



Student & Parent Handbook 2023-2024

Thunder Vista P-8
3461 Preble Creek Pkwy
Broomfield, CO 80020
Office: 720-972-7300
Attendance Line: 720-972-7399
Visit our website

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Important Phone Numbers

Main Office (Hours 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) 720-972-7300

Fax Line: 720-972-7398

Attendance Line (available 24 hours a day) 720-972-7399

*Please call before 8 am if your student will be absent or tardy.

BASE Program: 720-972-7323

Cafeteria: 720-972-7322

Library: 720-972-7329

School Hours

Kindergarten – Grade 8

First Bell 7:53 am Tardy Bell 8:00 am

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am – 3:10 pm

[Middle School Bell Schedule](#)

-If you arrive after 8:00 a.m., you are considered tardy.

[Adams 12 School Calendar for 2023-2024 - IMPORTANT DATES](#)

Preschool

See the THV Preschool Handbook for specific times, details and information.

3 year old AM 8:00-10:30 am

4 year old AM 8:00-11:00 am

4 year-old PM 12:10-3:10 pm

Full Day 8:00 am-2:00 pm

Earliest drop off 7:50 am

Latest pick up 3:05 pm

Please ensure that your child knows the daily plan for pick up. If someone is responsible for meeting them, please remind them to be on school grounds no later than 3:10pm at the designated pick up location.

Staff is present to assist with the supervision of our students starting at 7:40 am. Staff will be available to assist with dismissal procedures at the end of each day for a period of 5 – 10 minutes. If it is prior to the end of the school day, please make sure to bring your driver's license to pick up your child. Anyone other than the designated parent/guardian must be listed on a Student Authorization Pick Up Form and bring their driver's license to pick up your child.

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Academic Dishonesty (Cheating)

All students are expected to demonstrate academic honesty in all classes at all times. Academic honesty is performing and producing your own work on your own knowledge, talents and efforts. Academic dishonesty, in any form, will not be tolerated at Thunder Vista and appropriate consequences will occur.

Arrival and Dismissal

Students are allowed on school grounds beginning at 7:40am. Upon arrival, students should go to their designated stairwell entrance located at the north side of the school building. Students will begin entering the building at 7:40am according to their grade level and staggered entry schedule. After the 8:00am tardy bell, students may enter the building through the cafeteria doors until 8:10am. After 8:10am, students must check in at the office and will receive a tardy pass.

At dismissal, all students will exit the building with their classroom teacher and go to their designated outside classroom line location. Please be sure your student knows your pickup routine and designated pickup location. Supervision for dismissal will end at 3:20pm, so please be prompt at pick up. If a student is not picked up, he/she will be brought to the office and the parent called. If your dismissal routine should change and you need to notify your child, please call the main office at least 10 minutes before the end of the day. The office will notify the student before they leave for the day. Please do not contact your student's teacher with these messages as they may not receive them in time to notify your student.

Attendance

A significant part of a student's educational experience is derived from classroom participation, activities, discussion and relationships. Regular and punctual daily attendance is a critical factor in a student's ability to attain the maximum benefit from the educational process. Please plan vacations, doctor's appointments and other non-emergency activities for days or times when students are not in school. Please refer to the [Adams 12 District Calendar](#) and our school calendar/[website](#) for non-school days.

All absences and late arrivals must be reported to the Thunder Vista Attendance Line. Please call our attendance line at 720-972-7399 before the start of the school day to report your student's absence or late arrival. Please do not email or call your student's teacher to report an absence.

For an absence to be excused, a telephone call or signed note from the custodial parent/legal guardian, medical practitioner(s), or other authorized official must be received by the office. All other absences will be considered unexcused. Any student arriving after the start of their class period or school day will be considered tardy. Tardies for middle school students to classes during the school day will be reported in Infinite Campus.

Excessive absences and tardiness, even if excused, may result in teachers and/or administration initiating a required conference with the parent and student to develop an attendance contract to address the concern. If school and/or District intervention efforts fail, sanctions for habitual truancy may include a referral to the Truancy Court of the 17th Judicial District and / or a referral to a social service agency. View the Adams 12 Five Star School District Student Attendance Policy [here](#).

Before and After School Enrichment (B.A.S.E.)

Thunder Vista provides on-site childcare for K-5 students attending Thunder Vista through the district's Before and After School Enrichment (B.A.S.E.) program. The BASE Program serves elementary students beginning at 5 years of age. BASE is an extracurricular, optional, fee-based program. Space is limited and there is often a list of families waiting for an opportunity to enroll in BASE.

Students in the BASE Program engage in a wide variety of activities and choices providing students with opportunities to create, learn and grow through arts, physical activity and academic enrichment activities during out of school time. All BASE activities allow students opportunities critical to their social emotional development.

Morning B.A.S.E. is available from 6:30AM-8:00AM (M-F). After school B.A.S.E. is available from 3:10PM-6:00PM (M-F). For information about our B.A.S.E. program, including registration and fee details, please contact our B.A.S.E. Director, Hanah Box, at Hanah.J.Box@adams12.org or 720-972-7323. For more information about the District's BASE programs, please visit the following [link](#).

Behavior Expectations, Disciplinary Action and Student Code of Conduct

It is the expectation of Thunder Vista students that their behavior be positive and appropriate. When it is not, consequences will be enforced in a fair and consistent manner.

A summary of the Student Code of Conduct for Adams 12 Five Star Schools (the District) is available on the District's [website](#). For complete information, please refer to the latest version of each District policy, available [here](#). This summary includes information such as:

- student conduct
- student attendance
- cell phones and personal electronics
- District technology and Internet usage
- student dress code
- bullying and harassment

Bicycles, Skateboards, Scooters

When students arrive at school with bicycles, skateboards or scooters, students should walk it directly to the bike or skateboard racks located at the school and leave it there until dismissal. For safety reasons, students are not permitted to ride their bicycles, skateboards or scooters on school grounds. We encourage all students to wear helmets whenever riding a bike, skateboard or scooter. The school expects all bicycle riders to refrain from riding over school lawns or private property. Students are expected to follow traffic rules applying to bicycle riders. Students should provide and use locks for their bikes/skateboards/scooters when at school. The school/District cannot and does not safeguard bicycles, skateboards, scooters and other items a student brings to school and leaves at the bike racks. Rollerblades and sneaker skates (heelys) are not to be brought to school, or used on school grounds. The school/District assumes no liability for bicycles, skateboards, scooters or other personal items brought to school.

Birthday Invitations

We understand that school is the easiest place to distribute birthday invitations; however, doing so can cause many hurt feelings which disrupt the learning environment. Please have students pass out any party invitations after school is dismissed. We also do not provide contact information for students to help with birthday invitation distribution.

Books, Materials and Equipment

All textbooks are provided by the school. Lost or damaged books must be paid for by the student before another book will be issued. If a lost book has been paid for and then found, the student will be given a refund. School equipment damaged by a student because of carelessness will be paid for at the time it occurs.

Cell Phones, Smart Watches & Other Personal Electronics

[District Policy 5030](#) states:

In academic settings (classroom, library, labs, etc.) such devices must be in the “off” or “silent” position and stored out of sight except as permitted by the teacher. Violations shall be addressed as referenced in District Policy 5030.

All students are expected to keep cell phones/devices quiet and out of sight while at school. Fourth through eighth grade classroom teachers may also choose to use the “cell phone parking lot system” where students will place their cell phones/devices in the designated pockets in each of their classrooms.

Additional electronic devices (such as iPads, iPods, smartwatches) can be used at teacher’s discretion in a way that supports the educational environment. **Thunder Vista and its staff will not be held responsible for lost or stolen electronic devices or cell phones or the cost incurred as a result of using them.**

Clubs and After School Activities

In order to ensure a well-rounded education, our school offers a variety of after school enrichment activities for our students. It is proven that those students who participate in co-curricular activities have a better sense of belonging at school and perform at a higher level academically. Watch for information about co-curricular activities in school publications and on our website.

Attendance is taken for all before and after school clubs and activities. Students who participate in these activities are expected to be in attendance for all meetings and events. If a student was at school but will be absent from their activity, the student’s parent must notify the main office and club sponsor prior to the activity. For safety and supervision reasons, it is important that students arrive and are picked up promptly at prescribed times. Excessive absences may result in a student being removed from the club/activity.

Communication

You will receive communication from Thunder Vista in a variety of different ways. We will use School Messenger for all school-wide and district-wide information and messages. It is important to keep your email addresses and other contact information up to date in Infinite Campus to ensure you are receiving all of this information.

Students will not be allowed to use the office phone to make after school social arrangements. Students will be allowed to use the phone only in the following situations:

- When requested by their teacher
- When requested by an administrator
- When requested by the health aide, nurse or office staff

School office staff will only deliver emergency messages to students. Please assist us by making arrangements for after school pick-up and daycare prior to your child leaving for school in the morning. Response to parent phone calls/emails will be made within one to two business days.

Communication with your student's teacher

Thunder Vista has a few digital tools for teachers to communicate with parents:

- Infinite Campus is where to find grades.
- Seesaw is where you can see your child's work (K-2) and message back and forth with teachers.
- Schoology is where 2nd-8th grade families can see a calendar of assignments.
- And of course phone and email is a popular tool that teachers use.

Please ask your child's teacher what to expect from their communication systems. If you would like to contact your student's teacher, it is recommended that you reach out to them through email. All staff can be contacted by email directly through our website. Although teachers have telephones located in their classrooms, they keep their ringers turned off during instructional time to prevent interruption. Teachers will check their email before and after school. You can expect to hear back from them within 48 hours. If you have a more urgent request, such as a message to your student, you should call the main office.

If you have a question or concern in regard to your child's classroom or teacher's policies, please start by contacting the classroom teacher or other other staff member directly involved in the situation. If after this discussion you still have concerns, please contact the building administration.

Departure Procedures

Students may only exit via their designated doors. Grade levels will communicate this to students and parents. Students in BASE or extracurricular activities must directly report to BASE or the extracurricular activities. Staff will assist K-2 students. Students and parents are not able to re-enter the building.

Students taking a bus must line up at the appropriate sign and stay by the sign. Staff are present to assist and ensure safety. Parents must communicate with the main office if their child is/isn't taking a specific bus.

Parents are not able to enter the building unless they are scheduled to volunteer or have a meeting. Teachers provide the office with this list.

Early Departure/Late Arrival

Students who must leave school during regular school hours must be signed out through the office by a parent or legal guardian. A student may not be dismissed from their classroom until someone has signed the student out. Students cannot be released to leave school alone, unless authorized by administration in accordance with District Policy. Students are involved in instruction until the end of the school day.

We request that you do not pick your students up early unless it is extremely necessary. Students who arrive late to school must check in at the office.

Enrollment and Withdrawal of Students

To enroll at Thunder Vista, please follow these instructions.

1. Confirm you reside in the Thunder Vista school boundaries by checking the [School Finder](#).
2. Complete an [online enrollment application](#) and follow the appropriate links.
3. Be prepared to upload the following documents to complete the online application.
 1. **Parent / Guardian Photo ID** (A driver's license or any other photo I.D. is acceptable)
 - Guardians must have proper guardianship forms signed and notarized or a copy of court authorization.
 - Custody documentation is required, if applicable.
 2. **Documentation of Child's Date of Birth** (Please provide ONE of the following government issued proofs)
 - Birth Certificate (full size certificate, showing parent's names as well as child's is preferred)
 - Valid passport

3. **Proof of Residence** ([click for details](#))
4. **Immunization Records** (required by state law, [click for details](#))
5. **Previous School Information**
 - Name, address, phone and fax number of previous school
 - Most recent report card

***** Kindergarten students must be 5 years old on or before October 1st.**
Please see [District Policy 5230](#).

If you plan to withdraw your student from school, please contact our school registrar at least one week prior to your student's last day. All fees must be paid and all books and materials must be returned.

Excused from Physical Education or Physical Activity Programs

Students will be provided opportunities to engage in physical education (P.E.) classes. If a student is unable to participate in P.E., the student must present to the principal or principal's designee a statement from a licensed health care practitioner stating the reason for the student's inability to participate. A licensed health care practitioner means a physician (MD, DO), nurse practitioner or physician assistant who has prescriptive authority and is licensed to practice in Colorado.

Field Trips

Properly supervised and planned educational field trips are an important part of the instructional program. A signed District permission form and payment of any applicable fees from a parent or guardian is required for all field trips and provides the school with the assurance that you know about the activity and what it will entail. We will not permit a student to participate in a student activity or field trip unless the district form and payment (if applicable) is returned to the school by the indicated date with the appropriate signature. Handwritten notes or phone calls cannot be accepted. Students will not be released to parents/guardians from the field trip site unless prior written documentation has been provided to and approved by a school administrator at least one week in advance of the activity. Teachers will determine the need for chaperones. Please understand that some field trips have limited space or certain guidelines which may affect your opportunity to chaperone. To provide the safest possible supervision, chaperones may not bring siblings on field trips.

Hall Passes

When needing to leave the classroom during the school day, students will utilize the classroom sign out and sign in system along with the grade level hallway pass to be carried and visible.

Health and Illness

Our Health Aid is available during school hours to help treat students who are ill or injured while at school. For questions and information about immunizations, Medication Authorizations, food allergies, or other health-related issues, please contact our Health Aid or visit the [District Health Services website](#).

Parents often have trouble knowing whether their child is too ill to go to school. [Guidelines](#) from the district website should help you decide.

Healthy Nutrition Practices

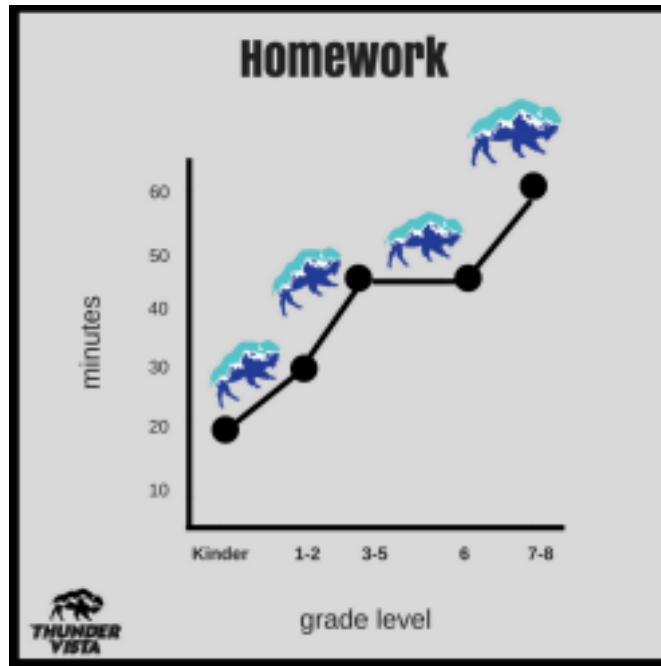
For **classroom celebrations**, **we highly encourage** the use of non-food treats as rewards and incentives. Classroom celebrations (i.e. birthdays and holidays) involving food should have food that is prepared in a way that supports the school wide initiative of health and wellness. We encourage parents to send non-edible “treats” for celebrations. Items may include fun pencils, erasers, stickers, cups, bouncy balls, small toys or a recess game to be gifted for the class use.

For **student snacks**, parent-provided healthy daily snacks are allowed. Please check with your child's classroom teacher for specific classroom snack guidelines, including foods that may not be permitted due to classmates' food allergies.

Homework Policy

Grade Level Teams will have a purpose for giving homework. Possible purposes include practice, front loading, conversation, project management, investigation, and making connections. Grade level teams will communicate the expected amount of homework. The amount of homework will consistently grow as students progress in grade (see graph on next page).

Parent communication of homework completion will be in accordance with your child's teacher's syllabus/classroom policies. For students in second through eighth grade, Schoology will have information about assignments posted.



Inclement Weather/School Closure

Information on emergency school closures due to severe overnight storms or other emergency situations is available on local television stations. Please listen for announcements concerning Adams 12 Five Star Schools. Information on closures may also be obtained by calling the District information number at 720-972-4000, then press 7 for school closure information or check the District [website](#). Please note that school is rarely canceled.

Indoor Recess will be called if:

- snow, rain or sleet is falling
- temperature with the wind chill is 20 degrees or less
- playground conditions are poor (mud, snow or standing water)

Students must be prepared for all types of weather. They should bring warm coats, gloves or mittens, hats, weatherproof footwear and an extra pair of shoes for PE.

Library Media Center

The Thunder Vista library provides an organized collection of resources, as well as instruction in the use of these materials. Our goal is to integrate information literacy and technology into the curriculum to increase student achievement, to empower students and teachers to be effective and independent users of information, and to promote a love for reading and an appreciation of literature.

Students are welcome to use the Library for research purposes, computer work or quiet reading as long as there is a staff member in the library to supervise them. Library expectations are that students should be at a working 0-1 voice level and be respectful of other students, staff and school property. The Library does not allow food, candy or beverages.

Student ID cards must be presented at the circulation desk to check out materials from the Thunder Vista library. 6th-8th graders are required to have their student ID with them to check out materials.

Preschool - K students are allowed to check out one book at a time.

1st - 8th grade students are allowed to check out two books at a time.

Materials may be renewed one time if they have not been requested by another student.

District library policy requires that all books that are 30 days overdue in the system be added as a fine to each student's account. When the books are returned, the fine is removed automatically. If a student has late books, no other materials can be checked out until overdue materials are returned. Overdue notices will be sent home regularly. If books become lost or damaged, students will be asked to pay the replacement cost for the items before checking out new items from the library.

Please practice careful handling procedures with all library materials. We have had an excessive amount of books damaged due to liquids leaking in backpacks and food damage. We encourage students to carry books back and forth from school in Ziploc bags to help protect books and keep them free from damage. Please stress to your child that they should never be reading while having any kind of food or drink. Your support and encouragement of this behavior would be greatly appreciated.

Our library program is an integral part of each student's journey as a lifelong learner. For more information regarding the Thunder Vista Library and for helpful websites, visit the Library page on the Thunder Vista [website](#).

Lockers

Lockers are the property of the District. The school may search student lockers on a periodic basis to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all students. Lockers are supplied to middle school students free of charge to store books, coats, backpacks/bags, school supplies, PE uniforms, and other school related items. Students are free to decorate the inside of their hallway lockers with appropriate pictures, mirrors, shelves, magnets, etc., as long as such items can be easily removed without permanent damage to the locker. Writing in or on the locker is not permitted. All pictures and posters hung in lockers must meet District standards. Students having troubles with lockers should report problems to the main office.

It is suggested that students do not keep valuable items in their lockers. Locker combinations should not be shared and should remain private. Moving to another locker without permission of school administration is prohibited. Private locks are prohibited, unless approval is given by administration, and will be cut off the locker. The school is not responsible for items contained in lockers. Items found in lockers not assigned to students or left at the end of the school year will be discarded.

Lost & Found

All coats, backpacks, lunch boxes and other items students bring to school should be clearly marked with their name for easy identification in the event of loss. Items that are lost or unclaimed will be kept in a convenient location, available to students to look through if they have lost something. Small items such as glasses, jewelry and watches will be kept in the office. At varying times during the school year, unclaimed articles will be prominently displayed and, if still unclaimed, given to worthy organizations.

Nutrition Services & School Lunches

Adams 12 Five Star Schools Nutrition Services serves lunch each day or students may choose to bring meals from home. When bringing meals from home, students may only bring food for individual consumption and not for sharing with others. Students are not allowed to use food delivery services (i.e., Doordash, Uber Eats, GrubHub, etc,) to have food delivered to the school. In addition to meals, a variety of a la carte snack selections are offered for purchase at additional costs. Prepayment for meals is encouraged via cash, check, or online at <https://www.payforit.net>. Parents are encouraged to set low balance notifications or auto replenishment at PayForIt.net to ensure funds are available for purchases.

Free and reduced meal benefits are available to households that qualify, applications must be completed annually and can be submitted online at <https://www.myschoolapps.com>. Paper applications are also available in the kitchen office. Students approved for free or reduced meal benefits receive meals at no cost.

Additional detailed information about Nutrition Services can be found [here](#), including current menus, free and reduced meal benefits, special dietary needs, and meal charge standard practice. You may also contact the kitchen manager at 720-972-7322.

Parent Teacher Organization

Thunder Vista's parent-teacher organization has been formed with the purpose of supporting the education of our students by fostering relationships among schools, parents and teachers and encouraging parent involvement. This partnership also enhances our school's educational experience by supporting academic and enrichment activities by providing volunteer and financial support. The Thunder Vista PTO will meet regularly to plan and organize school activities as well as provide additional support to maximize the educational and community experience for all students. These meetings are open to all parents/guardians, students and staff of Thunder Vista. Regular meetings will be held every other month during the first Wednesday of the month. Please check the calendar on our school website for more details.

Parking Lot / Hug & Go Reminders

All visitors to the school should use the Visitor Parking Lot located on the southwest side of the school near the main entrance. If this lot is full, visitors may use the staff lot on the south east side of the building. Entry into these parking lots can be accessed from Preble Creek Parkway. There is no visitor parking allowed in the Staff Lot located on the northwest side of the school during school hours. In the event parking is not available in our Visitors Lots, you may be able to park on the surrounding streets. However, please be mindful of 'No Parking' zones. Please watch for children in the parking lots and street, and be alert at crosswalks.

The student 'Hug and Go Lane' is located in our northwest parking lot. You will be guided forward through the driving lane to the left of the solid white line, in a single file line, to quickly allow students to exit the car from the passenger side only and then continue driving to allow for a smooth flow of traffic. Please have your children ready to exit the car so it does not delay this flow of traffic. Do not park or get out of your car while in the 'Hug and Go' Lane. The 'Hug and Go' Lane is designated for continuous traffic flow. When a vehicle pulls out, please pull forward to fill that space. When traffic flow has stopped and all cars have pulled forward, we ask that all students exit their car all along the pedestrian lane (indicated with a solid white line and plastic green children at play signs).

PE Dress Out Policy

Students in grade 6th, 7th and 8th are required to dress out for Physical Education. The appropriate P.E. uniform is a shirt bearing the Thunder Vista Logo and pants or shorts in grey, black or blue. All shorts worn must exceed the length of your fingertips when arms are extended to your side. T-shirts are available from the P.E. department for \$15. You can also wear any shirt purchased through the school online store. Students who are waiting for an order to be fulfilled must still wear a Thunder Vista shirt. Appropriate athletic shoes must also be worn.

Pets on School Property

In an effort to keep our school feeling safe for all students and families and in accordance with District Policy, only service animals and therapy dogs are permitted on school property. District Policy requires prior authorization from the principal to have a therapy dog on school property. We ask that all other pets remain off school grounds during school hours. We appreciate your cooperation with this request.

Recess and Playground

Because of the temperate Colorado climate, children will often spend recess outside. Children should be dressed appropriately for the season, and should wear warm clothing and boots during cold and wet weather. Students will go outside unless the wind chill temperature drops below 20 degrees fahrenheit or there is active heavy precipitation. Recess is considered part of the school curriculum, and it is expected that all students will participate. If your child has a temporary or chronic condition that would warrant his/her not participating in recess, please contact the health aide.

Reporting Student Progress

Your student's progress will be reported at individual parent conferences at least twice a year. Report cards are sent home at the end of each grading period. Academic progress can also be found via the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

Safety Information

Your child's safety is of utmost importance to us. It is imperative that students are dropped off no earlier than 7:40 a.m. and picked up at 3:10 p.m. Adult supervision is only available 10 minutes after these times.

Student Safety- Please help us keep students safe:

- Remind your child to use sidewalks and crosswalks.
- Drop off and pick up of students is along the curb only, so they don't have to cross traffic other than at the crosswalk. Our Hug and Go lane is located on the west side of the school.
- Avoid parking within 15 feet of school crosswalks.
- Parents should encourage children to adhere to all safety rules established for pedestrians. This emphasis on safety is also a concern of the school's staff, and is an important part of the instructional program.

- Students are expected to go directly to and from school. They are to respect the rights and property of all people in the neighborhood.

School Security System - In our ongoing efforts to provide the safest and most secure environment for our students, an additional security measure has been installed, which requires the following safety measures.

- ALL exterior doors will be locked at all times.
- Please do not open the door or hold the door open for others.
- In order to enter the building, you will need to press the button located at the front/south entrance to our school.
- An office member will release the doors, allowing access to the building.
- Once entering the building, ALL visitors must check in at the office, show ID, and obtain a visitor pass.
- If you would like to wait with your child before school or wait for your child after school, you will need to wait outside.

Safety Information: Fire/Tornado/LockOUT/LockDOWN

Preparation is the key to effective response in case of an emergency. Drills help our staff and students respond quickly, calmly and safely to a number of situations. The goal of each of these drills is to prepare students and staff in the event they encounter these situations. Drills conducted at our school throughout year include:

- Fire drills - conducted each month
- Tornado drills - conducted twice a year
- LockDOWN drills, designed to familiarize students with how to respond to a potential threat inside the school - conducted twice a year - one announced in the Fall and one unannounced in the Spring

During an actual emergency situation, we want you to receive the most accurate communication and information. You can help accomplish this by ensuring your contact information in Infinite Campus is up to date. Parents can also opt-in to receive text message alerts sent by the district and schools. Opting in is a two-step process: 1) Make sure your cell phone number is listed in Infinite Campus in the cell phone field. 2) Then text YES to 67587.

School Closure or Delayed Start Notification

In the event of inclement weather, Adams 12 Five Star Schools uses a variety of resources to determine if conditions exist that warrant a 1-hour delayed start or closure of schools. If conditions pose a concern for student and staff safety, the district will make every effort to announce a decision by 5:30 a.m. to close or delay opening schools. A 1-hour delayed start or closure will be communicated in several different ways, including:

- District's website
- Local media outlets
- Email and text message to parents:
 - Ensure your information is up-to-date in [Infinite Campus](#)
 - In order to receive text messages, you must opt in by texting "YES" to 68453
- District's hotline (720) 972-4000, then press 7
- Social media ([Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#))

In the event of an announced 1-hour delayed start, families should add two hours to the start of the school day, including morning BASE and school start times. School will end at its normal time. Afternoon BASE will not be adjusted.

- **School Hours for Delayed Start:** 9:00am-3:10pm
- **Extracurricular activities:** Activities and field trips during the school day that require transportation will be canceled. After-school activities will be decided by the school.

School Counselor & School Psychologist

At Thunder Vista, the **school counselor** implements a comprehensive school counseling program to support students. The school counselor collaborates with staff and parents to assist with students' academic, career and personal/social growth. This includes classroom guidance lessons, prevention and intervention activities, individual and small group counseling. Parents and students are encouraged to access the school counselor when they have concerns or need support.

At Thunder Vista, the **school psychologist** will conduct psychoeducational assessments to determine special education eligibility and work with students who have counseling, social skills, or behavioral Individual Education Plan (IEP) specific goals. The school psychologist will also be available for general education behavior consultation and intervention recommendations. The school psychologist collaborates with staff, parents, and administration to assist with students' who exhibit social, emotional, and behavioral deficits. Referrals for the school psychologist are typically made through the MTSS team.

Standards Based Grading

Standards-based education is teaching with the end in mind and ensuring that the District standards are the focal point of learning in every classroom. In a standards-based system, teachers report what students know and are able to do in relationship to the Colorado and District Standards in each content/subject area. (Adams 12 Five School District standards are based on those developed by the State of Colorado). Standards-based grading better isolates areas in which students are making progress and, more importantly, helps teachers and students to target areas in which students need further support and assistance.

Traditional grading systems that utilize the A, B, C, D, and F communicate or summarize a student's achievement in a subject. Standards-based grading sums up a student's level of achievement on individual, specific standards:

- does not meet the standard
- approaching the standard
- meets the standard
- advanced understanding of the standard

The purpose of standards-based grading is to raise student achievement by clearly communicating students' progress towards learning outcomes (standards) in a timely, accurate, fair, and specific manner. SBG accurately communicates student achievement to students, parents, and educators. There is a heightened "specificity" in standards-based grading that wasn't necessarily present in the "traditional" grading system. Thus, the grade a student receives represents a student's demonstrated level of learning in relationship to the specific standards and nothing else. Obviously, work habits do influence a student's ability to learn and achieve and therefore, they are not simply dismissed nor are they irrelevant in terms of the learning process. A student who does not have good work habits is not likely to learn the material as well as someone who does exhibit good work habits and, as a result, might show lower achievement on an assessment.

Student Behavior Supports

PBIS, Social Emotional Teaching and Learning, and Restorative Practices

At Thunder Vista P-8 we utilize the Positive Behavior & Intervention Support Program. PBIS is a program supported by the Colorado Department of Education and Adams 12 Schools to promote and maximize academic achievement and behavioral competence. It is a school-wide program that helps all students achieve important social and learning goals. We know that when good behavior and good teaching come together, our students excel in their learning. As part of the PBIS program, we have established several clear expectations in all areas of our school.

We will explicitly teach these expectations to the students and reward them frequently with positive praise, HERD tickets, and rewards. The expectations for all student behavior will be clear and consistent throughout our building. You will be able to ask your student... "What are the expectations in your school?" "What happens when you demonstrate an expectation?"

We believe that by helping students practice good behavior we will build a school community where all students have an environment where they can succeed and grow. Your involvement in this program is imperative. Throughout the school year we will be sending home more information and tips about how you can support PBIS at home. Please contact the school if you have any questions, or need further information.

Alongside our system of PBIS, we use a restorative approach and social emotional teaching and learning to build our community. This means adults are using consistent language in all areas of the school to teach kids about how to build relationships with their peers and solve problems as they arise.

Frequent “circle-ups”/morning meetings will occur in every classroom to build relationships. Sometimes, restorative practices are used in the classroom to solve problems as a whole or between a small group of students. Additionally, teachers will use restorative practices to help students reflect on behavior that needs to be redirected. Teachers will use the [Student Restorative Practices Reflection](#) to support student reflection. Occasionally, if students need more support in reflecting on their behavior and how to repair the relationship, a mental health team member or an administrator will get involved. At that point, the staff member will facilitate a restorative conversation and communicate with families. Part of restorative practices is that the student who needs to repair the relationship creates a plan to do so. That means every situation will be different based on the plan the student is able to or willing to create. We are inspired to use restorative practices because of the quote from Frederick Douglass, “it is easier to build strong children than to repair broken [adults].”

Student Fees

Students are assessed several different fees during the school year. Students also may be assessed an activity fee by the school for grade-level activities such as field trips, guest speakers, etc. This fee amount will vary based upon the activities each grade level participates in. Additionally, some courses & grade levels may require additional fees for course planners, workbooks, etc. Payments should be made online, free of charge, through [PayForIt](#). Adams 12 Five Star Schools will generate a monthly consolidated bill that is emailed to all families on the 20th of each month. A hard copy of the bill will be mailed out in October and March. This consolidated bill will list all in-district students in the household on the same bill.

Student IDs

All Middle School students are required to have a school-issued ID on their person at all times while on school property.

Student Sign Out Before End of Day

Please consider how leaving early impacts a student's attendance and class work as you make your plans. Students may only be signed out before the end of the school day by a parent or guardian listed in Infinite Campus unless the parent has given authorization (Student Pick-up Authorization Form) for another person to sign that student out. To sign a student out, you must provide a driver's license and sign the Student In/Out sheet at the front office.

Students will be called down to the office at the time they are signed out. Students are not allowed to come down and wait in the office and we will not call students out of class until you arrive, so please plan accordingly. Parents and Volunteers visiting a classroom may not leave with their student before the end of the school day without signing them out at the office. If a student returns the same day, they will need to check in at the office and get signed back in. Student safety is the overriding concern for these policies and procedures, and there will be no exceptions.

Suicide Prevention

Protecting the health and well-being of all students is of utmost importance to the Adams 12 Five Star School District. [District Policy 5520](#) addresses suicide assessments as a priority to protect all students.

Adams 12 will treat all threats or attempted suicides as serious regardless of the degree of lethality involved. When a student threatens or attempts suicide, the Adams 12 personnel will follow District Policy and respond accordingly.

As part of the middle school (but not limited to, based on individual student needs) counseling program and curriculum:

- Students will learn about recognizing and responding to warning signs of suicide in friends, using coping skills, using support systems, and seeking help for themselves and friends.
- When a student is identified as being at risk, he or she will be assessed by a District mental health professional that will work with the student and help connect the student to appropriate local resources.
- Students will have access to national resources which they can contact for additional support, such as:
 - a. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1.800.273.8255(TALK),
www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
 - b. The Trevor Lifeline – 1.866.488.7386 www.thetrevorproject.org
- All students will be expected to help create a school culture of respect and support in which students feel comfortable seeking help for themselves or friends. Students are encouraged to tell any staff member if they, or a friend, are feeling suicidal or in need of help.
- Students should also know that because of the health and safety impacts of these matters, the confidentiality and privacy rights of individuals will be respected but concerns are secondary to seeking help for students in crisis.
- For a more detailed review of District processes, please see the District's full suicide prevention guidelines document.

Toys at School

We understand the desire for students to bring their favorite toys to play with during recess; however, we ask that their toys remain at home in order to avoid being lost or distracting during the school day. There may be special days and celebrations where a teacher will allow students to bring in a favorite game, stuffed animal, etc. At no time is it appropriate for students to bring in toy guns, toy knives, or any other kind of toy weapons. If students bring toys to use during BASE, the toys must be kept in a backpack and remain out of sight during the school day. If children have toys out during the day, they will be collected by the teacher and returned to the student or to the child's parent at a later time.

Volunteers and School Visitors

District policy requires that all visitors and volunteers are required to check-in at the front office with a valid Driver's License or government issued photo ID every time they enter the school. All visitors will have their ID scanned through our Raptor system and receive a visitors badge. The visitors badge must be worn and visible at all times while in the building or on school property. All visitors and volunteers should check out at the office before leaving the building. All volunteers will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement with their student's teacher prior to volunteering at the school. If you are volunteering in your student's classroom, please refrain from bringing in younger siblings. We discourage unscheduled classroom visits due to the disruption that this may cause to the class and their learning environment. If you would like to volunteer or meet with your student's teacher, please contact the teacher to schedule a convenient time. Also, if anyone other than a parent or legal guardian will be visiting the school (such as a grandparent coming for lunch) you must call the office ahead of time to let us know.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON DISTRICT WEBSITE

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

A summary of the Student Code of Conduct for Adams 12 Five Star Schools (the District) is available on the District's [website](#). For complete information, please refer to the latest version of each District policy (if applicable), available [here](#).

This summary includes information such as:

- student conduct
- student attendance
- cell phones and personal electronics
- District technology and Internet usage
- student dress code
- bullying and harassment

COMMONLY REQUESTED INFORMATION

A summary of commonly requested information is available on the District's [website](#). For the most complete information, please refer to the latest version of each District policy (if applicable), available [here](#).

“Commonly requested” information includes topics such as:

- complaints or grievances
- consolidated billing
- service animals on District property
- student transportation
- video and audio monitoring
- visitors to schools

STUDENT HEALTH INFORMATION

Information about student health and wellness, including immunizations, health screenings, COVID-19, and when to keep your child home from school, is available on the District's [website](#).

LEGAL NOTIFICATIONS

The District's legal notifications/annual notices are available on the District's [website](#).

These notices include information concerning:

- non-discrimination (including Title IX)
- rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- directory information under FERPA
- rights under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)
- other opt-out provisions