# Margaret G. Scotten School Student and Parent Handbook



*A California Distinguished School* 10820 Squirrel Creek Road Grass Valley, CA 95945 Phone: (530) 273-6472 2021 - 2022 Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2021 - 2022 school year and thank you for choosing Scotten School and the Grass Valley School District for your family. It is my privilege to join the Scotten team as your principal. The Scotten School staff is excited to be returning to a more traditional school year and is gearing up to begin an amazing year as we continue to provide academic experiences for our students that are enriching, engaging, and establish expectations about the ways we will learn together in the year ahead.

The dedicated, skilled, and caring staff of Scotten School work in partnership with you to ensure all students learn at high levels, develop strong character, and recognize and appreciate individual differences. We believe that each one of our students has abilities and talents and that when we work together, greatness will be the result.

I truly believe that we are better when we join together as partners in education. I encourage all families to be active and involved in your child's learning and also to be a supporter of our Parent Teacher Club (PTC). In addition, it is important that communication between home and school be open and effective. Please feel free to call or email us when you have any questions regarding our school.

Finally, please read this handbook carefully. It has been prepared to answer many of the questions that arise about our school. I look forward to meeting and getting to know each one of you.

Sincerely,

SPatterson

Susie Patterson, Principal spatterson@gvsd.us

#### **Grass Valley School District**

Student/Parent Calendar with Minimum Days 2021/2022 (Bell Hill/Scotten/Gilmore) July 2021 August 2021 (10 student days) September 2021 (21 student days) м т w S S WT s м s s M т F s т W Т F H PD PD October 2021 (16 student days) November 2021 (17 student days) December 2021 (13 student days) s м т w S S м т W т s s м т w т s Т F F PD H EC в н в B в в н B B в н н 24/31 B в в н н January 2022 (19 student days) March 2022 (22 student days) February 2022 (18 student days) м т w т F s s м T W т s s м w т s т PD н н н EC 23/30 24/31 April 2022 (16 student days) May 2022 (20 student days) June 2022 (8 student days) м S М м S т w т F S т w т F S S т w т F S В В в в в EC EC H School Breaks and Holidays Е Professional Development Day - No Students First Day of School - Minimum Day August 16-17th August 18th September 6th Labor Day Holiday October 18th - October 22nd November 1st November 11th Labor Day Holiday Fall Break Professional Development Day - No Students Veterans Day Holiday (Observed) Emergency Closure Day - Make Up If needed Minimum Day Thanksgiving Holiday Minimum Day November 12th November 24th November 25th & 26th 180 Student Days December 17th December 20-22nd and Dec 27-29th Minimum Day Winter Break 186 Teacher Days December 2002/nd and 1 December 23rd and 24th December 30th & 31st January 3, 2022 Christmas Holida Conferences are equivalent to 2 Teacher Days New Years Day Holiday Professional Development Day - No Students Martin Lutter King Jr. Holiday Back to School Night (5:30 - 7:00 pm) Bell Hill Academy TBD January 17, 2022 February 18 and February 21, 2022 March 21, 2022 Presidents Holiday Emergency Closure Day - Make Up If needed Spring Break - No Students TBD Scotten Lyman Gilmore April 11 - April 15, 2022 May 16, 2022 May 30, 2022 June 8 -9, 2022 June 10, 2022 Grass Valley Charter TBD Emergency Closure Day - Make Up If needed Memorial Day Holiday Open House (5:30 - 7:00 pn Bell Hill Academy Minimum Day Last Day of School / Minimum Day Emergency Closure Day - Make Up If needed TBD June 10, 2022 Scotten TBD Lyman Gilmore June 13, 2022 TBD Grass Valley Charter TBD Student Early Release / Colaboration Days: Every Wednesday - Dismissal at 1:35 p.m.

Bell Hill Academy Parent Conferences 4:00 - 7:30 p.m. Lyman Gilmore Parent Conferences 4:00 - 7:30 Scotten School Parent Conferences 4:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Board Approved 3-9-21

# **Bell Schedule**

| Regular Day   |                               | Minimum Days and<br>Every Wednesday |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 8:35          | Campus opens                  | 8:35                                |
| 9:00          | School Begins                 | 9:00                                |
| 10:20 - 10:40 | TK/Kindergarten Recess        | 10:20 - 10:40                       |
| 10:40 - 11:00 | First and Second Grade Recess | 10:40 - 11:00                       |
| 11:00 - 11:20 | Third and Fourth Grade Recess | 11:00 - 11:20                       |
| 12:30 - 1:10  | First and Second Grade Lunch  | 12:00 - 12:40                       |
| 12:55 - 1:35  | TK and Kindergarten Lunch     | 12:25 - 1:05                        |
| 1:20 - 2:00   | Third and Fourth Grade Lunch  | 12:50 - 1:30                        |
| 3:25          | Dismissal for All Grades      | 1:35                                |

# Before and After School Supervision

Playground supervision begins at 8:35 AM. You may not come to the playground before 8:35.

Children who go home on the bus are supervised until the bus picks them up. Those walking or going home by private transportation should leave directly after school. There is no supervision provided for them unless they are enrolled in the Grass Valley School District After School Program. Please contact our office if you would like more information about this program.

Students may not linger on campus while waiting for a sport or enrichment activity to start.

# PBIS at Scotten School

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is implemented to create positive school culture by teaching, focusing on, and rewarding the behaviors we want to see. We recognize and give our attention to good behaviors and good choices. School staff works tougher on prevention and interventions as opposed to only reactive discipline methods When the adults on campus focus on the positive, students do, too. PBIS strategies are geared toward developing a student's social-emotional health by creating and promoting ways for students to connect positively with school.

Scotten School and the Grass Valley School District believe that the implementation of PBIS systems and supports will increase student academic performance, increase safety, decrease problem behaviors, and establish a positive school climate. Behavioral expectations are defined, taught, and acknowledged. When students do not demonstrate positive behaviors, desired behaviors are retaughted and practiced with immediate reinforcement.

# **PBIS in action:**

Eagle of the Week

**PBIS Expectations** 

**PBIS Assemblies** 

Awards Assemblies

**Consistent Expectations** 



Scotty Cards

360 Interventions

**Student Check-ins** 

Eagle's Nest -Student Support

Scotten Sings Celebrations



The Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports approach is used internationally to enhance academic and social behavior outcomes for students. PBIS is not a packaged curriculum, scripted internevion, or manualized strategy. Instead, it is a way for schools to create an understanding of what behaviors they want to see from their school community, create the means to teach and reinforce those behaviors, and to create interventions and supports for students who do not meet those expectations.

# Scotten School has chosen SAFE, RESPECTFUL, and RESPONSIBLE to deliver our expectations.

SAFE - Taking care of self and others

**RESPECTFUL** - Kind and helpful words and actions

**RESPONSIBLE** - Doing what needs to be done

This approach to managing behaviors becomes a positive one. Students are acknowledged for exhibiting behaviors and can earn Scotty Cards from staff members. Scotty Cards can earn students incentives and fun activities. The PBIS principles are part of the Scotten School culture, and we are excited to expand and improve our program this year.

Please talk with your child about the expectations at school and the importance of being safe, respectful, and responsible.

Every child deserves a champion: an adult who will never give up on them who understands the power of connection and insists they become the best they can possibly be. ~ Rita Pierson

# The Scotten Way



# **PBIS Behavior Expectations**

|                  | Be Safe  | Be Respectful  | Be Responsible   |
|------------------|--|--|--|
| Classrooms       | Walk<br>Use supplies<br>appropriately.   | Cooperate with others.<br>Listen to the speaker.   | Complete assignments<br>and return completed<br>homework.  |
|                  | Keep hands and feet to<br>self.<br>Follow adult directions the<br>first time.  | Raise your hand.<br>Be respectful of other<br>people's property.<br>Observe personal space.                            | Stay on task and<br>participate.<br>Take care of materials.<br>Be responsible for your<br>actions.                                     |
|                  | Ask permission before leaving.   |  | Keep desk and backpack<br>organized.<br>Have necessary materials   |
|                  | Be Safe  | Be Respectful  | Be Responsible   |
| All Common Areas | Walk facing forward and to the right of the sidewalk.  | Use kind words and actions.<br>Take turns.   | Follow school rules.<br>Remind others to follow<br>school rules.   |
|                  | Keep hands, feet, and<br>objects to self.<br>Get adult help for<br>accidents and spills.<br>Use all equipment and<br>materials appropriately.<br>When it's raining, try to<br>avoid puddles. | Clean up after yourself.<br>Follow adult directions the<br>first time.<br>Be respectful of other<br>people's property. | Take proper care of all<br>personal belongings and<br>school equipment.<br>Be honest.<br>Be responsible for your<br>words and actions. |
|                  | Walk on the sidewalks.   |  |  |

|                                  | Be Safe   | Be Respectful                           | Be Responsible   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
|                                  | Keep all food to yourself.  | Only handle your own food.              | Raise your hand and wait to be excused.  |
| Multi Purpose<br>Room (MPR)      | Sit with your bottom on<br>the bench, feet on the<br>floor, and facing the table. | Be polite and use good manners.         | Get all food, utensils and<br>milk when first going                            |
| Breakfast/Lunch                  | Walk in and out of the MPR.   | Allow anyone to sit next to you.        | through the line.<br>Stay in ABC order by first<br>name in the hot lunch line. |
|                                  | Stay in your assigned area until dismissed.                                       | Use quiet voices.                       | Follow one-minute silent   |
|                                  | Take the item you touch.  | Eat your own food.                      | time before recycling.   |
|                                  |   | Open packages properly.                 |  |
|                                  | Be Safe   | Be Respectful                           | Be Responsible   |
|                                  | Walk to and from the playground.  | Play fairly and be a good sport.        | Clean up after your snack.   |
| Playground,<br>Recess, and Field | Stay within the boundaries.   | Include others.                         | Use the restroom and get drinks.   |
|                                  | Be aware of the activities  | Follow the playground rules.            | Return all play equipment to the equipment area.                               |
|                                  | and games around you.<br>What is on the ground<br>stays on the ground.            | Follow adult directions the first time. | FREEZE and drop from<br>play equipment when staff<br>blow one long whistle.    |
|                                  | Only kick balls on the  | Take turns.                             | Walk to class lines when   |
|                                  | field.  | Share equipment.                        | staff blows three short whistle blasts.  |
|                                  | Eat snack at tables between wings B and D.  | Use appropriate<br>language.            | Be a problem solver.   |
|                                  | Walk around the play<br>equipment on the blue<br>cushioned areas.                 | Keep your hands to yourself.            |  |
|                                  |   |   |  |

|               | Be Safe  | Be Respectful  | Be Responsible  |
|---------------|--|--|---|
| Passing Areas | Walk facing forward.<br>Walk on the sidewalks.<br>Walk on your right side of<br>the pathway. | Use quiet voices around<br>classrooms.<br>Use quiet feet.              | Keep hands, feet and<br>objects to self.<br>Walk directly to your<br>destination.<br>Stay in your spot when |
|               | Be aware of others and follow the flow of traffic.   |  | walking in a line.  |
|               | Be Safe  | Be Respectful  | Be Responsible  |
|               | Wash your hands.   | Knock on the stall door.   | Keep the bathroom clean.  |
| Bathrooms     | Keep water in the sink.<br>Keep feet on the floor.   | Give people privacy.<br>Use quiet voices.                              | Return to your classroom promptly.  |
|               | Put towels in the garbage can.   |  | Conserve water, paper<br>and soap.  |
|               | Be Safe  | Be Respectful  | Be Responsible  |
|               | Keep chair legs on the floor.  | Use a quiet voice.   | Return books on time.   |
| Library       | Walk in the library.<br>Keep hands, feet, and<br>objects to yourself.                        | Be kind to others.<br>Listen to the speaker.<br>Be helpful to others.  | Handle books carefully.<br>Shelve books correctly.  |
|               | Be Safe  | Be Respectful  | Be Responsible  |
| Computer Lab  | Walk in the computer lab.<br>Keep chair legs on the<br>floor.                                | Take care of computer<br>equipment.<br>Speak kindly to one<br>another. | Follow classroom<br>expectations.<br>Keep your hands and<br>eyes on your own                                |
|               |  | Listen to the speaker.   | computer.<br>Keep food and drink out of<br>the lab.   |

|                   | Be Safe   | Be Respectful                              | Be Responsible  |
|-------------------|---|--|---|
|                   | Walk in the office.   | Wait at the office counter for help.       | Turn in notes.  |
| Office            | Sit correctly and quietly in a chair.                               | Use a quiet voice.                         | Be ready to explain why you are there.                                    |
|                   |   |  |   |
|                   | Check out with an adult if leaving the office.                      | Be patient.                                | Take all of your personal<br>items with you when you<br>leave the office. |
|                   | Be Safe   | Be Respectful                              | Be Responsible  |
|                   | Walk in your bus line.  | Usea quiet voice while                     | Keep hands, feet and  |
| Bus Line          | Stay in your own bus line.  | waiting.                                   | objects to yourself.  |
| Dus Line          |   | Listen for your bus                        | Keep your backpack on   |
|                   | Sit in your bus line facing forward.                                | number.                                    | and closed.   |
|                   | Walk in a line to your bus.   | Be on time.                                | Keep your jacket on your  |
|                   |   | Follow bus expectations.                   | body or put it in your<br>backpack.                                       |
|                   | Listen and follow adult directions.                                 |  | If it is raining, line up for   |
|                   |   |  | the bus in the MPR.   |
|                   | Be Safe   | Be Respectful                              | Be Responsible  |
|                   | Remain seated.  | Use a quiet voice.                         | Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.                                 |
| Bus               | Keep all body parts inside the bus.                                 | Follow the directions from the bus driver. | Wait to get off the bus to eat.   |
|                   | Listen to the bus driver and follow directions.                     | Stay in your seat.                         | cal.  |
| Arrival Rainy Day | First through Fourth<br>graders walk into the MPR<br>until 8:45 AM. | Use a quiet voice.                         | Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.                                |
|                   | Kindergarteners are to go to the library.                           |  |   |
|                   | Walk to your classroom when dismissed.                              |  |   |

| Families Supporting PBIS   |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| Parents and guardians are the ultimate role models for children. Every word, movement, and action has an effect. No other person or outside force has a greater influence on a child than the parent Bob Keeshan |  |   |  |
| Be Safe  | Be Respectful  | Be Responsible  |  |
| Drop off & pick up students on time and in the designated areas.   | Use appropriate language and model best practices for children.  | Call the office when your student<br>is absent, late to school, or has a<br>change of plans after school. |  |
| Use the designated entrances and exits in the parking lot.   | Use expressions of gratitude with others.  | Assist your child in establishing routines by supporting homework   |  |
| Drive slowly in the parking lot,<br>follow traffic laws, including the<br>hands-free cell phone law.   | Ask for help to resolve any issues<br>or concerns in a positive manner.  | and turning in school paperwork promptly.   |  |
| Sign in at the office when coming<br>on and leaving campus during<br>school hours (9:00 AM to  | Observe the same guidelines as<br>students and follow the school<br>expectations, policies, and<br>procedures outlined in this | Read newsletters and check your child's back regularly for school information.                            |  |
| 3:25PM).<br>Keep contact information up to   | handbook<br>Keep open lines of   | Help your child keep track of their library books.  |  |
| date with the school office.   | communication with your child's teacher.   | Send your child to school ready to learn.   |  |
|  | Assume the best intent. We want the best for your child, too.  |   |  |



# **Playground Safety**

The basic expectations for playground safety are listed on the PBIS matrix, but since the playground is where most of the discipline issues arise, please take time to read this expanded version. We teach and cover this at school with the students, but we greatly appreciate family involvement and support in this very important area.

- Students need to stay on the playground areas during recesses and lunch. The bathrooms are not play areas. The areas behind the classrooms are off limits and students need to remain in the line of sight of the playground supervisors for safety.
- The playground supervisors or teachers on duty are always the first stop for when you need assistance. Students are to remain on the playground during recess and lunch unless sent to or called to the office.
- Play safely at all times without screaming, kicking, hitting, pushing, wrestling, rough housing, or play fighting.
- Use the playground equipment correctly. Jump ropes are for jumping. Soccer balls and yellow kick balls can be kicked on the field. Basketballs, red playground balls, and volleyballs are not for kicking.
- Wait in line patiently for games and for equipment. Don't waste your recess time arguing over rules and whether someone should be out or not. Use Rock-Paper-Scissors and move on. If you need help, get an adult.
- Follow the established rules of the games and if you don't know the rules, ask when you join.
- When the bell rings, put the equipment away and line up with your class.
- Always respect yourself and others. Think about how your actions will affect others. The best way to have a friend is to be a friend. Whatever energy you put out is what you will get back from others. Be kind.

### **Our Office Staff**

Our friendly and helpful office staff are ready to assist you with bus schedules, shot records, attendance – just about anything you need to know. Please drop in or give Mrs. Flinn and Mrs. Jackson a call if you have any questions.

#### Attendance

We are honored that you have chosen Scotten School for your child's education. We are dedicated to academic achievement and success for all students. In an effort to continue our dedication to academic skills and social emotional development, we need a commitment from you to send your child to school every day of the school year unless your child is ill. Please schedule family vacation or non-emergency appointments during non-school hours.

If your child is ill, please contact the school office to have the absence excused. If your child incurs absences in excess of 10% of the days enrolled for the year, you must verify the following absences with a physician note or school personnel (CA Education Code 46011). Failure to provide verification will result in the absence being recorded as unexcused.

Thank you for your support and dedication in making your child's education a priority. Together, working towards the same goals for positive attendance, we will help your child reach their full potential.

#### Tardies

If your child arrives at school after the school day begins, they are to check in at the school office <u>before</u> going to the classroom. Tardies in excess of 30 minutes on three occasions is considered as one truant day of absence for attendance reporting purposes. A truancy letter will be mailed to the home after an accumulation of 3 days of truancy. Habitual truancy or tardiness is reported to the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) for appropriate action, as required by state law. Even a few minutes late to class results in missed instruction and a disruption in their routine.

#### Absences

California state law requires parents to notify the school if their child is absent. Thank you for a phone call or a note to our office.

Make-up work is the responsibility of the student and/or parent or guardian. Work can

be picked up after the student returns to school. In the case of an extended illness, parents should contact the teacher or school office and arrange to pick up missed work when possible.

The state of California recognizes two types of absences; personal and unexcused. Personal absences are: doctor and dental appointments of students, illness of the student, attendance to a funeral, quarantine as designated by the health agency, or hospitalization. All other absences are unexcused and may result in truancy. Notification of truancy will be delivered by letter, may require conferencing, and could be referred to the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB).

#### **Early Checkout**

Students are expected to remain at school until dismissed for the day. An early check out is to be recorded similar to being late. A student will only be released to a parent, guardian, or a person designated as an authorized contact by the parent/guardian. For student safety, we will not release a student to someone unless we have a verified note or phone call from the parent or guardian and the person picking up is 18 or older. The adult picking up the student must sign the student out in the office and may need to produce identification.

# Tips to Maintain Good Attendance

- When scheduling non-emergency doctor or dental appointments, please schedule them during non-school hours. If this is not possible, please bring your child to school before or after the appointment so the whole day of school will not be missed.
- 2. To prevent illness, it helps to teach your child about washing hands, blowing his/her nose, drinking plenty of water, and getting plenty of rest.
- 3. If your child has mild cold symptoms or allergies and is fever-free and feeling fine, then he or she is welcome to be at school.
- 4. Return to school after 24 hours of antibiotics, normal temperature without the aid of medication, or stomach has settled.
- 5. If you will be out of town, please find someone who can bring your child to school or pick up your child after school. If you must take your child with you, try to delay your trip so your child can attend school for a portion of the day.
- 6. Please plan special visiting time with friends or relatives after school hours.
- If the weather conditions are unstable, tune to KNCO 830 AM or go to KCNO.com They will announce all school closures by 7:00 AM and multiple

times thereafter. Our Superintendent will also do an "all call" to your primary phone number announcing school closures.

- 8. Plan family trips during non-school days such as fall, winter, or spring breaks.
- 9. If transportation is an issue, Grass Valley School District offers free busing within the district boundaries. <u>Bus routes</u> are listed on our <u>school website</u>.

#### **Extended Absences**

If your child will be out of town for five or more school days, our teachers may create an independent study plan for your child to complete. Please give **advance notice of at least one week** to the teacher <u>and</u> office staff so plans can be made for the independent study. You and your child must sign an independent study contract prior to leaving for your trip. Completed work must be turned in to the office the same day the child returns to school. Completed work is checked and given credit for attendance and grades, based on completion of work.

# **Contact Information**

Please notify us when there is a change of address, phone number, or emergency contact information. It is critical for the school to have up-to-date information in case your child becomes ill or has an accident and also to ensure families receive important school information and School Messenger calls and emails from the school and district.

# Parking Lot

The staff, parent, and visitor parking lots are located in the front of the school. Vehicles may not park in the drive through drop-off/pick-up lanes at any time. If you need to conduct business at the school or get out of your vehicle, park your car in a designated space. If you are walking to meet your student after school, report to the grade level pick up area. Do not instruct your child to walk unattended through the parking lot to a parked car. To ensure safety, all students must be picked up in the drive through loop or accompanied by an adult through the parking lot.

# Changing Your Child's After School Plans

We understand that sometimes your child's after school plan may need to be different from the usual routine. It is necessary that you notify the teacher or the school office with a written note or phone call when there is a change. You will need to notify us if your child is being picked up by a different person after school, riding a different bus, or walking to a different home. NO STUDENT will be released to any adult without permission from the child's parent or guardian. If emergency plans need to be made, we ask that you call at least one (1) hour prior to dismissal to ensure your child gets your message.

# School Safety

It is imperative that all adults work together to keep our school campus safe for students. We ask that you keep in mind the following items:

- 1. Pick up and drop off in designated areas only.
- 2. Check in at the office before coming onto campus.
- 3. Use the Adult bathrooms located in the main office.
- 4. Do **not** bring dangerous items/objects to school

### **Medication At School**

A special Medication Form must be signed by your child's doctor and given to our secretary if any medication is to be taken at school. The form should indicate the dosage and frequency of medication to be taken. The medication must be kept in its original container and is dispensed through our office.

We are unable to dispense any medication to children without written notification from the doctor. This includes over the counter medications such as Tylenol, Advil, cough drops, application of sunscreen or lip balms (such as Chapstick). Children are not allowed to have medication in personal belongings. School personnel are not allowed to apply sunscreen to students without written parent permission.

# First Aid

When a student experiences a minor injury during school hours, the school will provide first aid. In the event of a more serious injury, parents or guardians will be notified. If the injury requires immediate attention, 911 will be called.

#### **Bus Transportation**

The bus driver has complete authority. Requests made by the driver are to be followed quickly and respectfully. Riding the school bus is a privilege. ALL school rules apply on the school bus. If the rules are not followed, a student will lose the bus privilege.

#### GVSD Bus Rules (TK - 8th Grade):

• Be Safe

Remain seated with your back to the seat and stay in your seat. Keep your seatbelt on at all times, if available on the bus. Keep all body parts inside the bus and out of the aisle. Hands and Feet to yourself. No glass or pets may be taken on the bus. No objects of any kind are to be thrown in, out of, or at the bus.

#### • Be Respectful

Use a calm quiet voice at all times. Follow all directions from the bus driver. Sit in your assigned seat. No use of profane language or obscene gestures.

#### • Be Responsible.

Keep ALL items in your backpack and your backpack closed.NO eating, drinking, or chewing gum on the bus.NO cell phone use on the bus.

When rules are broken, the student is notified and the school receives a copy of the citation from the bus driver. Action taken will be as follows:

Citation #1: a conference with the principal

Citation #2: a two-day bus suspension

Citation #3: a two-week bus suspension

Citation #4: a two-month bus suspension



Further Bus Citations could result in loss of school bus privileges for the remainder of the school year.

Serious offenses may result in immediate suspension of bus privileges.

#### **Bike Riders**

Bicycle racks are provided for all students. For safety reasons, children in Kindergarten through third grade are encouraged to ride their bikes to school with an adult. State law

requires students to wear a helmet. Students must walk their bikes on campus and stay out of the corridors and play areas at all times. Bike privileges will be taken away for a period of time for unsafe behavior.

#### Skateboards and Scooters

Skateboards and Scooters may not be ridden at any time on the school grounds. They may be stored in the office or the classroom during the school day.

#### Walkers

When sidewalks are available they should be used as the designated walking area. In the absence of a sidewalk, use established bike or walking areas along the side of the road when safe. When crossing the road use crosswalks or ask an adult for help. Follow the directions of any crossing guards when they are present.

### **Nutritional Services**

**Breakfast Program –** A nutritious breakfast is available each school day beginning on the first day of school. Breakfast typically consists of cereal and milk, cheese, muffins, juice or fruit. Breakfast is served at our mid-morning nutrition break and is free to all who order one when they arrive at their class. Menus are available <u>here</u>.

Lunch Program - A lunch served by the school is available each school day. Lunch must be ordered by 9:15 AM. Please call the office and let our secretary know when your child is late and whether or not you need to order a school lunch. If a lunch has not been ordered by 9:15 AM, then your child will need to bring a lunch to school. Lunches are handled through the Child Nutrition Program. All inquiries regarding the lunch and breakfast programs can be made by calling (530) 272-2236 or go to www.gvsd.us and link on to the child nutrition page.

**School Lunches cannot go home.** California State law does not allow any school lunch served by the Child Nutrition Program to be taken off school grounds except for field trips.

**Snacks** - Your child's teacher will let you know the classroom snack process. Children can bring food from home for their own snack. We encourage parents to provide wholesome and nutritious snacks.

Any **student food allergies** should be noted on the student's registration paperwork, should be communicated to the classroom teacher, the school nurse, and the front office. Students cannot share food at school with other students.

### Birthday Treats and Classroom Snacks to Share

For the health and safety of all students, food or treats provided to students from outside the Grass Valley School District nutritional services provisions must be individually wrapped or commercially prepared. Foods prepared at home will not be distributed to students at school.

If you would like to send a birthday treat to share with your child's class, please notify the teacher at least 24 hours in advance. Teachers need to account for student food allergies and ensure alternatives are available if necessary.

#### **Birthday Invitations**

Children may distribute birthday or other party invitations at school only when all students in the class receive an invitation. If you do not wish to invite all students in the class, then invitations must be distributed outside of school.

#### Balloons, Flowers, Etc.

Any flowers or balloons brought or sent to school for a student will be held in the office until the end of the school day. Flowers and/or balloons cannot be sent on the bus.

#### Field Trip Transportation

Any person driving on a field trip, who is transporting a child, must complete the District Sanctioned Field Trip Form in a Private Vehicles form and have district-required insurance. This form must be provided to the office one week before the field trip. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to this district policy.

#### Homework

Homework reinforces learning, develops independent study skills and promotes responsibility. Each grade level will determine the type of homework required for each student not to exceed what School Board, district policy number 6210, has approved. These are the approved guidelines for homework:

#### Kindergarten (0-10 minutes per night, up to 30 minutes/week):

Expected: Math and Sight Word study 10-minutes nightly Literature reading - 10-minutes

#### First Grade (5-10 minutes per night, 20-40 minutes/weekly):

Sight word work for 5-minutes nightly Occasional family homework projects. Literature Reading (child to parent) for 15-minutes nightly

#### Second Grade (10-20 minutes per night, 40-80 minutes weekly):

Occasional math pages as assigned by the teacher. Literature Reading (child to parent) for 15-minutes nightly

#### Third Grade (15-30 minutes per night, 1-2 hours weekly):

Homework 4 nights/weekly for 15-30 minutes Each teacher's homework configuration will support Math and ELA Literature (AR) Reading 20-25 minutes 4-5 nights/week

#### Fourth Grade (20-40 minutes per night, 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> to 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours weekly):

4 nights a week - 15-minute math review Literature Reading: 150 minutes of Accelerated Reading per week.

If your child is struggling to complete homework on a daily basis, contact your child's classroom teacher for support in managing this important school responsibility. Parents can encourage good study habits these ways:

- Reduce the amount of screen time your child has using computers or other electronic devices.
- Provide a study area without TV or computers.
- Avoid distractions, such as TV and computers, during study time.
- Set a specific time period for homework.
- Encourage and assist, but do not do the work for your child.
- Stay in touch with the teacher.
- Set positive examples and work together with your child to provide support.

#### **Report Cards**

Our schools are on a trimester system. Report cards are issued in the fall, spring and at the end of the school year. Formal parent/teacher conferences are held in the fall. You are always welcome to call and request a conference with your child's teacher at any time. Lost



textbooks or library fines must be paid before students receive their final report card.

Parents will be informed through conversations, conferences, and report cards if their student is at risk of retention. A final determination will be a combined, team decision, made with the parent or guardian.

#### Lost and Found

Scotten has a rack that is usually in front of the MPR for Lost and Found items. Lost clothing is also hung on the playground fence. Students or parents are encouraged to check for missing clothing often. It is also recommended that parents put their children's names in the clothing. All unclaimed clothing will be given to a charitable organization on a regular basis.

#### Student Success

Our school addresses the diverse needs of students in a flexible manner. Targeted academic interventions are provided based upon our students' assessed needs. This may or may not include identification for special education services.

**Student Success Team:** If you have any concerns about your child's progress – academically, socially, or emotionally, you can request a Student Success Team (SST) meeting. Teachers or administrators may also request a SST meeting. This group of resource people and the child's family work together to find different alternatives that may better meet your child's needs. Call our office at 273-6472 if you would like to arrange a SST.

#### Volunteers

Grass Valley School District recognizes that parental involvement is a vital part of a well-balanced school program and includes parental input into planning, design, implementation, and evaluation of the total school plan.

Parents and Volunteers are required to use adult bathrooms in the staffroom near the

school office. Regular parent volunteers will be required to provide proof of a TB test to the district.

A district parent involvement program has been developed which includes the following objectives (Board Policy 6054). Each school will:

- 1. Promote clear two-way communication between school and family about school programs and children's progress.
- 2. Support parents as decision makers and develop their leadership in governance, advisory, and advocacy roles.
- 3. Involve parents in instructional support roles at school.
- 4. Help parents develop parenting skills, and foster conditions at home that support their children's efforts in learning.
- 5. Provide parents with the knowledge of techniques designed to assist their children in learning at home.
- 6. Coordinate community and support services.

If you are interested in learning more about school volunteering, contact your child's teacher or the school office. Two excellent ways to participate in school are through the Parent-Teacher Club (PTC) and the School Site Council. Whenever you come to Scotten to volunteer, please check in at the office to get a pass so everyone will know you are a volunteer.

# Parent-Teacher Club (PTC)

Volunteering can also take place through your participation on our PTC. A \$5.00 membership will help provide enrichment activities for our students. We hope to have a parent representative from each classroom on the PTC this year. If you are interested in the PTC, please give us a call and we will give you the name and number of our representative.

# **School Site Council**

Another way to become involved is through our School Site Council, which includes parents and teachers as members. When we meet, parents can ask questions and give input about our school. We welcome questions about our school programs, procedures, or policies. Our first meeting will be an informational one discussing our school and activities.

# **Our School Rules**

Scotten School operates under the guidance of three expectations:

- Be Safe.
- Be Respectful.
- Be Responsible.

The Grass Valley School District has six basic school rules for all students to follow:

- Follow the Golden Rule Treat others the way you want them to treat you.
- Be Kind.
- Be Safe.
- Be Respectful of people and property.
- Be truthful and honest.
- Do your Job.

# **Dress Code**

A student's clothing, jewelry, hairstyle, make-up, and/or accessories must not disrupt or distract from the learning process, must be appropriate for school, and acceptable by community standards as determined by Scotten School Site Council and the Grass Valley School District Board of Trustees. Special clothing items should not be worn to school, as there is the potential for them to get lost, stolen, or damaged. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

- 1. Shoes must be worn at all times and should be safe and comfortable. All shoes, including sandals, need to fit around the heel (at least with a strap). Shoes with high heels, tall platforms, shoes with wheelies, or flip-flops are not allowed.
- 2. Clothes should be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times. See-through garments, mesh, strapless, off the shoulder, large arm holes, low cut, or bare midriff tops are not allowed. Swimsuits or bare back tops are not allowed. A general test for shirt length is to raise arms above the head and make sure the midriff stays covered.
- 3. Clothing must not contain obscenities, offensive phrases, vulgar, profane, mature, or suggestive language. Clothing cannot advocate or endorse raical, ethnic, or religious prejudice, or ads for drugs, tobacco, or alcohol. Expectations for jewelry and accessories are the same. The appropriateness of content on student apparel will be at the discretion of the school administration.
- 4. Shorts should come down to the end of the fingertips when the arms are held

straight down against the sides.

- 5. Makeup is not allowed at Scotten School. If students wear makeup to school, they will be asked to remove it.
- 6. Artificial nails create a safety risk and are not allowed at school.
- 7. Sunglasses may be worn to school but must be removed inside buildings.
- 8. Pants must fit so underwear is covered and unseen.
- Hats are allowed but students must be prepared to remove hats indoors if asked. Hats must follow the same guidelines for appropriate accessories (see #3). Hoods should be removed when students are indoors.
- 10. Students are not to wear jewelry that is deemed unsafe or vulgar.

#### The Following Items are Not Allowed at School:

- Toys from home including gaming or trading cards
- Electronics, technology devices, music players, gaming, or entertainment devices
- Communication devices such as phones, watch phones, Gizmos, and smart watches will be turned off and left inside a student's backpack during the school day
- Sunflower seeds or unshelled nuts due to the mess they make
- Aerosol cans
- Makeup and colognes
- Permanent markers
- Roller blades or shoes with fold out wheels
- Gum
- Laser pointers
- Hard balls or other equipment deemed unsafe
- Glass containers
- Any items prohibited the CA Ed Code
- Any item disruptive to the learning environment

The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. If sports equipment is brought to school, items should be labeled with the student's name.

# **Student Discipline**

There are certain basic expectations for acceptable behavior that all students are required to adhere to. We will provide proactive strategies to teach the expectations. Discipline will be restorative in nature and should help students learn and grow. Use of

multi-tiered discipline approaches are in place and alternatives to suspension will be utilized when possible. Other means of correction may include, but is not limited to:

- Student and/or parent conferences
- Referral to extra support services
- Referral to the Tier II PBIS team for interventions
- Development of a formal education or behavior plan
- Referral for assessments
- Enrollment in groups or classes during the school day
- Positive behavior interventions and student support interventions
- Tiered interventions during the school day
- After school programs and activities to positively impact behaviors

As we believe that the family is key to helping maintain high behavioral expectations, it is important that communication between home and school is emphasized. Parents who have questions regarding their child's behavior or a problem that has occurred at school are strongly encouraged to contact your child's teacher. If questions still remain regarding a situation, school administration may be involved. Similarly, school staff will contact a child's parents in addressing behavioral concerns when something arises beyond what one might normally encounter on a day to day basis.

When students misbehave in a way that may seriously hurt others or themselves, and/or is against the law, our principal will recommend suspension or expulsion. You may request a list of actions that are cause for suspension or expulsion from the office or the principal. (from California Education Code Section 48900)

# Steps to Avoid Conflict

Any one of the following steps may be taken to avoid verbal and physical conflict. If a student is unable to solve a problem on their own, they are expected to find an adult for assistance.

- Talk it out
- Listen
- Do something differently
- Walk away
- Avoid the problem area or person
- Rock-Paper-Scissors
- Take turns

- Share
- Ignore
- Apologize
- Ask for help
- Let it go
- Find an adult