



2024-2025

TK/K

PARENT HANDBOOK

Stanwood A. Murphy Elementary School

Scotia Union School District

417 Church Street PO Box 217

Scotia, CA 95565

Phone: 707-764-2212 Fax: 707-764-5111

Website: scotiasd.hcoe.org

Facebook/Instagram: Scotia Union School District

SCOTIA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Neil Bartlett Debbie Reback Ed Lewis Nicholas Lyvers

SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL

Amy Gossien

Dear Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten Parents,

Welcome to the Scotia Elementary School District!

When your child starts school, you are entrusting us with a great responsibility. We will use a highly individualized approach to meet the particular needs of your child while making learning a positive experience. This is a cooperative venture, combining home and school efforts toward a dedicated purpose. Your support and encouragement will help your child look forward to school as a place for new and interesting experiences. This first year will have a lifetime effect on your child and your cooperation is an important factor.

Please feel free to call the school should questions arise as to our programs, goals, or policies. We encourage parent involvement in all aspects of your child's school experience. We are happy to have you with us and look forward to a great year!

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

It is the belief of the Scotia Union School District that children's learning experiences should meet their individual needs, whether in social, emotional, and physical development or in the acquisition of academic skills. Therefore, our kindergarten program is intended to balance the social and academic needs of kindergarten students through a sequential, developmental approach to individualized learning.

The academic content of the kindergarten program will vary according to individual needs and abilities. However, all kindergarten students will be provided with the necessary social experience to develop a positive attitude toward learning and the social skills needed to interact appropriately with others.

2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

please check the Calendar of Events on the school's website for the most up to date information

August

22 Back to School Night
26 First Day of School

17 Midterm
20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
24 Midterm Progress Reports Home (4-8 grades)

September

2 Labor Day Holiday

February

17-21 Presidents Week Break

October

4 Midterm
TBD Picture Day
14-18 Conference Week/1:00 Dismissal
Book Fair
31 Halloween Parade/Parties/1:00 Dismissal

March

7 End of Trimester 2
17-21 Conference Week/1:00 Dismissal

November

11 Veteran's Day Holiday
15 End of Trimester 1
25-29 Thanksgiving Break
4 Report Cards Home

April

14-18 Spring Break
25 Midterm

December

TBD Make Up Picture Day
23-Jan.3 Winter Break

May

2 Midterm Progress Reports Home (4-8 grades)
26 Memorial Day Holiday

June

11 Graduation
12 Last Day of School/1:00 Dismiss all Week

January

6 School Resumes

REGISTRATION

Any child who will be 5 years old on or before September 1st is eligible to enter kindergarten. Any child who will be 4 years old on or before September 1 is eligible to enter transitional kindergarten. Registration is conducted by the school secretary.

The following information is required at the time of registration:

1. Proof of birth date (birth certificate, baptismal certificate, passport or other official proof).
2. Proof of immunization:
 - a) 5 DTaP (4 doses meet requirement if at least one was given on or after the 4th birthday)
 - b) 4 Polio (3 doses meet requirement if at least one was given on or after 4th birthday) c) 3 Hep B
 - d) 2 MMR (both on or after 1st birthday)
 - e) 2 Varicella
3. Name, address, and telephone number of a neighbor or friend to contact in an emergency if the parent cannot be reached.

STUDENT PICK UP/DROP OFF

With ongoing construction, parents and students are asked to avoid the area around the gym building site. During student drop off and pick up, vehicles are not to drive up Church Street. Vehicles are to follow Main Street past the Post Office, turn up B Street past the former Medical Center building, turn left onto First Street, and pull up to the curb. Students will exit the vehicle at the curb, and parents will turn left down Church Street. The bus loading and unloading zone is located at the front of the staff parking lot. Parents who need to park and exit their vehicles are asked to park along First Street (at the end closest to B Street), or on Church Street. To keep our students safe, please do not pull into or in front of the staff parking lot.

Students who arrive before 8:20 are to go straight to the cafeteria. Free breakfast is served each day 8:00-8:20.

Because there is no supervision, students are not able to be in the main building prior to 8:20.

Parents are welcome to walk their children up to the cafeteria in the morning.

TK and Kindergarten class are dismissed at 1:30 P.M. Monday-Thursday, and 1:00 every Friday. If your child is going somewhere different than the normal routine after school, please phone the school office by 12:00 p.m. or send a note to school with your child.

Students will only be released to individuals listed on the student's registration form

COMMUNICATION

Regular communication from the classroom will include messages and notes sent in your child's "Blue Folder". The "Blue Folder" is provided by the school.

Regular communication from the school is also sent out via the school's "All Call" system. When registering your child, please opt in for phone, email, and/or text messages from the school. If you are not receiving regular communication from the school, please contact the office to confirm the contact information on file.

Regular updates and activities can also be found on the school's calendar of events, located on the school's website, in the monthly newsletter, sent home at the beginning of each month, on the marquee, located on the front of the school building, and on Facebook and Instagram.

Regularly scheduled parent conferences are held in the fall and the spring. If you would like to meet with your child's teacher at any other time, please contact the teacher or the office to set up a meeting.

The most convenient way to contact your child's teacher, if not in person, is through email. If you prefer to call, you are welcome to call the office and leave a message. Teacher Emails are listed on the school's website.

We encourage parents to visit the school, and volunteer in their child's classroom or elsewhere! When visiting the school, either for a quick drop off or a scheduled volunteer time, please go directly to the front office upon arrival to sign in. Upon leaving, please make sure to sign out in the office as well.

All regularly scheduled volunteers must be fingerprinted and complete the Classroom Volunteer Agreement prior to volunteering. You can get the required forms from your child's teacher or the office.

If you are unable to volunteer in your child's classroom regularly, you are still encouraged to come to visit the school and your child's classroom!

ATTENDANCE

Punctuality and regularity in attendance play an important part in the development of your child's attitudes toward school life. Consistent attendance is necessary for success at school.

A sick child should not be sent to school. ***Please call the school in the morning to verify your child's absence and to report contagious diseases or illnesses to the office.***

Please notify the school office of any changes of address, telephone, or email.

HEALTH EXAMINATION

It is recommended that you take your child to have a complete physical examination and dental check before school starts. We recommend a physical examination before entering kindergarten to help you and the school better understand your child and identify any physical or emotional problems your child may have which will affect learning.

HEALTH CARE

If your child needs to take medication at school, please notify the school. The school must have written permission on file from the parent and the physician to give any medication to a student, whether it is a prescription or over the counter medication. The "permission to give medication" form may be obtained from the school office.

Health Care Reminders:

- Please keep your child at home for at least 24 hours after a fever.
- Please notify the school when your child has a communicable disease. (See communicable disease information section)
- Please ensure your child has adequate sleep. TK/Kindergarten children usually need 10-12 hours of sleep every night.
- Please send your child to school in sturdy shoes and a jacket/sweater/sweatshirt with your child's name in it.
- Please help your child to develop a responsible attitude toward maintaining a clean body, clean teeth, and clean clothes.
- Please send a refillable water bottle with your child. The school has water bottle filling stations. ● Please send a snack with your child for break time. Students have a 10 to 15 minute snack time each morning.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE INFORMATION

CHICKEN POX

Incubation Period: 14 - 21 Days

Communicable Periods: 5 days before and 7 days after the rash appears

Isolation: 7 days after spots appear

WHOOPING COUGH

Incubation Period: 20 day (Pertussis)

Communicable Periods: 7 days after exposure to 3 weeks after onset of typical paroxysmal cough (highly communicable)

Isolation: 21 days after the appearance of a typical cough.

PEDICULOSIS (Head or Body Lice)

Keep the patient isolated at home until ALL LICE and NITS are removed. Information concerning medications and methods of treatment are available at the school office.

ADDITIONAL HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

FIELD TRIPS: Parents will be notified of planned field trips, and are encouraged to attend as helpers! Parent Chaperones are not allowed to bring other children with them.

LIBRARY BOOKS: Students are allowed to check out one library book at a time. The book has a one-week due date. Your child will be allowed to exchange books daily. Discuss and read your child's book to him/her. Have a certain place to keep it, so it won't get lost or damaged.

SHARING: Your child will be assigned a specific sharing day of the week. Only one item should be brought to share each week. They can share toys, books, nature objects, etc.

GET INVOLVED: The Scotia School PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) is a great way to be involved, and meet other parents! The PTO's function is to encourage family involvement through student enrichment and family-focused activities, and raise funds for classroom and school projects.

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

- Before the school year begins, teach your child the safe way to school or to the bus stop. You may wish to familiarize your child with the school campus.
- Teach your child his or her name, address, and telephone number.
- Get your child up early enough each day to get to school on time without rushing or causing confusion.
- Label all clothing, books, and other articles brought to school.
- Provide comfortable, serviceable clothing for your child that allows movement for active play.
- Please leave your child at the classroom door upon arrival. Your child is in safe, sympathetic, professional hands and will make a quick and satisfying adjustment to school.
- Keep the school informed. If you change phone numbers or babysitters, or if there are other items that may affect your child, please notify the school.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR BEING SUCCESSFUL AT SCHOOL

- Help your child to attain self-control and to share attention with others.
- Help your child to plan and carry out activities and simple projects.
- Give your child praise for achievement. Praise helps to develop positive attitudes. ● Teach your child to understand and carry out simple directions.
- Give your child various personal and home responsibilities.
- Provide a variety of experiences to expand your child's awareness of the world. ● Talk to your child. Make time each day to discuss your child's day and to demonstrate your positive interest.
- Encourage your child to develop the habit of courtesy toward others.
- Teach your child to dress independently. This includes fastening, tying, and zipping; as well as putting on articles worn to school.
- Establish a definite time for meals, rest, play and bedtime.
- Be consistent regarding expectancies and behavior.
- Encourage your child to develop independence.
- Ensure that your child feels loved, wanted, and secure

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN/KINDERGARTEN AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

All children want to learn. They need to be successful at what they do, so they'll feel confident enough to try new things. Our kindergarten program will offer many learning experiences to further the social,

emotional, mental, and physical development of your child. The pace of learning is determined by the child's developmental level. A diagnostic/prescriptive approach is utilized for instruction.

- Learn to work, play and share with other children and to appreciate and respect other classmates by participating in group activities as a leader, observer, and contributor.
- Grow in responsibility through learning the proper care of equipment and learning to follow directions.
- Progress through pre-reading, reading, pre-writing, penmanship, and phonetic spelling skills in a sequential manner.
- Increase language skills by sharing experiences, retelling stories, sequencing stories, writing and illustrating sentences and stories, and learning to listen and observe for details.
- Develop math concepts and skills through meaningful experiences with concrete objects, pictures, and the use of math symbols.
- Develop freedom of personal expression while experimenting with such materials as clay, paper, paint, scissors, paste, crayons, and tools.
- Increase physical development and coordination through active participation in games use of blocks and outdoor equipment, and perceptual training.
- Enjoy music and begin to develop music skills through rhythmic interpretation, listening to records and instruments and singing songs.
- Develop science skills by observing and studying plant and animal life, and becoming more aware of weather, nature, and seasonal changes. Children's natural inquisitiveness will be used to understand the real world.

These are some of the areas that we plan to cover with your child this year. As we cover them, your help and reinforcement at home can be of great value to your child.

- Nursery Rhymes
- Recognizing and writing his or her own name
- Recognizing colors, shapes and patterns
- Cutting and pasting
- Seeing alike and different
- Recognizing big and little
- Recognizing terms; first, middle and last
- Penmanship
- Recognizing, writing and saying the letters of the alphabet
- Learning his/her address and telephone number
- Recognizing numbers 1 - 20
- Writing numbers 1 - 40
- Adding and subtracting numbers
- Identification of body parts
- Sharing and getting along with others
- Sitting and listening as part of a group
- Physical Education will include development of large motor skills
- Various units; dinosaurs, the farm, our solar system, birds, dental hygiene, five senses, community helpers, etc.

We look forward to a great year with your child!