

Bang Elementary School
Quick Reference Guide for Parents - 2024-2025 School Year

8900 Rio Grande Dr.
Houston, TX 77064
(281) 897-4760

Who Can Help You?

- Homeroom Teacher: First contact (281) 897-4760
- Principal: Susan L. Bolado
- Principal's Secretary: Tami Crum
- Assistant Principal (ECSE, Pre-K, 1st grade, 3rd grade, 5th grade): Michelle Chatagnier
- Assistant Principal (Kinder, 2nd grade, 4th grade, Life Skills): Kayla Mouton
- Counselor : Sheron Williams
- Librarian: Elisa Mann
- Diagnostician: Karelia Conner
- Nurse: Stephanie Schauer-Spitzer
- Registrar: Joanne Gonzalez
- Instructional Specialist (Math/Science: K - 5th grade): Susan Moschella
- Instructional Specialist (Reading/Writing: K - 5th grade): Brandi Mendoza

-A-

Address/Phone Changes: Changes in address/phone number should be communicated to the front office immediately. Notify us of any changes by sending a note with your child.

In case of emergency, it is vital that we are able to contact you.

Attendance: Students arriving after 8:16 am are tardy. Attendance is marked daily at 10:00am. Students who are absent should submit a written excuse (parent note or doctor's excuse note) upon returning to school. Students with no absences and no more than one tardy and/or one leave early each nine weeks will earn Perfect Attendance. Excessive tardies/absences will be referred to the district's truancy officer. Students with 3 or more tardies or early releases (with the exception of holiday parties/special school events) in a four week period will be referred to the attendance officer. Once referred to the attendance officer, all subsequent tardies/early releases will be monitored.

Per CFISD Policy, FEC (LEGAL) and FEC (LOCAL), students must be present for 90% of the school year to gain full credit for the school year. In order to receive credit for a final grade for a class, a student is required to attend class 90 percent of the days a class is offered regardless of whether the student's absences are excused or unexcused. When students do not meet the 90% attendance rate in a class, CFISD provides written notification to the parent/guardian in the form of an Excessive Absence Letter. The loss of credit is also reflected on a student's report card. If the student does not meet the 90% requirement in a class, the student must go through the Attendance Recovery Process outlined in the CFISD Student Handbook (found on cfisd.net).

The Home Access Center (HAC) is an electronic way to monitor your child's attendance and tardies. We recommend all parents regularly check the Home Access Center.

-B-

Backpacks: We ask that each student bring a backpack to school daily. **NO** rolling backpacks as they are a tripping and safety issue. If you are in need of a backpack for your child please reach out to the counselor. sheron.williams@cfisd.net.

Birthdays: Due to the Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value (FMNV) policy, parents may not bring cakes, cupcakes, cookies, etc. for birthdays. Cookies or ice cream may be purchased for the entire class through the cafeteria. **Balloons or flowers should not be sent or brought to school for any occasion.**

Breakfast: Students may go to the cafeteria or their assigned breakfast lines from 7:55 - 8:20 am. Breakfast is served in a grab and go format. Due to student allergies, outside breakfast (Ex: McDonald's and donuts) and specialty drinks (Ex: Starbucks) are not permitted.

-C-

Cafeteria Services: There is no cost for student breakfast and lunch this year. More information about the cafeteria can be found at <https://www.cfisd.net/Page/1916>.

Car Riders: All students riding home from school in a car should be in the car rider line. To ensure every child's safety, please use the car line if you are transporting your child to and from school in a vehicle. The school will provide a car tag that should be visible as the car moves through the car line. **For the safety of our students, cars with no tag will be asked to park and check their child out at the front office. You will have to wait until car rider dismissal is over for your child to be brought to the front office.** The morning car rider line begins at 7:50 am and ends at 8:15 am. Any car arriving in line after 8:15 am will be asked to go to the front office to sign their child in as tardy. The afternoon car rider line begins at 3:40 pm and ends at 4:00 pm. Any car arriving in line after 4:00 pm will be asked to go to the front office to sign out their student. Students who are not on time being picked up will go to the front office and guardians will be called by an administrator.

Cell Phones: Cellular phones should be turned off when visiting class or attending a school presentation. Students are asked to keep cell phones in their backpacks and turned off or on silent during the instructional day. If cell phones are out of the backpack without teacher permission, they will be confiscated and remain in the AP office until the parent is able to come in to claim the phone and pay a \$15 administrative fee.

Note: Parents may use their cell phone to take pictures of their own child with teacher permission. Parents should not photograph/video any other students in the building because not all students have permission to be photographed/videotaped.

Clinic: Should your child become ill at school, we ask that you pick him/her up promptly once notified. Students with a temperature of 100.0 (or higher) or communicable disease will not be allowed to remain at school. State guidelines state that before returning, children must be free of symptoms/fever for 24 hours. The nurse will not call each time a child is referred to the clinic. She will use her professional judgment and notify parents when necessary.

Club Rewind: Club Rewind is the fee-based before and after school care program for CFISD students in kindergarten through 5th grade. Club Rewind is on-site at every elementary campus. Before school care

begins at 6:30 am. After school care begins immediately after school and ends at 6:30 pm. Enrollment and tuition information may be found at <https://www.cfisd.net/Page/1900> or by calling 281-807-8900.

Communication: Establishing clear, open communication between school and home is our campus goal. Information you will receive includes: Schoology communication, teacher emails, School Messenger emails, newsletters, progress reports, and report cards. Please check your child's backpack daily. We ask that teachers respond to any type of communication within 24 hours. Please remember that your child's teacher is instructing your child throughout the day and may not have time to respond to communication until the end of the day. The Home Access Center is an electronic way to monitor your child's current grades, attendance, and tardies. We recommend all parents regularly check the Home Access Center. More information on Home Access Center can be found at <https://www.cfisd.net/Page/1850>.

Conduct: Student conduct is communicated through notes home, phone calls, conferences, office referrals, progress reports, and report cards. Students are expected to follow the Code of Conduct (<https://www.cfisd.net/Page/1888>), all school rules, and directives given by school personnel. Please review the Code of Conduct with your child.

-D-

Devices: All students will be issued a district chromebook. It is the student's responsibility to bring the device charged to school each day. This device is checked out under the student's name, which makes them responsible for taking care of it and keeping up with it. Students will be charged for intentional damages such as but not limited to removing keys, deliberately breaking the screen, etc. Students will also be charged if there are repeated issues due to carelessness. There will be a charge for replacement chargers, as well. Any issues with the laptop can be reported through my.cfisd.net > LTE Central and submitting a ticket or by contacting the HELP desk at 281-897-4357.

Dismissal: Bang has three types of dismissal: walkers/bikers, car riders, and buses. The type of dismissal is determined by the school based on weather conditions at 3:35 pm. Regular day dismissal is what happens every day when the weather conditions are normal. Rainy day dismissal happens when it is raining outside but there is no lightning detected in the area. Students can still walk or ride their bikes if parents choose this option on the Bang Transportation Form. Inclement weather dismissal happens when there are strong winds or dangerous thunder and lightning in the area.

Walkers have 2 options in inclement weather days:

1. Car Rider
2. Wait inside Bang until it is safe to walk or ride bike home.

Dress Code: Please refer to the CFISD Student Handbook and Code of Conduct (<https://www.cfisd.net/Page/1888>) for more detailed information about student dress guidelines. Students in violation of the dress code will be sent to the office to call the parent for a change of clothes. If the parent/guardian is unavailable, the student may need to change into clothes provided by the clinic. We also ask that our volunteers dress in a manner that adheres to the student dress code.

-E-

Early Dismissal: Parents must send a signed note with the student prior to early dismissal. Parents may submit a signed note until 3:15 pm to pick up their child early. Parents arriving after 3:15 pm will not be permitted to check out students as the student will be participating in normal dismissal procedures at 3:30 pm.

Emergency Care Form: It is imperative that parents complete and return the school emergency form. Email addresses from this form are used for School Messenger communication. Changes should be updated in the front office as needed.

End of Year Placement:

Promotion: CFISD School Board Policy mandates the following minimum performance standards for promotion from one grade to the next: a composite grade of at least 70 in language arts (reading and language), mathematics, science, and social studies. In Kindergarten and 1st Grade, a student must have a "satisfactory" or "mastery" in all subject areas in order to be considered for promotion.

Placement: Students who fail to meet state promotion standards, but who are judged by a campus review committee to have achievement deficits that could be remedied at the next grade level without invoking retention may be "placed" into the next grade level.

Retention: Any student who fails to meet promotion standards set by the state or district will be screened for possible retention.

-F-

Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value (FMNV): The Texas Department of Agriculture has created nutrition guidelines (Texas Public School Nutrition Policy) by which all schools must abide by. According to the policy, an elementary campus may not provide access to food or beverage to students anywhere on campus during the school day, unless it is provided through the school breakfast/lunch program or can be correlated with the curriculum. Under these guidelines, parents, teachers, and others are prohibited from serving any food or beverage to students, including cupcakes, cookies, etc. during the school day.

NO GUM IS ALLOWED AT SCHOOL.

-G-

Grading: In an effort to communicate progress to parents, work samples are collected and graded to show a student's mastery of a specific skill. However, all assignments that come home are not necessarily graded. In addition, some assignments that come home with grades may not be recorded in the teacher's gradebook. Not all grades are averaged equally. Specific criteria regarding grades will be shared by the teacher. 2nd-5th grade parents are encouraged to monitor their child's grades by logging into the Home Access Center (HAC). Numeric grades may be converted as follows: A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 75-79, C- = 70-74, F = 0-69
In Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade, teachers assess student work samples and record their achievement. At the end of the nine weeks, each student's work is applied to a rubric which determines a nine week's grade.

-H-

Holidays: Parents may not send goodie bags or other celebratory items to school that contain food. Bang VIPS will sponsor two parties per year.

Homework: The goal of homework is to reinforce learned skills and to serve as an extension of classroom lessons that have previously been taught. Homework will be assigned at teacher discretion according to student need. Homework is not taken for a grade.

Horizons: The Horizons program is for students who are identified as gifted/talented through the standardized testing criteria defined by the district. More information can be found at <https://www.cfisd.net/Page/1848>.

-I-

Immunizations: Texas law requires certain immunizations before a student may attend school. These immunizations are listed in the CFISD Student Handbook and Code of Conduct.

-L-

Late Work: At Bang Elementary, it is expected that students will complete and turn in all assignments on time. Points will be deducted for late work.

Library: Students have the opportunity to visit the library once a week to check out books. Students will be required to pay for lost or damaged library books.

Lost and Found: The school has a Lost and Found cart that is located in our Bus Atrium area. If an item is lost, students/parents are urged to check the lost and found. At the end of each semester all unclaimed items will be disposed of or donated to a charitable organization.

Lunch: Lunch visitors may come on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. We are not allowing lunch visitors the first three weeks of school. We are excited to welcome lunch visitors beginning Tuesday September 10, 2024. Parents, legal guardians, and grandparents (with a note from the parent) may come to have lunch with a student. Lunch visitors are permitted for Kindergarten- 5th grade. Any student of grades PK - 12th are not permitted to come as lunch guests. Only that student will be allowed to eat at the parent table with their guest. While parents may not bring food for other children, they may provide food or beverages for their own child's consumption. Please limit lunch visitors to one time per week to allow your child time to socialize with their peers. There will be other times during the year where visitors are not allowed. Ex: STAAR testing and Benchmarks

-M-

Marquee: Family may choose to place their child's name on the marquee for their birthday. Happy Birthday and name \$20.00. Happy Birthday, Name, & Picture \$25.00. E-mail Tamila Crum tamila.crum@cfisd.net for birthdays.

Medication: If it is necessary that medication be administered to your child at school, the medication must be delivered to the school by the parent/guardian. Medication must be in the original container properly labeled, with the child's name and direction for the time and dosage. A written request to administer medicine must be on file. In addition, parents must transport the medication home. Students are not permitted to transport or be in possession of any medication (over the counter or prescription) including cough drops.

Money: If you must send money to school for any reason, we ask that you send it in a sealed envelope that has been clearly marked with your child's name, teacher's name, and the purpose for which the money was sent.

-O-

Observations - Visits to individual classrooms during instructional time are permitted only with prior approval from school administration. Parents who wish to visit a classroom during instructional time should contact their child's assistant principal. The assistant principal will set up a date/time that will not be disruptive to any classroom activities or assessments. Observations are limited to 20 minutes once per 9 weeks to protect instructional time.

-P-

Parties: Due to lack of space, each student is allowed two adult guests at our school parties and celebrations. Elementary, middle and high school students are not allowed to be a guest at parties and celebrations.

Physical Education: State law requires that children have access to a minimum number of physical education minutes each week. There may be circumstances where your child will not be able to participate for short periods of time. Ex: broken leg. In that case, a doctor's note must be provided. In this case, the parent may write a note to be given to the P.E. teacher and nurse. If the amount of time requested exceeds three P.E. classes, a doctor's excuse from physical activity will be required. Students that do not participate in P.E. will also not participate in recess. Students should wear appropriate, closed-toed shoes to PE. No slides, flip-flops or backless shoes are permitted. For their safety, students who are not wearing appropriate shoes will not be allowed to participate and will be provided an alternative assignment.

Prohibited Articles: Some common items used at home may create disruptions if brought to school. Students should refrain from bringing toys and games to class. Items including, but not limited to, electronic games, musical devices, walkie-talkies, cameras, radios, sunglasses, laser pens, trading cards, and other costly articles should not be brought to school. Inappropriate items will be collected by the teacher and held until they can be retrieved by the parent/guardian. Also, sharp, pointed objects that could be potentially dangerous are prohibited as well as glass jars and/or bottles. Live animals are not allowed. Students are prohibited from the engagement of distributing, trading, or selling items at school.

-Q-

Questions: Because teachers are not always able to get to the phone during the school day, it is very helpful when parents send notes/emails regarding questions. Teachers make it a habit of asking for notes each day and are happy to respond to any parent questions. If you would like to talk personally to the teacher, we ask that you email the teacher or call the front desk and leave a message. The teacher will return your email or call as soon as possible.

-R-

Readers - Sign up to be a special reader to PK, K, 1st, and 2nd grade classes. Contact our Librarian Mrs. Mann and pick a day to read to your child's class. Librarian - jennifer.mann2@cfisd.net.

Recess: In accordance with our district recess guidelines, all students participate in recess for 20 minutes daily, weather permitting. There may be times when a student misses recess due to an absence from school, a tutoring session with a teacher, etc. If a student will be missing recess on a routine basis, the parent will be

notified. Visitors are not allowed on the playground during instructional times. Students should wear appropriate, closed-toed shoes to recess.

Re-take/Redo Policy: A student may have three opportunities each nine weeks to redo assignments for which the student earned a grade of 69 or below. The highest grade a student can earn on a retake/redo will be 70. A student may not earn a grade lower than the original grade. DPMs and Benchmarks are not included in the retake/redo opportunities. The assignment must be redone within one week of the posted grade. Parents may request up to 3 retake/redo assignments with any of their child's teachers.

-S-

School Cash: Many of the items available to purchase at Bang Elementary will be available through School Cash (<https://www.cfid.net/Page/1863>).

School Hours: 8:15 am - 3:40 pm, Doors open at 7:55 am. Tardies are recorded beginning at 8:16 am.

School Mascot/Colors: We are the Bang Bears. Our school colors are green and gold.

School Messenger: Our school newsletter and other important information are sent via email through School Messenger.

School Supplies: Each student enrolling at the beginning of the year will be responsible for purchasing all of the supplies listed. Consumables may need to be replenished throughout the year.

School Telephone: The telephones in the school building are business phones. Parents should not call the school to talk to a child or leave messages for him/her. If you need to speak to your child during the school day, please come to school to check them out. After-school plans should be made in the morning before your child leaves home. Assignments or items left at home do not constitute an emergency.

Snacks: Students will be allowed to have a snack and water either before or after lunch depending on their lunch time. Snacks should be as nutritious as possible, no candy, juices, or sodas. Snacks time will be a working-snack, meaning students will snack as they work. Therefore, snacks such as Takis and Cheetos that will make fingers and instructional materials messy are not permitted.

-T-

Tardies: Tardies are recorded beginning at 8:16 am. If you arrive after 8:16 am, you will be required to bring your child to the front office to sign them in. Students are never counted tardy if due to a bus being late.

Tipline: Students and/or parents can submit reports/tips via text or email 24 hours a day, seven days a week using Tipline.

Transportation:

Bus Riders: Bus transportation is available to all of our students that live 1 mile or more away from Bang. Students may register for bus transportation during the year by contacting the registrar. Each student will be placed on his/her scheduled bus each day, unless written permission is received to allow another means of transportation. All Pre-K and Kindergarten students are required to have an adult at the bus

stop to receive them during dismissal. If an adult is not present, the student will be brought back to Bang and the guardian will be contacted to come pick up their child.

We enlist your support in working with your child concerning appropriate bus conduct. Students must realize that misbehavior on the bus can lead to unsafe conditions and will not be allowed. Students must exhibit respect to the bus driver and courtesy to fellow passengers during the bus ride. With the privilege of bus transportation goes the responsibility of each individual bus rider to exhibit safe behavior at all times. Failure to observe the bus rules will result in parent notification through a bus report. Multiple bus reports may result in the denial of this transportation privilege. Information concerning student conduct on buses is detailed in the CFISD Student Handbook and Code of Conduct. Parents are encouraged to sign up for the ZPass system to track their bus rider using <https://www.zpassplus.com/>.

Bus Badges: Each student is issued one bus and one lunch badge at the beginning of the year. It is a requirement by the district that every student who rides the bus has a bus badge. Bus drivers may refuse to bring a student home if they do not have a bus badge or if they are not eligible for bus transportation. Replacement cost is \$3.00 for badge, \$1 for lanyard and \$1 for plastic sleeve. Payments are to be made through the student's SchoolCash account. Even if a student is not eligible for a bus they will be issued a bus badge. They are also used for identification, breakfast, and if a student is tardy.

Car Riders: Those parents of children that are not bus eligible must provide transportation for their children. Parents are asked to use the appropriate drop-off/pick-up location which is located by the side of the gym. Students should not be dropped off before 7:55 am. We ask that parents remain in their car during arrival and dismissal.

Walkers/Bike Riders: Children are allowed to ride their bikes or walk to school if bus transportation is not provided for your student. Bike riders should park their bikes at one of the bike racks outside and lock the bike before entering the building. Walkers and Bike Riders will enter through Door 15 on the side of the building in the morning. They will exit the building from the same door of the building by the bike racks. A staff member will be present to greet students and release students to their designated adult at dismissal. Pre-K and Kindergarten students must be released to an adult or may walk with a designated older sibling if parents have given written permission.

Day Care: Daycare vans unload and load with car riders.

The only vehicles allowed on school grounds during dismissal are cars that are participating in the car rider line.

Transportation Changes: Parents must send a note to school regarding any transportation changes. In the case of an emergency, parents may contact the school and provide a signed note via email. A copy of the parent's driver's license must accompany the email. Phone changes will not be accepted. All transportation changes must be made before 3:15 pm so that we may have adequate time to get a message to the teacher. Students may register for bus transportation during the school year by contacting the registrar. This process will take 3-5 days.

-V-

VIPS: Parents and volunteers who participate in the Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) program in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD schools make a significant contribution to the success of our students' education.

The Bang Elementary VIPs program plays an active role in our children's development and education at our school. Please reach out to our principal, Susan Bolado susan.bolado@cfisd.net, if you are interested in holding a chair position with the VIPs program at Bang Elementary.

Visitors: For security reasons, all visitors must use their driver's license to sign in. This will generate a name tag which must be worn at all times during your visit. Visits to individual classrooms during instructional time are permitted only with prior approval from school administration. Visitors may only visit the designated area listed on their tag. Student visitors are not permitted during the instructional day. School personnel may ask any person not having legitimate business to leave the premises.

-W-

WatchDog Dads - We encourage all dads, grandpa's, uncles, and special male friends to sign up to be a WatchDog Dad. Contact Celeste Gonzalez to sign up for your special day on campus - celeste.gonzalez@cfisd.net.

Water Bottles: Students are asked to bring water bottles to school. Students will be allowed to refill their bottles at our refill stations/water fountains throughout the day. Drinks other than water are not allowed in the classroom. Ex: Gatorade, sodas, juices, or flavored water packets.

Withdrawal from School: In order to withdraw your child before the end of the year, you will need to notify your child's teacher and the school's registrar. Two days' notice are needed to complete checkout procedures, which includes clearing your child's library, Chromebook, and textbook records.



***Return bottom portion only to the teacher.
Keep the Parent Guide at home to reference throughout the school year!**

**Bang Elementary School
Quick Reference Guide for Parents**

Quick Reference Guide Acknowledgment 2024-2025

_____ Parent Signature _____ Date
_____ Student's Name _____ Grade
_____ Teacher's Name