

# SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Student Handbook

*Home of the Falcons*



### Mission Statement:

The mission of Sunnyside Elementary School is to educate all students to their fullest potential, provide a sound foundation of academic skills and subjects, and prepare all students for lifelong learning, with individual accountability and respect for others, in a positive, challenging, and safe learning environment through the cooperation of parents, teachers and the community.

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# ARRIVAL

The playground is not supervised until 8:05 a.m. Students should not arrive before supervision begins. All students arriving at school in the morning should immediately proceed to the playground to play until the bell rings at 8:15 a.m. and then they should enter the door determined by their classroom teacher. Late students arriving after 8:20 a.m. should **check in at the office** before going to class. **ONLY LATE STUDENTS SHOULD BE ENTERING THE FRONT DOORS.**

## Easy Drop-Off Steps - for the safety of our children!!

1. Enter from Nathan Street
2. Enter Drop-Off and **PULL ALL THE WAY FORWARD**.  
Do not stop in the middle of drop-off lane (the goal is to get as many cars into the drop-off lane as possible)
3. Have your **CHILD READY** to exit the car (this will speed up the lane)
4. Exit the drop-off lane and **TURN RIGHT**; be aware of children in the crosswalk.  
(turning right will also speed up the drop-off lane)



## PARKING-Walking child from the car

If you would like to walk your child onto school grounds, please park along the drop-off on Cobblestone, follow the sidewalk/crosswalk across the drop-off lane.  
DO NOT park in the drive through lane and avoid walking through the drop-off lane.

All the parking lots and the drive area at the back of the school are **closed** between 8:15 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. and again from 2:15 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. Using these parking lots is dangerous for students that may be walking across the lots during their travel to and from school.

**Cobblestone**

**W**

**Cobblestone Lane**

**E**

**Park and walk in crosswalk**

**No Left Turn  
into Drop-Off**

**Right Turn  
Only**

Sidewalk

**PULL all the way  
FORWARD  
before stopping**

Sidewalk – School Grounds

### **Parking Lot #1**

- Use for parking when volunteering, meeting, etc. (arrive earlier to avoid peak drop-off)
- Once all students have entered the building; drop your child here and check in with the office.
- Day Care Pick-Up

### **Parking Lot#2**

**Teacher/Staff  
Parking Only**

**SUNNYSIDE  
SCHOOL BUILDING**

## Haven Lane (Behind the school)

1. Enter Haven Lane on the East side. Drop your children off on the sidewalk side.
2. Do NOT allow your child to run across the street.
3. Exit Haven Lane on the West side.

## BIKES/SCOOTERS/SKATEBOARDS

Students should begin walking their bikes/scooters/skateboards when they are on Cobblestone sidewalk and before entering the walkway on Haven Lane.

# ATTENDANCE

## It is NOT OK to Stay Away!

**Tardies** caused by a late bus, inclement weather, or are medically excused shall NOT be counted on the student's record. The principal may also excuse a student's tardy for other extenuating circumstances.

**Kindergarten:** Students arriving to class after the bell but in attendance will be marked tardy.

**Grades 1-6:** Students arriving to class after the bell but in attendance before lunch will be marked tardy. If a student arrives to school for the first time after lunch, they will be marked ½ day absent.

**Partial Day Attendance:** Students leaving school **after** lunch will be marked tardy, students leaving school **before** lunch and not returning will be marked ½ day absent. Students leaving for a medical reason during the day and returning will not be marked tardy.

**If a student must be absent or late to school, the parent is requested to call the office before 9:00 a.m. to report the absence for that day.**

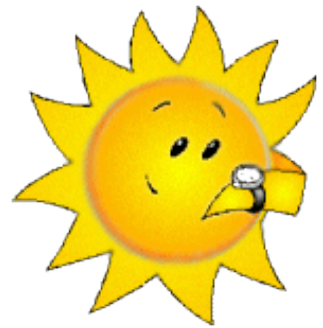
*What you will see on progress reports, report cards and on PowerSchool:*

**T- Tardy:** Arriving less than 10 minutes late to school either in the morning or after lunch.

**T10- Tardy 10 minutes or more:** Arrive late to school 10 minutes or more in the morning or after lunch.

Students who are on time for school are more inclined to take school commitments seriously. They respect others' time and needs. As a result, they do better in school. Being on time is a habit children can learn. The best way to teach it to them is to model the habit yourself and hold high expectations for your child's timeliness.

**PERFECT ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES** are awarded at the end of the school year. They are awarded to students with perfect attendance. As of 2011-2012 school year, tardies will not affect Perfect Attendance.



# BAND & ORCHESTRA

**Beginning Band** can begin in 6th Grade.

- Brass instruments-Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium
- Woodwind instruments-Flute, Clarinet, Alto Sax

For more information: Jason Bull [bulljaso@ifschools.org](mailto:bulljaso@ifschools.org)

**Beginning Orchestra** can begin in both 5th and 6th Grade.

- String instruments

For more information: Corbin Rasmussen [rasmcorb@ifschools.org](mailto:rasmcorb@ifschools.org)

(Transportation is provided to Taylorview; please call the Transportation Dept. for more information 525-7580)

# BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Everyone Loves a Party . . . But if students wish to observe their birthday at school please check with the classroom teacher before making plans as each teacher has their own policy regarding birthday parties.

However, there are some general guidelines we all follow:

- ☀ No home-prepared food items may be served as a treat at school.
- ☀ Interruption of the school program should be kept to a minimum and must not disrupt the educational setting.
- ☀ Please DO NOT pass out invitations to private parties at school unless the entire class is being invited. It is more appropriate to deliver invitations to private parties outside of school.

☀ Please be aware that birthday deliveries of flowers, candy, balloons etc. will be held in the office and the student will be informed to pick up their delivery before going home.



# BUS TRANSPORTATION

If your child rides a school bus to school and you have questions please contact the district transportation office.

Secretary: Kim Lempke  
Phone: 525-7580  
[lempkim@ifschools.org](mailto:lempkim@ifschools.org)

Supervisor: Ralph Frost  
Phone: 525-7580  
[frosralp@ifschools.org](mailto:frosralp@ifschools.org)



# CLASS PLACEMENT

**GOAL:** The goal of the Sunnyside staff is to place students into new classes maintaining a balance of ability levels, special needs, social needs and gender. Developing a well-balanced classroom leads to higher levels of learning for all students.

Teachers are the key decision-makers in determining student placements for the next year. They know the students in the school context and have seen how each student interacts with various members of his or her class. We would love parents to be part of the process. They can provide input by furnishing information as to what they believe their child's needs and learning style are without regard to a specific teacher.

Each spring teachers will send home a Parent-Input form. If parents wish to furnish information about their child's learning style, the form must be completed and turned into the office by the deadline listed on the form.

PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST TEACHERS BY NAME

## CLASSES AND PROGRAMS

### Traditional Class

-one grade level learning together, focus on basic academic learning and socialization skills, introducing children to the broad range of knowledge, skill and behavioral adjustment they need to succeed in life

### Spectrum

-is a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade multiage class. Instruction and grouping is based on assessment information the teacher has collected about the students' achievement in various content areas. Because students are learning at different rates, the teacher monitors and documents progress continually and make adjustments to the groupings and instruction as necessary. Students are taught at their level and move through the curriculum at their own pace.

### 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>

-Teachers may divide students into various groupings and rotate classrooms for instruction

### PACE (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)

- The "Program for Academic and Creative Education," services the intellectually, academically, and/or creatively gifted students of District #91. The program facilitates the development of higher-level thinking, problem solving, and research skills and assists these students in becoming independent learners. This service is a pullout program in which students are bused to and from the PACE site (Sunnyside Elementary) to receive five consecutive hours (one full day) of instruction.

- All students are screened at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade year by the PACE facilitators.
- Students meeting the criteria go on for formal testing by the PACE facilitators and the School's Psychologist.

### Special Educational Programs

#### **Programs**

Resource Room  
Gateway  
Crossroads & Bridges  
DAC Classroom  
Pathways & Stepping Stones  
Early Childhood  
Language Acquisition  
Aspie

#### **Services**

Behavior Support Services  
Medicaid Information  
Related Services  
Special Education Staff  
Section 504



For more information see District 91's website: [www.ifschools.org](http://www.ifschools.org)  
Parents > Departments > "Select a Choice"

# COMMUNICATION

Please note: Caller ID will display 524-7880 for all calls made from student *classrooms* and/or the *office*.

**Open communication is essential.** Regular and honest communication is essential to student success. We encourage and invite communication between parents and the school staff. Feel free to contact your child's teacher, office personnel or the principal by email, phone or in person.

Teachers are available before and after school by appointment. They check their email and phone messages after school and will respond as soon as possible.

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

It is ESSENTIAL parents keep the school informed of the student's correct home address and phone numbers for home, business and emergency contacts. Updating these numbers ensures that school staff will be able to contact parents in an emergency. In order for someone to pick up your student, their name and contact information ***must be*** on record with the school.

## TELEPHONE USE BY STUDENTS

Students will be allowed to use the school phone to contact a parent for various reasons. Students may use the classroom phone with permission of the classroom teacher or may be sent to the office with a phone pass to make a call. At the same time we discourage students from calling home for forgotten items. It would be our preference that they accept the natural consequences for such items. Planning play-dates should be discussed at home, at the end of the school day students will not be allowed to call home to make these arrangements.

## CELL PHONE USE

For more information read: [Sunnyside Elementary Bring Your Own Device Policy \(BYOD\)](#)

Students, who bring cell phones to school, do so at their own risk. The school assumes no liability. Cell phones are not to be visible or heard in the school building or on school grounds during the school day. ALL cell phones should be silenced or turned completely off from the time they enter school grounds in the morning until school is dismissed. Phones may not be used to photograph anything on the school grounds or on the school bus. If a student chooses to bring a cell phone to school and it is either seen or heard at any time during the school day, including lunch or recess, the phone will be confiscated and taken to the office. Parents will be contacted and the phone will remain in the office until a parent can retrieve it.

## PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT CONFERENCES

Research has shown that parental involvement is the most important factor in a student's success in school. Official Parent Teacher Conferences will be held two times a year; once in December and once in March. More information will be sent home regarding conferences during those months. These conferences are an ideal time to get involved. It provides time for parents and teachers to celebrate academic successes and correct academic or behavior problems that could hamper classroom performance. Parents, students, teachers or administration may schedule additional parent/teacher meetings when necessary and parents are highly encouraged to meet with teachers and school personnel as often as they feel necessary.

Some teachers at Sunnyside conduct student-led conferences that require the student's attendance. However, students attending their own conferences should not be in attendance at a sibling's conference.

## School Messenger

Sign up today for School Messenger and you will be the first to know about school closures, special events and other activities at Sunnyside or in District 91. Text SUBSCRIBE to 68453 to sign up.

## Facebook and other Social Media

Communication between the school staff and parents or students using Facebook or other social media is not encouraged. Please use the more traditional methods of communication such as a telephone call, hand written note, email or face to face communication.



# DRESS CODE

Students are encouraged to dress for success and learning. These guidelines apply to all students at all times. Dress and appearance must not present health or safety problems or pose potential disruption of the educational process as adjudged by school personnel.

- ☀ Always dress for the weather; hats, coats, gloves, boots etc. when the weather calls for it.
- ☀ Hats or the hood from a hoodie sweatshirt may be worn outside only.
- ☀ Shirts must have a sleeve.
- ☀ Midriffs must be covered.

## CLOTHING TO AVOID AT SCHOOL

- ☀ Shoes should be appropriate for P.E. and the playground (students may bring P.E. shoes and change if desired)
- ☀ T-shirts or other clothing with inappropriate messages including alcohol, tobacco, drugs, violence etc.
- ☀ Short shorts or skirts
- ☀ Shirts without sleeves worn without a t-shirt underneath
- ☀ Tank tops—muscle shirts—halter tops—spaghetti strapped tops
- ☀ Clothing that is gang related in any way (intentional or unintentional)
- ☀ Haircut, color or style that distracts and interrupts the learning environment

Students who attend school in inappropriate clothing will be sent to the office. Parents will be notified and will be asked to come to school with school appropriate clothing.

# ELECTRONIC DEVICES

## Sunnyside Elementary Bring Your Own Device Policy (BYOD) Policy Form located in Sunnyside Office

District 91 has made a Wi-Fi connection available for student use. As a result, students may bring an "electronic device" to class to use as an educational tool. An "Electronic Device" is defined as a privately owned device that is used to access the internet. It may include but is not limited to, smart phones, iPads, iPod touches, tablets, netbooks, laptops, etc.

### POSSESSION AND USE

- Electronic devices may be used on school grounds during instructional periods for educational purposes - *under the direction of the classroom teacher and with the permission of a parent or guardian.*
- They may not be used during non-instructional periods including recess, lunch, at the restroom, during passing times or transitions and during school transportation.
- Electronic devices shall not be used in a way that threatens, humiliates, harasses, or intimidates school-related individuals, including students, employees, and visitors, or violates local, state, or federal law.
- Students shall be responsible for the security of electronic devices brought to school. The school shall not assume responsibility for theft, loss, damage, or unauthorized calls or data usage on an electronic device. If devices are loaned to or borrowed and misused by non-owners, device owners are jointly responsible for the misuse or policy violations.

## VIOLATION OF POLICY

- If a student violates this policy, his/her electronic device may be confiscated. When an employee confiscates an electronic device he/she shall take reasonable measures to label and secure the device and turn the device over to a school administrator as soon as the employee's duties permit. The electronic device will be released/returned to the student's parent or guardian. Additional disciplinary action may be taken against the student depending on the incident.

## EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Program Director: Tonya Bunnell

Phone: 208-525-7506

Fax: 208-525-7596

[BunnTony@ifschools.org](mailto:BunnTony@ifschools.org)

### We Appreciate Your Continued Support!

The work we do at Sunnyside would be impossible without your continued support. We are extremely grateful for your financial support in the past and thank you in advance for your future support. Donations are tax deductible when made through the Idaho Falls District 91 Education Foundation. These donations can be earmarked for Sunnyside, a particular classroom, grade level or project. Contributors may also make honorary gifts, bequests or memorial contributions.

Idaho tax laws now allow for a **bigger and better** contribution to schools by any Idaho resident. Couples may contribute \$2,000 and receive up to a \$1,000 Idaho state tax credit and corporations may contribute up to \$10,000 and receive up to a \$5,000 Idaho state tax credit.

Online contributions are now available. You may use your PayPal account, set up a PayPal account, or pay with your credit or debit card. For more information or a contribution form, please check the district website or contact the school secretary. <http://www.d91.k12.id.us/educationfoundation/>

### Sunnyside Benefits from the Generosity of Its Patrons!

When visiting the school, take a look around and you will see many of the benefits Sunnyside Elementary has realized over the years through the generous donations of patrons through the Education Foundation. Below is a short partial list of recent items purchased through the Education Foundation:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ☀ New Computer Lab (2011-12 school year) | ☀ Teacher Laptop computers                      |
| ☀ SmartBoards in each classroom          | ☀ iPads (3 for every class 2012-13 school year) |
| ☀ Several document cameras               | ☀ <b>AND much, much more!</b>                   |
| ☀ Playground equipment                   |   |
| ☀ Library books and shelves              |   |



# HOMEWORK

Research has consistently shown that the amount of time devoted to learning is related to achievement in a subject. Therefore homework is an important element of a student's overall success in school. The Sunnyside staff recognizes the importance of homework as a vital part of the learning of essential skills taught in the classroom. Homework assignments should stem from class work, providing students an opportunity to apply, supplement, and reinforce information they have learned. Homework allows students to complete unfinished class assignments and make up work missed during absences. Homework gives the students experience of working by themselves. This experience will help them develop initiative, self-discipline, responsibility, and independence. Homework can be a vehicle through which teacher expectations, student progress, and the school's curriculum are shared with parents.

## Definition:

Homework refers to tasks that students are assigned to do on their own time, after school hours, as an extension of classroom work. Types of homework may include the following:

**PRACTICE:** The common and simple type of assignment that is given to help student's master specific skills. Practice exercises should be limited to material presented in class.

**PREVIEW:** Preview assignments are given to prepare students to gain maximum benefit from subsequent lessons.

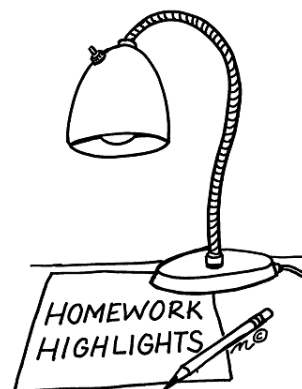
**EXTENTION:** Extension assignments are given to determine if the students can transfer a new skill or concept to a new situation. Extension assignments different from practice assignments in the degree of application and abstract thinking required.

**CREATIVE:** Creative assignments require student to integrate many skills and concepts in the process of producing a response. Creative assignments normally take more time to complete than other assignments (from several days to weeks).

## How Much Time Should Homework Take?

The time allotted to homework should increase gradually from grade to grade. Generally speaking, students should be expected to do 10-15 minutes of homework per grade level. In addition to this, **students should spend time reading or being read to each day.**

Kindergarten	10—15 min.
1st Grade	15—20 min.
2nd Grade	20—30 min.
3rd Grade	30—40 min.
4th Grade	40—50 min.
5th Grade	50—60 min.
6th Grade	60—70 min.



**Please note . . .** When ample time has been allowed in school for class work, and that work has not been completed, it may be assigned as homework, thereby exceeding the recommended daily time allotted to homework.

These times are approximate. Individual needs should be taken into consideration. If your child is having problems completing his/her homework or is spending an extraordinary amount of time doing homework, please contact your child's teacher.

# HONOR SOCIETY

The students inducted into the National Honor Society help to provide meaningful service to the school and community.



Sixth grade students at Sunnyside that have earned a 3.5 G.P.A. during their fifth grade will be invited to complete an application for the National Junior Honor Society. Then a committee of teachers and administrators evaluate the applications for community service, volunteer work and review the school discipline records. The students meeting very high standards are invited to join the Sunnyside National Elementary Honor Society.

Induction into the Sunnyside National Elementary Honor Society takes place each fall. Thereafter, students meet with the advisors at regular lunch meetings to plan their events and projects.

Advisors:

Mrs. Duffin [duffvick@ifschools.org](mailto:duffvick@ifschools.org)  
Ms. Farnam [farndeid@ifschools.org](mailto:farndeid@ifschools.org)  
Mrs. Holmes [holmsusa@ifschools.org](mailto:holmsusa@ifschools.org)

# KELSO'S CHOICE

This conflict- management curriculum for elementary students is based on the premise that every child is capable of becoming a peacemaker.

Designed around Kelso the Frog, this program offers nine options students can choose from to resolve minor conflicts on their own. Students will be able to determine the difference between small problems they can handle and big problems that require an adult's help.

If you are having a small problem, remember your choices:



- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Go to another game   | 6. Tell them to stop |
| 2. Share and take turns | 7. Apologize         |
| 3. Talk it out          | 8. Make a deal       |
| 4. Walk away            | 9. Wait and cool off |
| 5. Ignore it            |                      |

# LEAVING/RETURNING TO SCHOOL DURING SCHOOL HOURS

If at all possible, please schedule appointments for your child during non-school hours. However, if that is not possible, children may leave school during class hours only when a parent or other authorized adult 18 years or older comes into the office to check them out.

Identification may be required and authorized adults must be listed with the school office on PowerSchool. You can make changes through the office.

If the child returns during school hours, he/she may be re-admitted through the office. Children do not have permission to leave campus without an adult during school hours.

# LOST AND FOUND

**Note:** Please label all your student's belongings (backpacks, lunch boxes, etc.) with their first and last name.

Please check the lost and found regularly. Many students leave their belongings including coats, hats, gloves, sweaters, sweatshirts, lunch boxes, backpacks etc. on the school grounds and do not retrieve them from the lost and found. If your child is missing an article of clothing . . . . There's a good chance it could be in the **lost and found**. Smaller **lost and found** items are kept in the office.



## LIBRARY

Visit the [library webpage](#) to view:

- ☀ the latest AR Quiz lists,
- ☀ search our online catalog,
- ☀ check to see what books your child has out and when they are due,
- ☀ Add more....

### Join the Birthday Club

You can donate a new book to the school library in honor of your child's birthday. When you join, your child can select a new hardcover book from the Birthday Bookshelf located in the library and have the honor of being the first to check it out. Inside the front cover, he or she will find a special bookplate with his or her name and birth date inscribed.

The Birthday Book Club is a program that celebrates your child's birthday in a special way and helps our library collection continue to grow. These birthday books will remain in the library throughout your child's years at Sunnyside Elementary and then some!

### Library Procedures:

Children may go to the library any day before school, afterschool, or during the instructional day with a teacher's permission. In addition, each class has a scheduled library day where the students learn and practice library skills.

### Library Fines:

Your child's library books are due on their scheduled library day. For every day that the book is late, there will be a 5¢ fine. Students must pay their fines before they are allowed to renew or checkout more books. If your child was absent on the day their book was due, the charge for that day will be forgiven.

Overdue charges may be paid in two ways, cash or a canned food. One can of food = one dollar. All cans of food will be donated to a local food bank. Cans of food will not be accepted for lost or damaged books.

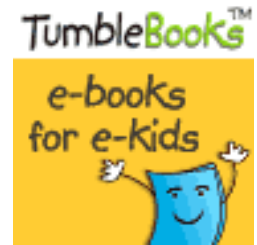
### Volunteers Needed

The library is a fun place to be and a great way to volunteer. Sunnyside's students are such voracious readers— they read hundreds of books each week. There are always books to return to the shelves, books to check in, and many other projects needing your help. Whenever you have a few minutes to help out, drop in and ask what you can do, or sign up for a regular time each week. Even a few minutes can make a big difference.

## Tumble Book Library:

Tumble Book Library is an online collection of Tumble Books – animated; talking picture books which teach kids the joy of reading in a format they'll love. Tumble Books are created by adding animation, sound, music and narration to existing picture books in order to produce an electronic picture book which you can read, or have read to you.

The Tumble Book Library provides enrichment to students who are reading independently with a variety of high interest material. It also provides support to students who require skill building with a variety of exercises that can be matched with other areas of the curriculum. In general, Tumble Books are a great addition to a reading program that can be worked on independently by each student or by the whole class.



Tumble Books can be accessed at Idaho Falls Public Library.

## LUNCH

**Lunch Cashier: Nanette Cain**

**524-7880**

[CainNane@ifschools.org](mailto:CainNane@ifschools.org)

**Lunch Prices: \$2.10 (includes milk)**

**Milk: \$0.40**

**Adult Lunch: \$3.35**

Lunch is a time that students can unwind from all the intense learning they have been doing in the classroom. It is a time where they can relax a little and visit with their friends. Although we want the students to visit and relax at lunch, we ask them to use proper manners and appropriate voice levels so the experience is enjoyable for everyone.

Students are given plenty of time to eat. If a student has a difficult time finishing his/her lunch on a regular basis, please talk with Mr. Lindley.

## Free and Reduced School Meals

Students that qualified for free or reduced meals last school year need to re-qualify for the new school year.

If you currently receive foods stamps, TAFI, or FDPIR for your student(s), your student(s) can receive free meals through Idaho's Direct Certification program. We will be sending Direct Certification notification letters by August 15th. If you receive a Direct Certification notification letter you do not need to fill out an application.

If you have questions, please contact the lunch cashier.  
Or call the school between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

## Lunch Menu Link

If you want to see what's for lunch you can check the district website:

<http://www.ifschools.org/foods/lunch.pdf>



# MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

Before any medication can be administered at school, both the child's doctor and parent must give written permission to the school.

Please see the secretary for the required forms.

FYI: Since May 2010 Elementary schools in District 91 have not had a Nurse or Health Technician full-time in the schools.



# POWERSCHOOL

School District #91 is pleased to provide you with your PowerSchool Parent Access information. This program allows you to take an active role in your student's education with real-time access to attendance, school announcements and academic progress for your student's classes through the Internet connection you already use.

To access PowerSchool:

1. Go to <http://www.ifschools.org/sunnyside>
2. Select "PowerSchool", under Parents

Instructions for logging in on are on the login screen.

# PTO

The Sunnyside Elementary PTO is a very active supportive group of parents who are dedicated to supporting the education and educational experience of the children at Sunnyside Elementary.

They raise and expend funds to enhance and improve the educational quality of Sunnyside Elementary including, financial support to classroom teachers, the purchase of classroom technology, books, classroom supplies, the procurement of educational assemblies, and the development and promotion of after-school enrichment programs and much, much more.

They work in close collaboration with teachers, parents, administration, and community members to benefit the Sunnyside students and the school community. They encourage a positive, supportive atmosphere to enhance students' educational and extracurricular experiences.

Sunnyside PTO needs YOU! Our school depends heavily on the efforts of parents, grandparents, and even neighbors to volunteer their time and talents in support of our students. Your involvement is very much appreciated and lets students and school staff know that you believe school is an important place.



To view the current PTO Board please visit Sunnyside's website.

**Sunnyside PTO email:**

[sunnysideelementarypto@gmail.com](mailto:sunnysideelementarypto@gmail.com)

To receive PTO emails—Email the address above with a request



## PTO NEEDS YOUR HELP 😊

From the classroom to reading with individual students, the opportunities to volunteer are numerous. If every parent contributes even a little the combined results are amazing! Please look over the following list and let the PTO know if you see a way you can help.

- ☀ Classroom volunteer
- ☀ FAME (Fine Arts Mini Experience, presenters and/or set and costume support)
- ☀ Field Day (May)
- ☀ Literacy Tutor
- ☀ Library Book Fair Helper (Fall and Spring)
- ☀ Library volunteer
- ☀ Room Parent
- ☀ Sixth Grade Celebration (May)
- ☀ Teacher Appreciation
- ☀ Yearbook
- ☀ Chess, Jump Rope, Computer, or Tennis Club
- ☀ Box top coordinator or helper
- ☀ Fund Raising
- ☀ Grant Writing
- ☀ Fall Carnival
- ☀ Newsletter
- ☀ Run For Technology -5K—Mile Walk Run



## RECESS

### Safety Rules:

#### Please Play On

1. Field East of Back Parking Lot
2. Blacktop behind the gym
3. Games marked on blacktop

#### Please Do Not

1. Leave the school grounds.
2. Go into the street for any reason.
3. Play on grass areas next to the building
4. Play on parking lots
5. Play on the south side of the building or around the portable classrooms.

#### Please Use ALL Equipment Properly

1. Take turns.
2. Keep the gravel in the play areas.
3. Do NOT throw rocks, pebbles, woodchips, ice, snow etc.





### Please Swing

1. Front to back only, no side to side or spinning
2. One person at a time
3. No jumping or “bailing” out.
4. Don’t change the length of the chains.

### Play on the Toy Structure

1. Slide DOWN only
2. Don’t block the slide
3. Wait your turn
4. Don’t walk under the zipper

## General Rules for Playground Games

1. **ALWAYS** listen to and obey the playground duty.
2. Before starting the game, agree on the rules
3. Remember we are playing for FUN. It doesn’t matter who wins and loses.
4. Play fair and be a good sport.
5. Games are all open (anyone can play).
6. If anyone gets hurt . . . The game is over.
7. No tackling, pushing, shoving, pretend fighting etc.
8. The game is OVER when the second the bell rings or the whistle blows.

## CONSEQUENCES FOR BREAKING THE RULES

### **MINOR INCIDENTS:**

- ☀ 1st Offense: Review the rule with the duty
- ☀ 2nd Offense: Sit out the rest of recess on the bench and review the rule with the duty

### **MAJOR INCIDENT OR REPEATED MINOR INCIDENTS:**

- ☀ Any physical or verbal aggression may result in the student losing recess privileges for 1 or more days depending on the incident. The student will be removed from the playground and sent to the office. Parents will be contacted by the teacher or school administration.

## **ALWAYS Obey the School Rules**

**BE SAFE BE RESPECTFUL BE RESPONSIBLE**

## Recess Snow Rules

- ☀ No throwing of snow of any kind (can’t throw it at a person, at the ground, at a tree, at a snowman etc.)
- ☀ No climbing on the snow piles (that we will have from snow removal)
- ☀ Snow is for everyone to play with. They may play with the snow and make snowmen or sculptures etc. when they go out, but they may **NOT** play with or bother snow that someone else is already working on. They also can’t feel bad if their snowman/sculpture gone or messed with the next time they come out as the snow belongs to everyone.
- ☀ Sliding on snow or ice is prohibited



## Recess Policy

It is the policy of Sunnyside Elementary that students take outside recess and lunch breaks to stimulate their learning, provide an alternative to the classroom, and increase productivity and attention levels unless weather or playground conditions prevent such breaks.

### GUIDELINES

1. Students will not be permitted to enter the school early or remain in the school building during recess, at lunch time or after school hours unless invited to do so by a teacher or staff member.
2. Students should come to school prepared for the current temperatures. During the winter, students should be prepared to endure the Idaho weather or cold temperatures and wind through the proper dressing procedures, (i.e. heavy coat, hat, boots, and gloves or mittens, etc.)
3. While on the playground, students are expected to abide by the school rules. Failing to do so may result in a loss of recess time.



### RECESS AFTER AN ILLNESS

If a student is ill, he/she should be retained at home.

- ☀ A parent may request that a student who is returning from a verified illness be retained indoors for a maximum of three (3) days.
- ☀ Commencing with the 4th day, a doctor's statement must be submitted requesting the student remain indoors. If not submitted, the student will be required to take outside recess and lunch breaks

### COLD WEATHER RECESS

It is important to dress for the weather. Students will remain indoors before school and at recesses when the temperature is ZERO degrees (wind chill) or below.

There will be times when the temperature is marginally in that range and recess may be abbreviated because of the length of time students are outdoors. In addition to temperature, other factors may be used to determine indoor recess. If the conditions on the playground are extremely wet or unsafe, students will remain indoors before school and at recess.

## TESTING

**Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI)** is a benchmark reading test that is administered three times per school year to all Idaho public school students in grades K-3.

**Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC)** - As Idaho moves to the new Common Core State Standards, it will unveil a new test that will replace the ISAT. The Smarter Balanced Assessment will be implemented in Idaho in 2014-2015. Like the new standards, the test will be very different. It will go beyond multiple-choice questions. Students will provide short- and long-term responses. They also will do specific tasks like solving problems by completing an in-depth project or demonstrate analytical skills and real-world problem solving.

**Star Enterprise Assessment**-STAR Enterprise assessments use the most sophisticated statistical and test-creation technology and psychometrics to get more value out of each testing session. Extensive item calibration determines each test item's difficulty in relation to thousands of real students, applying advanced principles of Item Response Theory (IRT) and computer-adaptive testing. Sunnyside Elementary will test 4 times per year.

# VACATIONS ON SCHOOL DAYS

It is not recommended to take children out of school for an extended period of time. Students are responsible for the work they miss while absent. Just remember, it is impossible to “make-up” instruction. However, teachers will make reasonable attempts to help students with missed work but will not be expected to completely re-teach lessons.

Advance assignments and sending classroom materials with the student on vacation will be limited, and at the discretion of the teacher. If you are taking your child out of school for an extended period of time, please inform the teacher and the office.

If the child is out of school on vacation, don't take a vacation from learning. Take advantage of the adventure and use it as a learning tool. Discuss the geography, culture and the different sites the child may encounter. Take reading material, word or number games, and other fun learning activities to keep your child busy while traveling.

After returning from vacation, help your child complete their missed work as soon as possible.



# VISITING THE SCHOOL

We love and encourage visitors to Sunnyside Elementary. If you would like to observe or volunteer in a classroom, please stop by the office, check in and pick up a visitor's badge.



# VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering at your child's school presents a great opportunity to make contacts, understand the curriculum and meet staff. Sunnyside Elementary has multiple needs and several ways you can contribute. The best way for you to help out depends on who you want to have contact with, what your talents are and how much time you can contribute. Much of what we do at Sunnyside depends on volunteers. The staff THANKS you in advance for all the time, effort and energy you will give this year! Below you will find a partial list of ways you can volunteer at our school.

- ✿ Join the PTO (they have a million ways to volunteer)
- ✿ Help in the library
- ✿ Tutor children in reading and math
- ✿ Make copies and do clerical work for your child's teacher
- ✿ Help with classroom parties and activities
- ✿ Correct student work for the teacher
- ✿ Help with classroom or school projects
- ✿ Teach a group of students one of your talents
- ✿ Start an afterschool club for students
- ✿ Chaperone students on fieldtrips
- ✿ Mentor students
- ✿ Help with art in the classroom
- ✿ Monitor at recess
- ✿ Help with fundraising efforts
- ✿ Help monitor the drop off lane before school and after school
- ✿ Much, much, more (whatever you can think of 😊 )



**We need you! We are always open to new ideas.**

**We'd love to hear from you.**