Bethel School District

Centennial Elementary School

2023-2024

Student/Parent Handbook

24353 Mathias Road East Graham, WA 98338

Phone: 253.800.7700

Attendance: 253.800.7792

Fax: 253.800.7798

School Website: www.bethelsd.org/ces

District Website: www.bethelsd.org

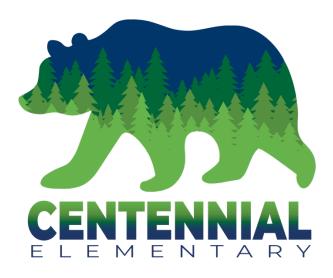


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Mission

Centennial is a supportive community that promotes growth and achievement for all.

Our Commitment

- All students and staff feel safe, supported, valued, and connected.
- 2. Continuous growth and achievement for all students.

The Centennial Pledge

As a Centennial Cub,
I am proud to say
I will be positive and safe,
each and every day.
I pledge to do my best,
in every single way
Listening, learning, and being fair
when I work and play.
My teachers believe in me,
my family believes in me,
and I believe in myself!
Go Cubs!

Important Phone Numbers

Office	253.800.7700
Secretary	253.800.7791
Attendance	253.800.7792
Health	253.800.7793
Counselor	253.800.7779
Principal	253.800.7789
Assistant Principal	253.800.7788
Food Services	253.800.7794
Bethel Emergency Line	253.800.6001
Transportation	253.800.5900
Bethel Recreation	253.800.7751

School Hours and Schedule

Student School Day			
Doors Open & Breakfast		8:30 am	
Day Begins (Tardy Bell)		8:45 am	
Day Ends		3:15 pm	
Modified Schedules			
1-Hour Late Arrival		Doors	
		Open: 9:30	
		Day Begins:	
		9:45	
Early Release		11:15 am	
		Dismissal Bell	
Lunch o	Lunch and Recess Schedules		
Grade	Recess	Lunch	
Kinder	10:30-11:00	11:05-11:30	
First	11:00-11:30	11:35-12:00	
Second	11:30-12:00	12:05-12:30	
Third	12:00-12:30	12:35-1:00	
Fourth	11:30-12:00	12:05-12:30	
Fifth	12:30-1:00	1:05-1:30	
ILC	12:00-12:30	11:30-11:55	

Students at School Before and After School

Students should not arrive at school in the morning before the doors open (8:30 am) or remain at school after dismissal. School hours are 8:45 am - 3:15 pm unless a supervised activity is planned. Parents will be informed if there is a planned activity and need to sign a permission slip allowing their child to stay. Students are asked not to play on the sidewalks or around the buildings before/after school hours.

Behavior Management and Discipline

School-Wide Expectations

At Centennial, we believe that students learn best in a structured environment with clearly communicated and explicitly taught expectations and consequences. Our three expectations are to be safe, responsible, and respectful. These expectations are taught multiple times throughout the year and revisited daily through visual reminders and adult direction. Here's what it means to be safe, responsible, and respectful in different areas at Centennial:

Centennial:	Costo	Dean anallala	Door of the
	Safe	Responsible	Respectful
Arrival	 Hands and feet to self Walk to your designated area Sanitize hands on the way into school 	 Be a self-manager Walk straight to breakfast or classroom Stay on the right side of the hallway 	 Be kind to everyone If someone needs help, help them Voice level 1
Dismissal	 Hands and feet to self Stay on the sidewalk side of the railings and with your bus color Stay with your grade level at parent pickup Walk to bus or parent pick-up area 	If you see your parent at parent pick up, let an adult know Go straight to where you need to be Stay on the right side of the hallway	Voice level 1
Bathroom	WalkKeep an eye out for waterWait your turn	Go, flush, wash, leaveGarbage in the trashIf there's a mess, tell an adult	 Use 2 pumps of soap Use 2 pumps of paper towels Level 0 voice
Breakfast/Lunch	 Only eat your food Walking feet Sit appropriately while eating Wash hands before and after eating 	 Clean up after yourself (spills and garbage) If you need help with a mess, ask for help 	Use mannersVoice level 1Wait appropriately in line
Assemblies	 Keep your hands and feet to self Keep the aisle clear 	 Stay with your class Clap only when appropriate When adult shows the "Cubs Up" sign show them your best attention 	 Sit quietly on pockets Use restroom before Follow adult directions Listen to the presenter when they are talking Voice Level 0 unless appropriate to talk
Playground	 Stay off the stairs and gate area in the back corner of the field Hands and feet to self 	 Line up when a teacher asks you to Use equipment the way it was meant to be used Help others 	 Wait your turn Use good sportsmanship Use school-appropriate language Be kind
Hallways	Walking feetHands to selfEyes forward	Be a self-managerStay on the right side of the hallway	 Look at the art/posters on the walls with our eyes only Silent waves Voice Level 0
Bus	 Stay seated Keep aisle clear All body parts stay inside the bus Keep food inside your backpack 	 Follow your bus driver's rules Help others Phones stay in backpack until you are home 	 Keep backpacks to yourself Voice level 2

School-Wide Expected Voice Levels

- Level 0: Silent This means not even a whisper
- Level 1: Whisper This is a hushed voice where only the person next to you can hear you talking
- Level 2: Conversation This voice can be heard by others in your group
- Level 3: Presentation Everyone can hear you, without shouting or yelling
- Level 4: Outside Used when calling across the playground or cheering at an outdoor event

School-Wide Positive Recognition Systems

- Cub Coupon: Each staff member is given the opportunity to reward students for showing the Cub Way (Safe, Responsible, and/or Respectful). When a student receives a Cub Coupon, they get to take half of the slip home to show their families and the other half is deposited in a jar for a weekly drawing. Two students from each class are drawn weekly to receive a prize. Every time the school-wide jar is filled there is a school-wide celebration.
- Cub Awards and Cub Assemblies: Every month teachers will choose one student to receive a character award and one student to receive an academic award. These students will be celebrated at a monthly assembly. Teachers will contact the families of students receiving the award to invite them to attend the assembly.

Progressive and Restorative Discipline

Although we believe in a proactive approach to discipline, we know that we need immediate access to meaningful consequences when students fail to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. We follow a progression of consequences for students, however, there are times that some steps are skipped based on the severity of the behavior. Centennial's progressive and restorative discipline is as follows:

- Proximity/Non-Verbal Warning: Having close proximity or giving a student a look or other silent cue to let them know that they are not making a good choice and need to fix it.
- Verbal Warning: Stating what the undesired behavior is and how the student can correct it in a private way.

- Reflection Time: Students will take a break in a quiet spot in the classroom to reflect on their behavior. They will conference with the teacher before rejoining the classroom activities.
- Reset: Students will fill out a reset form, describing their undesirable behavior and what they can do to show the Cub Way in the future. This may take place in the classroom or in a buddy room. The student will conference with the teacher before rejoining the classroom activities and families will be contacted.
- Office Discipline Referral: An office discipline referral is documented when a student is still displaying undesirable behaviors. This will result in a consequence that matches the severity and/or frequency of the behavior. These consequences may include time in the office, lunch and/or recess detention, after-school detention where parents are required to pick up the student at 3:45 pm, in-school suspension, and/or out-of-school suspension. Families are always notified if a student receives an office discipline referral.

Programs to Support Student Behavior

- School-Wide Second Step Social Emotional Curriculum: All classrooms at Centennial utilize Second Step, a curriculum developed to increase social-emotional learning and the skills needed to be a good citizen of our school and community.
- Panorama Student Surveys: Our district utilizes a student perception survey as it relates to social-emotional wellbeing. The information is gathered three times per year and utilized to plan learning opportunities and make changes to benefit students.
- Check-In Check-Out: This is a program used by a select number of students to help them build strong relationships with adults in the building and provide daily social-emotional and behavioral learning opportunities.
- Cub Club: This is a program used by a select number of students to build friendships with peers and have the opportunity to learn and practice social skills.

Attendance

Attendance Information, Laws, and Policies

Centennial Elementary's attendance policies and procedures are in accordance with Bethel School District policies. The full language of the policies is available upon request.

Attendance and Success Go Hand-In-Hand

At Centennial, we are making a special effort to ensure that students fully benefit from their education by attending school regularly.

Consistent attendance will help your child (ren) be successful at Centennial and beyond.

Did You Know?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences (excused and unexcused) can cause children to fall behind.
- Missing 10% (or about 18 days) increases the chance that your student will not read or master math at the same level as their peers.
- Being late for school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to reteach due to absences.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of the three signs that a student may drop out of high school
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th-grade test scores.

How Can You Help?

 Be sure your child(ren) attend(s) school and is on time unless their absence meets one of the following criteria:

Excused	Unexcused
Sick/Injury/Mental	Slept Late
Health/Medical Appt.	
Family Emergency and/or	Parent Running Late
Bereavement	
Religious/Cultural	Missed the Bus
Observance	
Court/Legal Appt	Car Trouble/Traffic
Suspension	Late Night/Activity
Safety Concern	Late Ride or No Ride
Related to homelessness,	Parent Sick
migrant status, or	
deployment activities	
School-Authorized Activity	Family Vacation

 If your child does not want to come to school, please bring them so we can help figure out what is going on. Not bringing them to school will only make the situation worse and makes it increasingly difficult for

- the student to return.
- Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind sometimes complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety or nervousness and not a reason to go home.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.
- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks/lunch the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Come to our Meet the Teacher Night before school starts to introduce your child to their teacher and get acquainted with their classroom to help foster a smooth transition back into school.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school talk to teachers, the school counselor, or other parents/friends for advice on how to make the child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop a backup plan for getting your child(ren) to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, neighbors, or friends.
- Please remember that attending Centennial Elementary on an In-District or Out-of-District transfer can/will be revoked based on repeated attendance violations.

Daily Attendance - DISTRICT POLICY 3121

Parents are responsible for sending their children to school as required by RCW 28A.225.10; making sure their children are in school on time each day; encouraging their children to come to school with a mental attitude that fosters learning; to communicate accurately with this school concerning their child's absence.

Make Up - District Policy 3122

A student will have the right to make up work for an excused absence provided arrangements are made with the teacher to do so within a reasonable length of time. A student may be required to make up work for unexcused absences.

Activities

Any student participating in an after-school or evening activity is expected to attend classes on the day of the scheduled activity. Attendance for all classes the following day is also expected. For weekend activities, attendance in classes the previous Friday is required. Failure to comply with these attendance regulations may result in a

student being declared ineligible and not allowed to participate. Any exceptions require administrative approval.

Becca Bill

The "Becca Bill" (SB 5439) is our state's truancy law. Unexcused absences and tardies are subject to a Becca Conference. The Becca Bill supports the state mandate for students to attend school regularly. When a pattern of attendance concerns become evident, parents will be called in for a conference, at which time attendance and grades will be reviewed to initiate an action plan for attendance and making up assignments.

Attendance Arrival/Dismissal Guidelines

Class begins promptly at 8:45 am		
Students arriving between 8:46-11:25	Half Day Absence AM	
Students arriving between 11:26-3:15	Half Day Absence PM	

Student/Parent Procedures

- Students arriving late to school will go directly to the attendance window with a parent/guardian, a written note excusing the student, or a doctor's note. Students without a note will be marked unexcused.
- Phone calls to our attendance clerk stating the reason for tardy or absence(s) are welcome and will be excused if they meet the criteria listed above.
- If your student is leaving the school before our dismissal time of 3:15, parents/guardians must sign the student out in the office. (Please note in order to maximize student learning, students will NOT be called down from class until the parent/guardian arrives at school)
- For any absence that is pre-planned (i.e. vacation, etc.) and more than 2 days, parents will need to get a "Pre-Arranged Absence Form" in the attendance office no less than 3 days prior to the absences.
- Students will make up ALL work and tests as determined by the classroom teacher. It is the student/parent's responsibility to check with the teacher about work that is to be made up and when the work is to be turned in.
- Parents/Guardians are encouraged to use "Parent Vue" or call the office (253.800.7700) to report any absence.

Bethel School District Attendance Guidelines

- 1 Unexcused Absence: Phone call to parents to excuse the absence. Parents have 3 days to respond with a note or phone call.
- 3 Unexcused Absences: Phone conference with Attendance Clerk and/or Counselor.
- 5 Unexcused Absences: Conference set up with Assistant Principal to create an Attendance Contract between the school and family.
- 7 Unexcused Absences in 1 Month: A state truancy petition may be filed with the Pierce County Prosecutor's Office.
- 15 Unexcused Absences in a year: A truancy petition will be filed with the Pierce County Prosecutor's Office. The family will be referred to the Community Engagement Board (CEB).

Health Room Information

Accidents and Illnesses

Families of children who become ill or injured while at school shall be notified. It is imperative that parents list emergency numbers with the school. Please contact the school office when you change your home or work telephone numbers.

Communicable and/or Contagious Conditions Students with contagious or infectious diseases are excluded from school until they have completely recovered.

Lice - Board Policy 3436

Often times, children will encounter headlice in large public settings. While these small insects are a nuisance, they pose no health hazard. The Bethel School District system **does** require that children are treated and free of live insects before returning to school.

Medication

Medications may be administered to a student only if the child is under the care of a health care provider who completes a Health Care Packet pertaining to their illness, and it is necessary for the child to receive medication during school hours. Please contact the school nurse or health clerk for a form and procedural directions. This includes all medications, even over-the-counter cold remedies, cough drops, pain relievers, lip balms, and lotion. Parents/Guardians must drop off and pick up medications with doctor's orders.

Getting To and From Centennial Safely

Parent Pickup/Daycare

Students will check out at the turnaround area located near the portables with the supervising adult and be released to parents or approved adults as they pull up to receive their child. Parents will remain in their car during pick-up times. Please be prepared to show a picture ID when requested. All transportation changes need to be called in by 1:30 pm.

Walkers

Due to unsafe roads surrounding Centennial Elementary, students who live in the development on 245th, 246th, and 247th streets are the only ones permitted to walk to school. In the interest of student safety, we need to have a permission slip on file if your child is allowed to walk to school. Please visit the officeto fill out a form.

Students Going Home with a Friend

Both sets of parents who are involved shall make any arrangements for a child to go home with another child. A note needs to be sent to the teacher or office. Whenever a child is to leave school other than the usual manner, the school needs to be notified in writing.

Policies, Guidelines, and Miscellaneous Information

Student Safety and Welfare - Board Policy #3249

It is unlawful for any student to carry onto any school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas with facilities being used exclusively by public schools any firearm or weapon. Students who violate the firearm policy will be expelled from school for a minimum of one calendar year in accordance with RCW 28A.600.420. Parents must be notified of the imposition of the expulsion and their right to a hearing and appeal. The principal or designee shall notify appropriate law enforcement personnel of known or suspected violations of the firearms policy.

Items to Leave at Home

The school/district is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal belongings. If such items are observed being used during the school day, they will be confiscated and

subject to progressive discipline. Examples of items to leave at home:

- Collector Cards i.e., Pokémon, Yugioh, Harry Potter, Baseball Card, etc.
- Electronic Devices Video Game Consoles, etc.
- Toys of any kind
- Skateboards, Heelys, or any similar wheeled device are strictly prohibited on school property.

Guidelines for Student Use of Cell Phones

Cell phones are NOT allowed to be used during school hours.

- The purpose of having a cell phone at school is for the student and/or parent to get ahold of each other before or after school.
- Cell phone use and text messaging are a disruption to the learning environment and are not allowed during school hours. If the student needs to call home, they need to ask an adult to use the phone in the main office
- If a cell phone is used it is subject to progressive discipline. First, the student will be asked to put it away and not take it out again. Second, the phone will be held in the front office for the remainder of the day, and the student will get it back at the end of the day. Third, the phone will be held in the office until a parent can pick it up from the school. Families will be communicated with each step of this process.

Visitors and Volunteers

Visitors must check in with the front office first. All volunteers must have approved background checks through the district; please see the district website for more information. All volunteers must have times set with the coordinating teacher/office.

Parent Teacher Association

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) offers many opportunities for parents, teachers, staff, and community members to work together to enrich the lives of students at Centennial Elementary. All parents are encouraged to attend PTA meetings and become members to help plan exciting and educational events. The PTA can be

contacted at centennialpta@gmail.com.

The PTA board is:

President: Rachael Inzer Vice President: Shawnda Mac Secretary: Christine Allen Treasurer: Hollie Lorenz

Conferences

Though report cards serve as a good means of communication, they may not always be sufficient for some individual situations. Parents, as well as teachers, are urged to initiate a conference to clarify concerns and solve problems. All conferences should be scheduled for a mutually agreed-upon time. Formal parent-teacher conferences occur twice a year and are a very important part of the school program. Taking the time and making the effort to know the teacher will contribute to your child's security in recognizing the cooperative spirit of good parent-teacher and home-school relationships.

Inclement Weather: School Closures

The closing of school due to snow or hazardous road conditions is authorized by the Superintendent's office. This information is given over the local TV and radio stations. Announcements by radio and TV stations are to be considered official. Channel 4 (KOMO), 5 (KING), and 7 (KIRO) are three local stations that report school closings. Families are asked to prepare a family emergency plan should such conditions require schools to close.

Inclement Weather: Recess

Please make sure your student is dressed for the weather, including hats, gloves, and rain gear when appropriate.

Field Trips

Field trips may be taken and are an extension of classroom instruction. Parents who wish to volunteer must check with the classroom teacher and must have a current volunteer application on file.

Homework

The purpose of homework is to build on skills that have been taught in class and to teach independent study habits. Every student will be responsible for a weekly reading and math

activity. This will be explained, in detail, by your child's teacher.

Lost and Found

It is most helpful if outerwear and other personal items are labeled with your child's name. Lost and Found items that go unclaimed will be donated to charity several times per year.

Textbooks, Library Books, and School Equipment - Board Policy 3520

Students are responsible for the books checked out to them during the school year, as stated in School District Policy #3520. Students are liable for books that are lost, stolen, or damaged while in their possession. Fines or fees will be assessed according to the district reimbursement procedure.

Counselor's Office

Centennial Elementary has one full-time counselor assigned to the building who supports students, teachers, and families. The counselor meets with students individually and in small groups to support social/emotional growth. The counselor is also involved in the academic and behavioral support of students and frequently works with parents, teachers, and administration to create a holistic plan to help students be successful. The counselor also helps facilitate communication between families and community resources.

Breakfast and Lunch

Centennial Elementary will continue to provide **FREE** breakfast and lunch for **ALL STUDENTS** during the 2023-2024 school year. Applications are not needed and money does not need to be placed on accounts. It is still required to fill out the free and reduced meal application.

Dress Code

Preserving a beneficial learning environment and assuring the safety and well-being of all students are primary concerns of the Board of Directors. Students' choices in matters of dress should be made in consultation with their parent(s)/guardian(s)/caregiver(s). It is the policy of the Bethel School Board that the student and their parent(s)/guardian(s)/caregiver(s) hold the primary responsibility in determining the student's personal attire, hairstyle, jewelry, and personal items. It is the responsibility of schools to ensure that student attire, hairstyle, jewelry, and personal belongings do not pose a health or safety risk to any student and do

not create a hostile or intimidating environment that disrupts learning for any student. In relation to student dress, the district's values include the following:

- Students should be able to dress and style their hair for school in a manner that expresses their individuality without fear of unnecessary discipline or body shaming;
- Students have the right to be treated equitably. Dress code enforcement will not create disparities, reinforce or increase the marginalization of any group, nor will it be more strictly enforced against students because of racial identity, ethnicity, gender identity, gender expression, gender nonconformity, sexual orientation, cultural or religious identity, household income, body size/type, or body maturity;
- Students and staff are responsible for managing their personal distractions; and
- Students should not face unnecessary barriers to school attendance.

Universal Dress Code

Students must wear:

- Top (shirt, blouse, sweater, sweatshirt, tank, etc.);
- Bottom (pants, shorts, skirt, dress, etc.); and
- Footwear.

This policy permits additional student attire requirements when necessary to ensure safety in certain academic settings (e.g. physical activity, science, or CTE courses). Additionally, this policy allows for reasonable variation in required student attire for participation in activities such as swimming or gymnastics.

Students may not wear clothing, jewelry, or personal items that:

- Displays obscene or sexual words, pictures, messages, innuendoes, etc.;
- Displays drug or alcohol-related words, pictures, messages, innuendoes., etc.;
- Displays threats, violent conduct, weapons, etc.;
- Demonstrates hate group association/affiliation and/or use hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, other protected groups, or gang association/affiliation, etc.;
- Shows private parts (clothing must cover private parts in opaque - not able to be seen-through material);
- Covers the student's face to the extent that the student is not identifiable (except

- clothing/headgear worn for a religious or medical purpose);
- Attire worn in observance of a student's religion is not subject to this policy.

Student Supply List

- Backpack
- School Supply Box
- Headphones
- 3-ring binder (4th-5th grade only)
- *All other supplies are provided by the school

Bethel School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX Coordinator, Director of Athletics and Security: 253.800.4303; Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Executive Director of Special Education: 253.800.2300; Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator, Director of Equity and Achievement: 253.800.2019. All individuals may be reached at this address: 516 176th Street East, Spanaway, WA 98387.

My child and I have read, discussed, and agreed to a guidelines in Centennial's Handbook.	oide by the
Student Name:	
Student Signature:	
Parent/Guardian Signature:	
Date:	
Teacher's Name:	