

2023 - 2024 PARENT / STUDENT HANDBOOK



Cedarwood Elementary School

Clovis Unified School District

2851 Palo Alto Ave.

Clovis, CA 93611

(559) 327-6000

Website: cedarwood.cusd.com

Amanda Howes, Principal

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Notice of Nondiscrimination

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the entire Cedarwood Staff, welcome to Cedarwood's 28th school year! We are excited to be part of your student's educational journey. It is our privilege to ensure all students experience the best possible learning in a safe and welcoming environment. Since our opening in 1996, Cedarwood has continued a long-standing tradition of excellence. Accomplishments and accolades have validated our efforts, and we are proud of what we have done! We also realize that we must continue to find better and more effective teaching practices that support and excel the individual needs of each student.

The Cedarwood teachers and staff are always available to answer questions and ensure we maintain a positive triad of success. Our parents, guardians, and community, along with the teachers and staff create a strong team motivated to create the best opportunities for all students. This is a team effort, and we are excited to work side by side with our families this school year.

This handbook is a compilation of ideas and information that has been acquired over the years. We hope this handbook helps to answer questions about Cedarwood and provide essential information regarding the many opportunities available to your child. The relationship between Cedarwood Elementary and its community is unique and special. We are so fortunate to work for such outstanding families. With commitment, and hard work, we hope to continue providing educational programs that are both exciting and challenging.

If you have any questions, please call (559) 327-6000.

Amanda Howes
Principal

DISTRICT MISSION

The mission of Clovis Unified School District is to provide excellence in education to a diverse community through exemplary programs, services, and activities that foster lifelong commitment to the Sparthenian concept: "Be the best you can be in Mind, Body, and Spirit."

SCHOOL MISSION

The mission of Cedarwood Elementary School is to facilitate the maximum educational growth of each child. It is our responsibility to provide exemplary programs, services, and activities to a diverse community that fosters lifelong learning and a commitment to society.

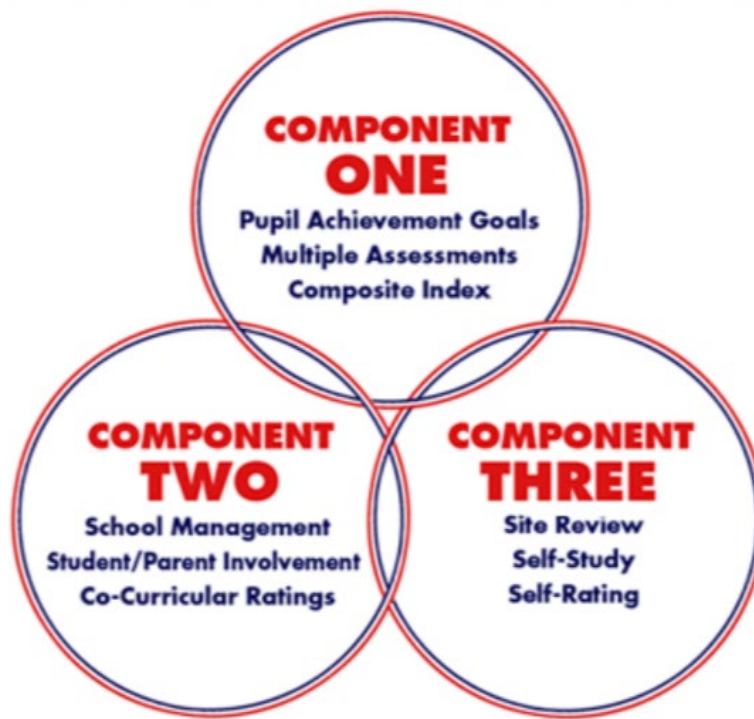


CLOVIS ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR SUSTAINED IMPROVEMENT (CLASSI)

Standards and accountability continue to be top priorities in public education today. In Clovis Unified, we are committed to maintaining and improving the quality of the educational programs we provide for our students. Setting high standards and district goals for constant improvement by our Governing board have long been the foundations of accountability for students, teachers, and administrators in Clovis Unified. In 1994, the Clovis Assessment System for Sustained Improvement, commonly known as “CLASSI,” was instituted as the means of assessing and evaluating the performance of the schools in our district.

In pursuit of truly effective, well-rounded programs, CLASSI evaluations include many elements that affect the total operation of each school. To achieve this comprehensive approach to evaluation, CLASSI is composed of three distinct components. Component I focuses on pupil academic achievement based on district standards and multiple measures. Component II is designed to rate the school’s effectiveness regarding specific elements of school site management, parent involvement and co-curricular programs based on quality indicators. Each of these elements is rated from “Superior” to “Needs Improvement.” Component III of the CLASSI system allows school and district personnel to examine each school’s policies, practices, programs and operating procedures through a self-study.

In the CLASSI system, each year, scores and ratings are tabulated and reported by the Department of Assessment. Schools earn the CUSD Exemplary School Award by reaching or exceeding set standards in both Component I and Component II. Moreover, schools use the results of CLASSI in setting their goals and planning for the improvement of their programs the following year. In this way, school personnel are continually challenged to exceed their own standards of excellence.



CLOVIS UNIFIED STUDENT CALENDAR 2022 - 2023

July 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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30	31					
August 2023						
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September 2023						
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October 2023						
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November 2023						
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December 2023						
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31						

IMPORTANT DATES
<u>School Starts</u>
Aug 21
<u>School Ends</u>
Jun 7
<u>Elem Conference Day</u>
<i>(No school for elementary students)</i>
Oct 27
<u>Grading Period *</u>
Sept 29
Nov 10
Dec 21
Feb 23
April 19
June 7
<u>End of Quarter #</u>
<i>(Elementary Only)</i>
Oct 20
Jan 19
April 5
June 7
HOLIDAYS
Jul 4 - Independence Day
Sept 4 - Labor Day
Nov 10 - Veterans Day
Nov 20 - 24 – Thanksgiving Break
Dec 25 – Jan 5 - Winter Break
Jan 1 – New Year Holiday
Jan 15 - Martin Luther King Day
Feb 12 - Lincoln’s Birthday
Feb 19 - Washington’s Birthday
Mar 25 - Apr 1 - Spring Break
May 27 - Memorial Day
June 19 - Juneteenth
No School
December 22
January 8
Every Wednesday
90-minute early dismissal for
Elementary students only

January 2024						
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February 2024						
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March 2024						
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31						
April 2024						
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May 2024						
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June 2024						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

CEDARWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Traditional Bell Schedule

Regular Days
Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays
Grade(s): K-AM Trans, K-AM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:38 School Day Begins • 11:09 School Day Ends
Grade(s): K-PM Trans, K-PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:04 School Day Begins • 2:35 School Day Ends
Grade(s): 1st, 2nd
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:45 School Day Begins • 9:30 - 9:45 Grades 1-3 AM Recess • 11:00 - 11:50 Grades 1-2 Lunch • 1:00 - 1:30 Grades 1-3 P.E. • 2:35 School Day Ends
Grade(s): 3rd
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:45 School Day Begins • 9:30 - 9:45 Grades 1-3 AM Recess • 11:30 - 12:20 Grades 3-4 Lunch • 1:00 - 1:30 Grades 1-3 P.E. • 2:35 School Day Ends
Grade(s): 4th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:45 School Day Begins • 10:00 - 10:15 Grades 4-6 AM Recess • 11:30 - 12:20 Grades 3-4 Lunch • 2:05 - 2:35 Grades 4-6 P.E. • 2:35 School Day Ends
Grade(s): 5th, 6th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:45 School Day Begins • 10:00 - 10:15 Grades 4-6 AM Recess • 12:00 - 12:50 Grades 5-6 Lunch • 2:05 - 2:35 Grades 4-6 P.E. • 2:35 School Day Ends

Early Release Days
Wednesdays, Last Day Of School
Grade(s): K-AM Trans, K-AM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:38 School Day Begins • 10:22 School Day Ends
Grade(s): K-PM Trans, K-PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:21 School Day Begins • 1:05 School Day Ends
Grade(s): 1st, 2nd
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:45 School Day Begins • 9:30 - 9:45 Grades 1-3 AM Recess • 11:00 - 11:50 Grades 1-2 Lunch • 1:05 School Day Ends
Grade(s): 3rd
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:45 School Day Begins • 9:30 - 9:45 Grades 1-3 AM Recess • 11:30 - 12:20 Grades 3-4 Lunch • 1:05 School Day Ends
Grade(s): 4th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:45 School Day Begins • 10:00 - 10:15 Grades 4-6 AM Recess • 11:30 - 12:20 Grades 3-4 Lunch • 1:05 School Day Ends
Grade(s): 5th, 6th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:45 School Day Begins • 10:00 - 10:15 Grades 4-6 AM Recess • 12:00 - 12:50 Grades 5-6 Lunch • 1:05 School Day Ends

1/13/2022 9:30:10 AM

*Board Approved – 1/12/2022

SCHEDULES and PROCEDURES (ON CAMPUS LEARNING)

ARRIVAL

Supervision is provided only during the school day starting at **7:15 am**. Students who do not ride the school bus or who are not enrolled in Campus Club should not be on campus prior to this time unless they are participating in a supervised school activity. At 7:40 am, the first bell will ring for students to report directly to their classroom to meet their teacher by 7:45 am. Arriving after the 7:45 am bell will result in a tardy for the student. To ensure safety when dropping off your child, we encourage you to use the designated drop-off zones.

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students report directly to the Kindergarten playground between **7:15 am – 7:38 am** for our AM group and **10:45 am – 11:04 am** for our PM group. Parents/guardians/responsible older siblings must stay with their children until the TK/K teacher is present at the Kindergarten playground and opens the door.

DISMISSAL

School is dismissed at **2:35 pm** each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday for grades 1 – 6. All students should go home immediately at the end of the school day or be picked up within 10 minutes of school dismissal unless they are involved in an after-school activity or are enrolled in Campus Club. There is no supervision after 2:50 pm.

Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten students will be escorted out to the Circle Drive Parent Loading Zone, to Campus Club, and/or to the Bus Loading Zone by Cedarwood Elementary Staff.

On Wednesdays and the Last Day of School, school is dismissed at **1:05 pm** for grades 1 – 6. For TK/K students, please see the detailed bell schedule for the exact times, as Wednesdays are also shortened days for these students. This is the case for every Wednesday throughout the school year. Again, students must be picked up within 10 minutes of school dismissal; there is no supervision after 2:10 pm on Wednesdays.

Please note: *For safety reasons, when dropping off and picking up your child, please be sure to wait at the end of the hallways and not at the classroom doors.*

Parents who wish to have their student excused early **MUST** come to the office, and the child will be called from class. **We are unable to call students out of class before the adult who is approved for release is in the office.** This includes checking students out for the lunch period. The lunch period is 50 mins. Upon arriving back to campus, the adult must check their student back into school. A check-in/check-out system is provided and requires that the adult approved for release present their identification card or driver's license. Please adhere to this policy to insure the safety of your child.

CAMPUS CLUB

Before and after school childcare is available at Cedarwood Elementary under the CUSD Campus Club program. Campus Club begins at 7:00 am and ends at 6:00 pm for children who are enrolled. For more information or to enroll your child, please call (559) 327-9160 or go to <http://cusd.com/CampusClub.aspx>

Please note: *There is no staff supervision on campus before 7:15 am. Unless a child is enrolled in the Campus Club program, they are not allowed on campus before 7:15 am. Additionally, school dismissal is 2:35 pm. Students must be picked up by 2:50 pm, unless they are in a supervised school activity and/or enrolled in Campus Club.*

ABSENCES AND TARDIES

All absences must be cleared within five days of the absence. Parents/guardians should call Cedarwood Elementary at 327-6000 or utilize the online absence form which can be found at <https://cedarwood.cusd.com/ReportanAbsence.aspx> or on the Cedarwood website (cedarwood.cusd.com) under the "Parents" tab. Parents and guardians can also email the Cedarwood Registrar, Julie Magsig at juliemagsig@cusd.com

When reporting an absence, be sure to include: your child's name and room number or teacher's name; your name and your relationship to the student; date of absence; reason for absence.
For educational purposes, we need your help making sure your child maintains good attendance. There are times when it is necessary for a child to miss school, for example, when they are ill. However, it is very important that parents/guardians clear the absence within five days.

Students who report to school after **7:35 am** (for any reason) are considered tardy and must report to the main office before going to their classroom.

If your child will be absent for five to ten school days, please contact our main office to place your child on an Independent Study Contract at least ten days prior to the absence. As part of the Independent Study Contract, students are required to return all assigned work on the day they return to school. Assignments not complete will result in an Incomplete Independent Study Contract.

For further details, please refer to our district's Parent and Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook at <https://www.cusd.com/ParentStudentForms.aspx>

Please note: *Students who are physically present and on time for at least HALF the school day (165 minutes) every day of the school year are eligible for perfect attendance recognition. Students with more than 3 excused tardies throughout the entire year will not be eligible.*

Students with excessive tardies or absences or with unhealthy patterns of missed school will be referred to the School Site Attendance Review Board (SARB).

SAFETY AND EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Cedarwood Elementary has a written plan of action that outlines specific procedures/policies in the event that student safety is threatened. If a crisis situation exists, this document informs and mandates procedures that immediately provide consistent responses from school employees. The Cedarwood School Safety Plan is updated annually and parents on the SSC Committee, staff members, law enforcement, fire department, and nursing services are an integral part of solidifying the plan. Drills are conducted monthly to ensure appropriate safety procedures are consistently followed.

Communication is important, especially during times of emergency. Cedarwood Elementary is prepared to immediately send out phone/text/email communications if emergencies do occur on campus. Please make sure you update your child's emergency contact information immediately when you change a phone number or email or if you move.

BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS

Students are to obey all traffic laws when riding bicycles to and from school. Helmets must be worn. Students are to remove their skates, walk their bikes, scooters, and skateboards while on school grounds. Riding any type of vehicle on campus is strictly prohibited. Racks are provided for parking bicycles and scooters. These are located on the north side of main office. Students are responsible for bringing their own anti-theft device. The school is not responsible for loss or damage to personal items.

PARKING

In order to help with the flow of traffic, there are designated locations for parent/guardian drop-off and pick-up and parking. Circle Drive (the circular area/parking lot on Palo Alto Ave. near the blacktop) is reserved for parents/guardians. If you are in the loading zone you MUST stay in your vehicle during drop-off and pick-up times. If you must leave your vehicle, then please park in the designated stalls in the Circle Drive parking lot. Parent/guardians are also allowed to parallel park on Palo Alto Ave. DO NOT block crosswalk or driveway areas at any time. Additionally, we kindly ask parents/guardians to withhold from parking or leaving your vehicle unattended in loading zones, bus zones, and any red-marked curbs.

The main parking lot on the corner of Palo Alto Ave. and Coventry Ave. is reserved for staff and handicap parking only.

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Cedarwood Elementary is a school that welcomes the involvement of the community. Parents and guardians are encouraged to visit the school, talk with the teachers before or after class hours, and communicate openly with the administrative team.

In order to maintain a safe and orderly school environment, all visitors and volunteers must check in at the main office each visit with their photo identification to receive their mandatory, temporary visitor's badge. Visitor ID badges should always be worn while on campus, and anyone without one will be asked by a staff member to report to the main office. Visitors should check in at the main office before they leave campus. An exception to this is the attendance of parents and community members at school activities open to the general public.

Community volunteers in our school enrich the educational program, contribute to school safety, and strengthen our schools' relationships with the community. All school volunteers must complete a Volunteer Application Form at least one week in advance in order to volunteer at Cedarwood Elementary. For the safety of the volunteer, and that of the district's students, a background check will be completed on all applicants. Volunteers should attach a copy of their California Driver's License or California legal photo ID to be kept on file. In addition to an ID, volunteers must have a current clear TB assessment within the last 4 years if they will have ongoing, frequent, or prolonged contact with students. One-day/time volunteers may be exempt. (Ed. Code 49405(m)). Volunteers shall also comply with CUSD Board Policy Nos. 3204 – Field Trips, and 8302 – Transportation of Students by Private Vehicle, if applicable.

For more information on visitors and volunteers, please see our district's volunteer page at www.cusd.com/ParentVolunteers.aspx

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM

Breakfast is available daily at Cedarwood from 7:15 am – 7:45 am. Hot lunches are available to students in grades 1 – 6 each day. Breakfast and Lunch meals are available for FREE to all CUSD students for the 2022 - 2023 school year.

RETURNED CHECKS

All checks returned to Cedarwood Elementary will be assessed a \$25.00 returned check fee. After May 1st, all payments for field trips, yearbooks, cafeteria accounts, etc. must be paid by cash only.

LOST AND FOUND

Please be sure to mark every item of clothing your child may take off while at school with his/her full name. Also, please label any other items sent to school such as binders and lunch bags. The Lost and Found bin is located in the MPR (or right outside the MPR). Items not claimed at the end of each quarter will be donated to local charities.

LIBRARY

The library offers books and a wide range of multi-media materials. Students are responsible for all overdue, lost, or damaged materials. Please return damaged books to the library for repair. Do not attempt to repair them at home. Textbooks are checked out to students through a bar code system. If a textbook is lost or damaged, the student will be responsible for this obligation.

NURSING SERVICES

SCHOOL NURSE AND SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES ASSISTANT

- A School Health Services Assistant (HSA) will be in the health office 5 days a week. The HSA will contact parents/guardians regarding illnesses and injuries that occur during the school day. All HSAs are CPR/First Aid certified.

Credentialed School Nurses are on campus for the following:

- Mandated vision and hearing tests
- Complete special education and 504 health assessments
- Ensure immunizations are compliant with CA state law
- Provide health education resources for school staff, students, and parents/guardians
- Maintain student health records
- Contact parents/guardians regarding health problems and/or excessive absences
- Communicate with health care providers regarding health issues and their impact on education (within HIPPA regulations)
- Develop healthy/safety plans for students with high-risk medical diagnosis

Emergency Contact:

In case of an emergency, parents/guardians will be contacted. It is very important that the Cedarwood Health Office have updated contact information. If there is a change in your child's emergency contact information, please call the Cedarwood Main Office at (559) 327-6000 and update your information as soon as possible.

Reasons to keep a student home:

- ❖ Temperature 100.0 F or greater within 24 hours
- ❖ Illness affecting child's ability to learn
- ❖ Vomiting/Diarrhea
- ❖ Starting antibiotics with 24 hours
- ❖ Sore throat, with headache and/or upset stomach
- ❖ Coughing that will not stop

Returning to school:

- ~ Symptom free for 24 hours. This includes fever, vomiting, diarrhea, cough, and rash
- ~ Free from fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication (such as Tylenol or Motrin)
- ~ Complete 24 hours of any prescribed antibiotic treatment prior to returning to school

First Aid, Illness, Injuries:

- If a student is injured or ill at school, he/she will receive every care and consideration
- Parent/guardian will be contacted for serious injury or illness
- School nurse is available to consult with parents/guardians regarding health problems upon request
- After extended illness or injury, parent/guardian should follow up with school nurse for any needed care or accommodation
- Crutches, wheelchairs, and other devices require a doctor's prescription indicating directions for use and that

- the student has been educated on how to use the device
- Injuries and illnesses occurring at home should be cared for at home
 - Upon student's return to school, parent/guardian should provide documentation from health care provider indicating any limitations or special considerations/equipment necessary to the student's continued care at school.

Head Lice:

Clovis Unified School District operates on NO LICE guidelines. Students will be sent home if evidence of live lice is found. Students must be treated within 48 hours and hair/scalp are free from live lice. After 48 hours, absences will be unexcused. Students must check with Health Office and be cleared to return to class. Class checks are no longer part of district guidelines. Refer to the *Head Lice Guidelines* on the CUSD Nursing Services website.

Medications:

All medications, even over the counter medications (including Tylenol, Advil, cough drops, eye drops, essential oils, etc.) must be checked in through the Health Office and require a physician order that must be updated at the **beginning of each school year**.

CA Education Code Section 49423 requires that any medications to be taken at school must be presented with:

- A written statement from the physician detailing the name of the medication, amount, method, and time medication is to be taken
- A written statement from the parent/guardian indicating that their desire for the school to assist the student in the matters set forth in the physician's statement
- Medication must be clearly labeled and set to school in the original container from the pharmacy

The **Medication at School form is available from the school or on the CUSD website at <https://cusd.com/HealthForms.aspx>*

Please note: *The Health Office does not keep medication for general use.*

Physical Education Excuse:

- ✓ Parent Note: Students will be limited to 3 days per quarter for handwritten parental note excusals from PE. **A doctor's note will be required after 3 days.**
- ✓ Doctors Note: This note should include a diagnosis and specific date for returning to PE, as well as any limitations that might apply. If your child has an injury that requires them to remain out of PE, they will also be held out of recess and sports.

Immunizations:

Please refer to CUSD School Board Policy 5141.31 for more information about immunizations. CUSD Board Policies can be found at the following website: boardpolicies.cusd.com

Air Quality Precautions:

Please refer to CUSD School Board Policy 3514 for more information about Air Quality Precautions. CUSD Board Policies can be found at the following website: boardpolicies.cusd.com

First Grade Physical:

California State Law requires that all children entering first grade have a Child Health and Disability (CHDP) physical examination within 18 months of beginning first grade. It is necessary to provide the Health Office with proof of this physical. The First Grade Physical Exam form is available on the CUSD website under the "Parents" tab. Click "Health Forms"

Child Protective Services:

It is important for parents/guardians to understand that all school personnel are "mandated reporters" of child abuse. Should a staff member have concern that a child has been abused, they must report it to Child Protective Services (CPS).

BEHAVIOR

Cedarwood Elementary School maintains high, but not unreasonable, standards for conduct and behavior for all our students. Maintaining student conduct is necessary to achieving our goals of providing a safe school environment and promoting student success. A clearly defined Discipline Policy is established at Cedarwood and all students will be introduced to it through their classroom teacher during the first week of school. This will enable all students to be equally aware of expectations. Cedarwood Elementary has a set of life attitudes that we encourage all students to read, learn, and exhibit. It is called the Cedarwood “Hawk Attitude” and it is posted in all classrooms and other areas on campus. (Please see the “Hawk Attitude” page 14)

GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOR

1. Students will be expected to always follow the direction of the teacher when he/she gives instruction
2. We will encourage students to settle conflict peacefully without name calling, pushing, hitting, etc. Intervention by staff members is encouraged
3. Students are not to go to the office without written permission or a pass from their teacher
4. Students may only play on the grass area or the blacktop. Hallways/corridors and other areas are off limits.
5. Students cannot wander or run in the hallways
6. No loitering or playing in the restrooms
7. Once out on the playground, students may not cross the red line, except for:
 - a. When a meeting is called by their teacher or an advisor
 - b. When they are sent to the office or nurse’s office by a staff member
8. Students are not allowed in rooms without a staff member present
9. Profanity or vulgar language is prohibited on campus and at school sponsored events
10. Electronic devices, including cell phones, must remain off and stored in a backpack. Smart watches are only able to be used to tell time. Cell phones that are being used during the school day will be confiscated and a parent/guardian will need to pick it up in the main office
11. Students are required to use the crosswalk when entering or exiting campus
12. On the grass and blacktop areas, no tackle-type or wrestling games allowed
13. Students should stay off interior grass areas and flower beds. Hawks Don’t Cut Corners!

GENERAL CLASSROOM CONDUCT

1. Students should be in class on time and ready to work with proper materials
2. Behavior must not hinder or disrupt the learning environment
3. Respect the rights of others, school, and personal property
4. Be respectful, courteous, and cooperative with school personnel and fellow students
5. Be responsible for assigned classroom tasks

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Students will be held accountable for their behavior during the school day. Parents/guardians will be contacted by phone or email when discipline matters arise. The following list describes the basic procedures for handling discipline at Cedarwood Elementary:

- 1st Offense: Teacher warning. Counseling with student, restatement of the rules and acceptable behavior. (Teacher documents)
- 2nd Offense: Teacher/student conference. Teacher discipline within the classroom may include, but not limited to; loss of recess, reflective worksheet (Teacher calls parent/guardian)
- 3rd Offense: Teacher/student/parent conference. Parent/guardian is called, and conference is scheduled with teacher and/or GIS or Principal. (GIS or Principal documents)
- 4th Offense: Office referral to GIS or Principal. Parent contact by phone. Further disciplinary penalties.

Please Note: A commitment to non-violence is enforced at Cedarwood Elementary. Clovis Unified School District has a Zero Tolerance Policy, which is supported by the school and includes sexual assault and sexual battery, battery, possession of firearm, possession of a knife, possession of a dangerous object, possession of explosive devices, sale of controlled substances, possession of controlled substances, vandalism where property damage exceeds \$100, repeated mutual combat, robbery or extortion, participation in gang motivated intimidation, hate motivated behavior constituting a statutory violation, assault on or threats to school staff, and terroristic threats. Students who are in violation of the above Educational Codes will be given the appropriate discipline and may be referred to CUSD Student Services. For more information about the CUSD Zero Tolerance Policy please see the following link on the CUSD website: <https://qweb.clovisusd.k12.ca.us/ParentPortal/Documents/Zero%20Tol.%20Enq-Spanish.pdf>

DRESS CODE

Each student has the responsibility to dress appropriately for the school environment. The CUSD Governing Board shall authorize school regulations which prohibit student dress or grooming practices which present a hazard to the health or safety of the student, materially interfere with schoolwork, create disorder, disrupt the educational program in any way, cause excessive wear or damage to school property, or prevent the students from achieving educational objectives because of blocked vision or a restricted environment. Shoes that allow safe movement of the students must be worn daily for Physical Education and must have a back strap around the heel. Additionally, the only hats that are allowed to be worn are Cedarwood, Clark, Clovis High School, and plain Cedarwood school color hats. For more information regarding the CUSD Dress Code Policy (Board Policy/Admin Reg No. 2015) can be found at the following link: <https://cusd.com/DressCode.aspx>

CELL PHONE AND STUDENT TECHNOLOGY

In order to maintain the integrity of the educational environment, Cedarwood regulates cell phone use to avoid distractions and mishaps that can cause serious issues and violations. Cell phones shall be off and stored away during the school day. Students shall not use a cell phone or other electronic device without permission during the school day, while riding on the school bus, or at any time while students are under the supervision of school/district employees unless essential to the health of the student or authorized by a teacher/coach/advisor.

ITEMS NOT PERMITTED AT SCHOOL

Students are not allowed to bring the following items to school. A teacher, school staff member, or an administrator may take away such items from students and hold them for the parent to pick up. The school is not responsible for any lost or damaged items a student brings to school. Periodically, students may be allowed to bring *some* of the following items as part of a special activity/events/reward. Student must have permission in these cases.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| * live animals | * toys | * portable music devices |
| * gum | * sports equipment | * wi-fi enabled devices |
| * candy | * permanent markers (i.e. Sharpies) | * trading cards |
| * seeds | * electronic games | * any other items determined to be distracting |

BUS INFORMATION & BUS BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

* *Bus schedules for transportation to and from school for qualifying families will be available in August on our school website at <https://cedarwood.cusd.com>*

It is the goal of the Clovis Unified Transportation Department to provide a safe, efficient, quality mode of transportation for all students. It is a privilege to ride the school bus and the appropriate behavior is always expected. When a student violates a CUSD bus regulation, the bus driver will report the incident to the principal. Student and parent/guardian

contact will be made. If a student receives multiple citations, he/she may be suspended from riding the bus for a specified period.

Violations include:

- Leaving the seat while the bus is in motion
- Putting any part of the body outside of the bus
- Using profanity/vulgar language or gestures
- Eating/drinking on the bus
- Having dangerous objects on the bus
- Spitting or throwing objects on the bus or from the bus
- Not following proper bus procedures
- Being defiant or needing constant correction
- Fighting
- Damaging or defacing the bus
- Making unnecessary noise or commotion

Please note: No glass objects, inflated balloons, scooters, skateboards, or electronic devices are allowed on the bus

Hawk Attitude

Words and Life Attitudes that Distinguish Cedarwood Students

1. Do the right thing.
2. Actions speak louder than words.
3. Talk to adults and peers with respect.
4. Always do your best work.
5. Say please and thank you.
6. No excuses.
7. Always make eye-contact when speaking with someone.
8. Learn from watching.
9. Clap for teammates.
10. Have good posture.
11. Pay attention in class.
12. Be the best you can be.
13. Don't cut corners.
14. Don't worry, be happy.
15. Play fair.
16. Win with class, lose with dignity.
17. Do your homework.
18. Always be honest.
19. No Teasing, No Bullying.
20. Be organized.
21. If you don't have something nice to say, don't say anything at all.
22. Don't use cell phones during the school day.
23. Use technology with care.
24. Your cyber history will follow you.

Cedarwood Hawks ----- Building Tomorrow...Today!

- ✦ Mind: Think Good Thoughts, Work Hard, NEVER Give-Up!
- ✦ Body: Be a Good Sport, Demonstrate Self-Control, Own Your Actions.
- ✦ Spirit: No Teasing/ Bullying, Think Before You Speak, Be Kind at ALL Times.

ACADEMICS

GRADING POLICY

In grades TK-2 at Cedarwood Elementary, students' proficiency will be measured based on the framework of 3, 2, or 1.

3 = Meets Standard Expectation

2 = Progressing towards Standard Expectation

1 = Not Making Expected Progress toward Standard

All students in grades 3 – 6 at Cedarwood Elementary are graded utilizing the A, B, C, D, and F criteria. Within this policy, latitude has been given to the teacher to calculate grades on the following basis:

A = 90 – 100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = 0 – 59%

Effort Grades:

O = Outstanding

S = Satisfactory

N = Needs Improvement

REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS

TK/K	Progress reports will be sent home three times per year, at the conclusion of each trimester
Grades 1 – 2	During the sixth week of each quarter, Mid-Quarter Progress Reports will be distributed, and Report Cards will be issued four times per year, at the conclusion of each quarter.
Grades 3 – 6	During the sixth week of each quarter, Mid-Quarter Progress Reports will be distributed, and Report Cards will be issued four times per year, at the conclusion of each quarter. Grades are updated in Q Gradebook, at minimum, every two weeks by the teacher. Parents/guardians should check their child's grades on a routine basis through Parent Connect.

It is Clovis Unified School District's policy that parents/guardians be notified whenever students are in danger of failing classes or subjects.

HOMEWORK POLICY

At Cedarwood Elementary, we believe that homework is an integral part of the educational process. It is an extension of the classroom, giving students reinforcement in using what has been taught in the classroom. We also believe that spending time with family and participating in other community activities is important as well.

The homework assigned by our teachers is designed to provide extra practice in and reinforcement of the skills and concepts taught in the classroom. Parents can expect homework of about 10 minutes per grade level throughout the school year. For example, 4th graders would have 40 minutes of homework each night plus approx. 20 minutes of reading to build healthy habits. A first grader would have 10 minutes of nightly homework plus approx. 20 minutes of reading. That being said, there may be times when unfinished classwork will be brought home by your child to complete in addition to their nightly homework.

If your child is not regularly bringing home schoolwork, it is suggested that you contact your child's teacher for clarification. Additionally, if your child is spending an excessive amount of time required for homework, that may be a signal that something is wrong. Please contact the teacher with your concern.

Tips for success with homework:

- ✓ Establish a regular time and place for your child to complete their work
- ✓ Be sure your homework area is free of distractions
- ✓ Encourage your child and provide minimal guidance
- ✓ Reinforce responsibility of assignments and deadlines with your child
- ✓ Inform the teacher immediately if major difficulties occur

If your child is absent from school and you wish to obtain his/her classwork, please notify the school. The work will be available for pickup within 48 hours.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

According to the CA Education Code section 51210.1(A), the District is required to provide, in the elementary setting, not less than 200 minutes every 10 school days, exclusive of recesses and the lunch period, of physical education. For more information on Physical Education, see the CA Education Code 51210 at <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>

SIERRA OUTDOOR SCHOOL SCIENCE CAMP – SONORA, CA

The sixth-grade students will make their annual trip to the Sierra Outdoor School at Five Mile Creek in Sonora, CA. This trip is scheduled for the end of May. Students and parents will be able to work with their teachers to receive all important information regarding this trip. Additionally, Cedarwood Elementary will need parent chaperones for this trip. Please be looking for information in the spring if you are interested in volunteering.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC RESOURCES

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCE SPECIALIST:

Cedarwood has a resource teacher available on-site full time, every day. Our Resource Specialist(s) are trained as classroom teachers with special certification in special education and learning disabilities. The resource specialist provides specific prescriptive instruction in academic areas to students who have qualified as requiring such instruction. They play an active role as a resource to teachers in designing and implementing teaching strategies for students with average intelligence, but experience discrepancies between ability and academic achievement.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST:

Cedarwood's school psychologist is on campus two days per week. The psychologist is available to provide testing and psychological information beyond the scope of the classroom teacher. He/she plays a counseling role to parents and students, along with aiding teachers in the implementation of effective teaching strategies for individual students exhibiting learning difficulties, behavioral issues, and/or social-emotional struggles. All psychological testing requires written parental consent from parents/guardians.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SPECIALIST:

Cedarwood's speech and language specialist is on campus four days a week. Our speech and language specialist tests students and work with those who qualify. The speech and language specialist focuses on remedial and developmental instruction in language proficiency, primarily speaking and hearing. In addition, she serves in an advisory capacity to teachers in language development.

SCHOOL ASSESSMENT TEAM:

Students who show signs of abnormally low achievement, learning disabilities, or emotional difficulties, may be referred (by the recommendation of the Student Study Team) to the School Assessment Team. During this team meeting,

parents/guardians, teachers, specialized staff members, and the principal will participate in creating an appropriate educational program. During this meeting, a referral can be acted upon. All forms of evaluation require written parental consent from parents/guardians.

STUDENT STUDY TEAM:

Students who are having difficulty with class work or behavioral control, but have not received formal testing, may be referred to the Student Study Team for evaluation. The team is comprised of the parent/guardian, classroom teacher, administrator, and other experienced teachers. A meeting is conducted and specific information about the student is gathered. A plan of action is agreed upon by the team and implemented during the following weeks, after which the team reconvenes to evaluate the progress made. Should further evaluation be indicated, the team may recommend more in-depth formal assessment by the School Assessment Team.

GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION (GATE):

Special funding received from the State of California is utilized for students in grades 4-6. Students are certified as "gifted" based on standardized achievement test scores, group and/or individual intelligence test scores, and academic performance in the classroom.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

At Cedarwood Elementary, we believe that one of the quality indicators for exemplary schools is the existence of a school recognition program to provide reinforcement to students for a job well done. In an effort to promote curricular and co-curricular goals and to recognize student achievement in a wide variety of areas, the school provides many opportunities for students to receive recognition.

Our use of recognition and student incentives is based on the following:

1. The recognition structure in the school must include opportunities for everyone to achieve. Obviously, not everyone will be able to attain every award (Principal's Honor Roll, for example), however, recognition for accomplishment or effort is available in many areas. This provides every student with the opportunity to receive his/her share of recognition in some area.
2. There will be quarterly awards assemblies for grades 1 – 6. Students will receive recognition for curricular as well as co-curricular accomplishments.

In addition to the forms for recognition used by teachers at the classroom level, the following are some of the school-wide forms of special recognition available to students:

ATHLETICS

Recognition is given to all students who participate in an athletic program. Students will be recognized on stage and some may possibly receive special awards at the conclusion of each sports season.

BLOCK C

The Block C Award is the highest award a student may earn at Cedarwood. The award is available to 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students who earn this distinction which reflects a broad base of participation, achievement, and service. Please refer to the Block C handbook that your child received in class for further information.

CEDARWOOD HAWKS OF CHARACTER

Given at the end of the year at a special assembly, the Cedarwood Hawk of the Year is awarded to deserving 6th grade students who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, participation in a wide array of activities, strong interpersonal relationships, and outstanding citizenship. This award is also very special in that teachers also consider peer selection.

CHARACTER AWARD

Presented to students at quarterly assemblies to recognize those individuals who have exhibited the Six Pillars of Character and The Positivity Project.

HONOR ROLL

The Honor Roll is based on the academic achievement of students in grades 4-6. The accomplishment reflects the student's effort in their studies and are recognized each quarter.

Principal's Honor Roll – (4.0 GPA)

High Honor Roll – (3.50 – 3.99 GPA)

Honor Roll – (3.00 – 3.49 GPA)

MATH CLUB

Eligibility for this Math recognition is based on the following completion of Math Facts with 100% accuracy, four separate times:

1st grade: Addition & Subtraction – 60 problems per sheet

2nd grade: Addition & Subtraction – 100 problems per sheet

3rd grade: Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division – 100 problems per sheet

4th – 6th grades: Block C points for achieving the Big Four and Big Five Math Club

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

This award honors students who have made the extra effort to attend school without missing a day and are on time for instruction. Perfect attendance recognition is given at the end of the school year during a special assembly. Students must meet the minimum number of required minutes per day deemed appropriate for a day of attendance (165 minutes).

Please note: *If a student has been placed on an Independent Study Contract, they will not qualify for perfect attendance. This is considered an excused absence for State Apportionment purposes.*

Please note: *Students with 3 or more tardies (over or under 30 minutes) will not be eligible for perfect attendance. Students with any unexcused tardies will not be eligible for perfect attendance. Additionally, students who have tardies which result in an ARM (Attendance Review Meeting) or SARB (Student Attendance Review Board) meeting will not be eligible for perfect attendance.*

PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATES & SUPER HAWK

Cedarwood students who meet the criteria for the Healthy Fitness Zone (HFZ) will be recognized with a certificate. In addition, those students who meet the 85th percentile the Super Hawk (Superintendent's Award) will also be recognized with a certificate at the end of the school year.

PRINCIPAL'S MEDALLION

Presented to the top students in grades 3 – 6 who exhibit outstanding academic achievement, participation in a wide array of activities, and strong interpersonal relationships. Criteria includes:

- ~ Minimum of 3.85 GPA
- ~ High Performance on District Assessments
- ~ Outstanding Citizenship with NO referrals to the office or suspensions

READER & WRITER AWARD

Presented to students who have exhibited outstanding reading and writing accomplishments within the classroom. Students will receive special recognition at the quarterly assembly.

SPARTHENIAN AWARD

Presented to students who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in Mind, Body, and Spirit as selected by the classroom teacher. Students will receive special recognition at the quarterly assembly.

SPIRIT TICKETS

Rewards are presented to selected students through a weekly random drawing of tickets. Teachers and staff reward students when they are “caught doing something good” with these tickets.

CO-CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY

Cedarwood Elementary provides students with the opportunity to participate in a variety of co-curricular activities. We believe that participation in a wide variety of activities help students to achieve balance in their academic, social, and emotional development.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

The student must maintain a 2.0 GPA (C+ average) to participate in our co-curricular program. Any student falling below a 2.0 GPA at the end of the grading period will be placed on academic probation for the following grading period. While on academic probation, the student will be required to attend the Study Lab one day a week for nine weeks. Any student placed on the academic probation list for two consecutive grading periods will be ineligible to participate in any co-curricular program until they can re-establish a 2.5 GPA at the end of the grading period.

ATTENDANCE:

In order to compete on game day, the student must be in attendance for the majority of the school day (165 minutes), unless verified by the principal. An unexcused absence from school will disqualify an athlete from participation in the subsequent game or event. An unexcused absence from sports practice will jeopardize an athlete playing in the subsequent game.

CITIZENSHIP:

Citizenship is to be satisfactory as judged by the principal. Students with serious discipline referrals may not participate in practice and/or subsequent games. The principal will have the discretion to suspend game practice and/or game privileges.

UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT:

It is a player’s responsibility to return all uniforms and equipment issued to him/her at the end of the participation or sports season. If a player does not return the items check out to them, they will be asked to provide payment to replace the items.

PARTICIPATION:

A student will abide by the rules of the Athletic Code of Conduct / Athletic Contract for the duration of each sports season in which he/she participates.

Please note: If an athlete quits and is discharged from a team without release from his/her coach, he/she is not eligible to join another team until the end of the season of the sport he/she has left.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM:

Cedarwood provides an interscholastic athletic program in which our teams compete with other elementary schools in the district. The goals of our athletic program are: 1) to teach and develop proficiency in the skills associated with each sport; 2) to develop the personal qualities of discipline, commitment, and sportsmanship associated with being a member of a team; and 3) to develop the idea that excellence in performance comes through hard work, dedication, personal effort, and the desire to be the best that we can be.

Teams practice three afternoons a week after school for one hour. There is no practice on Early Release Wednesdays or Staff Development days. A game schedule will be sent home at the beginning of each season.

All team participants must complete the sports packet paperwork prior to starting sports practices/games. This packet includes important emergency information, CUSD Code of Ethics contract, student release contacts, medical information, concussion protocol, and proof of adequate insurance covering the medical expenses of accidental injuries.

Sports opportunities:

YEAR LONG	Open to:
Pep & Cheer	4 th , 5 th , and 6 th grade

FALL	Open to:
Football	5 th & 6 th grade
Girls Volleyball	5 th & 6 th grade
Cross Country	4 th , 5 th , & 6 th grade

WINTER	Open to:
Boys Basketball	5 th & 6 th grade
Girls Basketball	5 th & 6 th grade
Wrestling	4 th , 5 th , & 6 th grade

SPRING	Open to:
Boys Volleyball	5 th & 6 th grade
Boys Baseball	5 th & 6 th grade
Girls Softball	5 th & 6 th grade
Track	4 th , 5 th , & 6 th grade

PERFORMING ARTS:

All students in grades 1st – 6th participate in classroom music during the school week. Students in 5th and 6th grade can participate in extended music programs. Parents are encouraged to rent or purchase an instrument for their child. A limited variety of school-owned instruments are also available to borrow.

Performing Arts opportunities:

Concert Choir	5 th & 6 th grade
Band	5 th & 6 th grade
String Orchestra	5 th & 6 th grade

DRAMA & ORAL INTERPRETATION:

All students in grades 4th, 5th, and 6th have the opportunity to try out for the school drama production. On occasion, primary students are invited to participate when younger students are needed for the production. The school drama production is traditionally performed during the 3rd quarter (spring).

All students in grades 4th, 5th, and 6th have the opportunity to be a part of the Oral Interpretation program. Students in Oral Interpretation will attend the CUSD Oral Interpretation Festival during the 3rd quarter (spring).

STUDENT COUNCIL:

Cedarwood students in grades 4th – 6th can learn the fundamentals of student government through the student council program. Students must meet the requirements and be in good standing to run for a student council office. Each semester 4th – 6th graders elect their peers as the following officers.

Student Council opportunities:

President	6 th grader
Vice President	6 th grader
Hawk-Eye Commissioner	5 th or 6 th grader
Hawk Weather Watch	5 th or 6 th grader
Commissioner of Athletics	5 th or 6 th grader
Commissioner of Grounds	4 th , 5 th , or 6 th grader
Commissioner of Spirit	4 th , 5 th , or 6 th grader
Class Senators / Human Relations Council	Two reps from each upper grade class

FIELD TRIPS

Field Trips are designed to support the educational program and the California State Standards. Field Trips are for the students only, therefore, siblings are not allowed to go on these trips. Chaperones are often needed for field trips and may ride the school bus. The number of interested parents often exceeds the space available. Therefore, chaperone names may be drawn randomly by a member of the administrative staff. This method will provide equal opportunity for all interested parties. All chaperones must be cleared through the school office a minimum of one week prior to the field trip for planning purposes. (Please refer to Page 10 for the CUSD Volunteer Policy)

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS AND GIFTS

If your child would like to celebrate their birthday with the class, they may bring a healthy snack to share with their classmates during recess. We have numerous students on campus with allergies, so please be mindful of that when you make your selection. We highly encourage treats that are non-food related. Please arrange the birthday treat with the teacher at least 48 hours ahead of time. The teacher will also be able to let you know the restrictions in the class due to allergies.

Please do not have balloons, flowers, or other gifts delivered to individual students. Although we appreciate a family's intent, it causes a disruption to the learning environment. Any such items will be held in the main office and can be picked up there at the end of the school day. Balloons are also not allowed on the school bus.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Cedarwood Elementary has a number of ways that parents/guardians and community stakeholders can get involved. The following committees are very important to our school site.

PARENT TEACHER CLUB (PTC) – meets monthly

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL (SSC) - meets quarterly

ENGLISH LEARNER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ELAC) – meets quarterly

INTERCULTURAL DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IDAC) – meets quarterly

CLOVIS UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS - meets every other Wednesday evening (see CUSD website for dates)

CUSD Categorical Funding Program Information

On an annual basis, Clovis Unified School District (CUSD) submits our funding Application through the Consolidated Application and Reporting System commonly called the ConApp. The application is submitted in two (2) parts: Part I, which contains program and demographic information, submitted by June 30th each year; and Part II, which contains budget information and program data submitted by January 31 each year. The categorical programs included in the application are Title I, Part A - Improving Academic Achievement. Title I, Part C - Migrant Education, Title II, Part A - Supporting Effective Instruction and Title III - English Learner (EL), and Immigrant Programs and Title IV, Part A - Student Support and Academic Enrichment. Essentially, these funds are designed to assist students in mastering state standards.

Clovis Unified Schools are committed to establishing a true partnership with all facets of the Clovis Learning Community. CUSD values feedback and input. Parents continue to make positive differences in the lives of the children we all support. We know from research that participation in your child's education will not only bring success to your child but other children in the school. Our parents truly make a difference in the lives of Clovis kids!

CUSD is pleased and proud to offer a variety of parent involvement opportunities that improve our overall program. Depending on the type of categorical funding a site may receive district or school parent councils and committees are required under certain requirements and guidelines. Such advisory committees in the CUSD include:

School Site Council (SSC)
English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC)
District Advisory Committee (DAC) and School Advisory Committee (SAC)
District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)
District Migrant Education Parent Advisory Committee (DMEPAC)
District Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee (IPAC)
School and District level School Assessment Review Team (SART)
Intercultural and Diversity Advisory Council (IDAC)
Local Control Accountability Plan Public Forums (LCAP)

We encourage all parents and guardians to become involved with their child's education at the classroom level, the school-wide level, as well as the district level. Each school's Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) describes the school's basic educational program and the categorical supplementary programs/services that are designed to support student achievement. Parental involvement is a necessary and vital part of developing the SPSA as well as our overall program. At the district level, parent committees provide input into each of the site's SPSA. If you would like additional information on any of the District Parent Councils or Committees, please call your child's school. The Principal, Learning Director, or Guidance Instructional Specialist (GIS) would be happy to assist you.

Listed below are several parent committees that assist with categorical programs and funding.

School Site Council (SSC): All schools that operate a categorical program funded through the consolidated application (ConApp) shall establish a school site council (SSC). The SSC shall develop the content of the SPSA. The SPSA shall be reviewed annually and updated, including proposed expenditure of funds allocated to the school through the ConApp and the local control and accountability plan (LCAP), if any, by the SSC. The SSC is composed of parents, students at the secondary level and school personnel. It is responsible for developing, implementing, and evaluating the Single Plan for Student Achievement programs. Members serve for two years and are elected by their peers.

District Advisory Committee (DAC) & School Advisory Committee (SAC): The entirety of the SSC acts as the SAC. The SAC serves as an advisory committee for the purpose of advising schools regarding supplemental education programs and acting as a liaison for their school community. They serve to share information and comments both at the district and site level. These education programs are supplemental education opportunities that provide services to students who are disadvantaged, English learners, foster youth and/or at-risk. The SSC has approved to designate our SSC pursuant to California Education Code (EC) Section 52852 to function as the School Advisory Committee.

English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC): All schools enrolling 21 or more English learners are required to form an ELAC. The ELAC is composed of parents and school personnel. The ELAC advises the principal, staff and SSC regarding services for English learners and assists in the development of the annual survey. Members serve for two years. Each ELAC shall have the opportunity to elect at least one member to the District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC).

District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC): Whenever there are 51 or more EL students in the district, there shall be a functioning District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC). It is important that each school site ELAC elect a DELAC representative and arrange to have that representative attend every DELAC meeting. Currently the DELAC bylaws require each DELAC representative to be 1) a parent/guardian of an EL or former EL (i.e., a reclassified fluent English proficient student) currently enrolled at the site he/she represents, and 2) elected to serve as the DELAC representative by the site's ELAC.

District Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee (IPAC): The CUSD Native American Indian Education Parent Advisory Committee meets four times a year to discuss program issues, services provided, and other needs related to the student achievement of our students, community agencies and outreach programs. CUSD Indian Education Program addresses the needs of American Indian and Alaskan Native students in grades K - 12. The program assists eligible students to achieve at the same challenging state performance standards expected of all students in grades pre-K -12.

Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Forums: CUSD develops an LCAP annually that works to better align the academic plan with the district expenditure plan that is approved by our CUSD Governing Board each June. Parents and other stakeholder groups are invited to participate in the development of the LCAP through participation of school and district committee meetings and community forums. LCAP School, District Meetings and Community Forums are exciting opportunities for all stakeholders and school committees to engage with the District and share their ideas on how CUSD can provide quality opportunities and support for CUSD youth and schools. Community participation and feedback in the forums will inform the District's LCAP's funding priorities over the next several years.

These forums are designed to provide an opportunity for school communities to hear about CUSD's current efforts to support youth and families and to provide input and feedback on future plans and opportunities. Sites also have an opportunity to work together in teams to share new ideas to support identified groups and to plan for site engagement and implementation.

The following is an overview of the categorical funding and programs in CUSD. These funds are further discussed and outlined in each school's SPSA and at the committee meetings.

Rationale

General District funds provide support for the District's base/core curriculum program. Some children have special characteristics, not reflective of the general school population, that affect their success in the base/core programs. Some come from economically disadvantaged homes; some are educationally disadvantaged or lack English language proficiency because they have a primary language other than English. Children, such as those described above, require supplemental services and materials not generally provided through the base/core curriculum program. The needs of our children are identified, and supplemental services and materials are planned and targeted to meet their special needs. Categorical funds are to be used to provide the financial support to meet these special needs.

Philosophy

All CUSD schools offer students with special needs the same kinds of high-quality learning opportunities and access to the core curriculum in all curricular areas. Categorical funds are designed to support additional assistance to help students succeed in the regular classroom program (base/core curriculum) and address any learning gaps. The focus is on the effective utilization of supplementary materials, personnel, and staff development. Staff development activities are used to improve instructional practices and strategies to increase the ability of teachers and other staff to challenge and assist all students to reach their fullest potential.

Categorical Program Descriptions

1. **After School Safety and Education Funds (ASES):** This state-administered funded program is a result of the voter approved Proposition 49; provides three-year grant funding for afterschool programs that align with the core instructional day and have the following components: educational and literacy element (tutoring/ homework assistance); educational enrichment element (Additional program/activities that reinforce what is learned in the core instructional day); and provide a nutritious snack or meal that conforms to California State Education Code requirements. The purpose of the ASES Program is to create additional educational and recreational opportunities for students within the learning community while providing a safe environment for students. The goals of this program are to: 1) improve academic achievement, and 2) provide enrichment opportunities that reinforce and complement the academic program.
2. **Title I, Part A (Improving Academic Achievement):** A federal-funded program to provide high-quality opportunities for students in high-poverty schools to meet district and state content and performance standards.
3. **Title I, Part A, Title X, Part C, Education for Homeless Children and Youths:** Title I, Part A funds provide comparable services to homeless children that assist them to effectively take advantage of educational opportunities as provided to children in schools funded under Title I, Part A. These comparable services shall be provided to homeless children in public and private schools, shelters and other locations where children may live, institutions for neglected children and, where appropriate, local institutions such as local community day school programs.

4. **Title I, Part C (Migrant Education Program)**: A federal-funded program focused on providing services for migratory students and their families.
5. **Title II, Part A (Preparing, Training and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals)**: A federal-funded program focused on teacher and principal training and recruitment programs.
6. **Title III (Language Instruction for English Learners (ELs) and Immigrants)**: A federal-funded program focused on assisting school districts in teaching English to limited English proficient students (English learners) and immigrants and helping these students meet the same challenging State standards required of all other students.
7. **Title VI (Indian Education Formula Grant)**: A federal-funded program focused on helping Native American/Alaskan Native students meet the same challenging state standards required of all other students.

The goal of the CUSD staff is to create and maintain the best educational environment possible. This can be accomplished with your support and input. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to become more involved in the educational process at your school, please contact your school principal. Your school can assist you in learning more about categorical programs. You may want to become involved in your school's School Site Council (SSC), and/or English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC).

Additional information may be found at <http://www.cusd.com/supplementalservices>.

