

**WALNUT
GROVE
SCHOOL**



home of college bound wildcats!
casa de los gatos feroces en rumbo a la universidad

Parent/Student Handbook

2023-2024

WALNUT GROVE K-6 SCHOOL
A Dual Language Immersion Strand
775 NORTH HARTLEY STREET
Patterson, California 95363
(209) 892-4770

Mascot: Wildcats

School Colors: Green and Silver(Gray)

[walnutgrove.patterson.k12.ca.us](https://www.walnutgrove.patterson.k12.ca.us)

Find Us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/WGLEarns/>

Walnut Grove Faculty and Support Staff

2023-2024

Administration and Office Support Staff			
Admin	Nurse/Health Clerk	Office Staff	Inst. Coach
A. Corona-Duran , Principal A. Vargas, AP	A. Simmons; RN F. Bernal; Health Clerk S. Ramczyk; LVN	S. Pineda J. Briseno Brittany Lozano	
Certificated			
Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade
J. Jenkins D. Romo M. Tovar-Navarro K. DeLaRosa	A. De Loera Y. Perez L. Velazquez A. Haro	M. Rangel I. Faatiga C. Lopez-Gama B. Oliveira	L. Verhaegen P. Lemus-Tejeda D. McClearn S. Prak
Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Sixth Grade	Music
L. Garibay C. Garcia-Bartolo G. Bracamonte N. Harman	N. Aiello S. DeCastro G. Hernandez L. Espinoza-Diaz	A. Bray G. Tinoco C. Hernandez	J. Jacobs J. Sanchez
SpEd M/M	SpEd/Resource	SpEd M/S	Student Support
M. Quintero S. Bahara	C. Guerrero	S. Sanchez M. Martell	Clinician A. Sarina Speech S. Kommu Psychologist S. Bernal
Classified			
SpEd M/M	SpEd M/S	Supervision	ParaEducators
E. Cantu M. Ventura Resource F. Salinas	E. Van Tol (IS) C. Sullivan (IS) G. Manriquez P. Magana (IS) H. Aguinaga K. Munoz(IS) B. Kimm (IS) G. Medina C. Gutierrez R. Miller (IS) I. Gallegos (IS)	F. Hernandez S. Franco M. Rios S. Vazquez T. Montez	Intervention V. Zarate E. Diaz J. Alcala P. Campos Gen Ed G. Pena (IS) K. Weeks (IS) Speech

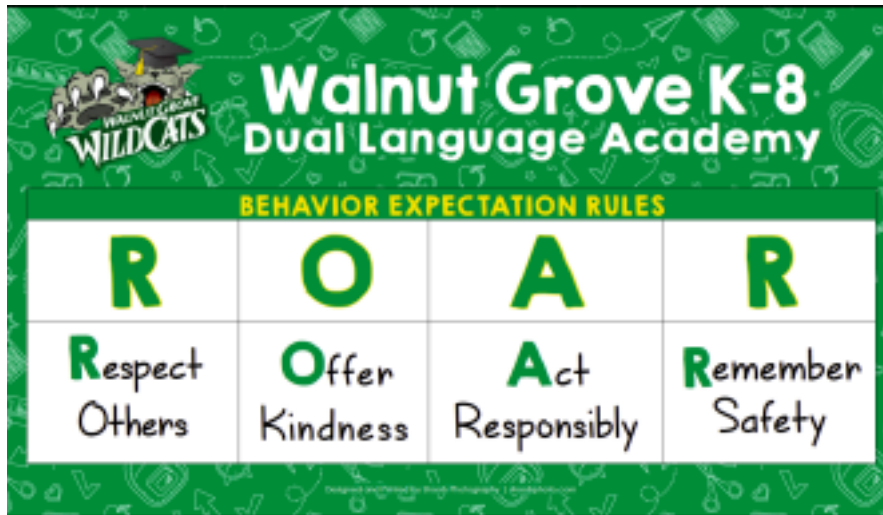
			M. Venegas
Custodial	Cafeteria	SAS/Library	After School Prog.
A. Chávez L. Ruvalcaba S. Cantu Anthony Duran (Custodial Supervisor)	L. Tenorio L. Dillon	SAS E. Barajas Library C. Mendoza	M. Hercules (Coordinator) G. Madrigal B. Ortiz

Welcome to Walnut Grove School!

On behalf of the staff at Walnut Grove School, I am happy to welcome you to a new school year!

Vision Statement	To earn the reputation for academic excellence by attaining significant and measurable academic growth each and every year.
Mission Statement (purpose, values)	To cultivate the ROAR characteristics of students in order to perform, create, and innovate, to achieve academic excellence and multicultural awareness. In addition, biliteracy/bilingualism for Dual Language Immersion Program students.

Our school rules/behavior expectations spell ROAR and they are:



Please discuss these behavior expectations with your child, for example, what does respect for others look like at school, home, store, etc. If you have any questions about the expectation rules, feel free to contact the school or your child’s teacher. It is very important that you and your child are fully informed regarding standards related to appropriate behavior for a safe and productive school year.

In addition, please review the information in this handbook carefully, it has been organized in alphabetical order. It has been prepared to help answer many of the questions that students and parents often have about school procedures, policies and discipline. We ask that you support these policies and procedures and reinforce them with your children. They are designed to create a sound learning environment in which each child can develop to his/her full potential to achieve academic excellence.

The Walnut Grove Staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We thank you for your support and look forward to a productive school year.

DISTRICT PARENT HANDBOOK

A digital copy of the Patterson Unified School District's Parent Handbook can be accessed [here](#). This handbook contains useful information related to district practices and procedures.

DISTRICT CONDUCT CODE HANDBOOK

A digital copy of the Patterson Unified School District's Parent Handbook can be accessed [here](#). This handbook contains useful information related to district practices and procedures.

SCHOOL INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES

Read carefully and discuss this information with your child/children. Please return signed page to your child's teacher.

ACADEMICS

Our goal is for all students to achieve academic excellence by meeting grade level standards at the end of the school year as measured by the state, iReady, program and classroom assessments and to be College and Career ready. In addition, students in the Dual Program have three additional goals to achieve: 1) Bilingualism/biliteracy, 2) High academic achievement in *both* program languages and 3) Sociocultural competence. Students must meet certain pathway criteria/points at the end of 6th grade to continue onto the Dual Maintenance Program at the Middle School level.

Student's academic performance will be recognized at the end of the semester through the following categories: most improved, Wildcats List, and Principal's List. If a student has A's and B's including rotation class, they earn the Wildcats List; to earn the Principal's List, a student must have all A letter grades and is deemed to be on grade level as measured by program assessments.

AERIES, ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

It is very important that all students' information is up-to-date at all times. If you have moved or have changed your home or work telephone number, notify the office immediately about the changes. This is the information we use to send parent communication and want you to be well informed. Also, please let us know if there are changes in the emergency telephone numbers of people to contact if you are not available. All custody court orders must be current with our office. You can find the link to the [Aeries Parent Portal here](#).

AFTER SCHOOL PICK UP

Parents are responsible for picking up their children **on time**. Please make arrangements with your children prior to the start of the school day if someone other than you will be picking up your child, make sure they are also listed on the emergency contacts. **Office Staff** does not provide after school supervision. Students in grades K-2nd may not be dismissed without a parent, guardian or older sibling. Picking up your child late will jeopardize their spot at school if they are outside of school boundaries or in an IntraDistrict Agreement. Students left at Walnut Grove School beyond school hours are considered abandoned. Walnut Grove office staff will either call the Police Department or Child Protective Services to take possession of your child.

APPROPRIATE APPEARANCE/DRESS FOR SCHOOL or School Dress Code

Each student's appearance is primarily the responsibility of his/her parents. However, the school expects that each student's dress/appearance and cleanliness reflect sensitivity to and respect for others. Clothing should not be distracting or offensive to staff or to other students. Please review the district-wide dress guidelines with your child. Link can be found here: [Board Policy: Board Policy AR](#). In addition, Walnut Grove School also includes the following guidelines for student dress that must be adhered to:

1. While shoes must be worn at all times, rubber thongs (flip flops), slides or "heelies" are **NOT** appropriate. Sandals are to have a back strap.
2. Pants with tears/holes on the thigh and/or under the buttocks, short shorts or short skirts should be worn with leggings or shorts underneath.
3. Hats/hoodies will not be allowed inside the classrooms/buildings. 28

If you have any particular question about how your child should dress for school, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or Administration. Violations of dress code will result in parents being called to bring an appropriate change of clothing.

ARRIVAL AND SCHOOL SCHEDULES

Playground supervision is provided for all students beginning at 7:30 AM. Students should arrive at **school no later than 7:55 AM**. Breakfast is served from 7:15am-7:55am. Any student wishing to eat breakfast may go to the cafeteria during this time. Upon arrival at school, all students need to report to the cafeteria. In addition, Kindergarten students need to remain there until their teacher picks up the class at 7:55 a.m. Blacktop area is open at 7:30 a.m. 1st-6th grade students will need to report to the blacktop/upper playground area or gym (depending on the weather) until the first morning bell rings at which point they will stand in their line until their teacher escorts them to class to begin instruction. For everyone's safety, no one is allowed to be between classrooms/hallways unsupervised.

ASSESSMENT

California students take several mandated statewide tests. These tests provide parents/guardians, teachers, and educators with information about how well students are learning and becoming college and career ready. The test results may be used for local, state, and federal accountability purposes.

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) tests consist of, and assess the following:

- **California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress**

These computer adaptive assessments are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics tests are administered in grades three through eight and grade eleven to measure whether students are on track to college and career readiness.

- **California Science Tests (CAST)**

The computer-based CAST measures students' achievement of the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS) through the application of their knowledge and skills of the Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts. The CAST is administered to all students in grades five and eight.

- **California Alternate Assessments (CAAs)**

Only eligible students—students whose individualized education program (IEP) identifies the use of alternate assessments—may participate in the administration of the CAAs. Test examiners administer the computer-based CAAs for ELA, mathematics, and science one-on-one to students. Students in grades three through eight and grade eleven will take the CAA for ELA and mathematics. Test items developed for ELA and mathematics are aligned with the CCSS and are based on the Core Content Connectors.

Students in grades five and eight will take the CAA for Science. The CAA for Science embedded performance tasks are based on alternate achievement standards derived

from the CA NGSS. Students taking the CAA for Science will take three embedded performance tasks.

- **California Spanish Assessment (CSA) for Reading/Language Arts** The optional CSA for Reading/Language Arts in Spanish is aligned with the California Common Core State Standards en Español. This computer-based test allows students to demonstrate their Spanish skills in listening, reading, and writing mechanics. Students participating in the Dual Program will be assessed using this test.

Pursuant to California *Education Code* Section 60615, parents/guardians may annually submit to the school a written request to excuse their child from any or all of the CAASPP assessments.

English Language Proficiency Assessments for California

The English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) is aligned with the 2012 California English Language Development Standards. It consists of two separate English Language Proficiency (ELP) assessments: one for the initial identification of students as English learners and the other for the annual summative assessment to identify students' English language proficiency level and to measure their progress in learning English in the skill areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Physical Fitness Test

The physical fitness test for students in California schools is the FitnessGram®. The main goal of the test is to help students in starting lifelong habits of regular physical activity. Students in grades five, seven, and nine take the fitness test.

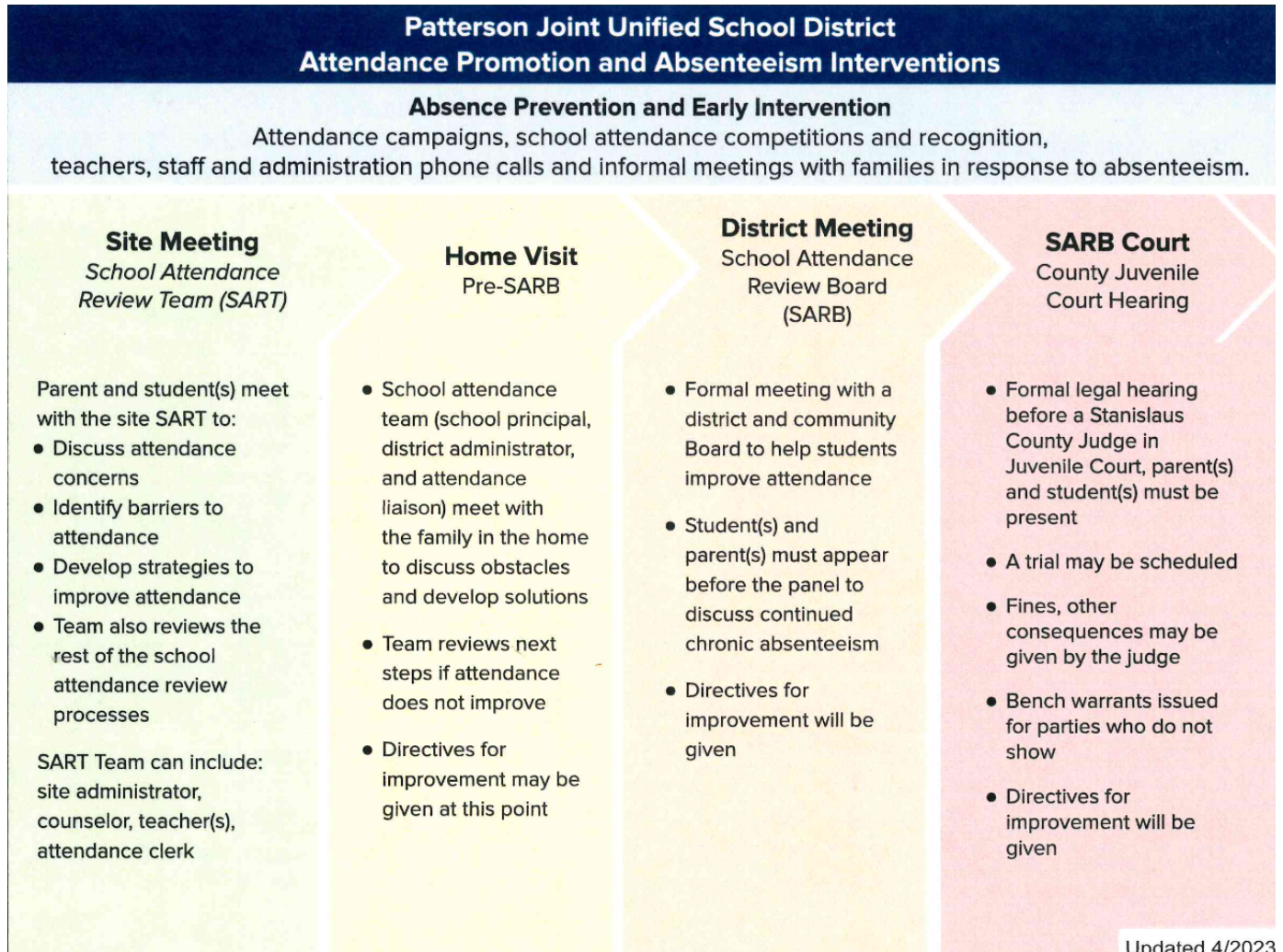
iReady Assessment (Local Assessment)

These computer adaptive assessments are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics tests are administered at all grade levels and provide information regarding the student's grade level status. This assessment is administered in English and Spanish three times a year.

ATTENDANCE, STUDENT ABSENCE AND TARDIES

One of the important factors in school success is regular attendance. Attendance plays an important role in student achievement and class participation is an integral part of a student's learning experience, whether it's in person learning, hybrid or distance learning. PJUSD's policy recognizes the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure that their children attend school, abides by state laws and uses appropriate legal means to correct the problems of excessive absenteeism and truancy (Board Policy 5113). **Recognizing that there are times when a student must be absent, and reiterating the importance of keeping your child/children home if they're not feeling well, please contact the school office by phone or written note any time your child will be absent from school.** After 3 days of absences due to illness, a doctor's note will be required. Absence from school shall be excused only for health reasons, family emergencies, and justifiable personal reasons, as permitted by law, board policy, and administrative regulation ([Education Code 48205](#)), however, please note that too many excused absences also impact the academic success of your child.

Both attendance and tardiness are verified and monitored carefully. Automated letters are sent out for excessive absences or tardies (after 3). The Attendance Review Process will be followed when students have excessive absences, tardies, or truancies. Continued excessive absences, tardies, or truancies will be referred to SART (School Attendance Review Team) or SARB (School Attendance Review Board), please see graphic below.



In addition, being absent on the day of an extracurricular activity will prevent the student from being eligible to attend. The following page outlines the intervention chart for attendance.

Elementary Site-Based Intervention History Chart

Actions Taken	Unexcused Absences/ %s	Excessive Excused/ %s	Combined Absences/ %s	Excessive Doctor's Excused	Tardies
Receive Letter #1	3	5	NA	NA	5
School will call to Notify of Letter & possible home visit	4	6	7	8	7
Administrator will call parent	<10%	<10%	<10%	10	9
Receive Letter #2	6	8	NA	NA	10
Attend SART Meeting at School Site	11-20%	11-20%	11-20%	15	15
Receive Letter #3	9	NA	NA	NA	NA
Administrator or Attendance Liaison will call regarding possible SARB	11-20%	11-20%	11-20%	16	20
Pre SARB Home Visit by Site Administrator and/or Attendance Liaison	18-20%	18-20%	18-20%	18	25
Attend SARB Meeting at District Office	<20%	<20%	<20%	20	30
Pre-Court Warning Letter Noting Child is Chronically Absent	<30%	<30%	<30%	21	35
Pre-Court Home Visit by Attendance Liaison	30-35%	30-35%	30-35%	22	40
Court Referral	<35%	<35%	<35%	23	45

Bell Schedules

School Office Hours 7:30 am - 4:00 p.m.		
Daily Schedule	Early Release Wednesday Schedule	District Wide Minimum Day Schedule
7:15 Campus Opens 7:30 Breakfast 7:55 First Bell Rings 8:00 Tardy Bell Rings	7:15 Campus Opens 7:30 Breakfast 7:55 First Bell Rings 8:00 Tardy Bell Rings	7:15 Campus 7:30 Breakfast 7:55 First Bell Rings 8:00 Tardy Bell Rings
2:40 DISMISSAL	1:30 DISMISSAL	12:30 DISMISSAL

BULLYING

In order to make Walnut Grove School a great place for students to grow and learn, we are implementing a “No Bully Zone”. Students may report incidents by completing an incident report or via email either to their teacher or Assistant Principal.

BULLYING: PEER ABUSE IN SCHOOL

Bullying of a student by another student is strictly prohibited on school property, in school buildings, on school buses, and at school sponsored events. For purposes of this policy, the term “bullying” among children is defined: **(1) Bullying means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or misconduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:** (A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil’s or those pupils’ person or property. (B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect to his or her physical or mental health. (C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance. (D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

We also prohibit “Internet bullying” (also referred to as “cyber-bullying”) including the use of instant messaging, email, websites, chat rooms, and text messaging when such use interferes with the operation of the school; or infringes upon the general health, safety and welfare of students or school employees.

CYBERBULLYING (Board Policy 5131)

Cyberbullying includes the posting of harassing messages, direct threats, social cruelty, or other harmful text or images on the Internet, social networking sites, or other digital technologies, as well as breaking into another person’s account and assuming that person’s identity in order to damage that person’s reputation or friendships. This type of behavior is subject to disciplinary action.

Bullying: Tips for students

If you are being bullied, you can do something about it. You shouldn't be afraid to ask a trusted adult — whether it's a teacher, parent or adult friend — for help. If you are being bullied, please notify an adult immediately.

CICO (PBIS mentor): At Walnut Grove, we refer students that are struggling with behavior or who need an adult mentor to our Check In, Check Out program, SAS, Counselor or Mental Health Clinician. In CICO, students check in with their designated staff member at the beginning of the day to set a goal and at the end of the day to discuss how their day went. At the end of the week, they discuss if the student met their goal.

Buddy Bench: There is a buddy bench installed by the gym in an effort to help students make friends that will help them and include them in activities during recess.

Advisory Period: Teachers use the advisory period to help address bullying and any other issues that may come up on the playground or in the classroom.

CAFETERIA SERVICES

All students will receive a free lunch this school year. A new application must still be completed each year for every student regardless if they qualify for free and reduced-priced meals. This information is used to assist families by offering breakfast and lunch to students who qualify and to collect information regarding the school's percentage of free and reduced lunch applications. A link to the application outlining the free and reduced meal program is distributed to all students and families each year as required by the State and Federal Government. For more information regarding this program, please contact the main cafeteria at: 209-892-3708.

CALIFORNIA HEALTHY KIDS SURVEY (Grades 3-6th)

Your child is being asked to be a part of our school's California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS), sponsored by the California Department of Education (CDE). This is a very important survey that will help promote better health and well-being among our youth, improve the school learning environment, and combat problems such as drug abuse and violence. *Your child does not have to take the survey. Participation is voluntary and requires your permission.*

Survey Content. The survey gathers information on developmental supports provided to youth; school connectedness and barriers to learning, as well as behaviors such as physical activity and nutritional habits; alcohol, tobacco and other drug use; and school safety.

The results from this survey are compiled into district- and county-level CHKS Reports. To view a copy of your district's report, go to <https://calschls.org/reports-data/search-lea-reports/> (Outside Source) and type in the district name.

It is voluntary. Students who, with your permission, agree to participate do not have to answer any questions they do not want to answer, and may stop taking the survey at any time.

It is anonymous. No names are recorded or attached to the survey forms or data. The results will be made available for analysis only under strict confidentiality controls.

A permission form will be sent in a separate file so you can return to your child's teacher.

CELL PHONE USE

Cell phone use is **NOT PERMITTED** during school hours. Students are permitted to use school phones for emergencies only. **Special arrangements for out of school activities or for transportation should be made prior to school.** Forgetting homework is not deemed an emergency. Students requesting use of the phones to call home after school are asked to wait 15 minutes after the final bell before calling. ***Please note we are not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen phones. Using cell phone without permission may result in phone being confiscated.***

CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Students' classroom assignments are based on the date of registration and available space. The numbers of students enrolled in school dictate to a large extent the organization of grades, levels and programs within the school and classroom. Each classroom consists of students working at various ranges of academic levels. Since students learn at a different pace throughout their development, teachers have developed skills for grouping and regrouping students for learning based on mastery of skills. Requests for specific teachers will not be honored.

CLASSROOM VISITATIONS

We encourage parents/guardians to provide a 24 hour notification prior to visiting the school or classroom. To keep everyone safe and minimize distractions, no other children will be allowed. All visitors must check in at the office before entering the school grounds or before going to the classroom. You will need your ID or Driver's license to check in. A "pass" will be provided for approved visitors. Students are not permitted to bring student guests to spend the day.

CLASSROOM/PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Parent involvement and assistance in all classrooms is encouraged and appreciated. To volunteer in the classroom or field trips, a parent must comply with the following requirements: TB Test clearance, valid ID, completed forms.

Please note that a TB test clearance and Parent Volunteer Form must be filled out and on file. In addition, Assembly Bill 3458, Section 35021 was added to the Education Code to provide that persons required to register as sex offenders may not supervise students during breakfast and lunch periods or serve as non-teaching volunteer aides. Anyone interested in volunteering in school or on field trips is required to complete the Parent Volunteer form which requires tuberculosis (TB) clearance. Your form must be signed and on file in the office BEFORE you will be allowed to volunteer.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Please note that our school is a closed campus. No one is allowed on campus unless they are volunteers. Gates will be closed after the bell rings. Exception is the first day of school. Parents/guardians are not allowed on campus before or after school. If you have an appointment with a teacher, you must check in the office first before going on campus.

COMMUNICATIONS HOME-SCHOOL - CONTACTING A TEACHER

Teachers welcome your notes, calls and emails. They are usually available to accept phone calls after school. The office will take messages anytime, and the teacher will return the call as soon as it is practical or within 24 hrs. Since teachers share after school duties and participate on

committees or have meetings, your understanding is appreciated if the call is not returned the same day. Often the fastest way to communicate with a teacher is through **email**. We send all information primarily through Parent Square and Peach Jar (digital flyers sent directly to parents via email) and monthly newsletters. Information will also be shared through our school website, Facebook page, and direct phone messages. Occasionally, K-6 students will take home a home-school communication folder that will contain important information and forms. Be sure to check your child's backpack for this folder and to complete and return the forms that are due back the next day.

***Classroom Concern:** If you are concerned about a classroom related issue, our protocol is that you talk to the teacher first. Besides you, the teacher has the most direct contact with your child. If the situation is still not resolved, you are welcome to make an appointment to talk with an administrator.

CONFISCATED ITEMS

Any confiscated item (depending on the item) may be retrieved from the office at the end of the day by the student. On the second offense, a parent must come to pick up the item. After the third time, the item will be kept in the office until the end of the school year and may be picked up on the last day of school. Any items left at the end of the school year will be disposed of.

DISCIPLINE

All Walnut Grove Staff follow a progressive discipline policy established by Educational Code guidelines, the Patterson Joint Unified School District and our Positive Behavior Intervention System Supports (PBIS). Alternative means of discipline may be imposed in lieu of suspension (community service, after school detention, etc.). **Refusing the alternative consequence will result in suspension.** Please note that there are Education Code offenses for which students may be suspended or considered for expulsion, even on the first referral. For more details, a link for student conduct code and consequences was provided at the beginning of this handbook. We also implement (PBIS), Positive Behavior Intervention System Supports, where students are expected to ROAR (Respect Others, Offer Kindness, Act responsibly, Remember Safety). Students not showing they know how to ROAR will receive consequences. Consequences for progressive discipline for minor offenses usually include warning to student, parent contact, time out/buddy room, detention and office referral with parent contact at every step. Please see the chart below.

Observe Behavior			
Is the behavior a minor or major offense?			
	Minor Offense	Major Offense	
1. Remind/Reset	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Disrespect ● Defiance ● Inappropriate language ● Physical contact ● Technology violation ● Property misuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fighting/ assault ● Stealing ● Harassment ● Weapons ● Bullying ● Threats ● Vandalism ● Disrespect/ 	1. Office referral
2. Redirect/Reteach			2. Conference with Administrator, parent contact
3. Rethink/Reflection Time			3. Alternative consequences and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate bathroom behavior • Inappropriate playground behavior • Disruptive behavior 	Insubordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate/abusive language • Continual minor behavior 	parent contact
4. Loss of privilege, contact parent, reteach expectations			4. Consequences will be given with progressive discipline
5. If behavior continues and student receives at least 3 minor citations-office referral			5. Offense will be recorded
6. Refer to PBIS team-fill out request for assistance document			

Please note...
 All major and minor offenses should be reported to the student's classroom teacher.
 Everyday starts with a clean slate.

When a behavior arises, usually, the routine below is followed:

- Time is set aside for the student and teacher to discuss the problem.
- If the behavior continues, the teacher will contact the parent/guardian in person, by phone, or email.
- If the behavior becomes serious, a parent conference may be scheduled.
- The student may be referred to the principal or assistant principal if the regular classroom measures have not changed the behavior.
- The principal will have a conference with the student. If necessary, the parent will be called and a referral sent home.
- A behavior contract may be developed following a conference with the parents.
- **Suspension** results when there is a serious infraction of Education Code 48900, which includes a number of specific infractions. [See District Board Policy](#)
- **Expulsion** is the most serious consequence, as it denies the student the privilege of attending Walnut Grove Elementary and possibly any school in PJUSD. [District Board Policy-Suspension/Expulsion](#) [PJUSD Student Conduct Code](#)

FIELD TRIPS

Educational trips to a college or university will be provided during the year per grade level. These trips, including transportation, are a privilege offered to all students. The school assumes a significant responsibility in taking these trips, therefore, a student's school behavior prior to the trip must be cooperative and positive in order to be eligible for the field trip. Behavior expectations will be reinforced to promote a positive experience for all. The trips will be made available to enrolled students who have demonstrated good behavior, citizenship and responsibility. Students which receive 5 or more office discipline referrals and/or 3 or more days of suspension will not be able to attend their grade level field trip. The teacher will notify you if such is the case for your child. Students not attending field trips are still expected to be at school. Parents/Guardians will be informed at least 2 days prior to the event if their son/daughter is in danger of losing their privilege to participate in the field trip. Permission slips will need to be returned at least one day before the event. Students are expected to ride to and from the field trip in the district provided transportation as part of their experience unless their behavior is

deemed inappropriate; in such cases, parents will be asked to pick up their child.

FOOD/DRINK POLICY

The new Health and Wellness guidelines restrict foods such as cakes and candy in the classrooms. Birthday parties and balloons are NOT permitted during the school day. Students are encouraged to bring water bottles to drink in the classroom. No other drink of any kind will be permitted, except during lunch. Please make sure that your child brings their water bottle to school every day. In addition, make sure that your child has their lunch with them, lunch drop offs are not allowed. If they forget their lunch, they may get lunch from the cafeteria.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS

A new application must be completed each year for every student regardless if they qualify for free and reduced-priced meals. This information is used to assist families by offering breakfast and lunch to students who qualify and to collect information regarding the school's percentage of free and reduced lunch applications. A letter outlining the free and reduced meal program is distributed to all students each year as required by the State and Federal Government. The lunch application can be completed online at the following site, or you may find it in the parent tab in our PJUSD website or quick links in our Walnut Grove Website at: <https://lingconnect.com/> Please note that lunch will still be free for all, but an application MUST still be submitted.

HEALTH/MEDICATION

In compliance with Education Code Section 49423, no medications will be accepted or administered at school without meeting the following requirements:

- Physician and parent/guardian request forms filled out completely including both physician and parent signature. You may pick up these forms at the school. No medication will be administered without detailed physician instructions.
- Medication taken to school must be furnished in its pharmacy labeled bottle or in original pharmacy labeled injectable medication kit.
- Non-prescription medications such as aspirin, Tylenol, etc., will not be administered at school even at parent's request. As a parent/guardian, you have the right to bring a medication to school and administer said medication to your child.

HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

We hope you will find our various methods for home-school communication useful and informative. We send out all of the information primarily via PeachJar (digital flyers sent directly to parents by email) and ParentSquare. Information will also be shared via our school's website, Facebook page, and direct phone messages via ParentSquare. Parents will have an opportunity to obtain a paper copy of flyers by completing the request using the link found at the end of the handbook. Occasionally, important information and forms will be sent home with students. Please make sure you check your child's backpack and complete and return forms that need to be returned the following day.

IMMUNIZATIONS

All Kindergarten students and first grade students must have their immunizations up to date before the first day of school. First graders must also have their physical exam completed. All immunizations must be completed or they will be excluded from instruction.

LUNCHESES

Please make sure that your child has their lunch with them. This year, all students are eligible to

receive a free school lunch. If a student forgets their lunch, they are welcome to pick up a lunch from the cafeteria.

MEDICAL FORMS

In preparation for a successful school year, all medical forms need to be completed for the following: request for medication, special meals, limited participation in PE. The forms may be obtained from the Health Office.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

All students in 6th grade will have the opportunity to participate and/or attend Outdoor Education through Foothill Horizons. This is a once in a life time learning experience for your child. The goals of the program is for children to grow personally and socially while learning about science and connecting to nature in a safe, nurturing environment.

PARENT CLUB/ELAC/SSC/PARENT WORKSHOPS

We have an active Parent Club/Committees that meet monthly. Please join the groups and find out how you can help.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Parent involvement and assistance in all classrooms is encouraged and appreciated, but note that a TB test clearance and Parent Volunteer Form must be filled out and on file. In addition, Assembly Bill 3458, Section 35021 was added to the Education Code to provide that persons required to register as sex offenders may not supervise students during breakfast and lunch periods or serve as non-teaching volunteer aides. Your forms must be signed and on file in the office BEFORE you will be allowed to volunteer. Your ID will also be required.

PARKING LOT RULES & PROCEDURES

Traffic safety rules and procedures have been developed with the safety of students in mind and secondly, to optimize the flow of traffic. All parents are expected to follow the rules and procedures at all times, and be courteous to one another. Consider it a small investment of time for the safety of our children. If you don't drop off or pick up your children yourself, make sure that the parties that do (grandparents, nannies, etc.) understand and follow our traffic rules. ***This year, we are asking all KINDERGARTEN parents to “park and walk” to the main gate to pick up their students.***

PARKING LOT RULES

1. Watch out for pedestrians.
2. Parents will pick-up /drop off their students in designated areas only.
3. **Keep crosswalks, bus loading and disabled spaces clear** (there must be enough clearance for buses to get to their spot).
4. Drive slowly.
5. U turns are not permitted on Harley Street.

PARKING LOT ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL MAP



PARKING LOT DROP OFF ZONES AND PICK UP (MAIN GATE AND GYM)- No parent parking in loading/unloading zone during arrival and dismissal time. KINDERGARTEN PARENTS may park in the overflow/parent parking lot and walk to the main gate to pick up their student. ***Drop off zones are designated for parents to wait in line, in their car, to pick up their child in the loading/unloading zone, marked by yellow posts or lines.*** Also, be kind and let the bus pass so they can get to other schools on time. **NO PARKING in FRONT of the BUS LOADING ZONE.**

1. Always pull forward as far as possible and keep moving forward as space opens up.
2. Never leave your vehicle unattended. Drivers will be asked to remain in cars, if possible when dropping off/picking up.
3. Think of other parents waiting in line behind you.
4. No parking in drop-off/loading zone.

Students in grades 4-6th will be dismissed on the Gym side even if they are picking up a younger sibling or walking home.

For students walking home, remind them to ALWAYS use crosswalks!

Our #1 priority is the safety of our students, please follow the rules!

SARC School Accountability Report Card

This information plan can be found on our website. Here is [the link](#) for more information.

STUDENT CHECK OUT

Any parents, guardians, etc., picking up children before regular dismissal time must first go to the office and sign them out. Teachers will direct the child to the office for check out. **Any person picking up a child must be listed on the child's Emergency Card.** We appreciate your understanding that anyone picking up a student early must be 18 years of age or older.

SCHOOL WEBPAGE

Visit our school website at: walnutgrove.patterson.k12.ca.us for school updates! Visit and “like” our school Facebook page! Walnut Grove K-6 School, Patterson Unified School District.

PREVENTION INFORMATION

The following are numbers to help students in need of support.

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-TALK or 988
- The Crisis Text Line - text HOME to 741741
- National Domestic Violence Hotline - 1-800-799-7233

SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

In order to provide a safe environment, our school is under surveillance 24/7.

TELEPHONE USE:

Students are permitted to use school phones for emergencies only. Special arrangements for out of school activities or for transportation should be made prior to school. Forgetting homework is not deemed an emergency. Students requesting use of the phones to call home after school are asked to wait 15 minutes after the final bell before calling

TEXTBOOKS/CURRICULUM

Each student is issued a numbered copy of the textbooks and assorted workbooks for his/her grade at the beginning of the school year. She/he is individually responsible for these books for the year. If a book is lost or damaged, the student will have to pay the full or partial price, depending on the original condition of the book when issued to the student. It is very important that you and your child discuss his/her responsibility for these textbooks. If a book is reported missing immediately, the teacher can assist in locating the book. If a student waits until several weeks later, the chances of finding the book are slim. Students in grades 3 or higher will have access to digital textbook copies through their google classroom and assigned Chromebook device. Please note you are responsible for damages to their chromebook. If a chromebook is lost or damaged, the student will have to pay the full or partial price, depending on the damaged part.

TECHNOLOGY EXPECTATIONS:

CHROMEBOOKS - it is the student's responsibility to care for their chromebook. K-3 students will be using chromebooks during class only. 4-6th grade students will have a chromebook assigned to them which goes back and forth between home and school. You are highly encouraged to purchase insurance for the device. If it is damaged, they will need to speak with the teacher/ IT department to have it repaired and pay any fines assigned for damages. Students

have no expectation of confidentiality or privacy with respect to any usage of a Chromebook, regardless of whether that use is for district related or personal purposes, other than as specifically provided by law. The District may, without prior notice or consent, log, supervise, access, view, monitor and record use of student Chromebooks (including reviewing files and other materials) at any time for any reason related to the operation of the District and/or for any purpose that furthers the interests of the District. By using a Chromebook, students agree to such access, and monitoring of their device.

STUDENT EMAIL- Students are not to delete emails without permission. All emails should be academic in nature. Group emails are prohibited unless students are communicating about class assignments. Students sending emails that lead to negative interactions, instigation and other non-academic reasons may be assigned disciplinary actions.

SOCIAL MEDIA- Any social media posts that disrupt the student's ability to focus in class or at school may receive disciplinary action.

CELLPHONE EXPECTATIONS- Cell phone use is **NOT PERMITTED** during school hours. Students are expected to comply with directives given by adults in regards to cell phones; if they do not comply they will face disciplinary action. Phones are expected to be **off and in backpacks at ALL times**; the exception being when students are given explicit permission by teachers in the classroom for academic purposes. **Cell phone use will not be permitted in the bathrooms, lunch recess or office.** Students recording staff members/students without explicit permission and/or fights are in violation of cell phone expectations and may receive disciplinary action. **School is NOT RESPONSIBLE for any lost, stolen, or damaged personal devices.**

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is only provided for students with disabilities. Students riding the bus are expected to show they know how to ROAR by exhibiting the following behaviors. Please note there are consequences outlined in the student code of conduct for not following bus expectations/rules.

- Be courteous
- Do not use profane language
- Do not eat or drink on the bus
- Keep the bus clean
- Cooperate with the driver
- Do not smoke
- Do not damage the bus or equipment
- Stay in your seat
- Keep head, hands, and feet inside the bus
- Do not fight, push, or shove
- Do not tamper with bus equipment
- Do not bring pets on the bus
- Do not bring flammable material on the bus
- The bus driver is authorized to assign seats
- Have a safe trip

TITLE I PARENT POLICY

Title I School Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Walnut Grove K-6 has developed a written Title I parent and family engagement policy with input from Title I parents. Parents were provided the opportunity to give input during discussions at School Site Council and ELAC meetings. *The policy will be distributed to parents and family members of Title I students annually through the Parent Teacher Conferences and addendum to the Parent/Student Handbook will be distributed throughout the year to all new enrollees. This policy will also be shared electronically via parent square and Peachjar.* The policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I parent and family engagement requirements [20 USC 6318 Section 1118(c),-(g) inclusive]. A Title I video explaining the requirements was also released through our facebook page and website during back to school night.

Involvement of Parents in the Title I Program

To involve parents and family members in the Title I program at Walnut Grove K-6 School, the following practices have been established:

a. The school convenes an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to inform parents and family members of their school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements, and the right of the parents to be involved and other topics below. (20 USC 6318 (c)(1))

1. *Walnut Grove K-6 School participation in Title I,*
2. *The requirements of Title I*
3. *School Programs and Progress*

Meetings will be held at various and convenient times to encourage parents to attend. Parents will be notified about meetings through parent square, newsletters, and the web page.

b. The school offers a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, and may provide, with Title I funds, transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parent involvement. (20 USC 6318 (c)(2))

1. *Annual Title I Informational Item for Back to School Night*
2. *Annual Title I informational Item for regular parent/teacher conferences*
4. *Annual Title I Informational agenda Item for the English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) and School Site Council Meetings (SSC)*
5. *Annual Title I Informational agenda item for the Parent Teacher Organization Meetings (PTO)*

Meetings will be held at various and convenient times to encourage parents to attend. Parents will be notified about meetings through parent square, newsletters, facebook and the web page.

c. The school involves parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan. Parents will discuss and have input on the plan during school site council and English learner advisory council meetings. (20 USC 6318 (c)(3))

d. The school provides parents of participating students with

1. *Timely information about the Title I program. (20 USC 6318 (c)(4)(A))*
 - a. *Through meetings, memos, newsletters and our website.*

2. A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards. (20 USC 6318 (c)(4)(B))

- a. Through annual Title I meeting,
- b. Back to school night,
- c. School Site Council and English Language Advisory Council meetings.

3. If requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible. (20 USC 6318 (c)(4)(C))

- a. Through pre arranged meetings with the Title I Coordinator
- b. Through meetings with the student's teacher which may include the principal, and other staff as appropriate.
- c. Meetings will be scheduled at times that are convenient to encourage parents to attend.

e. If the schoolwide program plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency. (20 USC 6318 (c)(5))

- 1. Parents will be able to give input and suggestions during the annual Title I meeting, School Site Council and English Language Advisory Council meetings.

Building Capacity for Involvement (Parental Involvement Policy continued)

To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency assisted with Title I, Part A funds, the school has established the following practices:

a. The school provides parents with assistance in understanding such topics as:

- The challenging State academic standards,
- State and local assessments, the
- Requirements of Title I, Part A, and
- How to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children. (20 USC 6318 (e)(1))

1. Title I meeting, Parent-Teacher conferences, School Site Council and English Learner Advisory Council Meetings.

b. The school provides parents with materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement. (20 USC 6318 (e)(2))

- 1. Walnut Grove K-6 holds events through ELAC meetings to assist parents with literacy and math ideas to use at home, as well as use of technology.

2. Walnut Grove K-6 also encourages parents to attend the Parent University hosted by our District.

3. During Parent-Teacher conferences, parents are provided with ideas and materials to use to help their student succeed

4. At Student Study meetings, parents are given materials, resources and assistance on how to help their student.

c. The school educates teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, to implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school through the following; (20 USC 6318 (e)(3))

1. Welcome back staff meetings, and regular meetings throughout the year.

2. Teachers and staff volunteers for evening events to help parents and answer their questions.

d. The school, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinates and integrates the parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conducts other activities, such as Dual Language Parent Academies, PIQE, and/or Parenting Partners to encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. (20 USC 6318 (e)(4))

1. Walnut Grove K-6 School works in collaboration with other agencies focused on providing support to families in literacy skills, college awareness, and building family relationships.

e. The school ensures that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities to parents is sent in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. (20 USC 6318 (e)(5))

1. All communication to parents is done in English and Spanish

f. The school provides such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request. (20 USC 6318 (e)(14))

1. Through pre arranged meetings with the Title I Coordinator

2. Through meetings with the student's teacher which may include the principal, and other staff as appropriate.

3. Meetings will be scheduled at times that are convenient to encourage parents to attend..

Accessibility

Walnut Grove K-6 School, to the extent practicable, provides opportunities for the informed participation of all parents and family members (including parents and family members with limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory students) by providing information and school reports in a format and language that parents understand. (20 USC 6318 (f))

1. All information and parent communication is provided in English and Spanish.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

1. Walnut Grove K-6 School will build the school's and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership between the school, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement.
2. The school will incorporate the student/parent/school compact as a component of its School Parental Involvement Policy:
 - a. The school-parent compact will be a part of the School Parental Involvement Policy and will also be part of the Parent/Student Handbook.*
 - b. During regular parent/teacher/student conferences, the school-parent compact will be completed and signed by the teacher, the parent(s), and the student.*
 - c. As needed, the school-parent compact will be included in school newsletters along with the School Parental Involvement Policy.*
3. The school will, with the assistance of the district, provide assistance to parents of children served by the school in understanding topics such as the following:
 - a. The State's Academic content standards,*
 - b. The State's student academic achievement standards/levels,*
 - c. The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,*
 - d. The requirements of Title I,*
 - e. How to monitor their child's progress, and*
 - f. How to work with educators:*
4. As appropriate, the school will, with the assistance of the district, provide materials and training such as literacy training and using technology to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement and to foster parental involvement.
5. The school will, with the assistance of the district and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and schools.
6. The school will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, make sure that information related to the school and parent- programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

Appendix

1. CHKS Permission Form
2. Request for Paper Copy of Flyers

Consent for the California Healthy Kids Survey

2023-24 School Year

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child is being asked to be a part of our school's California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS), sponsored by the California Department of Education. This is a very important survey that will help promote better health and well-being among our youth, improve the school learning environment, and combat problems such as drug abuse and violence. *Your child does not have to take the survey. **Participation is voluntary, but highly encouraged and requires your permission.***

Survey Content. The survey gathers information on developmental supports provided to youth; school connectedness and barriers to learning; school safety; and health-related concerns such as physical activity and nutritional habits; alcohol, tobacco and other drug use; and risk of depression and suicide and perceived sexual orientation. You may examine the questionnaire in the school office or in your child's google classroom. The results from this survey are compiled into district- and county-level CHKS Reports. To view a copy of your district's report, go to <https://calschls.org/reports-data/search-lea-reports/> (Outside Source) and type in the district name.

It is Voluntary. Students who, with your permission, agree to participate do not have to answer any questions they do not want to answer, and may stop taking the survey at any time.

It is Anonymous. No names are recorded or attached to the survey forms or data. The results will be made available for analysis only under strict confidentiality controls.

Administration. The survey will be administered in class. It will take about 50 minutes to complete..

Potential Risks. There are no known risks of physical harm to your child. Risks of psychological or social harm are very small. None have been reported in 20 years of survey administration. In rare instances, some discomfort might be experienced from the questions. The school's counseling services will be available to answer any personal questions that may materialize.

For Further Information. The survey was developed by WestEd, a public, non-profit educational institution. If you have any questions about this survey, or about your rights, call the district at (209)895-7700 and ask for Ken Fitzgerald.

Parent Consent Form for the California Healthy Kids Survey (grades 3-6th)

A separate paper copy of this form was given to your child; please check below whether you grant permission, sign, and return this form within three days to your child's teacher.

___ I **give permission** for my child to be in the California Healthy Kids Survey.

___ I **do not give permission** for my child to be in the California Healthy Kids Survey.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

My child's name is: Teacher: _____

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING AND RETURNING THIS CONSENT FORM.

WALNUT GROVE K-6 SCHOOL FLYERS

Dear parents,

This is a reminder that our District no longer sends home paper flyers from our schools. Parents receive digital flyers via email through *PeachJar and Parent Square*, and can also view flyers on our school website: <http://walnutgrove.patterson.k12.ca.us/>. If you scroll all the way to the bottom of the page, there is a Peachjar icon that you can click on and our flyers will come up. Our goal is to be an Earth-friendly school by saving trees. *However, if you do not have access to internet/computer and need a paper copy of our school flyers, please complete this form.* If you would like for us to update your email address so that you can receive flyers through *PeachJar or Parent Square*, please return the bottom portion of this letter as well to your child's teacher or office. If you already have access to PeachJar and Parent Square, you do not need to return this form. Should you have any questions, please contact the Walnut Grove office at (209) 892-4770. **Please return this form to your child's teacher as soon as possible.**

Thank you!

Mrs. Corona-Duran, Principal

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WALNUT GROVE K-6 SCHOOL FLYERS

(return from to Mrs. Juanita in the front office or your child's teacher)

___ I DO have Internet access but would like my e-mail updated. No paper copy needed. My email address is: _____

___ I do NOT have access to a computer or Internet. I need a paper copy of school flyers.

Student name

Grade

Teacher Name

Parent Name