# DOROTHY L. BULLOCK SCHOOL PARENT HANDBOOK 2023 - 2024

Dorothy L. Bullock School 370 New Street, East Glassboro NJ 08028 856-652-2700 Ext. 4101/4102



#### **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Kelly Marchese, Principal
Tim Hagerty, Assistant Principal
Tammy Belcher, Guidance Counselor
Katie Evans, Guidance Counselor
Marian Dunn, School Nurse
Judith Tamaska, School Nurse
Alexandra Gredzinski, Secretary
Dana Cairy - Birdy, Secretary

# **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:**

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

www.gpsd.us

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:

www.facebook.com/DLBullockGlassboroNJ

#### WELCOME BACK

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We are excited to welcome our students and families into our Bullock School Community. We have composed this handbook as a guide so that parents will have essential information for the year ahead.

The Bullock School is home to approximately 690 students in grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Our faculty strives to develop each individual child's strengths and talents. It is our goal to inspire our students to learn and grow both academically and socially, while providing an environment where our students feel safe and supported. Our teachers take part in workshops and sit on committees that have a direct impact on our students' growth and learning.

We will communicate important information via School Messenger throughout the year. It is extremely important that all contact information in Power School is up to date so that you receive all communication from the school district. We also update information on our school website <a href="www.gpsd.us">www.gpsd.us</a> and on our Facebook page <a href="www.facebook.com/DLBullockGlassboroNJ">www.facebook.com/DLBullockGlassboroNJ</a>.

The Bullock School welcomes your involvement in the education of our children. Do not hesitate to reach out to us. We have a PTO, whose members would be happy to discuss the many opportunities available for you to become involved. Additionally, parents and community members are invited to join the Bullock Parent Advisory Committee, which will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to engage in conversation with administration about the programs and activities at our school. For more information on BPAC, please visit our website.

# **BULLOCK BELL SCHEDULES**

### **Regular Schedule**

8:45 – 9:00 a.m. Student Arrival 9:00 – 3:00 p.m. Instructional Time\* 3:00 p.m. Dismissal

# **Early Dismissal Schedule**

8:45 – 9:00 a.m. Student Arrival 9:00 – 1:15 p.m. Instructional Time\* 1:15 p.m. Dismissal

#### 1-Hour Delay Schedule

9:45 – 10:00 a.m. Student Arrival 10:00 – 3:00 p.m. Instructional Time\* 3:00 p.m. Dismissal

# 2-Hour Delay Schedule

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. Student Arrival 11:00 – 3:00 p.m. Instructional Time\* 3:00 p.m. Dismissal

\*Specific instructional schedules within the window identified vary from grade level to grade level, classroom to classroom, and from day to day. For specific information regarding your child's schedule, contact your child's teacher(s). Please also note that lunch is served for each of these schedules.

# BULLOCK SCHOOL STAFF – 2023 - 2024

Grade 1 Teachers		Grade 2 Teachers	
Katherine Burt	Taylor Contravo	Jacqueline Shirley	Kelli Scharnagl
Nicolette Corma	Andrea Dalfonso	Amy Ceroli	Jazmyn Salazar
Toni Azzarano	Michelle Rullo	Laure Budney	Jackie Applegate
Alyssa Lombardi			
Grade 3 Teachers		Grade 4 Teachers	
Carl Aird	Jenna Alleman	Shannon Killelea	Eric Fifer
Melanie Storey	Robin Sauer	Kate Bross	Lynn Berman
Dave Brown	Jessica Schofield	Megan Millard	Lauren Wilson
Grade 5 Teachers		Special Education Teachers	
Jason Clark	Lauren Hoffman	Jenna Lascio	Jaclyn Mahoney
Samantha Vicario	Allison Deschler	Lauren DeGrazia	Mallory McLaughlin
Taylor Machulsky	Emily Gigliotti	Danielle Cerrato	Deserea Simberg
Paraprofessionals		Karmen Humes	Sarah Pagan
Tameeka Outtene	Lydia Littles	Kimberly Sims	Anthony Corma
Megan Stauffer		Linda Rorer	Jose Cardona
Catherine Plourde	Stacey McWiliams	Dana Maiorini	Susan Avis
Schur Little	Dondre Reed	Amy Walsh	
Marie Alteri	Teresa DiLaurentes	Special Area Teachers	
Basic Skills Teachers		Rachel Johns	Angelina Coppola
Heather Rittman	Melissa Tees	Mike Sharkey	Renee Hart
Andrea Giroux	Nicole Werner	Bernadette Perry	Jennifer Kennedy
Additional Support Staff		Rich Brattelli	Mike Bittner
Beth Grygo	Beth Torbik		Aileen Castro (GT)
	Courtney Gonzales		

#### ADMINISTRATION: CURRICULUM SUPERVISORS

Catherine Torbik - Director of Special Education	Amy Masso - Supervisor of Basic Skills
Brandi Sheridan - Supervisor of Math and Science	Andrew Pancoast - Supervisor of Language Arts and Social Studies
Sue Kornicki - Supervisor of Educational Technology and Visual & Performing Arts	

# SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

"Attendance at school is required by all children between the ages of 6 and 16" (N.J.S.A. 18: A38-25 and 26). Regular attendance and punctuality is encouraged and is essential to maintain high academic standards. However, a child who has any sign of fever, chills, sore throat, severe coughing, or earache should not be sent to school. The child must also remain fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school. Undocumented absences may result in retention. For extended absences, arrangements may need to be made with the administrator to make up missed classroom instructional time.

It is understood that occasional school absences will occur. Therefore, the following may be considered as documented "excused" absences:

- Illnesses as verified by a doctor's note.
- Certified hospital stay.
- Periods during which bedside instruction is received.
- Approved religious holidays. (N.J.S.A. 18:36-16)
- School approved reasons (as confirmed legal appointments, field trips, suspension, death in family, or other school-initiated reason). Documentation will be required.

\*\*\*Documentation for the above reasons must be submitted within 5 days from the time the student returns to school or the absences will be deemed "unexcused."

Our office is required by law to refer to the municipal court the names of students (and their parents) who have acquired a cumulative of 10 or more absences during any time during a school year.

In the event your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school by 10:00 A.M. Since the district operates a voice-mail message recording system, messages can be left as soon as it is known that a child will be absent. If we do not receive a phone call by 10:00 A.M. on the morning of the absence, you will receive a phone call from our school secretary to determine the reason why your child is absent. A written note is required from a parent to explain an absence or late arrival. This ensures your child's safety and helps us to curb truancy.

When requesting homework, please contact the teacher via email or phone prior to 10:00 a.m. This allows time for the teachers to prepare your child's assignments. Homework can be picked up no earlier than 3:00 p.m.

# **TARDINESS**

Repeated lateness can disrupt classroom activity as well as affect the normal flow of events occurring in the school. Continued student tardiness can precipitate unacceptable building and classroom interruptions as well as cause a student to miss an unreasonable amount of instruction and schoolwork. Parents need to make every effort to ensure that their children arrive at school in a punctual manner. Any student not seated at

# **SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation is provided in accordance with state guidelines and school district policy. Any problems concerning pick-ups and/or schedules should be discussed with the GPSD transportation department - Diane Veight 856-652-2700 ext. 6701. Students must go home on their assigned bus. Temporary switching of buses is <u>not permitted</u>. In order to request a permanent bus change, a form must be submitted to transportation. Students in grades 1 -2 must have a parent or guardian at the bus stop to pick them up. If an adult is not present, students will be taken back to school, and someone will have to pick them up from the building.

We require and expect responsible behavior on the bus, as it is essential to the welfare of all students who ride to school. Safety measures **MUST** be followed, and rules enforced. Misbehavior on the bus will result in disciplinary action, which may include suspension or possible removal from the bus. Transportation is provided as a privilege to students who follow proper bus behavior. Please take a moment to review these bus safety rules with your child.

# **Bus Safety Rules:**

- 1. Students must adhere to the bus schedule. Arrive at the bus stop approximately ten minutes before scheduled time.
- 2. Wait safely off the roadway until the bus comes to a full stop.
- 3. Board and leave the bus without pushing or crowding.
- 4. Only board your assigned bus. Always sit in your assigned seat.
- 5. Students are required to conduct themselves in an orderly well-behaved fashion. Violations of rules may result in suspension of bus privileges.
- 6. Cooperate with the bus driver at all times.
- 7. Respect property at all times, this includes the property around you while waiting for the bus, the bus seats, seat belts, and other student's belongings.
- 8. Buckle your seat belt! It's the law. You should never leave the seat while the bus is in motion.
- 9. Be courteous, speak softly, and always use appropriate language.
- 10. Food and/or drinks are not permitted on the bus.
- 11. Keep book bags, lunch, and hands on your lap.
- 12. In case of emergency, remain in your seat, and wait for directions.
- 13. Report any student problems or bus damage to the driver.
- 14. Always take all your belongings and your trash with you when you leave the bus.
- 15. Do not throw anything out the windows of the bus.

# **Parent Responsibilities:**

- 1. Parents are not permitted to board the bus at any time. If you have any concerns, contact the school administrator.
- 2. Parents are responsible for students' safety and discipline at bus stops.
- 3. Review bus safety rules with your children

# **WALKERS**

Students should not arrive on campus before 8:30 A.M. They will not be permitted to enter the building until 8:45 A.M. They should use caution and cross streets only where crossing guards are on duty. Those students riding bikes to school must wear safety helmets. When riding on school property, refrain from entering parking lots or bus areas. There is a bike rack located at the far end of the school, by the gymnasium entrance. Students in grades 1-2, must have a parent or guardian present to walk them home from school. The students

will come back to school if a parent or guardian is not present.

# **PARKING**

Visitor and substitute parking is designated in the parking lot in the front of the building. There is no parking permitted in the bus drop off loop in front of the school. We also ask that parents do not park in the parent drop off section of the building from 8:00 - 9:00 AM and 2:30 - 3:30 PM.

# STUDENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Students who are being transported to school by car should be dropped off and picked up on the side of the building. All vehicles should follow the designated lane and directional arrows to the drop off/ pick-up location. Staff will be outside to greet students. We ask that students always exit and enter vehicles on the passenger side to ensure they are not entering traffic lanes.

During pick-up we ask that you follow the same procedures as drop-off, however you will remain in your vehicle until a staff member can come to check your ID, verifying the identity of the individual who is picking up your student. We will walk the student out to your car. You will then proceed to the exit. This exit will be in the same location where you entered the parking lot. We ask that you do not turn into the bus drop off lane as we are working to decrease traffic in that area.

We do ask for your patience as it is important to ensure the safety of all our students. If you have any changes regarding who will be picking up your child, please notify the classroom teacher prior to 1:00 so we can plan accordingly.

We will share more details about drop off and pick up as we approach the opening of school.

# EARLY DISMISSAL FOR INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS

When a change to the normal dismissal procedure for your child is necessary, we ask that you send a note or an email to the homeroom teacher to notify the school of the change to your child's regular dismissal procedure. Please send the note/ email the morning the dismissal change is to occur. These students will then be called down at the end of the day prior to bus dismissal. Only in emergency cases, determined by an administrator, will a phone call suffice to allow a student to be dismissed early. All students being dismissed early must be picked up by a parent or guardian from the office. Parents should make every attempt to schedule medical and dental appointments so that they do not conflict with school hours. Taking students out of school before the end of the day is discouraged as it adversely impacts their learning.

If someone other than a parent or legal guardian is to pick up the child, the information must be specified in the note or email. Adults picking up students from the office will be required to provide proper identification.

Students, without prior notice from an email/ note from parent, will not be dismissed from any class after 2:45 p.m. After 2:45 p.m. parents will have to wait until 3:00 to pick up students from school. This procedure is put into place to make sure that all students are accounted for during dismissal.

In order for a child to be considered present for a complete day, they must be in school a total of four hours not including lunch.

# **VISITORS**

We certainly encourage any parent/guardian or community member to reach out if you wish to speak to a member of the Bullock team. Please be mindful that the safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance. If you wish to meet with a member of the Bullock team, we ask that you call and schedule an appointment in advance. When arriving for a meeting, be prepared to show identification to our main office

staff. All visitors must register at the main office to receive a visitor's pass.

Teachers cannot consult with parents during class time. If a conference is desired, we ask that you call ahead and make an appointment. This would also apply to meetings desired with the principal or other staff members.

When visiting the building, there is no smoking or vaping on school property.

# SCHOOL CLOSING AND EARLY DISMISSAL FOR ALL STUDENTS

School closing, half days for conference, etc. are noted on the district calendar, sent home, and/or the activity calendar received in the mail. Early dismissal at Bullock School is 1:15 P.M. During the winter months, ice and snow may result in school closings or early dismissals. A decision to close the schools is made for the safety of your children and is usually made early in the morning. Decisions for early dismissal, although rare, are usually made by 10:00 a.m.

Parents will be notified via the district website. A phone recording will also be sent out to all families via the *School Messenger* phone system. In the event of early dismissal due to weather or other emergency, every effort will be made to notify the parents.

# **Scheduled Early Dismissals**

- November 22nd
- November 28th December 1st
- December 23rd
- March 19th 22nd
- June 10th 13th

#### **DELAYED OPENING SCHEDULE**

This year we have four 2-hour delays built into our school calendar. Please refer to the bell schedule for drop off and start times. The dates are listed below:

# **Scheduled 2-hour Delays**

- October 27th
- December 8th
- January 26th
- March 8th

#### EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

Parents should make arrangements with neighbors or other responsible individuals to receive and care for their children in the event of an early dismissal. (Children are to be instructed by the parents exactly what they are to do if this should occur).

#### **PHONE USAGE**

The following procedure applies to the use of the cell phones/telephones during the school day:

- The use of the phones will be for emergencies with permission of school authorities.
- Cellular phones are <u>not</u> permitted to be used in school. They should be turned off during the day and always remain in the student's backpack.

#### **LUNCH PROGRAM**

Prices are set in accordance with district policy and state guidelines. If you have any questions concerning student accounts or lunch program information, please contact Kathleen Colbert at kcolbert@gpsd.us.

A menu is available on the district website monthly so you will be able to determine if a lunch from home would be desirable to your child on certain days. If lunch from home is brought to school, milk and other drinks may be purchased. Parents may set up an account with the lunch supervisor. Money can be put into the account and as the student uses the money it reflects its activity.

**Free or reduced lunches** are available to students for the 2023-24 school year. Applications for these subsidized programs must be applied for and reviewed <u>each new</u> year. Any questions regarding this should be directed to the school nurse.

**Breakfast** is available for all children at no charge. We encourage all children to have breakfast at home or school so that they are sufficiently fueled to perform to their potential. For students to participate in the breakfast program, they must arrive by 9:00 a.m.

# **BIRTHDAYS/FOOD ITEMS**

We ask that all parents/guardians limit the frequency in which you send food items to school for birthdays or any other celebrations. If you send in a birthday treat, it must be prepackaged. Please discuss any food items being sent in with your child's teacher first. This will allow them the opportunity to discuss any food allergies in your child's classroom with the school nurse. We ask that you do not send individual cakes, balloons, or flowers into the classroom as they cannot take these items on the school bus. Parents are not able to visit the classroom for a student's birthday. We appreciate your assistance in our efforts to keep our students safe.

# **MEDICATIONS**

If possible, all medication should be given at home. However, there are some students with chronic illnesses or special needs which may require medication during the school day.

Medication cannot be brought into school by a student (whether the medication is over the counter or prescription). It is recommended that if you have a need in this area, you must contact the school nurse. The Board of Education has developed very specific rules regarding medications regarding their handling and use.

# **HEALTH SCREENINGS**

All students have their height, weight, and blood pressure checked annually.

Annual scoliosis screening is mandated by the state for 4th grade students. Scoliosis is a curvature of the spine that may first manifest itself during the rapid growth associated with early adolescence. It is most easily treated when recognized early. It consists of a visual inspection of the student's back, both in standing and a forward bending position. Scoliosis screening in the school setting is a visual examination.

Vision screenings are done in 1st, 2nd, and 4th grade. Hearing screenings are done in grades 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. If a parent or teacher has a concern for a child regarding vision or hearing, please reach out to the school nurse.

# **GUIDANCE**

Two full-time counselors are available to students and/or parents to discuss problems which affect the student in his/her schoolwork. The counselor can be a resource person to assist in dealing with the problem.

The counselor has contacts with outside agencies and can be very helpful in resolving problems or finding the appropriate help for the family.

Additionally, our guidance team works to facilitate efforts to implement school-wide programs designed to promote a healthy and safe learning environment; support students in the effort to build self-regulation and pro-social skills, facilitate small group counseling targeting students in need of more intensive support; provide one-to one counseling support as needed; and to assist teachers in implementing SEL strategies in the classroom.

# **SAFETY DRILLS**

Procedures are in place to ensure the safety of our students during an emergency. The procedures are practiced frequently, and all staff members are trained in following the safety drill protocols. Fire drills or other safety drills are held twice a month, as prescribed by law. If a school evacuation and reunification is deemed necessary, student release protocols will be followed to ensure the safety and security of all students being picked up. Protocols include the requirement that anyone picking up a child from the relocation site will be required to show identification. Reunification protocols are carefully reviewed and revised on an annual basis. Their purpose is to keep all students safe and to reunite parents with their children in a secure, organized manner.

#### SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Parents have the primary responsibility for determining appropriate dress and grooming for their children. While it is not the intent of these regulations to intrude on the selection of clothing styles, which frequently change and reflect personal taste, it is necessary to establish guidelines and limits of what will be permitted within the school environment.

### Clothing

The following items of clothing shall not be permitted:

- Pants that are not secured at the waist.
- Messages on clothing by picture or word may not be lewd, obscene, drug/alcohol/tobacco oriented, profane, infer violence/weapons, and/or cause a disruption to the educational environment.
- Shorts that do not fall below the extended fingertips; if torn pants are worn, the tears must fall below the extended fingertips.
- Clothing that is excessively ripped and/or see through.
- Jewelry that poses a safety hazard such as: spike bracelets or necklaces or heavy chains are not permitted. No jewelry is permitted in physical education class.

#### Footwear

For safety, footwear that provides a firm walking surface, good balance and protects the foot from injury must be worn. Therefore, loose, untied laces or straps, flip-flops, slides, sneakers with wheels, slippers or any footwear that poses a safety hazard are not permitted in school or during gym class. Sandals that fit snuggly and have a heel strap attached may be worn but some playground activity may be restricted.

#### **Hoodies** and Hats

Hoods and hats are not permitted to be worn inside of the school building during school hours unless it is a designated school event. In situations in which health and/or safety factors become critical such as temperature variations in the building, temporary modifications of the dress code may be necessary and will be established before the activity by the classroom teacher and/or building principal such as: special events, in physical education classes or on field trips.

# Headphones/ Ear buds

Headphones and ear buds should be removed prior to entry into the building and should remain off and out of sight for the entire school day. The purpose of this protocol is for safety & security reasons, as well as to ensure students are focused on instruction.

# Miscellaneous Information Regarding Dress Code

Students are required to place coats, jackets, and hats in appropriate locations designated by the homeroom teacher. These articles may not be carried or worn in any way inside the school.

In situations in which health and/or safety factors become critical such as temperature variations in the building, temporary modifications of the dress code may be necessary and will be established before the activity by the classroom teacher and/or building principal such as: special events, in physical education classes or on field trips.

Clothing worn specifically for religious purposes will be permitted after the religious principle of faith is shared with the building principal.

# **VALUABLES**

Students are discouraged from bringing valuables to school. Please be advised that students, not the school, are responsible for their property if lost, stolen or damaged.

In addition, laser pens (pointers), electronic games, toys, skateboards, roller blades, scooters, radios, cell phones, I-pods, air pods, training or collectable cards are not permitted for use in school without written approval by an administrator or homeroom teacher. Any of these items brought to school will be confiscated and returned only to a parent or guardian. Any other objects that interfere with classroom learning, with the overall safety of children, or with the operation of the school will also be confiscated. Parents may make appropriate arrangements to pick up such confiscated items from the office.

# **CHARACTER EDUCATION PROGRAM - CITRS**

Glassboro School District has enthusiastically embraced a district-wide character development initiative and has worked closely with a team of consultants from CITRS (Character-Integrity-Trust-Relationships-Success). Along with our continuing emphasis on academic growth, we are paying special attention to increasing the character of our young people. It is the district's firm belief that this will not only improve our schools but have a life-long benefit for every one of our students. Each month we will be discussing a character "virtue" that is integrated into our teacher to student language, morning meeting, and character-ed lessons.

Mission Statement: "Empowering students to be unique, exceptional citizens through a culture of character and learning."

Vision Statement: "Building model citizens."

Core Values: Integrity; Relationships; Respect; Responsibility; Perseverance; Community; Compassion; Tradition.

Strategic Code of Conduct:

- 1. We are truthful and respect ourselves and others.
- 2. We are mindful of others while making decisions.
- 3. We are problem-solvers who seek knowledge and wisdom.
- 4. We are responsible for our own words, actions, and consequences.
- 5. We are humble leaders who model good behavior and show compassion to all.
- 6. We make good decisions by having self-control and inner strength.
- 7. We treat others fairly and always help those in need.
- 8. We give time and effort to improve our school and community.
- 9. We always try our best in everything we do, even when it's hard.

Through the modeling of schoolwide expectations (rules), common vocabulary, and data-driven decision-making, our children quickly learn what a positive learning environment "looks like." As our Bulldog Buddies motto states, every student at the Bullock School will: Take care of yourself, your friends, and your school!

Teachers begin by teaching children that there are positive consequences for following expectations. This includes rewarding students with specific, positive praise statements. The schoolwide expectations and "what they look like" in practice are explained as needed and are modeled several times throughout the year.

Our students also learn that there are logical consequences for not following expectations. Consequences are used to help students to solve their problems through character building interactions with our school faculty. Parental support is also critical in teaching appropriate school behavior; therefore, parent communication is expected from all staff to ensure that children receive the same message from both home and school.

In the case of more extreme behaviors that interfere with safety, general well-being, or the learning of our students, additional consequences may be necessary. In these cases, the school principal will work directly with the student and his/her family to help ensure behavioral success.

Month	Virtue	Definition	Phrase
September	Wisdom	Wisdom is seeing what is right, what is truthful, and knowing the right thing to do.	"How can we make a wise choice?"
October	Integrity	We can show integrity by following the rules, being honest, and telling the truth.	"When you wish upon a star, integrity shows who you are!"
November	Self-Control	Self-control is the ability to control your feelings, emotions, or reactions.	"Show self-control, don't pop other people's bubble."
December	Justice	Justice is treating other people fairly, as you would want to be treated yourself.	"Fair means everyone gets what they need."
January	Fortitude	Fortitude is sticking with it and doing the right thing.	"I think I can! I think I can!"
February	Positive Attitude	Positive Attitude is thinking and believing that everything will turn out well in all that you do.	Words to live by - "I'm going to have a good day."; "I choose to be happy."; "My brain is powerful."; "My feelings matter."
March	Humility	Humility is being confident without thinking you are better than someone else.	"Friendship is gained through humility and actions of the heart."
April	Respect	Respect is making an effort to understand how others think and feel, while treating them with kindness.	"Respect yourself, your friends, and your school."
May	Love	Being a true friend who unconditionally gives and wants the absolute best for someone.	"Love yourself, your friends, and your school."
June	Charity	Charity is caring for and helping other people through acts of giving and service.	"Show us how you can help your school and community."

# **GENERAL DISCIPLINE**

Discipline is the responsibility of the school, the students, and the parents. The Code of Conduct's most important purpose is to support maintaining a safe and healthy school. We aim to develop a sense of self-discipline in our students and to provide an environment which is safe and conducive to learning. To

accomplish the above, behavioral guidelines must be established and consistently administered. If the home and school work together, behavior problems are usually kept to a minimum. However, students should recognize that when expectations are not met, consequences occur. Disciplinary consequences will be administered in accordance with the severity of the misbehavior and/or the frequency of misbehavior. We will have two codes of conduct due to the age levels in our school. One code will be used for grades 1 and 2; the other will be used for grades 3, 4, and 5. These codes will be sent home as a separate document. They will also be available on our school website.

# STUDENT RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

These awards are available for all students to receive for consistently demonstrating high character and academic excellence.

# **Bullock Bulldog Character Education Award**

The Dorothy L. Bullock School is proud to recognize students who routinely demonstrate the pillars of character. The Bullock Bulldog Character Education Award recognizes one student per grade level each month, as well as one student chosen by our special area teachers (i.e. art, PE, computers, SEL & music), for being outstanding students and citizens and for demonstrating the pillars of character.

#### Renaissance

Renaissance is a program that encourages academic excellence, personal achievement, and citizenship. It is the glue that binds schools together. It is a program that empowers students, educators, parents, business, and community organizations to work together to celebrate the academic successes of our young people.

It is based on the belief that academic excellence, personal achievement, citizenship, and creativity must be recognized and promoted.

It creates an environment that increases performance and improves productivity by promoting enthusiasm for learning and positive self-esteem.

# **STUDENT GRADES**

District-wide grading weights and protocols have been established and Board approved.

- For all grade levels and courses, the weighting will be as follows: 60% summative and 40% formative. All graded assessments/assignments will fall into one of these categories.
- Formative assessments and assignments will be accepted late with a 10% penalty per school day of
  final scored work until the assignment is submitted (up to 10 school days and/or by the last day of
  the marking period OR until unit assessment, whichever occurs first).
- No grades of below 50% will be given for the 1st or 2nd Marking Periods for full- year courses or
   1st or 3rd Marking Periods for semester courses.

<u>Bullock Grading Scale - grades 1 and 2</u> – We utilize a standards-based report card to determine student growth. Teachers will assess student progress based on classroom performance, participation, completion of assignments and assessments.

# Bullock Grading Scale - grades 3 - 5

A = 90 to 100%B = 80 to 89%

C = 70 to 79%

D = 60 to 69%

F = Below 59

\*Grades which fall 0.4 and below must be rounded down, while grades 0.5 and above will be rounded up.

Teacher judgment always plays a role in the grading of students. The most essential element of any grading policy is to be fair and consistent. Students must be made responsible for earning their grade. Grades will be updated on Power School regularly to allow parents to follow their students' progress in grades 4 and 5.

#### PARENT CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for November 28 to December 1, 2023. We will be holding evening conferences on November 29, 2023, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Teachers will be sending appointment times several weeks prior. A second Parent/Teacher Conference is scheduled for March 19 to March 22, 2024. We will be holding evening conferences on March 20, 2024, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Every effort is made to arrange a time that would be mutually convenient.

The purpose of the conference is to discuss student progress, get parent input, and discuss home activities that may be beneficial. It is important for parents to attend conferences, as this will help support the success of your child.

Additional individual conferences regarding specific concerns may also be necessary throughout the school year. The parent or teacher may request such a conference and arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

# **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT**

Back to School Night will take place on September 14, 2023, at 6:00 PM. Back to School Night is a valuable opportunity to learn important information about your child's classroom experience. One of the main reasons why schools hold back to school nights is because they would like to share the curriculum that their institution adopts. By learning about our curriculum, you will be able to guide and support your child better on their academic challenges and build on their successes.

# **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

School supplies are listed on the Bullock webpage. Each grade level provides a wish list of items for students. We also have additional supplies available for students who need them. If classroom teachers need something specific for their classroom, they will reach out to their families directly.