

# **GUNNISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1099 North 11<sup>th</sup> Street Gunnison, Colorado 81230  
(970) 641-7710

## **Mission**

*Ensure all students are successful.*

## **Vision**

*We will have the courage and competence to work as a team of committed professionals to continue to build a creative, innovative and positive school culture where all students can be successful.*

## **Core beliefs of Gunnison Elementary School:**

*We believe...*

- *Everyone has dignity, deserves respect, and can succeed*
  - *Every child is capable and has unique strengths*
    - *In meeting the needs of the whole child*
- *(safety, nutrition, health, academics, creativity, social and emotional development)*
  - *It takes a village to educate a child – we all teach everyone*
  - *In the importance of a safe, caring, and violence free school*
    - *In a three-way partnership – student/teacher/parents*

*-Gunnison Elementary School Staff, August 2012*

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Welcome to Gunnison Elementary School. We are thrilled to have you as part of our school community. Our new and returning staff will work together to meet student needs each day throughout the year.

To accomplish the mission of the school we have put together this handbook which contains guidelines and responsibilities for students, parents and staff. Please read this handbook carefully with your child(ren) as it contains important information about procedures that keep our school running smoothly and that assure student safety and expected behavior.

Please find an acknowledgement form on page 13 that indicates that you have read and understood the policies and procedures in this handbook. Please sign and return page 13 of this handbook to your child's teacher by Wednesday, September 6, 2017.

We are looking forward to working with you to ensure this school year is successful. We encourage you to be involved in your child's education. Being knowledgeable of the programs in place, routines, expectations and procedures is a great first step. Thank you for reading through this information. Please contact your child's teacher, or the building principal if you have any questions or concerns. You can find their contact information on our website: [www.gunnisonschools.net](http://www.gunnisonschools.net)

Sincerely,

Gunnison Elementary School Staff

## SCHOOL HOURS

All classrooms begin important activities at 8:30AM and learning is affected when students are late. Please make every effort to assure that your child is at school on time.

- 7:50 to 8:20AM—Breakfast
- 8:15 AM—Arrival Time for any students not eating breakfast
- 8:15 AM—Playground supervision begins
- 8:30 AM—Opening Bell
- 3:29 PM—1, 2 Dismissal
- 3:32 PM—3, 4, 5 Dismissal
- 3:40 PM—Buses depart, end of playground supervision

We expect the students to stay on the playground before school, except in extreme weather conditions. **In the interest of safety, students should not arrive prior to 8:15AM** (unless they are having breakfast) and are expected to stay on the school grounds once they arrive. There is no playground supervision until 8:15AM. Students who are eating breakfast are allowed to enter the elementary cafeteria at 7:50.

Students need to leave the school grounds when school is dismissed at the end of the day unless they are involved in a supervised after school activity. Supervision on the playground ends when the buses depart for the day.

## GES Lunch Schedule

	First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade
Lunch	11:20-11:45	11:20-11:45	12:20-12:45	12:45-1:10	11:45-12:10
Lunch	11:45-12:05	11:45-12:00	12:00-12:20	12:25-1:10	11:25-11:45

# Gunnison Elementary School Procedures

## ATTENDANCE

It is critical that parents contact the office by 9:00 a.m. on the morning of their child's absence. Prearranged absences should be reported to the office prior to the student missing a day. A fast and convenient way to report absences is to email both the classroom teacher and the school secretary (hhanson@gunnisonschools.net). It is the parent/guardian responsibility to contact the classroom teacher for makeup work.

If your student arrives after 8:35 in the morning, he/she will need to be signed in at the office. He/she will be issued a tardy slip and sent to class.

**The most important criteria for a student's success in school is consistent and punctual attendance. Frequent absences may lead to poor academic work, lack of social development, and possible academic failure. As per Board of Education Policy, after 10 absences in a semester, a letter will be sent home to inform parent(s) of the number of absences. Please see page 12 for additional information regarding School Board Policy as it pertains to excessive absentees.**

## ASSIGNMENTS TO CLASSROOMS

Students are assigned to classrooms by the school staff in order to assure a well-balanced, effective learning environment for all. These assignments are made with the following considerations:

1. An approximately equal number of boys and girls
2. Heterogeneous (mixed) groupings of students with varying math and reading abilities
3. Groupings of students with special needs served by the Special Services Department
4. Groupings of English Language Learner (ELL) students
5. Groupings of students served by the ACE (Gifted and Talented) Program
6. Groupings of students served by the Title I Program
7. Recommendations by teachers regarding special considerations
8. Input from school counselors and administrators

## BUS INFORMATION

Bus routes are arranged based on the number of students living in an area. Students must ride their assigned bus unless a note is sent from the parent giving permission for the student to ride a different bus. These notes must be presented to the bus driver. The student must be at his/her designated stop 5 minutes prior to pick-up time (10 minutes in bad weather conditions) and must stay clear of the roadway until the bus has come to a complete stop. Parental supervision is appreciated at bus stops.

Bus routes can be found online at <https://www.gunnisonschools.net/cms/one.aspx?portalId=443912&pageId=571588>

Students are expected to follow the bus driver's directions. Inappropriate behavior will result in disciplinary action and possible suspension or expulsion from bus service. Bus safety concerns and consequences will be determined by the Transportation Coordinator and parents will be notified.

Busses will depart from GCS at 3:40 pm, with stops at Lake School and GHS to follow.

NOTE: Changes to your child's end of the day transportation plan must be received by the school **BEFORE 2:00 pm**. We cannot guarantee messages getting to your child after that time.

## **CLASSROOM EVENTS**

You will receive information from your child's teacher as to when classroom events are held. If you volunteer to bring food, please communicate with your child's teacher regarding food allergies and healthy food choices.

When planning events for your child, please do not send any type of personal party invitations to school.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Respect and responsibility are the basis of the Code of Conduct. The Code is intended to help students achieve maximum development of individual knowledge, skills, and competence, and learn behavior patterns, which will enable them to be responsible, contributing members of society.

The school, in accordance with state law, board policy, and in cooperation with students and parents/guardians, adopted a code by which every student has the right to receive an outstanding education in a safe environment conducive to learning. In all instances, students are expected to behave in a respectful and responsible manner. The Board gives all district employees supervisory authority.

## **COMMUNICATION**

School Messenger is used by Gunnison Community Schools in order to reach parents, teachers, and community members with timely communication regarding things like school news, emergency alerts, school events, or transportation disruptions. GCS can quickly and easily engage our learning community by email, phone calls, or text message.

## **CHAIN OF COMMAND**

GES believes that complaints and grievances are best handled and resolved as close to their origin as possible. Therefore, the proper channeling of complaints involving instruction, discipline, or learning materials will be as follows:

1. Teacher/Educational Assistant
2. Principal
3. Superintendent
4. Board of Education

## **DISCIPLINE CONCERNS**

In the case of inappropriate behavior, the adult closest to the situation will most often handle the situation and provide appropriate consequences. If the infraction is deemed serious, the Assistant Principal or Principal will get involved. Consequences will be applied with the intent of eliminating inappropriate and/or unproductive behavior(s). Parents will be contacted for repeated or serious problems. The range of consequences may include:

1. Warning and/or loss of privileges
2. Time Out
3. Removal from class
4. Missed recess(es) (Detention)
5. Community Service
6. Specific play area assignments
7. Parent contact
8. In or out of school suspension (ISS)(OSS)
9. Confiscation
10. Expulsion
11. Police Referral
12. Any consequences deemed appropriate by administrators

## **EARLY RELEASE OF STUDENTS**

If parents need to pick up a student before the end of the day, they should first sign the student out at the office to receive a dismissal slip. Parents should then take the dismissal slip to the classroom teacher so that the student may be released.

## **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

The use of district technology is a privilege and contingent upon adherence to the acceptable use policy. All students must sign the acceptable use agreement before using district technology. Devices are available for student use, under supervision of district employees. The use of computer labs is prohibited unless a teacher is present. School devices are only to be used for school related work, and may not access personal email, games, music, and social media websites.

## **EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION/INFORMATION UPDATE**

Current, local emergency contact information is critical. Please make sure we have phone numbers for parents, guardians, and at least one other emergency contact person. You will be asked to fill out an enrollment form each year and you are expected to update this information whenever there is a change.

## **EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLANNING/DRILLS**

Our Emergency Operations Plan has been designed according to national standards and in collaboration with local law enforcement and emergency services. We conduct multiple drills throughout the school year and review and revise all components of the plan to ensure best practices are included and followed.

Students are expected to cooperate with staff during a practice drill or real emergency. Parents will be notified via text or voice mail when an emergency situation exists. Parents are expected to follow the instructions on these messages and to respect all emergency personnel protocols and reunification procedures.

## **FOOD SERVICE**

Breakfast and Lunch are available for purchase in the school cafeteria, and lunch may be brought from home. Free or reduced meals are available for those who qualify. Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who qualify will receive free breakfast and lunch. Free/reduced meals applications are available at the school office and online at [www.gunnisonschools.net](http://www.gunnisonschools.net) and must be submitted annually. Parents are invited to visit the cafeteria and eat with us. Each lunch meal comes with a fruit, milk, vegetable, protein source, and whole grain. Each breakfast meal includes a milk, fruit/vegetable, and grain or protein source.

Each student enrolled in the District is assigned a school meals account number, which they can charge in the cafeteria. If you don't want your child to charge purchases in the cafeteria, please contact the school's Cafeteria Manager to place a block on his or her account. If a block is placed on the account, only cash purchases are allowed. It is YOUR responsibility to tell your child not to purchase items beyond your authorization or what their eligibility allows. **Students receiving free or reduced meals will be charged for any extra items not included in the meal** (i.e. a la carte items and extras). Their eligibility includes a full breakfast and a full lunch. Full pay students will also be charged beyond the meal price for extra items.

There are 3 meal payment options: 1. Create a free account online at [www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com) using your child's PowerSchool ID number, which you can get from the school office. This site enables you to pre-fund your child's lunch account, keep track of purchases, create low balance notifications for yourself, and set up automatic payments. 2. Authorize the District to charge a credit card for purchases your child makes in the cafeteria. The credit card authorization form is available at the school office. 3. Pre-pay with cash or check at the school office.

If a block is placed on the account, only cash purchases are allowed. It YOUR responsibility to create an online account at [www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com) in order track your child's spending in the cafeteria and make payments. The school does not provide itemized receipts or statement balances. The District sends bi-weekly emails to accounts with negative balances.

The district cannot carry the financial burden of delinquent accounts. Therefore, as a last resort, delinquent accounts will be turned over to collections.

## **HEALTH**

### **Annual screening programs (JLC)**

The sight and hearing of all students in kindergarten, first, second, third, fourth, fifth, seventh, and ninth grades, all students new to the school system, all children referred by school personnel, and all students in special education programs will be tested during the school year as required by Colorado law. The parents/guardians will be informed when a deficiency is found. Parents/guardians may opt their students out based on religious or personal grounds by contacting the District Nurse.

### **Illness**

If a student becomes ill or has an accident during the school day, they must report to the office. The office staff will determine if the student needs to leave school. Every student is required to complete an Emergency Treatment Card at the beginning of the school year. This card must contain the name and telephone number of a parent/guardian for emergencies. Please update these records for any changes. Please keep students home if they have a fever, diarrhea, vomiting, rash with a fever, severe uncontrolled cough and/or 'flu-like' symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, etc). Keep the students home until they have been without the above symptoms for at least 24hours.

### **Immunization of Students (JLCB-R)**

No student may attend school in the district unless the student has presented to the school an up-to-date certificate of immunization or a completed exemption form per Colorado state law. A student may be exempted only upon submission of:

- a. Certification from a licensed physician that the physical condition of the child is such that immunization would endanger the child's life or health.
- b. Annual statement signed by one parent/guardian or the emancipated child that he or she adheres to a religious belief whose teachings are opposed to immunizations.
- c. Annual statement signed by one parent/guardian or the emancipated child that he or she holds a personal belief that is opposed to immunizations.

In the event of an outbreak of disease against which immunization is required, no exemption will be recognized and those students will be excluded from school.

Your child's shot information is being entered into the Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS), a confidential, statewide immunization record tracking system. You can choose to exclude your child's shot information from CIIS at any time. Please contact the district nurse for further information.

### **Administering Medicines to Students (JLCD-R)**

If under exceptional circumstances a student is required to take medication during school hours, only the school nurse or the nurse's designee will administer the medication. In the alternative, the parent/guardian may come to school to administer the medication. The appropriate forms must accompany the medication. The medication must be brought to school in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy of physician.

## **INSURANCE**

Information regarding insurance can be obtained at [www.gunnisonschools.net](http://www.gunnisonschools.net) > For Parents.

## **MEDIA**

There are several times during the school year that the GES staff and/or local media will want to recognize students for various accomplishments. Your child may be photographed for the GWSD website, teacher websites, or one of the local publications (i.e. *Gunnison Country Times*, *Hometown Happenings*, etc.) If you are opposed to this practice, please notify the GES Principal and District Office in writing.

## **OUTSIDE AGENCIES**

Gunnison Elementary School collaborates with various community agencies to meet the needs of the students enrolled. Members from the Gunnison Police Department, Juvenile Services (Family Advocacy and Support Team (FAST)/Gunnison Community Substance Abuse Program (GCSAP)/Center for Restorative Practices) and the Department of Human Services, will be in our building throughout the year. If you are opposed to your child having contact with any of these agencies, please notify the GES Principal in writing.

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

Parents are encouraged to participate in the school improvement process as a member of the Gunnison Community School Site Advisory Accountability Committee (GCS-SAAC). This group meets quarterly to develop goals and discuss instructional issues. Through this committee, important changes in policies for the school or district may be considered.

The Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) for Gunnison Elementary School also meets each month to discuss pertinent issues and to work on support activities. A representative is needed from each classroom to help organize activities and help in committee tasks. Notices for each meeting will be sent home announcing the time and place.

Parents are also encouraged to visit the classroom, volunteer, and accompany our classes on field trips. Parent involvement is a critical contributor for student success. We welcome parents to participate where ever possible.

## **PARKING LOT RULES**

Please help us maintain a safe area for student to enter the Gunnison Community School. Following established parking lot procedures will help to ensure that children are safe!

1. Student drop-off will no longer be in the main GCS Parking Lot. Vehicles dropping off students must use the former bus loop located in front of the Community School on 11<sup>th</sup> Street. This is for pick-up and drop-off only, and no long-term parking is allowed.
2. Busses will drop off and pick up students in the Main GCS Parking lot. The main parking lot will be closed while busses pick up in the afternoon. Parking is only allowed in designated spots.
3. Always use the crosswalk when moving from the parking lot to the building and vise-versa.
4. If you are going to walk students into the building, please park in the lot in designated spots.

## **PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Students who bring personal property to school are responsible for that property. Although GES will investigate thefts from lockers and other areas, GES cannot be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal property. Students should report losses to the administration.

## **RELEASE/REUNIFICATION**

An evacuation could result from many causes including a utility failure, a natural disaster, or an accident. In the event of an evacuation, students and staff will assemble in a waiting area at a designated evacuation location. This location will be communicated with parents at the time of the incident. At the evacuation location, parents and guardians should report to the check-in table. Students will only be released to a parent, guardian, or emergency contact as listed on the emergency contact card. Parents, guardians, or emergency contacts will be asked to show identification. The adult will be asked to sign for each student to assist us with attendance and to prevent confusion. A staff member will then retrieve the student from the waiting area and reunite the parent and child at the check-in table. An adult must sign for each student K-12. No student will be released without an adult signature, and phone calls will not be an acceptable substitute for a signature. While this may seem formal, these procedures will allow us to keep an accurate record of students and ensure the safety of everyone in our school community.

The evacuation procedure and release and reunification protocol have been created both to keep all students and district employees safe and to reunite students with parents in a calm, orderly manner. Because students will ONLY be released to a parent, guardian, or emergency contacted as listed on the emergency card, please consider those names carefully as you complete the emergency information.

## **SAFETY**

Safe2Tell is available to Colorado schools and students or anyone who needs to report a concern but wants to remain anonymous. Reasons to call can include but are not limited to alcohol abuse, animal cruelty, assaults, bullying, child abuse, domestic violence, drugs, explosives, fighting, fire starting, gangs, graffiti, guns, harassment, hate crimes, knives, planned fights, sexual abuse, stealing, suicide threats, suspicious acts, taunting, threats, unsafe situations, and vandalism. If you need to call, dial the toll-free hotline at 1-877-542-7233. Safe2Tell is answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is no caller ID and you do not have to provide your name. Or, you can make a report at [www.safe2tell.org](http://www.safe2tell.org). Crisis support is available for student safety concerns.

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

Specialized programming is available to meet the unique needs of the following populations: Gifted and Talented students, English Language Learners, and Special Education students. A formal process exists for identification, assessment and programming for these student populations within each site. Please contact the building principal for further information. District-wide procedures and documents can be found at [www.gunnisonschools.net](http://www.gunnisonschools.net) > Administrative Services > Special Services.

## **STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

The Gunnison Elementary School Staff sets high standards for their students. We have a Positive Behavior Intervention/Support Program (PBIS) in place that teaches behavior and conduct expectations and positive character traits and rewards students who follow the schools' expectations. This program is called "The Mustang Way." For more details, please reference the matrix on the back cover of this handbook.

## **STUDENT MESSAGES AND TELEPHONE CALLS**

Students are asked not to use the school telephones except for an emergency or extreme need. Teachers will monitor the use of classroom phones. We ask that all necessary plans be made with your child before they leave home in the morning. If it is necessary to leave a message for your child during the day, your message will be delivered to the teacher by 3:15.

## **STUDENT PROGRESS**

Formal reports of student progress will occur four times per year in the form of Parent/Teacher conferences and the Progress Report. Regular Parent-Teacher Conferences will be scheduled in November and March. Progress Reports will be sent home at the end of each semester (January and June). In addition, teachers will contact parents about grade level requirements or other specific needs/concerns. You are encouraged to contact your child's teacher throughout the school year if you have questions, comments, or concerns.

## **TEXTBOOK AND LIBRARY BOOK REPLACEMENT**

Gunnison Elementary School spends a large portion of our budget on text books and library books. We depend on these items to deliver curriculum and promote reading. It is critical that students use these items with care and return them in good condition so that others may use them in the future. Parents/guardians are asked to honor this responsibility by replacing damaged or lost text or library books. We will work with parents to find the best priced option for replacing text books. Library books are only replaceable by paying a fine, as those books must be "library-bound" and can only be ordered by our library staff.

## **OVERDUE BOOKS**

Checking books out of the library is a privilege that we extend to our students. If your child has an overdue book, he/she will not be allowed to check out until the book has been returned or the fee has been paid. Our library system will automatically send an email to the address on file to notify parents of an overdue book. The email will contain the title of the book and the fee amount if the book is not returned. If you object to receiving these email reminders, please contact the GES principal in writing.

## **VISITORS**

The Gunnison Community School staff welcomes you to visit and observe our classrooms. Visitors should enter through the main door, report to and check in at the office, show proper identification (if necessary), identify the reason for visiting the school, and get a nametag to identify them as a visitor.

All doors to Gunnison Community Schools will be locked, including the main entrance on the elementary side of the building, once school is in session. Visitors will be asked to push a button to alert the office to unlock the door.

## **GUNNISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS**

“The Mustang Way”

is

**Being Safe  
Being Respectful  
Being Responsible**

You may have seen posters in our school, or heard your child talk about “The Mustang Way.” This is Gunnison Elementary School’s name for our Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) program. PBIS is designed to teach common expectations and rules to all students in a positive way and then reward students for making great choices and being role models for each other. PBIS supports the character traits that we believe are essential to be successful citizens of Gunnison Elementary School. Since our Community School mascot is the mustang, we will teach students how to follow the Mustang Way: Being Safe, Being Respectful, and Being Responsible!

During the first week of school, students will be taught guidelines on how to follow the Mustang Way by their teachers and produce a classroom poster as a reminder of how to be Safe, Respectful, and Responsible. In addition, we will teach expectations for participating in all school activities and in every area of the building.

We have a school-wide reward system that provides positive feedback to students when they are meeting expectations and following the Mustang Way. Students will be awarded Mustang Moolah when they are “caught” doing something right. Their name will go into a hat for a drawing for a Mustang Way prize each month. At the end of the year, teachers will select “Mustangs of the Year” who will be honored at our awards ceremony.

Finally, we will conduct “Mustang Round Ups” where we will discuss and teach character building topics that promote positive social and emotional well-being. We encourage families to support our efforts at home. Talk to your students about being a good mustang and what it means to follow the “Mustang Way”.

The GES staff has created a school-wide positive behavior support matrix that includes behavioral expectations for each setting in the school. Please see the matrix at the back of the handbook.

Following is a list of student behavior expectations as they pertain to specific areas of the school:

### **ASSEMBLIES, CONCERTS, AND GUEST SPEAKERS**

Assemblies, concerts, and guest speakers provide opportunities for learning outside the classroom routine. Students must sit quietly and be polite to all performers and speakers, giving appropriate responses when asked.

### **BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS, SKATES, ETC.**

For safety reasons, students choosing to use bicycles, roller blades, skateboards, scooters, etc. for transportation to and from school must keep these items in a bicycle rack during the entire school day. These items may not be used during the school day.

## **BUS ETIQUETTE**

Mustang Way rules apply on the bus. Students are expected to follow these expectations and the bus driver's directions. Inappropriate behavior will result in disciplinary action and possible suspension from bus service. Bus safety concerns and consequences will be determined by the Transportation Coordinator and parents will be notified. All route bus riders are required to sign the bus safety agreement found on the district website.

## **DRESS AND APPEARANCE**

Students are expected to be clean and neat in appearance. The school reserves the right to decide on the appropriateness of the student's clothing.

Hats must be removed before entering the building. Tops that are low cut or bare the midriff area are not acceptable. The midriff should not be exposed with arms down or when reaching. Clothing with obscene language, offensive pictures, alcohol, drugs, or tobacco emblems, or violence is not acceptable. Sleeveless shirts or dresses must have straps and be fitted around the underarm. Hems on shorts, skirts, or dresses should not be shorter than the out-stretched fingers when arms are held straight at sides. Clothing that is see-through or shows too much skin is prohibited. Students will be required to call home for replacement clothing in the event that their clothing is deemed inappropriate.

## **HALLS AND RESTROOMS**

As part of the daily routine, students move through the halls to various classes and facilities. Whether walking in a group or walking individually, students are to WALK on the right side of the hall, quietly keeping hands, feet, and body under control. Hall passes may be required by some teachers in some instances. Students are to wait quietly for their turn at the drinking fountain.

Restrooms are to be used properly, keeping these facilities clean for all others to use. Students need to remember to flush toilets and wash their hands before leaving. Students should use the restroom facilities near the Commons during the lunch hour to avoid re-entering the building during recess. Teachers may ask students to use a pass or sign in and out of the classroom to use the restroom.

## **MUSTANG CAFÉ**

Students are to walk into the cafeteria quietly. Appropriate table manners are expected and quiet talking is allowed. The students are required to clean up their area before leaving.

## **PERSONAL ITEMS**

### *Distracting Items*

We respect the professional judgement of our staff to determine policies concerning items that may be considered distracting during the school day. Such items may include, but are not limited to fidget spinners, thinking putty, and Beyblades. Teachers will develop policies regarding these items and will communicate them to students.

### *Electronic Devices*

Use of personal electronic devices (e.g. cell phones, personal tablets, watch phones, GPS watches, iPods/MP3 players, etc.) is restricted to before and after school, and at the discretion of the staff. If it is necessary for students to contact parents during the school day, they may do so under the supervision of adults.

If a student is using the device without permission, the device is taken to the office.

- On the first offense, students may pick up the device from the office after school.
- On the second offense, parents/guardians may pick up the device for the student from the office after school.
- On the third offense, the parents/guardians, students, and the administration will have a meeting to establish a plan.

### *Prohibited Items*

Matches, lighters, Heelies, trading cards, remote control vehicles, and weapons (including toy weapons, pocket knives, and utility tools) are prohibited. Other distracting items may be restricted as the year progresses. Items will be confiscated and given to the administration. Parents may pick up items at the end of the day.

### **PLAYGROUND**

Students are expected to go outside for recess breaks each day. Gunnison weather is unpredictable and appropriate clothing for each season is required. Fresh air and sunshine are a healthy part of the student's day. Students will play outside unless there is inclement weather deemed unsafe for play at which time students will be monitored inside.

Teachers and educational assistants will go over specific equipment and area rules with each grade level. Safe play is a must, as well as respect for each other's games and equipment. Students must observe boundary designations. Skateboards, roller skates, roller blades, and scooters are not allowed on the playground. Bikes are to be walked to the racks once the student is on the school grounds. Bikes should be locked. Students are to line up promptly when the duty teacher signals time to go inside.

Students may bring play equipment to school for use on the playground during recess times. Supervising staff may limit these items at their discretion. Items prohibited from use during recess include, but are not limited to baseball bats, lacrosse sticks, hockey sticks, battery-operated or remote control toys, and trading cards.

To maintain health and safety for all staff and students, the following guidelines apply for outside play:

## **CONFLICT RESOLUTION/BULLYING**

### **What is Bullying?**

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. In order to be considered bullying, the behavior must be aggressive and include:

- Imbalance of power: such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity to control or harm others. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.
- Repetition: Bullying behaviors happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.

It is important to understand that the term "Bullying" is often misused. Teasing, rough-housing and incidental conflicts are not necessarily bullying. However, these behaviors, as well as bullying behavior are not tolerated at GES.

GES seeks to provide a safe and peaceful learning environment in which bullying behaviors are not tolerated. To promote a positive and safe school climate, students are being taught the *Stop, Walk, Talk* strategy. This strategy teaches students how to deal with being bothered, teased, picked on, or bullied. It is used to teach students how to stand up to behavior that they feel is not wanted or hurtful. *Stop, Walk, Talk* will be reinforced with students several times throughout the year.

### **Be an Upstander**

Students are encouraged to step in and provide support for those who are being mistreated and to report potential bullying behaviors towards others.

**What is the Goal?**

The goal of Bullying Prevention is to empower students to refuse to accept bullying behaviors and to help them develop empathy and offer healthy support for those who are being victimized. Through this, we will reduce mean, aggressive behavior.

2018-19 GES Mustangs  
Mountains and Molehills

Mountains (office managed)	Molehills (teacher managed)
<p><b>Fighting, Physical Assault:</b> Adult intervention needed to stop fight or there is a safety concern for self or others</p> <p><i>The only time a student is sent immediately to the office</i></p>	<p><b>Disruptive Classroom Behavior</b></p>
<p><b>Verbal or Written Threats</b></p>	<p><b>Dishonesty:</b> Cheating, lying, forging, small theft, etc.</p>
<p><b>Dress Code Violations</b></p>	<p><b>Hallway Disruption:</b> Running, not in line, etc.</p>
<p><b>Bus Safety Violations</b></p>	<p><b>Drinks, Food, or Gum</b></p>
<p><b>Vandalism</b></p>	<p><b>Inappropriate Language not directed at someone</b></p>
<p><b>Possession of Illegal or Dangerous Items:</b> Alcohol, tobacco, drugs, knives of any size, guns, lighters, matches or any other potentially harmful objects</p>	<p><b>Not prepared for class</b></p>
<p><b>Major Theft</b></p>	<p><b>Inappropriate Physical Contact:</b> PDA, rough play, shoving in line, hitting, stepping on feet, etc.</p>
<p><b>Inappropriate Sexual Conduct</b></p>	<p><b>Attendance &amp; Tardy Issues:</b> Attendance will be monitored by AP too</p>
<p><b>Technology Infractions</b></p>	<p><b>Possession of non-school related items</b></p>
	<p><b>Uncooperative Play</b></p>
	<p><b>Failure to follow GES expectations</b></p>
	<p><b>Name-Calling</b></p>

## **GUNNISON WATERSHED RE1J SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES**

Gunnison Community School is an equal opportunity education facility and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap in its activities, programs or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title VII, Section 504, Title IX.

For more information regarding Gunnison Watershed School District Board of Education policies please visit [www.gunnisonschools.net](http://www.gunnisonschools.net) > District > School Board > School Board Policy.