signed out in the office before leaving the building. (See procedure for Early Dismissal)

Tardy to School:

In accordance with O.R.C. and TPS Board Policy, students must be to school on time (in class at 9:00AM). The acceptable unexcused absence criteria apply to tardy to school infractions. The progressive policy for Unexcused Tardy to School infractions is based on time missed and phone calls and letter will be mailed when state unexcused attendance triggers are hit.

30 unexcused consecutive hours = Letter mailed home and Attendance Intervention plan created with Assistant Principal.

42 unexcused hours in a month = Letter mailed home and Attendance Intervention plan created with Assistant Principal.

72 unexcused hours in a school year = Truancy hearing with the Court System

Once an AIP is created, attendance will be monitored for 30 days to check for improvement, if there is no improvement and truancy hearing will be scheduled.

BUSSES

Yellow Bus Transportation:

Transportation is provided only to those students that live 1 miles or beyond Ottawa River Elementary; or for special needs students.

Transportation is NOT provided for Out of District approved students.

Bus rules and expectations are defined by Transportation through each Bus Driver.

Failure to comply with bus rules can result in suspension from the bus and/ or school discipline.

Bus Bulletin

If you would like to be sent text messages or have phone calls made when TPS Busing is running late you may sign up at the following website: <http://www.busbulletin.com/>

CAFETERIA

- Lunch Prices: Free
- Ala Carte Prices/ Menu: Vary by item

Breakfast Program-

- Breakfast is served daily from 8:40 – 8:55 a.m. (There is NO BREAKFAST during a 2HR Delay)
- Students who want breakfast should enter through the Main Entrance doors.
- Breakfast is FREE for ALL students.

School Lunch Program:

Students may bring a packed lunch from home. **No pop or glass containers.**

Fast food is discouraged in the cafeteria.

If you child forgets their lunch they will be given a school lunch.

Menus will be sent home monthly and are available at www.tps.org

Cafeteria Expectations-

Students are expected to clean-up after themselves and assist as needed in order to keep Ottawa River Elementary clean and beautiful.

Enter and leave the cafeteria in a quiet and orderly fashion.

Lights out indicates silence.

Students are to stay in their seats/ in the cafeteria unless instructed otherwise by an adult.

We discourage 'trading' or 'sharing' food or drink with anyone.

ALL school rules and policies apply in the cafeteria.

CLASSROOM REQUESTS

Teachers spend a considerable amount of time when creating class lists for the next school year. When preparing the lists, teachers look closely at academic abilities, special learning considerations and equal gender ratios for each classroom. A great deal of time is devoted to class assignments in order to provide a positive learning environment for the students. If parents desire to have a certain staff member for your child's teacher,

parents may request a particular teacher for students in the spring of each school year. The request must state a valid educational reason for the request, be dated, signed and turned into the office by the first Friday of May. Each properly completed request will be considered. No one is automatically guaranteed/granted a request. Toledo Public School policy must be adhered to when completing class lists.

COMPUTERS

All students at Ottawa River have access to computers for use in the classroom and for researching information. TPS firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on the internet is consistent with our district's educational goals.

The internet is available to our students and teachers.

TPS has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials by providing an internet filtering system. However, this does not excuse students from searching for inappropriate or non-educational sites; accessing inappropriate music, pictures, etc.

All students must have an internet network agreement signed by a parent/guardian on file.

COMMUNICATION

We believe it is very important to have a strong line of communication between school and home. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school to speak to the principal, Mrs. Griffin (tgriffin@tps.org), or the assistant principal, Mr. Urban (eurban@tps.org).

If you wish to contact the staff via email, please utilize the directory at www.tps.org.

*Parents: please be aware that the internet TPS security measures may place your email into a SPAM inbox. In the event that you do not receive a reply in a timely manner, please write a note/ call the school for follow up.

- **Classroom/Teacher :**

We make every attempt to have an "open door" policy at Ottawa River. However, in order to ensure that all students are receiving the maximum amount of educational experience we can provide, it is not always possible to just stop by to visit the classroom or assist the teacher. Please understand that this creates an interruption to the classroom and the educational environment. As a reminder, when visiting a classroom, all guest must sign in at the main office.

As the teacher is responsible for *all* of the children in the class, it is very difficult to have a conversation with a parent and supervise the students at the same time. If you would like to speak to the teacher regarding your student, please write a note, call, or email your child's teachers to do so.

Please do not attempt to have this type of conversation during student arrival and dismissal as the teacher needs to be focused on the safety of the students.

Please be considerate of our Teacher's time/ family obligations (they are off-duty at 3:30PM)

DAILY SCHEDULES

School Hours

Breakfast begins: 8:40 am

Doors Open: 8:45 am

Tardy Bell: 9:00 am

(students should be in class and ready to learn by 9:00 am)

Dismissal: 3:00 pm

2 Hour Delay Schedule

***** No Breakfast *****

Doors Open: 10:45 am
Tardy Bell: 11:00 am
(students should be in class and ready to learn by 11:00 am)
Dismissal: 3:00 pm

EHSO

The Early High School Opportunity (EHSO) program began in August 2011 for 7th and 8th grade TPS students. EHSO provides an opportunity for all 7th & 8th grade students to take one course for graduation credit at their learning community high school.

Students are transported from their home elementary school at the scheduled pick up time (times range from 7:00 a.m.-7:30 a.m.) to the high school for first period (8:00-8:50) and returned to their home elementary school after their first period EHSO course ends. Students may also be dropped off or walk to their High School for EHSO. EHSO begins on the Monday of the first full week of school. Students need to have the following documents completed in order to participate in the program:

- Completed High School Choice Card
- Completed EHSO Emergency Medical Card
- Completed EHSO Contract with parent and student signatures

There are two Tiers to the EHSO program.

	Eligibility Requirements	Course Student Can Take
Tier ONE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · None-Open to all 7th & 8th graders 	Band, Choir or Orchestra
Tier TWO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 3.0 GPA · Proficient or Above on State Required Reading and Math Assessments · Fewer than 12 absences 	Band, Choir, Orchestra, High School specific electives. 8 th grade students may take Algebra 1

Paperwork for EHSO is due by the end of May in order to complete transportation routing from Elementary to High School. Deadline for students new to district is the Friday of the first full week of school. Students are not permitted to enroll in EHSO after this deadline, with the exception of transferring students who were enrolled in the same class/similar program. Building principals, assistant principals and counselors will be able to answer EHSO specific questions. Additionally, EHSO information is located on the tps website.

FIELD TRIPS and IN SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Field trips and educational experiences are planned around specific educational objectives related to the school curriculum. Appropriate preparation and follow-up to ensure maximum utilization of the experience for learning is expected.

Before deciding on any trip or educational experiences, the teacher, school principal and transformational leader will weigh anticipated educational outcomes against such factors as expenses, loss of class time, safety and availability of adequate supervision. The school must provide for adequate supervision.

Please note, due to the nature of chaperoning and helping supervise students, younger children/siblings are not able to attend in order for you to give your group your full attention and enjoy the time with your child and his/her classmates.

Emergency Medical Authorization forms must be on file in order to participate.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Emergency Medical Authorization Forms:

- Each child will be given an Emergency Medical form at the beginning of the school year.
- Please provide at least one other name and telephone number of a person we may contact in the case of an emergency. This form must be on file for your student to participate in field trips.
- Please notify the office immediately if there are any changes to your contact information.
- Failure to provide/ update this information will result in the safest decision for your student be made by the Teacher/ Staff Member supervising the event.

Accidents

A trained staff member will administer initial treatments of minor injuries. The student's emergency contact will be notified immediately by phone whenever medical treatment is administered to a student.. In such cases, it is especially crucial that the school has working phone numbers for students' parents and for alternate contacts in the event that a parent is unavailable. Please be diligent in keeping the school's records for your child up-to-date.

Immunizations

The State of Ohio law (ORC 3313.67 and 3313.671) requires the following immunizations for school attendance. In addition, Toledo Public Schools requires students to have a physical exam and a dental exam for school entry.

DTaP/TD: 5 doses	A fifth dose is required if the fourth dose was given before the 4 th birthday
Tdap: 1 dose	Required for grades 7-10
POLIO: 3-4 doses	The FINAL dose must be administered on or after the 4th birthday
MMR: 2 doses	Required for grades K-12
HEP B: 3 doses	The series must be in process for grades K-12
VARICELLA	2 doses. Required for grades K-3. 1 dose required for grades 4-7

Illness Guidelines:

Please keep your child home from school for the following:

Temperature of 100 or higher; diarrhea; vomiting; uncontrolled coughing that interferes with daily work; uncontrolled wheezing and shortness of breath; yellow or green drainage from the eyes.

Students will be sent home when they have a temperature of 100 degrees or higher.

Students need to remain at home until at least 24 hours fever free without medicine (Tylenol, Motrin, etc.).

LIBRARY BOOKS, FEES, FINES, & RETURNS

Please help your student keep track of their library books if they come home.

While Ottawa River Elementary School library does not charge overdue daily fines for unreturned books like a public library, we do charge a replacement cost if a book is lost.

Library overdue notices go home regularly with your student as a reminder to return their book.

Additional books cannot be checked out until others are turned in.

LOST & FOUND

If your child has lost an item, the lost and found is located in the cafeteria.

Please remember to label *all* of your child's items so if they are misplaced they can be returned to their rightful owner.

MEDICATION

Over the counter (OTC) medications are not permitted in school. *This includes cough drops, eye drops, Neosporin, etc.*

When a student is so ill that medication is required, parents should consider keeping the student home until the need for medication is gone. Parents should also talk with their child's doctor to see if the medication schedule can be adjusted so medicine can be taken outside school hours.

A ***Medication Dispensing Authorization Form*** must be on file in the nurse's office. Both the doctor prescribing the medication and the parent/guardian of the student must sign this form.

A new form must be completed each school year or whenever there is a change in the medication or dose.

Medication must be brought to school by the parent or guardian (or their designee) in the original container and cannot be transported to or from school by any elementary student.

Inform the nurse of all medications your student is taking at home as well as at school.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Required Immunizations:

The State of Ohio law (ORC 3313.67 and 3313.671) requires the following immunizations for school attendance: DTaP/Tdap, Polio, MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), Hepatitis B, Varicella, and Meningococcal (7th grade). The school must have written proof from a health care provider that the immunizations are complete or in the process of completion. Students failing to complete immunizations within 14 days after entering school are not permitted to return to school.

Immunizations may be obtained from your private physician, or the Toledo Lucas County Health Department, Shots 4 Tots n Teens, 365 N. Erie St. Call 419-213-4121 for times and locations. Please contact the school nurse at your student's building for additional information.

NURSE

Acts as the liaison between school, home, parents, and doctors.

Inform the nurse about any medical conditions, including allergies or of any medications or changes in meds throughout the year.

Inform the nurse of *all medications* your student is taking at home as well as at school.

Nurse Vicki is available daily from 8:45AM-3:30.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

PTN/ PTO/ PTA

(Parent Teacher Network). We have a very active parent group that is looking forward to a productive year. Many opportunities are available for parents to get involved at Ottawa River Elementary. Positive parental involvement aids our students in many ways.

Board Policy Link: <http://www.boarddocs.com/oh/tps/Board.nsf/Public>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Each child is required to participate in gym activities. To insure his/her safety during classes, gym shoes are necessary. If, for some physical reason a student cannot participate in the gym class for an extended time, a note from the parent accompanied by the doctor's statement needs to be sent to the teacher.

REGISTRATION

Change of Address, Phone, or Emergency Number-

- It is important to send your new address to the school immediately. This applies to change of telephone numbers, change of parent names, and custodial status.
- Provide 3 recent proofs of address of the new address once you start receiving billing statements. We require 2 utility bills and 1 rental, lease or mortgage agreement.

Registration & Withdrawal Procedures:

Registration: When registering students at Ottawa River Elementary the following documentation is needed:

- Birth certificate
- An up-to-date immunization record (Kindergarten also needs a physical and dental check-up.)
- If transferring from another TPS school, a transfer form is required from the previous school.
- Social security card
- Custody papers - A legal document is required to support any questions of custody between divorced or separated parents. Unless the Pupil Personnel Office has informed Ottawa River school otherwise, either natural parent is considered to have access to or request dismissal of a student.
- Three (3) proofs of address- 1 rental, lease, or mortgage agreement, and 2 utility bills
- IEP/504 if applicable

Withdrawal:- When withdrawing students, please:

- If possible, inform the school one week in advance of the withdrawal date.
- Pick up a transfer slip or withdraw slip from the school office.
- Records will be sent only upon the request of the new school.
- Pay all fines, fees, and charges if applicable
- Return all library and classroom books.

PARENT PORTAL

The Parent Portal gives parents and guardians access to pertinent student information such as attendance records, class schedule, class work, report cards and transcripts.

You can access the site by clicking on this link: <https://parentportal.tps.org>

FAMILY & SCHOOL COLLABORATIVE

The TPS Family & School Collaborative offers learning sessions created for families by families. Check them out here: 2021-2022 TPS Family & School Collaborative Catalog Also, make sure you check out our updated list of Virtual Cafes: Winter/Spring 2022 Virtual Cafes. These 20-minute sessions highlight a community agency and the services they offer and are meant to share resources in the community to benefit you and your family.

RULES & POLICIES

Hallway Expectations- Students are expected to move safely down the halls and follow the expectations set by the classroom teacher.

Birthdays & Treats

Birthday treats/ gifts are NOT permitted during school hours without prior permission from teacher.

Excessive birthday celebrations (balloons, pizza, etc.) are not acceptable during class time as this takes away from academic time. Any of these items will be kept in the Main Office until the end of the school day.

Please communicate with the teacher *before* sending in treats due to possible food allergies.

Please send items that are in individual portions. We do not have the resources needed to cut and serve treats.

SOLICITATION

Solicitation of or by any student, parent, or staff member on school property for any cause except those authorized by the Superintendent Office is strictly prohibited.

MONEY AND OTHER VALUABLE PROPERTY

Students are encouraged to leave all money and other valuable property at home. The School assumes no responsibility for the loss or theft of such articles.

DISCIPLINE

Ottawa River Elementary's school-wide and classroom expectations need to be followed by each and every student. Our goal is to encourage each student to make good, positive choices.

Each class has established criteria for classroom expectations. Please refer to this for more information.

Students exhibiting poor behavior and/or making poor choices in class and/or school can be excluded from an activity.

Serious misbehavior and/or discipline infractions) will result in *immediate* consequences, which may include a referral to the office.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE SYSTEM (demerits, referrals, etc.)

The TPS Code of Conduct will be used for serious infractions and repeat offenses.

School Administration will utilize a progressive approach that includes, but is not limited to & in no particular order:

Student Conferences

Parent Conferences

Loss of privileges (recess, cafe seating, activity participation, etc.)

Detention (30 or 60 minute)

Penalties

Suspension

CELL PHONE POLICY

Ottawa River strives to create an environment that is free from distractions and safe for each student and faculty member so they are free to learn and teach. It helps when students have clear and established expectations during their day. Students also need to know that they are accountable for their actions. As policies and procedures change we do our best to keep all families informed and up to date.

Our objectives are to, fairly and without delay, consistently enforce our rules. We ask that you please review the following information with your child. All students must follow school rules so we are able to create a learning environment that is distraction free and safe.

With this said and because of the increase in unapproved use of electronics and misuse of social media, beginning the 2022-2023 school year we will create a cell phone policy at Ottawa River Elementary. Cell phones will be collected and locked up for all students by their teacher in grades 5-8 at arrival time and will be returned to students by their classroom teacher at dismissal. Students will not be permitted to have access nor utilize their cell phone during the school day. This is not a punitive rule but rather, one that is designed to make sure the students are learning in a distraction-free environment.

We will be utilizing progressive discipline for any student who does not properly turn in their phone. We will conduct random checks to make sure all student are turning in their device each morning.

First Offense: Phones must be picked up by parent

Second Offense: Student will be issued a detention

Third Offense: Student will be issued a day of in school suspension

Fourth Offense: Suspension

Fifth Offense or more: Progressive Discipline ranging from Suspension to Expulsion

BULLYING

Bullying is defined as intentional and persistent behavior that is carried out for the sole purpose of inflicting harm on another individual. Bullying occurs where there is a power imbalance, where one child has a hard time defending himself/herself. Bullying is a form of victimization.

Bullying is:

- Intentional, on purpose
- Persistent, ongoing
- Main goal is to inflict harm or fear over another individual, to gain control or power over others
- Can be done physically, verbally, socially (emotional), or electronically
- Has profound impacts on the school climate and safety

BULLY REPORT BOX/ REPORTING SYSTEM:

Bullying must be reported for the school to address the problem.

Ottawa River has a Bully Report Box in the hallway near the cafeteria where Report Forms can be obtained from the box, the classroom teacher, or the office. The completed report form can be returned by

placing it in the locked portion of the Bully Report Box, giving it back to the teacher, or returning it to the office. At Ottawa River we do this to offer students an easy way to report bullying. The Bully Report Box will be checked daily.

If a child believes he/she is being bullied it is his/her responsibility to report the repeated Incidents to an administrator or teacher or use the bully box. The school cannot address the problem if no one knows about the problem.

BULLYING VERSUS CONFLICT: Every push, shove, tease, and taunt does not equate to bullying situations. Bullying differs from conflict primarily because “conflict involves antagonism among two or more people. Whereas any two people can have a conflict (disagreement or a fight), bullying occurs where there is a power imbalance, where one child has a hard time defending himself or herself.” Bullying is a form of victimization, not to be confused with conflict. Conflict occurs when there is hostility between two or more people, but then these people have equal power to solve the problem.

A certain level of conflict is normal between students. Conflict can give your child an opportunity to learn how to handle everyday problems in a healthy way preparing for life. In fact, students need some conflict in their lives in order to better understand their own feelings, become empathetic, develop appropriate responses to difficult situation, work on anger management, and learn proper behavioral responses in sync with the time and place of the conflict.

DRESS CODE

The TPS District-Wide Dress Code will be in effect for the 2022-2023 school year. All students will be required to follow the dress code.

Dress Code information can also be found at <http://www.tps.org/>

Please make sure all school clothing follows the district wide dress code.

If students are in violation of the dress code, they may be sent to the office where they will receive a consequence for the infraction and/ or parent contacted to bring the appropriate clothing to school.

Common Dress Code Questions/ Clarifications:

The following items are NOT appropriate:

1. Clothing/grooming that illustrates or promotes drugs, alcohol, tobacco and/or sex and that could be considered offensive or degrading to others; have symbols of hate or oppression; reference gang membership or present a hazard to an individual or other people.
2. Clothing/grooming that is disruptive to the educational process:
 - a. Undergarments should not be visible at any time (this includes underwear, bras, etc.)
 - b. Skirts or shorts must be no higher than just above the knee.
 - c. Spaghetti straps, halter tops, tube tops or tank tops are not allowed.
 - d. Cleavage should not be visible at any time.
 - e. Holes/tears in jeans are not permitted, unless the holes are below the fingertips when arms are fully extended.
 - f. Tight, form-fitting clothing is not permitted. Tights and leggings are allowed if the front and back are covered by a long shirt, skirt or dress.
3. Clothing/grooming that is deemed unsafe for the classroom or school environment, including but not limited to hats/coats/outerwear/gloves, etc.
4. Clothing/grooming that does not reflect good personal hygiene.

5. Tops and bottoms that do not overlap while standing or seated (i.e. no midriffs).
6. Pajama pants, including pants made of flannel or fleece.

Additional guidelines:

- A. Hooded sweatshirts are permitted as long as hoods are not worn or does not cover the head.
- B. Footwear must be worn at all times. For safety considerations, all footwear must be adequately secured to the foot with heels no higher than two inches.
- C. Slippers, shoes with retractable skates, cleats, or footwear with flexible, soft soles (flip flops, beach shoes, etc.) are not permitted. Crocs are permitted only if there is a strap on the heels to secure the foot.
- D. Shoes that expose the feet or toes are not allowed in shop areas or in science classes when chemicals are being used.
- E. Hats, bandanas, sweatbands, curlers, rollers, gloves or sunglasses will not be allowed except for medical reasons.
- F. No headgear or head wraps unless of a religious nature or approved by school officials.
 - These guidelines are to be followed on all days when school is in session and for school sponsored events where students are actively participating and/or representing Toledo Public Schools.
 - The school administration shall determine the appropriateness of student dress and grooming, acting in the best interests of establishing and maintaining a safe and effective learning environment for the benefit of the school.
- G. All students must comply with the District's policies and procedures in place regarding wearing facial coverings to prevent the spread of COVID-19

SAFETY- FIRE DRILLS/EVACUATIONS

The school will have at least one fire drill per month within the school hours. Specific signals and procedures have been established for all types of disaster drills, and safety areas have been designated. Teachers are equipped with instructions, and all drills will be practiced with students on a regular basis. The entire school will practice weather and security lockdowns. During these drills, no one will be allowed to enter or leave the school. Please be patient and understanding of this important rule. Your child's safety is our number one concern.

Dogs & Other Pets:

Please leave your dog and other pets at home during drop off & pick up and other school related activities. Many students and adults are not comfortable around animals; or may have allergies.

PARKING

It is imperative that the parking rules are followed in order to keep our students, staff and other community members safe.

SLOW DOWN

Please follow all posted parking signs at school as well as on side streets.

The Parking lot accessible from STREET is for BUSSES, STAFF, and VISITORS ONLY.

Please do not allow students to exit the vehicle until the car stops at the curb.

Please keep your car stereo volume DOWN while on campus so you and others can hear instructions and for safety

Do not park in the bus lane.

Bicycles, skateboards, wheeled transportation

Students may lock-up bicycles, etc. at the bike rack in front of the building.(at your own risk)

Students are asked to walk their bicycles, etc. while on campus and while in student traffic during dismissal.

SMOKING

Smoking is not permitted on school grounds.

TELEPHONE USE (SCHOOL)

School telephones are for official school business and NOT for routine student use.

Students need to know how they are getting home from school *before* they arrive each day.

Do not tell your child to call home when they arrive at school to let you know they are here or to call home for a ride at the end of the day.

TITLE I**Parents Right to Know**

As a parent/guardian with a student attending a Toledo Public School that receives Title I funds, you have the right to know the qualifications of your child's classroom teacher. The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires that any local school district receiving Title I funds must provide the following information to parents/guardians who ask about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher:

VISITORS

All visitors must report to the office upon entering the building, sign-in, and obtain a visitor's pass.

Bring any forgotten school items (gym shoes, lunches, etc.) directly to the office.

Enter through the main doors (you may have to ring the buzzer on the wall).

NEVER enter through any other door. NEVER ask a student/ teacher to open any other door for you. This is against Toledo Public Schools safety protocol.

Please remember that interruptions take away from your child's educational time. As students are only at school for a small part of the day, students cannot be called out of class or class interrupted for non-emergency items.

District Policy (KK) On Visitors To the Schools

To maintain the safety of students and staff and to ensure that no unauthorized persons enter buildings, all visitors must first report to the main office to receive authorization to visit. All visitors and employees must sign in and out. (Authorization is not needed for school programs, assemblies, graduation and athletic events.)

The Board encourages parents and other citizens of the District to visit classrooms to observe the work of the schools and to learn what the schools are doing. Visits should be scheduled with the teacher, in advance, to avoid any unnecessary disruption to classroom instruction or activities. To encourage visits, principals and teachers may make special arrangements for visits by parents on certain days and occasions, and extend to them a general invitation to observe classrooms at any reasonable time, provided their visits do not interrupt instruction. Visits must be arranged 24 hours in advance. All participants and spectators of school programs, assemblies, graduations and athletic events are expected to abide by all applicable law, local ordinances, Board policies and District and building regulations pertaining to public conduct on District property.

School principals and their designees are authorized to take appropriate action to prevent and remove, if necessary, unauthorized persons from entering District buildings and loitering on the grounds.

VOLUNTEERING

Please make arrangements with the Teacher and /or Principal regarding an area that you are interested in assisting with.

- **Guidelines:**

All volunteers should sign into the volunteer/visitor book.

You may only go to the area indicated when signing in.

If you need to go somewhere else, please inquire in the office *prior* to going there.

Refrain from visiting classrooms unless invited.

Please refrain from personal conversations (including cell phone) in the hall as this distracts the students and the education process.

We teach our students to nod, smile, or do a quiet wave when they see someone they know. Please do this if you see your child or a familiar student.

District Policy (IICC) Regarding School Volunteers

The Board believes one of the greatest resources available may be found in the citizens of the community who have special knowledge and talents to contribute to the District. The use of citizens as volunteers within the school program enhances the educational process not only for students, but for the community as well.

Volunteers may provide additional support in the classroom, promote community-school cooperation in facilitating the learning process and provide for individuals who have expertise in various areas to be used as resource persons.

A volunteer is defined as anyone who is not employed by the District and comes into a school building for the expressed purpose of donating time and energy to benefit students. A volunteer will usually be interacting with students. Whenever a volunteer is on a school campus, the volunteer must wear, so that it is clearly visible, an identification badge. This badge is available in the main office of each school building.

Recruitment and selection of volunteers is done at the local building level. Interested individuals should contact the building principal or his/her designee. The interests and abilities of the volunteers are considered when making assignments.

Volunteers should not work with any student outside the presence of other students and adults. Volunteers may not displace any position in any job class covered by the Paraprofessional Agreement.

Accountability for the program should include accurate record keeping at the individual building level via a sign-in and sign-out volunteer log. This log includes the volunteer's name, type of services to be provided and hours contributed. School buildings keep on file and maintain, for a minimum of three years, individual volunteer logs.

The District notifies current and prospective volunteers who have or will have unsupervised access to students on a regular basis that a criminal records check may be conducted at any time.

District Policy (GBQ)

The District notifies current and prospective volunteers who have or will have unsupervised access to students on a regular basis that a criminal records check may be conducted at any time.

- **Opportunities through PTN/PTA/PTO/OPT:**

Contact Information for Parent Group...

PTO Activity and/ or committee

Box Tops for Education, Campbell's Soup Labels

Bulletin Boards
 Dance(s)
 Family Fun Nights
 Recognition Assemblies
 Holiday Shoppe
 Hospitality
 Spaghetti Dinner, Muffins with Moms, Donuts with Dad
 Bake Sale
 Teacher Appreciation Events
 Wish List
 Fall and Spring Fundraiser
 Field Day
 Library
 Yearbook
 Curriculum Nights

WEATHER RELATED & OTHER EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Emergency Evacuation

Ottawa River Elementary has a site specific response plan in place in the rare event that it is necessary to evacuate the building.

- Students will be moved to a designated, secure location based upon our response plan. Students will remain there until the emergency situation is resolved.
- Students will **not** be released from the evacuation site.

School Closing and Delays for Inclement Weather

Toledo Public Schools has a School Delay policy when the weather is severe. This policy will allow TPS to delay two hours instead of closing right away to see if weather conditions improve enough for students to come to school. A 2 hour delay can change to a closing, so please keep watching the local news and listen to the radio.

When there is a 2 hour delay, the schedule moves 2 hours back. NO BREAKFAST

- Doors will open at 10:45 a.m. and end at the usual time.
- The information can be heard by listening to local TV, radio stations and social media.
- Do not call the school or drop off your student, as school personnel will not be in the building.
- It is a good idea to make childcare arrangements at the beginning of the year for delay situations so you are not caught off guard.

Severe Weather Procedures

- **Tornado Watch**- Precautions will be taken at school, but children will be dismissed at scheduled times and instructed to go directly home.
- **Tornado Warning**- Stations have been established in the building for each classroom. All children will be kept in protected areas until an all clear is sounded even if it is past the regular dismissal time.
 - Parents are discouraged from coming to school to pick up their children for the safety of both you and your child.
 - Do not call the school. Telephone lines should be kept clear for emergency use.

APPENDIX: standard packet from Printshop

Dress Code Policy

Field Trip Form

TPS Student Calendar

Grade Card Calendar

TPS Discipline Code/ Parent Agreement (Toledo Plan)

Opt Out Form

Internet Safety permission forms

Emergency Medical Authorization

Partners in Education Volunteer Form

TPS Testing Calendar

Media Release Form

Board Policy Hazing and Bullying

SM6/ Computer Program Home Access

Media Release Form(PG 13 and R)