

Stricker Student Handbook **Updates** FY26

This document highlights the significant updates to the student handbook that we want students and parents to be aware of. Your attention to these highlighted adjustments is appreciated. You can access the full student handbook on our website.

Added:

updated header

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Absolutes

“ABSOLUTES” are major infractions of school rules for which students will be sent home automatically for a period of time. The “ABSOLUTES” for Stricker Students are:

- Intentional acts of violence or harassment to any person,
- Alcohol, drugs, or tobacco or anything that is made to appear like alcohol, drugs, or tobacco.
- Weapons or items that are used as weapons.

Academic Learning Time

Stricker Elementary School will make every effort to reduce disruptions to the school day, and we ask parents to do the same. Extra activities must relate to the curriculum, standards and benchmarks, as well as the school's mission and belief statements.

Arrival at School

When students come in from the bus, use the yellow doors by the lunchroom, head through the hall to the playground or breakfast. When dropped off by parents, use the gate to the playground. When arriving at school, students should not arrive with any sugary drinks (energy drinks, soda, coffee, etc.)

Assemblies

Appropriate behavior in public settings exemplifies a valuable social skill. Interfering with assembly participation goes against school expectations of responsible citizenship. During assemblies we ask all students to sit respectfully and attentively without talking during the presentations. We expect parents to also model this behavior for their children during the assembly. Please avoid yelling, talking, stomping feet, or using artificial noise makers during assemblies. Applauding to show congratulations or appreciations is appropriate and encouraged.

Attendance

~~Regular attendance is essential to positive learning and success in school. A student not only misses work on the day of absence but is not prepared for the next day because of missed instruction. Every absence must be accounted for by the parents/guardians.~~

A doctor's note in cases of prolonged illness is requested. If a child is sick, has a fever, or is contagious, he/she should be kept at home. Any child with a condition that is contagious or who has head lice (including nits) will be excluded from school. It is strongly recommended that doctor's and dental appointments be made after school.

Communications from school will be initiated when a student's attendance becomes excessive. When a student has 5 absences, a letter will be sent home, and an attendance meeting may be scheduled to create an attendance improvement plan. If attendance does not improve, or parents fail to attend the scheduled attendance meeting, the school may refer the attendance concern to the Twin Falls County Truancy Court and citations may be issued.

Tardies

A student shall be considered tardy if he/she is not in the classroom when the tardy bell rings. Three tardies are equivalent to one absence. Students who are tardy should check in at the office for a tardy slip before going to their classroom. This allows the office to correct the attendance report.

Legal references:-

*Idaho Code § 33-202 and Idaho Code § 33-207 with subsections 2 and 3.
Kimberly School Policy 3120 and 3122*

Attendance and Tardies

REGULAR ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Regular attendance is critical to your child's education. Disruptions to your child's school attendance can have a significant impact on their academic performance. Please see that your child attends school every day. If your child must be out for part of the day due to illness, medical/dental appointments, bereavement, or on religious holidays, please have your child return for the remainder of the day as much as possible. Your child should attend school consistently and should be absent only for illness or emergencies. Please do not schedule extended family vacations during school time.

The KSD attendance policy states that every pupil must attend school regularly to achieve the goal of maximum educational benefits. Attendance Letters from KES will be mailed home each month starting in October to the homes of those students who have shown excessive attendance challenges. When a child is excessively absent, a principal-teacher-parent-student conference may be held. If the problem continues, students with excessive absences may be referred to a school level attendance review committee to determine if a recommendation to truancy court is appropriate to assist students in getting to school regularly.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO BE ABSENT

1. If the child will be absent and you know ahead of time, please email your absence to the classroom teacher no later than 7:00 AM of the day that your child will be absent. Any time after 7:00 please call the front office at 208-423-4170 ext 3035.

If we don't answer leave a message and we will mark the attendance accordingly.

- When you call, please clearly state:
 - ♣ Your name
 - ♣ Your child's name
 - ♣ The name of the classroom teacher
 - ♣ The reason for absence
 - ♣ Duration of absence
- 2. Let us know if your child has a contagious disease, confirmed by your child's physician, so we help make sure that we watch out for any outbreaks in the classroom our school.
- 3. In the case of illness, please provide the front office with a note from your physician indicating when your child needs to be absent from school and when they can return. This will become even more important should multiple days of absences be needed for healing.
- 4. A child who is absent due to a fever must be symptom free for 24 hours (without fever reducing medications) before returning to school.
- 5. ~~If your child has been absent due to a lice outbreak, please have him/her meet in the front office before returning to class.~~

WHEN STUDENTS ARE LATE

We expect students to arrive at school on time. A student entering class late not only impacts his/her own learning but also disrupts the flow of the classroom and the entire community of learning. A student shall be considered tardy if he/she is not in the classroom when the tardy bell rings. Upon arrival, tardy students must check in at the office accompanied by a parent/guardian. If your child has several tardies, the school office will send home a letter. If your child has excessive tardies and efforts have not improved, a principal-teacher-parent-student conference may be held. If the excessive tardies continue, you may be referred to a school level attendance review committee. Please teach your child punctuality.

PICKING UP YOUR CHILD EARLY

If you need to take your child out of school before the end of the school day:

- * Go to the school office. Sign the checkout list at the office front counter.
- * The office staff will then call the classroom, and your child will meet you in the front foyer.
- * All adults must be prepared to show photo identification.
- * We will not release a student to anyone except the parent, legal guardian, or a person you have authorized to pick up your child.

This simple procedure protects your child.

Bad Weather

When it is too cold or wet for students to be outside during the school day, they will be allowed to come into their classroom. If students are to remain inside, this will be signaled by bright flags hanging at all student entrances. In case of extremely poor weather, the school may be closed. On such days, information will be broadcast over the radio, television, and automated message from the PowerSchool Management system (please be sure contact information is up to date!).

Bad Weather

All students should dress appropriately for the weather. We do go outside most days even when it is cold and wet. There are numerous benefits to outdoor play. When the weather is extremely cold and wet, or the air quality is poor, students may be allowed to enter the building. In case of extremely poor weather where roads may be impassable, the school may be closed. On such days, information will be relayed to parents with our automated calling system. Parents may also get updates on our district's websites, or it may be broadcast over the radio or television. See Policy #3515 for further details.

Bicycles/Roller Blades/Skateboards/Scooters

~~Bicycles may be ridden to school and should be locked in the bike rack. For safety reasons, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, and scooters should not be ridden on the school grounds during school hours (8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.). If these items are used during school hours, they will be taken and stored in the office until a parent retrieves them.~~

Bicycles/Roller Blades/Skateboards/Scooters

Bicycles may be ridden to school and should be locked on the bike rack. SES is not responsible for lost or stolen equipment. For safety reasons, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, "Heelys" and scooters should not be ridden on the school grounds during school hours (8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.).

Birthdays, Parties, and Invitations

Please contact your child's teacher for **appropriate guidelines** if you are planning to celebrate a birthday at school. **We ask that treats for birthdays be a singular food item. A drink (not soda) may accompany the treat as well.** **Birthdays, parents may distribute only a singular food item. A drink (not soda) may accompany the treat as well.** When bringing treats to Stricker, please visit the classroom teacher to learn about any food allergies. Treats will be dropped off to the office unless prior arrangements are made with the classroom teacher. Invitations to after school or weekend birthday parties MAY NOT be handed out at school. Due to the crowded conditions of our buses, groups of students going to an after school party need to make transportation arrangements other than on the bus. Stricker Elementary has 3 holiday parties during the year: "Harvest Party" on the last Friday of October (no costumes), "Christmas Party" on the last school day of December, and "Valentine's Day Party" on Feb. 14 (or the Friday before if Feb. 14 is on a weekend).

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teacher to learn about any food allergies. Treats will be dropped off at the office unless prior arrangements are made with the classroom teacher. Invitations to after-school or weekend birthday parties should not be handed out at school. Students going to an after-school party need to make other transportation arrangements. Buses may not be used as we cannot accommodate those specific transportation requests. Our Elementary has 3 holiday parties during the year: "Harvest Party" in October, "Christmas Party" in December, and "Valentine's Day Party" in February. Please remember on these holidays we cannot deliver gifts to the classroom. Also, items/gifts such as balloons, food, and glass may not be taken home on the bus. It is best to give gifts to your child at home.

Electronics/Cell phones

~~Policy 3615. Careful! Some cell phones are part of a Health Plan!!!~~

~~We recognize that parents provide their children with cell phones for safety reasons. Therefore, we understand that students will bring their cellphones/smart watches to school. Students can call parents immediately upon arrival or at dismissal. Other than that, cell phones must remain turned off and stowed away during the school day including breakfast and lunch.~~

~~Cell phones/Smartwatches:~~

- ~~• May not be turned on or used during instructional time, except for instructional or educational purposes with explicit approval of the classroom teacher.~~
- ~~• May not be turned on or used during lunch or recess.~~
- ~~• May not be used or turned on in the bathroom~~
- ~~• May not be used during emergency drills.~~

~~Students are not to call, text, or message their family members during the school day. If students need to reach a family member, they can use one of the phones in the main office. You can help us enforce this policy by not texting your children and calling or answering their calls during the day.~~

~~Students may not photograph or take videos of any staff members or other students in and outside of the building with our consent from school personnel.~~

~~To maintain a good learning environment, SES may implement the following consequences:~~

- ~~• Phone/watch rings during class, the student will be reminded of the policy and instructed to turn off the phone.~~
- ~~• Students seen using their phones/watches at school will have the phone/watch taken away for the remainder of the school day. The teacher who takes the phone will turn it into the principal, vice principal, or the office.~~
- ~~• Students with consistent cell phone use during the school day will have to turn their phone into the office each morning and parents will be contacted.~~

Cell/Watch Phones and Screens

We at SES are committed to providing the best learning environment free from distractions. We recognize that cellphones/watches are becoming a major contributor to distractions in the learning environment. We also recognize that some parents provide their children with cell phones/watches for safety reasons. Therefore, we understand that some students will bring their cellphones/smart watches to school. Students can call their parents immediately upon arrival before school starts or after dismissal at the end of the day. Other than that, cell phones should remain turned off and stowed away during the school day including breakfast, lunch, and all recesses.

Cell phones/Smartwatches:

- May not be turned on or used during instructional time.
- May not be turned on or used during lunch or recess.
- May not be used or turned on in the bathrooms
- May not be used during emergency drills.

Students should not call, text, or message during the school day. If students need to reach a contact, they can use one of the phones in the main office. This will help minimize distractions and help with clear communication with the school.

You can help us enforce this policy by NOT texting or calling your children during the school day.

To maintain a good learning environment, KES may implement the following consequences:

- When a phone/watch is visible or used during the school day:
 - 1st offense: the student will be reminded of the policy and instructed to turn off and put away the device.
 - 2nd offense: Students will be required to take their phone/watch to the office. The parents will be contacted and must come get the device.
 - Continued Offenses: The student will be placed on a cell phone/watch contract to turn their phone into the office each morning before school and pick it up after school at the end of the day.

****The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged cell phone/watches****

~~Child Abuse~~

~~It is a felony for school officials to fail to report suspected child abuse to the proper authorities. Stricker Elementary School staff will report suspected child abuse and suspected child neglect.~~

Child Abuse

School staff are considered mandatory reporters for suspected child abuse and suspected neglect. Our Elementary School staff will report suspected child abuse and suspected child neglect.

~~Communication~~

~~A school lunch menu, calendar of events, etc. will be made available on the website at the beginning of each month. Short notes about special events are sent home with the students throughout the year to help keep parents informed. Please remember to ask your child to give you those notes and newsletters. In addition to the information sent home, we have a school website. You can find more information by~~

logging on to www.kimberly.edu and selecting the elementary page. There is a link to PowerSchool for parents on the district main page. You can access your child's grades using this link. It is password protected, so call your child's school and we will print login information for your child. In addition to our website, you can stay up to date by following Stricker Elementary on Facebook.

All teachers at Stricker will use Remind in their classroom and to communicate with parents. Like our secondary schools, Grades 4 and 5 might also use Canvas for instruction.

Communication

We encourage parents to be actively involved and informed of their child's educational program. We have multiple ways to communicate, and we encourage parents to use these different methods. We have the use of phones, texting applications, email, and PowerSchool for communication needs. Please do not wait if you have a question or concern, contact the teacher or school right away. You can find more information by logging on to www.kimberly.edu and selecting the Stricker Elementary page. The link to PowerSchool for parents is on the district main page. You can access your child's grades using this link. It is password protected, so call your child's school. In addition to our website, you can stay up to date by following Stricker Elementary on Facebook. All teachers at Stricker will use Remind in their classroom and communicate with parents. Grades 4 and 5 might also use Canvas for instruction as our secondary schools.

Computers

Students and parents must sign the Kimberly School District Accepted Use Policy to have complete and full computer privileges at Stricker Elementary School. Policy 3612P

Computers

Students and parents must sign the Kimberly School District Accepted Use Policy to have complete and full computer privileges at our elementary school. We use computers daily, so it is essential that students and parents understand appropriate uses of computers.

Discipline

SWPBIS: School Wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports

What is it?

SWPBIS includes strategies for preventing problem behavior by changing routines and by teaching new social and communications skills. The goal of a SWPBIS is to improve quality of life not only for the child, but for all the individuals within the child's social network.

This system is developed by a school for improving student behavior. It is used by all staff, with all students, across all environments pertaining to school (classroom, lunchroom, restroom, playground, bus, etc.), and to help a school create effective learning environments.

Additional information and agreement forms regarding the implementation for this program have been sent home with your child. Students and parents must sign the Stricker Elementary SWPBIS policy to indicate their understanding of this discipline program. Teaching behaviors that a school expects works best when there is consistency across home and school settings. SWPBIS is an approach to help all students learn to self manage their behavior. This system will work the best when teachers, students and parents work together.

Discipline

Stricker Elementary has three expectations for all students and staff. We as Stricker Bulldogs are Respectful, Responsible and Safe. Every Bulldog, Every Day.

When a student's behavior is not respectful, responsible, or safe, he/she will have learning opportunities to correct their behavior and learn to make better choices. We believe that all students can learn to be Respectful, Responsible and Safe.

Our school response to challenging behavior may include:

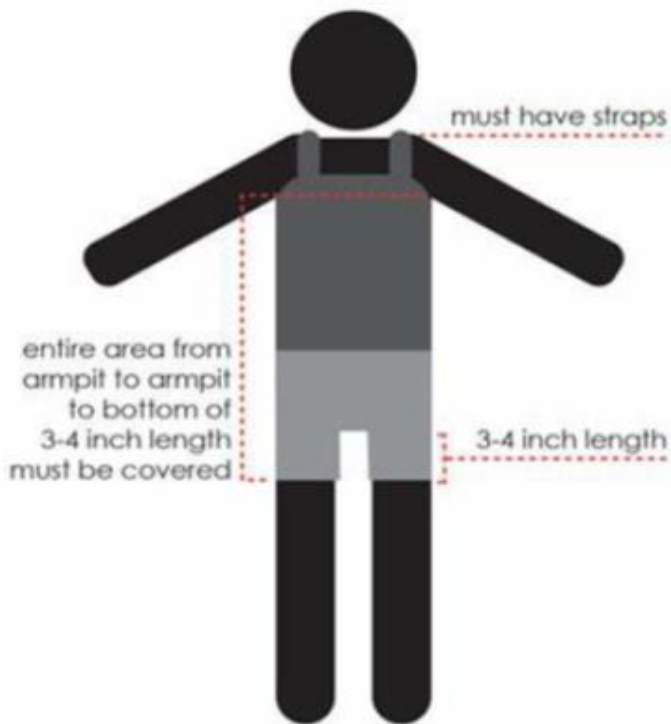
- Remind, Reteach, Redirect, and Refocus opportunities
- Reflective activities and restorative practices
- Detention, or suspension
- Loss of privileges
- Mediation activities
- Participation in skill building activities
- Other restorative justice practices.
- Reference [Policy 3310](#).

Dress Code

~~We ask that students and staff wear clothing that is clean, appropriate, in good repair, and not disruptive to the educational process. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be asked to change, cover up, or be sent home. Apparel, jewelry, accessories, or any manner of grooming which because of its cut, color, the way it is worn, its trademark, or any other characteristic, symbolizes known drug, gang, or cult connotations is prohibited. See policy 3224~~

Dress Code

We ask that students wear clothing that is not disruptive to the educational process. Students wearing clothing that does not adhere to the guidelines indicated below will be asked to change, cover up, or be sent home. Apparel, jewelry, accessories, or any manner of grooming which, because of its cut, color, the way it is worn, its trademark, or any other characteristic, denotes membership in a gang that advocates illegal or disruptive behavior is prohibited. See Kimberly School District [Policy 3224](#) for minimum requirements.



Drug Free School

The Kimberly School District is a drug-free zone. The use of tobacco in buildings, on district property, and on school sponsored activities/field trips is prohibited. The possession and use of alcohol and illicit drugs by students at school or while attending any school activity is strictly prohibited. Disciplinary sanctions up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution will be imposed on students who violate these policies. Information on drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation and re-entry programs are available at all school district counseling offices. Compliance with all district policies concerning alcohol and illicit drugs is mandatory. The building principal will handle each drug and alcohol infraction individually taking into account the student's current school year disciplinary history.

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Enrollment Requirements

Parents or guardians enrolling a student in the Idaho Public School System are required to provide to the school an official certificate of birth for the enrolling child. In the Idaho Public School System parents or guardians are also required to immunize

their children for DTAP, Polio, Measles, Rubella, Mumps, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis A and Varicella and have a copy of their immunization record in their school file. [Policy 3525](#)

New students to the district will need to provide proof of residence (power bill, telephone bill, etc.) The Kimberly School District is not accepting any new non-resident students. Students who move from the district during the year must complete an open enrollment application to continue the school year as a non-resident. Continued enrollment is subject to district ~~policy 3141 & 3141F~~ concerning “admission procedures” as a “non-resident.” ~~Students/parents who falsify their address will be asked to withdraw immediately after the school becomes aware of their actions.~~

Enrollment Requirements

Parents or guardians enrolling a student in the Idaho Public School System are required to provide the school with an official certificate of birth for the enrolling child. In the Idaho Public School System, parents or guardians are also required to immunize their children following recommendations by the State of Idaho and have a copy of their immunization record in their school file. [Policy 3525](#) Students not living in the district/boundary will need to complete an open enrollment application.

New students to the district will need to provide proof of residence (power bill, telephone bill, etc.). Students who move from the district during the year must complete an application to continue the school year as an open enrollment. Continued enrollment is subject to district policy concerning “admission procedures” as a “non-resident”.

~~Students/parents who falsify their address will be asked to withdraw immediately after the school becomes aware of their actions.~~ [Policy 3141](#); [Policy 3141F](#)

Head Lice

~~Stricker staff and parents will work to prevent the infestation and spread of head lice by doing the following: 1) Each classroom will establish and follow a hat and coat policy procedure. Coats will either be hung on racks, or chair backs. Students will not be allowed to pile coats on the floor. 2) If a teacher recognizes the normal symptoms of lice, parents will be contacted. They can either grant permission for a staff member to check for lice or not. The parent/guardian shall be notified of whether lice or nits were found. If signs of lice warranting treatment are found, the parent/guardian will be requested to begin treatment immediately. The notice shall state that prompt, proper treatment of the head lice is in the best interest of the student and their classmates. Students will not generally be excluded from school for having live head lice, provided treatment has begun. Exceptions may be made as determined appropriate and necessary by the district nurse. In no case will a student be excluded from school due to the presence of nits only in their hair.~~

Head Lice

Our staff and parents will work to prevent the infestation and spread of head lice by doing the following: 1) Encouraging students to store Coats, backpacks, and hats in designated areas. 2) If a teacher recognizes the normal symptoms of lice, parents will be contacted. They can either grant permission for a staff member to check for lice or not. The parent/guardian shall be notified of whether lice or nits were found. If signs of lice

warranting treatment are found, the parent/guardian will be requested to begin treatment immediately. The notice shall state that prompt, proper treatment of the head lice is in the best interest of the student and their classmates. Students will not generally be excluded from school for having live head lice, provided treatment has begun. Exceptions may be made as determined appropriate and necessary by the district nurse. In no case will a student be excluded from school due to the presence of nits only in their hair.

Notes to Stay In

~~If a child is or has been ill, and he/she is not able to participate fully in all school activities such as recess or P.E., the staff at Stricker recommends that the child be kept at home if they are contagious or are under a doctor's care. In the event that a child needs to be kept inside during recess, he/she must bring a note every day stating the legitimate health reason for not going out for recess or to participate in PE. After 3 days of limited participation, the school must receive a note from the doctor stating the physical problem and number of days the child should not participate fully in the school program (recess, P.E., etc.).~~ If a child is physically unable to be outside, please send a note explaining the situation to his/her teacher. Children remaining indoors for recess longer than two days will need a written excuse from the doctor

Lunch/Breakfast Program

A well-balanced breakfast and lunch are prepared daily in the Stricker cafeteria. All meals are nutritionally analyzed, and portions are set according to grade level. Fresh fruits and vegetables are included in the menus, and all hot foods are either oven baked or steamed to maintain the maximum amount of nutrients. Lunch menus will be posted monthly on the school website and available monthly on the website. Breakfast is available daily from 7:50 a.m. -8:15 a.m.

We ask parents to maintain lunch balances to ensure that their child is always able to eat lunch without worrying. It is best practice to pay ahead so that account balances are always positive. ~~Account balances can be accessed on PowerSchool.~~ If you wish to pay online, there is a link on the school website for parents to be able to pay accounts using their credit or debit cards. Parents/Guardians may apply for free/reduced price meals by filling out the necessary paperwork available at the front office or accessed online. If you have questions about the lunch program, contact Carla Houge at ext. 3341.

If you send your child to school with lunch you have prepared at home, note that the school cannot heat your child's lunch, so please plan accordingly.

Transportation

For the safety of our students, we will not allow students to change their normal transportation plans whether they ride the bus, walk home, or get picked up without a written note. Because teachers are busy

teaching, sometimes emails and phone messages are not checked before dismissal. Hence, a note from home given to the teacher in the morning is best. The note must be signed by a parent or legal guardian specifically explaining the change. All notes must be verified through the school office prior to the student getting on a bus. **Changes in daily routine should be kept to a minimum.** ~~If the student is going to ride a bus, these notes must be verified through the office.~~

Notes given to the bus driver will not be accepted. Because space in the bus is limited, students will not be able to have additional students ride on the bus with them for parties or any other activities. If your child is having a party or activity please arrange, other than the school bus, to have them transported to the party or activity.

For safety reasons, it is important for all parents and guardians to have the names of all people permitted to pick your child up from school on your child's registration form. Once children are loaded on the bus waiting to depart the school, they must travel to their designated bus stop. Our bus drivers will not be allowed to release any students from the bus without the presence of a SES staff member or approval from the office staff. If the person picking your child up from the bus stop is not on your child's registration form, the bus driver will not release them.

Riding a school bus is a privilege extended to the students by the district. For the safety of all students, proper bus behavior must be observed by all riders. Students must obey the bus driver's directions. Failure to comply with bus rules may result in removal from the bus for a limited or permanent period of time.