

2023 - 2024 Parent and Student Handbook
William J. Thornton Elementary




Dear Parents,

Welcome to William J. Thornton Elementary School! We look forward to the opportunity of making this school year a very positive experience for you and your child. We are confident that the partnership between the Thornton staff and Thornton parents will be a successful combination in ensuring a wonderful school year.

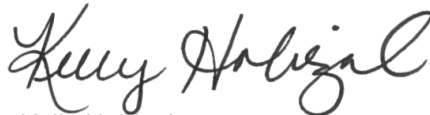
This packet of information is a supplement to the NISD Student–Parent Handbook. The Student-Parent Handbook is online at <http://www.nisd.net/schools/handbooks>. We ask that you please review this information and the handbook carefully and discuss the contents with your child. The Thornton information packet should be used as a resource for information regarding campus policies, services, and activities. We are always available to answer any questions you may have.

Please know that every member of the school staff is committed to making this a great and productive year for your child. Our school is one in which we all should take pride and assume responsibility to ensure continued success and growth. We hope this handbook plays its part in helping you as a student or parent have an enjoyable and productive school year. This is your school; be proud of it and take pride in it. Welcome to the new school year.

Sincerely,



Justin Bledsoe
Principal



Kelly Hobizal
Vice Principal

William J. Thornton Elementary

**6450 Pembroke Road
San Antonio, TX 78240**

Phone Numbers

Main: 210-397-3950

Fax: 210-561-5128

Our Mission

Diversify the Learning Experience

Our Motto

Every learner,

Every day,

Giving our best,

The Thornton Texan way!

School Colors

Red, White and Blue

Mascot

Texans

School Song

Our pride shines through in all we do,

We are the Thornton Texans.

We write and read and take the lead,

We are the Thornton Texans.

The red, white, and blue stand proud and true,

We are the Thornton Texans.

We'll always be a great community,

We are the Thornton Texans.

School Hours

Instructional Hours: 7:40 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Front Office Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Helpful Links

Thornton Website - <http://nisd.net/thornton>

Thornton Facebook Page - <http://facebook.com/NISDThornton>

NISD Student Handbook - <http://www.nisd.net/schools/handbooks>

NISD Child Nutrition Menus - <https://nisd.net/child-nutrition/menus>

NISD Parent Connection (grades, attendance, food accounts) - <http://nisd.net/parent-connection>

NISD Volunteer Background Check - <https://hrvolunteer.nisd.net>

Air Quality Alert

Northside Independent School District has developed a plan to respond to high concentrations of ground-level ozone when reported in the Bexar County Area. Based on the ozone warning level, certain strenuous outdoor activities, such as physical education, recess, or Field Day will be curtailed for some or all students. Please be advised that any outdoor field trip that is scheduled on an Orange Alert Day is subject to cancellation.

Arrival & Dismissal

- **Morning Arrival Procedures** - Staff members are on duty at 6:50 a.m. For safety reasons, NO child should arrive before 6:50 a.m.

Parents may drop their children off at the front drive-thru or walk them to the front doors of the school. Any parent entering the school will need to provide a valid ID/Driver's license to receive a printed badge. Parents are welcome to eat breakfast with their child from 6:50 to 7:30. Students will head to their classrooms at 7:30 am. All guests must exit the building by 7:35 am.

- **Afternoon Dismissal Procedures** - Each child will be provided 4 copies of their dismissal placards so that you can distribute the dismissal placards to those you entrust with picking your child up after school. This placard is REQUIRED to pick up your student(s) in the Drive-Thru Line and the Walk Up Lines. If you forget your placard, you will have to check your student(s) out in the office with your photo ID. Please do not ask teachers on duty for an exception to this rule, it is in place to ensure the safety of our students. When afternoon dismissal is completed, all remaining students will be relocated to the office and parents will be expected to come inside with their IDs to sign their child out.

Drive-thru - Place the dismissal placard in the front windshield so that it can be seen on the passenger side of your vehicle. Your child will be escorted out to your vehicle.

Walk Up - You will get in line at the door associated with your child's grade level (PK, K-5th). Show the placard to the staff on duty and your child will be sent out to you.

Replacement or additional placards can be obtained in the office.

Please inform the office of any change in your student(s) dismissal instructions prior to **2:30 pm**.

Walkers - Students that walk home will be held in the cafeteria during dismissal until 3:05 pm. At 3:10 pm, one of our staff members will escort the students that are walking home to the edge of the campus property before releasing them to walk home.

Dismissal Changes

Please notify your child's teacher of any changes to your child's dismissal plan in writing and well in advance. Our goal is to ensure every child gets home safely, and having a consistent dismissal plan and communicating any changes to that plan well in advance helps us ensure children are at the correct end-of-day location. If the teacher has not received notification from a parent/guardian regarding a dismissal change, the child will be sent home according to the plan on file with the classroom teacher. Same-day changes must be made by calling the front office at 397-3950 no later than **2:30 pm**. Emails and SeeSaw are not an acceptable method for communicating change of transportation.

Attendance

Parents are required by Texas Compulsory Attendance Law to ensure their children are in school the full day of instruction (7:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) every day of the school year. Children are marked tardy if they are not in their classroom by 7:45 a.m. Front lobby doors will close at 7:35 a.m. A parent dropping off a child after 8:00 am will need to accompany the child to the front security window to check-in their child.

Attendance records are finalized daily at 9:00 a.m. A child who is not present at 9:00 a.m. is considered absent for that day. This does not mean your child should stay home. Staying home will make your student fall behind by missing an entire day of instruction. Please speak to your nurse and she can provide further information regarding if your child needs to stay home or can attend school.

Medical appointments must be at the start or end of the school day to be counted as HEALTH and not as an absence. If the student is out the entire day, they are absent.

Children who are absent miss valuable instruction. Absences affect the quality of a student's work and interferes with normal instructional procedures in the classroom. It negatively impacts the child who is absent as well as other students in the class. When a child is absent or tardy from school, the parent or guardian should send a note to the school explaining the reason for the absence upon the child's return to school. All notes must include:

- The date of the note
- The name of the child
- The date of the absence or tardy
- The specific reason for the absence or tardy
- The parent's signature and phone number

State law requires 90% attendance. Unexcused and Excused Absences all count. Students with more than 17 total absences may repeat grade level. Parents/guardians may also be issued a municipal county warning and possibly pay a fine. **Vacations are not an acceptable cause for an excused absence from school.** If your child is ill and will be out of school for more than 1 day, please inform your child's classroom teacher. They should be your first line of communication.

An Attendance Committee has been established to review attendance concerns. It is our desire to work with families to address any attendance concerns at the campus level and provide resources to assist those struggling.

You may review your child's attendance record at any time by logging onto the Northside website at www.nisd.net and utilizing Parent Connection.

For further information, please reference NISD Student-Parent Handbook. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or the school office. We thank you for making every effort to ensure your child gets the most from his/her education by being in school all day every day.

Balloons/Flowers/Presents

Balloons, flowers, and presents are not permitted for student recognitions.

Birthdays/Food at School

Elementary schools are required to follow nutrition rules established by the Texas Department of Agriculture. Parents may choose the food items sent to school for their own child, but may not send food or purchase food for other students. This limitation also prohibits students from selling food fundraising items to other students during the school day or extended school day. These guidelines apply to field trips as well as activities provided during the extended school day, with two exceptions: school parties and a third special day as designated by the campus principal.

Parents are encouraged to recognize their child's birthday with non-food items, such as pencils, erasers, stickers, etc. Parents are welcome to send individually wrapped store bought snacks with their children on their birthday, or you can drop them off at the front office no later than 1:30 pm. Teachers will distribute the birthday snack prior to dismissal time. It is important that the snack be individually wrapped so it can go in backpacks without making a mess. All snacks should be delivered to the front office no later than 1:30 pm. The teacher will come to the office to get the treats when they are ready to distribute them to the students. Parents will not be allowed to take the snacks to the classroom.

Cell Phone/Technology Use

Cell phones & earbuds should be turned off and out of sight for the school day.

Cell phones will not be allowed in the classrooms for instructional purposes, only district issued electronic devices will be allowed.

Taking pictures or recording others on campus is not allowed.

Electronic device violation (cell phone or earbuds) will result in the device being confiscated.

Communication and Parent Conferences

Good communication between home and school is the key to a successful year. Staff members can be reached by Seesaw, email or phone. Staff members check their email and voicemail before and after school and during conference periods, when possible. Teachers are NOT allowed to respond to emails or phone calls during instructional time. Our goal is to respond to all communication within 24 hours.

E-mail and other electronic communication is an extremely useful tool for communication. Used efficiently, it can promote improved home/school communication. However, excessive email may actually inhibit responsive communication and distract from teachers' other responsibilities such as working with children and planning/preparing for diverse student needs.

The following guidelines for staff and families are provided to help ensure e-mail enhances our ability to work together for our children:

- Use email and/or Seesaw to communicate general information or questions (i.e., attendance, scheduling, special events, deadlines, brief comments/questions).
- In-depth conversations or dialogue regarding a child are best held in person.
- Do not expect immediate turnaround. During instructional time, teachers are focused on the children, and therefore cannot read and respond to email as quickly as it arrives in the Inbox.
- Emergency messages requiring immediate attention (such as an emergency change in a child's dismissal plan) should be called in to the office to better ensure the information is transferred in a timely manner.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are encouraged throughout the school year and are to be pre-arranged at the request of the parent or the teacher. All parents will be invited to a conference during the first semester. Building a positive partnership between home and school is a priority for our staff. Please trust that our teachers sincerely care about each child and want to work with you to ensure your child's success.

Please note that teachers cannot stop instruction or traveling with the class during arrival or dismissal time to discuss an individual student. Teachers often arrive early to get materials ready and mentally prepare for the day. Please respect this time and do not "pop in" for an informal conference. If there is an immediate need, please call or e-mail to set up a conference at a mutually agreeable time when you can talk in private with no distractions

Discipline

One of the most important requirements of a good learning environment is appropriate behavior of each student. We believe each child has the right to learn in an environment that is free from disruptions and/or the threat of harm from other students. Discipline will be based on the seriousness of the offense and the frequency of misbehavior. Students who are behaving in such a way as to disrupt the learning of others or jeopardize other students' safety will be given consequences for their actions. Disciplinary action will be based upon the seriousness as well as frequency of offenses. Conferencing, time-out, in-school suspension and suspension are actions that may be taken by the elementary school. Corporal punishment is not used in Northside schools. Further information on district policies regarding discipline can be found in the district's Student-Parent Handbook.

E-Cigarettes:

An electronic cigarette or any other device, including Juuls, that simulates smoking by using a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit to deliver nicotine or other substances to the individual inhaling from the device including any component, part, or accessory for the device and regardless of whether the device is manufactured, distributed, or sold as an e-cigarette. The term does not include a prescription medical device unrelated to the cessation of smoking.

In accordance with HB 114, any student with an e cigarette/vaping pen shall be placed in alternative school.

Dress and Grooming

Final determination of acceptable dress and grooming rests with the principal or his/her designee.

1. Shorts of mid-thigh length may be worn at all school levels. Suggestive and/or indecent shorts will be prohibited.
2. Mid-thigh length skirts, skorts, and dresses may be worn at all levels. There should not be a cut or slit in the clothing that extends above the mid-thigh. Suggestive and/or indecent styles will be prohibited. These requirements also apply to school uniforms.
3. Appropriate footwear must be worn; footwear which has toes reinforced with steel, hard plastics or similar materials are specifically prohibited.
4. Hair must be neat and clean. Unconventional hairstyles that distract from teaching and learning will be prohibited.
5. Any clothes that are suggestive or indecent or which cause a distraction will be prohibited. Specifically, oversized clothing, tank tops, muscle shirts, halter/crop tops, spaghetti straps, exposed backs or midriffs, and see-through garments are prohibited.
6. Indecent/inappropriate patches, writings, or drawings on clothing are prohibited. Undergarments must not be visible.
7. All pants are to be worn at the waist (no "sagging") Tight fitting pants (e.g. tights, spandex, bicycle pants, etc.) are also prohibited. Frays or holes above the knees are prohibited.
8. Body piercing jewelry is prohibited except for rings, studs or other traditional jewelry. Any piercing that distracts the teaching and learning environment will be prohibited.

*Parents will receive a phone call in regards to dress and grooming and ways to remedy it.

Please keep in mind that students have recess everyday and go to PE every other day. Rubber soled shoes or tennis shoes are the safest shoes for your student to wear. If students are wearing a skirt or dress on PE days they may wish to wear shorts under their skirt. Please make sure that all tops/shirts extend past the top of your students pants, shorts, or skirt when they lift their arms. Exposed midriffs in PE are not appropriate.

Because fads in dress and grooming are subject to sudden, and sometimes radical change, a basic rule to remember is that student dress and grooming should not be suggestive or indecent, or so bizarre and unusual as to detract from the classroom environment.

Field Trips

Field trips must be based on current curriculum and reflect NISD Standards. Teachers may ask parents to chaperone small groups of students, but the teacher is ultimately responsible for all students and should have his/her own group as well. Parents may NOT pick up their children from the field trip site. All students must return to school and be dismissed as usual. If a parent is a chaperone, we ask that they commit fully to their duties by not bringing any siblings on the field trip. If you think you may volunteer as a chaperone, please go to

www.nisd.net and click on the "Volunteers and Mentors" link. You will find an online volunteer background check form to complete. This must be completed 72 hours in advance of attending any field trips with your child.

Parents that are not acting as chaperones are welcome to attend field trips to public locations, but will not be responsible for supervising any students.

Food Allergies

Any student who suffers from food allergies should contact the school nurse (397-3950), the classroom teacher, the Associate principal, and the cafeteria manager. The school nurse will consult with the district health services on an individual basis as to the best procedure for that student to follow and a food allergy plan will be put in place.

Students requiring any changes or modifications to the regular cycle menu must have an updated **Physician Order Form** completely filled out. Please contact the Cafeteria Manager and the Campus Nurse.

Health Appointments

Please schedule appointments and other activities away from school hours. Children who need to leave school for appointments will be called to the office upon your arrival. Parents will need to show proper identification anytime they wish to sign their child out of school. For the welfare of our students, teachers cannot release students to anyone without office authorization. Office authorization will be given only to parents and other adults listed on the current medical emergency card. It is the parent's responsibility to update the medical emergency card information as changes occur.

Home Access Center

Home Access Center (HAC) allows parents to view information regarding their child's grades and attendance at any time throughout the school year. It also allows parents to sign up for School Messenger voice, text and emails directly from the campus as well as cafeteria account information and payments. To login to HAC, go to <https://hac.nisd.net>

Accidental Insurance

For those parents who desire a supplemental accident insurance policy, the Northside School District makes available a voluntary group accident coverage that can be purchased at a nominal fee by all students. Coverage is available for the normal school day or can be extended to 24-hour protection. A brochure-application will be sent home at the beginning of the school year so that all parents who so desire may purchase this supplemental protection. Parents should read the brochure carefully to avoid misunderstanding the coverage period. An application to purchase the insurance is also available on the Risk Management website.

To apply for Coverage, please enroll on-line with a credit card. Cash or Check will not be accepted. You can assess the website at <http://www.sas-mn.com/>

Late Pick-up:

Parents who transport their children after school should arrive promptly at dismissal time. Teachers and other staff members have other responsibilities and/or assigned duties and cannot be expected to supervise students until parents call for them. Certainly, if an emergency occurs, the child will be allowed to wait in the office until someone can come for him/her. The school office should be notified if there is an emergency. The office closes by 3:45 p.m.

Learning Tree

After school child care is available in the school cafeteria through the Learning Tree Program (a program under the NISD Community Education Department). They provide childcare from 2:55 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and there is a charge for their service. For more information you may contact them at (210) 397-8102.

Legal Documents

By law, if parents are legally separated or divorced, each parent has equal rights to the custody of the child/children unless a parent has a court order that indicates which parent has custody of the child/children. Sometimes, the court order will also state certain conditions regarding the child/children that the school should be aware of so that the school can follow these conditions. **The school must have a current copy of the court order signed by the judge on file.** Otherwise, either parent may check the child out of school or withdraw a child with proper identification.

Lost and Found

The lost and found cart is located outside of the cafeteria. Parents are encouraged to write the child's last name in all jackets, sweaters, hats, gloves, etc. Please check the lost and found cart periodically for missing items. Leftover clothing will be contributed to a local charity twice per school year.

Lunch

Lunch times vary according to grade levels. Please speak to your child's teacher for the specific time your child will go to lunch. This lunch menu can be downloaded from the district website at <https://nisd.net/child-nutrition/menus>.

We are pleased to inform you that Thornton Elementary School will be implementing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for School Year 2023-24. The students are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch each day at no charge to your household for the 2023-24 School Year.

For additional information, please visit nisd.net/schools/menus or contact the NISD Child Nutrition Department at (210) 397-4517. Students bringing a lunch from home may purchase milk or juice. Feel free to contact our cafeteria manager at 210-397-3985 for more information.

You may eat lunch with your child any time except on the days when we are closed to visitors. The tables on the stage are reserved for parents to use when eating with their child. To ensure student safety and supervision, only students whose parents (or immediate family members listed on the emergency card) are present may eat at the parent/student tables. All other students must remain with their designated class.

Please sign in at the front office, obtain a badge and then go directly to the cafeteria to meet your child..

Medical Release and Emergency Information

It is very important that we always have a number where we can reach you in case of an emergency. Please keep the office updated with any change of cellular numbers or telephone numbers at home or work. If you do not have a phone at home, we need the name of someone who can contact you. It is very important that we have current emergency information on every student. Please notify the school in person when you have a change of address or telephone number (at home or business) and if there is a change in the name of the person to be contacted if you are not available.

Medication and Clinic Policies

The school nurse administers first aid only. She/he does not diagnose illnesses, but takes note of symptoms and notifies the parent/guardian of her/his observations. This is important for the health of the child and for the health of all children at the school.

For the protection of all students, we have strict rules regarding medication that is given at school. Parents are encouraged to schedule the administration of a student's medication in such a manner that medication required at school is kept to a minimum. Long-term medication may be given only if a special medication form is completed by the attending physician and the medication is brought in the original prescription labeled bottle.

All medication should be delivered to the clinic or to the school office by an adult. With the exception of NISD students having Asthma, Diabetes, or severe allergies that have active physician orders/guidelines on file, there will be no medications kept in the classroom, nor may any student self administer medication.

Children should be kept at home when ill and are expected to be free of fever (temperature less than 100.0° F) and free of communicable diseases in order to attend school. In accordance with the Texas Administrative Code, students are required to be excluded from school until fever free for 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medications. The Texas Department of State Health Services defines fever as a temperature of 100.0 ° or greater.

Parents/Guardians are required to pick their child up from school as soon as possible if they are exhibiting signs or symptoms of a communicable condition and are to be excluded until proper treatment has been administered and the condition has improved. The judgment of the nurse will prevail in these circumstances. A note from a medical provider may be required before the child may return to school. If you are unsure if your child should come to school, please reach out to the school nurse.

Parents as Visitors in the Classroom

Visits to individual classrooms during instructional time shall be pre-arranged only with the principal's approval and in consultation with the teacher. Such visits shall not be permitted if their duration or frequency interferes with the delivery of instruction or disrupts the school environment. Parents must check in as a visitor in the office before going to their child's classroom.

Perfect Attendance

See NISD guidelines

Pets

For the safety of all, animals of any kind, including family pets, are not allowed on school grounds at any time. With the exception of service animals (as identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act-Title II and the Texas Human Resources Code-Title 8 Chapter 121), only animals approved by the campus administrator can be allowed on campus for curriculum purposes. Safety for students and staff will be the primary factor in the approval and process. Schools administrators have the right to exclude animals from campus if they determine the animals could disrupt the educational environment.

Pillars of Character

All staff, students, and visitors to our campus are expected to respect and model the NISD Pillars of Character. Each of the six character traits are used within our CHARACTER COUNTS! program to help instill a positive school climate for students and a "culture of kindness", making schools a safe environment for students to learn.

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Think "true blue" • Be honest • Don't deceive, cheat or steal • Be reliable — do what you say you'll do • Have the courage to do the right thing • Build a good reputation • Be loyal — stand by your family, friends, and country

RESPECT

Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule • Be tolerant and accepting of differences • Use good manners, not bad language • Be considerate of the feelings of others • Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone • Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements

RESPONSIBILITY

Do what you are supposed to do • Plan ahead • Be diligent • Persevere • Do your best • Use self-control • Be self-disciplined • Think before you act • Be accountable for your words, actions and attitudes • Set a good example for others

FAIRNESS

Play by the rules • Take turns and share • Be open-minded; listen to others • Don't take advantage of others • Don't blame others carelessly • Treat all people fairly

CARING

Be kind • Be compassionate and show you care • Express gratitude • Forgive others • Help people in need • Be charitable and altruistic

CITIZENSHIP

Do your share to make your school and community better • Cooperate • Get involved in community affairs • Stay informed; vote • Be a good neighbor • Obey laws and rules • Respect authority • Protect the environment • Volunteer

PTA

Please consider joining our Thornton PTA. The dues are only \$6.00, which supports fun instructional experiences for our students. Joining does not commit you to volunteer or give a time commitment. We have a very friendly and active PTA, and you are invited and encouraged to participate in many ways.

PTA sponsors the PAL (Parents Assisting in Learning) program and the Watch DOGS. Please consider becoming a PAL or a Watch DOG. Parents are encouraged to volunteer their time at school. There are many ways parents may volunteer including tutoring students, helping teachers make instructional materials, clerical, and/or serving as a room parent or field trip chaperone. All parent volunteers must complete a criminal background check and be cleared prior to volunteering. Forms are available at <https://hrvolunteer.nisd.net>. Each parent volunteer must update their background check annually.

Safety Drills

Fire drills are conducted for two purposes: (1) to train students to leave the building in an orderly manner and quickly in case of an emergency alarm; and (2) to teach self-control in times of emergency in later life. These aims can be accomplished with student cooperation. When an alarm is sounded, all students should immediately leave the room as directed by the teacher and proceed to the designated exit. They should walk in an orderly manner without talking or pushing. When the students reach the safety zone, they should turn and face the building while remaining in line.

In case of an obstructed fire drill in which an exit is blocked, the students should then proceed to an alternate exit. In doing so, care should be taken to stay in line.

Students will be instructed at their campus as to what signals indicate a fire alarm.

Tornadoes

1. Most tornadoes in Texas occur in the months of April, May and June.
2. Most tornadoes occur from 12 noon through midnight, and 85% of them occur between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
3. Approaching tornadoes sound like a continuous rumbling of thunder.
4. Strict discipline will be enforced.
5. During drills, students are to go to designated areas away from windows and doors. Specifically, they should avoid portable buildings with large span beams such as gymnasiums and cafeterias. Students who are outside should go to designated areas.

6. The proper position for students after reaching the designated areas is as follows: kneel on the floor, lean forward and touch the forehead to the floor, then clasp the hands together behind the back of head.

Lock-down drills may be conducted to prepare schools for emergency situations when students and staff may be in imminent danger of serious bodily injury. Each campus has a lock-down procedure specific to that campus. This procedure is communicated to appropriate personnel at each campus.

School Advisory Team

The School Advisory Team (S.A.T.) is a process to improve the educational outcomes at every school campus through a collaborative effort. The S.A.T. committee collaborates with the principal in formulating campus performance objectives and reviewing progress toward their attainment. The Thornton S.A.T. will consist of the Principal, Vice Principal, PTA president, one community person, one business person, and several teachers and parents.

The meetings, depending on the agenda, can last one to two hours. The day and time can be arranged according to the needs of the committee members. Additional meetings may be called based on campus needs.

School Bus Service

If you have any questions about transportation, ask our front office or call the Northside Transportation Office at 210-397-0900. Additional information can also be found at www.nisd.net and clicking on Boundaries and Buses.

School Messenger

NISD has an automated phone system that allows us to send out phone call reminders and text messages.

Spirit Day:

Every FRIDAY is Spirit Day. Children are encouraged to wear their school shirts. T-shirts will be available for purchase through our school store website twice a year. Please see the office for more information.

Student-Parent Handbook

The Northside Parent-Student Handbook can be located online at www.nisd.net. Contact the school if you need a hard copy. Please take time to read the District Handbook and discuss it with your child. Please also review the Northside ISD Administrative Regulation for Acceptable Use. Students are given access to computers, applications, databases, online resources and other technology resources for educational purposes. Students are responsible for keeping track of their equipment and will need to pay for lost or damaged devices or charging cables.

Supplies

Supply lists are available online and all items can be purchased at neighborhood stores.

Teacher Assignments

Some changes in initial placement may be necessary during the first few days of school. It can be difficult to predict students who move in or out of our attendance area, but staffing must be based on actual enrollment in order to not overspend taxpayer dollars. It is not unusual for enrollment to change in the first days and weeks of school. If actual enrollment does not match staffing, class numbers may need to be adjusted. Should your child's classroom assignment need to be changed, you will be promptly notified.

Telephone Use

Students will be allowed to use the school and/or classroom telephone for emergencies only. Leaving homework, lunch, or other supplies at home is not considered an emergency.

Toys & Other Gadgets

Toys/Gadgets/Dangerous Weapons: Toys may not be brought to school unless the teacher sends home a note. (For example: Show 'n Tell, Special Event, etc.) No one may bring a weapon or items associated with weapons for any reason. Prohibited items include fireworks, toy guns, water guns, pocket knives, toy knives, Scouting knives, etc. Students who bring make-believe or real weapons may be automatically suspended from school for a minimum of three days. Please seriously review all of the above with your child.

Traffic Patterns

School buses & daycare vans are the only vehicles allowed in the bus loop. The parking lot located beside the school is for staff only. The parking lot in the front of the building is for parents and visitors. Student pick-up/drop-off will occur in the front of the school via the front driveway. The front driveway is divided into two lanes: one for student drop off/pick up and one that leads to the front parking lot for families wishing to park and enter the school. Students that are dropped off in the mornings will enter the building through the front entrance. Afternoon pick-up will also take place in the front of the school.

In order to keep all children safe, we ask that no children be allowed to walk across any street or parking lot without an adult escort. Also, be aware that cars parked on the red curbs need to have a licensed driver behind the wheel at all times. City laws require this and drivers found in violation of this policy can be issued a ticket. This rule is designed to allow the quick removal of vehicles in case an emergency vehicle (ambulance, fire truck) is needed to help assist in a crisis.

Students may ride bicycles/scooters to and from school. They must walk their bicycles/scooters across the street at designated crosswalks. Students may not ride bikes/scooters on school property. It is essential that all bicycles be equipped with proper safety equipment and a lock. Individual campuses have guidelines for parking procedures and location for bicycles and scooters during the school day. The use of safety helmets is strongly encouraged. Hoverboards are NOT allowed on campus.

Visitors

All visitors will show a valid driver's license or ID when signing in for a visit. For the safety of your children, all driver's licenses will be scanned through our RAPTOR system.

Volunteers

Thornton staff members know that we cannot do the job at hand without support from the community and volunteers. We invite you to assist teachers and PTA by signing up for various volunteering opportunities that occur during the school year. We ask that you please adhere to the following volunteer expectations when on campus;

Volunteer Etiquette

- We ask you stay in the area where you are supposed to be volunteering.
- Always bring a picture ID to sign in
- Please wait to discuss any PTA business until you leave the main office.
- You may use the office machines in the back office.
- Please wait to pick your child up in the dismissal line even if you finish your volunteer duty a little early before school is out. Withdrawing children from classrooms before dismissal at the end of the day can be distracting to other children in the classroom.
- If you need to speak with your child's teacher on a matter regarding your child, please schedule an appointment in advance.
- Please cross your children at the crosswalks with the crossing guards.

Thank you for being our partner in your child's education!