Petronila Elementary



Student/Parent Handbook 2023-2024



Bishop Consolidated Independent School District



Petronila Elementary School Rick Gutierrez, Principal



2391 CR 67* Robstown, TX 78380* 361-387-2834* Fax: 361-767-0429* http://www.bishopcisd.esc2.net

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August 21, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Petronila Elementary School. As we begin the new school year, we look forward to a new year of learning, teaching, sharing, and keeping communication open between home and school. To begin with our communication, we are providing you with the **Petronila Elementary School Student/Parent Handbook 2023-2024.**

This handbook has been organized as a communication tool between the home and school. It is to be utilized in answering questions regarding policies, regulations, and services. These items are discussed in detail throughout the handbook. However, we are always available to clarify information.

It is essential that we promote the best educational setting for your children and as parents, I know you will work closely with the school to help provide that setting.

Please read through this document carefully and use it throughout the year. We hope that it is helpful in providing you with useful information.

Thank you,

Rick Gutierrez Principal



The mission of the Petronila Elementary School is to help students become self-directed, lifelong learners. We believe all students can learn through an educational program that meets the needs of the whole student. We believe that, with a collaborative effort of the school, community, parents, and students, we can be an exemplary campus. We believe that students can learn in many ways and from many people.

CAMPUS GOALS

- GOAL 1: Petronila Elementary will meet the educational needs of every student by continually addressing instruction and learning so all students can reach their educational potential.
- GOAL 2: Petronila Elementary will attract, retain, develop, and evaluate high-quality personnel to ensure all staff are held accountable and receive the support necessary to achieve our mission and district aims.
- GOAL 3: Petronila Elementary will effectively manage all district resources to maximize the educational resources available for students.
- GOAL 4: Petronila Elementary will effectively manage a safe and secure environment for all students, staff, and visitors.

CAMPUS MOTTO

We love helping others to learn.

FACULTY AND STAFF OF PETRONILA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal
Secretary

Prekindergarten Teacher Kindergarten Teacher Grade 1 Teacher Grade 2 Teacher Grade 3 Teacher Grade 4 Teacher Grade 5 Teacher

Physical Education Teacher Special Education Teacher

Counselor Nurse

Paraprofessional (Library)
Paraprofessional (Art/Music)

Paraprofessional Cafeteria Manager

Cafeteria Custodian Custodian Rick Gutierrez
Brandie Valdez
Mary Tobar
Kassie Rivas
Katie Faske
Angie Gonzalez
Monica Aguilar
Laura Reyes
Cristina Silvas
Mike Filla

Veronica Benitez-Leal Sarah Chumbley Debra Clarke Vicky Longoria Margaret Bustamante

Selina Castillo Claudia Martinez Veronica Maldonado Robert Beasley, Jr. Corina Covarrubias

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Joe Garcia, Director of Network Management

DAILY SCHEDULE OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

PARENTS: There is <u>NO</u> supervision for your children before 7:00 a.m.; therefore, the District cannot be held responsible for their safety. Please DO NOT drop off students before 7:00 a.m. All students must enter the school through the cafeteria between 7:00 am and 7:15 am.

7:00 a.m.	Buses arrive; students enter through cafeteria
7:10 a.m.	FIRST bell rings/students dismissed to classroom
7:15 a.m.	TARDY bell, instruction begins.
9:05 a.m.	
11:00-12:30 .	Lunch.
3:15 p.m.	DISMISSAL bell
3:15 p.m.	Buses depart
3:30 p.m.	Office closes

Students eating breakfast in the class need to do so between 7:10 and 7:30 a.m.

Notices will be sent home to keep parents aware of early dismissal days during the school year.

INFORMATION, RULES, AND REGULATIONS

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Students in all grades may use advanced placement examinations to advance one grade level or to gain credit for a subject. Students or parents who have questions about advanced placement examinations may discuss them with the principal. See Advanced Placement Testing in Appendix.

ATTENDANCE

In Texas, all enrolled students are required to attend school unless otherwise exempted by law. School employees must investigate and report violations of the state compulsory attendance law. These attendance requirements also apply to any District-required tutorial sessions.

To receive credit in a class, a student must attend at least 90 percent of the days the class is offered. The actual number of days a student must attend in order to receive credit will vary, depending on whether the class is for a semester or a full year. A student who attends fewer than 90 percent of the days the class is offered cannot receive credit for the class unless the attendance committee finds that the absences are the result of extenuating circumstances.

If the attendance committee finds there are no extenuating circumstances for the absence or if the student does not meet the conditions set by the committee to earn or regain credit, the student will not receive credit for the class. If a petition for credit is denied, the student or parent may appeal the decision to the Board of Trustees by completing a written request to the Superintendent.

The District accepts the following as extenuating circumstances for the purpose of granting credit for a class:

- 1. An excused absence based on personal sickness, sickness or death in the family, quarantine, weather or road conditions making travel dangerous, any other unusual cause acceptable to the Superintendent, teacher, or principal.
- 2. Days of suspension.
- 3. Participation in court proceedings or child abuse/neglect investigation.
- 4. A migrant student's late enrollment or early withdrawal.
- 5. Days missed as a runaway.
 - 6. Completion of a competency-based program for at-risk students.
 - 7. Late enrollment or early withdrawal of a student under Texas Youth Commission.
 - 8. Teen parent absences to care for his or her child.
- 9. Participation in a substance abuse rehabilitation program.
- 10. Homelessness, as defined in federal law.

The District does **not** accept the following as extenuating circumstances for the purpose of granting credit for a class:

- 1. Truancy.
- 2. Leaving campus without permission.
- 3. Staying home to babysit younger siblings.
- 4. Staying home to care for ill parent.
- 5. Missing the bus*.
- 6. Alarm clock did not go off, or overslept.
- 7. Staying home to visit relatives.
- 8. Being put off the bus*.
- 9. Going out of town for any reason other than emergency illness or death in the family.

When returning to school after an absence a student must bring a written excuse, signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence. Written excuses must be turned in within 3 days of the student's absence. If a written excuse is not received within 3 days, the absence will be considered an unexcused absence. Notes signed by the student, even with the parent's permission, will be considered forgery and the student will be disciplined.

Students absent without permission will be considered truant and subject to disciplinary action.

A student who must leave school during the day must be signed out in the office by the parent/adult picking him/her up. A student who becomes ill during the day should, with the teacher's permission, report to the office or school nurse. The office or nurse will decide whether or not the student should be sent home and will notify the student's parent or guardian that their child needs to be picked up.

A student absent for any reason is encouraged to make up specific assignments missed and/or to complete additional in-depth study assigned by the teacher to meet subject or course requirements. A student who does not make up assigned work within the time allotted by the teacher will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.

A student who is not in the classroom for any reason by 9:05 a.m. will be counted absent, with the exception of the submission of a doctor's appointment excuse to the school office.

^{*}Parents and guardians are responsible for getting their children to school.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILD HERE ON TIME EVERY DAY. Students needing to eat breakfast in the classroom should be at school no later than 7:10 a.m. (Please refer to the daily schedule on page 3.) Excessive tardies/absences will result in a warning letter being sent to the parents. If a pattern of tardies/absences continues, we will be forced to notify the Justice of the Peace, Larry Lawrence, and the Nueces County Juvenile Department.

BISHOP CISD APP

Please download the BISHOP CISD App for important information that will be sent out from our campus throughout the school year. You may choose to only receive information about our campus or choose to receive information from other campuses as well. Please know that if you choose to "Opt out" or "Stop" receiving messages from the App or through text, you will no longer be sent information from our school.

BULLYING

The parent has the right to request a transfer of a child who has been the subject of bullying. (*House Bill 283*)

BUS REGULATIONS

See Appendix for bus regulations and rules.

CELL PHONES

Cell Phone (including other communication devices)

- Must be off and not visible when entering building
- Must be on the off position and out of sight all day
- Can be used **ONLY** after the last bell of the school day (times vary from campus to campus)

Consequences

- 1st offense: confiscate device and keep for 2 weeks (10 school days)
- 2nd offense: confiscate device and keep for 6 weeks (**30 school days**)
- 3rd offense: confiscate device and keep for the remainder of the **semester**

CHEWING GUM

Chewing gum should be left at home. Students are not allowed to chew gum on the bus.

CHILD ABUSE

It is the duty of teachers and principals of the school district to report to the proper authorities any suspected child abuse, neglect, or molestation. Parents and other community members should also report

such abuse to any of the following: school officials at 387-2834, the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services at 878-7597, or the Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-252-5400. The following are some of the signs that might indicate that a child is in danger:

- Physical injuries, such as black eyes and broken bones, which are either unexplained or implausibly explained
- Lack of alertness: chronic drowsiness or hunger
- Repeated absences from school
- Dirty or unkempt appearance or inappropriate clothing
- Fear of parents or a dread of going home; often running away
- Bullying behavior toward weaker children, which may be modeled after his/her own parents' behavior
- Staying at home unsupervised

In most cases, abuse can be reported anonymously and callers are not required to provide proof.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Petronila Elementary School is a closed campus. Students must remain on the campus once they arrive at school.

COMMUNICATION

Communication between school and home is extremely important and necessary. Parents and school personnel must work together to ensure quality education for the students. The school needs to be provided with a phone number where parents/guardians can be reached in case of emergencies. Should a family not have a telephone in the home, a neighbor or relative's phone number can be listed and if this number is changed, please notify the school office. The school district does not wish to burden any family with the cost of telephone service, but such a necessity can be critically important.

The *Petronila Pride Newsletter* is sent home once a month. It contains upcoming events, classroom news, and messages from the principal, calendar of events for the upcoming month, cafeteria menu, as well as recognition of students for their exceptional performance.

Student schoolwork envelopes/folders are sent home with the students each week and should be returned with a parent signature.

Periodically, notices concerning holidays, early dismissal, changes in schedules, and important events will also be sent home.

Students are responsible for taking home their daily work, homework, newsletter, and notices. Homework and forms are required to be returned to school when due.

Parents are encouraged to attend conferences with teachers and the principal when requested. Also, parents may request a conference by calling 387-2834.

Please let us know how you think we are doing. A lot of misunderstanding can be cleared up by a telephone conversation with your child's teacher first. If you have any further concerns, please call the principal's office at 387-2834. You have a right and responsibility to know what is going on with your children.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Parents of students with a communicable or contagious disease or condition are asked to call the office so that other students who have been exposed can be alerted. Students with certain diseases or symptoms are not allowed to come to school nor school activities when they are contagious. A doctor's note stating the student is no longer contagious must accompany the student returning to school. <u>A student must be free from fever for 24 hours without medication before returning to school.</u>

Included, but not limited to, in the list of communicable diseases/conditions are: measles, mumps, chicken pox, strep throat, impetigo, lice, fever, conjunctivitis (pink eye).

Although perfect attendance is encouraged, students should not be sent to school when they are ill. This is especially true in the case of fever or conjunctivitis. If a student should develop a fever of **99.6** or greater while at school, it is imperative that parents pick up their child promptly after they are contacted. This will prevent other students and staff from contracting diseases/conditions.

CONFERENCES

Students and parents may expect teachers to request a conference, 1) if the student is not maintaining passing grades or achieving the expected level of performance, 2) if the student is at risk of receiving an "N" in conduct, 3) in any other case the staff considers necessary.

A student or parent who wants information or wants to raise a question or concern is encouraged to confer with the appropriate teacher or principal. A parent who wishes to confer with a teacher may call the office for an appointment during the teacher's conference period or request that the teacher call the parent during a conference period or at another mutually convenient time.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Crisis Management Plan is located in the school office for parent/public review.

DISCIPLINE

Students who violate the District's Student Code of Conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action. The District's disciplinary options include using one or more discipline management techniques, detention, parent conferences, and removal to an alternative education program, suspension, and expulsion. (Refer to the Student Code of Conduct booklet.) Disciplinary measures are applied depending on the nature of the offense. A student who brings a weapon, as defined by state law, or a firearm, as defined by federal law, will be reported to legal authorities. In addition, when a student commits drugand alcohol-related offenses or any reportable criminal act, he or she may also be referred to legal authorities for prosecution.

DISRUPTIONS

The District may pursue a criminal charge against and/or discipline any person inciting, promoting, or participating in a protest demonstration, disruption, riot, sit-in, walk-out, blocking of entrances, etc.

Classroom disruptions are limited to official and/or emergency business. The office should be notified in

advance when a student needs to be taken from the classroom for doctor's appointments, etc. Please schedule such appointments at times that will not hinder the student's education; i.e., interrupting test time. Due to security protocols, visitors will NOT be allowed on campus. Parents/guardians are not allowed to drop off any items to the school for their child during the school day. Please ensure that your child brings all necessary items with them when they arrive on campus, such as backpacks, lunches, glasses, etc.

DRESS CODE

See Appendix for Dress and Grooming Code.

Violations of the Dress Code could result in a student being sent home to change or a call for the parents to confer with the principal. Persistent dress code violations will result in disciplinary action.

DRILLS: FIRE, TORNADO, AND OTHER EMERGENCY DRILLS

Students, teachers, and other District employees shall participate in frequent drills of emergency procedures. When the alarm is sounded, students must follow the direction of staff and emergency personnel quickly, QUIETLY, and IN AN ORDERLY MANNER.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

Parents are asked to complete an emergency care form each year that includes a place for parental consent for school officials to obtain medical treatment for the student, as permitted by the law. Other information that may be required in case of an emergency should be provided and updated by the parents as necessary. Parents of students with asthma, diabetes, or other conditions requiring close monitoring should contact the school nurse within the first week of school to formulate a medical management plan.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

All emergency school closing, whether due to hurricane, flooding, or non-weather disaster, will be broadcast on various radio and television stations. Parents and students may listen to the radio for a school news report indicating that school will be closed or remain open. Reports will be made the evening before or at approximately 6:00 a.m. on the days that school may be closed because of bad weather.

The three television stations (KIII, KRIS, and KZTV) broadcast listings of school closing, either during newscasts or at various intervals along the bottom of the screen.

Information will also be sent through text messages and through our Bishop CISD App.

FEES

Materials that are part of the basic educational program are provided without charge to students. Students may be required to pay certain other fees or deposits. Including, but not limited to:

1. Materials for a class project the student will keep.

- 2. Voluntary purchases of pictures, publications, snacks, school supplies.
- 3. Meals and extra milk.
- 4. Library fines.
- 5. Replacement cost of lost or damaged library books and lost or damaged textbooks.
- 6. Student accident insurance.
- 7. Field trip fees beyond the normal curricular scope.

All outstanding monies due must be settled before the end of the nine-week reporting period or students may be restricted from participating in certain activities and field trips.

GRADING AND REPORT CARDS

Report cards are prepared after the end of each nine-week grading period. The report cards will be sent home with the students the following Thursday at the close of each nine weeks.

Progress Reports are sent out after the third and sixth week of each nine-week grading period in hopes that the student's grades will be brought up. A parent conference is advised in all cases. Your attendance at these conferences shows the school and your child that you care about his/her education and are willing to work with us. Report cards and progress reports need to be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to school within three days of receipt.

Failure can be caused by poor attendance as well as poor work.

Prekindergarten and kindergarten have their own grading systems.

There are four (4) grading levels for Grades 1 through 5:

90-100 Excellent/A 80-89 Good/B 70-79 Fair/C Below 70 Failing/F

All report cards need to be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the teacher within three (3) days, except for the last report card.

HONOR ROLL INCENTIVES

A student earning all A or A/B honor roll on his/her report card qualifies for honor roll incentives the school offers for the grading period.

**In order to qualify for A/B honor roll, a student must have a combination of As and Bs but <u>must</u> have at least one A in one subject.

HEALTH INFORMATION

The nurses and other staff of Bishop CISD want each student to have an equal opportunity in the classroom. **Healthy students learn better.** The State of Texas requires certain screenings, immunizations, and exclusions from school. The State also mandates that schools inform parents of certain diseases and their characteristics. *See Appendix for Health Information and health procedures*.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Every morning our students are asked to repeat the following pledge:

I am a Petronila student.

Petronila students can learn anything when we work hard at it.

We enjoy learning in many ways.

We love helping others to learn.

We can learn from our families, our teachers, and our friends.

I shall continue to learn forever!

HURRICANES

Petronila Elementary is in a high-risk flood area and is *not* a suitable location for shelter.

IMMUNIZATION

A student must be fully immunized against certain diseases or must present a certificate or a statement that, for medical or religious reasons, the student should not be immunized. The immunizations required are: Diphtheria, Tetanus, Haemophilus influenza type B (Hib), Poliomyelitis, Measles, Mumps, Rubella (German measles), Rubeola (red measles), Varicella (chicken pox), Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis A (for children born on or after September 2, 1992). **Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, Hepatitis A will be required for children in Nueces County.** The school nurse can provide information on age-appropriate doses or an acceptable physician-validated history of illness required by the Texas Department of Health. Proof of immunization may be personal records from a licensed physician or public health clinic with a signature or rubber-stamp validation.

If a student should not be immunized for medical reasons, the student or parent must present a certificate signed by a U.S. licensed physician that states that, in the doctor's opinion, the immunization required would be harmful to the health and well-being of the student or any member of the student's family or household. This certificate must be renewed yearly unless the physician specifies a life-long contraindication.

If a student's religious beliefs conflict with the requirement that the student be immunized, the student must present a statement signed by the student (or by the parent if the student is a minor) that states that immunization conflicts with the beliefs and practices of a recognized church or religious denominations of which the student is an adherent or member. This statement must be renewed yearly. See Appendix for more information on School Immunization Requirements.

LUNCH AND BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Bishop CISD will be implementing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for the 2023-2024 school year.

All students will be provided (1) healthy breakfast and (1) healthy lunch each day at no charge for ALL students enrolled in our district during the 2023-2024 school year.

There is no charging (credit) of extra meals, milk, or snacks.

Students are not furnished with milk when they bring lunch from home. Students should bring 60¢ to the cafeteria when they go to lunch.

Students are responsible for their lunches and drinks from home. Students are not furnished with lunch when they bring lunch from home.

Breakfast is not served after 7:15 a.m.

Since visitors are not allowed on campus at this time, parents are not allowed to eat with their child.

Menus are sent home monthly and should be reviewed by parents for items students cannot or will not eat. In such cases, students should bring lunch from home.

Meal Costs:Student breakfast/lunch		Free
Student lunch (extra tray-entrée only)	\$2.25	
Extra juice/milk	75¢	
Extra Breakfast	\$1.50	
Extra Lunch	\$2.25	

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

A student who must take prescription (or nonprescription) medication during the school day must bring a written request (must include amount and time medication is to be administered) and permission from his/her parent and the medication, **in its original, properly labeled container,** to the school office. The school nurse or office personnel will administer the medication.

There is no other medication available for students, except what is sent from home. Please send cough medicine, cough drops, throat lozenges, pain relievers, etc., as needed with proper written instructions and permission.

MONEY AND VALUABLES

Please do not allow your child to come to school with more money than they need. The District is not responsible for any loss.

All items brought to school (at the request of the teacher) should be marked with the student's name, including extra clothing. All winter clothing should be clearly marked. Any clothing left on campus at the end of the school year will be donated to an organization to help children in need.

Radios, CD players, cameras, or other electronic devices are not to be brought to school unless permission is granted.

NURSE

Debra Clark is the nurse for the school and is assigned to be at Petronila Elementary on Fridays. Nurse Clark can be contacted Monday-Thursday at Bishop Primary at 584-2434.

OFFICIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

See Appendix for the Official School Calendar for the 2023-2024 school year.

PARENT ACCESS

Every parent will have access to a student/parent handbook and a student code of conduct at the beginning of every school year or at the time of enrollment. Access will either be through a hard copy or through our website. Please read the student/parent handbook and student code of conduct, sign and return the parent/guardian signature pages, as well as all other required signature pages and forms due, to complete your child's enrollment. See the Parent Signature Pages & Forms Checklist at the front of this handbook.

PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION

See Appendix for Pesticide Notification.

PREKINDERGARTEN

§29.153 of the Texas Education Code lists qualifications of children for prekindergarten programs as follows:

- Child will be 4 years of age on or before September 1.
- Child is a resident of the Bishop Consolidated Independent School District.
- Child meets the immunization requirement.
- Child meets at least one of the following conditions:
- o Limited English Proficient (Home Language Survey must indicate child hears/speaks a language other than English at home; child has been tested with oral English assessment; parent must sign Notification of Enrollment in Bilingual/ESL Program)
- o is homeless, as defined by [42 USC 11302], or
- o is economically disadvantaged (upon registering a Prekindergarten student, a parent/guardian will be asked to provide proof of income in order to determine eligibility for this program), or
- o has a parent who is active duty military of the armed forces, including state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces who is ordered to active duty; a parent of the armed forces, including state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces, who was injured or killed while serving on active duty.
- o Receives Medicaid Free or Medicaid Reduced Benefits

PROMOTION, RETENTION, AND PLACEMENT

In Grade 1 and above, a student must have an overall average of 70 or above as well as an average of 70 or above in Reading <u>and</u> Mathematics in order to be promoted. Below Grade 1, promotion may be granted using assessment methods other than numerical grades. Students in Prekindergarten and Kindergarten will not be retained without parental consent. With parental consent, six-year-old students determined by the school not to be developmentally ready for first grade may be assigned to a grade as deemed appropriate by the school.

RELEASE OF STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL

A student will not be released from school at times other than regular dismissal hours except with the principal's permission or according to the campus sign-out procedures. The teacher will determine that permission has been granted before allowing the student to leave.

RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

A student's school records are private and protected from unauthorized inspection or use. A cumulative record is maintained for each student from the time the student enters the District until the student withdraws or graduates. This record moves with the student from school to school. See Appendix for more information regarding Rights and Privacy Act.

SAFETY/ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Student safety on campus or at school-related events is a high priority of the District. With safety in mind, the District has implemented policies and committed resources. However, the District can address only part of the challenge; the essential remaining part is the cooperation of students, including:

- Avoiding conduct that is likely to put the student or other students at risk
- Following the code of conduct and any additional rules for behavior and safety set by the principal or teachers
- Remaining alert to and promptly reporting safety hazards, such as intruders on campus
- Knowing emergency evacuation routes and signals
- Following immediately the instructions of teachers, bus drivers, and other District employees who are seeing to the welfare of the students

Parents can assist by keeping emergency care information up to date (name of doctor, emergency phone numbers, allergies to medications, etc.). Please contact the school nurse or office to update any information. Having current information will be of critical importance should an accident or injury occur that requires medical attention.

The District is not responsible for medical costs associated with a student's injury. The District does make available, however, an optional, low-cost student accident insurance program to assist parents in meeting medical expenses. A parent who desires coverage for his or her child will be responsible for paying insurance premiums and for submitting claims.

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

Transportation of students by District school buses is considered a privilege and not a right. Students should obey all bus rules and regulations in order not to forfeit being able to ride the bus. See Appendix for more information regarding Bus Regulations and Rules.

All students will be put on their buses in the afternoon unless **parental notification** by phone or written note is received in the office. For the child's welfare the District cannot accept a student's word that he/she does not have to ride the bus or that he/she can go to another student's house.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS/504

The District provides special programs for handicapped, gifted and talented, limited English proficient students, dyslexic students, and for those with disabilities. Students or parents with questions about these programs should contact the principal. The coordinator of each program can answer questions about all eligibility requirements, programs, and services offered in the District or by other organizations. See Appendix for more information regarding Special Programs/504

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Students are responsible for conducting themselves properly, in a manner appropriate to their age and level of maturity.

Student responsibilities for achieving a positive learning environment at school or school-related activities

include:

- 1. Attending all classes, regularly and on time.
- 2. Being prepared for each class with appropriate materials and assignments.
- 3. Being appropriately dressed and groomed.
- 4. Showing courtesy and respect toward others.
- 5. Behaving in a responsible manner.
- 6. Paying required fees and fines, unless these are waived.
- 7. Avoiding violations of the Code of Student Conduct.
- 8. Obeying all school rules, including safety rules.
- 9. Seeking change in school policies and regulations in an orderly and responsible manner, through appropriate channels.
- 10. Cooperating with District staff in investigation of disciplinary cases and volunteering known information relating to a serious offense.

The District has authority over a student during the regular school day and while going to and from school on District transportation. This jurisdiction includes any activity during the school day on school grounds, attendance at any school-related activity, regardless of time or location, and any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location.

The District's Code of Student Conduct applies to all school-sponsored and school related activities, on or off campus. Students who violate these rules will be subject to disciplinary action and, when appropriate, will be referred to legal authorities for criminal prosecution for violations of law.

Students at school or school-related activities are prohibited from:

- 1. Cheating or copying the work of another.
- 2. Throwing objects outside supervised school activities that may cause bodily injury or damage property.
- 3. Leaving school grounds or school-sponsored events without permission.
- 4. Directing profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures toward other students.
- 5. Insubordination, such as disobeying directives from school personnel or school policies, rules, and regulations.
- 6. Being disrespectful or directing profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures toward teachers, other school employees, or visitors.
- 7. Playing with matches or fire, or committing arson.
- 8. Stealing from students, staff, or the school.
- 9. Damaging or vandalizing property owned by the District, other students, or District employees.
- 10. Disobeying school rules about conduct on school buses.
- 11. Fighting, committing physical abuse, or threatening physical abuse.
- 12. Committing extortion, coercion, or blackmail; i.e., obtaining money or other objects of value from an unwilling person, or forcing an individual to act through the use of force or threat of force.
- 13. Name-calling, ethnic or racial slurs, or derogatory statements that school officials have reasonable cause to believe will substantially disrupt the school program or incite violence.
- 14. Engaging in inappropriate physical or sexual conduct disruptive to other students or the school environment.
- 15. Assaulting a teacher or other individual.
- 16. Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, possessing, using, or being under the influence of: marijuana or a controlled substance; a dangerous drug; abusable glue, aerosol paint, or other volatile chemical; or an alcoholic beverage. Such conduct is wrong and harmful.
- 17. Possessing any weapon prohibited by law or by school policy. A complete list of prohibited weapons can be obtained from the principal.
- 18. Smoking or using tobacco products.

- 19. Hazing.
- 20. Possession of a paging device or cellular phone.
- 21. Behaving in any way that disrupts the school environment or educational process.
- 22. Engaging in any conduct constituting felony criminal mischief as defined by law.
- 23. Membership or participation in any secret society, fraternity, sorority, or gang.

Students violating Bishop CISD Student Code of Conduct, Dress Code, and Bus Regulations will be subject to disciplinary action. See the Appendix for Dress and Grooming Code and Bus Regulations; all students will receive a separate Student Code of Conduct booklet.

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

See Appendix for School Immunization Requirements. State vaccination requirements can also be viewed on-line at: www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/school/6-14eng.pdf. Students will be excluded from attending school if immunizations are not up-to-date.

VISITORS

Due to security protocols, visitors will NOT be allowed on campus.

WEBSITE

The calendar of events, District official calendar, newsletters, class pages, conference periods, cafeteria menu, school supply lists, STAAR information, educational links, etc. are available on the campus website.

The Petronila Elementary website can be viewed at: www.bishopcisd.esc2.net/petronila

APPENDIX

Advanced Placement Testing

Bus Regulations

Dress and Grooming Code

Pesticide Notification

Rights and Privacy Act

Special Programs

School Immunization Requirements

Health/Medication Procedures & Information

2023-2024 Calendar/Testing Dates

TEST SELECTION The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for development or selection of tests to be used to grant credit to students without prior instruction in a subject area or grade level. Whether tests are developed by the District or purchased from a State Board-approved university or other appropriate source, each examination shall thoroughly test the essential knowledge and skills in the applicable grade level or subject area.

TEST DATES The Superintendent or designee shall establish a schedule of dates when examinations for acceleration shall be administered and shall ensure that such dates are made available to students through announcements, newspapers, and in other District publications, as appropriate.

REGISTRATION A student planning to take an examination for acceleration shall be required to register with the principal or designee at least 30 days prior to the scheduled testing date on which the student wishes to take the test.

FEES No fee shall be charged for an examination for acceleration provided by the District on the published dates. If the District agrees to administer an alternate examination or to administer the examination on an alternate date, the parent may purchase the test from a State Board-approved university or shall pay an appropriate fee to the District.

CREDIT APPROVAL Approval of credit or advancement on the basis of an examination for acceleration shall be by the Superintendent or designee, in accordance with State Board rules.

KINDERGARTEN ACCELERATION The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to allow a student not six years old at the beginning of the school year to be placed initially in first grade. Criteria for acceleration may include:

- 1. Scores on readiness test(s) and/or achievement test(s) that may be administered by appropriate District personnel.
- 2. Recommendation of the kindergarten or preschool the student has attended.
- 3. Chronological age and observed social and emotional development of the student.
- 4. Other criteria deemed appropriate by the principal and Superintendent.

DATE ISSUED: 04/09/2001 LDU-15-01 EEJB(LOCAL)-X

BUS REGULATIONS

Permission for any pupil to ride in a bus is conditioned on his/her good behavior and observance of the following rules and regulations. Any pupil who violates any of these rules will be reported to the school principals. Students can be denied the privilege of riding a bus to and from school.

- 1. **Be on time at the bus stop.** Avoid running to catch the bus, because you may slip and fall under the vehicle. While waiting for the bus, stay clear of the roadway to avoid being hit by passing vehicles.
- 2. Do not struggle or scuffle over who is going to be the first one on or off the bus.
- 3. Wait for the bus to come to a complete halt before trying to board and, if you must cross the road, wait for your driver to signal you across with his/her hand. Always cross at least 10 feet in front of the bus, otherwise the bus driver is not able to see you.
- 4. When necessary, there will be at least three (3) persons in a seat, and the practice of saving seats for students getting on at other stops will not be allowed. The bus driver will usually assign seats and you must stay in the seat he assigns.
- 5. After boarding the bus you must remain in your seat until the bus reaches your designated stop. Please don't ask your driver to let you off at such places as a store, job, etc., unless you have written permission from your parents and it has been cleared with the principal.
- 6. Please use the handrails when getting on or off the bus. Be extra careful when the weather is wet or icy, as the steps can become very slippery.
- 7. Treat bus equipment as you would the furniture in your home. Any damage to the seats, windows, etc., must be paid for by the students responsible for the damage.
- 8. Keep the aisles clear of items such as musical instruments, etc. If you must carry personal items on the bus with you, please hold them in your lap or store them under the seat.
- 9. At no time will a student put hand, head, or other body parts out of the window.
- 10. Don't be loud or boisterous on the bus. Excessive noise can distract the driver and could result in a serious accident.
- 11. Be absolutely quiet at all railroad crossings. Your driver stops at railroad crossings to listen for oncoming trains. Your talking could drown out all warning signals.
- 12. Do not throw paper or other objects out bus windows. Littering is illegal. Also, this could obstruct the view of an oncoming vehicle, resulting in an accident or causing the driver to have to stop very suddenly, which could cause injury to passengers.
- 13. No eating or drinking on the bus without the consent of the supervisors or bus driver. Loose papers or food on the floor may cause a slipping hazard. **No gum chewing** at any time.

- 14. A driver has the responsibility to correct any student on the bus for improper conduct. This includes: improper language, use of tobacco, and unnecessary noise or fighting.
- 15. Drivers have the authority, given by the School Board, to enforce all bus rules. Any student refusing to obey these rules will be reported to school principals and may lose his/her bus riding privilege.
- 16. Remember, your driver is only human, so greet him or her cheerfully each time you board the bus and give him/her the same respect you would your teacher or parents.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BUS DRIVERS, PRINCIPALS, AND PARENTS

- 1. The bus driver will be responsible for the conduct of students on his/her bus. All infractions are to be reported to the school principal.
- 2. It will be the responsibility of the principal to work with bus drivers on discipline infractions and suspensions of school bus privileges.
- 3. Bus drivers will submit daily written discipline reports. If there were no problems, the driver would state so. The report will be given to the appropriate principal for his/her action. The principal will develop a discipline notice, if needed, and send a copy to the student's parents. The notice will include possible disciplinary action at present or in the future. (Sample of daily discipline report is on the following two pages.)
- 4. Reinstatement of riding privileges will be handled through the school principals.
- 5. It also is the responsibility of the principals to discuss the "Safety and Behavior Code for Bus Riders" with students and to be sure each student and his/her parents receive a copy of the code.
- 6. It is the parents' responsibility to discuss with their child(ren) the provisions of the "Safety and Behavior Code for Bus Riders" and to support the bus drivers and the school principals.
- 7. Parents must assume responsibility for the behavior of their children while riding the bus. If permission to ride the bus is revoked, the parent must provide transportation to and from school for the child(ren) until such time as reinstatement may be made.
- 8. It is not the responsibility of the school district to provide bus transportation to students who live within two miles of the school, unless there is a hazard that students must cross.
- 9. When roads are impassable to the buses, it is the responsibility of the parents to see that their child(ren) arrive(s) at school on time.

BUS DISCIPLINE NOTICE

Student's Name		Date
Campus	s	Principal
		has taken place. Form must be signed and returned to
the	driver the following morning in order f	or the student to ride bus. It suspension of bus riding privileges for five (5) days
_		he student will be allowed to ride the bus.
☐ the	Third Note: Suspension from bus ridii bus only if proper corrective measures	ng privileges for three (3) weeks. Student(s) may rid have been worked out.
	Fourth Note: Permanent suspension.	
Comme	ents:	
Driver's	s Signature	Bus No.
Parent's	s Signature	Telephone No.
ACTIC	ON TAKEN:	
Principa	al's Signature	Date

PROCEDURES

Bus Drivers:

- 1. Complete form **only** if a student needs disciplinary action.
- 2. Sign and date report.
- 3. Turn in to the Transportation Director on the day of the incident.

Transportation Director:

- 1. If "Destroying School Property" is checked, write in the cost of repair.
- 2. Turn in to Business Manager immediately.

Business Manager:

- 1. Make a photocopy of the report.
- 2. Call the campus principal and send the original form.

Campus Principal:

- 1. Take care of necessary disciplinary action in a timely manner.
- 2. Briefly describe action taken.
- 3. Attach payment if "Destroying School Property" is checked.
- 4. Sign and date form.
- 5. Make a photocopy of the form for records.
- 6. Send original to Business Manager.

A reminder to the parents of a child who has been disciplined and has lost his/her privileges. The parent must assume responsibility for the behavior of their children while riding the bus and must provide transportation to and from school for the child(ren) until such time as reinstatement may be made. If a parent repeatedly does not fulfill their responsibilities, be it bringing the child to school or picking the child up after school, the proper authorities may be contacted. (Law enforcement for violations of the Compulsory Attendance Law and/or truancy, and Child Protective Services for neglect.)

BISHOP CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT DRESS AND GROOMING CODE

The District's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for authority. Students should be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat and that will not be a health or safety hazard to themselves or others.

The District prohibits any clothing or grooming that in the principal's and/or designee(s) judgement may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operations. The District prohibits pictures, emblems, or writings that are lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene or that advertise or depict tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, and drugs, or any other substance prohibited under policy FNCF(L) or any recognizable symbol of gang, satanic, or any other cult affiliation. The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided they comply with these general guidelines and the District's dress code for students in the student handbook.

If it is determined that a student's grooming violates the dress code, the student shall be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student shall be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day or until the problem is corrected. A student whose clothing violates the dress code may be assigned to in-school suspension either for the remainder of the day or until allowed to wear appropriate clothes that the school may possibly have. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action. Appropriate discipline procedures shall be followed in all cases.

The principal, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of extracurricular activity, may regulate (more stringent) the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity. Students who violate these standards may be removed or excluded from the activity for a period determined by the principal or sponsor and may be subject to other disciplinary action.

PETRONILA ELEMENTARY STUDENT DRESS CODE 2023-2024

- 1. Any apparel or unusual accessory that school officials have reasons to believe would disrupt normal school activities is unacceptable. Cleanliness, neatness, and good taste are standards of appropriate dress.
- 2. Navy, red, green, gold, or white polo shirts without emblems or designs may be worn. In winter season, long-sleeve polo shirts may be worn. School spirit shirts may be worn on Thursdays and Fridays only, unless notified otherwise. Shirt lengths that extend below fingertips when arms are extended to the floor, must be tucked inside of pants.
- 3. Undershirts must be solid in color and must not be visible below the hemline of the polo shirt. Undershirts may be long-sleeve or short-sleeve and may be worn under either long-sleeve or short-sleeve polo shirts.
- 4. Blue jean, navy, or khaki (beige-cream colored khaki) loose fitting neat in appearance walking shorts, dresses, jumpers, skirts, and skorts, no shorter than 3 inches above the kneecap, may be worn. Shorts must be worn under dresses, jumpers, and skirts at all times. Solid colored leggings may be worn with skorts/skirts or shorts. Cut-off jean shorts, jersey material, basketball or wind shorts are not permitted. Blue jean, navy or khaki style pants may be worn. (No cut offs, fringed, torn or holes in jeans, pants, shorts are allowed). Pants that have emblems, logos, sequencing, or stitched designs are limited to the pockets only.
- 5. Only blue jean, navy, or Khaki style pants or capri pants may be worn. Pants must be standard-fit. Cut offs, fringed jeans, frayed hems, holes, torn, baggy or over-sized pants/shorts are not acceptable. Pants/shorts are to be worn at the waist.
- 6. Belts shall be worn with trousers designed for belts. Belts or chains hanging from the waist are not permitted.
- 7. Boy's hair should not extend below the top of the collar of a regular shirt when the head is tilted forward to a point where the chin rests on the chest, nor should the hair extend below the ear lobes or eyebrows. Hair should be clean, combed, and neatly trimmed. Sideburns should not be worn lower than a point one-half inch below the bottom of the ear lobe and shall be kept neatly trimmed.
- 8. Unusual hairstyles, such as, but not limited to, "rat tails", unnatural hair coloring (pink, green, etc.), initials, words, or designs cut into the hair will not be permitted. Hair curlers and makeup will not be permitted, except for plays or programs. No visible tattoos are allowed.
- 9. Mustaches, beards, or goatees shall not be permitted.
- 10. For safety reasons, shoes are to be worn at all times and laces must not touch the walking surface. Backless shoes, such as flip-flops or beach sandals, are not permitted. Platform shoes and/or heels are not permitted. Hidden-wheel style shoes are not permitted.
- 11. No bandanas, sweatbands, or leg bands shall be worn unless approved by the principal.

- 12. Caps, hats, and beanies may be worn outside only during P.E., recess, etc. They must be put away while in the school building and in class.
- 13. For safety reasons, big loops or long earnings are not permitted.
- 14. No clothing, backpacks, or other items brought to school shall have emblems with skulls, blood, depiction of violence, or suggestions of sex and/or violence, or advertising the sale of prohibited substances (e.g., tobacco, alcohol, drugs).
- 15. Wigs, tattoos, fake and/or press-on nails are not permitted.
- 16. On free dress days, shirts and blouses shall be buttoned, except at the collar. Shirts with tails must be worn tucked inside the trousers if designed to be so worn. The length of any shirt cannot be longer than the tips of the fingers.
- 17. On Free-Dress Days, tight-fitting clothes, such as leggings, workout pants/shorts, muscle shirts, tank tops, and t-shirts designed for wear as an undergarment are prohibited. Dresses, blouses, shirts, or other tops similar to sundresses that have back, front, and/or midriff exposure are not to be worn to school. Platform shoes and/or heels are not permitted. Modest attire shall be worn to school at all times. (Look at the bottom for rules regarding Free Dress)

<u>Designated Attire:</u>

Monday: College T-shirt Day

Tuesday/Wednesday: Navy, Gold, Red, White, Green Polo Shirts (These polo shirts

may

be worn all week.)

Thursday/Friday: School Spirit Days (Badger and/or Petronila School Spirit Shirts)

Spirit Shirts may also be worn on field trips unless stated differently on their permission slips.

In an effort to raise our attendance, students will have the opportunity to have Free Dress on Fridays. Students that are in attendance every day from Monday-Thursday will be allowed to have Free Dress on Fridays. Students cannot have any tardies during the week in order to be eligible for Free Dress Friday, unless they have a doctor's appointment and bring in a doctor's excuse.

The student's attire must still follow the school dress code for appropriateness. For example, length of shorts/dresses, no tank tops, no torn jeans/pants/shorts, and leggings may only be worn underneath shorts or dresses.

*** This dress code also applies to "Free Dress Days", such as Picture Day and holidays. ***

Note: The administration reserves the right to make the final decision relative to the appropriate dress.

NOTIFICATION OF PESTICIDE APPLICATION

Petronila Elementary School periodically applies pesticides.

Information concerning these applications may be obtained from Rick Gutierrez, Principal, at 387-2834

RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, as passed by the United States Congress, provides that the properly qualified individual can have access to a student's school records. The law provides the parent, legal guardian, other properly qualified person, or the "eligible students" (one who has reached the age of 18 or is attending an institution of post-secondary education) certain rights relative to his school records. Only material pertaining to the individual student concerned may be inspected. Access to the educational record of a student shall, upon request by the properly qualified individual, be granted within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 45 days. This law does not apply to records made and kept by one person, such as a counselor, teacher, or other staff member, which are not shared with any other person.

Upon request, the parent of a student shall be provided an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of the student's educational record. The hearing will ensure that the records are not inaccurate or misleading, provide the opportunity to correct or delete inaccurate, misleading, or inappropriate data contained in the records, and insert into the records a written explanation by the parent regarding the content of the records

Written consent must be obtained from the student's parent in order for personally identifiable information in educational records to be released to any agency other than those listed. Such information may also be released in compliance with a judicial order or subpoena.

A record is to be maintained of individuals (other than local school officials) or agencies that have requested or obtained access to a student's records. Personally identifiable information from the student's record, including directory information, may be released without permission to the following:

- 1. School officials, including teachers who have a legitimate educational interest;
- 2. Personnel involved with a student's application for or receipt of financial aid;
- 3. Parents of dependent student;
- 4. Officials of other schools or school systems in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, upon condition that the student's parents be notified of the transfer and the rights granted under the law;
- 5. Authorized representatives of certain agencies who require access to student records in connection with the audit and evaluation or enforcement of legal requirements that relate to federally-supported programs;
- 6. State and local officials to whom such information is required;
- 7. Organizations conducted studies for educational agencies for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering test or student aid programs, and for improving instruction;
- 8. Accrediting organizations that require information for purposes of accreditation;
- 9. Appropriate persons who, in an emergency, must have such information in order to protect the health and safety of the student or other persons.

A school may release without parent's consent the following directory information: student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of member of athletic teams, dates of attendance, awards received, and the most recent school attended by the students.

The school shall give notice of the categories of information designated as directory information. Parents are allowed a reasonable period of time to inform the district that nay or all of the directory information may not be released without the parent's prior consent.

NON-DISCRIMINATING POLICY

The Bishop Consolidated Independent School district functions under a policy of non-discriminating for reasons of race, creed, sex, or national origin. Furthermore, the Superintendent of Schools shall be designated as the person responsible for enforcing this policy and receiving complaints arising from any suspected non-compliance.

Persons making complaints of discrimination should start them at the first level--the teacher. If the complaint is not settled at this first level, it should then be channeled to the principal, then to the Superintendent and finally to the School Board. All appeals to the Superintendent should be in writing, fully detailing the alleged discriminating act or actions. Appeals to the School Board should also be in writing. Such appeals shall be heard by the School Board within fourteen (14) days. The decision of the School Board shall be final.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

English as a Second Language (ESL)/Bilingual Education

The sole purpose of the ESL in the Bishop CISD is to enable students of limited English proficiency to become competent in speaking, reading, writing, and comprehending the English language.

Special Education/Resource/Speech Therapy

Consideration of a student's need for special education help or speech therapy is initiated by the teacher through the referral process. Whenever a teacher requests a student be tested for special education classes, that teacher does so for the sole benefit of the student. Referral can, however, be made by the parent, physician, community agency, school personnel, or as a result of any district-wide testing or screening program, which the school district provides for all students. A speech therapist comes twice a week to instruct students with a need for speech services.

Gifted and Talented

Students new to the school district will be considered for participation in the District's Gifted and Talented program.

Options and Requirements For Providing Assistance to Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need or May Need Special Education

If a child is experiencing learning difficulties, the parent may contact the person listed below to learn about the district's overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including referral for a special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular classroom should be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other support services that are available to all students.

At any time, a parent is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services. Within a reasonable amount of time, the district must decide if the evaluation is needed. If evaluation is needed, the parent will be notified and asked to provide consent for the evaluation. The district must complete the evaluation and the report within 60 calendar days of the date the district receives the written consent. The district must give a copy of the report to the parent.

If the district determines that the evaluation is not needed, the district will provide the parent with a written notice that explains why the child will not be evaluated. This written notice will include a statement that informs the parent of their rights if they disagree with the district. Additionally, the notice must inform the parent how to obtain a copy of the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards - Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities*.

The designated person to contact regarding options for a child experiencing learning difficulties or a referral for evaluation for special education is:

Contact Person: Jessica Gaona

Phone Number: 361-584-3591 ext. 237

Opciones y requisitos para proporcionar ayuda a los estudiantes que tienen dificultades en el aprendizaje o que necesitan o pueden necesitar educación especial

Si un niño está experimentando dificultades en el aprendizaje, el padre puede comunicarse con la persona mencionada más abajo para enterarse sobre el sistema de estudios de diagnóstico y de recomendación de la educación general del distrito para los servicios de apoyo. Este sistema conecta a los estudiantes con una variedad de opciones de apoyo, incluyendo la recomendación para una evaluación para educación especial. Los estudiantes que tienen dificultades en el aula normal deberán ser considerados para tutoría, servicios compensatorios y otros servicios de apoyo disponibles para todos los estudiantes.

En cualquier momento, un padre tiene derecho a solicitar una evaluación para los servicios de educación especial. Dentro de un período de tiempo razonable, el distrito debe decidir si la evaluación es necesaria. Si la evaluación es necesaria, el padre será notificado y se le pedirá que dé consentimiento para la evaluación. El distrito debe completar la evaluación y el informe dentro de los 60 días de calendario desde la fecha en que el distrito reciba el consentimiento por escrito. El distrito debe darle una copia del informe al padre.

Si el distrito determina que la evaluación no es necesaria, el distrito proporcionará al padre una notificación por escrito que explica el motivo por el cual el niño no será evaluado. Esta notificación por escrito incluirá información que le explica al padre los derechos que tiene si no está de acuerdo con el distrito. Además, la notificación debe informar al padre la manera de obtener una copia de la *Notificación de las Salvaguardas del Procedimiento – Derecho de los Padres de Estudiantes con Discapacidades*.

La persona designada con quien puede comunicarse en relación a las opciones que tiene un niño que experimenta dificultades en el aprendizaje o para una recomendación para la evaluación para educación especial es:

Nombre de la persona:_	Jessica Gaona	
•		
Número de teléfono:	361-584-3591	ext 237

Aiding Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need Special Education or Section 504 Services

For those students who are having difficulty in the regular classroom, all school districts and open enrollment charter schools must consider tutorial, compensatory, and other academic or behavior support services that are available to all students, including a process based on Response to Intervention (RtI). The implementation of RtI has the potential to have a positive impact on the ability of districts and charter schools to meet the needs of all struggling students.

If a student is experiencing learning difficulties, his or her parent may contact the individual(s) listed below to learn about the school's overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including making a referral for a special education evaluation or for a Section 504 evaluation to determine if the student needs specific aids, accommodations, or services. A parent may request an evaluation for special education or Section 504 services at any time.

Special Education Referrals:

If a parent makes a written request for an initial evaluation for special education services to the director of special education services or an administrative employee of the school district or open enrollment charter school, the district or charter school must respond no later than 15 school days after receiving the request. At that time, the district or charter school must give the parent a prior written notice of whether it agrees to or refuses to evaluate the student, along with a copy of the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards*. If the school district or charter school agrees to evaluate the student, it must also give the parent the opportunity to give written consent for the evaluation.

Please note that a request for a special education evaluation may be made verbally and does not need to be in writing. Districts and charter schools must still comply with all federal prior written notice and procedural safeguard requirements and the requirements for identifying, locating, and evaluating children who are suspected of being a child with a disability and in need of special education. However, a verbal request does not require the district or charter school to respond within the 15-school-day timeline.

If the district or charter school decides to evaluate the student, it must complete the student's initial evaluation and evaluation report no later than 45 school days from the day it receives a parent's written consent to evaluate the student. However, if the student is absent from school during the evaluation period for three or more school days, the evaluation period will be extended by the number of school days equal to the number of school days that the student is absent.

There is an exception to the 45-school-day timeline. If a district or charter school receives a parent's consent for the initial evaluation at least 35 but less than 45 school days before the last instructional day of the school year, it must complete the written report and provide a copy of the report to the parent by June 30 of that year. However, if the student is absent from school for three or more days during the evaluation period, the June 30th due date no longer applies. Instead, the general timeline of 45 school days plus extensions for absences of three or more days will apply.

Upon completing the evaluation, the district or charter school must give the parent a copy of the evaluation report at no cost.

Additional information regarding special education is available from the district or charter school in a

companion document titled Parent's Guide to the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Process.

Contact Person for Special Education Referrals:

The designated person to contact regarding options for a student experiencing learning difficulties or regarding a referral for evaluation for special education services is:

Contact Person: Rick Gutierrez

Phone Number: 361-387-2834

Section 504 Referrals:

Each school district or charter school must have standards and procedures in place for the evaluation and placement of students in the district's or charter school's Section 504 program. Districts and charter schools must also implement a system of procedural safeguards that includes notice, an opportunity for a parent or guardian to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with an opportunity for participation by the parent or guardian and representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

Contact Person for Section 504 Referrals:

The designated person to contact regarding options for a student experiencing learning difficulties or regarding a referral for evaluation for Section 504 services is:

Contact Person: Sarah Chumbley

Phone Number: 361-387-2834

Additional Information:

The following websites provide information and resources for students with disabilities and their families.

- Legal Framework for the Child-Centered Special Education Process
- Partners Resource Network
- Special Education Information Center
- <u>Texas Project First</u>

Cómo ayudar a aquellos estudiantes que tienen dificultades de aprendizaje o precisan servicios de educación especial o de la Sección 504

Para aquellos estudiantes que tienen dificultades en el salón de clases normal, todos los distritos escolares y las escuelas autónomas de inscripción abierta deben contemplar servicios de tutoría y compensatorios, y otros servicios de apoyo académico o conductual que estén disponibles para todos los estudiantes, incluido un proceso basado en la Respuesta a la Intervención (RtI). La implementación de la RtI tiene el potencial de impactar positivamente en la capacidad de los distritos y escuelas autónomas de satisfacer las necesidades de todos los estudiantes con problemas.

Si un estudiante está experimentando dificultades de aprendizaje, sus padres pueden comunicarse con la(s) persona(s) mencionada(s) más abajo para obtener información sobre el sistema general de remisión o control de la educación general de la escuela para los servicios de apoyo. Dicho sistema vincula a los estudiantes con una variedad de opciones de apoyo, entre las que se encuentra la remisión para que se realice una evaluación de educación especial o una evaluación de la Sección 504 con el fin de determinar si el estudiante necesita asistencia, adaptaciones o servicios específicos. Los padres pueden pedir una evaluación para los servicios de educación especial o de la Sección 504 en cualquier momento.

Remisiones de educación especial:

Si los padres solicitan, por escrito, al director de servicios de educación especial o a un empleado administrativo del distrito escolar o de la escuela autónoma de inscripción abierta que se realice una evaluación inicial para recibir servicios de educación especial, el distrito o la escuela autónoma deben responder dentro de los 15 días lectivos después de haber recibido la solicitud. En ese momento, el distrito o la escuela autónoma deben entregar a los padres notificación previa por escrito respecto de si están de acuerdo o no en evaluar al estudiante, además de enviarles una copia de la *Notificación de salvaguardas procesales*. Si el distrito escolar o la escuela autónoma están de acuerdo en evaluar al estudiante, también deben darles a los padres la oportunidad de prestar su consentimiento por escrito para la evaluación.

Por favor tenga en cuenta que una solicitud para una evaluación de educación especial puede hacerse verbalmente y no necesita hacerse por escrito. Los distritos y escuelas "chárter" deben seguir cumpliendo con todas las notificaciones previas por escrito y los requisitos sobre las salvaguardas procesales de la ley federal para identificar, localizar y evaluar a los niños que se intuya puedan ser niños con alguna discapacidad y que necesite educación especial. Sin embargo, una petición verbal no requiere que el distrito o la escuela "chárter" respondan dentro del periodo establecido de los 15 días escolares.

Si el distrito o la escuela autónoma deciden evaluar al estudiante, deben completar la evaluación inicial y el informe de la evaluación dentro de los 45 días lectivos posteriores al día en que reciba el consentimiento por escrito de los padres para evaluar al estudiante. Sin embargo, si el estudiante se ausenta de la escuela por tres días lectivos o más durante el período de evaluación, dicho período se extenderá la misma cantidad de días lectivos que el estudiante hava faltado.

Existe una excepción al plazo de 45 días lectivos. Si un distrito o una escuela autónoma reciben el consentimiento de los padres para la evaluación inicial entre los 35 y 45 días lectivos previos al último día de clases del año, deben completar el informe escrito y proporcionarles

una copia del mismo a los padres, a más tardar, el 30 de junio de dicho año. No obstante, si el estudiante falta a la escuela tres días o más durante el período de evaluación, no se aplica la fecha límite del 30 de junio, sino que se aplica el plazo general de 45 días lectivos más prórrogas por ausencias de tres días o más.

Al completar la evaluación, el distrito o la escuela autónoma deben proporcionar a los padres una copia del informe de evaluación en forma gratuita.

Hay disponible información adicional sobre educación especial del distrito o la escuela autónoma en el documento complementario titulado *Guía para padres sobre el proceso de admisión, revisión y retiro*.

Persona de contacto para las remisiones de educación especial:

La persona designada para contactar en relación con las opciones para un estudiante que experimente dificultades de aprendizaje o en relación con una remisión a evaluación para recibir servicios de educación especial es:

Persona de contacto: Rick Gutierrez

Número de teléfono: 361-387-2834

Remisiones de la Sección 504:

Cada distrito escolar o escuela autónoma debe tener estándares y procedimientos en vigor para la evaluación y colocación de estudiantes en el programa de la Sección 504 del distrito o la escuela autónoma. Además, los distritos y las escuelas autónoma deben implementar un sistema de salvaguardas procesales que incluya una notificación, una oportunidad para que los padres o tutores examinen los registros relevantes, una audiencia imparcial en la que puedan participar los padres o tutores y en la que haya representación por parte de un abogado, y un procedimiento de revisión.

Persona de contacto para las remisiones de la Sección 504:

La persona designada para contactar en relación con las opciones para un estudiante que experimente dificultades de aprendizaje o en relación con una remisión a evaluación para recibir servicios de la Sección 504 es:

Persona de contacto: Sarah Chumbley

Número de teléfono: 361-387-2834

Información adicional:

Los siguientes sitios web ofrecen información y recursos para los estudiantes con discapacidades y sus familias.

- Marco legal del proceso de educación especial centrado en el niño
- Red de colaboradores y recursos
- Centro de Información de Educación Especial
- Texas Project First

SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

The following is a guide of immunizations by age:

- 1. Children 5 years of age and over:
 - Polio: 4 doses, unless third dose administered on or after the 4th birthday. a.
 - DTP/DTap: 5 doses unless 4th dose administered on or after 4th birthday. b.
 - Tdap Booster: grade 7 must be within last 5 years c.
 - MMR: 2 doses for kinder d.
 - Measles: 2 doses grades 1-12 e.
 - Rubella: one dose grades 1-12 f.
 - Mump: one dose grades 1-12 g.
 - Hepatitis B: 3 doses, grades PK-12 h.
 - Hepatitis A: 2 doses for children in Nueces County born after 9/2/92 in grades K-3. i.
 - Varicella: 1 dose, grades 1-6 and 8-12
 - j. k. Varicella: 2 doses, kinder and grade 7
 - 1. Meningococcal: grade 7

HEALTH

The nurses and other staff of Bishop CISD want each student to have an equal opportunity in the classroom. **Healthy students learn better.** The State of Texas requires certain screenings, immunizations, and exclusions from school. The State also mandates that schools inform parents of certain diseases and their characteristics. The following information describes the health procedures in Bishop CISD.

ASTHMA MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL

A student with asthma is entitled to possess and self-administer prescription asthma medication while on school property or at a school-related event or activity, if:

- 1. The prescription asthma medication has been prescribed for the student as indicated by the prescription label on the medicine;
- 2. The self-administration is done in compliance with the prescription or written instructions from the student's physician or other health care provider; and
- 3. A parent of the student provides to the school:
 - 1) A written authorization signed by the parent for the student to self-administer prescription asthma medicine while on school property, or at a school-related event or activity, and
 - 2) A written statement from the student's physician or other licensed health care provider that states:
 - A. That the student has asthma and is capable of self-administering the prescription asthma medicine.
 - B. The name and purpose of the medication.
 - C. The prescribed dosage for the medicine.
 - D. The times at which or circumstances under which the medicine may be administered.
 - E. The period for which the medicine is prescribed.

The school nurse must keep the physician's statement on file at the school that the student attends.

***We need an Asthma Action Plan from your Dr. when you bring his/her inhaler to school.

These forms are available in the office of each school nurse.

DIABETES

In accordance with a student's individual health plan for management of diabetes, a student with diabetes will be permitted to possess and use monitoring and treatment supplies and equipment while at school or at a school-related activity. See the school nurse or principal for information. (*House Bill 984*)

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

To protect others from contagious illnesses, students with certain diseases are not permitted to attend school while contagious. Parents of a student with a communicable or contagious disease should contact the school nurse or

principal so that other students who have been exposed to the disease can be alerted. These include: Amebiasis, Campylobacteriosis, Chicken Pox (varicella), common cold with fever, Fifth disease, Gastroenteritis (viral), Giardiasis, Head Lice (Pediculosis), Hepatitis (Viral A), Impetigo, Infectious mononucleosis, Influenza, Measles (Rubeola), Meningitis (Bacterial), Mumps, Conjunctivitis (Pinkeye), Ringworm of the scalp, Rubella (German Measles) including congenital, Salmonellosis (including typhoid fever), Scabies, Shigellosis, Streptococcal disease (invasive), tuberculosis, and Whooping Cough (Pertussis).

FEVER AT SCHOOL

If a student should develop a fever of **99.6** or greater while at school, it is imperative that parents pick up their child promptly after they are contacted. This will prevent other students and staff from contracting diseases/conditions.

Students should remain fever free (without medication) for 24 hours before returning to school. A student should not be medicated for nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea and then sent to school.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

The school must have a completed copy of the EMERGENCY INFORMATION AND PROCEDURE form on file for each student. The form lists the name of the family physician, any allergies, and emergency telephone numbers. Parents should update information on this form as necessary.

A student who must take prescription medication during the school day must bring a written request from his/her parent and the medicine, in its *original* container, properly labeled with the student's name. A Parent Permission to Administer Medication form can be obtained from the school office.

The written request must be dated and signed by the parent and include:

- 1) The student's name
- 2) The name of the medicine
- 3) The time the medicine is to be administered
- 4) The amount of the medication to be administered at each designated time
- 5) The number of days the medication is to be administered

Office personnel will either give the medicine at the proper times or give the student permission to take the medication as directed.

SCREENINGS

The following screenings are completed annually in the designated grades:

Screening	Č	Č	•		Grades
Vision				PK, K,	1, 3, 5, 7
Hearing				PK, K,	1, 3, 5, 7
Height & W	eight			PK-5	
Scoliosis (ev	aluation o	of back)		6, 9	

Acanthosis (determines insulin intolerance) 1, 3, 5

A parent or student who has questions about any screening or who wants to request a screening should contact the school nurse. As a result of the screenings, some students may be referred to a physician. The parent should follow up on the referral and return the referral form to the school after the visit with the physician.

BACTERIAL MENINGITIS

What is meningitis?

Meningitis is an inflammation of the covering of the brain and spinal cord---also called the menines. Meningitis can be caused by viruses, parasites, fungi, and bacteria. Viral (aseptic) meningitis is common; most people recover fully. Medical management of viral meningitis consists of supportive treatment and there is usually no indication for the use of antibiotics. Parasitic and fungal meningitis are very rare. Bacterial meningitis is very serious and may involve complicated medical, surgical, pharmaceutical, and life support management.

There are two common types of bacteria that cause meningitis: *Strep pneumoniae* causes pneumococcal meningitis; there are over 80 subtypes that cause illness. *Neisseria meningitidis* causes meningococcal meningitis; there are 5 subtypes that cause serious illness—A, B, C, Y, W-135.

What are the symptoms?

Someone with meningitis will become very ill. The illness may develop over one or two days, but it can also rapidly progress in a matter of hours. Not everyone with meningitis will have the same symptoms, but any of the following are possible. Children (over 1 year old) and adults with meningitis may have:

- Severe headache
- High temperature
- Vomiting
- Sensitivity to bright lights
- Neck stiffness, joint pains
- Drowsiness or confusion

*In both children and adults, there may be a rash of tiny, red-purple spots or bruises caused by bleeding under the skin. These can occur anywhere on the body. They are a sign of blood poisoning (septicemia), which sometimes happens with meningitis, particularly the meningococcal strain.

What is the risk of getting bacterial meningitis?

The risk of getting bacterial meningitis in all age groups is about 2.4 cases per 100,000 population per year. However, the highest risk group for the most serious form of the disease, meningococcal meningitis, is highest among children 2 to 18 years old.

How serious is bacterial meningitis?

If it is diagnosed early and treated promptly, the majority of people make a complete recovery. In some cases it can be fatal or a person may be left with a permanent disability, such as deafness, blindness, amputations or brain damage (resulting in mental retardation or paralysis) even with prompt treatment.

How is bacterial meningitis spread?

Fortunately, none of the bacteria that cause meningitis are as contagious as diseases like the common cold or the flu, and they are not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with meningitis has been. The germs live naturally in the back of our noses and throats, but they do not live for long outside the body. They are spread when people exchange saliva (such as by kissing; sharing drinking containers, utensils, or cigarettes). The germ **does not** cause meningitis in most people. Instead, most people become **carriers** of the germ for days, weeks, or even months. Being a carrier helps to stimulate the body's natural defense system. The bacteria rarely overcomes the body's immune system and causes meningitis or another serious illness.

How can bacterial meningitis be prevented?

Do not share food, drinks, utensils, toothbrushes, or cigarettes. Limit the number of persons you kiss. Vaccines against pneumococcal disease are recommended both for young children and adults over 64. A vaccine against four meningococcal serogroups (A, C, Y, W-135) is available. These four

groups cause the majority of meningococcal cases in the United States. This vaccine is recommended by some groups for college students, particularly freshmen living in dorms or residence halls. The vaccine is safe and effective (85-90%). It can cause mild side effects, such as redness and pain at the injection site lasting up to two days. Immunity develops within 7 to 10 days after the vaccine is given and lasts for up to 5 years.

What should you do if you think you or a friend might have bacterial meningitis? Seek prompt medical attention.

How is bacterial meningitis diagnosed?

The diagnosis is usually based on a combination of clinical symptoms and laboratory results from spinal fluid and blood. Spinal fluid is obtained by a lumbar puncture (spinal tap).

For more information

Your school nurse, family doctor, and the staff at your local or regional health department office are excellent sources for information on all communicable diseases. You may also call your local health department or Regional Texas Department of Health office to ask about the meningococcal vaccine. Additional information may also be found at the web sites for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov and the Texas Department of Health: www.tdh.state.tx.us.

REYE'S SYNDROME

What is Reye syndrome?

Reye syndrome is a severe illness of unknown cause that affects all organs in the body, particularly the brain and liver.

What are the symptoms of Reye syndrome?

Typically, Reye syndrome occurs when a person is beginning to recover from a viral illness. Symptoms include nausea, vomiting, lethargy, and indifference. The child may exhibit irrational behavior, delirium, aggressiveness, or rapid breathing. Fever is not usually present. The course and severity of the illness vary. Reye syndrome can be mild and self-limited, or it can progress rapidly, causing death within hours of onset, usually from brain swelling. The progression may also stop at any stage.

How do people get Reye syndrome?

Although the exact cause of this illness remains unknown, research has shown that taking aspirin and other related medications after a viral illness, such as chickenpox, flu, or other respiratory tract illness, significantly increases the chance of Reye syndrome. However, aspirin and aspirin-containing medications do **not** have to be ingested to bring on Reye syndrome.

How common is Reye syndrome?

Reye syndrome is rare. Since 1994, two or fewer cases per year are reported in the U.S. There has been a dramatic decline in cases since the 1980s, when health experts began educating parents about the use of aspirin and aspirin-containing products for the treatment of chickenpox and other flu-like illnesses.

Reye syndrome cases occur throughout the year, but are more frequent when viral diseases are epidemic, such as the winter months, or following an outbreak of chickenpox or influenza.

Who should be especially careful about Reve syndrome? Who is likely to get Reve syndrome?

Reye's syndrome has been found to affect people of all ages; however, more than 90 percent of those affected are under age 15.

How do I protect myself from Reye syndrome?

Reye syndrome is not contagious.

How do I protect others from Reye syndrome?

Aspirin and aspirin-containing products should not be used for treatment of viral illnesses. Do not give aspirin to children under 12 years except on medical advice and avoid it in children aged up to and including 15 years if feverish. Read labels carefully. Some medication labels may use the words acetylsalicylate, acetylsalicylic acid, salicylsalicylic, salicylamide, phenyl salicylate, etc., instead of the word aspirin.

What if I think my child has Reye syndrome?

Immediate medical attention is vital. Statistics indicate an excellent chance of recovery when Reye syndrome is diagnosed and treated in its earliest stages.

How is Reye syndrome diagnosed?

Diagnosis is done based on medical symptoms rather than laboratory results. Reyes syndrome can be misdiagnosed as encephalitis, meningitis, diabetes, drug overdose, poisoning, Sudden Infant Death, or psychiatric illness.

How is Reye syndrome treated?

There is no cure for this disease. Successful management, which depends on early diagnosis, is primarily aimed at protecting the brain against irreversible damage by reducing brain swelling, and at preventing complications. Glucose and electrolyte solutions may be given to correct blood chemistry levels. A ventilator sometimes is needed to help with breathing.

Should I worry about Reve syndrome when I travel out of the country?

Since Reye syndrome is not contagious, no additional precautions are needed while traveling.

(Information obtained from Texas Department of State Health Services - Infectious Disease Control Unit http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/reye/faqs . Last Update: Saturday, October 01, 2005.

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School Board Approved 5.16.2023

Bishop CISD 2023-2024 Official District Calendar

First Day of School - August 28, 2023
Last Day of School - May 23, 2024
Total Instruction Days - 160 days
First Semester - 76 days
1st nine wks - 38 days
2nd nine wks - 38 days
Second Semester - 84 days
3rd nine wks - 40 days
4th nine wks - 44 days

STAAR Testing

Dec 5 - 15 STAAR English I & English II

Dec 5 - 15 STAAR Alg 1 & Biology & US History

Apr 9-19 STAAR 3-8 Reading Language Arts

Apr 9-19 STAAR English I & English II

Apr 16 -26 STAAR 8 Social Studies

Apr 16-26 STAAR 5 & 8 Science

Apr 16-26 STAAR Biology & US History

Apr 23 - May 3 STAAR 3-8 Mathematics

Apr 23 - May 3 STAAR Algebra I

June 18 - 28 STAAR English I & English II

June 18 - 28 STAAR Alg 1 & Biology & US History

Operational Minutes

Petronila Elementary - 76,800 minutes Bishop Elementary & Primary - 76,800 minutes Bishop High School & Jr High - 76,800 minutes

*Two bad weather days are included in the minutes.

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