

Carver Elementary School



Student Handbook 2025-2026

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CARVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Home of the Cougars

Identity Statement

As a quality neighborhood school in D11, the Carver community is supportive and safe as staff, parents, and students are valued and involved in creating engaging, intentional learning experiences that are responsive to student needs and results in a place where everyone wants to be.

Focus Areas

Engaging, intentional learning experiences

Supportive and safe environment

Teachers, parents, and students are valued and involved

4740 Artistic Circle

Colorado Springs, CO 80917

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

School (Student) Hours: 7:50 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.

Office: 328-7100

Attendance: 328-7103 Fax:

596-3614

Carver Elementary School Colorado Springs (website)

George Washington Carver Elementary (Facebook)

Carver (@carver_elementary_d11) • Instagram photos and videos



Our Vision

We envision an inclusive environment where students thrive through active engagement and the support of connected families, staff, and community partners.



Our Mission

We enhance educational outcomes by building connections where families, staff, and community partners are empowered to support student success.



Objective

Our objective is to foster Student and Educator Engagement, Student Wellness and Sense of Belonging, and Strong Community Connections.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to George Washington Carver Elementary School! We are proud of our school and hope you will share in that pride. This handbook is designed to familiarize students and parents with some of our programs, policies, and procedures at Carver. We ask that you read and review the information, discuss it with your children, and save it for future reference. We can have a successful year when we can operate with a common understanding of school procedures and policies.

Carver Guiding Principles

At Carver Elementary School, our guiding principles serve as the foundation for mutual understanding and shared responsibility in achieving our collective vision of excellence. These four cornerstones define who we are and what we strive to become.

Academic Excellence: We are committed to meeting the unique learning needs of every student through high expectations, purposeful instruction, and rich learning experiences. Our students take ownership of their learning and are held accountable for their growth and success. At Carver, pride in achievement and a love of learning are celebrated and nurtured every day.

Professional Excellence: Our educators embody professionalism through continuous learning, expert practice, and unwavering integrity. We honor and share our knowledge, passion, and respect for one another, ensuring that students benefit from the most effective teaching strategies in a safe, supportive environment.

Positive Social and Emotional Climate: We foster a culture of respect, responsibility, fairness, and safety where every individual is valued. By developing social-emotional skills and cultivating strong character, we empower students to build self-confidence and resilience. This supportive climate promotes trust, collaboration, and a strong sense of belonging across our school community.

Community Partnership: We thrive through strong, transparent relationships among staff, students, families, and the broader community. Through open communication and diverse opportunities for involvement, we enrich the educational experience and strengthen the bonds that make Carver a vibrant and inclusive place for all. The spirit of volunteerism and community support is integral to our success.

Our Commitment

The staff of Carver Elementary School pledges to:

- Believe in every student's potential to succeed.
- Provide a safe, engaging, and collaborative learning environment.
- Promote high levels of academic achievement and social-emotional growth.
- Foster a culture of trust, respect, and teamwork that puts student needs first.
- Support one another in maintaining balance and well-being.
- Engage all stakeholders—including students, staff, families, and our district—to build a truly *highly effective school*.

School Effectiveness Improvement Planning

Preparing Carver for Success

At Carver Elementary, we are proud of the progress we've made—but we are always striving to do better. This section outlines how we're working to ensure every child thrives academically, socially, and emotionally.

Academic Focus

Carver has seen improvement in student achievement and growth. To keep moving forward, we are focused on:

- **Challenging instruction** that engages students at all levels
- **Daily WIN (What I Need) time**—25 minutes dedicated to supporting students in reading and math based on their individual needs
- **Using classroom data** to identify learning gaps and provide targeted support
- **Professional development** for teachers on selecting the best, research-based strategies and interventions

We are committed to giving every child the tools they need to succeed through high-quality instruction and personalized support.

Positive Behavior & Social-Emotional Learning

We believe that a safe and caring environment is key to learning. To support positive behavior and emotional well-being, Carver has:

- Adopted **Capturing Kids' Hearts**, which focuses on relationship-building and respectful communication
- Continue **Random Acts of Kindness** lessons to build character and kindness
- Seen a **drop in office referrals and dysregulated behavior**
- Trained staff on how age and development impact learning and behavior
- Prepared to continue the use of Capturing Kids' Hearts, including classroom **Social Contracts** to help students take ownership of their actions

Family & Community Partnerships

We know that students do best when schools and families work together. According to the **5Essentials Parent Survey**, families feel more connected to the school, and trust between parents and teachers has grown.

We will continue to:

- Strengthen home-school communication
- Provide more opportunities for family involvement
- Promote a sense of **safety, belonging, and hope** for every student

Together, we're building a stronger Carver community where students feel supported, challenged, and inspired to do their best.

Where Are We Headed?

At Carver Elementary, we believe every child can become a **lifelong learner** and a **confident, productive member of society**. To support this vision, we are committed to creating a safe, supportive, and engaging academic community where all students can thrive.

We are focusing on two major improvement strategies to guide our progress and ensure success for every student:

Major Improvement Strategy #1: Coaching & Feedback to Empower Learning

We are working to build a learning environment where students take ownership of their learning and are actively engaged every day. By implementing **coaching and feedback cycles**, we aim to:

- Increase **student agency** (students taking an active role in their learning)
- Improve **student engagement** in daily classroom activities
- Enhance **teaching effectiveness** through targeted support
- Support **academic growth and achievement** across all grade levels

This strategy empowers both students and teachers to reflect, grow, and succeed together.

Major Improvement Strategy #2: Strengthening MTSS Systems

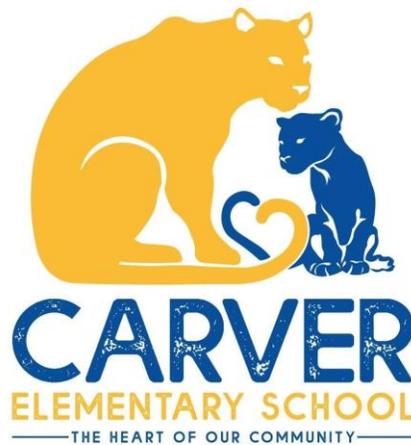
We are also committed to strengthening our **Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)**—a schoolwide approach to supporting the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs of all students. This includes:

- Providing **personalized interventions and supports** for students
- Increasing **family engagement and collaboration**
- Improving **student attendance, behavior, and academic outcomes**

- Ensuring every student has a **sense of purpose, belonging, and support**

Our goal is to become a **Performance School**, where every student feels connected, capable, and confident in their ability to learn and grow.

By focusing on these strategies, Carver Elementary continues its journey toward excellence—one where every child is challenged, supported, and inspired to succeed.



SCHOOL HOURS

Student hours are:

7:50 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.

Grades: K-5

Children should not arrive at school before 7:30 a.m., as there is no supervision before that time. All students will enter the gym and have the opportunity to eat breakfast. Students will proceed to their classroom at 7:50 AM. Breakfast is served from 7:30-8:00 AM only. After-school supervision ends at 3:00 p.m. For the safety of your children, it is necessary that they are either picked up or have left the campus and are on their way home by 3:00 PM. Any student not picked up by 3:00 p.m. will be brought into the office and parents/guardians will need to sign their child out in the office.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

George Washington Carver Elementary School provides instruction for grades Kindergarten through 5th grade. The elementary school curriculum promotes skill development in core academic areas of reading, writing, math, science, and social studies, as well as social emotional lessons. The academic curriculum is supplemented by music, physical education, technology, and art. Strings and band instrument instruction are an option for students in fourth and fifth grades. Students also go on field

trips. Special education classes, English language learners' classes, and gifted and talented classes add to the educational programs and are available for eligible students.

TEXTBOOK AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Textbooks and school supplies are supplied by the school district. We do not require a deposit for books, but the students are responsible for maintaining the condition of the books. In the event the books are damaged beyond reasonable use, or lost, parents/guardians will be charged a full replacement price.

KISS AND DROP

Morning: Students should be ready with their backpack and supplies. Your child should only open the door once the car has come to a complete stop. Please follow the directions of the staff on duty. Please have your child exit from the PASSENGER side of the car.

Afternoon: The bell rings at 2:50 p.m. Please be patient while you are in line as our staff is working to keep students safe and move everyone along as quickly as possible. You may park your vehicle in a parking space and come pick up your child from the sidewalk using the crosswalk.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

If you have questions about your child's progress at any time, please contact your child's teacher to set up an appointment for a conference. Parent-teacher conferences provide an opportunity to discuss your child's progress and are held in October and as needed. Assigning "grades" to student work is one form of communication to parents and the student. Grades do not reflect a child's ability to learn, they do aid in alerting both parents and teachers that adjustments may need to be made. Report cards are distributed quarterly. We have programs in place that allow the teachers to understand each child's need and offer after-school tutoring, if it is needed, on Tuesday and Thursdays from 2:55-3:55 PM.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parents are responsible for keeping address, contact phone numbers, emergency contact information, and place of employment current at school. It is very important that the school has accurate and up to date phone numbers. **All students must have at least two current emergency contact numbers on file at all times.**

COMMUNICATION

Communication is essential for families and Carver Elementary to partner in your child's education. Some guidelines for successful communication are:

- ❖ If you have a concern about your child and/or school, please let us know. **Please contact the person most directly involved with the issue first.** If your child is having a learning or social problem, talk to their teacher first. This is the person most familiar with your child.
- ❖ Please make an appointment to see the person involved. When making the appointment, state the nature of your concerns. This will allow the person to have any necessary materials on hand and save you unnecessary delays.
- ❖ Please contact the principal when you have a general school concern or if you need further resolution.

School website

Information on the Carver website is updated regularly. The Carver web address is: [Carver Elementary School Colorado Springs](#)



[George Washington Carver Elementary](#)



[carver_elementary_d11](#)

CLASSROOM COMMUNICATION

Our teachers will have their own means of communicating with parents about school events, homework, behavior concerns, attendance concerns, etc. Please check your child's backpack for any communications from the school daily or as instructed by the classroom teacher. Teachers will send home all classwork and notes on **THURSDAYS**. Please review the folder each Thursday and return to school by Monday.

CHECKOUT PROCEDURES

If a student must leave during school hours, a parent/guardian must check the child out through the office. ***The person signing a child out must be a parent/guardian or listed as an emergency contact. ID will be required.*** Taking a child out of school prior to the scheduled dismissal time, before weekends, and holidays is highly discouraged. Students will not be called to the office until the parent/guardian arrives in the office to sign them out. Please do not pick up your student between 2:30-2:50 PM, as it is near dismissal. Please do not request that your child be dismissed before 2:50 p.m. unless necessary.

ACCIDENTS or ILLNESS

In case of serious injury or illness of a student at school, the parent/guardian home or work number will be called. If you cannot be reached, the person listed on the emergency contact list will be contacted. In an emergency, 911 will be called. It is important that emergency information is up to date, current information increases response time when a child needs medical or parental attention.

If a child is sent to the nurse's office feeling ill and/or with a temperature of 100.4 or higher, the parents/guardian will be contacted to pick their child up from school.

ATTENDANCE (Board Policy JHB)

Attendance

Students who are on campus and in their classrooms at the time attendance is taken must have their official attendance conducted and completed by the classroom teacher. Attendance is to be taken daily using the current attendance system.

Teachers are responsible for maintaining accurate attendance records. Attendance needs to be completed by 8:00 AM. **NO EXCEPTIONS**. A student must be present at 12 PM to be counted present for the entire day. If a student is absent at 12:00 PM the student is absent the entire day. Students who have a doctor's note are excused.

One criterion of a student's success in school is regular and punctual attendance. Every child is urged to form excellent habits regarding attendance and promptness. Frequent absences may lead to poor academic work, lack of social development and possible academic failure. Regular attendance is of utmost importance for school interest, social adjustment, and scholastic achievement. No single factor may interfere with a student's progress more quickly than frequent tardiness or absence.

According to state law, it is the obligation of every parent/guardian to ensure that every child under their care and supervision receives adequate education and training, and it includes the compulsory attendance age (6–17 years old), and attends school.

Continuity in the learning process and social adaptation is disrupted by excessive absences, tardiness, and early pick-ups. In most situations, the work missed cannot be made up adequately. Students who have good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more. When a teacher has concerns about excessive absences, they will contact the family and if absences persist, they will refer the concern to an administrator to follow-up with the student and parent.

Tardiness has the same impact as an absence. It is defined as a loss of instructional time. The start bell rings at 7:50 a.m. and students are to line up with their class in the gym to await dismissal to their classroom. After 7:50 a.m., tardy students will need to be escorted into the office by an adult and signed in.

If a student walks to school and is tardy, we will call a parent/guardian to let them know that they were tardy.

If your child will be absent, please call before 9:00 a.m. to notify the school on the day affected. The Carver attendance number is **328-7111**.

The following reasons for being absent from school are considered excused absences by state law:

- ❖ Temporary personal illness, injury, appointment with a medical doctor
- ❖ Death in the immediate family
- ❖ Required court appearance
- ❖ An absence approved by the principal

Unexcused absences are any absences not listed. The maximum number of unexcused absences a student may incur before judicial proceedings are initiated to enforce compulsory attendance is 4 days in a month or 10 in a school year.

Steps to follow when your child is absent:

- ❖ Call the attendance line by 9:00 a.m. on the day your child is going to be absent. Please do not send a note to notify the school of an absence.
- ❖ A doctor's statement may be required for an extended illness.
- ❖ We encourage you to make appointments before/after school hours, school breaks or days off as this will not count against your child's attendance.
- ❖ **Teachers will need a 48-hour notice to prepare take-home work for an extended absence.**

HOMEWORK

At times, homework assignments are given by the teacher. Homework includes:

- ❖ Unfinished class work
- ❖ Drill on basic skills
- ❖ Recreational or assigned reading

- ❖ Work on a special project
- ❖ Prescriptive assignments for special help
- ❖ DAILY 20 minutes of reading and math fact practice

Parents can help by showing interest in their student's work (but should not do it for them), encouraging children to complete the work, providing a suitable study environment, keeping a positive attitude, and avoiding undue pressure. When a student is absent, parents may request classwork. The classwork will need to be requested by 10:00 a.m. in order to be ready for pick-up by the end of that school day.

STUDENT/PARENT CONDUCT

Carver's students contribute to personal success and the success of the school when they:

- ❖ Accept responsibility for their education, decisions, and actions.
- ❖ Act in a way that best represents the school, parents, community, and self to promote a safe, healthy environment.
- ❖ Are active in the school and community.
- ❖ Support fellow students and their activities.
- ❖ Respect cultural diversity, individuality, and the choices and rights of others.

Carver's parents contribute to the success of their students by fulfilling the following commitments:

- ❖ Establish high expectations for our students.
- ❖ Communicate with teachers and know what is expected of our students.
- ❖ Insist on good attendance.
- ❖ Insist that our students accept responsibility for learning and conduct.

POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION and SUPPORTS (PBIS)

Carver Elementary participates in a program through the Colorado Department of Education called PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports). The primary purpose of the Colorado school-wide PBIS initiative is to "establish and maintain safe and effective school environments that maximize the academic achievement and behavioral competence of all learners in Colorado."

We are a PBIS (Positive Behavior and Support School) and we will continue to practice our School Wide PAW expectations.

P- I am Prepared

A-I have a great Attitude

W-I Work hard

S-I am Safe

Carver Elementary is also a Capturing Kids Hearts school and character lessons are taught during the school day. Each classroom has a social contract and utilizes the four questions as needed. What are you doing? What are you supposed to be doing? Are you doing it? What is going to happen if I have to ask you again?

Behavior Interventions

To support the classroom expectations throughout the school, and to maintain consistency in our expectations, serious misbehavior (listed below) or chronic misbehavior (misbehavior is repeated three or more times) will be referred to administration for further action.

Corrective measures may include but are not limited to the following:

- ❖ Teacher-student conference
- ❖ Time-out in the classroom or office
- ❖ Communication with parents via note, telephone, or conference
- ❖ Referral to the counselor
- ❖ Office referral to the principal
- ❖ Remedial Behavior Plan
- ❖ Suspension
- ❖ Expulsion

Serious Offenses (Student may be suspended or recommended for expulsion):

Behaviors listed below require immediate action:

- ❖ Fighting or deliberately trying to harm others
- ❖ Throwing an object which may cause harm to other
- ❖ Persistent defiance of authority – not complying with reasonable requests after several attempts at redirection
- ❖ Using disrespectful and/or abusive language and/or gestures
- ❖ Bullying behaviors
- ❖ Sexual, racial, and/or verbal harassment
- ❖ Cheating/stealing
- ❖ Possession of a weapon or an instrument used as a weapon
- ❖ Possession of a harmful substance (drugs, alcohol)
- ❖ Willful destruction or defacing of school property
- ❖ Smoking on school grounds

is it BULLYING?

When someone says or does something
unintentionally hurtful
and they do it once, that's
RUDE.

When someone says or does something
intentionally hurtful
and they do it once, that's
MEAN.

When someone says or does something
intentionally hurtful and they *keep doing it*-
even when you tell them to stop or show
them that you're upset—that's
BULLYING.

MULTI TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT (MTSS)

MTSS is an instructional framework that promotes a well-integrated system connecting general, gifted, and special education in providing high quality, standards-based instruction and intervention that is matched to students' academic, social-emotional, and behavioral needs. MTSS uses screening, problem solving, progress monitoring, evaluation, and targeted and intensive individualized supports that are based on data and incorporate evidence-based instructional and behavioral support strategies.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is recognized as a form of sex discrimination and thus a violation of the laws, which prohibit sex discrimination. For further information refer to the District Eleven Student Conduct and Discipline Code Policy ACAA.

DRESS CODE

The Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education (the Board) is committed to creating a learning environment that is safe, conducive to high student achievement, free from unnecessary disruption and gang activity or influence. The Board believes that the way students dress, accessorize and groom themselves affects the learning environment. By their acceptable appearance (which includes dress, accessories and other body adornments, and grooming), students help create an

environment that is conducive to their own, as well as all students' learning. Students' appearance, therefore, clearly has a direct and indirect influence on school discipline, academic achievement, and student success.

During school hours students' appearance shall be acceptable for the classroom and reinforce a positive learning environment. In addition, students' appearance at school-related functions including, but not limited to, special occasions and activities under the jurisdiction of the school, shall be acceptable for these occasions, regardless of where or when such occasions or activities occur. Clothing for school or school functions is hereinafter referred to as school attire.

Dress code policies are established to promote uniformity of dress and to define and prohibit students from wearing apparel that is deemed disruptive to the learning environment or to the maintenance of a safe and orderly school. Student appearance is expected to be acceptable for a K-12 educational environment.

Any clothing accessories or body adornments that interfere with or disrupt the educational environment are unacceptable. Parents/guardians of students requiring accommodation for religious beliefs, disability, or other good cause should contact the principal.

- 1) Clothing should be worn as designed and should cover private parts of the body. Clothing that inappropriately bares or exposes private parts of a body, including but not limited to the stomach, areas above mid-thigh, back, etc. is unacceptable school attire.
- 2) Clothes, paraphernalia, jewelry, or body adornment that contain advertisements, symbols, words, slogans, patches, or pictures that are obscene, profane, promote hate, inappropriate, or are disruptive or potentially disruptive to the learning environment are unacceptable school attire.
- 3) Ill-fitting clothing (i.e. clothing that is too tight or too loose) is unacceptable for school attire.
- 4) Clothing must cover undergarments. Clothing that is worn in such a manner as to expose undergarments is unacceptable for school.
- 5) Cut-off t-shirts, half shirts, midriffs, tops with spaghetti straps, tube tops, see through or revealing tops are unacceptable school attire.
- 6) Pants or shorts that are in the mid-thigh range or longer where the waistband rises to at least the hips are acceptable school attire.
- 7) Skirts or dresses that are mid-thigh or longer where the waistband rises to at least the hips are acceptable school attire.
- 8) Acceptable footwear is required to be always worn. Bedroom slippers are considered unacceptable school attire.
- 9) Items considered sleepwear or lounge pants are considered unacceptable school attire.
- 10) Sunglasses and hats are unacceptable school attire, unless being worn for protection from sun and approved by a teacher or administrator to be worn during and outside school activity.

All students are required to dress appropriately for physical education. The appropriate attire includes tennis shoes and socks, shirts, and shorts/pants that students can freely move around without restriction or revealing private body parts.

Any students who come to school without proper attention having been given to their appearance, which includes cleanliness, in violation of this policy may be asked to cover the non-complying clothing, disciplined, sent

home to be properly prepared for school, and required to prepare himself or herself for the classroom before reentering school. Students who violate this policy in a continuing or flagrant manner may also be recommended for suspension and/or expulsion.

A Principal or her/his designee may authorize exceptions from the above dress restrictions for specially designated days, health reasons, or for school-sponsored activities.

Should you have a concern about any matter related to student dress and attire, please contact the principal.

SAFETY PROCEDURES

Schools are required to practice quarterly drills during the school year. Staff and students practice different drills including Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter. Fire drills are also practiced once a month. In the event of an Off-site Evacuation, staff and students would evacuate to Holy Apostles Catholic Church located on the corner of Oro Blanco and North Carefree.

In the event of a true emergency, it is in the best interest of parents and guardians not to call or come to the school. Parents and guardians should wait until they receive further information from the proper authorities or school/district administration.

EMERGENCY DRILLS (Fire/Shelter/Lock Down)

The safety of your child is our greatest concern. Carver has emergency plans for fires, weather, and suspicious/dangerous persons. We will be watchful and vigorous in our efforts to provide a safe learning environment for our students.

Fire Drills – Fire drills are conducted monthly. When the alarm is sounded, students exit the building in a quiet and orderly fashion.

Shelter Drills – Shelter drills are scheduled and conducted four times per year. Students practice moving to their assigned area and kneel with their heads covered.

Hold and Secure – Hold and Secure drills are scheduled and conducted four times per year. Teachers will guide students through the practice.

Lock Down – Appropriate authorities will be contacted during a dangerous situation. Staff members will receive directions on how to proceed. The school will be “locked down” until the situation is resolved. If, as a member of the community, you become aware that a situation is developing in the neighborhood, please contact Carver at 328-7100, to alert the school of the situation.

IN AN EMERGENCY TAKE ACTION



HOLD! In your room or area. Clear the halls.

STUDENTS

Clear the hallways and remain in room or area until the "All Clear" is announced
Do business as usual

ADULTS

Close and lock door
Account for students and adults
Do business as usual



SECURE!

Get inside. Lock outside doors.

STUDENTS

Return to inside of building
Do business as usual

ADULTS

Bring everyone indoors
Lock outside doors
Increase situational awareness
Account for students and adults
Do business as usual



LOCKDOWN! Locks, lights, out of sight.

STUDENTS

Move away from sight
Maintain silence
Do not open the door

ADULTS

Recover students from hallway if possible
Lock the classroom door
Turn out the lights
Move away from sight
Maintain silence
Do not open the door
Prepare to evade or defend



EVACUATE! (A location may be specified)

STUDENTS

Leave stuff behind if required to
If possible, bring your phone
Follow instructions

ADULTS

Lead students to Evacuation location
Account for students and adults
Notify if missing, extra or injured students or adults



SHELTER! Hazard and safety strategy.

STUDENTS

Use appropriate safety strategy for the hazard

ADULTS

Lead safety strategy
Account for students and adults
Notify if missing, extra or injured students or adults

Hazard

Tornado
Hazmat
Earthquake
Tsunami

Safety Strategy

Evacuate to shelter area
Seal the room
Drop, cover and hold
Get to high ground

OUTDOOR RECESS/PLAYGROUND SAFETY

Recess is scheduled as part of the regular school day. This time serves as a break for students. A signed note from the parent explaining the reasoning is required for students to stay inside. A doctor's note will be required of any child staying in for an extended period. Please specify the number of days your child is required to stay inside during recess.

- ❖ Students must use equipment as it was intended to be used.
- ❖ Students are not to bring personal toys/equipment from home.
- ❖ Basic courtesy and friendly behavior are expected.
- ❖ "Is it safe?" is the governing rule on the playground.
- ❖ Activities **prohibited** due to safety reasons are:
 - Fighting, either "play" or "real"
 - Tag
 - Throwing objects other than balls, including sand, rocks, ice, and snowballs
 - Leaving the designated playground area
 - Unsafe use of playground equipment, such as swinging side to side or on stomach, jumping off swings or spinning, sliding on stomach, or sliding backwards
 - Rough play: Such as pushing, shoving, tackling, pulling on clothing or horseplay
 - Sliding on ice or snow
 - Letting go of bars to hang upside down (two hands on bars for safety)
- ❖ Areas that are off limits for recess are Carver Park playground, softball diamond, cement basketball court, and the area around the flagpole.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are designed to enhance our students' experiences and to extend the learning of the classroom. Our goal is two field trips, per grade, per school year.

A completed permission form from the parent is required for a child to attend school-sponsored field trips. Please return these forms as quickly as possible.

There is a student expectation of responsible behavior and courtesy throughout the trip. If students demonstrate unsafe or irresponsible behavior, in school, parents/guardians may be asked to attend a field trip to monitor their child so that we can ensure the safety of other students. If you accompany a class on a field trip as a chaperone, please note that younger siblings are not allowed to attend. Parents may not ride buses.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

A student may only participate in an after-school club, if the student has met all the requirements for the club. Other arrangements for siblings need to be made if they are not participating in an after-school activity. A permission slip must be signed before a student can participate. Please make sure your student has transportation arrangements made following the club dismissal time. If they are not picked up on time, they could lose the privilege to participate in the club. Students must follow school behavior guidelines while participating in a club. All clubs and tutoring end by 3:55 PM and must be picked up by 4:00 PM.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

On inclement weather days, District 11 may cancel school or have a two-hour delayed start. On some occasions, school may close early due to bad weather. You can find information about school closures by listening to major radio stations or by watching local TV stations. Information is also available on the district website: www.d11.org or Channel 881. Parents can also utilize the District website or D11 Communication. In the event of inclement weather, all Kiss and Drop students will report to the gym at the end of the school day. As parents drive up, a staff member will approach the car and inquire the names of the students that are being picked up. Students will then be called out of the gym, and proceed to the parent's car.

If there is a late start, before school activities will be canceled, including breakfast.

Also, please note that:

- ❖ Parents must complete and return an "Early Dismissal Plan" to the school for each child.
- ❖ Parents are responsible for updating these plans as family information and/or circumstances change.
- ❖ Parents are responsible for periodically reminding their children of early dismissal instructions.
- ❖ Students will eat lunch at school unless their "Early Dismissal Plan" says they are to leave before lunchtime.

INTERNET & DEVICES

Use of these education resources demands personal responsibility and an understanding of the acceptable procedures. Student use of the internet and devices is a privilege, not a right. General rules for behavior and communications apply while using them. Failure to follow the acceptable use procedures will result in the loss of the privilege to use these educational tools.

To view the AUA, go to

[District Technology Policy](#)

[Student Electronic Device Agreement](#)

[Media Opt Out Form](#)

BREAKFAST

Free breakfast will be served each morning in the cafeteria/gym from 7:30-7:50 AM. Breakfast is served after the bell rings until 8:00 AM. It is free and is offered to all students. Menus can be accessed on the District Website.

LUNCHES

School lunches are free this school year for all students. Children who do not eat a hot lunch may bring a sack lunch.

Families will still need to apply for free lunches by checking with the front office or online at [Free lunch application](#)

This will help with federal funding for the next school year.

SNACKS

Students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks to school each day that will be consumed during designated snack times in the classroom. Students are also encouraged to bring a water bottle to school that is filled with a clear liquid/water. **GUM** is not allowed at school.

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS

Parents/guardians are encouraged to visit the school frequently and actively participate in the education of their child. Carver has a visitor kiosk in the office that each visitor is required to sign into upon arrival and sign out before leaving. This ensures the safety of our students and allows us to know who is in the building at all times. We appreciate help from volunteers; if you have some time and would like to help by working with children or doing clerical work, you can register as a volunteer. Volunteer times must be prearranged, and you will need to check into the office when you enter the building. If you are not already registered as an approved volunteer through the district, you may apply as a D11 volunteer online at [Volunteer Registration](#) by clicking on the Volunteer Registration. **For the protection of the students, all visitors must report to the office and sign in and get a badge, before proceeding into the instructional area.**

LEGAL CUSTODY and VISITATION

Either legal parent will be allowed to visit at school unless legal documents stating otherwise are provided to the principal. Any questions regarding legal custody of students between parents should also be settled with appropriate legal documents.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The PTA involves parents, teachers, and staff interested in supporting school activities. The Carver PTA strives to benefit all our children by providing volunteer assistance and support/resources for instructional programs. Additionally, the PTA supports enrichment activities for students, organizes the school volunteer programs, and makes special purchases to enhance our facilities.

Specific meeting dates and times are published on the school website, the Carver Cougars Parent Newsletter and the Carver Facebook and Instagram page. All interested parents are encouraged to attend the meetings. Please consider donating your time and talent to our school by becoming active in the Carver PTA @ 4740 Artistic Cir. Colorado Springs, CO 80917.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Carver Elementary has a parent advisory committee made up of a representation of the school community including parents, teachers, and community members. The Accountability Committee:

- ❖ Represents the community point of view.
- ❖ Presents recommendations and/or advice to the school administration.
- ❖ Serves to facilitate communication between the community and the District.
- ❖ District 11 Accountability Committee, including the school's Unified School Improvement Plan (USIP).
- ❖ Makes recommendations to the school principal regarding priorities for school budget.

TELEPHONE USE

The school telephones are intended for business calls and parent/teacher communications. Student use is limited to emergency situations only, and students must receive permission from the teacher/office staff to use the phone. Please make sure your child has their backpack, lunch box (if bringing a lunch), books, supplies, and has made after-school plans before leaving for school in the morning.

STUDENT CELL PHONES

The District Cell Phone Policy for all K-5 students is: Students **MUST** keep cell phones/smartwatches in their book bags.

Students must use the main office phone to contact parents. If student cell phones are in use during the school day, they will be confiscated and will be picked up by an administrator. For the first infraction, the office will give it back to the student. The second infraction, the phone must be picked up by a parent/guardian.

- **1st Offense**-Student phone stays in the office. The student can pick up their phone in the office after school.
- **2nd Offense**-Student phone stays in the office. Student can pick up their phone in the office after school and parent notification is made.
- **3rd Offense**-Student phone stays in the office. Parent must pick up the phone in the office.
- **4th Offense**- In school suspension (1 day) for repeated disobedience. Parent must pick up the phone in the office.
- **5th Offense**-In school suspension (2 days) for repeated disobedience. Parent must pick up the phone in the office.
- **6th Offense**-Out of school suspension(2 day minimum) for repeated policy infractions. Parent must pick up the phone in the office.

BICYCLES

A bike rack is available at the front of the school. Students must provide their own bike locks. As a safety precaution, bicycles, scooters, in-line skates and skateboards may not be ridden on school grounds during the school day and must be able to be locked up on the bike rack. These items will not be stored inside the school.

MEDICATION

If possible, medication should be given at home. If medications need to be given to a student during the school day, it is the policy of School District 11 that no medication is given in the schools without a signed D-11 Blue Medication Form. They are justified in some chronic health conditions or short-term acute health conditions. The medication must be brought to school by a parent/guardian in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or doctor. You may pick up a medication form in the office for your doctor to complete when the medication is prescribed on a long-term basis. You must deliver medications to the school and pick up any leftover medication at the end of the school year. Students are not allowed to have any form of medicine (Tylenol, cough drops, ointments, etc.) in their possession at school.

VALUABLES

All cell phones and devices that are not provided by the school need to be left at home, as well as personal toys and/or equipment. If an item of value is brought to school, the school will not be responsible if the item is lost, stolen, or damaged.

PETS

Please do not bring pets in and around the building. Many students and staff have allergies and having pets in or around the outside of the building causes concern for student safety.

LOST AND FOUND

A lost and found bin is in the front hallway. At the end of each quarter, unclaimed items are donated to charity. Valuables and small items will be locked in a secure place. Please label personal belongings, including coats, with your child's name.

Daily Recess Schedule

Kindergarten	9:25-9:35	10:30-10:50
First Grade	9:55-10:05	10:50-11:10
Second Grade	9:30-9:40	10:30-10:50
Fourth Grade	9:15-9:25	10:50-11:10
Fifth Grade	9:50-10:00	11:10-11:30
Third Grade	9:25-9:35	11:10-11:30

Daily Lunch Schedule

Kindergarten	10:50-11:10
First Grade	11:10-11:30
Second Grade	10:50-11:10
Third Grade	11:30-11:50
Fourth Grade	11:10-11:30
Fifth Grade	11:30-11:50



Colorado Springs District 11 2025-2026 Student Calendar



1st Semester 2025

July						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

7/4 Independence Day
District closed

8/12 First Day Jump Start
Grades: Kinder, 6th, 9th

9/1 Labor Day
District closed

10/1 Official Count Day
10/9 End Q1 (42 days)
10/10 No School
Teacher Work Day
10/13-10/17 School in Session
Evening P/T Conferences*
10/20-10/24 No School
Student Fall Break
10/20 PT Conferences*
10/21 Staff PD Day

11/10 No School
Staff PD Day
11/11 Veteran's Day
School in Session
11/24-11/28
Thanksgiving Break
District closed

12/19 End Q2 (40 days)
End of 1st Semester (82 days)
12/22-01/6 No School
Winter Break

172	Student Days
187	Teacher Days
6	Teacher Work Days
6	PD Days

8/13 First Day of School
1st -5th, 7th - 8th, 11th - 12th
Kinder, 6th, 9th - Second Day

High Schools will continue to have
Monday late starts in 2025-2026

10/22-10/24
School Staff Fall Break

2nd Semester 2026

January						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

12/22-01/6 No School
Winter Break

2/16 Presidents' Day
District closed

3/13 End Q3 (46 days)

4/23 School in Session
Evening P/T Conferences*
4/24 No School
1/2 Day Teacher Work Day
1/2 Day PT Conference*

5/22 Last Day of School
End of Q4 (44 days)
End of 2nd Semester (90 days)

Graduations:
TBD- will be updated as dates
are secured.

1/5 No School
Teacher Work Day

3/16 No School
Staff PD Day

*Note: Schools will communicate
specific conference dates and times
available within the noted windows
in October and April.

5/25 Memorial Day
District closed

1/6 No School
Staff PD Day

1/7 Students Return

1/19 Martin Luther King, Jr.
Day- District closed

Carver Elementary Staff

Certified	Last Name	First Name
Principal	Bizzell	Lisa
MTSS Coordinator	Fotheringham	Dr. Maxine "Jenni" D
Teaching Learning Coach	Gonzalez	Maria
Kindergarten	Currier	Chloe
Kindergarten	Lerdal	Melanie
First Grade	Sherman	Sydney
First Grade	Lawson	Alexandria
Second Grade	Corral-Ramos	Biridiana
Second Grade	Crain	Emily

Third Grade	O'Connell	Brettney
Fourth Grade	Smith	Mandy
Fourth Grade	Keiter	Krista
Fifth Grade		
Interventionist	McCumber	Tricia
0.5 Gifted and Talented	Valerio-Garcia	Irma
Library Technology Educator	Taylor	Samantha
Special Education Teacher	Kuenn	Rebecca
Special Education Teacher	Marris	Lissa
.5 Art Teacher	Reese	Jylian
.6 Music	Rosenbeck	Laura
Physical Education	Cutler	Mariel
ELL	Foster	Agnieszka
ELL	Moreno	Susana
Psych/SW/Counselor (SpEd)	Bone-Hartzler	Margaret
Counselor	Shrestha	Sasha
Speech Language Pathologist	Dukart	Jonette
.25 Orchestra	Bell	Raymond
.2 Band	Blake	Deborah
ESP	Last Name	First Name
Administrative Assistant	Guy	Dylan
Staff Assistant	Dawson	Kelly
Community Liaison	Gasper	Kellie
Kitchen Assistant	Pacheco	Char
Kitchen Manager	Behrman	Tina
Building Manager	Porter	Will
Night Tech Full Time	Ramos	Yovany
Kindergarten Aides	Candelario	Crystal
	Miller	Amanda
Special Education Aides		
	Sanderson	Tyra
	Cox	Katherine
	Eggerman	Caroline
Health Technician	Cardenas	Valerie
Crossing Guard/Lunch Monitor	Carbajal	Aaron