

## **2024-25 Chatfield-LoPresti Elementary School Safe School Climate Plan**

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The Safe School Climate Committee is made up of the principal, assistant principal, psychologist, school counselors, classroom teacher representatives, Language Arts Consultant, special education staff, a parent representative, and a student representative.

### **School Climate Standard #1**

**The school community has a shared vision and plan for promoting, enhancing, and sustaining a positive climate.**

The administration annually addresses parents and all staff members at the beginning of each school year and periodically reviews climate expectations.

The staff develops a social contract (working agreement) so that mutually agreed upon norms exist among all members of the staff and administration.

The school's focus is that intentional mean behavior is unacceptable. "If it's mean, intervene." At the beginning of each year, teachers review with students how intervening can appropriately be done at their grade level.

Responsive Classroom is the focal point for our school climate. All classrooms work to build strong classroom communities using the Responsive Classroom and Caring School Community approaches.

All classroom teachers greet their children as they arrive each morning. This assists in students starting their day with personal contact with their teacher and the teachers can also ensure that students are traveling safely and appropriately in the hallways.

At dismissal, staff members are stationed throughout the building to monitor hallways so that all travel safely.

To ensure that students are always with adult supervision:

- a) Students do their work in classrooms, not in the hallways.
- b) An adult is present in every classroom when there is indoor recess.

All staff members follow similar procedures related to Responsive Classroom and restorative practices for behavior and classroom management. Staff are also being trained in RULER during the 2024-25 school year, with a roll-out in 2025-26.

Physical aggression or threats are office referrals and staff should contact the main office for immediate assistance. If children are sent to the office for an offense, staff will fill out a referral form. Ongoing behavioral issues should be documented and reported.

Monitoring staff documents observations on both the playground areas during recess and in the cafeteria during lunch. Physical aggression and/or threats during lunch and recess are to be immediately reported to the office.

New in 2025, when there is outside recess, activities for each particular day will be posted on a board for students to see. A circle meeting will initiate the start of recess to improve its organization.

The CLS Spirit Committee is a voluntary committee that welcomes all staff members to be a part of a shared, positive vision of the school.

## **School Climate Standard #2**

**The school community sets policies specifically promoting (a) the development and sustainability of social, emotional, ethical, civic, and intellectual skills, knowledge and dispositions and (b) a comprehensive system to address barriers to learning and teaching and re-engage students who have become disengaged.**

At the start of each school year, parents and students are required to sign that they have read and understood the online Chatfield-LoPresti Student Handbook and the Board of Education policies related to school rules. Included in these policies, but not limited to, are the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy #5131.911.

Classroom teachers review the student handbook with their students during the first week of school. School administration and the school counselors teach and review in student-friendly words the key aspects of the student handbook in small group settings.

## **School Climate Standard #3**

**The school community's practices are identified, prioritized and supported to (a) promote the learning and positive social, emotional, ethical and civic development of students, (b) enhance engagement in teaching, learning and school-wide activities; (c) address barriers to learning and teaching and reengage those who have become disengaged; and (d) develop and sustain appropriate operational infrastructure and capacity building mechanisms for meeting this standard.**

Chatfield-LoPresti School embraces the Responsive Classroom model. All teachers have had some training in the model. Staff are also being trained in RULER during the 2024-25 school year, with a roll-out in 2025-26.

## **School Climate Standard #4**

**The school community creates an environment where all members are welcomed, supported, and feel safe in school: socially, emotionally, intellectually, and physically.**

Chatfield-LoPresti School welcomes parents as guest readers in their children's classrooms. Volunteers are also welcome to assist in the media center. On Veterans Day, military veterans are welcomed into the school to share their experiences as well.

A fourth and fifth grade CLS Student Ambassador Team is responsible for welcoming new students to our school community including, but not limited to, a school tour, friendship groups, and lunch buddies.

A new teacher FAQ sheet assists in welcoming new teachers and assigning them a "buddy" teacher.

All staff members are welcome to share their thoughts and make suggestions to assist in improving the CLS climate via the staff suggestion box in the staff lounge.

## **School Climate Standard #5**

**The school community develops meaningful and engaging practices, activities and norms that promote social and civic responsibilities and a commitment to social justice.**

Through school counseling, social studies lessons, Morning Meeting activities, and morning announcements, our staff promotes the celebration of understanding and appreciating those with different backgrounds and beliefs of one another.

Upper grade classrooms are partnered with lower grade classrooms for Book Buddies. These partnerships provide worthwhile relationships that strengthen our school community. Upper grade students are also given the opportunity to be on the Flag Crew, which raises and lowers the American flag each day.

Grade 5 students are provided with the opportunity to be breakfast buddies for students in grades K, 1, 2, and 3. As breakfast buddies the fifth graders assist students who need extra assistance with their letter and sight word recognition, as well as with their math facts.

The CLS Student Pledge is taught and recited by all students every morning.

School-wide and grade-wide assemblies are held conveying proper expectations, such as breaking down the parts of the CLS Student Pledge and what each section means in student-friendly language.

The preferred methods for addressing disciplinary infractions are the three parts of restorative discipline – logical consequences, “You break it, you fix it,” and loss of privileges.