



GOSHEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2025 - 2026 STUDENT HANDBOOK

Principal – Victoria Byrka

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agenda Book/Planner.....	5
Attendance Procedures	3
Bookstore.....	3
Breakfast & Lunch.....	6
Carpool.....	4
Child Custody.....	3
Classroom Parties.....	6
Confidentiality	7
Counseling Services.....	8
Dress Code.....	5
Field Trips.....	5
Food Allergies.....	6
Gator Mail.....	3
Gifted & Talented Education.....	8
Health Services.....	7
Homework.....	5
Inspection and Review of Records.....	4
Library Media Center.....	8
Lost and found.....	7
Make-up Work.....	3
Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO).....	8
Parking.....	4
Philosophy.....	2
Physical Exams/Immunizations	4
Progress Reports & Conference.....	5
Safety Plans & Procedures	6
SBDM.....	9
School Property.....	7
Solicitation.....	4
Speech.....	8
Special Education.....	8
Student Accident Insurance.....	5
Student Extra Curricular Activities.....	6
SWAMP.....	6
Technology.....	8
Telecommunication Devices.....	6
Transportation Changes	3
Visitors.....	4
Volunteers.....	7
Walkers.....	4
Website.....	3
Withdrawals.....	3

OFFICE HOURS - 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

OFFICE STAFF

Principal – Victoria Byrka
Office Manager – Paula Judy
Assistant Principal – Erica Streicher
Receptionist – Stacey Westerman
Counselors – Melinda Nevills & Heather Gossom
Bookkeeper – Dani Reich
Library/Media Specialist – Kayla Thurman
Instructional Coach - Mandi Morris
SBARC Chairperson – Kristen Eichler

SCHOOL HOURS

7:15 a.m. Student arrival is 7:15- 7:40 AM
 Breakfast is available from 7:15-7:35.

7:40 a.m. Tardy bell rings. All students are expected to be in their classrooms ready for instruction.

7:50 a.m. Opening exercises (daily announcements, pledge of allegiance, etc.).

2:20 p.m. Dismissal bell

PHILOSOPHY OF GOSHEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The mission of Goshen Elementary School, with the help of parents and community, is to promote the overall intellectual, physical, emotional, and social development of each child so that she/he will become a productive, healthy, creative citizen of our society.

Go the extra mile!
Act responsibly!
Treat self and others with respect!
Open your mind and heart!
Reach for high goals!
Share your gifts and talents!

Goshen Elementary School models our programs after attributes established by the Department of Education. These attributes include continuous progress for all students through developmentally appropriate practices, authentic assessments, professional teamwork, qualitative reporting, and parent involvement. These steps are monitored through continuous professional development, classroom observations, and teacher evaluations.

After a lengthy process, all children are placed in an instructional classroom, which allows for continuous academic progress. Assessments are utilized before, during and after units of instruction to determine mastery of concepts and to ensure flexible groups are ongoing. Teachers collaborate in Professional Learning Communities to develop lessons, which meet the individual learning styles of all students through acquisition, meaning making and transfer activities.

We are extremely proud of the expertise and experience of our staff. Oldham County Schools consistently has high percentages of teachers who meet the federal government's Highly Qualified Teacher requirements and who hold National Board Teacher Certification. We respect parents' rights to know about the qualification of their children's teacher and welcome inquiries about teacher credentials. Please contact Katie Garrett, Personnel Director, at 502-241-3500 for additional information.

Padres y apoderados tienen derecho a conocer las cualificaciones y credenciales de los profesores de nuestras escuelas. Si usted desea mayor información sobre los profesores de su hijo, por favor contacte a Katie Garrett, director de personal. Teléfono 502-241-3500.

BOOKSTORE

The bookstore is open weekly. PTO volunteers staff the bookstore on Thursday morning until 7:40 AM on a weekly rotation of grade levels K-2 & 3-5. A weekly announcement is included in our Gator Mail communication for schedule specifics. Spirit wear is available via the PTO website.

WEBSITE

Please visit our school website <https://goshen.oldham.kyschools.us/> for upcoming important dates of school events.

GATOR MAIL

Every Wednesday during the school year, an email will be sent home communicating important events and information as well as attachments. If you do not have access to a computer, please make your classroom teacher aware, so that a hard copy is made and sent home.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

The Oldham County Board of Education and Goshen Elementary School recognize that regular attendance has been proven to be directly related to the academic progress and success of students. Please review and adhere to the provisions of the Oldham County Schools attendance policy, O.C.B.E. Policy 9010.

9010.025 EXCUSED ABSENCES A student shall be excused from attending school for the following purposes: 1) Illness of the student; 2) Death in the family of the student; 3) Observation of religious holidays of the student's faith; 4) Absences excused or authorized by state statute; 5) Absences excused by other provisions of Board policy or SBDM policy; or 6) Other absences approved by the principal. Except for absences due to the illness of the student, the parent or guardian having custody or control of the student must submit a written request for the excused absence. Requests for the observance of a religious holiday or funeral shall include days on which the student must travel, if any. Absences excused under this section shall be subject to and count against the number of absences allowed under Board Policy 9010.01.

A student may receive an excused absence/tardy for good cause upon receipt of a parent's written request for up to a maximum of eight (8) school days in any one school year. Parent notes are to be submitted to the school within 5 days of returning to school. When a student accumulates a total of eight (8) absences/tardies that have not been excused by a physician's note, the school will require a physician's authorization or other credible proof for each subsequent absence. Additional documentation and adherence to the O.C.B.E. guidelines are required for the absence(s) to be excused. Any child, who has been absent from school without a valid excuse for three (3) or more days, or tardy on three (3) or more days, is truant. Any child who has been reported as truant two (2) or more times is a habitual truant. All students arriving late **must** be signed in by an adult in the school office. Early dismissals will be recorded as tardies.

9010.035 EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITY Students shall be granted an excused absence for up to ten (10) school days to pursue an educational enhancement opportunity determined by the Principal to be of significant educational value. This opportunity may include, but not limited to, participation in an educational foreign exchange program or an intensive instructional, experimental or performance program in one (1) of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language and the arts.

WITHDRAWALS

Parents of students who will be withdrawing from the school should inform the office and/or the teacher at least one week prior to withdrawal. The school will forward all student records once it has received a request from the child's new school.

MAKE-UP WORK

Make-up work for absences may be obtained by contacting your child's teacher. The teacher will work with parents to ensure missed assignments are completed in a timely manner.

CHILD CUSTODY SITUATIONS

To ensure the safety of your child the school must be aware of all custody situations. **If at any time changes occur, it is imperative that the school have a copy of the most recent court documents on file.** If the need should arise, our Board Attorney will assist in the interpretation of all legal documents.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

Changes in transportation can only be made via hand written communication from the custodial parent/guardian as stated in the Oldham County Board Policy handbook. We ask that if you must make a change that the following information be **submitted in writing by 1:30 PM**: current date, effective date of change, student name, teacher name. The O.C.B.E. transportation department does not allow any changes to bus ridership throughout the school year via parent note. All bus riders must be regular and consistent riders to their home or P.M. drop off location. **The office does not accept changes via phone, fax, or email except in an extreme emergency.**

CARPOOL

Working together ensures all Goshen Gators remain safe during our dismissal. All regular carpools will be assigned a number. Please check with the office to obtain your number. Below are a couple of friendly reminders regarding carpool line procedures:

- Follow all directions given by carpool leaders and/or directions listed on the safety signs.
- The first car in line, will pull up to the furthest safety sign before stopping to drop off your child.
- All cars are to stay in close proximity to the vehicle in front of you.
- Have your child ready to exit the car promptly, to avoid causing backups in the line.
- **Students may only enter and exit cars from the sidewalk side of the vehicle.**
- Animals create a safety concern as children pay more attention to animals than watching for cars, please monitor your pets.
- Wait your turn and **do not pass** cars in the line, unless directed to do so.
- Remain in your vehicle, any assistance needed will be provided by our carpool leaders

WALKERS

Those students utilizing walking as a transportation option need to be aware of a few safety reminders:

- All walkers, without parents, will be dismissed prior to our car line/bus dismissal to ensure their safety.
- Students in 3rd- 5th grade, with additional authorization between parent and principal, will be allowed to walk home unescorted.
- K-2 students with an older sibling in grades 3rd - 5th grade will be allowed to walk home as a family after additional authorization is obtained for all family members. **If the older sibling is ill or participating in an after-school activity the younger siblings will not be allowed to walk home unescorted.** A note requiring a change to transportation, for that day/time, needs to be submitted to the front office by 1:30 PM.
- Cars are not permitted to park on cross streets such as Ridgemoor Dr. & Albrecht Dr. to pick up students from the walker door. Please utilize the carpool line for pick up.
- In the event of inclement weather, walkers may be picked up in the carpool line, with notification to the carpool staff on duty that day. Pre transportation authorization is not necessary.

INSPECTION AND REVIEW OF RECORDS

The rights to inspect and review educational records include:

It is the right of either parent of the student to inspect and review the educational records of their student unless the educational agency has been provided with evidence that an instrument, state law or court order governing such matters as divorce, separation or custody, provides to the contrary. Further information regarding record review can be found in O.C.B.E. Policy 9040.03.

PHYSICAL EXAMS/IMMUNIZATIONS

Upon enrollment, parents must submit a medical examination for each child conducted within twelve (12) month prior to his/her initial admission to school, per OCBE policy 9020. All children shall be required to present a valid immunization certificate upon enrollment in school, and a valid up-to-date immunization certificate shall be on file for all children at all times. As a reminder, provisional Immunization certificates may be required for students to remain enrolled between birth dates and exam dates to ensure all students have met valid immunization requirements. Please call the office with any questions. Out of state immunization records must be transferred onto a Kentucky form via assistance from the Oldham County Health Department.

State law requires that all students entering public school in Kentucky have a vision examination by an optometrist or ophthalmologist. This evidence shall be submitted to the school no later than January 1 of the first year that the child is enrolled. See Board Policies 9005.02 and 9020 for additional requirements.

VISITORS

With our enhanced safety procedures all visitors will be granted entrance to the front office after stating their purpose for the visit. ALL parents and visitors **MUST submit a valid photo ID when signing in** and wear a visitor's badge at all times. Parents and/or volunteers, who have scheduled appointments with the teacher, may proceed to the classroom after receiving their visitor's badge. This procedure will help maintain an uninterrupted instructional day for all students. Visitor IDs will be returned when the visitor signs out.

SOLICITATION

No students, parents, or outside individuals shall engage in the buying or selling of articles to one another on school property, unless they have the permission of the principal. Information regarding distribution and posting of non-school community information is available in the front office, O.C.B.E. Policy 2060-AR

PARKING

For our students' safety, when visiting, picking up, or dropping off children, parents must use the designated visitor's parking lot. Cars are not permitted in the bus loading dock at any time as this creates a dangerous situation for all students. **It is important to always park in a clearly marked parking space, if it is necessary to leave your vehicle to enter the building. Do not create your own parking space as this causes backups in our car line and becomes a safety issue for our students.**

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are an extension of the school learning environment and are used to enhance the skills being taught. Students on the field trip represent their home, school, and county and must act accordingly. To gain the most from field trips, it is important to work with the teacher to ensure each student's classroom work is current and their behavior is appropriate. Administration and/or classroom teacher will have the option of forfeiting a field trip for any child deemed not academically or socially able to attend. Refunds for field trips are not given if a child is unable to attend due to illness and/or student consequence, because of the complexity of the payment process for the program and buses. Due to the increased cost of diesel fuel, the district may limit each classroom to no more than two out of school field trips per school year.

Students **must** have current health insurance coverage before they may attend a field trip. If a child is not covered by a health insurance plan, the school district has information regarding an insurance provider who will provide coverage for school hours only. Information on how to obtain this policy is provided in the office.

If money is sent via the student for collection (lunch, field trips, book orders, etc.) please send it in a sealed envelope labeled with the child's name and the teacher's name to prevent lost funds on buses or in the building.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Oldham County Board of Education provides accident insurance available for purchase through the school at any time during the school year. Please note: This student accident insurance is secondary insurance. Whenever a student has other health insurance of any kind, such insurance is the primary insurance. Student insurance coverage information can be obtained at the school office or at www.studentinsurance-kk.com

Please be advised that neither the school nor Oldham County Board of Education has provisions for payment of medical or hospital bills in case of an injury to your child.

DRESS CODE

Pride in our school and self will be reflected by appropriate attire.

- The length of shorts, dresses, and skirts will cover student's undergarments when standing, sitting and/or bending/leaning over. A suggested length would be mid hand length or longer.
- When reaching or bending over, all shirts must cover stomachs, chests, and backs. Tank tops that cover all areas with wide shoulder straps are acceptable.
- All headwear (except for religious or cultural reasons) must be removed prior to school including hats, bandanas, scarves, and caps. These items may be stored in backpacks if needed based on weather conditions.
- No inappropriate messages (pictures, words, symbols) on articles of clothing or backpacks (examples: tobacco, alcohol, drugs, hate messages, etc.)
- Students must wear shoes that are safe and appropriate for the school environment. Shoes without sling backs (ex. flip flops and high heel sandals-more than 2 inches) may not be worn to school.
- Students are not permitted to carry backpacks on wheels as this is a safety concern in the school and on the bus.

Administration along with teachers will monitor the dress code and contact parents as the need arises.

Suggestions for Parents: Label all outer clothing with your child's name, i.e., jackets, sweaters, hats, etc.

AGENDA BOOK/PLANNER

Teachers and your children will send important written communication via the agenda book or planner; parents must read and initial daily to ensure awareness of concerns or upcoming events. Other communication devices may include our web page, e-mail, text and/or phone calls. This procedure helps to keep parents informed and provides a consistent means to respond to teachers. **Remember, the agenda is not the means for transportation changes or early dismissal changes. The office staff does not see the agenda book; therefore, that communication process cannot be used for any transportation change.**

HOMEWORK POLICY

It is our belief that homework should be assigned to practice a concept that has already been taught within the classroom. Homework should be reasonable in length and developmentally appropriate based on the age and ability of the child. The amount of homework should gradually increase to a guideline of ten minutes of homework per night for each grade level starting with first grade. Homework should not create a frustration level in the student. After "good faith effort" parents may stop homework time.

PROGRESS REPORTS & CONFERENCES

All parents/guardians need to attend their fall-scheduled conference to develop a strong parent/teacher relationship and remain current on your child's progress. Each classroom teacher will establish dates and times to meet with parents in the fall and spring to discuss their child's process. If you have concerns regarding your child at any time during the year, please contact his/her teacher to schedule an appointment.

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES

OCBE POLICY STATEMENT 09.421

DEFINITION A "personal communication device" is a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor, or another person, including, but not limited to, a paging device, a cellular telephone, MP3 players, iPhones, iPods, iPads, communicable and/or smart watches, electronic notebooks, netbooks, tablet computers and e-readers. Telecommunication device does not include any device a student is authorized to use pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, or the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

POSSESSION AND USE While on school property or while attending school-sponsored or school-related activities, whether on or off school property, students shall be permitted to possess and use personal telecommunications devices as defined by law¹ and other related electronic devices, provided they observe the following conditions:

1. Unless an emergency situation exists that involves imminent physical danger or a certified employee authorizes the student to do otherwise, personal communication devices shall be turned off and not in use during the following times designated below.
2. Such devices shall not be used during the regular school day which includes the following periods: Oldham County Elementary Schools: 7:40 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.
3. During regular school hours, personal devices must be completely silenced and out of sight. Students may keep devices in their bag, backpack, purse, etc.
4. Devices shall not be used in a manner that disrupts the educational process.
5. **When students violate prohibitions of this policy, they shall be subject to disciplinary action, including the following:**
 - A. First Offense: Student referral, parent phone call, and confiscation of the personal communication or personal electronic device, which shall be returned to the student or student's parent or guardian at the conclusion of the school day.
 - B. Second Offense: Attendance at the next-scheduled detention, along with first offense consequences.
 - C. Third Offense: One day of in-school suspension (OCATS or on-site) along with second offense consequences.
 - D. Additional offenses: Third offense consequences, in addition to potential suspension at the discretion of the District.
6. Parents or guardians may retrieve forfeited student devices during regular office hours.
7. Students are responsible for devices they bring to Oldham County schools. The District shall not be responsible for loss, theft, or destruction of devices brought onto school property.
8. The decision to allow device use is vested within each Oldham County School's administration, not individual school staff or instructors.
9. Students shall comply with any additional rules developed by the school concerning appropriate use of personal communication or other electronic devices.
10. The use of a personal communication device for instructional purposes must be approved by administration prior to usage in the classroom.
11. Students shall not utilize a personal communication or similar electronic device in a manner that would violate the District's Acceptable Use policy or procedures or its Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline.

CLASSROOM PARTIES

Each classroom will be assigned a room parent to coordinate parties. Please see volunteer guidelines in this handbook.

If for any reason you do not wish for your child to participate in a classroom party, please notify your child's teacher. Arrangements for your child to participate in an alternate learning activity will be arranged. Games and/or crafts are the emphasis at Goshen parties. Due to allergy / health concerns, food is not permitted during class parties.

SWAMP: AFTER SCHOOL CARE & ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

SWAMP, Goshen's after school program, runs from 2:20 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. When school is not in session SWAMP is open from 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. excluding major holidays and pending severe inclement weather. The opening and closing times on inclement weather days are 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The Oldham County Board of Education will share information on inclement weather days or days we are not in session regarding the closing of the youth enrichment program. SWAMP operates year-round to accommodate the needs of parents and students. Arts and crafts, field trips, homework time, play, computers, reading, and much more are available to all students. Fees vary based on part-time and full-time enrollment. Please contact Pam Parson, Director, for more information about our program, (502) 228-4838.

SAFETY PLANS & PROCEDURES

Safety plans and procedures are established for Oldham County Schools and include weather, fire, earthquake, bus evacuation, and intruder. Drills are conducted regularly. Note: School buses will not operate if a tornado warning has been issued for our area. Buses will resume their daily routes when the warning has been lifted.

BREAKFAST & LUNCH

Breakfast and lunch may be paid for daily or in advance on a weekly or monthly basis. Please include your student's name, lunch code number, and teacher's name with all payments. Students may purchase their breakfast daily from 7:15 a.m. – 7:35 a.m. The cost of breakfast is \$1.30, and the cost of lunch is \$2.40. All students who buy lunch in the cafeteria will be offered a choice of two entrees, vegetables and dessert. *Please note that if students select a 2nd entrée, they will be charged an additional \$1.95.*

Milk, juice, ice cream, and other a-la-carte items may also be purchased individually without buying a full lunch. Adult lunches are \$4.00. **Per Goshen SBDM Wellness Policy 4008- "Parents/Guardians are discouraged from bringing fast food products contained in commercial bags, wrappers, or containers to the cafeteria."**

Free/Reduced lunch applications are available in the school office and may be completed anytime during the school year.

FOOD ALLERGIES

Parents of students with severe food allergies must agree to an individualized action plan developed by school personnel, the parents, and the student's physician. (OCBE Administrative Regulation 9000.05-AR "Emergency Health Care Plan") The primary concern is the prevention and appropriate treatment of the potentially severe allergic reaction, anaphylaxis.

At-risk students are encouraged to have some means of identification, such as a medical alert bracelet.

Most food-allergic children bring their lunch from home. However, guidelines established by the USDA Child Nutrition Division require school food service staff to provide substitute meals to allergic students according to the Emergency Health Care Plan, which specifies foods to be avoided and safe substitutions.

In order to prevent accidental ingestion of food to which a student is allergic, **NO TRADING OF FOOD IS ALLOWED BY STUDENTS AND PARENTS MAY NOT PASS OUT FOOD OF ANY KIND TO ANY CHILDREN OTHER THAN THEIR OWN.**

STUDENT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All Goshen students will have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of extracurricular activities. Each extracurricular is unique and will have a designated time/season to take place. Some extracurriculars are school sponsored while others may be community based and hosted at the school building. Information will be shared with students prior to the start of the activity. Deadlines and enrollment have very specific guidelines that must be adhered to for student safety and enjoyment. Once information is provided about the specific activity decisions can be made about what will fit your child's individual needs. Our after-school care, SWAMP, offers additional extracurricular activities. Please note, students must be enrolled in SWAMP to participate in the SWAMP extracurricular activities.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost articles are collected and displayed in our Lost and Found Area located in the cafeteria. Unclaimed articles will be donated to a local charity. Parents are notified via Gator Mail prior to donation. Clothing that is labeled with student name is returned to the student. We encourage parents to label all student items, including water bottles and lunch boxes.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

Text support and library books will be furnished to all students at no charge. However, there will be a replacement fee charged to any student who damages or destroys any textbook or library book during the school year.

VOLUNTEERS

Parents, grandparents, neighbors and friends become an "extra pair of hands" in the school. Per Goshen's SBDM Policy 4007 "parents/guardians may not bring siblings/children or other family members to activities at which they are volunteering, supervising, or chaperoning." This includes any in class or out of class volunteers' activities, field trips, class parties, and celebrations. Siblings may attend school wide public events such as, performances, concerts, and fifth grade recognition programs.

Volunteers who will have supervisory responsibilities over students, or who will work with students on a continuing basis are required by state law to submit to a criminal background check prior to working in the school or chaperone field trips. All information regarding background checks will be held in the strictest confidence. Forms are available in the school office. As of July 1, 2012, background checks submitted through the school will cost \$10.00 per person. Cash, or checks payable to Goshen Elementary, will be accepted. Background checks must be updated every five years or as deemed necessary by the school.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Each year all volunteers who will have supervisory responsibilities over students, or who will work with students on a continuing basis must complete confidentiality training. Confidentiality refers to the protection of all personally identifiable information and records used by the school in relation to students and staff. Volunteers may not discuss any personal information about students/staff obtained while volunteering at any event including: athletic events, parties, parks, etc. *If a volunteer does not maintain the confidentiality policy of the school, he/she may not be permitted to volunteer in the school as determined by the principal.*

A link to our confidentiality training will be provided by your classroom teacher giving everyone the opportunity to participate.

HEALTH SERVICES

Goshen Elementary is fortunate to have a full-time nurse, funded through O.C.B.E. The health room is open from 7:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. daily. Please contact the nurse with any health-related concerns.

General guidelines for use of the Health Room are as followed:

- 1) First aid will be limited to band-aids, cleansing of minor wounds, taking of temperature, and other minor procedures
- 2) If a child is ill with a high fever, vomiting, severe pain, etc. the parent will be called and when necessary, appropriate medical personnel will be contacted. Other children will be sent back to the classroom when they are ready. If your child is ill with a fever of 100 degrees or higher, they must be fever free for 24 hours, without the aid of medication, before returning to school.
- 3) If you have a question concerning any health room procedures, please contact our school nurse at 228-0101.

Authorization For Administration Of Stock Over the Counter (OTC) Medication

Beginning this school year, Oldham County Schools will offer a selection of over-the-counter (OTC) medications for students who may need them during the school day. These medications will be available at no cost to families, but require your permission to be administered.

With your consent, trained school staff—including the school nurse—may provide your child with age-appropriate doses of the following OTC medications for minor health concerns such as headaches, allergies, or minor injuries.

Stocked OTC Medications

The following medications may be administered based on manufacturer instructions and school protocols:

1. Acetaminophen (e.g., Tylenol) – For pain relief
2. Ibuprofen (e.g., Advil, Motrin) – For pain relief or inflammation
3. Antihistamine (e.g., Benadryl) – For insect stings, rashes, eczema, hives, or allergy symptoms
4. Cough Drops or Lozenges – For sore throat or cough relief
5. Topical Antibiotic Ointment (e.g., Triple Antibiotic, Neomycin free) – For minor cuts or scrapes.
6. Sting Relief/Anti Itch Cream (e.g., Diphenhydramine Cream, Calamine lotion) – For minor skin irritations.
7. Aloe Vera Gel - For temporary relief of sunburn, windburn, or mild skin irritation
8. Menstrual Pain Relief (e.g. Midol) - Temporary relief of menstrual symptoms
9. Eye Wash (e.g., Saline Solution) - For relief of minor eye irritation or dryness

All medications are stored and maintained by the school and authorized under standing medical orders from a board-certified healthcare provider.

Notification Policy

You will be contacted by phone before any OTC medication is given to your child, unless immediate treatment is necessary (e.g., a severe allergic reaction). In those cases, you will be contacted as soon as possible afterward. All medication administrations are documented and kept on record at the school.

Medicine will be administered in the nurse's office. Per School Board Policy, students are not permitted to bring medicine of any kind on the bus.

IT IS THE PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE CURRENT INFORMATION SUCH AS PARENT WORK/CELL PHONE NUMBER, NAME OF PERSON TO BE CALLED AND PERTINENT HEALTH INFORMATION IS ON FILE. Please send all new information to the office when changes occur immediately.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Our school counseling program centers on individual, small group counseling, and whole class lessons. The duties and responsibilities of our counselors include a variety of activities: meeting with parents for conferences, assisting teachers with individualized student needs, and providing content-based lessons to help students be successful in life. In addition, counselors confer with individual students and with parents as well as promote programs that provide the best possible learning environment for children.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Goshen Elementary maintains a variety of programs designed to meet the special needs of students consistent with special education law. An individual educational plan is developed with assistance of parents, staff, and other appropriate persons to meet the needs of the student.

The Special Education Department offers a wide range of services. They include:

- 1) Referring students for suspected disabilities to be evaluated by personnel through Oldham County Board of Education.
- 2) Consultation between parents and teachers to work as a team to provide for the special needs of children at home and in their classrooms.
- 3) Individual and small group instruction for those children who need to develop and improve their language area skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing and spelling), mathematics and gross motor and fine muscle coordination.

SPEECH

Children with articulation and/or voice problems, fluency abnormalities and aural-oral language difficulties, as well as boys and girls with hearing loss, delayed speech, and congenital speech problems are scheduled for sessions of therapy based on their individual needs.

GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (GATES)

Students in fourth and fifth grade who qualify will be formally identified as gifted/talented in one or more of the five areas recognized by the state: general intellectual ability, specific academic ability, creativity, leadership, and visual/performing arts. The GATES coordinator works closely with teachers and parents to collect formal and informal data that will assist in determining if a child meets the state's criteria for identification. Once a child has been identified, the GATES coordinator works with the teacher, student, and parents to develop a Gifted Student Service Plan (GSSP) based on the child's specific needs. The GSSP describes the service options that will be provided for the child throughout the year. Parents receive a gifted and talented progress report at the end of each semester related to the GSSP.

Students demonstrating abilities to perform at high levels in the primary years: (Kindergarten through Third Grade), while not formally identified as gifted/talented, will be part of the Primary Talent Pool (PTP). Teachers will work with parents to monitor and provide specialized instruction as needed. For additional information regarding the GATES program, please contact Erica Streicher,, Assistant Principal or visit the Oldham County GATES website at: www.oldham.kyschools.us.

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

The Media Center combines books and other printed materials with audio-visual equipment and technology. Flexible scheduling permits classes, groups, and individual students to utilize all the resources in our Media Center. Our Library Media Specialist helps to foster a love for reading among all of our Goshen students through storytelling, book discussions, interactive projects, book displays and more! We are committed to providing the students at Goshen Elementary with diverse texts and act as both windows and mirrors for students to better understand themselves and others.

TECHNOLOGY

All classrooms are equipped with Clevertouch interactive panels and audio enhancement microphones (for both teachers and students). Chromebooks (grades 2-5) and iPads (grades K-1) are available to empower students to learn, collaborate, communicate, and create, utilizing digital platforms as responsible digital citizens. Our STEM lab is also equipped with Sphero Robots, Dash and Dot Robots, and a GlowForge Printer to extend student learning utilizing hands-on innovative technologies. Our technology fee supports various technology subscriptions which provide students with individualized learning platforms and resources.

Note: Use is subject to Acceptable Use OCBE Policy (9064.01-F), which includes the ability for system administrators to deem what is inappropriate use of technology and base decisions from their findings.

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)

Goshen Elementary PTO are volunteers actively involved throughout the school community. The purpose of the PTO is to foster relationships among school, families, and staff, in an effort to benefit our students' academic career. Active participation by families is encouraged to maintain open communication between school and home. The PTO organizes wonderful events such as: Fall Festival, FUND Run, Kentucky Kid Day, Science Enrichment Program, Arts Gala, and Spring Fling. Goshen PTO meets monthly and communicates to families via Wednesday folders, Gator Mail, email, PTO website and social media.

SBDM MEETING

The Council operates as a policy-making body concerning instruction, assessment, building climate and curricular recommendations. The Council has seven members: three teachers, two parents and the principal as chairperson. The Council meets the third Tuesday of each month in the school Library/Media Center at 2:50pm. Council meetings are open to the public and the community is welcome to speak to the Council, but must sign-in prior to the start of the meeting. There is an assigned time frame for Open Expression. The members of the Council are Victoria Byrka, Chairperson/Teacher; Erin Roberts, Parent; Lindsey Rust, Parent; Ryan Huber, Teacher; Rebeca Schulz, Teacher; Ellen Cox.