



# **SUMMIT SCHOOL**

## **2024-2025 STUDENT AND FAMILY HANDBOOK**

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## Welcome



Dear Summit School Families & Community,

I am thrilled to welcome you to a new academic year at Summit School! Whether you are returning families or joining us for the first time, it is my pleasure to introduce myself as Brady Wald, the Head of School. Together with our dedicated faculty and staff, I am committed to fostering a nurturing and enriching environment where every student can thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.

At Summit School, we prioritize the holistic development of each child. We understand that a safe and supportive environment is crucial for academic success, which is why we maintain high standards of care and security. Our campus is designed to encourage exploration and learning, with facilities that support both academic endeavors and extracurricular activities.

Academically, we are dedicated to providing a rigorous and enriching curriculum that challenges students to think critically, solve problems creatively, and develop a lifelong love for learning. Our faculty members are not only experts in their fields but also passionate educators who are committed to the growth and success of every student.

We also recognize the importance of emotional and social growth in our students' development. Through our comprehensive social-emotional learning programs and various enrichment activities, we aim to instill in our students the values of kindness, respect, and responsibility. Building strong character and fostering positive relationships are integral parts of our educational approach.

As we embark on this new school year, I encourage you to actively participate in our school community. Your involvement, whether through volunteering, attending school events, or engaging in parent-teacher conferences, plays a vital role in your child's educational journey.

I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for each student at Summit School. Together, let's make this academic year a successful one. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas you would like to discuss.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. I look forward to seeing you at Summit very soon! Here's to a fantastic school year filled with growth, learning, and achievement!

Sincerely,

**Brady T. Wald**

Head of School

## MISSION STATEMENT

We are a courageous community of visionary leaders, expert teachers, and family partners, empowering learners who are creative problem solvers, skilled communicators, and practiced collaborators, dedicated to serving others. Summit School is a thought and practice leader in challenging, applied, content mastery, and social- emotional growth. Our rigorous curriculum and supportive environment build the foundation for students of character to pursue lives of meaning, purpose, and passion.

## VISION STATEMENT

Summit equips creative innovators by providing a safe and joyful place for preschool through eighth grade students to discover and achieve their full potential. We are a dynamic community with a culture that fosters relationships among students, teachers, families, and alumni to promote:

- A cutting-edge, rigorous, integrated curriculum focused on academic core mastery and 21st century skills, including creative problem solving, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and leadership needed to thrive.
- Students who cultivate an intrinsic love of learning through academic experience that meets personal and differentiated needs and produces life-long learners.
- The development of social-emotional and character skills such as self-discipline, integrity, resilience, community.
- An environment that stimulates intellectual curiosity, independent thinking, and creative problem solving.
- Practices and policies are rooted in the most current research.
- A professional learning community in which all members engage in continuous learning.
- Enthusiastic participation of students, staff, and families, as we sustain supportive relationships that enrich the experience and learning environments of our students.
- Students who are global-thinkers and world changers through innovative education and future thinking.

## PURPOSE OF THE STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK

This handbook is intended to serve as a guide to help students and their families come to know Summit School's programs and opportunities, as well as to set forth basic expectations and agreements. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with its contents. No set of rules or guidelines can cover every conceivable situation that might arise at a school. The rules, policies, and procedures set forth in this handbook are intended to apply under normal circumstances. There may also be times when circumstances require distinct responses. This handbook does not limit the authority of Summit School to deviate from the normal rules and procedures set forth in this handbook, and to deal with individual circumstances as they arise in the manner deemed most appropriate by the school, taking into consideration the best interests of the school, its faculty, employees, students, or overall school community. While revisions are not anticipated, it is possible that policies may be updated during the school year. In this rare case, you will be advised of any changes as they are made either electronically (email) or by mail. Any student or guardian with a question about any handbook policy or statement should feel free to contact the Head of School.

## ATTENDANCE

### School Hours

School hours for all Preschool through Eighth Grade students are 8:15 AM - 3:15 PM. Summit School provides before and after-school supervision.

Families are welcome on campus at or after 8:00 AM. Classrooms open at 8:00 AM, and students must be in their classrooms by 8:15 AM. Students arriving prior to 8:00 AM will be signed into Morning Extended Day and guardians will be charged accordingly. Any student who is not in class by 8:15 AM is considered tardy.

### Tardiness

Students who arrive late to school must report to the Main Office for a late pass. Students are expected to be in their classrooms and ready to work by 8:15 AM. Any student who is not in class by 8:15 AM is considered tardy. All tardies and absences will appear on the student's grade reports.

### Excessive Absences and Tardiness

Students are expected to attend class every day, except in cases of illness, religious observance, or family emergency. We understand the need to schedule medical appointments and recommend that you schedule these before or after school. If not possible, please consult with your child's homeroom teacher to find the best time during the school day, so your child does not miss out on valuable learning time.

A student who is chronically absent (absent more than 10 days per semester) will be contacted via email or phone by administration. Reasons and documentation of this phone call or email for chronic absence will be documented in the student's attendance record. The same procedures will be followed for chronic tardiness. Chronic tardiness is defined as more than eight tardies per quarter. Absences and tardiness deemed excessive may result in consequences, up to and including disenrollment, at the discretion of the Head of School.

### Vacation

Parents/guardians should make every effort to plan family vacations during "No School" days. "Vacation" is not considered an excused absence. **Teachers are not required to provide assignments in advance for a child who is away from school for a trip or special event.**

### Notifying School of Absences

Parent/Guardian must report all absences via email to [attendance.notifications@summitschoolaz.org](mailto:attendance.notifications@summitschoolaz.org). The Office Manager will then notify the student's classroom/homeroom teacher regarding the absence. When reporting an absence, please provide the student's name, grade, date of the absence, and the reason.

Parents/guardians are required to notify the Office Manager within 24 hours if a doctor diagnoses their child as having a contagious disease while attending our school. Also, report any information when a child is hospitalized or received treatment for a serious medical condition. This information will be treated confidentially and shared with others on a need-to-know basis.

## ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

### Closed Campus

Summit School maintains a closed campus. Students are not to leave the school grounds from the time they arrive on campus until school ends without being signed-out by an approved adult. Once students leave, they may not return to the campus unless accompanied by an approved adult and signed in at the front office.

In the interest of safety, maintaining order, and preventing disruption of instructional time, the Head of School or administrative designee shall have the authority to grant or deny a visitor access to the campus. In the case of a visitor who engages in disruptive, disorderly, or threatening behavior, or any behavior that potentially risks the safety of students and staff, the Head of School or designee may restrict the person's access to the school for an extended period, including indefinitely. This could also include any visitor who refuses to follow our school procedures or staff directives.

### Parking Lot Safety

Any person operating a motor vehicle or electric vehicle on campus is required to obey all speed limit signs and exercise extreme caution while driving on school property. Guardians are to refrain from using a phone for talking, texting, emailing, and internet while driving on campus. These rules should be respected and shared with any persons authorized to transport children to and from school. Anyone who operates a vehicle on campus in a manner that poses a hazard is subject to being banned from driving while on campus or banned entirely from campus.

### Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up

#### General Guidelines

- Guardians are responsible for transporting their children to and from school.
- Guardians and visitors must park in designated lined parking spaces only.
- Do not park in such a way to hinder the flow of traffic or jeopardize the safety of children.
- Parking is not allowed along the red curbs.
- Do not park in the designated spaces purchased by guardians at the annual Summit School Auction.
- State law prohibits neglect and endangerment of children. Never leave children unattended in a vehicle at any time, and always use car seats and seat belts.
- Students cannot be dropped off in the parking lots.
- **Pedestrians are not permitted to cut through the carline.**
- Please do not try to meet with teachers while they are supervising carline.
- There is no use of wireless phones (or other digital devices) while in the carline.
- At dismissal, please do not arrive earlier than 15 minutes before your child's dismissal, time as this blocks our fire lane and inhibits emergency vehicles from entering our facility.
- Summit School is not responsible for damage to vehicles or theft. Please secure all valuables and use caution while moving through the parking lot and carline areas.
- Key fobs will allow access to campus on scheduled school days at the following times/locations:
  - Front Office doors during office hours (7:45 AM – 3:45 PM)
  - Front blue gate during drop-off (8:00 AM – 8:15 AM), pick-up (3:15 PM – 3:30 PM) and afternoon extended day (3:30 PM – 6:00 PM)



- Front Office doors will be unlocked for drop off until 8:30 AM. After 8:30 AM, K-8 students must be walked into the office by an adult that will need to sign the student into school using the School Check In system located in the front office.
- When leaving campus, you must exit through the Front Office during the school day (8:15 AM – 3:15 PM) and not through the outdoor gates.

### **Preschool**

- Guardians must park in a designated parking space or along the street curb and walk their child to the preschool classroom to sign them in and out.
- **Drop-Off** – All guardians will walk their preschool student through the Main Office or front blue gate and go around the back of the administration building to the preschool lobby, which is located through the double glass doors. Parents will then sign in their child in the classroom and exit through the Main Office.
- **Pick-Up** – All guardians will enter through the Main Office or front blue gate and go around to the preschool entrance to sign out their student and then exit through the Main Office or front blue gate.

### **Kindergarten through Fourth Grade**

- The main driveway at the front of the school is a drop-off and pick-up location for kindergarten through fourth grade only.
- **Drop-Off** - In the morning, please use the drive-through loop where a staff member will greet your child. Or park and walk your child to class.
- **Pick-Up** - In the afternoon, kindergarten through fourth grade students are dismissed from the MPR. Students who are picked up by private vehicles are dismissed from the north side double doors. For students who are picked up by guardians on foot, the guardian should enter campus through the front gate and proceed to the south side door of the MPR.
- Kindergarten students will be in MPR for pick-up even if they have a PS sibling.

### **Fifth and Sixth Grade**

- **Drop-Off** - Fifth graders and middle school students should be dropped off at the east gate (unless they have a younger sibling in kindergarten through fourth grade.) The east gate is the official middle school entrance.
- **Pick-Up** - Grades five and six are dismissed at the east gate (unless they have a seventh or eighth grade sibling.)
- Older siblings in grades 5-8 go with their younger sibling(s) in the MPR for safety reasons. A bench is set up in the MPR for them with a teacher to supervise.

### **Seventh and Eighth Grade**

- **Drop-Off** - Middle School students should be dropped off at the east gate (unless they have a younger sibling in kindergarten through fourth grade.) The east gate is the official middle school entrance.
- **Pick-Up** - Seventh and eighth grade students dismiss at the south gate on E. Woodland Dr. (along with any fifth and sixth grade siblings) to eliminate dangerous traffic situations.
- Older siblings in grades 5-8 go with their younger sibling(s) in the MPR for safety reasons. A bench is set up in the MPR for them, and a teacher to supervise.
- For seventh and eighth graders with siblings in MPR, guardians who want their K-6 kids to go to the back gate can make this request to HOS.

### **Front Gate Dismissal**

On occasion it will be necessary for K-4 to be dismissed from the front of the school if the MPR is being used for a special event.

- **K-4 Pick-Up** - The pick-up process is still the same, only K-4 students will be dismissed from outside of the Main Office/front blue gate.

### Impaired Drivers

The well-being of all our students is our primary concern. We are required to see that our students are safely supervised when they are arriving to, or leaving from, campus. If a guardian or authorized driver appears to staff to be impaired or intoxicated when they arrive to pick up a child, Summit staff will refuse to release the student to the impaired or intoxicated adult. Summit staff will then contact the emergency authorization numbers that are listed in the student's file. If Summit staff is not able to reach a guardian or an authorized emergency person, staff will call the Phoenix Police Department and follow their instructions.

Summit protocol for this situation is:

1. Make alternative arrangements for child pick-up including attempting to contact another person on the Authorized Child Pick-up List.
2. Notify the following individual(s) by phone and email:
  - a. The guardian(s) of the child (if they are not the ones who are intoxicated or impaired).
  - b. Guardians of other children the person has been authorized to pick-up.
  - c. Appropriate school staff.
  - d. Follow the state mandated "Child Abuse and Neglect" policy for reporting the incident to the Arizona Department of Child Safety.

The Head of School, Athletic and Activities Director, and all other designated school personnel are authorized to carry out the directives of this policy

### Persons Designated to Pick-Up Students

Only individuals listed on the student pick-up list can sign a student out of school. A student will only be released to someone who is listed on the student pick-up list or with written permission from a guardian authorizing such action. Please be aware that photo identification of any person signing a student in or out may be requested by the staff if they are not familiar with the person. Please inform all parties who are listed on the student pick-up list, so they enter the building with proper identification in their possession.

All changes to a student's pickup list must be made through the [FACTS Family Portal \(ParentsWeb\)](#)

If a guardian would like a driver who is under the age of 18 to pick up a Summit student from Summit School, the guardian must complete the Summit School Minor Driver Authorization Form and login to their [FACTS Family Portal \(ParentsWeb\)](#) account to add this minor driver to their student's pick-up. The Summit School Minor Driver Authorization Form can be requested at the front desk. Students are not allowed to be picked up by ride sharing services such as Uber or Lyft.

### Appointments and Early Dismissal

Students must be signed out if they leave before the end of the school day.

### K-8 Students

Guardians should report to the Front Office and ask the Office Manager to call the student out of class. The student will need to be signed out using the School Check In system located in the Front Office. If the student is leaving for an appointment but returning, they will need to be signed back in upon their return using the same system.

### **Preschool Students**

Guardians should come to the Front Office to check-in prior to going to the preschool classroom to sign out their student. If the student is leaving for an appointment and returning, they will need to be signed back in upon their return using the same system.

## **Extended Day Program**

Students need parental permission to stay on campus and be involved in school-sanctioned activities after school hours. For safety reasons, once the dismissal process is complete all remaining students will be signed into Afternoon Extended Day and guardians will be charged accordingly.

### **Extended Day Hours and Locations**

Before school (7:00 AM – 8:00 AM) and after school (3:30 PM – 6:00 PM).

Summit School opens for extended care at 7:00 AM and closes promptly at 6:00 PM. Please do not drop children off before 7:00 AM.

- Preschool Extended Day: Morning drop-off is in the multi-purpose room. Afternoon pickup is inside the preschool. Snacks and necessary materials are included.
- Elementary and Middle School Extended Day: Morning drop-off is in the multi-purpose room. Afternoon pick-up may be in the IDEA Lab, the multi-purpose room, or on the playground/field. Please refer to the extended day sign on the front gate notifying of each day's location. Snacks and necessary materials are included.

All students will be automatically enrolled in Drop-in Extended Day unless they are enrolled in the prepaid Extended Day program. Guardians are charged for this service only when used. All guardians using drop-in care will be asked to complete a Drop-In Extended Day Care Agreement.

### **Late Pickup Penalty**

Summit Extended Day Program closes promptly at 6:00 PM. A \$1.00 per minute additional charge will be added to your account for children picked up after 6:00 PM. The 2nd occurrence will result in a charge of \$5.00 per minute/per child past 6:00 PM. The 3rd occurrence will result in a charge of \$10.00 per minute/per child past 6:00 PM. Suspension of participation in Summit's Extended Day Program may occur after the 3rd occurrence of late pick-up.

## **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT POLICY**

Summit School seeks to maintain the safest possible environment for our students. In doing so, we abide by our legal and professional obligations to protect our students from abuse by reporting any suspected abuse to the proper authorities. Child abuse is a very serious issue, and Summit School will not tolerate the physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect of any of its students.

### **Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting Policy**

## **Mission**

Summit School seeks to maintain the safest possible environment for our students. In doing so, we must abide by our legal, social, and moral obligations to protect our students from abuse by reporting any suspected abuse to the proper authorities. Child abuse is a very serious issue and Summit School will not tolerate the physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect of any of its students.

This policy provides for a safe environment for both staff and minors, and to raise awareness of how to manage risk when minors are present. “Minors” includes any youth under the age of 18 years old. “Staff” includes both employees and volunteers of Summit School. “Parent” is considered both parents and legal guardians. This policy should be provided to all new staff upon hire and reviewed with returning staff on an annual basis. This policy emphasizes the responsibility that staff, volunteers and parents each have in ensuring a safe and successful program.

## **Reporting procedures**

**Mandatory Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse** All Summit School personnel are “mandated reporters” and are required by law and school policy to report suspected child abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment to the Department of Child Safety or local law enforcement. (ARS §13-3620.A). Children often tell a person with whom they feel safe about abuse or neglect, and making a report represents taking action to protect them. If a child tells you of such experiences, act to protect that child by calling the toll-free Arizona Child Abuse Hotline at 1-888-SOS-CHILD (1-888-767-2445). The Head of School must also be informed in all such instances. Summit School will not tolerate any retaliation against any individual who brings forward a possible instance of child abuse.

## **Indicators of abuse**

Remember that every abuse situation is different, and we should all be attuned to recognize such signs. Also, we need to listen to our students when we ask questions regarding issues that may be of concern. Often the child will try to avoid the detection of abuse out of fear of getting in trouble with the abuser or other adults. As the responsible adults, we need to ask the right questions and follow up on our suspicions when the warning signs of abuse are present. While not every abused child will have physical trauma from abuse, below are some of the signs and indicators of frequent types of abuse.

### **Some Signs of Physical Child Abuse**

- burns, bite marks, cuts, bruises, or welts in the shape of an object
- broken bones
- resistance to going home
- fear of adults
- startling easily

### **Some Signs of Emotional Child Abuse**

- apathy, depression
- hostility
- difficulty concentrating

### **Some Signs of Sexual Child Abuse**

- bruises, bite marks or other injuries to breasts, buttocks, arms, lower abdomen or thighs
- difficulty walking or sitting
- persistent headaches or recurrent abdominal pain
- unexplained pain in genital area
- painful and recurrent urination/recurrent urinary tract infections

### **Some Signs of Neglect of a Child**

- clothing unsuited to the weather
- being dirty or unbathed
- extreme hunger
- apparent lack of supervision

## **Guidelines for working with Summit School Minors**

### **Best Practices for Safely Working With Minors**

- Avoid being alone with a single minor where you cannot be observed by staff or adults.
- Do not discipline minors by use of physical punishment or by failing to provide the necessities of care.
- Physical, verbal, emotional, or sexual abuse of minors is unlawful and is prohibited by state law and Summit School policy.
- Appropriate guidelines around physical contact should always be followed.
- Do not have off-hours contact with minors.
- Understand and respect boundaries set by minors regarding physical touch or sharing personal information.
- In sensitive situations and in case of injury, involve another staff member.
- No internet social networking with minors for personal reasons or through personal profiles are allowed.
- Communication to the Head of School all situations that may be questionable or a possible breach of these guidelines. If you believe someone has perpetrated abuse or neglect, immediately and confidentially report such violations.

### **Preventing Harmful Relationships with Minors**

The following are specific actions staff can follow to avoid harmful relationships with minors.

- Establish clear boundaries with minors, i.e. stating what are or are not appropriate conversation topics.
- Do not have inappropriate physical contact (see chart below).
- Treat all minors equitably, i.e. fairly and consistently. Avoid showing favoritism.
- Do not discuss your personal life with minors.
- Follow appropriate professional attire guidelines and avoid provocative or revealing attire.
- Do not swear or tell offensive jokes.
- Do not allow minors in your living quarters.
- Do not transport minors in a private vehicle without explicit Head of School and parental permission, and following proper procedures outlined by Summit School.
- Do not discuss your own or minor's sex life or activities.
- Do not smoke or drink alcohol in the presence of minors.
- Do not share sexually explicit literature, magazines, books, music, or videos except those in the context of a sanctioned, appropriate activity that relates to the educational objective of your program.
- Seek support for high-risk situations, such as discussions of very personal stories.
- When in doubt, seek assistance from the Head of School.

### **Appropriate and Inappropriate Interactions**

The following chart lists unacceptable and acceptable behaviors and actions with minors. It is intended to give clarity to unacceptable interaction between staff (employee or volunteer) and minors and the consequences for those actions. The lists are illustrative and not all-inclusive; other behaviors may be identified.

<b>Zero Tolerance</b> These behaviors, when substantiated, represent gross misconduct and may include termination of employment.	<b>Not Allowed</b> These behaviors <i>could</i> result in corrective action up to and including termination of employment.	<b>Appropriate</b> These behaviors are generally ok. However, even appropriate touch can be inappropriate when excessive, done for staff's personal pleasure or when the intention is to give preferential treatment.
<b>PHYSICAL CONTACT:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sexual abuse, molestation.</li> <li>2. Physical abuse, punishment, discipline (e.g. use of physical force, striking, squeezing).</li> <li>3. Physical interaction involving intimate touch or other risk of injury (e.g. tickling, wrestling, swinging by ankles or wrists, massages, caressing, sitting on lap, kissing).</li> </ol> <b>OTHER ACTIONS:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Verbal abuse (e.g. yelling in aggressive or threatening manner; belittling, including making fun of the individual's family, national origin, religion, sexuality, ethnicity, disabilities, sexual orientation; threatening bodily harm to the individual or individual's family/friends).</li> <li>5. Bullying, taunting; intimidation.</li> <li>6. Using inappropriate consequences for behavior (e.g. closing minor in closet, restraining minor).</li> <li>7. Neglect – failure to provide for basic needs of minors (e.g. failing to provide appropriate medical care, access to restrooms, or access to food/water).</li> <li>8. Telling or asking a minor not to tell an adult or parent of words or actions of staff or volunteers.</li> <li>9. Founded violation from Child Protective Services or law enforcement agency relating to the safety of a minor.</li> <li>10. Failure to fully cooperate with an investigation by Summit School, law enforcement agency or other authorized outside agency.</li> <li>11. Sexual exploitation (e.g. sharing or taking nude pictures).</li> <li>12. Being nude in front of minors under your care or direction.</li> </ol>	<b>PHYSICAL CONTACT:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Frontal hugs and bear hugs.</li> <li>2. Holding hands - intent is to eliminate special, singular relationships (ok for groups, games and with very young children who need assistance).</li> <li>3. Patting on head (demeaning in some cultures)</li> <li>4. Touching any parts of the body without consent.</li> <li>5. Restraint of a minor (unless minor is an immediate danger to self or others)</li> <li>6. Being rough with minors for behavior management (eg. yanking arm, grabbing shoulder, pushing minor into position).</li> <li>7. Roughhousing (aggressive physical contact)</li> <li>8. Lifting, carrying, piggy-back or arm-chair rides (exceptions could be for challenge course activities, group games, moving an injured minor).</li> </ol> <b>OTHER ACTIONS:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Emotional abuse (eg. sarcasm, harsh or abusive words; rejecting or stating you do not like a minor).</li> <li>10. Neglect – denying snack or other comfort as a behavior consequence.</li> <li>11. Personal gifts to minors or their parents (includes any gift, note, craft, food or beverage intended to give a minor and/or parent special attention not given to others).</li> <li>12. Crossing boundaries of appropriate and inappropriate interaction with minors (including telling stories of personal sexual relationships, illegal activity, siding with minors as opposed to supporting staff with rules).</li> <li>13. Singling a minor out for favored attention or giving the appearance of grooming.</li> </ol>	<b>PHYSICAL CONTACT:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shaking hands.</li> <li>2. High fives.</li> <li>3. Hand signs and greetings.</li> <li>4. Side hugs.</li> </ol> <p>Even physical contact that is considered 'appropriate' must be consented to by the minor, and be appropriate for the situation.</p>

## Reporting Procedures

All Summit School personnel are “mandated reporters” and are required by law and school policy to report suspected child abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment to the Department of Child Safety or local law enforcement. (ARS §13-3620.A). Children often tell a person with whom they feel safe about abuse or neglect, and making a report represents acting to protect them.

State law and our own concern for the welfare of each child require the school and all employees to report suspected child abuse or neglect. If staff members know or have reason to believe that a child is being physically abused, sexually abused, or neglected, the staff member must notify the Maricopa County Child Protection Services and Head of School. The law requires that the report include the child's name and address of the alleged perpetrator (if known), the extent of the injuries, and the name of the person reporting the suspected abuse or neglect. Summit School will answer to the best of our knowledge all questions asked by the Maricopa County Child Protection Services or law enforcement.

Summit School will not tolerate any retaliation against any individual who brings forward a possible instance of child abuse. We both encourage and appreciate every person's cooperation in ensuring the safety and well-being of our students.

## School Counseling and Confidentiality

The School Counseling Confidentiality Agreement is that all student/counselor conversations are private and between the counselor and student except for three instances. If conversations indicate one of the following three situations, the counselor is obligated to report the situation to school administration.

- Someone is hurting or attempting to hurt the student.
- Students are, or are planning to, hurt themselves or others.
- Student is, or is planning to, damage property.

Confidentiality means that the information a student shares with a counselor remains private. A student may share information with others as he or she wishes, but we understand that there is an absolute right to privacy. We will guard that privacy as much as is permitted by law, ethics, and school rules. We recognize the legal right and responsibilities of guardians in doing what is in the best interest of their children. If a student or guardian asks that information be shared with outside professionals, that student and their guardian will be asked to sign a release form. We will send only the requested information, unless mandated by law or ethics. There are exceptions where we are legally required to break confidentiality, including potential harm to the student or to someone else, state laws that mandate reporting of child abuse, or a court of law that requires testimony or student records.

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Summit School has developed an Emergency Response Plan that serves as a guide to help staff and safety partners respond swiftly should a crisis arise.

Guardians are assured that Summit's safety and security planning and procedures follow the latest available protocols, and that all staff are trained and drilled to perform them in the event of an emergency.

Should an emergency occur while you are on campus, it is important that you are familiar with the following terms:

### **Lockdown**

During a lockdown, all school interior and exterior doors are locked, and all students and staff are confined to a safe room. No entry or exit is permissible until an "all clear" signal is given. This takes place when there is a possible threat inside or outside of the school.

### **Evacuation**

An evacuation may be necessary for the following situations: arson, fire, explosion, hazardous materials leak/spill, bomb threat, or damage to the building. In some cases of a dangerous person on campus, staff and students may be directed to evacuate campus if a safe evacuation path is available.

### **Shelter-In-Place**

This refers to taking refuge in an area inside the school when there is not adequate time to evacuate the school or release students. For example, this procedure may be implemented inside for hazardous materials that have been released into the atmosphere.

## Emergency Drills

The specific procedures for fire drills and other disasters/emergencies requiring evacuation of the buildings are posted in each area of the school. Fire and/or disaster drills are conducted monthly to prepare students and staff in the proper procedures.

## Utility Outages

If a power or water outage occurs, the administration evaluates the extent of the disruption to the school day. In some instances, this disruption may require closing the school, and we then notify you of the plans. If we close the school, we expect you or someone listed on the Emergency Card to pick up your child as soon as possible.

## Cancellation of School

Serious emergencies due to weather or a national emergency may warrant the cancellation of all school programs. If dangerous conditions require closing the school early, we ask guardians to pick up their children. Staff members will continue to supervise until all children have been picked up.

## HEALTH POLICIES

We strive to create a healthy and safe school environment. You can help by paying close attention to our health policies, which we have designed to protect your child's well-being.

## Health Forms

### **Immunization Records**

State regulations require that a child may not be enrolled in the school unless a copy of current immunizations record, or a completed exemption are on file.

### **Medical Alert Plans**

Students who have severe allergies or serious medical conditions require a doctor's statement describing the health or medical condition and the most important steps to take in an emergency. This documentation must be presented to the Head of School and will be used to develop a medical alert plan which includes the following: picture of the student and all parent contact information, statement of the medical condition, signs and symptoms, information regarding when to contact emergency medical services, information regarding what to do/not to do until emergency medical services arrive, and any other information that would help school personnel keep the child safe. In cases where all staff need to be informed, guardians will be asked to give permission for a medical alert poster to be placed in public areas on campus.

## Allergy Policy

Summit School will make reasonable accommodations for students with allergies in collaboration with the guardians and medical recommendations.

## Illness

The only place for a sick child is at home. If your child displays any of the symptoms listed below or has an infectious or communicable disease, please keep your child at home. Keep these guidelines handy. They will help you make appropriate decisions about sending your child to school. Children should be symptom-free (see Exclusion Symptoms) or on medication for 24 hours before returning to school.

### **Procedures for Sick Children at School**



If your child becomes sick at school, we call guardians or a designated person that has been listed as an emergency contact. A staff member will care for your sick child until you or the designated person arrives. We monitor your child and keep your child as comfortable as possible. Guardians or designated persons must pick up sick children within one hour.

### **Medical Excuses and Doctors Notes**

Since playing outside enhances children's social skills and helps them learn to play cooperatively, we require a medical excuse for a child to stay indoors.

### **Guidelines for Exclusion from School**

Certain symptoms in children may suggest the presence of a communicable disease. Children who have the symptoms listed below should be excluded from school until a physician has certified that the symptoms are not associated with an infectious agent, that they are no longer a threat to the health of other children at school, or that the symptoms have substantially subsided for at least 24 hours.

### **Exclusion Symptoms**

- **Fever:** 100°F or higher- A child should be fever-free for 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school.
- **Nausea, Vomiting or Diarrhea:** A child should be free from symptoms for 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school.
- **Respiratory Symptoms:** Difficult or rapid breathing or severe coughing, high-pitched, croup-like, or whooping sound after coughing.
- **Sore Throat:** Sore throat with or without fever, with or without white spots on the throat.
- **Skin Problems:** Rashes and sores, with or without fever illness, such as chicken pox, measles, etc.
- **Pink Eye (Conjunctivitis):** Watery, irritation, and redness of the white part of the eye and/or the lining of the eyelids and/or pus-like discharge. Pink Eye is extremely contagious. The child is contagious from the onset of signs and symptoms and while the eye is still red and/or draining. Signs of any symptoms must be "gone" for at least 24 hours before the child returns to school. Careful hand washing after contact with discharge from the eyes or articles soiled with the discharge is necessary. This must be treated with medication from a physician.
- **Head Lice:** A child must remain at home until treated, and no live lice are visible; upon return to school, school personnel will check the student.
- **Prolonged Headache or Stomach Ache:** A child is so uncomfortable that it may interfere with learning.
- **Swelling or Pain:** At a level that may interfere with learning.

## **Reporting Infectious Diseases and Treatment of Serious Medical**

Parents/guardians are required to notify the office within 24 hours if a doctor diagnoses their child as having a contagious disease while attending our school.

The school is required to send guardians written information listing any communicable diseases that occur among the children, as well as specific guidelines for their return to school following the illness.

Guardians are required to notify the office within 24 hours if a child is hospitalized or receiving treatment for a serious medical condition. This information will be treated confidentially and shared with others on a need-to-know basis.

## **Pandemic/Infectious Disease Strategies for Everyday Operations**

[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-childcare-guidance.html#anchor\\_1648820793946](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-childcare-guidance.html#anchor_1648820793946)

Schools should take a variety of actions every day to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, including the virus that causes COVID-19. The following set of strategies for everyday operations should be in place at all COVID-19 hospital admission levels, including low levels.

### **Staying Up to Date on Vaccinations**

Schools should promote equitable access to vaccination. Staying up to date on routine vaccinations is essential to prevent illness from many different infections. COVID-19 vaccination helps protect eligible people from getting severely ill with COVID-19. For COVID-19, staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations is the leading public health strategy to prevent severe disease. Not only does it provide individual-level protection, but high vaccination coverage reduces the burden of COVID-19 on people, schools, healthcare systems, and communities. Schools can promote vaccination in many ways:

- Provide information about COVID-19 vaccines and other recommended vaccines. Ensure communication meets the needs of people with limited English proficiency who require language services and individuals with disabilities who require accessible formats.
- Encourage trust and confidence in COVID-19 vaccines.
- Establish supportive policies and practices that make getting vaccinated easy and convenient, for example a workplace vaccination program or providing paid time off for individuals to get vaccinated or assist family members receiving vaccinations.
- Make vaccinations available on-site by hosting school-located vaccination clinics, or connect eligible children, students, teachers, staff, and families to off-site vaccination locations.

### **Staying Home When Sick**

People who have symptoms of respiratory or gastrointestinal infections, such as cough, fever, sore throat, vomiting, or diarrhea, should stay home. Testing is recommended for people with symptoms of COVID-19 as soon as possible after symptoms begin. If a person with COVID-19 symptoms tests negative for COVID-19, they should consider getting tested for other respiratory illnesses that could be spread to others, such as flu. If tested using an antigen test, negative tests should be repeated following FDA recommendations.

People who are at risk for getting very sick with COVID-19 who test positive should consult with a healthcare provider right away for possible treatment, even if their symptoms are mild. Staying home when sick can lower the risk of spreading infectious diseases, including COVID-19, to other people. For more information on staying home when sick with COVID-19, including recommendations for isolation and mask use for people who test positive or who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, see [Isolation and Precautions for People with COVID-19](#).

In accordance with applicable laws and regulations, schools should allow flexible, non-punitive, and supportive paid sick leave policies and practices. These policies should support workers caring for a sick family member and encourage sick workers to stay home without fear of retaliation, loss of pay, loss of employment, or other negative impacts. Schools should also provide excused absences for students who are sick, avoid policies that incentivize coming to school while sick, and support children who are learning at home if they are sick. Schools and ECE programs should ensure that employees and families are aware of and understand these policies and avoid language that penalizes or stigmatizes staying home when sick.

### **Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette**

Washing hands can prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Schools should teach and reinforce proper handwashing to lower the risk of spreading viruses, including the virus that causes COVID-19. Schools and ECE programs should monitor and reinforce these behaviors, especially during key times in the day (for example, before and after eating, after using the restroom, and after recess) and should also provide adequate hand washing supplies, including soap and water. If washing hands is not possible, schools should provide hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol. Hand sanitizers should be stored up, away, and out of sight of younger children and should be used only with adult supervision for children ages 5 years and younger.

Schools should teach and reinforce covering coughs and sneezes to help keep individuals from getting and spreading infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

### **Cleaning**

Schools should clean surfaces at least once a day to reduce the risk of germs spreading by touching surfaces. Additionally, ECE programs should follow recommended procedures for cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfection in their setting such as after diapering, feeding, and exposure to bodily fluids.

## **Student Injuries on Campus**

Minor injuries happen to children, and every educator is trained and certified in first aid and CPR. The staff treats minor injuries requiring no more than soap and water, a bandage, and a little loving care. Guardians are called when appropriate.

The school will contact you to report any injury to the face or head, and other serious injuries requiring further care or medical treatment. The supervising staff member also will file an accident report.

If a serious illness or accident occurs, school personnel will call 911 for assistance and evaluation. Guardians are also called as soon as possible. If the EMT personnel decides to transport your child to the nearest emergency medical facility and you are not at the school yet, a teacher or staff person will accompany the child to the emergency medical facility.

## **Medication**

Guardians and students are required to provide Summit with a list of all medications that the student currently takes, including prescription and nonprescription medication. School policy prohibits students from self-administering any medication, prescription or over the counter. Certain limited exceptions may be made for emergency medications, such as asthma inhalers, epinephrine auto injectors, or insulin. In the case of a student who may require such medications, guardians and students should consult with the Office Manager.

Designated staff is available to dispense medications only if a medication form is completed and accompany the medicine in its original container with the doctor's prescription.

- We may not administer medication that has been transferred from the original container.
- All medication and medication consent forms must be brought to the front desk by a guardian.
- Students are not permitted to turn in medication to the front desk.
- Medication forms are not valid from one year to the next, and, according to state law, guardians must update those permission forms annually.
- A student is never allowed to keep medication in their personal possession.

## Sunscreen Protocol

In accordance with Arizona law, Summit students may possess and use an FDA approved topical sunscreen product while on school property or at a school related event or activity to avoid overexposure to the sun. Summit staff will not apply any sunscreen product to our students without guardian permission.

For safety reasons:

- No aerosols should be used. There are dangers with pressurized cans and aerosols may pose problems for students with respiratory issues. Pump spray should not be used indoors
- Guardians should label the sunscreen product container with the student's name.
- Sunscreen products should be stored away when not in use--lockers, cubbies, backpacks, or some other reasonable location.

## Blood Borne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan

Universal precautions are observed at Summit School to prevent contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials. All blood or other potentially infectious material is considered infectious regardless of the perceived status of the source individual.

## Hand Washing

Proper hand washing procedures are followed by staff, visitors, and children. These include:

- Using liquid or foam soap and running water.
- Vigorous rubbing for at least 10 seconds including all surfaces on hands and under fingernails.
- Turning off water with a paper towel.
- Staff wears gloves when handling any materials/skin that has blood on it or obtains blood.
- Hand washing sinks are not to encounter fecal matter or food products except when handling blood or body fluids that might contain blood. Wearing gloves is an optional supplement but not a substitute, for hand washing in any required hand-washing situation listed above.

Hand washing is required by all staff, volunteers, and children when hand washing would reduce the risk of transmission of infectious diseases to themselves and to others. Children wash either independently or with staff assistance. Staff assist children with hand washing as needed to successfully complete the task.

Staff, volunteers, and children wash their hands:

- After using the toilet
- Before and after handling food, before and after all mealtimes
- After blowing their nose or encountering any bodily fluid
- After cleaning and disposing of garbage in the classroom
- After outdoor play in sand, water, or on the field
- after playing in water that is shared by two or more people
- After handling all pets and/or animals
- After assisting a child with toileting
- Before and after administering medication

## Oral Hygiene

If you would like your child to brush their teeth after lunch, please send a toothbrush in a labeled Ziploc bag, and give it to your child's teacher. Children will be provided with oral care opportunities daily.

## Breastfeeding

Summit School is a breastfeeding-friendly environment in accordance with the Arizona Department of Health Services.

## BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES: CHARACTER AND DISCIPLINE

### Diversity and Inclusivity Statement

Summit School acknowledges and celebrates the unique differences within our community. Summit is committed to education and policies that support an inclusive environment.

### Philosophy and Conduct

The staff and families of Summit School are committed to creating a safe, positive, and challenging learning environment which will enable our students to acquire a solid knowledge base and develop a sense of themselves as life-long learners, skillful decision makers, and responsible citizens. Students are expected to demonstrate responsible behavior and demonstrate growth in their capacity for self-control and self-management. Children must know what is expected of them and what they can expect at school. We believe that behavior guidelines should combine character education and positive discipline to create an environment where students can focus on learning.

To maintain an environment that supports learning and growth. The school expects members of the Summit School community, including students, family members, and other persons interacting with the school to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner while on campus, attending Summit School related activities, and interacting with other members of the Summit School community. Conduct that jeopardizes the reputation of the school, disrupts the educational or working environment, or detracts from the school's mission may result in disciplinary action up to and including a student's dismissal from the school, regardless of whether the conduct takes place on campus or off-campus, in person or via technology, in public or in private. Summit School maintains sole authority to determine whether conduct violates the school's expectations and what, if any, further action the school will take.

Any verbal or physical action that threatens or compromises self or others wellbeing or discourages another because of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or other difference, is unacceptable.

Summit School strives to maintain a safe educational environment for its students, staff, faculty, and visitors. If Summit has what the school considers a reasonable basis to believe that a student is a threat to themselves or others in the school community, the school is obligated to take any steps it deems appropriate under the circumstances to ensure the health and safety of the school's community. The Head of School will review issues of this nature on a case-by-case basis and determine the appropriate course of action. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Placing a student on an immediate, indefinite leave of absence until the school has resolved the concerns it had that the student posed a threat to themselves or others.
- Notifying the proper authorities (i.e., police, firefighters, ambulance), depending on the circumstances.

Similarly, Summit School may act as the school deems appropriate if the school finds reasonable basis to believe that any person interacting with the school by virtue of their relationship to a student is a threat to the school environment.

If the student or the student's guardian(s) assert that the student's physical or mental health was a cause of the school's concern, the school will require appropriate medical certifications before it considers allowing a student to return to the school. If the school determines, in its sole discretion, that the medical certification provided by the guardian does not adequately ensure that the student no longer poses a risk or threat to themselves or others, the school may require the student to submit to an independent medical examination to determine if the student remains a threat to themselves or the Summit School community. If the student's physical or mental health was a cause of the safety concern, the school may require ongoing professional counseling/treatment and proof thereof as a condition of returning to the school.

In cases where the threat is against the school or other students, a state law applies. Arizona law (statute, A.R.S. 13-2911) prohibits interfering with or disrupting an academic institution and makes conduct in violation of the statute, whether deliberate or through reckless disregard, a felony.

The school will consider factors like the degree of severity of these threats or misconduct and the cumulative effect of the misconduct in determining whether the offense warrants detention, suspension, expulsion, referral to a law-enforcement agency, or some alternative to or combination of these steps.

### **Serious Violations**

The following violations are subject to review of the Head of School and may result in consequences up to and including suspension and disenrollment.

- **Disrespect or Defiance** – Disrespectful or defiant behavior is defined as the direct and immediate refusal to comply with reasonable adult instruction within a specified period.
- **Threats or Threatening Behavior** – Threatening words and/or actions are taken seriously and seen as harmful to the well-being of others and the school.
- **Bullying Behavior** – Cruel, hurtful words and behaviors are taken very seriously. This includes hitting, punching, kicking, biting, slapping, pushing, pinching, tripping, spitting, etc. See Anti-Bullying section.
- **Physical Assault** – Physical attack on another person, recklessly or intentionally causing any physical injury to another person, intentionally placing another person in reasonable fear of physical injury, knowingly touching another person with the intent to injure, insult or provoke the person is considered assault.
- **Vandalism and Stealing** – Removing school or personal materials without permission is considered stealing. Willful destruction or abuse of private or school property is considered vandalism.
- **Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco** – The possession, use, sale, distribution, and/or purchase of alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription, medication, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vaping supplies, or any other substance related to these (including matches, lighters, or paraphernalia) are never allowed.
- **Weapons** – No weapon of any kind (real or fake), including knives, cap guns, and toy guns, is ever permitted on campus.
- **Gambling** – Gambling of any sort is prohibited.
- **Leaving Campus** - Leaving the school grounds for any reason without following the school check-out procedure is prohibited.

### **Repeated or More Serious Offenses or Violations of Conduct**

For repeated or more serious offenses or violations of conduct, the following consequences are likely.

**Disciplinary Probation-** A student will be placed on Disciplinary Probation if they receive two after-school detention assignments in one quarter, three or more after-school detention assignments in one semester, or one suspension from school at any time. At the discretion of the Head of School, students on Disciplinary Probation may not be permitted to participate in field trips or other school-sponsored activities on or off campus. Students whose behavior violates the terms of Disciplinary Probation may be subject to disenrollment. A student may be added to or removed from Disciplinary Probation at the discretion of the teachers and Head of School.

**In School Intervention (ISI) / Out of School Suspension (OSS)** - Students may be suspended from school for a length of time deemed appropriate by the Head of School.

**Expulsion/Disenrollment** - Students may be expelled or disenrolled if there is a persistent pattern of behaviors inconsistent with the school's expectations including absences, tardiness, and non-compliance with the code of conduct and mission of Summit School.

**Law Enforcement/Legal Action** - Summit School may involve law enforcement officials and/or legal authorities if necessary.

### **Out of School and Off-Campus Behavior**

Students should be aware that certain activities, even outside of school hours or off school property, may result in loss of school privileges and other disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion. Students may be subject to discipline for misconduct which is, or may be, disruptive of the educational process, is contrary to the mission of the school, generates negative publicity, impinges on the rights of other students, staff, or members of the school community, or has a direct or immediate effect on the discipline or general welfare of the school and its students, staff and faculty, even if such conduct takes place off campus, during non-school hours, or on breaks from school.

Such conduct will be evaluated at the sole discretion of the school. Some examples of such outside conduct that may have disciplinary ramifications at school include any violation of law; underage purchase, use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance; use or misuse of computers, computer websites, social media, or applications (personal, at home, or at school), which do, or could, impact the welfare of any member of the school community or the reputation or functioning of the school.

### **Corporal Punishment**

Summit School prohibits all forms of corporal punishment in our school and during school related activities. Classroom management methods will be consistent with a student's right to respect for their human dignity and physical integrity. Student management solutions will identify and address appropriately the causes of the perceived behavior and require creative, empathic, supported, respectful and professional interventions. In exceptional circumstances when faced by dangerous behavior, the response will be the minimum amount of force necessary and with the goal of protection of the student.

## Codes of Conduct

### **Student Code of Conduct**

To safeguard the rights and well-being of all Summit School students, all students are expected to follow this Code of Conduct. Staff members enforce the rules at school, and we ask that guardians support these expectations both at

home and at school. Failure to follow this Code of Conduct will result in consequences up to and including expulsion from Summit School.

### **Respect Yourself**

- I will arrive on time and attend school every day that I am able.
- I will bring my materials and come ready to learn.
- I will follow the dress code.
- I will be cooperative in class and contribute in a positive way to the classroom.
- I will only turn in schoolwork that is my own; I will not copy the work of others. I will not cheat on tests, either by giving or receiving answers.
- I will use the computer responsibly.
- I agree to resolve my anger in a civilized way.
- I will keep my hands and feet to myself and will not physically assault or endanger another individual.

### **Respect Others**

- I will treat others with respect. I will speak courteously to teachers, staff, parents, visitors, and other students. I will not make degrading, racist, or humiliating jokes.
- I will not make offensive sexual remarks, demands, or advances.
- I will not tease, name-call, swear, curse, or harass another individual.
- I will respect the learning environment by speaking quietly in the classroom and other areas of school.
- I will avoid creating problems for others and myself.
- I will not disrupt learning or teaching.

### **Respect Property**

- I will respect school property and not damage objects, buildings, or materials belonging to the school or others. I will throw garbage in a trashcan and not in my locker or on school grounds.
- I will keep my hands to myself and respect the property of others.
- I will take care of my books and the classroom property.

### **Safety**

- I will not hurt myself, others, or things.
- I will not interfere with the learning of others.
- I will move safely through the building and grounds.

### **Code of Conduct for a Guardian, Caregiver, Volunteer, and Visitor**

This code is designed to guide all stakeholders in their dealings with staff, other guardians, students, and the wider Summit School Community. We believe the education process must be reflected in our example, attitudes, and interactions.

**We strive to create a safe environment for all stakeholders developing:**

- An inclusive and welcoming attitude towards all people
- An ability to appreciate the situation of others
- A cooperative attitude in working with others
- Open, positive, and honest communication
- The ability to work civilly with other people
- Trusting relationships
- Responsible actions



**As a Guardian, Caregiver, Volunteer, and/or Visitor, we ask that you:**

- Value and advocate for your school and its reputation
- Respect the decisions made by the administration, even if you disagree with them
- Be mindful of the hurt and damage social media may cause to faculty/staff members and other guardians
- Under no circumstances approach another child while in the care of the school to address, discuss or reprimand them because of actions towards your own child/ren
- Respect the reputation of teachers and be mindful of all communications both verbal and written
- Follow the correct procedures to resolve a grievance or conflict, as outlined in the school's handbook
- Respect teachers' preparation time before, during, and after school. Make an appointment for long discussions at a mutually convenient time. If you wish to speak to a teacher, please do not expect a meeting unless it is pre-arranged
- Observe the school's policies, as outlined in the school's handbook and endeavor to support them in the home
- Cooperate where your child's behavior has overstepped accepted school standards

Deliberate breaches and inability to respect the Summit School Code of Conduct for Guardians, Caregivers, Volunteers, and Visitors may result in exclusion of a guardian, caregiver, volunteer, and/or visitor from the school, and/or possible termination of enrollment of their child/ren.

**Rights of a Guardian, Caregiver, Volunteer, And Visitor**

- To be treated with respect and courtesy by staff, students, and other guardians
- To be listened to, and clearly communicated with by the school, regarding your child/ren's education and development
- To have confidentiality over sensitive issues respected by faculty/staff
- To be treated in a caring and polite manner
- To have a timely response to concerns raised, usually within 48 hours
- To be treated with professionalism by all faculty/staff members

### Safety on Playgrounds and on Campus

A playground is an important part of a child's learning environment. It is a place in which students can strengthen their bodies, develop group skills, and have fun. However, a playground must be a safe environment for all. School personnel are responsible for the safety of all children on the playground and campus. Each teacher reviews and teaches appropriate safety rules for the children. All playground equipment is inspected regularly for safety.

### Safety on Buses and Other Vehicles

We make every effort to ensure that your child has safe and pleasant transportation during field trips. We instruct the children in passenger safety and courtesy; therefore, so that they always treat the driver and all other passengers with respect. Riding in a bus or in another person's car is a privilege, and any student who repeatedly causes problems will not be allowed on future field trips. Students must behave in a civilized, respectful manner for the safety and well-being of all passengers. Eating is never allowed on a bus or another person's car. The driver has complete authority, and all school rules are in effect to and from school.

### Creating a Positive Learning Environment

Character education and etiquette are also part of the Summit School curriculum.

Summit School is a community of adults and children. Everyone within the Summit School community is held to a high standard reflective of a civilized and courteous society. Honesty, respect, and compassion are always expected. Unkind or disrespectful words or actions are unacceptable.

At Summit School every behavior issue, no matter how small or how serious, is a learning opportunity. This is part of helping children grow, mature, and make good choices. Teachers are firm and consistent in their treatment of students. Students are guided by their teachers toward acceptable behaviors and are taught to make wise and responsible decisions. We place great emphasis on the development of a healthy community. We teach students to be kind, and we help build the character they need to become productive, and caring adults. Students, who learn to reach out and empathize with others, to accept and celebrate the differences among themselves, and to communicate their feelings and resolve conflicts in constructive ways become positive, contributing members of the community.

The following are among the ways in which each member of the Summit School community plays a role.

### **Student Responsibilities**

- Behave in accordance with expectations.
- Encourage peers to do the same.
- Report inappropriate behavior to a teacher or staff member.

### **Teacher Responsibilities**

- Create and support an environment conducive to optimal learning.
- Model the school's behavioral expectations.
- Establish positive relationships with students and guardians.

### **Guardian Responsibilities**

- Develop open communication with the teachers and staff.
- Model the school's behavioral expectations.
- Support the partnership between school and home.

### **Staff & Administration Responsibilities**

- Provide a safe environment for all students.
- Support an optimal learning environment.
- Encourage positive relationships and communication among faculty, students, and guardians.

## **P.E.A.K. to Success! - Summit PBIS Model**

The P.E.A.K. to Excellence PBIS model at Summit will be the catalyst for creating a positive, kind, and collaborative culture and climate.

Summit School will focus on 4 core pillars that will contribute to the academic, emotional, and social growth and achievement of EVERY student. They are:

**P = Positive**  
**E = Engage**  
**A = Achieve**  
**K = Kind**

Within this PBIS model there are specific strategies that are implemented with all stakeholders which include:

- School Expectations Defined
- School Expectations Taught
- Incentives for positive behavior, growth, and achievement
- Continuous collection and use of data for decision-making

Students will receive “PEAK Points” based on meeting school-wide expectations and demonstrating the four core values which will contribute to our school’s growth and success. Students will have options to use their PEAK points for classroom incentives, school-wide incentives with the Head of School, or a Raffle Drawing during our End of the Quarter Celebrations.

Recognizing children who are making good choices and meeting expectations using the PEAK to Success Matrix as a guide, the teachers have been slowly introducing expectations at different times and in different places. Through the many teachable moments that occur when a group of young children are together, the teachers help children understand what it looks like to P.E.A.K. to Excellence at Summit School!

#### **Quarterly PEAK Focus:**

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>PBIS Pillar</b>
1st Quarter	Positive
2nd Quarter	Engage
3rd Quarter	Achieve
4th Quarter	Kind

#### **Positive Discipline Process**

In order to help all of our students learn self-discipline, personal and social responsibility; and positive character habits we use a positive discipline process that protects the rights of all students. This process includes:

1. **Teacher and Staff Responsibilities**– Helping students understand the difference between appropriate behavior and misbehavior starts with teaching students about rights, responsibilities, and consequences. All teachers and staff members are responsible for teaching all students the expected behaviors for the classroom and the common areas of the school, teaching the difference between minor and major problem behaviors, recognizing and rewarding appropriate behaviors when they occur, and acting to reteach, correct inappropriate behavior, resolve problems, and follow through with established consequences.
2. **Recognizing and Rewarding Appropriate Behaviors**– Every teacher is responsible for using multiple strategies for recognizing and rewarding students for meeting expectations and displaying behaviors that embody Summit’s Lifelong Guidelines. Strategies include specific verbal feedback, CARE tickets, personal notes, phone calls to parents, special privileges, and any other means that personally reward the student and strengthen behaviors and relationships. Our staff members are watching for students who demonstrate appropriate behavioral expectations. Those students can be rewarded with various positive forms of reinforcers, recognition, and rewards at school.

If a student is struggling with appropriate behaviors as described in the Summit School Student Code of Conduct and Lifelong guidelines, interventions will be put in place in collaboration with guardians to assist the student. Interventions will increase in frequency, depth, and number of resources as needed up to potential disenrollment or expulsion.

### Social Emotional Learning

Students develop social and emotional skills to become secure, well-adjusted young people, prepared to make good life choices. Nurturing relationships with caring teachers and peers create a culture of safety and respect to support student growth. We are currently evaluating specific Social Emotional curriculum materials for school-wide implementation beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.

### Anti-Bullying Policy

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly, and safe environment for all our students so they can learn in a nurturing and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, it will be dealt with promptly and appropriately. We are a “telling” school. This means that anyone student, staff, and/or guardian who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell a member of the staff.

#### What is Bullying?



The United States Department of Justice defines bullying as follows, “bullying encompasses a variety of negative acts repeated over time that involve a real or perceived imbalance of power, with the more powerful child or group attacking those who are less powerful. Bullying can be physical (e.g., spitting, pushing, stealing, hitting, and kicking), verbal (e.g., name calling, teasing, taunting, and making threats) and psychological (e.g., social exclusion, extortion, intimidation, spreading rumors, and manipulating social relationships.)” Bullying in any form is completely unacceptable at Summit and will be addressed immediately and fully.

- Emotional– being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g., hiding books, threatening gestures)
- Physical– pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist– racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual– unwanted physical contact or sexually inappropriate comments
- Homophobic– due to, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal– name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumors, teasing
- Cyber– all areas of the internet, such as email, social media, and online communication. This includes all verbal and written communication, such as text messages or apps, using a mobile device.

Comments or actions referred to as joking, kidding, or playing around will not be an excusable reason for the bullying actions.

### **What is not bullying?**

There are also some behaviors, although they might be unpleasant or distressing, are not bullying:

**Mutual conflict** that involves a disagreement, but not an imbalance of power. Unresolved mutual conflict can develop into bullying if one of the parties targets the other repeatedly in retaliation.

**Single episode acts** of nastiness or physical aggression, or aggression directed towards many different people, is not bullying.

**Social rejection or dislike** is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.

### **Steps to Follow If You Suspect That Your Child is Being Bullied**

- Talk to your child and try to find out what the problem is.
- Contact the school immediately and request an appointment with your child's homeroom teacher.
- Remember, there are always two sides to any problem, and we must look at all problems from all sides.
- We will discuss the problem with you and design a plan of action to suit the situation. We will work together to make students aware that bullying is not tolerated.

### **School Procedures for Bullying Concerns**

- All reports of bullying will be promptly and fully investigated.
- Students found to engage in bullying behaviors will be held accountable, with appropriate guardian consultation and disciplinary consequences up to and including suspension and disenrollment from Summit.
- Police will be consulted in cases of extreme bullying and/or violence.

## **Reporting and Grievance Procedures**

### **Reporting**

When negative behavior is reported swiftly, appropriate actions are more effective. Guardians are asked to encourage their child(ren) to report concerns.

If needed, guardians are asked to reach out to the Summit School staff to assist with concerning or unsafe behavior. Please begin at the source. Communicate first with the supervising staff member and then the homeroom teacher as those staff members will have the most knowledge of the event and students.

1. Supervisor of the location or activity
  - For extended day, athletics, or after school enrichment contact the Athletics & Activities Director
  - For playground issues, it is best to contact the supervising teacher or staff member first.
  - For specials, please contact the specialist first.
2. Homeroom teacher
3. Head of school

### **Grievances**

Guardians who disagree or are dissatisfied with a behavior consequence or action should promptly discuss the matter with the Head of School. Normally, this discussion should be held within three to five days of the incident, or in a timely manner. Discussions held in a timely manner will enhance our ability to resolve a concern while it is fresh in everyone’s mind. Most misunderstandings can be resolved at this level.

If the solution offered is not satisfactory, then guardians are encouraged to take the problem to the Chair of the Board of Trustees. Guardians are asked to submit a written complaint for review and final decision.

TECHNOLOGY POLICIES

Summit School is committed to the use of technology in the academic program as a tool to expand learning opportunities, encourage innovation and creativity, and conduct scholarly research. All devices are to be used for academic purposes consistent with the educational goals of Summit School. Responsibility also accompanies this opportunity. This policy is designed to give students and families clear and concise guidelines regarding the appropriate use of devices. The underlying premise of this policy is that all members of the Summit community must uphold our Lifelong Guidelines and exercise good judgment. The proper use of technology reflects the strength of one’s character, as does one’s behavior. We expect our students to use good judgment and to use technology with integrity. With the continuous improvements and updates to technology, this Acceptable Use Policy may change.

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action and may also result in loss of computer privileges.

There is potential for video and/or audio recording devices to be used in the classroom where deemed an appropriate accommodation or for teacher evaluation purposes. Any questions regarding recording devices should be directed to the Head of School.

Community Standards and Personal Responsibility

The use of the school's resources for network, email, and internet access is a privilege, and its availability depends upon the observance of the policies and guidelines stated below. Students in all grades and other persons who use personal and internet facilities at the school are to adhere to the expectations.

Students should consult a teacher if in doubt as to whether specific information or activities are appropriate. Proper behavior is solely the responsibility of the students or other individuals using the school's communication system.

Permissible and Proscribed Uses

- Using devices at times and in places when the teacher has given permission for you to use them such as:
- Conducting research on the web for a school project including citing sources, following copyright laws, and respecting the intellectual property of others.
  - Creating documents alone or in collaboration with other students when working in groups.
  - Participating in class discussions threads and using respectful language to others.
  - Taking a photo or video of a project to put into a class assignment or presentation.
- The following are forbidden:
- Engaging in copyright infringement or plagiarism
  - Sharing personal information with others, including a password

- Taking a photo or video of another person and posting it on the internet
- Attempting to bypass network security or engaging in “hacking”
- Playing non-educational games (recreational games)
- Bullying or threatening others
- Texting, emailing, or chatting with others for non-educational purposes
- Engaging in any activities which change settings or invade, harm, or compromise the school's or others' computers, files, servers, or the campus network.
- Using obscene, profane, vulgar, or rude language
- Playing games or listening to music is not allowed unless given specific permission or direction to do so by the supervisory teacher. This includes before and after school as well as at lunch or break.
- Damaging computers, computer peripherals, computer systems or computer networks
- Touching, handling, or using others' devices without permission

### Acceptable Use Policy

Computers, iPads, and network storage provided for student usage are the property of Summit School. Only usage supportive of educational research and consistent with the objectives and standards of Summit School is allowed.

Use of other organizations' networks or resources must comply with rules appropriate to said network. Transmission of materials in violation of any United States or state organization or law is prohibited. These materials include, but are not limited to, of copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or materials protected by Trade-secret law. All data, information, and materials stored, either school or personal related, on Summit School devices or networks are considered property of Summit School and can be subject to modification, deletion, or review.

All computers are to be used for educational purposes in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Summit School has instituted precautionary measures to provide a safe learning environment. However, if a student is exposed to inappropriate material, the student should immediately seek teacher/staff assistance.

### **Code of Computer Etiquette and Online Conduct**

Users are responsible for appropriate behavior while using school devices and networks. All policies outlined in the Student Handbook apply.

#### **Acceptable Use**

- All use of the internet must be in support of educational and research objectives consistent with the mission and vision of Summit School.
- Proper codes of conduct in electronic communication must be used.
- Network accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purpose.
- Exhibit exemplary behavior on the network as a representative of your school and community.

#### **Unacceptable Use**

All activity deemed unacceptable, inappropriate, or illegal by Summit School is prohibited. Activities detected to be in violation will be forwarded to the administration and appropriate action will be taken. Such activity may include, but is not limited to:

- Transmitting personal information about oneself or another person, including home address and phone number, is strictly prohibited.
- Giving out personal information about another person, including home address and phone number, is strictly prohibited.
- Users shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files or folders, other data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the network.
- No use of the network shall serve to disrupt the use of the network by others.

- Hardware and/or software shall not be destroyed, modified, or abused in any way including:
  - Modifying single-workstation control panel settings or preferences, spell-checking dictionaries, or other utilities.
  - Installing, or attempting to install, software without express permission from a teacher.
  - Changing hardware configuration settings for computers or printers.
- Malicious use of the network to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computing system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system is prohibited.
- Hate speech, obscenity, chain letters, harassment, discriminatory remarks, and other antisocial behaviors are prohibited on the network.
- Posting anonymous messages.
- Using personal instant messaging services.
- Use of the network to access or share pornographic material, inappropriate text files (as determined by the system administrator or technology instructor), or files dangerous to the integrity of the network is prohibited.
- The Summit School network may not be used for downloading entertainment software or other files not related to the mission and objectives of Summit School for transfer to a user's home computer, personal computer, or other media. This prohibition pertains to freeware, shareware, copyrighted commercial and non-commercial software, and all other forms of software and files not directly related to the instructional and administrative purposes of Summit School.
- Downloading, copying, otherwise duplicating, and/or distributing copyrighted materials without the specific written permission of the copyright owner is prohibited, except that duplication and/or distribution of materials for educational purposes is permitted when such duplication and/or distribution would fall within the Fair Use Doctrine of the United States Copyright Law (Title 17, USC).
- Use of the network for any unlawful purpose is prohibited.
- Use of profanity, obscenity, racist terms, or other language that may be offensive to another user is prohibited.
- Establishing network or internet connections to live communications, including voice and/or video (relay chat), is prohibited unless specifically authorized by a teacher.
- Any other activity which may be deemed inappropriate at the discretion of Summit School.

### Online Accounts

Summit does provide students at many grade levels access to various online accounts, including Google's G Suite for Education, Google Classroom, Drive, Docs, Slides, Sheets, and Gmail. Online accounts are used to support learning in the classroom and at home. While using student accounts at school or at home, students are expected to use the same online etiquette. Any inappropriate use of school provided accounts may be subject to disciplinary consequences.

### Miscellaneous

Summit School does not warrant that the functions of the system will meet any specific requirements you may have, or that it will be error-free or uninterrupted; nor shall it be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages sustained or incurred in connection with the use, operation, or inability to use the system.



All guardians and students agree to indemnify and release Summit School, its faculty, staff, directors, employees and all related organizations from any liability, damages or consequences that may result from the use of the internet.

Students may not have laser pointers, cameras, recording devices, music players, electronic games, etc. in their personal possession or locker.

### Cell Phone and Wearable Technology Policy

Cellular telephones and wearable technology (smart watches) can be disruptive in an educational environment. We realize that many guardians choose to have their child carry a cellular telephone as a means of before and/or after-school communication and for safety purposes. If you, as a guardian have decided that it is necessary for your child to carry a cell phone or wear a smartwatch, we ask that you and your child be aware of the following:

- Summit does not assume responsibility for the loss of, or damage to, personal property. If your child has a cell phone or smartwatch on campus or at any school-sponsored event and it is damaged, lost or stolen, we will not be able to utilize administrative time to investigate the incident, nor will the school be able to take any financial responsibility for the device or device charges.
- Cellular phones and smart watches must always be turned off and in backpacks during school hours or given to the homeroom teacher for safe keeping throughout the school day.
- If the cell phone or smart watch is confiscated, the guardian will be asked to come to the office to pick it up. It will not be released to the student at the end of the day.

Please assist us in keeping our learning environment free from distractions. When it is necessary for a student to contact you during the day, we have telephones available in the classrooms and in the office. If it is necessary for you to get an important message to your child, you may contact the office and our staff will relay the message to your child. Do not leave voicemail or text messages on your child's cell phone or wearable and expect them to receive them during the school day or during school-sponsored events.

### Technology Policies

#### **General Policies**

- Guardians are required to sign the Summit School Device Check-out Agreement for each child in grades three through eight.
- Devices must remain free of writing, drawing, stickers, labels, or skins that distract from learning.
- All devices are always expected to be fully charged and in good working order. Notify your child's homeroom teacher of any damage or malfunction in a school owned device.
- Devices must not be left unattended at any time. This includes lockers, cubbies, courtyard/ramada areas, outside of classrooms, or any unsupervised area. If a device is found to be unattended, it will be turned in to the Front Office.
- Devices must always be in a student's possession except for lunch and recess.
- Devices must be transported and carried appropriately on campus.
- Students are expected to use the protective cases provided by the school for their school owned devices.
- No food or beverages should be in the vicinity of any device.
- Devices may not be used in the MPR during lunch, at recess, during transition times, or before/after school unless teacher permission is granted.
- Students should not loan or borrow devices from others.
- Students should help Summit School protect our computer system/devices by contacting an administrator about any security problems they may encounter.

- Students are responsible for monitoring all activity on their account(s) and devices.
- Guardians are fully responsible for monitoring student activity on school owned devices or with school managed accounts during off-school hours.

### **Use of Device at School**

- Students are to bring their device, fully charged, to all classes every day. If the devices will not be used in class, the teacher of that class will determine a safe and appropriate storage location for devices.
- If a student leaves his device at home, they are responsible for completing coursework as if the device was present. There is no guarantee of availability of other devices for students who forget to bring their devices to school or who have failed to charge them. There are charging stations available in every homeroom.
- Students will not be allowed to call, email, or message home to ask a guardian to deliver a forgotten device.
- Students may not use any device, service, software, website, or application for non-educational purposes during school hours, unless granted permission by school personnel.

### **Software and Applications**

- The downloading of music files, video files, games, and applications through the school's network is absolutely prohibited unless it is part of an assigned, in-class activity.

### **Network Access, Managing Files, and Saving Work**

- The school will provide wireless internet access to students. That access will be restricted in compliance with Children's Internet Protection Act regulations and school policies. Web browsing and device use will be monitored.
- Students are expected to respect that Google Safe Search, Go Guardian, and other filters are safety precautions and may not try to circumvent them while browsing the internet. This includes using web proxy services to work around blocked sites and services. If a site is blocked and a student believes it should not be, he may make a request to a member of the faculty or administration.
- Summit makes no guarantee that the school wireless network will be up and running 100% of the time. If the network is down, Summit will not be responsible for lost or missing data.
- Students may not use the school network for personal or private business reasons, including the access of personal email accounts.
- Students may not use the school network to access files, servers, or network information that is not open to the public. This includes the accounts, files, and data of other students, staff, and administration.
- Students are not to knowingly degrade or disrupt online services or equipment as such activity may be considered a crime under state and federal law. This includes tampering with hardware or software, vandalizing data, invoking computer viruses, attempting to gain access to restricted or unauthorized network services, or violating copyright laws.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is not lost due to mechanical failure or accidental deletions. Device malfunctions are not an acceptable excuse for not submitting work; therefore, all students should back-up work.
- File sharing (a point-to-point connection between two or more devices for the purposes of sharing data) is prohibited unless required for a specific assignment given by a faculty member.
- Students are prohibited from using devices and the school network for any acts of cyberbullying, as defined by the Summit School Student Handbook.
- Any device used on the school network, even if privately owned, is subject to all policies and consequences of the Acceptable Use Policy including the right to view the content of the device at any time and the right to retain the device in the school's possession at the discretion of the teacher or administrator.

### **Online Communication and Email**

- Blogging and instant messaging are prohibited at school unless as part of an assigned, in-class activity that is supervised by faculty or administration.
- All non-school related social media sites are prohibited.
- Social networking is prohibited.
- Participation in chat rooms and use of message services during school hours is prohibited, except as
- part of an assigned, in-class activity.
- Students may be assigned an email account to be used for school purposes only. This account is the only one that should be accessed via device while on school property and only with permission of faculty or administration.
- Students are prohibited from using anonymous and/or false communications generated from email, messaging, social networking, or other services, apps, or websites, that allow such forms of communication.

### **Audio and Video**

- Audio on devices should be turned off unless specifically required for the activity being conducted.
- Listening to music either aloud or with earbuds is not permitted during class, unless directed by the teacher.
- When sound is needed, earbuds must be used.
- The use of any device to watch movies or videos is not permitted during the school day unless it is for academic purposes and under direct supervision of faculty or administration.
- No device, personal or otherwise, may be used to record, store, or transmit any type of image, sound, or video from Summit School, except for approved projects with the express permission of the teacher.
- Sharing of music, images, or video is strictly prohibited and subject to appropriate consequences.
- Use, display of, or download of inappropriate media including, but not limited to, weapons, pornographic materials, language, alcohol, drug, gang-related symbols or pictures, are unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action.
- If reasonable belief exists that the student has violated the terms of this agreement, or other school policy, the student's device may be inspected and/or confiscated. Subsequent or additional disciplinary action involving misuse of technology may apply as determined by the Head of School.

### **Games**

- Games are not permitted while at school except as part of an assigned, in-class activity.
- No games that are played over the school network are allowed.

### **Internet Use**

- Inappropriate materials are strictly prohibited. These materials include but are not limited to items of a sexual or pornographic nature, racist, sexist, homophobic, extremist, or militant materials, gambling, depictions of violence, images that are intended to be abusive or harassing, etc. Students must not access, display, or store this type of material.
- Information obtained through the internet must be properly cited and in compliance with copyright laws. Due to the quickly changing nature of the internet, a hard copy of referenced material is recommended.
- Students are required to give proper credit to all internet sources used in academic assignments, whether quoted or summarized. This includes all forms of media on the internet, such as graphics, movies, music, and text.
- Plagiarism includes the use of any information obtained from the internet that is not properly cited. Plagiarism of internet resources will be treated in the same manner as any other incidences of plagiarism, as

defined by the Summit Student Handbook. Understanding Summit's plagiarism policy is every student's responsibility and claiming to be unaware is not an acceptable response. When in doubt, ask a guardian or teacher.

- If a student accidentally accesses a website that contains obscene, pornographic, or otherwise offensive material, they are to notify a teacher as quickly as possible so that such sites can be blocked from further access.

### **Guardian Responsibilities**

- Talk to your children about values and the standards that your children should follow with internet use, just as you do on the use of all media information sources such as television, telephones, movies, and radio.
- Monitor student use of the internet while on your home network.

### **School Responsibilities**

- Provide internet access to its students.
- Provide staff guidance to aid students in doing research, use school-approved apps/software, and help assure student compliance of the acceptable use policy and any addendums.
- Provide instruction and resources to students and guardians about online and mobile device safety and expectations.

### **Student Responsibilities**

- Use devices in a responsible and ethical manner in accordance with our Acceptable Use Policy, Student and Family Handbook, and any addendums.
- Not let others use their account and password. Attempts to log in to the system using another user's account will be reported to the administration and appropriate action will be taken.
- Help Summit protect the network and devices by contacting an administrator about any security problems they may encounter.
- Monitor all activity on their account.
- Turn off and secure devices after they are finished working to protect their work and information.
- Print a copy of any email containing inappropriate or abusive language, or if the subject matter is questionable, and turn it in to a teacher or administrator.

### **Consequences**

The use of Summit School's technology resources and network is a privilege, not a right. The privilege of using the technology resources provided by the school is not transferable or extendible by students to people or groups outside the school and terminates when a student is no longer enrolled in the school.

This policy is provided to make all users aware of the responsibilities associated with efficient, ethical, and lawful use of technology resources. If a person violates any of the user terms and conditions named in this Acceptable Use Policy, privileges may be terminated, access to the school's technology resources may be denied, and the appropriate disciplinary action shall be applied. The school reserves the right to determine which uses constitute acceptable use and to limit access to such uses.

Violations may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion for students. When applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

Any other circumstances not covered by these guidelines will be handled on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Head of School.

### **Security**

Summit's security practices are in accord with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Users are expected to respect security as a high priority. If a security problem in any computer, network, or internet connection is detected, the user must notify a Summit School faculty member or administrator of the problem without demonstrating said problem to other users.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempts to harm or destroy data of another member, Summit School, or any of the agencies or networks connected to the internet. Vandalism may also include the destruction of, or tampering with, any computer or the system network by erasing programs, reconfiguring hard drives, or disconnecting from the network. Vandalism as defined herein may include, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. Vandalism of any kind will be reported to the administration and appropriate action will be taken.

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

### Daily Schedule

There are seven periods in the school day. The school hours are 8:15 AM – 3:15 PM.

Lunch	Times
Gr K-2	11:05-11:35
Gr 3-5	11:50-12:20
Gr 6-8	12:32-12:52
Recess	Times
Gr K-2	11:35-12:05
Gr 3-5	12:20-12:50
Gr 6-8	12:52-1:15

Grades 6-8 Periods	Times
1	8:10-9:00
2	9:03-9:53
3	9:56-10:46
4	10:49-11:39
5	11:42-12:32
Recess & Lunch	12:35-1:15
6	1:18-2:08
7	2:11-3:01
Homeroom	3:01-3:15

### Morning Meeting

Morning Meetings are held as a way for students to showcase achievements, share learning, and build a sense of community. All students participate in Morning Meetings. These are held in the Multi-purpose Room. Because they are a key part of Summit's educational program, Morning Meeting attendance is required. In addition to the class presentations, there are general school announcements, a patriotic observance, and birthday recognitions.

The school community will gather for Morning Meetings on the first and third Wednesday mornings of the month. Guardians, family, and friends are always welcome. Guardians will receive advance notice when their child’s class is presenting. If you arrive tardy, after your child’s class has left for Morning Meeting, please bring them to the interior entrance of the Multi-purpose Room.

Children will need to stay in the back of the room with a staff member if they arrive late and will not be able to join their class until there is an appropriate break in the Morning Meeting. All students Preschool – 8th grade will participate together in Morning Meetings on first and third Wednesdays 8:20-9:00am.

Testing

All students at Summit School participate in regular assessments. Assessment schedules and types are determined by grade levels and needs. The Summit School Preschool- 8 Assessment Plan is available by request.

The individual results are shared with guardians and school composite scores are shared with the general Summit Community. These tests are an important part of the information that we gather regarding the students’ academic potential, performance, and needs.

Intervention and Enrichment

To ensure that all Summit School students can make a year’s academic growth, Summit staff will use assessment data, classroom performance and observations, and guardian input to provide or recommend opportunities for intervention or enrichment.

Interventions will be put in place in collaboration with guardians to assist the student. Intervention success will be monitored and may increase in frequency, depth, and number of resources as needed up to potential referrals for outside services or testing.

Academic enrichments, like interventions, will be put in place in collaboration with guardians to meet advanced needs of the student. Academic enrichment success will be monitored and will increase in frequency, depth, and number of resources as needed. Participation in an academic enrichment does not automatically excuse a student from the regular classroom curriculum.

Promotion and Retention

Promotion from one grade to the next in kindergarten through eighth grade is based upon an assessment of whether the student can be successful at the next grade level. Working closely with the Head of School, teachers formulate their recommendations based upon:

- Achievement on tests, quizzes, projects, presentations, etc.
- Mastery of standards as evaluated on progress reports.
- Achievement on standardized tests, as applicable.
- Effort, maturity, and age.

Each student’s progress is considered individually, and decisions regarding retention are made only after careful study and consideration of all factors. If retention is recommended, guardians and school personnel work closely together in the best interest of the student. Students who score poorly on tests and/or do not meet state standards may be put on academic probation the following year, and additional resources/assistance such as outside tutoring

may be required by the school. In some cases, it is in the best interest of the student to attend school elsewhere, and the student will be disenrolled.

Summit offers enrollment to students for one academic year at a time. A student will not be permitted to enroll or attend Summit without an appropriately executed enrollment contract for the academic year in which the student will attend the school. Neither the school nor the guardians are obligated to enter an enrollment contract for any subsequent academic year. A student’s enrollment will end no later than the end of the academic year for which Summit and the student’s guardians last have entered a written enrollment contract regarding the student.

Student Services

If a student is identified during their time at Summit as needing special support or services, student services staff or the Head of School will meet with guardians to discuss accommodations, modifications, and tutoring referrals. Summit does not employ special education service providers, and facility accommodations for these services on campus require approval by administration and are limited.

If a student’s individual needs exceed what is available at Summit, guardians will be assisted with locating outside providers who can service the needed services. A request for accommodations/modifications must be accompanied by an evaluation from a qualified professional. Summit reserves the right to review and determine if requests can be reasonably met in our environment.

Summit School will not exclude a student from enrollment based on a physical disability.

Tutoring

At times students may benefit from tutoring. Tutorial help given to a student before and after class during a teacher’s workday is encouraged. No extra fee is required by the school because such help is considered part of Summit’s responsibility to the student and family.

Teachers and/or guardians may recommend that a student receive additional support. Summit teachers, instructional assistants, and staff are free to tutor students before, during, or after their professional day during the school year if it does not conflict with other commitments.

Guardians occasionally contract with private tutors to help their child. Any private tutoring provided by non-school personnel on the Summit campus must be approved by the Head of School.

ACADEMIC GUIDELINES: PRESCHOOL

Lesson Plans

Weekly lesson plans are posted outside of each preschool classroom on the large information bulletin board in accordance with DHS regulations.

Conferences

First Conference

All students will have an initial meeting with their family and their teachers in August prior to the first day of school. This meeting is 15-20 minutes long. In Preschool, this will be an informal time where the child and guardians can meet the teachers, look around the room, and become acquainted. Children are also encouraged to find their cubby, giving them an immediate sense of ownership in the classroom.

### **Second Conference**

This fall conference is scheduled 6-9 weeks after the start of school in September. Please check with the school calendar for this year's specific conference dates. In Preschool, guardians and teachers will determine an area of focus or student learning goal based upon their observations to date. The Creative Curriculum Objectives for Development and Learning will be used to guide conversation. A fall follow-up letter will then be prepared and provided to the guardians confirming the goal and identifying supportive strategies.

Formal Progress Reports will be mailed home in January.

### **Third Conference: Portfolio Review**

This conference is scheduled during the first week in May. This is a time to reflect on a child's growth and development by reviewing their portfolio. Together guardians and teachers will discuss behavioral, social, and emotional growth, and cognitive development.

Final Progress Reports will be mailed home in June.

## **Screenings**

Preschool students may be screened using the ESI-P and ESI-K throughout the year to determine if individual development of each child is in alignment with widely held expectations. Children who are kindergarten bound will receive the KDI (Kindergarten Developmental Inventory) prior to the start of the next school year. Students are also able to receive speech/language, occupational therapy, and physical therapy screenings for services. If a child needs services, guardians are contacted by the school administration and given resources in conjunction with school support to meet each child's needs.

## **Assessments**

Our preschool curriculum provides an online database. Teachers enter both formal and informal data through anecdotal notes, formal assessment tools, and seasonal checkpoints of the curriculum's objectives for learning. Teachers share some of this information with families through online journaling and sharing features of this online tool. Daily observations, developmental progress, and assessment data will be shared twice a year through progress reports and portfolio sharing.

## **CAMPUS LIFE: PRESCHOOL**

### **What to Bring on the First Day of School**

- Extra changes of clothing (underwear, top, bottom, and socks) labeled with your child's name and placed in a zip lock bag. They will be kept in the classroom for accidents or spills.
- A special stuffed animal and/or blanket for rest time. We want your child to feel "cozy" and comfortable here at school. We ask that you do not send sleeping bags. Our storage space is limited, and we want your



child to be as independent as possible when preparing their cot for rest time. The school will provide a sheet for your child's cot, which will be laundered weekly. We ask that you plan to take your child's blanket/animal home weekly to launder.

- Any medical and/or emergency information previously requested.
- State licensing mandates that no child can be present without an immunization form on file.

### Written Communication

Each family will have a mail slot on the preschool classroom counters for paper mail. Since Summit is a “paperless” school, most of the information will be transmitted electronically. Please check your email each Friday for our community updates. Don't forget to check your child's cubby for artwork and other oversized items that are to go home.

### Getting to Know You

Please take time before the beginning of the school year to fill out our “Getting to Know You” paperwork. Understanding and incorporating the traditions, culture, and diversity of each child's family into the school community helps to form a supportive environment for the children. We welcome your thoughts and visions in creating a community that is a source of support for all families. Please feel free to speak to your child's teacher or the Head of School if you have questions, comments, or concerns – the doors for communication are always open.

### Rest Time

Please remember to bring a pillow, blanket, stuffed animal or whatever your child will need to feel cozy and comfortable. We will provide the cot and sheet and will launder sheets each week. We ask that you take all personal items home on Friday to launder.

### Bathroom Accidents

If your child should have a “potty” accident or otherwise need a change of clothing, we will put the soiled clothing in a zip lock baggie and place it in a plastic container located on top of the cot closet. Please remove these when you pick-up so that you may launder and return the accident clothing for the next day. We do maintain an extra clothing supply and welcome your donations at any time! We always need outgrown or worn-out socks, t-shirts, shorts, shoes, and long pants. Just bring these contributions to your preschool classroom.

### Siblings

For the safety and security of all children at Summit, we ask that you find alternate care for siblings when you come to volunteer in the classroom, at parties, and on field trips. These events are a way for your child to feel your connection to their class.

## ACADEMIC GUIDELINES: ELEMENTARY

### Conferences

Formal conferences with guardians are scheduled two times each year. Teachers will also communicate exceptional accomplishments and/or concerns throughout the year and arrange additional conferences as needed.

## Grading System

All students receive an online report card two times a year at the conclusion of the semester. It is intended to report the degree of progress toward grade level standards and growth over time, as well as strengths and weaknesses, to authentically represent the whole child. Each student report is based on a variety of valid assessment tools.

The grading scale and descriptors are used consistently across grade levels and subjects. Kindergarten through fourth grades receive standards-based report cards. Grades five receive letter grade report cards.

The letter grade for fifth grades is meant to be reflective of actual achievement in relation to national and state standards, while the effort grade reflects a teacher's impression as to the amount of effort exerted during that same marking period. Effort is considered extremely important at Summit School.

Mastery of all content and skills is the goal, and therefore there is a high standard when grading.

### **Grade 5: Academic Scale**

100-90 – A

89-80 – B

79-70 – C

69-60 – D

Below 60 -- Failing

### **Grade 5: Effort Scale**

5- Outstanding

4- Good

3- Satisfactory

2- Needs Improvement

1- Unsatisfactory

## Deadlines and Due Dates

Individual teachers determine the due dates for papers and class assignments. Penalties for lateness will also be determined by individual teachers and may vary according to grade level. Failure to complete work assigned may result in the loss of free time or another consequence. Teachers are available for guidance and extra help, and students should take advantage of this resource if assignment specifics are unclear to them. The classroom teacher will contact guardians if failure to complete homework becomes an issue, and they will work with the student to develop a plan to make up work and foster better work habits.

Work handed in late (within an acceptable time) due to an excused absence, such as illness, will not be penalized. For example, one day of absence merits one extra day to complete work. If a child is at home, a guardian may call the school office before noon and request work. Assignments are then gathered and held for pick-up at the end of the school day or faxed, if requested, at that same time. However, it is important to remember that if the child is sick enough to be home, they may not be able to do schoolwork until they feel better.

## Purposeful Practice

At Summit School, family and play (extra-curricular activities) are priorities each and every day. Creating a balance between school and family, activities, etc is crucial towards the academic, emotional, and social growth of all of our students. Students will have an opportunity to practice classroom learning at home. We choose to call it Purposeful Practice because these opportunities support and enhance our academic instructional program.

Reading for 20+ minutes each night can contribute to our students obtaining over 1.5 million words every academic school year. We strongly encourage all of our students and families to read that contribute to academic growth and achievement.

Students that do not finish an assignment / project in class, will be expected to complete it at home. Our strategy of “finishing what you start

## Assignment Requests Due to Absences

When students are absent from school for a day or more, guardians may call the school and request assignments. The request for assignments must be made before noon, and guardians are encouraged to call the office or homeroom teacher again at 3:00 PM to see if any teachers have sent in work to be picked up. It is up to each teacher’s discretion as to whether to send work home when the student is absent. Often the student requires the benefit of an explanation, additional resources or materials, numerous examples, guided practice, etc. before attempting independent work. In this case, students will be given time to do the work and assistance when they return to school.

## Academic Integrity

Students are held accountable to be fully prepared for quizzes and tests. Cheating is not allowed and results in a loss of credit. Repeated violations may result in other consequences such as loss of privileges, suspension, and even disenrollment. Students are responsible for their own homework and other individual work.

Plagiarism, defined as “the using of another’s words and ideas and passing them off as your own,” is wrong. Whether these words or ideas are from books, magazines, or the internet, using another author’s work without giving proper credit is a serious violation. Plagiarism results in a zero grade for the test, project, or assignment. The student is also required to redo the assignment honestly. Other consequences may also be imposed. The teacher will make the final determination as to whether an assignment contains plagiarism.

## ACADEMIC GUIDELINES: MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Middle School Curriculum Overview

The Summit School academic curriculum follows the generally accepted requirements for middle school accreditation and the recommendations of numerous national task forces, studies, and middle school associations. Our middle school includes grades 6, 7, and 8. Classes are departmentalized and are taught by specialized teachers. They include the following:

- Language Arts (writing, grammar, usage, mechanics, vocabulary, and spelling) - 50 minutes, five days per week
- Literature (reading, book projects, library instruction, literary analysis, and appreciation) - 50 minutes, five days per week
- Math - 50 minutes, 5 times per week
- Science - 50 minutes, 5 times per week
- Social Studies - 50 minutes, 5 times per week
- Spanish - 50 minutes, 4 times per week
- Electives - 50 minutes, 4 days per week
- Life Skills - 50 minutes, 4 times per week for one quarter

## Report Cards

All students receive an online report card two times a year at the conclusion of the semester. It is intended to report the degree of progress toward grade level standards and growth over time, as well as strengths and weaknesses, to authentically represent the whole child. Each student report is based on a variety of valid assessment tools.

The grading scale and descriptors are used consistently across grade levels and subjects. Middle school receives letter grade report cards.

The letter grade is meant to be reflective of actual achievement in relation to national and state standards, while the effort grade reflects a teacher's impression as to the amount of effort exerted during that same marking period. Effort is considered extremely important at Summit School.

Mastery of all content and skills is the goal, and therefore there is a high standard when grading.

## Grading System

Students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grades receive grade reports with A-F letter grades in core academic classes at the end of each quarter. All middle school students will receive letter grades or pass/fail for their elective classes. Students are assessed using the scale below. Quarterly grades will be averaged to calculate the semester grade.

### **Summit School Middle School Grading Scale**

98-100 A+	87-89 B+	77-79 C+	67-69 D+
93-97 A	83-86 B	73-76 C	63-66 D
90-92 A-	80-82 B-	70-72 C-	60-62 D-
			Below 60 F

### **Summit School Middle School Effort Scale**

- 5 - Outstanding
- 4 - Good
- 3 - Satisfactory

2 - Needs Improvement

1 - Unsatisfactory

## Guardian Communication Regarding Student Growth and Progress

### Conferences

- **Purpose of Conference:** Inform guardian of student's progress in all subject areas with evidence and student work samples to share, and discuss any academic, social, or emotional concerns.
- **Google Sign Up for Guardian Conferences:** Middle School will send guardians a conference sign up exactly 3 weeks in advance by noon.
- **Length of Conference:** 10-minute blocks of times
- **Student Attendance:** Student attendance at conferences is optional. Teachers may request that students be present. Teachers and guardians will work together to decide what is best for each student and family.

### Progress Reports – Quarter 1

- Each teacher will communicate to guardians prior to reports if a student is struggling academically, socially, or emotionally.
- Reports are available on [FACTS Family Portal \(ParentsWeb\)](#).
- A copy of the report is placed in the student's cumulative folder.

### Report Cards – Semester 1

- Available on [FACTS Family Portal \(ParentsWeb\)](#).
- A copy is placed in the student's cumulative folder.

### Second Guardian Conference

- **Purpose of Conference:** Update guardian on the child's progress academically, socially, and emotionally, show assessment data and student work, and create a plan for a student struggling in any areas.
- **Google Sign Up for Guardian Conferences:** Middle School will send conference sign up exactly 3 weeks in advance by noon.
- **Length of Conference:** 10-minute blocks of times.
- **Student Attendance:** Student attendance at conferences is optional. Teachers may request that students be present. Teachers and guardians will work together to decide what is best for each student and family.

### Progress Reports – Quarter 3

- Each teacher will communicate to guardians prior to reports if a student is struggling academically, socially, or emotionally.
- Reports are available on [FACTS Family Portal \(ParentsWeb\)](#).
- A copy of the report is placed in the student's cumulative folder.

### Report Cards – Semester 2

- Available on [FACTS Family Portal \(ParentsWeb\)](#).
- A copy is placed in the student's cumulative folder.

## Deadlines and Due Dates

Individual teachers determine the due dates for papers and class assignments. Penalties for late work will also be determined by the individual teachers and may vary according to grade level and subject. Failure to complete work will result in a zero (0) grade for that assignment.

Teachers are available for guidance and extra help, and students should take advantage of this resource if assignment specifics are unclear. The classroom teacher will contact guardians if a student is performing poorly on tests or homework. The teacher will work with the student to develop a plan to foster better work habits. Guardians should check Schoology regularly for grade updates.

Work submitted late due to an absence will not be penalized but must be completed. If a child is absent due to illness, a guardian may call the school office before noon and request assignments for that day. It is up to each teacher's discretion as to whether to send work home when the student is absent. Often the student requires the benefit of an explanation, additional resources or materials, numerous examples, guided practice, etc. before attempting independent work. In this case, students will be given time to do the work and assistance when they return to school. This may occur during recess, after-school, or at another convenient time determined by the teacher. Students may also check assignments for classes on Schoology.

### Electives

Students in sixth through eighth grades will participate in elective classes. Classes meet three times per week, and students will receive a letter grade or pass/fail for this elective class that reflects their participation, attendance, and critiques/grades on work produced for the class. Students may be required to complete homework and/or projects outside of elective class time.

### Home Learning

At Summit School, students are given opportunities to reinforce classroom learning at home. We choose to call it Home Learning because these assignments support and enhance our academic instructional program. Home Learning is relevant, planned, and often individualized. Home learning may differentiate when appropriate.

There are four types of Home Learning:

1. **Practice** – Helps students master skills but should not be tedious and repetitive. Whenever possible, students should apply skills that have been learned rather than completing a worksheet. Students cannot apply what they do not understand. Assignments are not always the same for every child and often involve choices as this encourages responsibility.
2. **Preparation** - Prepares students for something that is coming up in the curriculum. It should be challenging and help students develop the motivation to learn the new material. In general, it should not be anything rote.
3. **Extension** - Challenges students to go above and beyond what was learned in class and is usually self-initiated. Extension Home Learning emphasizes production versus re-production.
4. **Creative** - Engages students to think critically and creatively. They problem solve and respond in a personal way to this type of Home Learning.

Because we value family and recreation time, most of Summit Home Learning is designed to take place four nights per normal week on Mondays through Thursdays, and not on weekends, holidays, or breaks. However, students should expect weekend homework related to long-term projects, upcoming test preparation, make-up work, or any other in-class assignments or activities. Weekend homework is at the discretion of the teacher.

### Home Learning Targets

- Grade Six - 200 minutes per week\* (50 minutes per night)

- Grade Seven - 240 minutes per week\* (60 minutes per night)
- Grade Eight - 280 minutes per week\* (70 minutes per night)

\*Additional reading is also assigned and recorded in most classes.

Some projects or assignments take more time than others, but guardians observing either excessive or minimal time spent on home learning should contact the classroom teachers to discuss concerns.

## Academic Integrity

It is the practice of Summit School to facilitate honesty and integrity among the student body. Students must work to be successful in the classroom with each student's success based upon his/her own merit. To this end, academic misconduct of any kind is unacceptable. The definition of academic misconduct can include, but is not limited to:

- Giving or receiving unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparing of notebooks, compositions, reports, or other assignments.
- Knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work.
- Unauthorized changing of grades.
- Unauthorized use of school approvals or forging of signatures.
- Plagiarizing another's work.
- Otherwise acting dishonestly in the classroom.

Any breach in the academic integrity policy will result in immediate consequences. In addition, the guardian will be notified.

### **Examples which violate academic integrity:**

- Cheating – giving, using, or attempting to see unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise including unauthorized communication of information.
- Fabrication and falsification – unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- Plagiarism – knowingly presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e., without proper acknowledgement of the source). This includes the use of internet sources. The sole exception to the requirement of acknowledging sources is when the ideas or information is common knowledge.
- Facilitating academic misconduct – giving or attempting to help another commit an act of academic misconduct.
- Tampering with materials, grades, or records – interfering with, altering, or attempting to alter school records, grades, or other documents without authorization from an appropriate school official for the purpose of changing, falsifying, or removing the original information found in such records.
- Copyright laws – all applicable copyright laws will be in effect as related to both computer software and printed books and materials.

## Student Council and Athletic Program Eligibility

Students must be in good academic (current grades of C- or above in core classes) and behavioral standing (no more than one detention in a quarter) to participate in Student Council and athletics programs at Summit School. Students on Academic Warning or Academic Probation will be prohibited from participating in Student Council or Summit Sports until removed from the probationary or warning status.

Academic Warning

Summit School is committed to the academic success of our students. We encourage students to seek out their teachers and take advantage of opportunities to be successful. A student who earns one “D” on a quarterly grade report is placed on Academic Warning. As the name implies, this is an indication of the need to improve. Students are removed from academic warning by earning a “C” grade or above on the next quarterly report.

If the student is placed on Academic Warning, guardians are notified, and a conference is held with the student, guardians, and teachers. At this time, an individual improvement plan is created by the teacher to establish clearly defined goals and a plan for the student to be removed from academic warning. This plan must be agreed upon and signed by all parties involved including Head of School, teacher, guardian, and student.

It is the responsibility of the students and guardians to meet all requirements of the individual working plan for the student. If these requirements are not sufficiently met and there are continued academic concerns, the student will be placed on Academic Probation.

Academic Probation

A student who earns one “F” on any grade report and/or one “D” as a semester grade is placed on Academic Probation. The student may be removed from academic probation and placed on academic warning at the recommendation of the student’s teachers and with the approval of the Head of School upon completion of the following quarter.

If the student is placed on Academic Probation, guardians are notified, and a conference is held with the student, guardians, teachers, and Head of School. An individual improvement plan will be developed by the teacher and will be implemented immediately. This plan must be agreed upon and signed by all parties involved including Head of School, teacher, guardian, and student. It is the responsibility of the students, teachers, and guardians to meet all requirements of the individual improvement plan for the student. After further assessment, if these requirements are not sufficiently met and there are continued academic concerns, this may be an indication that Summit School and the student are not a good match. In this case, the Head of School may recommend that the student be asked to withdraw or not be offered the opportunity to re-enroll at Summit School.

CAMPUS LIFE: MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School Meeting

As a way of building a sense of community, all middle school students participate in a Middle School Meeting on scheduled Friday afternoons. During this period, students will participate in the following:

- Presentations from classes along with announcements, birthdays, celebrations of recent achievements and accomplishments, Student Council updates, etc.
- Outside speakers and presenters who discuss important topics and relevant issues
- Community service project planning and implementation
- Small group meetings with teachers
- Team building activities and Project Based Learning activities

Student Council



Summit School Student Council is composed of representatives from grades 6, 7, and 8. This group of students elects officers each year and meets to plan and oversee important fun activities and community service projects for the student body. These include special Friday lunches, spirit day themes, Ice Cream Fridays, and other school-wide leadership efforts including outside community service.

Dances

Dances are for all students to enjoy. Therefore, it is important that the following rules are followed to ensure the safety of all participants.

- Summit School dances are for current Summit School students only. Guests are not permitted.
- Students must attend school the day of the dance in order to participate.
- Once inside the campus area, students must stay inside. No student may leave unless a guardian comes to collect them.
- All students must follow school rules about appropriate dress as noted in the Dress Code.
- Gum is not permitted.
- Close dancing defined as contact between the front or back of students’ bodies is not permitted. During slow dances, a dancer’s hands must be always on the waist or shoulders of his or her partner.
- Students may not use cell phones or electronics of any kind during dances. If a student needs to call home, a teacher will allow the student to call from a campus phone.
- Students who do not follow these guidelines will be asked to call guardians immediately so that they may leave the dance. They may also be prohibited from attending future dances.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips expose students to new places and exciting opportunities for learning and are a very important part of your child’s educational experience. During the year, students will go on a variety of field trips. We will notify guardians in advance of any planned trips, and guardians will have opportunities to chaperone field trips when necessary.

Most field trips will require an additional fee. School personnel ensure adequate adult supervision on all such trips. Students who opt not to participate in a scheduled field trip, do not attend school and are the responsibility of their guardian during that time.

Summit School's first concern is for the safety of all students. Siblings of students and minor visitors are not allowed to attend school field trips.

Students must be in good standing to participate in school-sponsored field trips. All students are expected to abide by the school discipline code and demonstrate consistent appropriate behavior in their interactions with teachers, staff members, chaperones, and fellow students.

All field trips must be supervised by at least one Summit employee. The ratio of adults (Summit teachers and approved parent chaperones) to students shall be adequate to the activities undertaken, age of the learners, and specific requirements of the trip. The recommended ratio of adults to students is 1:15 for day trips.

Requirements for Participating in School Sponsored Field Trips

**To participate in a school sponsored field trip, students must:**

- Submit a completed Field Trip Permission slip signed by their guardian, by the required due date.
- Submit payment in full for the field trip/overnight trip, by the required due date.
- For overnight trips, submit a completed Student Medical/Medication Form signed by their guardian, by the required due date.
- Consistently demonstrate behavior that meets reasonable standards during the school year up to the actual date of the trip. Students not meeting this condition will not be permitted to go on the field trip. Guardians will be notified that the student is unable to attend. Students that are unable to go on the field trip do not attend school and are the responsibility of the guardian during that time.
- Students who have committed a serious disciplinary violation will need permission to participate in the trip at the discretion of the Head of School.
- Students hospitalized or having received emergency medical or mental health care 30 days prior to the trip, will be required to provide a physician/therapist's written release allowing the student to travel and participate. However, final permission to participate in the trip will be at the discretion of the Head of School.

<b>Middle School Out-Of-Town Field Trips</b>
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Middle School out-of-town field trips of more than one day are exciting educational opportunities. These trips are the culmination of the students' in-school educational experiences and are administered and planned by the teachers and administrators in charge. Students are expected to participate for the entire trip to benefit from the experience. On occasion, guardians may be invited to participate as volunteers. Students who opt not to participate in a scheduled field trip, do not attend school and are the responsibility of their guardian during that time.

**Due to several circumstances and factors, overnight field trips are not guaranteed to occur each year.**

<b>Permission Forms</b>
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We provide and require written permission forms for each field trip to ensure that you are fully informed and approve of your child's participation.

<b>Transportation</b>
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Transportation for field trips is usually provided by a hired bus company.

On occasion, transportation may be provided by guardians. All field trip drivers are required to complete the Pre-Certification process by submitting copies of the following documentation to the Summit School front desk, at least three weeks prior to the first field trip in which they are driving. Documents can be submitted to the Office Manager by email or hard copy.

1. Signed Chaperone Guidelines and Agreement
2. Current driving record from the [Department of Motor Vehicle](#)
3. Current driver's license
4. Proof of current automobile insurance

These documents will be kept confidential and on file with Summit School for the duration of the school year. In addition, on the morning of every field trip, all drivers must complete the Field Trip Driver Certification Form and submit it to the front desk. Guardians will be informed that they cannot drive for a field trip if the necessary

documentation is not submitted, or the driving record of the guardian does not meet the criteria of Summit School.

While transporting students to and from class field trips, drivers are not permitted to make stops for food or non-emergency reasons.

Guardians who are driving only their child on a Summit School field trip, must still complete the Driving Pre-certification process, the Day of the Field Trip Driving Form, and be approved for driving prior to driving for the field trip.

In addition, all students must come to school and be counted in attendance prior to leaving for a class field trip. Students who go to a Summit School field trip directly from home will be considered absent from Summit School that day, and Summit School will not be responsible for the student during the class field trip unless pre approved by the Head of School. Guardians who are driving their own child on a Summit field trip are required to return their child to Summit School at the end of the field trip.

We make every effort to ensure that your child has safe and respectful transportation to and from field trips. We instruct the children in passenger safety and courtesy, so that they always treat the driver and all other passengers with respect. Riding in a bus or in another person's car is a privilege, and any student who repeatedly causes problems will not be allowed on future field trips. Students must behave in a respectful manner according to Summit School discipline expectations for the safety and well-being of all passengers. The driver has complete authority, and all school rules are in effect.

All Arizona Department of Health Service and Office of Child Care Licensure regulations are followed if a bus is used. Laws regarding the use of car seats are followed for preschool age children. Students may ride in private vehicles only with prior written consent from the parent, and a car seat or booster seat must be provided for any child under the age of 5.

### Field Trip Chaperone Guidelines

When you volunteer to serve as a chaperone on your child's field trip, you will be helping to extend the regular curriculum beyond the classroom and the school. Your role as a chaperone is an important one, and while enjoyable, requires that you accept certain responsibilities.

The purpose of the Chaperone Guidelines and Agreement is to provide you with an overview of a chaperone's responsibilities and to make recommendations for appropriate responses to various situations that may arise during a field trip.

#### **Chaperone Responsibilities**

- Arrive on time
- Know the children in your assigned group. Introduce yourself and learn the names and faces of the students.
- Take students directly from school to field trip destinations and return to school without side trips.
- Communicate with the teacher. Ask questions as they arise.
- Watch carefully. Always think of the children's safety first. Be alert to potential dangers. If necessary, move children to a safe place and inform the teacher.
- Enforce student buddy rules including restroom usage.
- No student electronic device usage in cars or during field trips.

- Check in with the Summit School front desk upon returning students to school at the end of the field trip.

### **The Following Are Prohibited While Chaperoning a Summit School Field Trip**

- Smoking or consuming alcoholic beverages during the field trip.
- Texting or use of your cellphone when supervising students.
- Bringing siblings or other children on the field trip.
- Leaving children alone or unescorted.
- Purchasing souvenirs or food without prior permission of the teacher.
- Touching a child.
- Releasing students to anyone other than the teacher.
- Bringing personal belongings on a school field trip. Summit School is not responsible for any misplaced, lost, or stolen personal belongings.

### **In the Event of An Emergency**

- Contact the teacher leader and if necessary, contact Summit School at 480-403-9500
- Report all student illnesses and injuries to the teacher.

## Items Not Allowed on Field Trips

Students are not allowed to bring the following items:

- Personal belongings and valuables
- Electronics
- Any other item(s) that the teacher has instructed not to bring

## FOOD POLICIES

### Meals

- All students should bring healthy lunches to school.
- Only preschool lunches will be refrigerated, and the teachers are able to heat in the microwave.
- Only middle school students can heat their lunches in the microwave in the MPR kitchen.
- Dishes2U is an optional lunch program available to all students in PS-8th grades. Summit School has partnered with Dishes2U to provide a secure, fast, and easy-to-use online ordering system that allows parents to view our lunch menu, order, pre-pay, and manage student's lunches online.
- Milk is available at no charge to all students during lunch.
- Summit School believes strongly in healthy eating and suggests that fast food should not be eaten daily. If a student forgets their lunch at home, the guardian is called and asked to provide a healthy lunch.
- The Student Council sells special lunches to PS-8 students throughout the year. The lunches include chocolate milk and pizza. Order forms will be sent home in advance.
- The Student Council also sells ice cream to PS-8 students on designated Fridays throughout the year. If your child wishes to purchase ice cream, they should bring \$1 to school on that day.

## Snack Guidelines for Preschool and Extended Day Students

Summit provides a snack for our students in preschool and an afternoon snack for Afternoon Extended Day students. Please let us know immediately if you will be bringing in special snack items for your child if they have food allergies.

### **Minimum Requirements per Child – Two Food Groups Required**

Breads: 1 slice

Bagels: ½ regular size or 1 mini

Muffins: 1 regular size

Crackers: 2oz.

Cheese: 1 oz.

Fruits/Vegetables: 4 oz.

Milk: 4 oz.

Juice: 4 oz. (full strength only)

### **Special Note**

The Maricopa County Health Department requires all food to be shared at school, be purchased at a commercial institution and arrive in original and/or sealed packages. This includes fruit and vegetables. These must arrive uncut and in plastic bags provided by the grocer.

## **Class Parties and Special Treats**

Guardians may want to provide treats for the class on a child's birthday or for special class parties. We encourage this type of sharing, but guardians should notify teachers ahead of time to avoid too many treats on a given day. All food for special occasions or class parties must be commercially prepared and sent in original, packaged containers. Homemade food is never allowed.

## **GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION**

### **Home and School Communication**

At Summit School, the partnership between teachers and guardians is critical to the success of the educational process. Therefore, guardians are involved in the following ways:

- Conferences with teachers
- Teacher and class information sent by email
- Communication with teachers via phone, email, and in person
- Summit School's guardian organization (Summit PTO) and committees
- Volunteer opportunities

A student's teacher is the best-informed campus representative regarding your children. For that reason, we ask that the first point of contact always be the classroom teacher. If the issue requires further resolution, an appointment with the Head of School and the teacher to facilitate additional communication can be scheduled.

Communication and information sharing are of the utmost importance at Summit School. The school strives for a nearly paperless environment, and it is expected that guardians are able to receive and send email messages on a regular basis. If your email address changes at any point, please log on to your [FACTS Family Portal \(ParentsWeb\)](#) account to update this information.

### **Communicating in Cases of Divorce or Separation**

Summit seeks to facilitate communication with all guardians in the case of a change in custody, divorce, or separation. Absent a court order to the contrary, and regardless of which guardian signs the enrollment contract or pays the tuition, it is the policy of the school to provide all guardians (custodial, non-custodial, and step-parents) equal access to all official records and reports regarding their child(ren). All guardians are entitled to receive normal school mailings (e.g., grades and comments, all-school emails). And each guardian is granted access to the child(ren), to teachers, and to administrators. Such access is provided without notification of other parties. It is the guardians' responsibility to provide records of court decisions, and up-to-date contact information.

## Visitors on Campus

Summit encourages guardians to visit classrooms, take part in school activities, and volunteer in the school because we believe that it will help student learning. However, as a safety consideration and in keeping with school policy, we ask for your cooperation in enforcing the rules about visitors and volunteers at school.

All visitors, including guardians, must report to the office to sign in and receive a visitor badge. Guardians may request a classroom visit with prior arrangement through the classroom teacher. Guardians and other visitors may not go directly to the classrooms. This is for everyone's safety, as guardians and other visitors who try entering the campus without signing in are inviting others to do the same, including those who might not have your student's best interests in mind. **When leaving campus, you must exit through the office and not through the outdoor gates.**

Visitor attire should reflect your professional commitment to be of service to the school and to the students. Consequently, your appearance should be modest, attract no undue attention, and exemplify the standards in effect at our school. Those wearing attire that does not respect this standard will respectfully be asked to comply or excuse themselves from campus.

Please avoid conferences with teachers and staff members when visiting classrooms during school hours. They take teachers away from their teaching duties and affect all students adversely. If you would like to conference with a teacher, please make an appointment. This can be done by contacting the teacher before or after school hours.

## Guardian Volunteers

Each guardian is required to volunteer a minimum of ten hours per year. This may be in class activities, field trips, special projects at home, or school events. Guardians who volunteer in their child's classroom must pre-arrange times with the classroom teacher and keep in mind that the purpose of volunteering is to give assistance to the teachers, not to work with any individual child. Also, guardians, visitors, and helpers must keep information confidential that is learned while in the classroom and must refrain from sharing judgments about children and/or teachers. Please see the *Code of Conduct for a Guardian, Caregiver, Volunteer, and Visitor* beginning on page 21 of this handbook.

Classroom volunteers are generally not needed in the upper grades where the academic content is more advanced, and students are more sensitive about and aware of their actions and abilities. Nevertheless, guardians of older students are encouraged to help teachers and the school community in other ways.

A Family Partner is a volunteer classroom guardian that assists the teacher and coordinates a volunteer program that meets the needs of the classroom teacher and offers opportunities for guardians to become involved in their child's educational experience. The selection of Family Partners will be made by the classroom teacher(s) and the Head of School. Each teacher will design a specific volunteer program that best meets their needs.

## Student Dress Code

### Preschool

Preschool is an active place, and we encourage children to fully participate in every activity inside and outside. For this reason, it is important to send children in appropriate clothing. Many of our art and cooking projects are messy, which is a big part of the fun! Please send your child to school in comfortable clothing they don't have to worry about.

Other things to keep in mind when selecting clothing are:

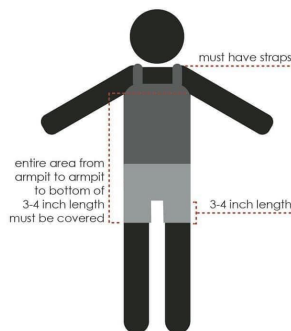
- Paint Smocks are optional.
- Clothing should be washable.
- Shoes must be safe. Please send your child in tennis shoes or rubber soled shoes with a heel strap so that they can run and climb safely. Flip-flops and sandals that do not have a heel strap on are not allowed.
- Remember to label any loose items of clothing such as hats, jackets, sweaters, etc. so we can keep track of your child's clothing. It is also smart to label lunchboxes, water bottles, and rest time accessories. If you are missing an item, you can check the Lost and Found.

### Kindergarten – Eighth Grade

Summit School encourages students to dress in casual, modest, and appropriate clothing to minimize distractions and maximize safety and learning. There shall be adequate coverage of the body and undergarments.

The following clothing choices are prohibited:

- No articles of clothing that do not provide adequate coverage of the body. Adequate coverage is defined as:
  - Covering areas from one armpit to the other armpit and down to approximately 3 to 4 inches in length on the upper thighs/inseam (see image below)
  - Tops must have shoulder straps of 1 ½ inches or more
  - Rips, tears, cut offs, or mesh (tops or bottoms) will be not be acceptable at Summit.
- No student shall wear any article of clothing or adornment displaying obscene printing, messaging, or advertising. Potentially offensive articles include clothing or adornments with any drug/alcohol/smoking references, references to sex and/or violence, satanic/anarchic/racist/homophobic messaging, or any illegal or offensive activity, either explicit or implied.
- No hats indoors. Hats may be worn outdoors as long they adhere to the dress code guidelines listed above.
- No shoes that could cause a safety hazard such as flip flops or shoes without a heel strap.
- No pajamas or costumes unless authorized by administration.



For safety reasons, all students are required to wear athletic shoes for P.E. They must also remove loose jewelry when involved in vigorous activity.

Teachers monitor dress code at the beginning of the school day. Violation of the dress code will result in one of the following consequences:

- The student's guardian will be contacted with a dress code reminder.
- The student will not be addressed directly unless the violation is a safety concern or vulgar/offensive. In which case, the student will be sent to the office and the guardians will be called and asked to provide appropriate clothing, or appropriate clothing will be provided by the office before the student is permitted to return to the class or activity.

Any final questions of appropriateness of dress or appearance are subject to the discretion of the Head of School.

### Student Yearbook Pictures

Early in the school year, a professional photographer visits Summit School and takes individual student photos. Packets are available for purchase. At least one make-up day is scheduled. Mid-year, class photos are taken and are also available for purchase. These individual and group photos are published, along with many other candid photographs documenting the school year, in the annual school yearbook. The cost of the school yearbook is included in the student fees so that every student receives one. Additional yearbooks may be pre-ordered for an additional fee.

### Photography Guidelines

While photographing or sharing pictures of school events via social media, please remember that families have varying views on the use of social media and how pictures of their children are used. Thus, as a school community we need to be respectful of each family's choices for their children.

Some guardians have signed "no media" forms which must be honored by everyone who takes pictures on campus. The school's first responsibility is to honor the guardian's request for privacy while the child is at school. As a community, protecting the welfare of each child and guardians' wishes concerning their children's privacy must be respected. Therefore, we ask guardians not to post pictures of other children on any web-based digital sharing or social media sites without the permission of the guardians of the other child.

### Transcripts/Records Requests



Student records are considered confidential property of the school and access to them is limited. Guardians may receive or review copies of the academic records pertaining to their student consistent with applicable law and school policy. To request that the school provide a doctor, counselor, or another school with a copy of records pertaining to a student, the student's guardian must obtain, complete, and return to the school the appropriate form, which can be obtained from the front main office. All financial obligations to the school must be met before any records, including health records, can be sent. The procedure for withdrawing a child from the school requires written communication to the Director of Admissions and the Head of School.

Occasionally, the school receives requests from non-custodial guardians for grades and reports. It is the school's practice to honor all such requests unless the custodial guardian has supplied the school with a copy of a court order, which specifically bars the sending of such materials to the non-custodial guardian. If such an order does exist, it is the custodial guardian's responsibility to submit a copy to the appropriate division office, likewise in the case of any other legal restrictions.

### Lost and Found

The lost and found bins are in the Summit School Health Office. If a student has lost a personal item, they can come to the health office to check the bins.

### **Labeling**

Please clearly label all the belongings your child brings to school, especially all outerwear. Children easily misplace coats, backpacks, tote bags, and lunch boxes, or mistake someone else's belongings for their own.

### Outdoor Recess

Weather permitting, preschool students spend at least an hour outdoors as part of the educational program. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather.

### Library Books

Students are expected to take good care of library materials and to return them in a timely manner. Lost, damaged, or stolen library books and textbooks are the sole responsibility of the student and guardians. While fines are not charged for overdue materials, guardians are responsible for replacing any books that are not returned. A book will be considered "lost" and replacement fees will be charged if a book is more than 30 days overdue. Overdue/lost books may result in a student losing library check-out privileges until the replacement cost is paid. At the end of the school year, school documents such as progress reports, transcripts, and diplomas may be withheld until all books checked out to the student are returned or replaced.

In-kind donations are only accepted in lieu of replacement fees if the material donated is an exact copy of the item lost or by prior arrangement with the librarian. Refunds cannot be issued for lost materials that are located and returned after the replacement fee is paid. In those cases, students are invited to keep the book for their personal libraries or to donate it back to the classroom or IDEA Lab.

### Textbook Policy

The textbooks checked out to students, in addition to any textbooks kept at home are the property of Summit School. Students are required to return all textbooks at the conclusion of the class, at the direction or request of the teacher, or if the student leaves Summit. The following requirements apply.

- Students will receive hardcover textbooks and paperback novels in individual classes.
- All hardcover texts are to be covered.
- Students are to protect all textbooks from damage.
- Students are asked not to write, underline, or highlight in textbooks, including textbook novels checked out for English classes unless instructed by the teacher.
- If text is lost or damaged in any way, the student will pay all costs before a new textbook is issued.
- All texts checked out to the student must be returned in good, usable condition. Fines for damages or the entire replacement cost may be billed to the student if the textbook is not in good, usable condition.
- In accordance with our handbook, students will not receive final grade reports until all textbooks are returned and outstanding fines are paid.
- Students are not to loan or borrow other students' textbooks. Since students are responsible for damaged and lost books, they may only carry their own assigned book.

### **Textbook Fines and Fees**

Report cards and transcripts may be withheld if a student owes a fine for overdue or damaged materials. Fines for repair or replacement of textbook materials are assessed when materials are abused during the time the student was responsible for the materials. Fines are assessed when a book is water or liquid damaged, the binding is damaged, a barcode or picture has been cut from the book, or damage due to ink, highlighter, or writing has occurred inside the book.

### **Misplaced Books**

Students are expected to carry textbooks with them or to leave textbooks in their lockers. If a textbook is found lying unattended on school grounds or in a classroom, it will be returned to the corresponding teacher. If the student misplaces a book on a consistent basis, a consequence will be given at the discretion of the teacher.

### **Paperback Novels**

We highly recommend that students cover their paperback novels to prevent excessive damage. Books that are not returned in good, usable condition or that have been lost will have the cost of replacement billed to the student.

### **Consumables**

These include workbooks, student planners, and other bound, printed material that is intended for one student's use only. Examples would include *Wordly Wise* workbooks, math journals, student planners, and so on.

Summit is happy to provide students with one copy of each consumable item. Damages and fines will not be assessed for these items. However, students who lose a consumable or need another one for any reason, will be billed for the replacement cost of the item.

## Animals

Non-service animals are not permitted on campus. Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained and certified to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. For the health and safety of everyone, guardians and visitors are not permitted to bring pets onto school property, even if they are on a leash.

Some classes may have class pets such as small animals or fish to teach children how to care for animals and handle them safely. Please notify the school if your child has an allergy that would exclude them from this kind of activity.

Lockers

Lockers are assigned to students. Each student is to remove all stickers, signs, markings, etc. from their locker at the end of the school year. Students are responsible for any damage to their lockers and the cost of clean-up. There are no locks provided or permitted for use on lockers therefore valuables should not be stored in lockers during the day, overnight, or over weekends. The school is not responsible for any lost or stolen items. School administration has equal access to lockers and may inspect them at any time.

Waitlists for Enrollment

In the case of a full classroom/grade level, the following waitlist and enrollment preference applies to all grade levels including toddler and other preschool classes.

1. Students currently enrolled, enrolling for the upcoming school year (timestamp order)
2. Siblings of students enrolled for the upcoming school year (timestamp order)
3. First come/first served basis as of timestamp

At the close of Tier 2 enrollment, all revert to first come/first served based on timestamp.

School Recommendations/References

Requests for recommendations from teachers and staff of Summit School will be provided for currently enrolled Summit School Students only.

Insurance

In accordance with Arizona law (A.R.S. R9-5-302.A 1-15, Article 3) Summit School maintains general liability insurance.

Acknowledgement

My signature acknowledges that I have received a copy of Summit School’s Student and Parent Handbook.

- My child, myself, and any guardians will agree to review it and abide by the rules and regulations adopted by Summit School, including such other policies as may be adopted and amended from time to time by the school.
- I understand that my child will be held accountable for his or her behavior and may be subject to disciplinary action or other consequences if he or she violates any policy or agreement set forth in the handbook.
- I understand that the school believes that a positive and constructive working relationship between the school and the parent/guardian is essential to the fulfillment of the school's mission, and to be supportive of the school’s mission, its curriculum, administration, faculty and staff.

- In the event that I have a concern, I agree to bring it directly to the appropriate teacher or administrator. If it is an academic concern, I will share it with the teacher first.
- I understand the school’s policy that after multiple attempts to resolve a serious issue with a parent/guardian, if his/her actions materially interfere with the with the school’s ability to perform its mission or threaten the well-being of any member of the student body, staff or parent community, the school may disenroll the parent/guardian’s child[ren] at its discretion.
- I know that if I have any questions or concerns about my student, the school's policies or procedures, or any other matter, that I can speak to either the Head of School or the Assistant Head of School about the situation.

<hr/> Student Name	<hr/> Student Signature	<hr/> Date
<hr/> Student Name	<hr/> Student Signature	<hr/> Date
<hr/> Student Name	<hr/> Student Signature	<hr/> Date
<hr/> Print Parent/Guardian Name	<hr/> Parent/Guardian Signature	<hr/> Date