

Stricker Elementary School

Steve Hill, Principal Victoria Larsen, VP Julie Toberer, Counselor



MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS

The information in this handbook is designed to provide valuable details regarding elementary school procedures and the rights and responsibilities of students at Stricker Elementary. I hope it serves as a resource for you and your child during the school year.

The information in this handbook is in accordance with Kimberly School Board policies and copies are available on the Kimberly School District Website. Please read this handbook and the inserted pages carefully with your child at home to become familiar with the procedures of the school. We ask that you and your child sign and return the enclosed handouts to indicate that you have read this information and realize your responsibilities.

The success of our school also depends on positive collaboration between home and school. So, I invite you to visit our school often, take part in school activities and show an interest in your child's progress. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, principal, or vice principal if you have any questions or concerns. It is my sincere wish that we all work together in fostering positive learning experiences for students.

We are looking forward to another great school year!

Sincerely,

Steve Hill, Principal

Learners, Leaders, Kimberly Bulldogs!
Stricker Elementary
900 Polk St W
(208) 423-4170 x6

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

“Educating students for the needs and challenges of today and tomorrow.”

STRICKER BELIEF STATEMENTS

- All students can learn and should be provided with a variety of instructional approaches.
- Each student is a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional, and intellectual characteristics. All students and faculty members have the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- A safe, comfortable environment is essential for quality instruction and student learning.

STRICKER PARENT-STUDENT-TEACHER COMPACT

The teachers of Stricker Elementary School will:

- Believe that each student can learn.
- Show respect for each child and his or her family.
- Help each child grow to his or her fullest potential.
- Maintain lines of communication with students and parents.
- Seek ways to involve parents in the school program.
- Demonstrate professional behavior and a positive attitude.

The students of Stricker Elementary School will:

- Always do their best work and use their best behavior.
- Show respect for self, school grounds, and other people all teachers and support staff.
- Believe that they can and will learn.

The parents/guardians of Stricker Elementary School will:

- See that their child attends school regularly and arrives on time.
- Communicate regularly with their child’s teachers.
- Support the school in developing positive behaviors.
- Show respect and support for their child, the teacher, and the school.

STRICKER CITIZEN CODE

A Stricker Elementary School student . . .

- is respectful and considerate.
- is responsible.
- is on time and prepared for school.
- is aware that he/she is to respect the word of any adult and speak courteously to him/her.
- obeys the bus driver's directions.
- enters the building only at appropriate times and with a teacher's permission/supervision.
- does not use bad language.
- shares the play equipment and takes turns.
- practices safe behaviors at all times.

- walks quietly at all times inside the building.
- asks for the teacher's permission to leave the classroom.
- is considerate of others by talking in a low voice inside the building.
- leaves gum, candy, and toys at home.
- uses the restrooms only for those purposes for which they were designed.
- dresses appropriately.

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.

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 parent. 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 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 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

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. Coats will either be hung on racks, or chair backs. Students will not be allowed to pile coats on the floor. 2) If a student is found to have head lice or nits, he/she will be sent home for treatment and will not be allowed back until re-examined and found free of infestation of lice or nits. 3) All siblings of the student (in the school) will be checked for infestation. If lice are found, each student having signs of lice will be sent home for treatment. A note will be sent home with the students of that room. 4) The classroom teacher will

informally check all other students in his/her class for infestation. 5) If a large number of students in the school are infected, a general school-wide check will be held.

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!).

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 it.

Birthdays, Parties, and Invitations

Please contact your child's teacher for appropriate guidelines if you are planning to celebrate a birthday at school. When bringing treats to Stricker, please visit with the classroom teacher to learn about any food allergies. Treats will be dropped off with the office unless prior arrangements were 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 busses, 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).

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.

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 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.

K-3 teachers at Stricker will use See-Saw in their classroom and to communicate with parents. Grades 4 and 5 might also use See-Saw to communicate with families. Like our secondary schools, Canvas will be their primary learning management software. It is highly recommended to create a See-Saw parent account to stay apprised of current events in your son/daughter's classroom.

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

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 form regarding the implementation for this program has 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.

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.

Guns/Weapons

Any student bringing to school (or having in their possession) guns, knives, explosive devices, weapons, or items that can be used as weapons may face suspension, expulsion for up to one full school year, and/or criminal charges. Toy weapons are also not allowed at school.

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**

Drug Free School

The Kimberly School District is a drug-free zone. The use of tobacco in the 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.

Assemblies

Appropriate behavior in public settings exemplifies a valuable social skill. Interfering with assemble 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.

Electronics/Cell phones

Personal electronic devices may only be used in a responsible and legal manner and may not be used in a manner that disrupts the educational process and/or is contrary to any District policy, procedure, or rule. Students using their own devices are subject to District acceptable use guidelines, BYOD guidelines, student conduct and discipline rules, and all other Board policies and procedures and school rules. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in the revocation of the privilege of using personal electronic devices in the classroom and in disciplinary action as appropriate. **Policy 3615.**

We recommend Elementary Students not bring any electronic devices or cell phones to school. If it is brought to school, it should be turned off and remain in the backpack. It is the responsibility of the student (see Toys and Electronics) and used for emergency situations only. Students with smart/cell phone watches are still required to use the office or classroom phone for any parent contact during school hours.

Emergencies

We ask every parent to fill out the emergency section on the profile sheet and form which will be kept on file in the office. This information will help us if a serious injury should occur to your child. It is

particularly important that we have emergency phone numbers so that you can be notified. It is also especially important that we know of any special needs that your child might have so we can take the right steps in an emergency. Please help us to provide the best possible emergency care for your child. If changes occur during the year, please inform the office.

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.

New students to the district will need to provide a proof of residence (power bill, telephone bill, etc.) The Kimberly School District is not accepting any new non-resident students for FY 21-22. Students who move from the district during the year must complete an 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.

Homework

Homework is designed to motivate students and is assigned when individual or class needs can best be met through its use. Such assignments might include make-up work due to an absence, additional assignments designed to help students work to their potential, work planned to help students with a particular difficulty, and assignments made to encourage development of a skill or ability. Literacy is the foundation of all academic skills, so we ask that you child reads at home daily. Please communicate with your child’s teacher regularly regarding homework expectations.

Lost and Found

Found items will be placed in designated areas in each school. Unclaimed items will be donated the last Friday of every month.

Library

Students have access to excellent Libraries. They may check out a wide assortment of materials. Parents should watch for lost or misplaced Library items and encourage children to return all items to school by their due date. A fee is charged for lost or damaged media materials. The Destiny card catalog is available on-line through the Kimberly School homepage from any networked location. Anyone with a Stricker library card has access to eBooks also through the card catalog.

Medication

Prescription and/or over-the-counter medication brought to school must be in the original container and should be taken directly to the office with a note from home signed by a parent indicating directions for proper dispensing. Medication will be kept in a secure cabinet in the office and dispensed to the student only by designated office personnel. Classroom teachers cannot dispense medication.

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.).

Parking

Parents and visitors should park in the visitor's parking lot along Emerald or on Emerald or Polk Street in a legal parking area. Students should be picked up or dropped off in the designated pick-up lane. Parents picking up students from the parking lot should use the parking spaces and are asked to walk to pick up their student from the sidewalk.

Pets

Students may bring pets to school for sharing if arrangements are first made with the teacher and administration. Parents should take the pet home as soon as the sharing period is over. Parents are asked to stay with the pet while it is at school. The school will follow **Kimberly Board Policy 2580: Use of Animals in Education Programs** when allowing animals in the school.

Playground Supervision-Before/After School

Playground supervision will be in effect from 8:00 a.m. until school starts and during recesses. There will be no staff supervision after the buses leave at the end of the school day. Students should not be on the playground before 8:00 a.m. Please do not drop your child off before 8:00 a.m. unless they are eating school breakfast. Breakfast is available at 7:50 a.m. and can be accessed by entering through the yellow "bus doors" on the South side of the building. Afternoon kindergarten students should not arrive at school before 11:45 a.m.

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, the menu will be made available monthly on the website. Breakfast is available daily at from 7:50 a.m. -8:15 a.m.

We ask parents to maintain lunch balances to ensure that your child is always able to eat lunch without worry. 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 that is available at the front office or may be accessed

online. If you have questions about the lunch program, please feel free to contact Carla Houge at ext. 3341.

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

Report Cards/Conferences

Stricker Elementary has parent-teacher conferences twice a year, at the end of the first and second quarters. Report cards are given to parents during these conferences. Third and fourth quarter report cards will be sent home with the students in the third quarter. Report cards will be mailed home at the end of the fourth quarter unless the student has accumulated school fees such as lunchroom or library. Parents will need to pay any fees in person prior to receiving their child's report card.

Student to Student Sexual Harassment

Any behavior that can under the law and school district policy be defined as sexual harassment will not be tolerated at Stricker Elementary School. Behavior such as, but not limited to, unwanted kissing, ogling, inappropriate language with sexual innuendo, unwanted and inappropriate touching, etc., may be determined as sexual harassment.

Telephone

Students are to use the school phones only in the case of an emergency. We will assume that a note or permission from a teacher means that the call is an emergency. Students are not called from class to the phone except in extreme emergencies. Messages can be relayed to students through the office, but only in emergency situations. We will make every effort, but because of scheduling, the school cannot guarantee that all phone messages will be delivered.

If your student has a smart watch or cell phone, they are still required to follow classroom and office procedures for parent contact.

Textbooks and Supplies

Textbooks are provided by Stricker Elementary for student use during the school year. Students are responsible for textbooks, library books, one-to-one devices, and other school equipment issued to them. A charge will be levied for lost and damaged books or equipment. Students are asked to furnish pencils, pens, paper, and other items consumed on an individual basis. A complete list of supplies for each grade level is available in the Stricker Elementary School office and on the KSD Website.

Toys and Electronic Devices

The school can assume no responsibility for toys and electronic devices brought from home. Children should keep toys and electronic devices at home. This will eliminate many students, teacher, principal,

and parent headaches due to lost, stolen, broken or traded articles. Any sporting equipment that is brought to school for recess needs to be clearly labeled with first and last names in permanent marker.

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 that involves more than one guest. If your child is having a party or activity please make arrangements, other than the school bus, to have them transported to the party or activity.

For safety reasons, it is extremely important for all parents and guardians to have the names of all people who are able 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 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.

Visitors

We encourage parent/adult visitors - the only thing we ask is that you let the office/teacher know in advance. Visitors to students (i.e., cousins, out-of-town friends, younger or older siblings, etc.) will not be allowed. Adults are to register at the office upon arrival and must wear a visitors' pass while on the school grounds.