

Barack Obama Elementary School

Parent and Student Handbook 2025-2026



★ **“Shine Like the Star You Are!”** ★

Dr. Jacqueline Drye
Principal

Ms. Treena Leecost
Assistant Principal

School Year 2025- 2026

Dear Barack Obama Parents and Families,

Welcome to Barack Obama Elementary School - Home of the Stars. School year 2025-2026 promises to be an exciting one and I'm beyond happy to be partnering with YOU as we provide our students with the best educational experience! My goal is that Home and School will collaborate and support each other for the sake of our children. Let's be that village that our students so desperately need. At Barack Obama Elementary School, we recognize that the parents are the first teachers. You have loved and guided your child(ren) up to this point and we aim to do the same at school. We thank you for sharing your child(ren) with us and we pledge to give them our best everyday!

We continue with the theme "Shine Like the Star you Are!" Sometimes, we forget who we are, so please let this message serve as a reminder. Stars shine, and so will we! We will shine everywhere we go and in everything we do! Teachers will shine, as they bring our students engaging lessons and unique learning opportunities. Our students will shine as they grasp new concepts and exhibit outstanding behavior. Our school as a whole will shine this year, as we demonstrate our commitment to our students and their families.

There's a line in a song that says, "My light shines brighter when I shine for you." That pretty much sums up how I feel about my extended Barack Obama family. I am here for you. I am better because of you. There is no limit to what I would do for you. Let's keep each other lifted up in love, support and respect.

We ARE the Barack Obama Stars! Let's get ready to shine!

Sincerely,

***Dr. Jacqueline Drye
Principal***

VISION STATEMENT

Barack Obama Elementary School will be the premier elementary school in Richmond, VA. It will operate in the spirit of excellence and be staffed by highly effective educators who genuinely love and care about the students, their families and their futures.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Barack Obama Elementary School is to prepare our students' for life by igniting their wonder and curiosity, encouraging academic risk-taking and instilling in our students the self-efficacy they will need to be successful in school and beyond.



ATTENDANCE

We LOVE our students at Barack Obama Elementary School and we believe that EVERY DAY COUNTS! There are 180 days of instruction in a school year. It is extremely important that students come to school every day. When students are absent, they miss valuable information and class experiences. Except in cases of illness, please make sure your child is present at school every day. Parents are asked to please call the school at (804)780-4879 and send a written letter to let us know when an absence is necessary or has occurred.

The law requires that we verify each absence for your protection and the child's. We will need a daytime phone number so we can contact you if your child is absent and we do not hear from you by 8:15 a.m. Students who are absent 18 days or more (excused or unexcused) may have to repeat their current grade in accordance with School Board Policies 5-4.2 and 8-2.4. After 5 unexcused absences, the attendance support team will request a conference to offer assistance for improvement.

ARRIVAL TIME

The school building will open doors for students at 7:30 a.m. We cannot provide supervision for students who arrive before the specified time. For safety reasons, please do not allow students to wait outside of the building unattended by an adult. When the doors open, students will report to the cafeteria for breakfast or go directly to class.

TARDINESS

Please make every effort to have your child arrive at school before the bell rings at 7:45 a.m. Students are marked tardy when they arrive to school after 8:15 a.m. Students who are tardy often have a difficult time with their studies and general adjustment. If your child is tardy, he/she should report to the office to sign in. Any student arriving to school late five times will not be given a perfect attendance award at the end of the year.

DISMISSAL TIME

Students are dismissed at 2:45 p.m. Parents please pick up your child/children promptly. Students who are consistently picked up late will either be assigned to the school bus that transports students to the address we have on file, or referred to the social worker for assistance.

LEAVING EARLY

Students are encouraged to remain at school for the entire school day. Valuable learning opportunities are lost when a student misses instructional time. However, in the event any student must leave school before the end of the day, he or she must have a note from a parent stating the reason and time of departure. If a student becomes ill during the day, a note from the nurse will be sent home with the student.

Please refrain from picking up students from the office after 2:00 p.m.

It is an extremely busy time as we prepare for dismissal and we would greatly appreciate your assistance as our goal is to execute a safe and orderly dismissal process.

VISITS TO THE SCHOOL

We welcome our parents and invite you to visit us at school, however we must keep safety in mind at all times. During the school day, all outside doors remain locked. Please ring the doorbell at the main entrance upon your arrival. **Once inside, all visitors must report directly to the front office.** Please be reminded that it is important to protect instructional time. If you need to speak to a teacher, please arrange for a conference in advance so the teacher can give you his/her undivided attention. The same is true for our administrators. They are always happy to meet with our parents! If you'd like to come in to share your ideas, questions or concerns, please schedule a time in advance. Please note that our principals will be spending most of their days in the classrooms supporting teaching and learning, but with proper notice will reserve some time to meet with our partners – our parents!



PARKING

State law prohibits parking (extended time period) in front of the school between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please do not leave cars parked in the middle of the street while you get out to pick up or drop off a child. Please park in the appropriate areas. We greatly appreciate your cooperation, your consideration for others and your respect for the safety of our children!

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD

Students **must** cross at the corner of Crawford and Fendall where the school crossing guard, or another adult, is stationed. Parents should not walk children across the middle of the street. **No students will be allowed to cross the street in the middle to get in a vehicle.** Fendall Avenue is a well-traveled street. It is unsafe for a student to cross in the middle of the street. Please help us to keep your child safe from harm.

CLEAR BACKPACK PROTOCOL

As a part of Richmond Public Schools' (RPS) ongoing efforts to enhance safety for students and staff members, clear backpacks are required. This policy is a preventive safety and security measure to ensure RPS Schools are safe and productive learning environments. We would like to express our gratitude to all RPS families for your understanding and support of this policy. We truly appreciate your patience and compassion as we work collectively to find solutions that ensure the safety and well-being of all RPS students, staff, and families.

<https://www.rvaschools.net/schools-office/safety-and-security/clear-backpacks>



WELLNESS POLICY

Did you know that RPS has a Wellness Policy? Well it does (POLICY 4-4.3) and it promotes healthy eating options, adequate water consumption and regular exercise. Barack Obama embraces this policy and therefore adheres to the following:

1. We will limit the amount of sugary items provided to our students at school.
2. Birthday cake and/or cupcakes are not allowed to celebrate birthdays. The following are suggestions for substitutions:
 - a. Birthday pencils
 - b. Fruit cups and/or Jell-O
 - c. Arts and crafts activities
 - d. Small gift bags
3. Water breaks will be provided often or as needed. Water is the beverage of choice at school.
4. Recess is mandatory. All students will have a 30-minute recess everyday.

“Smart Snacks” are the preferred items for students to eat at school. A guide to smart snacks in schools from the United States Department of Agriculture can be found at:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/guide-smart-snacks-school>

Also, please keep in mind that we have students who suffer from severe allergies. Thank you for being extra mindful of the foods we send to school.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

School records must show that a student has been properly immunized and has met state requirements regarding medical attention before he/she can enter or remain in school. The school nurse maintains these records and will contact you if there is a concern.

There are times when a doctor will prescribe medication for a student that must be taken at school. When this happens, please have him/her complete a form requesting that the medication be given and specify the time and amount. All medication must be brought to the school by an adult and given to the school nurse. It must be in the original container, with the amount and times for each dose listed on it. We cannot give

medicines that are not prescribed by a doctor, such as cough syrup or pain medication. Please talk with our school nurse for all medical concerns.

BARACK OBAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Barack Obama Elementary School has an active PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). Its primary goals are to serve the students, parents and teachers of Barack Obama Elementary School through an effective organization. You are urged to become a member of the PTO by sending your dues for adult members. Even if you cannot attend the meetings regularly, your membership helps the PTO to be a strong force for children.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PTO

1. To promote the welfare of children and youth in the home, school, and community.
2. To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may collaborate in the education of children and youth.
3. To develop between educators and the general public such unified efforts, as well as secure for all children and youth, the highest advantages in physical, mental and social education.
4. To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

The PTO often sponsors fund-raising activities to raise money for school projects. Your participation in these activities means a great deal to the school, but we ask you to bear in mind that state law prohibits any door-to-door solicitation by children. Fund-raising activities should be carried out by adults except where family members are the customers.

We hope you will find the PTO a good way to be involved in your child's education. Becoming a member, supporting fund-raising activities, attending meetings and serving on a committee are ways you can be actively involved.

OTHER WAYS PARENTS CAN BE INVOLVED

- Attend all school meetings and workshops related to your child's education.
- Volunteer whenever you can.
- Keep in touch with your child's teacher weekly. Attend all parent/teacher conferences.
- Begin the first day of school checking your child's homework and school work. Assist with homework daily.
- Provide a quiet place for your child to study and read each day.
- Take time to listen to your child each day.
- Have your child's teacher, counselor or school administrators interpret test data.
- Remind your child daily to follow school rules.
- Encourage good behavior and good manners.
- Provide school supplies for your child.
- Read to your child daily, or have your child read to you.

REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS

Keeping you informed of your child's progress is done in several ways during the school year.

1. **Weekly progress reports** will be provided for students in first through fifth grades. Students in kindergarten will receive daily progress reports. Read the report and address any concerns with the teacher immediately.
2. A formal **report card** is sent home every nine (9) weeks. A copy of this report does go into your child's cumulative folder.
3. In addition to these written reports, two dedicated **parent-teacher conference days** are scheduled during the year for face-to-face talks between you and the teacher. The teacher will have a folder of examples of work that shows what your child has done this far in relation to the objectives for the grade level.
4. You may also **request a conference** any time you feel the need for one. Additionally, you may receive a request for a conference from the teacher.

THE RPS GRADING SCALE

Kindergarten – 2nd Grades

E=Exceeds Expectations

S=Satisfactory

N=Needs More Time to Develop

U=Unsatisfactory

Grades 3 - 5

A= 90 - 100

B= 80 - 89

C= 70 - 79

D= 60 - 69

F= 0 - 59

P/F=Pass/Fail

TEXTBOOKS

All students of Richmond Public Schools shall be furnished, free of charge, the necessary textbooks for their respective grades and subjects. These books are to remain the property of the school and be loaned to the students.

Students will be responsible for each book and shall be required to return the same in good condition, moderate wear and tear expected, at the end of the school year, or at such time as may be required by the principal of the school. Any book which is lost, destroyed, and/or needlessly defaced while in the use of the student shall be replaced or paid for by the student or his/her parent or guardian at a price proportionate to the condition of the book. All books are to be returned if a student moves during the school year. A replacement fee will be charged for lost books and no books will be issued until the fee is paid.

SUPPLIES

At the beginning of the school year, a list of supplies needed by your child will be sent to you. Please remember that items such as pencils, paper, crayons, etc. will need to be replenished during the school year. A supply list is available on our school's website <https://boes.rvaschools.net/> .

HOMEWORK

Homework is assigned regularly by each teacher. This is an important part of your child's learning since it helps to reinforce the things that are being learned in the classroom. Time spent at home by students on such things as recognizing the alphabet, spelling words, learning the addition/subtraction facts or the multiplication/division facts, reading aloud to you or being read to by you or an older brother or sister, can all be very valuable homework experiences. Specific homework assignments will come from your child's teacher.

STUDENT SCHOLASTIC RECORDS

A student record is maintained for each student enrolled in Richmond Public Schools. The record contains the student's name, address and date of birth, the name and address of the parent, test scores and attendance figures, filed as a cumulative folder with information added each year as needed. Confidential information, such as reports related to Exceptional Education, is kept in a separate folder in the student record.

Access to records is limited to persons who have responsibility for students or who have a legitimate interest in the education of the student. You may request to see your child's record. It will be granted within five working days of your request. A record of persons gaining access to each record is kept within the record. If you have any questions concerning records, please contact the school counselor or principal for further information.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Students will be recognized each nine weeks for such qualities as academic achievement, attendance and positive behavior traits. Parents are encouraged to attend awards programs to celebrate their children's achievements.

There will be special culminating recognition programs for students at the end of the year. Students in grades Kindergarten through fourth will participate in an awards program. Students will be recognized for their year-long achievements.

For the fifth-grade students, we prepare a “Moving-On Ceremony”, as the students prepare to transition into middle school. Students will be recognized for academic achievement, perfect attendance and positive behavior. Also, the top ten students will be recognized at the ceremony. Remember each student has an opportunity to excel and be recognized.

STANDARDS OF LEARNING TESTS

Each student who leaves elementary school is expected to be able to read with understanding and fluency, write clear and cohesive paragraphs and solve problems using mathematical knowledge. An assessment is given annually in each content area to determine if the child has reached the expected level of achievement in reading and mathematics in grades 3-5, Virginia Studies in 4th grade and science in 5th grade. Students who pass are recognized as being proficient or advanced having mastered the Standards of Learning objectives. In order for our students to be successful, cooperation will be necessary from our students, parents/guardians, and teachers.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Appropriate behavior is important because it aids us in establishing an environment in which every student can learn. It is imperative that the home and school work together to achieve good behavior.

The Richmond School Board has adopted the Student Code of Responsible Ethics (S.C.O.R.E.) to which all students are subject. Please review the following expectations with your child and let him/her know what you expect in the way of behavior.

STUDENT CODE OF RESPONSIBLE ETHICS

Every student has a right to a quality education without disruption. Barack Obama Elementary School will protect the liberty and rights of its students, as stated in the Richmond Public Schools Student Code of Responsible Ethics (S.C.O.R.E.). Students also have responsibilities and they are listed with students’ on the following page:

Students have the right and responsibility to:

- *Attend school and receive a quality education. It is the student's responsibility to attend school and their assigned classes every day.*
- *Be informed of all school rules and the consequences of breaking those rules. It is the responsibility of the students to know and follow all school rules, and to accept the consequences of their behavior.*
- *Have discipline guidelines followed.*
- *Be informed of how grades are calculated and earned.*
- *Use school grounds and materials appropriately at all times.*
- *Respect the thoughts and beliefs of others. Ideas must not offend or hurt others.*
- *Discuss or seek guidance regarding the lack of academic progress.*
- *Respect, and be respected, by other students and school staff.*
- *Take part in student activities and clubs for which they are permitted.*
It is the responsibility of the students to follow the rules of student activities and clubs. Students should cooperate and demonstrate school spirit.
- *Follow the school dress code.*
- *Be free from bullying, name calling, harassment and avoid engaging in such behavior. It is the responsibility of students to report this type of conduct to school staff.*

State law requires that records be kept of violations of these rules and regulations (both major and minor offenses) and that these records become part of the students' permanent record which follows the student from school to school.

Failure to follow these rules may result in consequences which could include remaining after school or even result in suspension. If a student is to be kept after school, you will be notified so that you can make arrangements to pick him or her up at the end of the detention period.

Of particular importance is the rule which applies to fighting or other forms of physical aggression. Such actions may require suspension, followed by a conference with you to discuss ways to prevent any future occurrences of the actions.

CAFETERIA CONDUCT

Students are required to use proper manners while eating, obey cafeteria rules and respect cafeteria monitors. The use of appropriate voice level is also expected. Cafeteria monitors are present in the cafeteria to assist our students with their lunchtime needs.

SCHOOL BUS RIDERS

Students who ride the school bus to and from school are expected to obey rules designated to promote school bus safety. Failure to obey the rules may result in the loss of the privilege to ride a bus. No recording devices, **including cell phones**, are allowed on the bus by students or unauthorized adults.

BULLYING/FIGHTS/PHYSICAL AGGRESSION

Bullying, fights or physical aggression will not be tolerated in school, on the playground, on the school bus or while walking to and from school. Students may be suspended and a copy of the suspension will be placed in a student's file. Please refer to the "Stop Bullying Now! Pledge" which is found in the student section of this handbook. Be sure to review it with your child.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Students' dress and appearance must be neat, safe and conducive to learning.

- All shoes must be properly laced or fastened.
- No hats, do-rags, bonnets, and/or headbands will be worn in the building.
- Girls and boys must wear shirts, T-shirts, etc. on the inside of skirts or pants for safety and security reasons.
- Girls and boys must wear belts to hold their pants up on their waist.
- No student will be allowed to wear pants hanging below the waist.
- All coats, jackets, hooded sweatshirts and book bags must be placed in the classroom closet.
- Students should bring a sweater to school because the climate in the classroom is controlled from a central location.

- Students should not wear clogs, flip flops, or strapless sandals.
- Girls must not wear short shorts or halter tops. All shorts for girls and boys should be no more than three inches over the knee.
- Girls may wear leggings; however, they must also wear a shirt/blouse that is long enough to cover all appropriate areas.
- No clothing of a questionable nature will be allowed (profanity, violence, gang related, drug-related images, etc.)

PARENT & VISITOR DRESS CODE

- Barack Obama Elementary School serves as a place of business, as well as a school. We all must model appropriate attire for the children.
- Gentlemen are requested to remove head coverings upon entering the building.
- Gentlemen are requested to wear pants at waist level.
- Ladies and gentlemen are asked not to wear sleep caps, do-rags or bonnets, pajama pants, low cut shirts, short shorts, etc.
- Ladies are encouraged to wear appropriate length tops to cover leggings.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

After school care is available at Barack Obama Elementary School through the City of Richmond Department of Parks and Recreation. Arrangements can be made by calling the City of Richmond Department of Parks and Recreation at 646-5733. The hours for the after-school care are 2:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

When you have a question or concern, please feel free to contact the appropriate person at the school. The following list of names and job titles may assist you. You may want to add your child's teacher and room number to this list.

Principal	Dr. Jacqueline Drye
Assistant Principal	Ms. Treena Leecost
Administrative Office Associate III	Ms. Tawana Gilyard
Administrative Office Associate II	Mrs. Cassandra Robinson
Nurse	Mrs. Sarah Howell
Counselor	Ms. She'ron Fields
Media Specialist	Ms. Carrie Bruner
My child's teacher	_____, Room # _____

BOES telephone number (804) 780-4879 and website: <https://boes.rvaschools.net/>

IMPORTANT DATES

End of Nine Weeks

1st Quarter ends – October 24, 2025
2nd Quarter ends - January 14, 2026
3rd Quarter ends – March 19, 2026
4th Quarter ends – May 29, 2026

Student Holidays

August 29 - September 1, 2025- Labor Day Weekend
October 2, 2025 - Yom Kippur
October 13, 2025 - Teacher Professional Learning Day
October 20, 2025 - Diwali
November 3, 2025 - Wellness Day
November 4, 2025 - Election Day

November 13, 2025 - **Caregiver/Parent Conference Day**
November 26 - 28, 2025 - Thanksgiving Break
December 22, 2025- January 2, 2026 - Winter Break
January 19, 2026- Martin Luther King Day
February 16, 2026- Wellness Day
February 17, 2026 - Teacher Professional Learning Day
March 19, 2026 – **Caregiver/Parent Conference Day**
March 20, 2026 - Eid-al-Fitr
March 30 - April 3, 2026- Spring Break
April 6, 2026 - Easter Monday
May 25, 2026 - Memorial Day
May 29, 2026 - Last Day of School

PARENT – TEACHER CONFERENCES

Barack Obama Elementary School will hold Caregiver/Parent Conferences. In order to make the conference more effective and informative, we would like to offer the following suggestions:

You may want to ask the teacher the following questions and share information about your child’s behavior at home:

- Does my child participate in class activities?
- Does my child show self-control in school situations?
- How does my child get along with other children?
- Does he or she relate well to the teacher and other adults?
- Does he or she enjoy reading during his or her spare time?
- Is his or her comprehension suitable to his or her grade level?
- How does my child read orally? Does he or she know the number facts?
- Can he or she express his or her thoughts clearly?
- How is his or her written communication?
- Does my child seem happy in school? Is he or she accepted by the other children?

Sharing information about your child with his/her teacher will enable us to provide a learning program that will best meet the needs of your child.

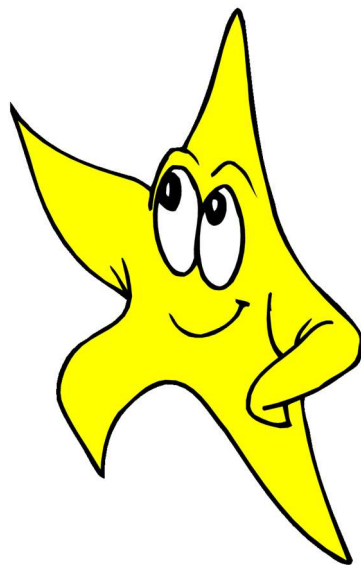


As always, we thank you for your cooperation and your support of Barack Obama Elementary School!

Remember, BOES cares about you and your family! Please let us know how we can help make your child's time at our school the most positive experience possible!

We LOVE you here!

**Just for the Stars
of
Barack Obama
Elementary School**



It's time to SHINE!

STUDENT HANDBOOK

2025-2026

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear BOES Stars,

I am super excited to welcome you to a new school year! This year we will all shine brighter because we are all here for the same reason - to help you be the best you can be! Your parents, the teachers and all the adults in the building are working together for you! You are the reason we do what we do! You are the most important people in this school! Our students are the priority and that means you are important!

The Stars of Barack Obama Elementary School are the smartest kids I know. My goal for you this year is that you get even smarter and discover that you have talents and skills you didn't even know you had! This is going to be your year. Are you ready?

Our theme this year is "Shine Like the Star You Are". I can't wait to see how you light up the world!

Sincerely,

Dr. Jacqueline Drye

Principal



DAILY AFFIRMATION FOR STUDENTS

SPECIAL CHILD

I am a special child.

I am a good and wonderful student.

When I laugh, I make people happy.

When I smile, I light up the room.

I am smart and can do many things.

One day, I'll show the world.

How GREAT I am!



SCHOOL PRIDE

MOTTOS AND SAYINGS

“Home of the Stars”

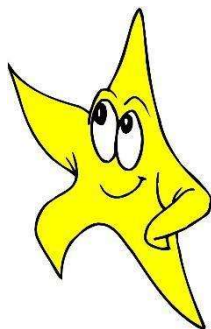
“Shine Like the Star You Are!”

COLORS

Blue and White

MASCOT

The Star



BUILDING EXPECTATIONS

Let's try to keep our school safe, orderly and attractive by doing the following:

1. Do not open the doors for anyone without permission.
2. Walk to the right at all times. If you run, you might injure yourself or someone else. Running is not permitted in the building at any time.
3. Speak softly so that you do not disturb other classes.
4. Keep bulletin board displays neat and attractive.
5. Use trash cans for all litter.
6. Keep the bathrooms neat and clean.
7. Use bathroom supplies with care.



SCHOOL BUS EXPECTATIONS

Students who ride the school bus to and from school are expected to obey rules designated to promote school bus safety. Failure to obey the rules may result in the loss of the privilege of riding the school bus. School buses are used to transport you to different places. In order for the driver to carry and bring you back to school safely you must adhere to the following:

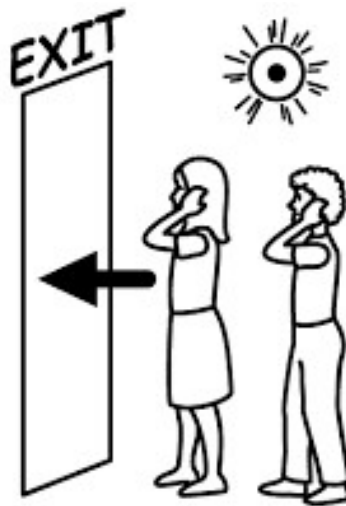
1. Always listen to and obey the driver.
2. Always stay in your seat.
3. Do not put your arms or head out of the window.
4. Do not open the window without permission.
5. Do not engage in fighting at any time.
6. Do not yell or scream on the bus.
7. Do not throw objects on the bus.
8. Your parents must give written notification to the teacher and the office on any day that you will not be riding the bus.



FIRE DRILL EXPECTATIONS

Fire Drills are serious practices of what to do in case of fire.

1. Learn the FIRE DRILL SIGNAL. Anytime you hear the fire drill bell it means we have to leave the building immediately.
2. With assistance from the teacher, always leave the building in a quiet, orderly manner as quickly as possible. Do not run, push or talk. Walk in a single-file line.
3. If you are not in your room and there is a FIRE DRILL, use the EXIT closest to you and leave the building. Once you get outside, go to the nearest teacher.



CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Upon entering your classroom, always speak to your teacher.
2. Be courteous to your classmates.
3. Keep unkind words, hands, feet and other objects to yourself.
4. Work quietly and stay on task.
5. Always raise your hand to speak and wait to be called upon by your teacher.
6. Always follow directions the first time given by the teacher or any other adult.
7. Complete work neatly and on time.
8. Always enter and exit the classroom quietly.
9. Line up quickly and quietly.
10. Make a quiet transition from one activity to another.
11. Clean up after each activity.
12. Keep your desk and work area neat and free of trash.

CITIZENSHIP EXPECTATIONS

1. Obey all school and classroom rules.
2. Exhibit good study habits.
3. Complete homework and classroom assignments.
4. Have regular and punctual attendance.
5. Work and play well with others.
6. Respect the rights and property of others.
7. Show respect towards teachers and other authority figures.
8. Show responsibility in caring for instructional materials and supplies.

CAFETERIA EXPECTATIONS

1. Enter the restaurant orderly and stand in line quietly.
2. While waiting in line to be served, keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
3. Speak to the restaurant staff and be courteous to each member.
4. Get all utensils as you go through the line.
5. Give your lunch code to the cashier.
6. Speak in soft voices.
7. Do not throw food at each other or on the floor.
8. Obey the restaurant monitors.
9. Use good table manners.
10. Check the table and floor of the area where you are sitting to make sure it is clean before you leave.
11. Place trash in the trash can.
12. Walk and do not run in the restaurant.
13. Wait in your line quietly for your teacher.
14. Follow directions the first time they are given.
15. **Do not share food** with other students.
16. Chew your food carefully
17. Quickly get an adult if you see someone choking.



ASSEMBLY EXPECTATIONS

1. Enter the auditorium quietly and orderly.
2. Sit up straight in your seat and wait quietly for the program to begin
3. Stay seated throughout the entire program.
4. Give full attention to the speaker or to the performance.
5. Applaud politely to show appreciation of a program (clap hands).
6. Whistling or booing will not be permitted.
7. Exit the auditorium quietly without talking, pushing or shoving.

RESTROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. The restrooms are to be used only for taking care of your personal needs.
2. Be considerate and respect the privacy of others.
3. Place all trash and paper towels in the trash can; never on the walls, floors, toilets or in the sinks.
4. There should be no loitering or playing in the restrooms.
5. Always flush the toilet after use.
6. Wash hands before exiting the restrooms.
7. Always use bathroom equipment properly.
8. Never damage school property.



HALLWAY EXPECTATIONS

Remembering to be quiet will help others who are in their classroom learning.

1. Follow the directions given by adults and safety patrols the first time.
2. Always walk quietly, on the right side of the hallway.
3. Always keep enough space between you and the walls to avoid damaging displays on the walls.
4. Put litter in a trash can. Do not drop paper and other trash on the floor.
5. Do not run in the school building.

SAFETY PATROL

The Safety Patrol is an organization of the school which consists of third, fourth and fifth graders.

The duties of the Safety Patrol include:

- Assisting with the monitoring of students
- Assisting teachers on tours, etc.
- Assisting as monitors or guides for special events.
- Helping to enforce school rules.



PLAYGROUND EXPECTATIONS

Students must share and take turns playing a game so that everyone can have an enjoyable time.

1. Always practice safety rules.
2. Respect the rights of others.
3. Be a good sport.
4. Balls are not to be bounced against the school building.
5. Rocks and sticks are **NEVER** to be thrown.
6. Tackling games and activities are not allowed.
7. In case of an emergency or accident, be sure to report it to the teacher on the playground immediately.



EXPECTATIONS FOR INTERACTING WITH VISITORS

All visitors must report directly to the office when entering the building. Students, please remember the following:

1. Never open the school doors for anyone without permission from an adult working in the building.
2. If you see any strangers in the hall and they do not have a badge or a visitor's pass, report this to your teacher or the office at once.
3. Show visitors your best behavior and continue with your scheduled activity.
4. Speak to all visitors in a courteous manner.
5. Assist visitors with directions to the office only.

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD

The school crossing guard helps students to know when it is safe to cross the street. Please remember the following:

1. Follow the directions of the school crossing guard.
2. Always walk to the corner where the crossing guard is to cross the street.
3. Always be sure to look left, then right and left again before crossing where the school crossing guard is located.
4. Always thank the crossing guard for helping you to cross safely.
5. Do not cross in the middle of the street to get into your parent's or anyone's vehicle. **Walk to the corner.**

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found articles are brought to the office. Students should check each day if something is lost. Parents should mark all clothing with the student's name on the items. Lost and found articles left longer than nine weeks will be donated to charity.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are passed out four times a year. The report shows the grades you earned for all subjects. Your report card shows your strengths, as well as areas in which you can improve. Parents must sign where indicated and return your report card to your teacher the next day.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be assigned to you by your teacher. You may or may not have homework each night, but be sure to do your homework when it is assigned. It will help you review work done in the classroom or prepare you for a new skill. It will let your parents know what you are working on in school. Even though you may not have a homework assignment, you should read during study time. Remember to always do your homework so that you will not receive a zero (0) for not doing your assignment. Doing your homework will increase your achievement and is a vital means of supplementing, reinforcing, and enriching the formal instructional program.

AWARDS

Awards are presented to students at the end of each nine weeks for perfect attendance, scholar roll, honor roll and citizenship. Additional awards in other areas may be presented at other times during the school year and at the year-end awards ceremonies. All students can earn awards. Work hard and do your best every day!



SCA

The Student Council Association is an organization of elected students that meet on a regular basis to serve the needs of the student body.

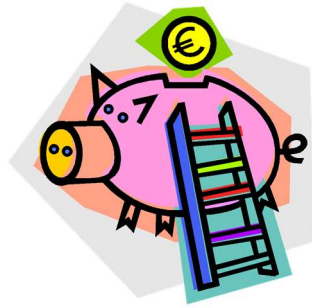
1. The Student Council promotes school spirit and pride.
2. The Student Council encourages learning experiences for everyone.
3. The Student Council participates in community service projects.
4. The Student Council helps make school rules.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are planned to give you an extension of your learning experiences. Your behavior on trips must reflect the kind of student that we expect to represent Barack Obama Elementary School.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

It is your responsibility to leave large sums of money at home with your parents. Please don't bring money or other things of value to school. We will be sad if things go missing, but we are not responsible when things get lost.



PROGRAMS THAT ENHANCE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

- Band
- Orchestra
- Choir
- Art Education
- Harp
- Spelling Bee
- Science Fair
- History Fair
- Pen pals
- Garden Club
- SCA
- Gifted Program
- Physical Health Education
- Library Assistants
- Book Buddies
- Book Club
- Run Club

STOP BULLYING NOW! PLEDGE

*I believe that everyone has a right to be who he or she is
without being bullied or made fun of.*

I will be respectful of others and their feelings.

I will not bully or tease others.

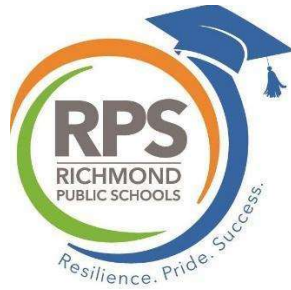
I will reach out to others who are being bullied.

*If I see someone bullying, I will go
and tell an adult.*

*I am a shining star of Barack Obama Elementary School.
At this school, we do not bully!*

Student's Signature





In accordance with federal laws, the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the policies of the School Board of the City of Richmond, Richmond Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, disabilities, or national origin in the provision of employment and services. Richmond Public Schools operates equal opportunity and affirmative action programs for students and staff. Richmond Public Schools is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. The Title IX Officer is Mrs. Angela C. Lewis, Clerk of the School Board, 301 N. 9th St. Richmond, VA 23219-1927, (804) 780-7716. The Section 504 Coordinator is Dr. Michelle Boyd, Director of Exceptional Education and Student Services, 301 N. 9th St., Richmond, VA, 23219-1927, (804) 780-7911. You can contact the ADA Coordinator located at 2015 Seddon Way, Richmond, VA 23230-4117, (804) 780-6211. The United States Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights may also be contacted at P. O. Box 14620, Washington, DC 20044-4620, (202) 208-2545.

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