



MISSION

The mission of the Belton School District is to encourage, challenge and engage all students to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes that will prepare them to become lifelong learners and contributing members of society.

Beliefs

We believe that:

All people have intrinsic worth.

All people can learn.

High expectations are necessary for maximum learning.

Learning is a life-long process.

Involvement enhances learning.

Obtaining an education is honorable and valuable.

A safe, supportive, and trusting environment is essential for learning.

People are responsible and accountable for their actions.

Common core values of honesty, responsibility, and respect are essential.

Parameters

We will make all decisions based on our mission statement.

We will not compromise high standards.

We will focus on what is best for students.

We will not tolerate violence, disrespect, harassment, intimidation, or retaliation.

We will invite, respect and consider all input.

We will not give up on any student.

Welcome to Belton Schools

This handbook has been designed to provide basic information regarding the day-to-day operations of the school. Familiarizing yourself with this information may reduce unnecessary paperwork and provide enhanced opportunities for your child. We encourage you to read this information carefully. If you have any questions, contact the building principal at your earliest convenience.

Academic Programs

The district provides a variety of programs for elementary students to promote success and challenge students to reach their full potential. These programs include:

- ❖ STAR – Gifted and Talented (grades 3 – 12)
- ❖ Schoolwide Title I
- ❖ English as a Second Language
- ❖ Special Education
 - ✓ Adaptive P. E. /Occupational & Physical Therapy
 - ✓ Autism
 - ✓ Emotionally Disturbed
 - ✓ Hearing Impaired
 - ✓ Learning Disabled
 - ✓ Mentally Retarded
 - ✓ Orthopedically Handicapped
 - ✓ Severe Emotionally Disturbed
 - ✓ Severely Handicapped (all categories)
 - ✓ Speech/Language Impaired
 - ✓ Traumatic Brain Injured
 - ✓ Visually Impaired



These services are offered on the basis of need as determined by screening and diagnosis.

Other Personnel

- ❖ **A+ Coordinator** – The A+ coordinator for Belton Schools is Kevin Gerke. His office is located at the BHS Freshman Center. A+ is a state funded program in the Belton School District that provides 2 years of college tuition to students who sign up in 9th grade and meet the requirements of the program for 4 years in high school. A+ high school students volunteer time at Belton elementary schools tutoring students throughout the year.
- ❖ **Educational Foundation Director** – Belton Educational Foundation was established to go above and beyond to support education in Belton School District. In addition to offering classroom grants twice a year, the Belton Educational Foundation offers Belton High School graduating seniors the opportunity to apply for scholarships to assist with the cost of obtaining a college education. The BEF Director is Heather McFarland. She can be reached by email at hmcfarland@bsd124.org or at (816) 348-1151.

- ❖ **Guidance Counselor** – The school guidance counselor is a resource for both students and parents. These services are available by referral or appointment as needed to support your child in school.
- ❖ **Home-School Liaison** – The liaison provides services to children and their parents by request or referral. Both office and home visits are utilized to assist parents with their child’s educational needs.
- ❖ **Health Room Personnel** – The school nurse or paraprofessional staff assist when a child is ill and when formation regarding health records or referrals is needed.
- ❖ **Success By 6** – The Success by 6 Resource Center can be found at the Grace Early Childhood facility. The resource center is funded in conjunction with the United Way of Greater Kansas City and is organized to provide educational materials and activities for parents and their children in the community. Hours of operation for the center vary, but a schedule can be obtained by calling Parents as Teachers at 348-1029.
- ❖ **Volunteer Coordinator** – The district provides a volunteer coordinator who works with parents or interested adults to efficiently schedule volunteer time and activities. Adults wishing to volunteer in schools should contact Beth Knott by phone at (816) 348-1159 or email at bknot@bsd124.org.

If you would like more information about any of these programs, contact your child’s school for assistance.

Attendance

Students who are not in school miss essential information and life skills that can limit their success in school and later in the workplace. Developing good attendance habits is a primary concern for our schools and the state of Missouri.

While we encourage and expect regular attendance, please keep your child home if she/he has:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| Fever | Enlarged or Swollen Glands |
| Sore Throat | Inflamed or Infected Eyes |
| Nausea | Persistent or Deep Cough |
| Diarrhea | |

Children must be fever-free (no more than 100 degrees) without medication for 24 hours.

When you must keep your child home from school, call the school office by 9:00am to report each day. This allows the school personnel to be informed as to your child’s recovery progress and helps to ensure your child’s safety.

Notifications will be mailed home when a child has been absent 5 days, 7 days and again at 10 days. The building principal may require an excuse from a doctor in cases where excessive absences continue. School Board Policy and City Ordinance, Section 15-96, requires schools to notify the police department for investigation when absences reach ten or more.

The State of Missouri sets an attendance standard for schools. In order to meet this standard your child must be in attendance at school 94% of the time. Your child’s

grade card will be marked “Meets State Attendance Standard” or “Does not Meet State Attendance Standard.”

Board Policies

Board policies for the Belton School District can be found on the district website at www.beltonschools.org

Breakfast and Lunch Program

Students may choose to bring their lunch or purchase it at school. Students bringing their lunch may purchase milk. All school lunches, by law, must meet the USDA School Meals Initiative for Healthy Children.

School breakfast is served from 8:10 a.m. until 8:25 a.m. at K-4 buildings and 8:25 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. at Mill Creek. Breakfast and/or lunch may be purchased on a daily basis or money may be deposited into your child’s account.

Cost for school meals:

Elementary Breakfast: \$1.40	Elementary Lunch: \$2.00
Reduced price: \$.30	Reduced price: \$.40
Adult Breakfast: \$2.20	Adult Lunch: \$3.10
Milk: \$.60 per carton	

Students eligible for the free/reduced lunch program are also eligible for free/reduced breakfast. Families applying for the meal programs may need to provide verification of household income when the application is submitted to the school district for approval. Applications must be completed each year. Parents are responsible for payment of school meals until applications are approved. Applications are available online at www.beltonschools.org. For questions regarding the Free/Reduced meal program please contact Diane Huckshorn at (816) 348-1184.

No charge/limited charge policy:

[How the no charge/limited charge policy works](#)

Payment methods for food service products. Food items are to be paid by cash, check or from funds already deposited in meal accounts. Deposits can be made through the District website (<http://www.beltonschools.org>). Go to the website. Under the Quick Links section on the website is the link to MealpayPlus. This is where you can make a contribution to an account. **A la carte items may not be charged (cost must be covered by funds in person’s account, or by cash or check).**

Early Childhood and Elementary students (pre-K – 6) may charge up to \$20.00 for reimbursable meals. Once that limit is reached, the District will provide a commodity sandwich and milk at lunch or an appropriate commodity meal and milk for breakfast, without charge, for up to five days. After receiving five days of commodity meals during the school year, no food service items will be provided without payment at the time of service. **People at the charge limit may pay cash for food items. If you already owe as much as your child’s limited amount permits, you will not be permitted any further charge until your account drops below the limit.**

If you do not want your child to charge, you may contact the school’s food service cashier to place a no charge order on his/her account.

Checking your child out of school

The Belton School District has developed a District-wide checkout policy to ensure the safety and welfare of your child. Individuals who are allowed to check your child out must be identified in your child's enrollment information.

Any individual checking a child out **must** show a valid driver's license or state issued identification card.

Communication with school

Teachers are able to take calls and conference only before and after school, and during plan times. If a message is left, a return call will generally be returned by the end of school the following day. Please communicate directly with your child's teacher(s) to avoid miscommunication and provide an opportunity for problems to be solved at the classroom level. If you feel a problem has not been resolved, contact the building principal.

Classroom visits should be scheduled in advance with your child's teacher. When visiting the school please check in with the office to receive clearance and a nametag so our students and teachers know you have followed safety procedures. Parent visits during the school day in classrooms are limited to observation and not interaction with children. Since teachers must attend to their students, conferencing should be scheduled with teachers at a separate time.

We ask parents not call the school and ask to speak to their children. Messages to students will be delivered prior to the end of the day. Your support to reduce classroom interruptions and increase student time on task is appreciated.

Curriculum

Our overall goal is to encourage children to form a positive attitude toward reading, writing and other areas of the school curriculum. The Belton School District curriculum can be found on the district website under the "Parent" tab. As a district we have local objectives children are expected be able to do before the end of the school year in addition to the state expectations.

The state of Missouri has developed a set of Grade Level Expectations (GLEs) or Standards a child should be able to complete in all core curricular areas (communication arts, math, science and social studies) by the end of the school year. The complete set of GLEs for each of the four core areas can be found on the Missouri State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website at www.dese.mo.gov under school improvement and then curriculum.

In addition to communication arts, math, science and social studies, children K – 4th spend 30 to 45 minutes every third day with instruction in physical education, music and art. Students in 5th and 6th grades receive 45 minutes every fourth day with instruction in art, health, physical education and either vocal or instrumental music. Each child also receives instruction in library skills and technology weekly and regular guidance counselor lessons.

Classroom Management

Classroom management at school is only effective if it is supported and reinforced at home. It is essential for parents, teachers and the building principal to work as a team when correcting children.

Behavior Intervention Support Team (BIST)

The Belton School District follows the BIST model to provide the positive support students need in an effort to create an appropriate learning environment for all members of the school community. BIST is the acronym used for the Behavior Intervention Support Team.

If a student is unable to refrain from hurting or disrupting others, he/she will be reminded verbally (i.e. Can you stop kicking your desk even though you do not want to?). If the child is unable to cease the hurtful or disruptive behavior, he/she will be able to remove his/herself from the situation to go to a “safe seat/spot” in the classroom. This is not intended to be punitive. The hope is that separation from the situation will allow the student to regain control, process through the problem, and make better choices. Students may even request an isolated area to prevent them from a potential problem. If the student is able to process and accept responsibility for the situation, they will return to their seat if they wish.

Students who are unable to go to the safe seat in an acceptable fashion are given the opportunity to go to a “buddy room.” This is a safe seat in another teacher’s classroom. The same process explained above is followed.

The “focus room” is a level above the buddy room. This room is not a regular classroom but is a safe, positive place for students to process with another adult so they may be successful in the classroom. Persistent behaviors may eventually result in an office referral for intervention from the principal.

There are many aspects to BIST. This is a general outline of the main process. The model is not intended to be punitive from the child’s point of view. Ultimately, we are trying to prevent problems before they escalate and to develop students by giving them the life skills and support they need to successfully manage their future.

Chronic behaviors or more serious offenses will receive immediate office intervention in accordance with the Code of Conduct that follows.

Disruptive Behavior → Verbal Redirection → Safe Spot → Buddy Room → Focus Room → Principal’s Office

Once a student reaches a level where they are successful, they will not go directly back to their classroom. They will reverse the process and work their way back to their classroom seat.

General rules include, but are not limited to:

- ❖ Students may not bring pets, electronic devices, toys, cards or sports equipment of any kind without prior consent of the classroom teacher.

- ❖ Students may bring cell phones to school but they must remain turned off and in backpacks while in the school building. Phones are carried at the risk of the student.
- ❖ Students may not form or participate in secret gangs or clubs at school. Any behavior, including gang signs or dress, will be considered a violation of school rules.
- ❖ The “Safe Schools Act” of Missouri prohibits students from bringing any knives, guns, or other weapons of any kind to school. Violation of this rule will result in suspension, referral to the Superintendent, and notification of the police department.
- ❖ School rules apply from “doorstep to doorstep.” This means all school rules apply from the time the child leaves home until they return home to include buses and bus stops. For example, fighting after school on the way home walking or on a bus will be treated the same as fighting at school.

Detailed policies can be found on the Belton School District website www.beltonschools.org.

Dress Guidelines

A school is frequently judged as much by the appearance of its student body as it is by the caliber of its academic program. Therefore, we request pupils maintain a clean and neat appearance. Students should wear clothes appropriate for the weather conditions and school day activities. Footwear appropriate for physical activity in gym and at recess helps to prevent injury. Students may not wear clothes that are disruptive to the educational process (i.e. alcohol or tobacco advertisements, inappropriate language and/or suggestions, etc). If there is question over a student’s dress or appearance, the parent will be contacted.

Enrollment

Beginning the 2010-2011 school year, **all** Belton School District students new and returning will be required to enroll and provide current proof of residence prior to attending school in August. All students, grades K – 12 who plan to attend the Belton Schools enroll at the Belton Freshman Center located at 801 W. North Avenue during specified dates and times several weeks before the first day of school. (See the district website for times and dates.)

If Centralized Enrollment has passed, families should go to the schools to complete the enrollment process for each child.

Proof of Residence - You will be required to provide one current document as proof of residence to begin the enrollment process. Acceptable proof includes water, gas or electric bill in your name with your current address listed on the bill and **dated within 30 days prior to enrollment**. If you do not have a utility bill in your name, you may provide a rental/lease agreement signed by all parties **accompanied by** a tax bill, insurance bill, State Aid letter or cable bill at the address listed on the rental/lease agreement. REMEMBER, the bills have to be dated no more than 30 days prior to enrollment or they will not be accepted. For answers to residency questions prior to centralized enrollment, please call Teresa Stocking at 348-1728.

New Students - to expedite the enrollment of a new student you will need to provide the following information:

- a. Birth Certificate
- b. Proof of residency (see above)
- c. Social Security Number
- d. Immunization records
- e. Completed enrollment forms (found on the district website under the "Parent" tab)

If you are transferring from another school, you will need to sign the "Release of Information" form so previous records may be transferred.

Children entering kindergarten must be five years of age before August 1 of that school year. State law does not allow Missouri schools to enroll students who do not meet this age requirement.

Grade Reporting

Grade cards will be sent home at the end of each quarter. The following grading scale has been implemented in the district:

K – 2nd Grades

SC: Secure: Steady growth at the child's particular level and consistent achievement of instructional objectives

DV: Developing: starting to demonstrate consistency in achievement of instructional objectives

BG: Beginning: Inconsistent achievement of instructional objectives

3rd – 6th Grades

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
Below 60	F

Homebound Instruction

If your child becomes seriously ill or injured, and must miss school for an extended period of time, he/she may qualify for a homebound teacher at the hospital or your home. Please call the homebound coordinator at 348-1512 to inquire about these services.

Homework

Parents are encouraged to provide their children with suitable study space at home and are urged to supervise their work, but not do it for them. In grades K-4 most work should be completed at school. A rule of thumb for elementary students, when they have homework, is ten minutes per grade (for example: 1st grade-10 minutes, 4th grade-40 minutes). Ideally in grades 5 and 6 students should not have more than one hour of homework each night. If your child consistently has more than the recommended amount of homework per night, please contact your child's teacher. Some assignments are sent home as family projects to give parents the opportunity to see how their child is doing and what they are learning. We encourage parents to actively participate in their child's education.

Illness

If your child becomes ill at school, we will make every attempt to notify you. Emergency numbers will be utilized if we cannot reach you. Please make sure emergency numbers are correct and up to date on your child's enrollment card. Parents should have a plan in place to pick up sick children within an hour of a call from school.

Immunizations

Effective beginning the **2010-2011** school year the following **new** requirements will be implemented:

- Second dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine for all children entering kindergarten.

If the kindergarten child has had varicella (chickenpox) disease, a licensed doctor of medicine (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO) may sign and place on file with the school a written statement documenting the month and year of previous varicella (chickenpox) disease as satisfactory evidence of having had the disease. Parental or guardian statements of disease will no longer be accepted beginning with the 2010-2011 school year for children entering kindergarten.

This rule change applies to children entering kindergarten and thereafter. For children enrolled in grades one (1) through five (5), only one dose of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine is required. Parental or guardian statements of disease continue to be acceptable.

- Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccine will be required for all incoming eighth (8th) grade students if the child has completed the recommended childhood DTaP/DTP vaccination series and has not received a Td booster within the past two (2) years.

For children enrolled in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) who have not received a single dose of Td, it is highly recommended they receive a single dose of Tdap as their catch-up booster instead of Td or receive one dose of Tdap two years after the last Td dose.

Missouri School Immunization Requirements 2010-2011

- All students must present documentation of up-to-date immunization status, including month, day and year of each immunization before they can attend school.
- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) allows a 4-day grace period (meaning 4 or fewer days prior to the recommended interval or age), so students in all grade levels may receive immunizations up to 4 days before they are due.
- For children beginning kindergarten during or after the 2003-04 school year, required immunizations should be administered according to the current ACIP Schedule, including all spacing, (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/child-schedule.htm>).
- To remain in school, students "in progress" must have an Imm.P.14 form (which includes appointment date for needed immunization(s)) on file and must receive immunizations as soon as they become due. In progress means that a child has begun the vaccine series and has an appointment for the next dose. This appointment must be kept and an updated record provided to the school. If the appointment is not kept, the child is no longer in progress and is noncompliant. (For example, hep B vaccine series was begun but the child is not yet eligible to receive the next dose in the series.)

In progress does not apply to the Tdap or Td booster.

- Religious (Imm.P.11A) and Medical (Imm.P.12) exemptions are allowed. The appropriate exemption card must be on file. Unimmunized children are subject to exclusion from school when outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases occur.

Vaccines Required for School Attendance	Doses Required by Grade												
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DTaP ¹	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4	4	4	4	3+
Tdap ²									1	Tdap or Td required 10 years after last DTaP, DTP or DT.			
IPV (Polio) ³	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+
MMR	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2 measles, 1 mumps, 1 rubella required, however 2 MMRs are highly recommended.				
Hepatitis B	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+
Varicella ⁴	2	1	1	1	1	1	No doses required, however vaccination is highly recommended.						

1. Last dose on or after fourth (4th) birthday and last dose of pediatric pertussis before seventh (7th) birthday. **Maximum needed:** six (6) doses.
2. Tdap, which contains pertussis vaccine, is required for students enrolled in grade eight (8) who have completed the recommended childhood DTP/DTaP vaccination series and have not received a Td booster dose within the past two (2) years. For grades 9-12, a Tdap or Td booster is required ten (10) years after the last dose of DTaP, DTP or DT. Tdap may be given at any time in the event of a pertussis outbreak situation.
3. Last dose must be administered on or after fourth (4th) birthday.
4. **Kindergarten:** As satisfactory evidence of disease, an MD or DO may sign and place on file with the school a written statement documenting the month and year of previous varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Grades 1-5: As satisfactory evidence of disease, a parent/guardian or MD or DO may sign and place on file with the school a written statement documenting the month and year of previous varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Bureau of Immunization Assessment and Assurance
(573) 751-6124 (866) 628-9891



Rev 9/09

Library Media Centers

We encourage parents to become familiar with the school's library media center. Books for students and resources for parents are available. Students are responsible for lost or damaged materials. We encourage you to spend time reading to and with your child.

Lost and Found

Lost articles are placed in a "lost and found" box in the school. This box is generally emptied and given to charitable organizations at the end of each quarter or more often if it becomes full. You may check this box for lost articles at your convenience. We recommend personal items be labeled with a child's full name to increase the likelihood it will be returned to its owner.

Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)

All students in the district participate in the mandated statewide assessment program (MAP). These assessments are administered in the spring each year. The grade level of the child determines the state test they are given. Additional information about state assessments can be found on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website at www.dese.mo.gov.

Make-Up Work

If your child misses more than one day, we encourage you to request make-up work. If requested by 10:00 a.m., this work may be picked up in the office between 3:30 and 4:00 p.m. As a general rule students are given a day for each day missed to complete and turn in late assignments due to illness or other absences. Students should work with the teacher to get the necessary work completed upon their return to school.

Outdoor Play

When a child is healthy enough to attend school they are healthy enough to participate in playground and/or physical education activities in and out of doors. A child may be exempted from physical education class due to injury or illness with a physician's note for a specified period of time.

Parent Teacher Association

The PTA plays an important role in our schools. Parents are urged to support their PTA by attending meetings and becoming active members. PTA provides a variety of services to our schools such as:

- Volunteers to include office, library and teacher assistance, tutoring, field trips, school parties, field days
- Fund raising for special projects, field trips and assemblies

Parent/Teacher Conferences

These conferences are scheduled at the end of the first quarter. Parents may, however, request a conference with their child's teacher(s) at any time during the school year. We encourage parents to maintain close contact with their child's teacher(s).

Police Department and/or Children’s Division

School district personnel are mandated reporters of child abuse or educational neglect. We are required by law to “hotline” any case reported by a child or school personnel.

The police and/or Children’s Division will conduct an interview with the child if a hotline call is made. The school district, by law, must allow this interview and does cooperate with officials. The school district does not do these investigations. Children’s Division or the police department, not the school, will notify you if they have conducted an interview or investigation.

Prescription Medication

If your child must be given medication of any kind during the school day, it must be taken to the nurse’s office for storage and administration. These medications will only be administered according to the physician’s instructions. We request you notify the school nurse in advance if medications are being sent so we are prepared to assist your child.

Release of Student Information

The district will not release student information that could be used for marketing or selling products either for profit or non-profit organizations.

Safety Rules for Walkers

Please discuss the following safety procedures with your child prior to the first day of school.

- a. Walk on the left side of the street
- b. Walk side by side
- c. Stop and look both ways before crossing the street
- d. Cross only at intersections
- e. Do not accept rides or get in the car with strangers
- f. Obey safety patrol officers
- g. Do not “cut” through yards
- h. Proceed directly to and from school

We recommend you make a “trial run” with your child before the first day of school.

Sales and Solicitation

Students are not permitted to sell or trade candy, cookies, cards or other items on school property.

School Age Childcare

The district provides a fee based before and after school child care program for parents needing this service. Hours begin at 6:30 a.m. and end at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in this program please call Grace Early Childhood Care and Education Center and speak to the School Age Childcare Director at 348-1514.

School Closings

Unscheduled closings may occur because of severe weather, natural disasters or equipment failure. Please check your local television and radio stations for this information. Announcements will be made as “Belton Public Schools”. Other

primary means of communication regarding such closings will be made through the School Reach automated calling system, the school district's website, and Pirate Alerts text messages. News of school closings will also be posted on the district's Facebook and Twitter pages and sent via Quick News email, when appropriate. Please make arrangements for early release situations in case of these emergencies. The schools will cancel all meetings and after-school activities on these days.

School Hours

The K-4 elementary school day begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. The 5th & 6th grade school day begins at 8:45 a.m. and ends at 3:45 p.m. Students are not to be on the school premises more than 20 minutes before school begins and 15 minutes after school ends unless they are under the supervision of a parent, teacher or school sponsored childcare program. Students who arrive before the time listed above or, are not picked up will be placed in the school age care program for supervision. The S.A.C. Program will charge parents for this service. Prior to 8:10 (K – 4)/ 8:25 (5,6) and after 3:45 (K – 4)/ 4:00 (5,6), staff are not on duty. Placement in the S.A.C. Program is for the safety of your child.

School Property

The most common losses in our schools are text and library books. Students will be required to pay for books or other materials that are lost or destroyed. Please emphasize the importance of these materials to your child.

Senate Bill 319

During the 3rd and 4th grade, student-reading levels must be determined.

- If a child is more than one year below grade level and is not exempt (special education, 504 students with plans addressing reading, non-English speaking students in U.S. schools less than 3 years) a 30-hour reading improvement plan outside the regular school day will be implemented. Within the last 45 days of school students with plans are administered another reading assessment.
- Students in 3rd grade not demonstrating a reading level of 2nd grade or above will attend summer school for reading instruction and continue their 4th grade year with a reading improvement plan.
- Students in the 4th grade not demonstrating a reading level of 3rd grade or above will be **retained** in the 4th grade. Forty hours of summer school instruction is **required** for these students. After the 40 hours of summer instruction, the child will be retested and will go on to 5th grade **if** the necessary gains are made (3rd grade reading level or above). Retained or not, the student will continue 4th or 5th grade with a 30-hour reading improvement plan. If retained, students will only repeat one year in 4th grade.
- Reading improvement plans will continue until the end of 6th grade for students reading more than one year below grade level.
- A notation will be made on a student's permanent record at the end of 6th grade if he or she is reading below the 5th grade level.

Student Pictures

Individual student pictures will be taken during the fall. Please check your school calendar for the dates. The photographers require pictures be paid for in advance.

Class pictures will be taken in the spring. Your child's teacher will send reminders home for both the individual and group pictures.

Surveys

No student, as part of any federally funded program, without parental consent, shall be required to submit to a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals: political affiliations; potentially embarrassing mental or psychological problems; sex behavior and attitudes, illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior; critical appraisals of other individuals with whom there is a close family relationship; legally recognized privileges; income (unless required for program participation); religious practices, affiliations or beliefs.

Transportation

Students who meet eligibility requirements by means of residence will be permitted to use school bus transportation for the purpose of travel to and from school if living one mile or more from school. Free transportation is not provided to other children, except for those who qualify on the basis of disability or in special cases where hazardous walking conditions are found to exist by the Board of Education. Bus routes are published each August before the beginning of school in the local newspaper and on the district website. If you have transportation questions you may call Crabtree Transportation, the contracted bus company, at 816-331-3200.

Transportation Changes

When possible avoid transportation changes for your child. Any time there is a change in your child's normal routine, such as walking home, staying after school, riding home with a parent and not on the bus, please send a note. Occasionally it becomes necessary for your child to ride a different bus. A signed note from the parent with the bus number and/or delivery address will be required in the school office for this change. We encourage you to call to make sure your child has given us your note.

Requests for last minute transportation changes must be made in writing by 30 minutes before the end of the school day. If written changes do not arrive in time at the school office, students are expected to follow their regular transportation routine.

Children do at times forget instructions and end up in the wrong place without reminders. This will help all of us keep your child safe.

Wellness Program

The Belton School District Board of Education adopted a district Wellness Program to promote student health, facilitate student learning of lifelong healthy habits, and increase student achievement (Board policy ADF).

In an effort to support the wellness program and to assist you in joining the effort, we would like to highlight some areas of focus that would be of particular interest to parents as you prepare for the school year:

*At least 50% of the food and beverages available at school parties will meet the intermediate Eat Smart requirements:

- Not more than 35% of total calories from fat (excluding cheese,

- nuts, seeds, and nut butters) and
- Not more than 35% of weight from sugar (excluding fruit without added sugar, 100% juice, and milk)

*Foods of minimal nutritional value will not be made available by the school during school hours, including classroom rewards.

This is especially important to note when considering bringing classroom treats for birthdays and other special celebrations in your child's classroom. If you wish to send treats for a special celebration in your child's classroom, we would like you to consider the suggested guidelines and select from the healthy foods that students would enjoy. For example, beverages such as water, 100% juice, milk, or diet soda could replace regular soda or other popular "juice" drinks that are not actually 100% juice. Popular snacks such as string cheese, cheese and crackers, peanut butter and crackers (except for those with peanut allergies), some granola or fruit/cereal bars, trail mix, fruit, vegetables and dip, yogurt, etc. would be wonderful instead of cupcakes, cookies, or candy.

We will all be learning together. While we are not going to strictly monitor everything students bring from home in their personal lunches, we do encourage you to be aware of our efforts and join us as you pack your child's lunch. This is a wonderful time to increase awareness of nutritional value of foods we purchase for our families.

This Wellness Program includes many other guidelines for our district during school hours that will positively impact your child such as teaching healthy living and nutritional skills and improving options in vending machines throughout the district. We also value physical activity, and each grade level will have an increase in recess time for a total of 40 min. each day.

Please contact the school or central office for a comprehensive explanation of the guidelines and procedures included in our Wellness Program.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this handbook, contact the building principal at your convenience. We hope this handbook has provided insight into the day-to-day operations of our schools.



Elementary School Information

Cambridge Elementary

109 W. Cambridge
Belton, MO 64012
Mrs. Michelle Biondo, Principal
816-348-1008 Office
816-348-1093 Fax
816-348-1009 Health Room

Gladden Elementary

405 Westover
Belton, MO 64012
Mr. Jeff Levy, Principal
816-348-1015 Office
816-348-1530 Fax
816-348-1017 Health Room

Hillcrest Elementary

106 S. Hillcrest
Belton, MO 64012
Mr. Bryce Johnson, Principal
816-348-1130 Office
816-348-1135 Fax
816-348-1132 Health Room

Kentucky Trail Elementary

8301 E. 163rd Street
Belton, MO 64012
Dr. Carrie Bachmeier, Principal
816-348-1100 Office
816-348-1105 Fax
816-348-1102 Health Room

Scott Elementary

310 S. Scott
Belton, MO 64012
Dr. Starr Rich, Principal
816-348-1005 Office
816-348-1545 Fax
816-348-1713 Health Room

Mill Creek Upper Elementary

308 S. Cleveland
Belton, MO 64012
Mrs. Kim Mauck, Principal
816-348-1576 Office
816-348-1595 Fax
816-348-1596 Health Room

Belton School District #124 District Office

110 W. Walnut
Belton, MO 64012
Dr. Andrew Underwood, Superintendent
Dr. Sara Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education
816-348-1000 Office
816-348-1544 Fax