

ELEMENTARY HANDBOOK CHANGES FOR 2024-25

Changes are noted/highlighted.

Page 8 ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL TIME (CHANGE FROM 15 TO 20 MINUTES.)

CURRENT: For the welfare and safety of all students, it is requested that students do not arrive at school any earlier than necessary. This is especially important for those children who walk, ride bicycles or are dropped off by parents. Students who walk, ride bicycles or are dropped off by parents should not arrive more than 15 minutes (7:55 a.m.) before school starts due to supervisory reasons.

PROPOSED: For the welfare and safety of all students, it is requested that students do not arrive at school any earlier than necessary. This is especially important for those children who walk, ride bicycles or are dropped off by parents. Students who walk, ride bicycles or are dropped off by parents should not arrive more than 20 minutes (7:50 a.m.) before school starts due to supervisory reasons.

Page 13 HOME PREPARED FOOD (CHANGED TO ADD THE REQUEST FOR NUTRITION LABEL.)

CURRENT: Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted prohibits the distribution and service of food items including treats which are prepared in individual homes. Food for classroom parties, or any occasion, must be purchased from a store which is subject to state food inspection regulation. All food to be shared with other students must be commercially prepared, pre-packed, unopened, and when possible, individually wrapped. This action is needed in order to take a firm preventative stand against the spread of germs and disease. Ideas for peanut/tree nut safe snacks can be found [here](#).

PROPOSED: Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted prohibits the distribution and service of food items including treats which are prepared in individual homes. Food for classroom parties, or any occasion, must be purchased from a store which is subject to state food inspection regulation. All food to be shared with other students must be commercially prepared, pre-packed, unopened, and when possible, individually wrapped. This action is needed in order to take a firm

preventative stand against the spread of germs and disease. We also ask that families include a nutrition label to assist with identification of allergens (limiting risk of reaction for students/classmates) with special snacks. Ideas for peanut/tree nut safe snacks can be found [here](#).

Page 14 MILK PROGRAM (CHANGED TO ADD ENERGY DRINKS TO STATEMENT)

CURRENT: Students are not allowed to bring pop for classroom milk break or for their lunch.

PROPOSED: Students are not allowed to bring pop or energy drinks for classroom milk break or for their lunch.

Page 19 SCHOOL PARTIES AND CELEBRATIONS (CHANGED TO ADD REQUEST FOR NUTRITION INFO/ORIGINAL PACKAGING)

CURRENT: Classrooms occasionally celebrate events such as birthdays, holidays, and special school events. If you wish to send food items for any classroom celebrations, it is important to remember that the district prohibits distribution of food items (including treats) which are prepared in individual homes. Food must be commercially prepared, pre-packed, and when possible, individually wrapped.

PROPOSED: Classrooms occasionally celebrate events such as birthdays, holidays, and special school events. If you wish to send food items for any classroom celebrations, it is important to remember that the district prohibits distribution of food items (including treats) which are prepared in individual homes. Food must be commercially prepared, pre-packed, and when possible, individually wrapped. Please provide the original packaging with snacks brought to school to assist with dietary restrictions and for the safety of students (allergy impacts.)

Page 20 SNACKS AND CLASSROOM FOOD (CHANGE TO ALIGN TO K COMMUNICATION)

CURRENT: Kindergarten teachers will be purchasing snacks, napkins, silverware and plates for all students. There will be a snack fee collected per semester (this fee also includes special theme-based snacks and cooking experiences).

PROPOSED: The snack fee for kindergarten covers the cost of snacks, utensils, plates, food-based learning activities, and cooking projects. Due to its enhancement of learning the kindergarten snack fee is required for all students unlike the 1-4 grade program which is a daily snack and is optional. (This fee can be paid in full at the beginning of the year or in two installments, due once at Welcome Days and again in January.)

Page 22 WEDNESDAY FOLDERS (REMOVE LUNCH MENUS...NO LONGER PRINTED)

CURRENT: As a means of facilitating communication between home and school, the elementary buildings will be using a “Wednesday Folder” program. Each student will be issued a folder to be used for transporting general school information home. Included will be updates, newsletters, school-wide information notes, lunch menus, etc. Folders will come home only on Wednesday. Parents are asked to review the folder, sign the inside and return it with their child the next day.

PROPOSED: As a means of facilitating communication between home and school, the elementary buildings will be using a “Wednesday Folder” program. Each student will be issued a folder to be used for transporting general school information home. Included will be updates, newsletters, school-wide information notes, etc. Folders will come home only on Wednesday. Parents are asked to review the folder, sign the inside and return it with their child the next day.