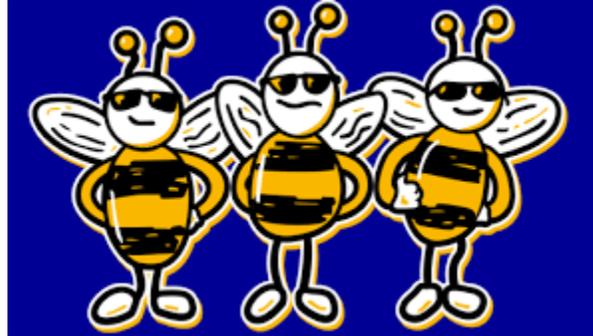


# The ABC's of Blasdell Elementary School



## Parent & Student Handbook 2024-2025

Blasdell Elementary School  
3780 South Park Avenue  
Blasdell, NY 14219  
(716) 926-1750  
(716) 823-6153 FAX

Principal:	Mrs. Shannon Thurston	ext. 5400
Office Staff:	Mrs. Tammy Nunciato	ext. 5411
	Ms. Catherine Czora	ext. 5410
	Mrs. Lisa Vaughn	ext. 5410
	Health Office & Attendance	ext 5420

Dear Blasdell Elementary Families,

Welcome to our school community! We are enthusiastic to partner with you in your child's educational journey. This handbook has been designed to provide you with important information about our school, policies, procedure, and programs.

Our goal is to provide a safe and supportive learning environment where all students can reach their full potential. We encourage you to actively participate in your child's education and take advantage of the many opportunities available to stay informed and involved.

Please familiarize yourself with the contents of this handbook, and do not hesitate to reach out to our staff if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to support you and your child and we look forward to a successful and rewarding school year.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Shannon Thurston, Principal



# A's

## Absences

**Please call the Office (926-1750) to notify the school of your child's absence.** It is the parent's responsibility to send a written note on the first day back after an absence. The District has determined that absences, tardiness and early departures will be considered excused or unexcused according to the following standards.

### **Determination of Excused and Unexcused Absences, Tardiness and Early Departures**

**a) Excused:** An absence, tardiness or early departure may be excused if due to personal illness, illness or death in the family, impassable roads due to inclement weather, religious observance, participation in designated "Take Your Child to Work Day", quarantine, required court appearances, attendance at health clinics, and late bus.

**b) Unexcused:** An absence, tardiness or early departure is considered unexcused if the reason for the lack of attendance does not fall into the above categories (e.g. family vacation, hunting, babysitting, haircut, over sleeping, missed bus, private instruction or other.)

## Agenda Books

Each student will be given an agenda book at the start of the school year.  
The agenda book will serve as:

- An organizational tool where homework is recorded and checked by a parent each night.
- A communication link between the school and home, keeping parents informed.

## Access to Classrooms After-School Hours

Since we believe it is important for children to assume responsibility for bringing their belongings and homework to school and back, we discourage after school entry into classrooms. Custodians are not allowed to let children into classrooms after school hours unless they are accompanied by their parents.

## Afternoon Pick-Up of Children

### Afternoon Pick-Up of Children:

- If your child is a Walker and you meet them at dismissal with your vehicle, you should park along South Park or on a side street.
- Please enter and exit the school using the cross walks and do not walk between school buses.
- Parking spaces at this time of the day are limited in our faculty/staff parking lot.
- Handicap spaces are reserved for vehicles with handicap tags. Parking illegally handicap spaces may result in cars being ticketed. Please be respectful and courteous.
- Vehicles should enter the parking lot at 2:45 and proceed to door 5. Proper identification and tag will be required. When leaving the parking lot, use caution and follow traffic signs.

## After-School Program

If you are in need of after-school custodial care for your child, you should visit our website for more information about the Right At School program or visit their website as you may be eligible for a discount or financial assistance.

## Arrival

Students may enter the school at 8:30 a.m. Bused students will enter at door 1. Car Riders will be dropped off at door 5. PK students will enter at door 15. If your child walks to school and/or rides their bike, they should enter at door 1. Children are marked tardy if they arrive at their classroom after 8:50 a.m.

Children will not be marked tardy:

- If doctor's excuse is provided upon the child's arrival to school as written documentation of a medical appointment or illness,
- In the event of a late bus arrival, or
- As the result of a delay in the school breakfast program.

## Attendance

Punctual and regular attendance is very important in order for your child to achieve his/her best in school. As a reminder, when your child is absent, please send them upon their return with a written note as to the reason for the absence. Every absence is initially classified as

"absent-unexcused". As dictated by our Board Policy, an unexcused absence will become excused if the following conditions are met:

- In order to complete all records required by the State Education Department, it is necessary that the excuse be written and signed by the parents and contain the DATE OF ABSENCE, CHILD'S NAME, TEACHER and REASON FOR ABSENCE (i.e. cold, etc.).
- The note provided a reason that categorizes the absence as "excused". This would include such things as personal illness, a death in the family, court appearances and religious observation. Family vacations, sports tournaments and oversleeping are "unexcused" and will be marked accordingly.

**You may call the school health office & attendance at 926-1750, ext. 5420 to report your child's absence. If you do not call, you will receive a robo call from the district informing you of your child's absence.**

### **Perfect Attendance**

In order to be considered for a Perfect Attendance Award, a student must attend school daily without being absent, tardy or missing any part of the school day. This includes excused absences for medical and other appointments.

# B's

## **Beehive**

The Beehive is our monthly school-wide celebration. Our faculty, staff and students come together to acknowledge students that have earned various award recognitions.

## **Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety**

If you wish your child to walk or ride a bike to school, you must provide written permission by completing and returning our school permission form. The note can be of a general nature covering the full school year, and we will assume that you and your child will decide what procedure you will use on any given day. Without such a note, teachers do make the assumption that children will ride the bus. Please stress safety with your child including crossing with the guard on South Park Avenue. Bicycles must be walked on school grounds

and parked in the bicycle rack near door 15. All bicycles should have locks. The school is not responsible for damage or theft of parts while bicycles are parked in the racks.

# C's

## Cafeteria

To encourage good nutrition, a well-balanced lunch is offered to each student. Menus are sent home monthly and can be found on our district's website.

Students are scheduled for a 30-minute lunch time. During this time they should remain seated and raise their hand if they need help. Proper table manners and behavior are expected at all times. Children should be encouraged to eat their entire lunch before snacks and dessert. Since children sit with their classmates, they are allowed to talk quietly. Appropriate language and topics of conversation are expected. No toys or electronic devices are allowed in the cafeteria. We request that parents not send in a purchased fast food meal for their child. We recognize your good intentions, but it is unfair to the other children in the area. Also, due to various allergies, food restrictions and the general safety concern of the children, we request that parents not purchase food for any student other than their own.

### **Prepaid Point of Service System**

- Every student has an ID number and a lunch account used to make snacks and a la carte purchases (This is NOT a charge account. Students need money on account to purchase anything above and beyond their meal).
- To load money electronically and to monitor spending and food choices, create an account at MySchoolBucks.com with your student's Frontier ID number.
- To avoid the MSB service charge\*, you can send a check made payable to Frontier School Lunch Fund. Send Check or Cash- You can always bring money personally or send it with your student. Please place it in an envelope marked clearly with your student's name, their ID #, their teacher's name, the \$ amount and the check #. Turn in prepaid deposits to the cafeteria cashier(s) or school office.

## **Calls to Teachers**

Please discuss concerns or problems with the teacher prior to contacting the principal. Usually a call to the teacher will clear up information regarding classroom events. Follow-up calls may be made to the building administrator. Since we do not interrupt instruction, please leave a message for the teacher to return your call.

## **Cell Phones**

Cell phones are not permitted for use in school. They must be turned off and out of sight at all times. Please be advised that student lockers do not have locks. Cell phones used during the instructional day will be confiscated and held in the main office.

First Time - Parents will be notified and cell phones will be held in the main office until a parent or guardian can claim it.

Additional consequences can be given at the discretion of the school administrator.

## **Character Education**

Character Education promotes and teaches qualities of good character such as respect, responsibility, honesty, fairness, courtesy, kindness, courage, diligence, perseverance, friendship, self-control and giving to others. The principles of our Character Education Program are woven into our curriculum as appropriate. Our philosophy of appropriate student conduct is also a part of the Character Education Assemblies facilitated monthly by members of our Student Support Team. We follow "The Golden Rule" which focuses on positive student behaviors and treating others as we would like to be treated.

General Guidelines for Student Behavior:

- Bee Respectful
- Bee Responsible
- Bee Safe
- Bee Your Best

## Child Study Team

The Child Study Team (CST) is composed of members of our Student Support Team (SST). This team accepts referrals of children who may be exhibiting academic or social concerns in the classroom. This team is a first level support for finding possible interventions to the perceived problems. Occasionally, specialized assessments are necessary to help determine the child's needs. These assessments are always shared with parents who are fully involved in decisions for further steps.

## Clubs

The following school-based club opportunities are available for certain grade levels. Please contact your child's teacher or the office for more information.

**Art Club, Jazz Club, Yoga Club, STEAM/Lego Club, Book Club, Student Government and Student Council**

## Communicable Diseases

When a contagious disease is reported in an elementary classroom, a notice will be sent home with each student in that class. If your child is diagnosed as having a communicable disease, please inform the school nurse. Any child with an unidentified or suspicious rash, temperature of 100, vomiting, or severe earache should be kept home until diagnosed and/or treated.

## D's

### Dismissal Procedures

Please help us to assure the safety of your child. If you need to have a family member or other adult pick up your child, a written note from the parent is required. This written note must include the name of the person picking up your child. Photo identification must be shown. Please refrain from last minute dismissal arrangements, since this causes a disruption to the classroom and instruction.

**In order to ensure children's safety and maintain an orderly dismissal, parents, teachers and children must work cooperatively and following the procedures below:**

**Buses**- Children will begin exiting the building at 2:55 p.m.

**Daily Parent Pick Up** - Children will be dismissed from the gym at 2:50 p.m. Parents must not enter the parking lot prior to 2:45 p.m. Parents should remain in their vehicle and proceed to door 5. You must have proper identification and be listed as a person able to pick up the child in our database.

**Walkers/Bikers**- Children will be called to report to door 1 at 2:45 p.m. Parents must park their car along South Park Avenue or on a side street and wait outside of the building at door 1. Photo identification card is required. Parents must provide the school with the names of other individuals who have permission to pick up their children.  
**Children will not be released without written consent from parents.**

**Early Dismissal**- Should it be necessary for your child to be excused from school early please **write a note** for early dismissal. All dismissal changes need to be made before 2:15 p.m. Students will be dismissed early **ONLY FROM THE MAIN OFFICE.**

**Changes In Your Child's Routine** - If your child's daily schedule is changed, for example, walking home, or riding a different bus when going to a daycare, **parents must inform the school with a written, dated note.** If an emergency arises, call us.

We **do not** provide bus passes for students to visit at their friend's house. It is the responsibility of the parent to provide transportation to a friend's house.

## **Dress Code**

A student's dress (male or female), grooming and appearance, including jewelry, makeup and nails shall be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.

**The Dress Code has been revised to comply with the Crown Act under DASA. Students in grade K-12 shall not wear the following:**

1. Any clothing, apparel, footwear or jewelry which: \* is considered unsafe, dangerous or a health hazard (no outerwear shall be worn during the school day); \* contains offensive or obscene symbols, signs, slogans or words denigrating any person's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender or sexual orientation; or any other illegal or violent activity. \* contains language or symbols promoting or endorsing violence, sex, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping, nicotine or vandalism;

2. Any attire or grooming disruptive to the instructional process which may include, but is not limited to: \* bare midriffs, halter tops, tube tops and any clothes insufficient to conceal undergarments at all times, such as net/mesh shirts, blouses, shirts or dresses that are transparent and/or expose cleavage; unbuckled belts \* short shorts, short skirts, dresses or pants that are tight or revealing; \* Bedtime clothing, bedtime wear, slippers, stocking-feet, bare feet \* hats, hoods, bandanas, doo rags, bonnets, and sunglasses (no headgear) \* chains, dog collars, hanging chains \* gang colors or gang paraphernalia \*\*

Exceptions can be made by school administrators for the wearing of articles of clothing normally prohibited for school-wide celebrations (ie: homecoming, etc.) Exceptions to the Dress Code necessitated by religious practice will be considered individually by the building administrator.

Provisions of the Dress Code are applicable at all times within the school building and during all school activities. Exception or modification of a provision of the dress code may be authorized by the building principal for a specific school-related activity on a single event basis.

Each building principal or his/her designee shall be responsible for informing all students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the school year and any revisions to the dress code made at the building level during the school year. Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out-of-school suspension.

# E's

## Early Dismissal

Please make every effort to avoid taking your child out of school for appointments and family matters. If you must take your child out early, it is necessary to:

- Send a note to your child's teacher in the morning.
- The person to whom the child is to be released must be clearly stated in the note.

- When you come to school to pick up your child, enter through door 1 which is located in the front of the school.
- Picture identification will be required.

We will not dismiss children, unaccompanied, to persons waiting in the parking lot of the school. Children will not be released to any person who is not listed on the contact list in eSchool unless we are directed to do so in writing. These requirements are for the protection of your child and will be strictly enforced.

## **Emergency Information Cards**

Parents are responsible for completing all information requested on the Emergency Information Cards (sent home each September) AND to update any changes during the year. Example: parent changes place of work, phone number, address or change of family situation. Parents are responsible for providing transportation home in the event of illness or other emergency.

## **Emergencies**

A school nurse is on duty during the school day. Students who become ill at school will report to the office, and parents will be contacted. It is critical that we have current home, work, and emergency numbers on file. If an accident with injury occurs in school, the school nurse will administer first aid emergency treatment and call the parent.

## **English as a New Language (ENL)**

Our ENL program is designed to meet the needs of students who speak a language other than English, (ELL) and either understand and speak little or no English; or meet the criteria established by the New York State Board of Regents. Services are based on individual student need and are provided by an ESL teacher

## **Enrichment Program**

The goals of Enrichment programming include recognizing talent or academic strengths in all students and providing appropriate programming options for the development and application of those talents and strengths.

# F's

## Field Trips

Field trips enhance the curriculum and are an important part of instructional planning, and this occasionally involves a trip outside of school property. Consequently, the Frontier Central School Board has mandated that field trips are curricular in nature.

All field trips are planned by teachers and are supervised. Parental permission slips will be distributed for each field trip. Field trips are an extension of the regular classroom; proper behavior is expected at all times.

# H's

## Health Office

### **HEALTH OFFICE GUIDELINES:**

School Health Services are designed to protect and promote the health of all students and all school personnel. Among the services provided by the school nurse are:

- Medication administration and treatment of chronic conditions
- First-aid treatment for any injury or sudden illness
- Vision, hearing and scoliosis screening for students per NYS Regulations

New York State Public Health Law, Section 2164, mandates that schools not permit a child to be admitted unless the parent provides the school with a certificate of immunization or proof from a physician that the child is in the process of receiving the required immunizations. The required immunizations are:

Vaccinations	Kindergarten and Grade 1	Grades 2-5
Diphtheria and Tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis (DTaP/DTP/Tdap)	5 doses or 4 doses if the 4th dose was given at 4 years of age or older or 3 doses if series was started at age 7 or older	5 doses or 4 doses if the 4th dose was given at 4 years of age or older or 3 doses if the series was started at age 7 or older
Polio Vaccine (IPV/OPV)	4 doses or 3 doses if the 3rd dose was given at 4 years of age or older	3 doses
Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)	2 doses	2 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses	3 doses
Varicella (Chickenpox)	2 doses	1 dose

All of the above immunizations must be documented by a physician or local health department where the child received the immunization, or must be from an official copy of the immunization record from the child’s previous school. All immunizations must specify the exact date each immunization was administered. **Your child will not be permitted to attend school without the necessary verification of immunizations.**

All new students and transfer students from within New York State must present proof of mandated immunizations within 14 calendar days of the first day of school attendance or 14 calendar days of registration.

Transfer students from outside of New York State must present proof of mandated immunizations within **30 calendar days of the first day of school attendance or 30 calendar days of registration.**

Failure to comply with these regulations will result in exclusion from school.

**ADMINISTERING MEDICATION DURING SCHOOL:**

The following are Health Office procedures for administering medication during school hours:

Any child requiring medications (including over-the-counter drugs, cough drops, eye and ear drops) during school hours will be under the jurisdiction of the school nurse. These procedures are in accordance with statutory regulations outlined by the Nurse Practice Act and provisions of the State Education Law:

- Medication is to be delivered to the Health Office by an adult and the medication will be stored in a locked cabinet.
- Medicine is to be in the original pharmacy bottle with the pharmacy label intact, with the first and last name of the student, the name of the drug, dosage and frequency of administration.
- A note from the physician must accompany the medication stating the name of the student, name of the drug, dosage, time of administration, and reason for giving the drug.
- A note from the parent requesting that the medication be given by the school nurse as prescribed by the physician.

**These medical requests must be renewed each school year. At the end of the school year, please pick up the remainder of your child's medication in the health office or it will be discarded.**

### **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS:**

In accordance with the Frontier Central School District Policy and New York State Regulations, all students in grades PK, kindergarten, first, third, and fifth, plus all new students entering our school, are required to have a physical examination. This examination may be completed by the child's own physician or by the school doctor. Children who do not produce proof of physical examination by a personal physician will be examined by the school nurse practitioner.

### **MEDICAL PROBLEM:**

If your child has a known medical problem, such as allergies, asthma, seizures, heart murmur, milk allergy, etc., please notify the school nurse. A doctor's note is required stating if the child has any restrictions: for example, from having milk or milk products, from physical education or swimming classes. This doctor's note must be renewed each school year with any restrictions clearly stated.

## **Homework**

We believe that homework is for the benefit of the child. Its purposes include:

- Fostering a love of learning
- Learning organizational skills and good study habits
- Building responsibility and independence

- Practicing skills
- Learning to use resources
- Extending and/or reinforcing classroom learning

# I's

## **Intramurals**

During the course of the year, morning intramurals will be offered to 5th grade students. Details will be provided.

# K's

## **Kindergarten Orientation and Registration**

Children who have reached five years of age on or by December 1st of the school year may be registered for kindergarten. A birth certificate and immunization record signed by a physician are required for admittance to school. Registration will be held in early spring with an Orientation Program in late August. Children and parents will also have an opportunity to visit their classrooms prior to the opening day of school.

# L's

## Lost and Found

Labeling your child's belongings will facilitate their return should something be lost. If you think your child has lost any item, please check our "LOST AND FOUND" located outside of the Office.

## Lunch & Cafeteria

While all students in Frontier district are allowed one free breakfast and one free lunch meal per school day under the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), it is still important for us to gather household income information for maximum funding of all student programs and grant applications.

### **Two ways to apply:**

- Online from any internet ready electronic device at MySchoolApps.com
- Return a paper survey to Food & Nutrition Services
- Surveys will be sent home & are available in school offices or on our website: FrontierChildNutrition.com

### **Lunches With Loved Ones**

Students may select Lunches With Loved Ones with their Beebucks (School-wide behavior incentive). If they do, you will receive a form to complete and return to the teacher. If you are planning on purchasing lunch in our cafeteria, please let us know your choice on the form. No purchased outside food (McDonald's, Burger King, Subway, etc) is permitted. Due to limited space and safety concerns, only adults who send in notes prior to their visit will be allowed to eat lunch. Our office staff will contact you if they have any questions. One visitor per child will be permitted. Enter at door 1 in the front of the building. Please sign in and receive a pass. You will be escorted to the cafeteria once your child is seated and ready. You must be escorted to the office by a cafeteria staff member where you will sign out and exit the building through door 1.

## Library/Media Center

The library program is an integral part of the school curriculum. Its goal is to help children become lifetime readers and lifelong learners. Students in grades K-5 visit the library to listen to and discuss stories, and participate in activities related to stories. Students also learn to locate books on shelves by call number and use reference materials. Students have the opportunity to check out books.

# M's

## FCSD Mission Statement

The Frontier Central School District is committed to developing the academics and character of students in an inclusive environment that both challenges and inspires responsible citizenship.

## Medications

If your child is to be given medication in school, all medication must be brought to the health office by the parent (not the child), and with the written directions from the physician, which indicate the frequency and dosage of the prescribed medication. Also mentioned should be the condition for which the child is being treated. The medication must be in the original container prepared by the pharmacist. Over the counter medications will require a physician's note.

## Music

### **CHORUS**

All students in Grades 4 and 5 are welcome to join the chorus for their grade level. They meet once a week and each grade level has two performances during the school year.

### **BAND / ORCHESTRA**

All students in Grades 4 and 5 are welcome to take instrumental or string lessons. The parent is responsible to rent/borrow the instrument their child picks to play. They will get a lesson schedule at the beginning of the school year and lessons are usually once a week. As the child

progresses in their lessons, the teacher will invite them into the band / orchestra. Each grade level performs twice a year during the school year.

## O's

### **Occupational Therapy Program**

Occupational Therapy is available as a related service to children up to age 21 who have been identified as having a handicapping condition by the Committee on Special Education.

## P's

### **Party Invitations**

If you are wanting to send invitations for any reason, the following applies:

The child can hand out invitations to the other students if the child is inviting all of the girls in the class, all of the boys in the class or all of the students in the class.

Invitations that are intended for only a portion of the girls or boys in the class will not be allowed to be handed out.

### **Pets**

We are unable to allow pets to visit school since we wish to protect those with allergies.

## **Parent Information Nights**

Held early in the school year, Parent Information Night will:

- Offer parents and teachers an opportunity to become acquainted.
- Provide parents with specific information regarding curriculum, policy and classroom routines.
- Communicate the sharing of expectations for students.
- Present ways in which parents can become further involved in their children's education, and foster a spirit of partnership between parents and teachers as they strive toward the common goal of school success!
- Tour the school.
- Gather information and/or resources.

## **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Parent/Teacher conferences are held in December, at which time there will be afternoon conferences scheduled. Students are dismissed early on these days. We encourage you to attend these conferences so that your children's work and progress can be shared.

Suggestions for a successful conference:

- Write yourself a few notes about what you would like to ask the teacher. Let your child have some input.
- Be ready to listen to the teacher. It might be that your child has not understood everything that has happened in school. By listening, being ready with your own notes, and by talking, your conference should be a productive work session-not just a "listen and agree" session. Ask questions about anything you do not understand.
- Set up a conference appointment for another time if you have more questions or concerns. We welcome your interest.
- If you are unable to attend a scheduled conference, please call or send a note to reschedule.

## **Physical Education**

Kindergarten through fifth grade children will participate in every gym class and gain the benefit of a well-rounded Physical Education Program. We do not change for class at this level so please consider what your child is wearing on gym days. Be sure your child has athletic sneakers, which are sturdy with laces or Velcro that keep them secure, play pants, sweatpants or jeans. The children really move and comfortable clothes are best. Girls should avoid skirts and dresses on gym day.

## **Physical Education Excuses**

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS ABSENCE:

If a student is to be excused from physical education class on a one-day basis, a written request from the parent/guardian is required. If a student needs to miss physical education for an extended period of time due to a medical excuse, a note from a physician is required. All notes must be given to the school nurse at the beginning of the school day. All other requests for exclusion from physical education class will be handled on an individual basis at the discretion of the principal, school nurse, physical education teacher, and/or the athletic director.

## **Physical Therapy Program**

Physical Therapy is available as a related service to children up to age 21 who have been identified as having a handicapping condition by the Committee on Special Education.

# R's

## Retention of Students

District policy regarding retention of students is guided by consideration of the best interests of individual students, the resources of the district and research concerning the best educational practices. Students must be placed in the best possible learning levels for successful educational experiences. Retention shall be limited to those situations where in the best interests of the child a successful learning experience is reasonably assured. Diligent effort shall be made to use all available resources to determine the child's appropriate placement.

# S's

## Safety and Security

### **Emergency Plan**

Blasdell Elementary has an Emergency Response Team (ERT), which meets throughout the school year to address issues related to the safety and security of students. Parents should be reassured that all precautions will be taken to ensure the safety of their children. The Blasdell Elementary Plan is connected directly to the district and to local and county emergency help.

### **Safety Drills**

Safety drills are conducted from time to time during the school year. The children and staff will practice a variety of routines, which will prepare them for emergency situations such as fire, evacuation, or intruder. We do this with seriousness, but in a non-threatening way. Evacuation and Lockdown drills now require a seven (7) day prior notification to parents.

### **District Security**

The Frontier Central School District Security Safety Plan is found on the District website.

### **Security Door**

The school doors are locked during the school day. Entry is through the Visitors Entrance by ringing a doorbell at door 1 which signals the office. Please do not hold the door open for other visitors. Entrants to the school may be asked to show identification. All entrants must sign in and wear an identification badge while they are in the school.

### **Defibrillator**

Two defibrillator units are located in the school for use by those trained in CPR/AED. The units are wired directly to 911 for backup support. Look for the signs noting their locations.

## **School Bus Rules**

We look forward to each student arriving at school ready to learn. Part of this involves a safe bus ride. Students are expected to maintain proper behavior while riding the bus to and from school. Students who do not behave properly jeopardize the safety and well being of all students on the bus.

Bus transportation is considered an extension of the regular school program. Students who violate behavior expectations on the bus will be subject to consequences. **Riding the bus is a privilege. Safe bus behavior will continue your riding privileges.**

In order to make our buses as safe as possible, the following rules must be obeyed:

1. BUS DRIVER IS IN CHARGE OF THE BUS. OBEY HIS/HER DIRECTIONS. HE/SHE MAY MAY ASSIGN SEATS.
2. ALWAYS STAY SEATED.
3. USE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE AND VOICE VOLUME.
4. KEEP HANDS AND FEET TO YOURSELF.
5. FOOD MUST REMAIN IN YOUR BOOK BAG/LUNCH BAG.

Consequences for not following the rules will be enforced. Our goal is to have a safe ride to and from school. Bus drivers will do a written report for behavior when rules are not followed.

**REPEATED INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR WILL RESULT IN SUSPENSION OF ALL BUS RIDING PRIVILEGES. IT IS THE PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT THE CHILD ATTENDS SCHOOL.**

## School Closing

In the event of the closing of school due to inclement weather, every effort will be made to send a district robo call as early as possible in the morning.

The following radio stations and local TV stations will be given information concerning school closings: WBEN, WGR, WYRK FM, WBUF FM, Channel 2, Channel 4 and Channel 7. In the event that school is closed, all school activities in the evening will be canceled unless an announcement to the contrary is made. In addition, buses will not take students to any private or parochial schools or to any BOCES classes.

## School Hours

Grades PK-5

- UPK full day begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 1:30 p.m.
- UPK ½ day programs run from 8:00 a.m.- 10:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.
- Students may enter the building at 8:30 a.m.
- The school day for students is 8:30 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.
- Instructional day begins at 8:50 a.m.
- Students who are not in their classroom by 8:50 a.m. will be considered tardy.

## School Behavior Expectations

It is the role of Blasdell Elementary School to teach responsible, respectful behavior to its children. In keeping with the district's Code of Conduct, parents, students, teachers, and staff are encouraged to engage in behavior that is safe and respectful. Our goal is to maintain a school environment that is a warm, positive, spirit-affirming place to learn. What follows is a list of our school expectations and an overview of the disciplinary plan at the elementary level. For specific information on student conduct and discipline, please refer to the Frontier Central School District Code of Conduct, which each child has received and brought home.

### **KEYS FOR SUCCESS:**

1. BE RESPECTFUL
2. BE RESPONSIBLE
3. BE SAFE
4. BE YOUR BEST

### **Guiding Principles and Considerations:**

The severity and frequency of unacceptable conduct as well as the age of the child and circumstances surrounding the behavior are taken into consideration when determining appropriate consequences. As a general rule, consequences will be progressive.

Consequences are intended to prevent inappropriate behavior from occurring and encourage students to make better choices in the future.

### **Consequences for not following the rules:**

Each classroom teacher has a behavior plan that includes rules and progressive consequences such as a warning, loss of free time and/or privilege, parent contact, and office referral. Upon receiving an office referral for misbehavior, students may be subjected to the following penalties, either alone or in combination.

1. Meeting with Principal + verbal warning.
2. Meeting with Principal + call to parent.
3. Meeting with Principal + call to parent and assigned detention(s).
4. Meeting with Principal + call to parent and suspension from privileges.
5. Meeting with Principal + call to parent and short term (5 days or less) suspension from school.

## **School Psychologist**

The School Psychologist provides services to all people within the school community. The School Psychologist evaluates children's academic, cognitive, and social emotional abilities. Results of the child's strengths and weaknesses are discussed with parents and teachers. The School Psychologist is also available to provide consultation to parents and staff regarding a child's behavior and educational needs at home and at school. The School Psychologist is also involved in the development of the Individualized Education Program for each student who has been determined to qualify for special education services.

## **Social Worker**

The School Social Worker is in the building on a full-time basis and is available to meet with children and parents as well as personnel. Services include individual and group sessions around the issue that may be interfering with school performance. This may include adjustment to family changes such as loss of employment, serious illness, separation, divorce, or loss of a family member. Also, consultation may be provided for chronic behavior problems, peer relationships, social skills and parenting issues.

## **Speech, Language and Hearing Services**

The Speech/Language Pathologist is responsible for assessment and remediation of communication disorders. Services can be provided to students individually and in small groups. Frequency and duration of the service varies according to the severity of the disorder. Communication disorders may include receptive and expressive language delays, auditory

processing difficulties, or speech production difficulties in the areas of articulation, voice and fluency.

## **Special Education**

In some cases, when children have been determined by the Committee on Special Education to have special learning needs, they are eligible to receive the services of Special Educators. These teachers work closely with classroom teachers to provide an Individualized Education Plan for the child. These students receive placement through the Committee on Special Education. The Special Education teacher provides supplemental instruction and remediation to students according to their individual needs. The classroom teacher and Special Education teacher work together to coordinate each student's program. The student's program is reviewed annually for appropriateness.

## **Student Belongings**

All outerwear, lunch boxes, backpacks, etc., should be labeled with your child's name to facilitate return in case of loss. Valuable items and toys should not be brought to school. Please help your child have a special place for his backpack and school belongings. Help to establish a routine of having things such as library books, pencils and lunch money ready the night before. This prevents the morning rush and gives the child a feeling of being prepared.

## **Special Transportation**

Special transportation to a licensed day care facility within the Frontier Central School District is available by submitting the Alternative Stop Application. The Special Transportation Request form should be submitted to the District Transportation Department. This form is available in the main office of Blasdell Elementary and/or on our district's website. Parents need to apply/reapply every year.

# T's

## **Tardiness**

When a student is late for school, the parent is required to sign in at the main office before the child proceeds to class. Parents must accompany children into the school. Students arriving at school after 8:50 a.m. will be marked tardy.

## **Transfer to Other School/Moving**

Please notify the office as soon as possible if your child will no longer attend Blasdell Elementary. When transferring to another school, the child's records will be sent to the new district as soon as the form to release the records is signed by the parent.

## **Technology and Computers**

All students in grades K-5 will have access to a Chromebook. Please visit our district website-Technology Services for more information.

# U's

## **Use of Telephone**

Children are allowed to use the office telephones when deemed an emergency or essential. Permission should be given by teachers or office staff.

# V's

## **Vacations**

Parents receive a calendar listing official school holidays. State Education Law requires that students attend school every day it is in session unless they are excused. It is considered an unexcused absence when children are taken out of school for vacation during the regular school session. Please understand that we cannot provide extra work or makeup work that will prepare your child in the same way that class work does.

## **Visitors**

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to take an active role in their children's education. However, certain standards and procedures are enforced for the safety and education of our students. If you would like to meet with a teacher or visit a classroom, an appointment can be arranged by contacting the teacher or through the main office.

In an effort to maintain a safe environment for our children, the only entrance to the building, which will be utilized by the public during school hours, will be the front entrance (Door 1).

## **Volunteering**

Parents are welcome and encouraged to volunteer in our school. If you plan on volunteering in a classroom, permission from the teacher is required. Parents must sign in at the main office before going to the classroom. Please notify the teacher in advance and sign in at the office. Badges are provided for all visitors in the office. You must complete the Volunteer Orientation session and return the Parent Volunteer Application which can be found on page 9 of the Parent Volunteer Handbook Procedures, Expectations and Guidelines.

# W's

## When Your Child is Ill

Children are most vulnerable to contracting diseases while in school because of the close contact they maintain. While we cannot prevent this from occurring, with your help we can implement some simple guidelines to help promote a healthy environment.

- Teach your child the importance of correct hand washing as a means of preventing the spread of germs.
- Proper disposal of tissues, and covering one's mouth when coughing also prevents germs from circulating.
- If your child is coughing excessively, keep him/her home to prevent exposing others.
- A child should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. Temperature may indicate the onset of an illness.
- A child should remain at home if he/she has vomited or experienced diarrhea within a 24-hour period.
- Communication is a two-way street. Please report any contagious diseases your child has been diagnosed to have (e.g., strep throat, chicken pox, pink eye, etc.). The more we know the better prepared we are to keep your child on the road to good health. When necessary, notices containing information regarding communicable diseases will be sent home.

### Picking-Up a Sick Child:

If a student must leave the school during school hours due to illness, parents or guardians will be contacted by the nurse's office. Students should be picked up and signed out at the nurse's office.

