

Hasty Elementary Parent/Student Handbook 2025-2026



Principal: Mrs. Zsaquia Green
Assistant Principal: Dr. Elizabeth Younger

Respect Ownership Attitude Responsible

Hasty Elementary School

325 Hasty School Road
Thomasville, NC 27360
Phone: (336) 475-1924

Website: hes.davidson.k12.nc.us

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School Mission Statement:

To create a rigorous and relevant learning environment built on strong personal relationships that empowers ALL students for future success.

School Vision Statement:

To prepare students to enter the world ready to navigate challenges and to construct successes.

School Motto:

"A Community Where Kids Come First."

Daily Schedule:

Doors open at 7:30 am

School begins at 8:00 am

School dismisses at 2:35 pm

Front Office closes at 4:00 pm

Information included in the handbook is listed alphabetically. Please be sure to sign and return the handbook acknowledgement form during the first week of school. Thank you!

Table of Contents

Arrival and Dismissal	Page 4
Bus Ridership and Safety	Page 5
Class Parties	Page 9
Communication	Page 10
Discipline and Student Code of Conduct	Page 10
Dress Code and Student Appearance	Page 11
Emergency Contact Information	Page 12
Field Trips	Page 12
Health Screenings	Page 13
Homework	Page 13
Illness and Injury	Page 13
Inclement Weather	Page 13
Lice Policy	Page 14
Medications	Page 14
Money, Cafeteria, and School Fees	Page 15
Promotion	Page 16
Title IX and Student Grievances.....	Page 16
Tobacco and Vape Free Schools	Page 17
Transportation.....	Page 18

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Safety is always a primary concern at Hasty Elementary School. It is especially important during arrival and dismissal. For the safety of all, please adhere to the following:

Arrival Procedures

1. Students arriving in the car line should arrive between 7:30 am and 8:00 am. Breakfast is served in the cafeteria between 7:30 and 8:00 a.m. for any student. **No students should arrive at school before 7:30 a.m.** due to a lack of supervision before this time.
2. All cars bringing students **must use Etta Lane and then go into the back parking lot** to unload students. If the line reaches the road and the parking lot is full, bypass the school on Etta Lane, turn left into the gravel parking lot, turn around, and begin a line that will turn right into the school. Please stay to the right side of the entrance to allow for staff to access the lot. **The front lot is for school buses ONLY.**
3. Car rider traffic is routed "One Way Only".
4. **Students should get out of their cars on the passenger side** so they can step onto the sidewalk without crossing traffic. If your vehicle has a booster seat, make sure it is located so the student can exit from the passenger side. Students should be ready to exit their vehicles when they reach the sidewalk area, allowing at least six cars to unload at one time. Say your goodbyes prior to entering the drop-off area
5. Horizontal parking directly beside the building in the front bus lot is not allowed due to the Fire Lane.

Dismissal Procedures

1. As cars arrive in the afternoon they should begin to park in the "S" shape dropoff area. As cars line up at Etta Lane, please make a line coming up from the Boys and Girls Club. At about 2:25 p.m., cars may begin pulling into the circle to prepare for dismissal.
2. As the 2:35 p.m. dismissal bell rings, car riders will report to their positions. Parents should wait in their car and continue moving until you reach the station given to you. Once at the station, please remain in the car until school personnel bring your student(s) to the car.
3. Each parent must display the school-issued green car rider sign labeled 25-26 in order to pick up their student. Cars that do not have the green sign must pull to the parking spaces beside the cafeteria for an ID check. This is very important for student safety purposes. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this process. *You will complete a form, asking for a certain number of green cards. Anyone with a card must be on the student's pick-up list. Your classroom teacher will send those home once they have been made. After the first two weeks of school, this will be enforced.

Tardies and Early Dismissal Policy

It is extremely important for students to attend school regularly and to be at school the **full** school day. When they are on time in the morning, they are able to get settled in and organized to get a good start on the day with the rest of the class. The last 20 minutes of the day are important to make sure they have their assignments, to review what they have learned that day, and to talk about the next day's plans. Teachers lose valuable time when making up lessons and assignments for students who are excessively tardy, leave early, or are absent. Parents can be helpful by scheduling their child's appointments after school when possible, or on days when school is not in session.

A student who arrives **after 8:00 a.m.** is tardy and must come by the office before going to the classroom to pick up a tardy pass. **If you arrive in the parking lot at 8:00 a.m. or after, parents MUST park and walk their student to the office to sign them in. Our staff will not be able to take them inside for you. Each tardy will be documented.** Please be aware that, according to School Board Policy 6.4, students who are excessively tardy to school may be suspended for up to 2 days for such offenses.

If you wish to pick your child up from school early, please make certain the reason is important and not just for convenience. **Each early dismissal will be documented.** Students who attend each school day during a nine-week period will receive recognition for "Perfect Attendance".

IF YOU MUST PICK UP YOUR CHILD EARLY, PLEASE FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES: Students leaving early must be picked up by 2:00 PM. No early dismissals will occur after this time. It is our top priority to make sure each student arrives at their destination safely in the afternoon. Dismissals after 2:00 PM create confusion for students and staff. If you must pick your child up early, please arrive in the office no later than 2:00 PM.

1. Report to the office – NOT the classroom.
2. Your child(ren) will be released only to the person whose name is specified in the note sent to the teacher.
3. Someone from the office will send for your child(ren) after your arrival.
4. Sign the student(s) out of school and give a reason for the early dismissal on the form provided in the office. This is for the safety and protection of your child(ren) should they need to be located at a later time.
5. **Be prepared to show a photo ID.** This procedure will help ensure that the child(ren) leaves with the properly designated persons.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

In order to attend Hasty Elementary School, a student must legally reside within the school district. Two proofs of residency will be required. All students entering for the first time will need documented immunization records and certified birth certificates.

1. Attendance Records:

School officials will keep accurate records of attendance, including accurate attendance records in each class under procedures developed and enforced by the State Board of Education and published annually in the Student Attendance and Student Accounting manual. A child shall be present at least one-half (1/2) of the school day in order to be recorded as present for that day. **1/2 of the school day is 11:15 am.**

2. School-Related Activities:

All classroom activities are important and difficult, if not impossible, to replace if missed. It is the intention of the Board of Education that classes missed are kept to an absolute minimum through close scrutiny and a monitoring system on the part of the principal. The following school-related activities will not be counted as absences from either class or school:

1. Field trips sponsored by the school;
2. School-initiated and scheduled activities;
3. In-school suspension.

Students will complete assignments missed for these reasons. The teacher will determine when work is to be made up. The student is responsible for finding out which assignments were missed and completing them within the specified time period.

3. Excused Absences:

When a student must miss school, a written excuse signed by a parent or guardian must be presented to the student's teacher within 3 days from when the student returns after an absence. An absence may be excused for any of the following reasons:

1. Illness or injury which prevents the student from being physically able to attend school
2. Death in the immediate family (including but not limited to the grandparents, parents, brothers and sisters) of the student;
3. Medical or dental appointments with appropriate documentation provided to the school:
Dated doctor's statement on letterhead
 - a. Diagnosis by physician - clarifying whether an illness is a prolonged illness contributing to, or which could contribute to, a pattern of absences requiring a student to be out of school and further clarifying when the student should be able to return to school.
 - b. Dated parent's note stating clearly the reasoning for the student's absence and/or referencing a previously written diagnosis rendered by a medical professional and submitted to the principal;
4. Quarantine which is isolation ordered by local health officer or the State Board of Health or isolation or quarantine that is a required state or local control measure;
5. Attendance at the proceedings of a court or administrative tribunal if the student is a party to the action or under subpoena as a witness;
6. Religious observance (school principals are required to authorize a minimum of two excused absences each academic year for religious observances required by the faith of a student or a student's parents or legal guardian. The student shall be given the opportunity to make up any tests or other work missed due to these excused absences.);
7. Educational opportunity such as travel or service as a legislative or Governor's page with prior approval from the principal/designee not to exceed 5 days per year. **AN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FORM MUST BE APPROVED BY THE PRINCIPAL AT LEAST 5 DAYS BEFORE THE ABSENCE;**
8. Child care for illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the student is the custodial parent (G.S. 115C-375.5);
9. A minimum of two days each academic year for visitation with the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is not identified as at risk of academic failure because of unexcused absences and the student's parent or legal guardian (a) is an active duty member of the uniformed services as defined by policy 6.39.6, Children of Military Families, and (b) has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting; or
10. Any other reason as approved by the board in a board resolution.

5. Make-up Work for Lawful Absences:

Students are permitted to make up all work missed during an absence. All work must be made up within five (5) days following the student's return to school unless the principal/designee determines that extenuating circumstances might support an extension of this time restriction.

6. Maximum Number of Absences:

There will be a maximum of sixteen (16) absences allowed for students participating in year-long programs (all elementary and middle schools) and eight (8) absences allowed for students participating in semester-length programs (all high schools). Students who exceed these absence limits for any reason may not receive grade/course credit or be promoted.

7. Excessive Absences:

Class attendance and participation are critical elements of the educational process and may be taken into account in assessing academic achievement. Students are expected to be at school on time and to be present at the scheduled starting time for each class. Students who are excessively tardy to school or class may be suspended for up to two days for such offenses. Students with excused absences due to documented chronic health problems are exempt from this policy.

ABSENCES -- Key Points to Remember

- During the school year, when a student reaches twelve (12) total absences from school, a doctor's note will be required for each absence for the remainder of the year. The principal or his/her designee will handle the codes for all absences that are non-medical notes. Good communication regarding reasons for absences must be sent to the school each time the child is absent from school. It is highly recommended that if the child is absent due to illness and visits the doctor any time during the school year that a note from the doctor be obtained and sent to school for documentation.
- If no communication has been received within three (3) days, the absence will automatically be coded as unlawful. The school social worker will be asked to visit the home at least by the sixth unlawful day. Absentee work to be made up (lawful or unlawful) can be turned in within the ratio limit of two days grace for every day of absence. If it occurs near the end of a grading period, an incomplete may be recorded until the next grading period.
- To be counted present for a day, a child must be in attendance in the classroom for a minimum of one half of the school day (11:15 a.m.). When school is dismissed early, we half the time attended and establish a point that will constitute being counted present for the day.

A lawful absence is sickness of the child, a doctor or dental appointment for the child, or a death in the immediate family. **Most any other absence is unlawful.** Failure to bring an excuse **within three (3) days** is also considered an unlawful absence. If you have a question about whether an absence will be considered lawful or unlawful, please notify the principal. In order for a family trip to be considered a lawful absence, **the principal must approve it prior to the trip.** Parents must complete a Pre-Approved Trip Form in the front office prior to the trip. Only five days per year will be approved. Failure to obtain approval will result in unlawful absences. Any missed assignments must be completed. Parents should remember that a day of school can never be completely made up, and should limit absences due to trips or other recreational occurrences. **Makeup work for unlawful absences/suspension type absence:** Students who are absent for unlawful purposes, or whose absences are due to suspensions from school, will be provided the opportunity to take any quarterly, semester or grading period examinations missed during these types of absences. There will be a **maximum of sixteen (16) absences** allowed for students at the elementary level. Students who exceed this absence limit **for any reason** shall not receive grade/course credit or be promoted to the next level unless they are granted a waiver from the attendance policy by the principal for any absence which falls outside the guidelines.

BUS RIDERSHIP & SAFETY

To ensure student safety and to provide continuous improvement and efficiency in our bus transportation system, the county utilizes a ridership request program. Parents/guardians **must** complete a ridership form to request school bus transportation for their children in advance, before students can ride the bus. If a student's name is not listed on the bus route, he/she may **not** ride a bus until the Transportation Department has added his/her name to the bus route. This could take up to 10 days.

Safe school transportation is considered an integral part of the total educational program within the Davidson County Schools. Buses will not be in operation when a weather warning is in effect for our area. When the warning is lifted, buses will be allowed to run their regular routes.

PK-3rd-grade students MUST have an adult visible at the bus stop to be let off the bus. If no one is at the stop, your child will be brought back to the school and will need to be picked up. **If this happens more than once in a school year, your child may be suspended from riding the bus.** If the PK-3rd grade student has a sibling riding the bus with him/her who is in 4th or 5th grade, the students will be allowed to get off the bus without a parent/guardian visible. However, if the older sibling is absent, the younger student will be returned to school if you are not visible. ***If you wish for your child in PK-3rd grade to be let off the bus when nobody is visible, you will need to complete an Authorization to Release form in the school office. It has to be notarized by our office staff. The form is only valid for the school year in which it is completed.***

Riding the school bus is a privilege extended to students that can be taken away at any time for disruptive or unsatisfactory behavior. All children being transported are under the authority of the bus drivers and must obey their directions. I, as principal and our bus coordinator, have given our full support to each bus driver, and we will work together with him or her to provide the proper atmosphere on the bus. **Parents and children need to understand that, according to North Carolina State Law, school administrators may suspend passengers from riding on a school bus for inappropriate or unacceptable behavior.** Safety will be the top priority. Our school policy for handling such behaviors is included for your information.

North Carolina Board of Education Policy Manual states: "Unless safety factors require otherwise, superintendents may not plan bus stops closer together than 0.2 miles. Each student must be at the designated stop at the time of the bus arrival." (Davidson County Schools asks that students be at the designated stop 10 minutes before the scheduled arrival time of the bus.) North Carolina Board of Education Policy Manual states: "A route may not deviate from a general path of direction for a distance of less than one-half mile and then return to the original path except for groups of 10 or more pupils, unescorted pupils in grades K-3, or special education pupils."

Bus drivers are prohibited from blowing the horn to alert children that the bus has arrived. Note: The horn is a safety feature and a warning device. It is not to be used as an indicator for the child to start toward the bus. If your child misses the bus, do not follow the bus so the child can get on at a different stop. Students may only get on and off the bus at their designated stops established by the DCS transportation department.

Eating, drinking, vaping/smoking, or using an electronic device is strictly prohibited on the buses. To help make school bus transportation as safe as possible, the following will be utilized at Hasty Elementary in regards to school bus misconduct:

First Offense – If a bus driver refers a student to the administration, a student conference will be held to discuss the inappropriate behavior, and parents will be sent a written notification.

Second Offense - Parents will be notified, and suspension of riding privileges may occur depending on the offense committed.

Third Offense - Will automatically result in bus suspension, with a number of days to be determined based on the offense committed.

**** Please remember - bus suspension may occur at any time, even for the 1st offense, if student behavior warrants it.****

Students are required to follow bus rules at all times. School bus transportation is a privilege; any infraction of the rules may result in the discontinuation of riding privileges. Behavior that occurs at assigned bus stops could also result in school consequences.

Bus Rules

- Follow the directions of the bus driver.
- Follow all hand signals from the bus driver if you are required to cross the street before boarding the bus or after exiting the bus.
- Be at the bus stop on time.
- Remain seated in your assigned seat and keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
- Respect the physical space and feelings of others.
- Do not throw objects.
- Keep all objects inside the bookbag.
- Always cross in front of the bus and exit only at assigned stops.
- After exiting the bus, walk immediately away from the bus and into the house.
- Talk quietly.
- Do not eat, drink, or chew gum on the bus.
- Students are not allowed to ride other buses that they are not assigned to ride.

Going Home With a Friend?

If friends plan to go home with one another from school, please plan for alternate transportation. A note should be sent from each child's parent/guardian to the classroom teachers. Friends are not allowed to ride to your child's bus stop with him/her or get on the bus with him/her in the morning. Students are only allowed to be dropped off / picked up at their assigned bus stops given by the DCS transportation department.

It is unlawful for a parent/guardian to step onto a school bus. Charges could be filed. If you have a concern, please do not approach the school bus or the school bus driver. You will need to call the school at 336-475-1924 and speak to the assistant principal who serves as the school bus coordinator. Inappropriate behavior by a parent/guardian at a school bus stop could result in the student losing the privilege of riding a school bus.

CLASS PARTIES

To preserve instructional time during the school day, School Board Policy states that each classroom is allowed only two (2) parties per year. At Hasty, we have elected parties to occur near Christmas and at the end of the year. Any time refreshments are served, guidelines from the Davidson County School Health Council will be followed. **Foods must be commercially prepared, rather than home-prepared.** This would include prepackaged foods and foods that are purchased at a bakery and brought to school. All foods should be portioned, distributed, and in every way handled by the teacher or teacher assistant, unless that food is individually wrapped.

No birthday parties are allowed at school. Birthday snacks may be sent in for classes to enjoy as long as they are commercially prepared (no home-made snacks allowed). Snacks must be left in the office to be delivered to the classroom for you. Any food can only be consumed after the last student lunch has been served for the day.

COMMUNICATION

We value input and communication with our parents and school community. Teachers communicate with parents through newsletters, Class Dojo, etc. Please check your child's folder and Class Dojo to keep up with important school information. Administrators will communicate important school events through a weekly phone message, Class Dojo, etc. You can also visit our Facebook page to view exciting events at Hasty!

If you have a concern about something at school, we ask that you please contact us. Our top priority each day is the safety, well-being, and education of each child. We can either talk with you by phone or make arrangements for a conference. The school phone number is 336-475-1924.

Please use the following steps when you have a celebration or concern regarding your child:

1st- Contact the classroom teacher.

2nd- Schedule a conference with the classroom teacher.

3rd- Contact our school counselor, Mrs. Jennifer Guy.

4th- Contact an administrator: Mrs. Green, Principal, or Dr. Younger, Assistant Principal

DISCIPLINE & STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Hasty Elementary School is committed to providing an environment where staff and students positively interact for maximum learning to occur. Our school is a Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) school. Our motto is ""A Community Where Kids Come First."" which means we put the needs of kids at the forefront of everything we do.

In addition to the motto, teachers will focus on teaching and utilizing our school-wide expectations with students during the first several weeks of school. Our matrix of expected behavior is posted throughout the school. Our R.O.A.R. expectations stand for Respect, Ownership, Attitude, and Responsible.

Serious Student Misconduct

1. The student shall not continuously and intentionally make noise or act in any manner so as to interfere seriously with the teacher's ability to conduct class.
2. A student shall not intentionally do bodily injury to any person on the school grounds during or immediately before or after school hours.
3. A student shall not repeatedly fail to comply with the directions of teachers, teacher assistants, substitute teachers, assistant principal, or other authorized school personnel.

The principal may discipline the student by assigning the student to a Time-Out In another Setting/In-School Suspension, by applying punishment of up to ten days out of school suspension, and/or conferring personally with the superintendent to secure her approval for more severe action. A complete copy of the DCS policy (6.11) may be obtained online from the DCS website. **There will be zero tolerance of verbal or physically aggressive behavior, and this may lead to suspension.**

Personal Belongings

Please check your child's book bag daily to ensure that he/she is not bringing items to school that could be unsafe. The school is not responsible for any loss of personal property. All personal belongings should be clearly marked with the student's name. Unclaimed items will be given to charity at the end of the school year. Games and toys should not be brought to school. Students should not bring valuables. Students are permitted to possess wireless communication devices (cell

phone, etc.) on school property as long as such devices are not "in use" (turned on, beeping, sounding, etc.), displayed, or visible during the instructional day (DCS Board Policy 6.46). If the device is out during the school day or on the bus, the item will be confiscated, and a parent/guardian will have to come to the school to pick it up. Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones and wireless communication devices. The school system is not responsible for the theft, loss, or damage of a cell phone or any other wireless communication device.

Weapons

Students are prohibited from possessing, handling, using, or transmitting, whether concealed or open, any weapon or any instrument that reasonably looks like a weapon or could be used as a weapon. No student may knowingly or willfully cause, encourage, or aid another student to possess, handle or use any weapons or weapon-like items. A student who finds a weapon or weapon-like item, who witnesses another student or other person with such an item, or who becomes aware that another student or other person intends to possess, handle, or use such an item, must notify a teacher or the principal immediately. Principals will contact the School Resource Officer immediately upon the discovery of any of the weapons or weapon-like items listed for legal investigation and the consideration of criminal charges. The final decision to bring criminal charges is the responsibility of the investigating officer and/or the District Attorney's Office. Suspensions for any such violation will be issued in accordance with N.C.G.S. § 115C-390.1-390.11 and School Board Policy. Parents who are suspected of or are known to be in violation of the law by allowing illegal access to firearms or weapons by their children will be reported to law enforcement by the school principal.

School Counseling

At Hasty, we have a full-time school counselor on staff. During the school year, our counselor provides individual and small group counseling for all students on an as-needed basis. If a parent/guardian wishes to speak with the counselor, they may do so by calling 336-475-1924.

DRESS CODE & STUDENT APPEARANCE

Student Dress and Appearance (School Board Policy 6.37)

The Davidson County Board of Education respects a student's right to choose his or her style of dress or appearance. However, students are expected to adhere to standards of cleanliness and dress that are compatible with the requirements and expectations of a school learning environment. If a student's dress or lack of cleanliness is such that it constitutes a threat to health or safety, the principal or principal's designee may require the student and the student's parent or guardian to take appropriate actions to remedy the situation. In addition, if a student's dress or appearance is so unusual, inappropriate, or lacking in cleanliness that it disrupts class or learning activities or presents a safety issue, the student may be required to change his or her dress or appearance. The principal or principal's designee shall handle student violations of this policy.

- The first violation of this policy will result in a warning and parent contact.
- The second violation during the same school year may result in a short-term suspension from the school for up to ten days.
- A third or subsequent violation during the school year may result in a long-term suspension for the remainder of the school year.

Principals will maintain guidelines to assist students in determining appropriate dress and appearance for school, copies of which will be made available to parents and students. Items listed below shall be included in all school guidelines and shall apply to all students. Reasonable accommodation will be made by the school principal or principal's designee for those students who, because of a sincerely

held religious belief, cultural heritage, or medical reason, request a waiver of a particular guideline for dress or appearance. Reasonable accommodations shall be made by the principal to accommodate students involved in special duties, activities, or projects approved by the school. This would involve, but not be limited to: athletics, vocational classes and projects, special events, or other activities that would allow for nonconforming dress on a school campus.

Inappropriate Dress or Appearance for Elementary Students (Grades K-5)

The following attire is considered inappropriate for elementary students:

1. Clothing or attachments that are disruptive to the teaching or learning process and are revealing, indecent, vulgar, or obscene. (Examples include tank tops, short shorts, low-cut or overly tight clothing that shows the midriff, and clothing that has thin straps.)
2. Clothing that promotes alcoholic beverages or the use of controlled substances by words or symbols, or is of a disruptive nature.
3. Clothing that contains profanity, contains nudity, depicts violence, or is sexual in nature by words or symbols.
4. Hats, sweatbands, bandannas, or sunglasses inside school buildings.
5. Clothing that is sheer or mesh. Undergarments that are visible.
6. Sagging pants, which cause undergarments to be visible.
7. Footwear that may present a hazard to health and safety. (Examples include flip-flops, sandals, or other footwear that prevents a child from being able to run and climb on playground equipment safely. Students are required to wear tennis shoes for physical education.)

Legal References(s): G.S. 115C36,47,288,308,391(a)

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Each student will bring home an emergency information form for parents to fill out. Please take time to fill in each blank carefully and completely. This information needs to be up-to-date. **Please notify your child's teacher if any information regarding your child needs to be changed so that our information is always correct.** Teachers and administrators will use emergency contacts frequently when children become sick or injured at school, and parents must be contacted.

Students cannot be called to the telephone except in the event of an emergency. Emergency messages will be forwarded to students as necessary when calls are received. In addition, students will not be allowed to make telephone calls during the school day unless it is an emergency.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are an extension of the curriculum and part of the regular school day. Each grade level may choose to attend up to two (2) educational field trips each year. Due to safety and liability concerns, employees of Hasty Elementary School and/or the Davidson County School System will act as chaperones on field trips and will be responsible for handling any discipline issue or emergency that may arise. **Please note that field trips are a privilege and may be taken away from students due to behavior/safety concerns and/or attendance concerns. This is up to the principal.**

Parents may be invited to attend certain field trips when deemed appropriate by the grade level staff and the location they are visiting; however, parents must provide their own transportation. When attending a class field trip, we ask that you and your child stay with the teacher and the class so that your child will get the full benefit of the curriculum objectives being met through the field trip experience. To preserve the educational effectiveness of trips, siblings are not invited to attend. Students are expected to ride to and from all field trips with their class on the Davidson County Schools activity bus. We appreciate your involvement and interest in the education of your child. **Permission forms must be returned for all field trips, or your child will not be permitted to attend.**

HEALTH SCREENINGS

Each year, as a part of the N.C. School Health Program, students in selected grades receive health screenings by the Davidson County Health Department at their school. Screenings include dental, vision, and hearing. Parents are notified if a follow-up screening by a physician is recommended. If a parent does not want their child to receive the screening, they should inform the school office in writing at the beginning of the school year by September 1st.

The Friendly Dental Van is a service that provides dental screening to students who elect to have it. Forms will come home with your child asking for any parent who wishes to sign their child up for this service.

HOMEWORK

Because the curriculum established by the North Carolina State Department of Education is rigorous, and students are expected to perform at proficiency levels to be promoted to the next grade, it is necessary to reinforce daily classwork with homework. We realize that students may be involved in extracurricular activities and also need time with family. The following guidelines for homework are aligned with the expectations set forth by Davidson County Schools:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| - Kindergarten- 10 minutes | - Third Grade- 30 minutes |
| - First Grade- 10 minutes | - Fourth Grade- 40 minutes |
| - Second Grade- 20 minutes | - Fifth Grade- 50 minutes |

ILLNESS & INJURY

In order for us to ensure a healthy learning environment, we ask that you keep your child at home when sick. Students should be without a fever and fever-reducing medication for 24 hours before returning to school. If your child becomes ill while at school, you will be contacted and asked to pick up your child. The Davidson County Health Department recommends that if a child has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, they should be picked up from school. In the event you are contacted, please pick your child up within the half-hour.

If your child is injured at school, we will contact you for advice unless the injury is serious enough that emergency treatment is needed at once. In that case, you will be contacted to meet us at the medical treatment center. For minor injuries, students will be treated in the office and will return to class. Hasty Elementary has trained first aid responders, diabetic care managers, and CPR-certified staff members. If your child has a chronic illness, such as asthma, diabetes, heart problems, or life-threatening allergies, please inform your child's teacher immediately.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

A decision to delay or close school is made by Davidson County Central Office staff and will usually be announced by 6:00 am. Listen to your local television and radio announcements for news on school delays and closings. NO ANNOUNCEMENT means that school is running on a normal schedule. Schools can be delayed 1, 2, or 3 hours depending on conditions.

LICE POLICY

Any student identified with head lice will be sent home at the time live bugs are found for treatment of the lice and removal of nits (eggs) from the hair. A packet containing lice and nit removal instructions will be sent home for the parents. It should be counted as an excused absence if a student is sent home prior to having been at school long enough to be counted present for the day. Students should return to school no later than the following day. Returning students should be accompanied by an adult and report to the school office to be screened again by the school designee for any remaining live lice. If live lice are found after being checked, the student should return home for an oil treatment or other alternative non-chemical treatment. It will be treated as the same occurrence. A student will be excused no more than two (2) back-to-back days for three (3) occurrences due to the presence of live lice. The family will be referred to the school nurse and/or student services (social worker or school counselor) for assistance as needed to review treatment and removal efforts, give suggestions to remedy the problem, and assist the family with a plan. All unexcused absences are subject to the consequences as set forth in the Davidson County Schools' attendance policy. Every effort should be made to keep the child in attendance to remain on track academically.

If your child is found to have live lice, they will be sent home. You must bring the child to the office for a lice check before the child will be allowed to return to class the following day. When a child is being sent home for lice, any sibling(s) will be checked as well. It is important to remember that head lice can affect anyone. This requires that we work together to monitor and control the problem to prevent it from spreading. Please assist us so that we may keep the problem minimal.

MEDICATIONS

It is recognized that students may need to take medications during school hours. School personnel may administer medications prescribed by a doctor upon the written request of the parent(s)/legal guardian. A medication form must be on file. A copy can be picked up in the office or found on the DCS website.. To minimize disruptions to the school day, medicines should be taken at home rather than at school whenever possible. School personnel should not agree to administer any medication that could be taken at home. Students may self-medicate and possess medications as prescribed by their physician only in situations that include asthma (inhalers), diabetes (insulin and glucometer), and severe allergic reactions (epinephrine auto-injection). A self-carry form must be on file in these situations.

All other prescription drugs must be registered and stored in a designated area, along with the required medical forms, and be administered by school personnel. The following criteria must be met for self-medication of asthma, diabetic, or emergency drugs, and/or for school personnel to administer medications.

The appropriate DCS medication form, available in the school's office and on the DCS website, must be signed by a parent(s) legal guardian and licensed health-care provider.

Required information:

1. Written authorization for the student's parent or guardian for the student to possess self-administered asthma, diabetic, and emergency medication.
2. A written statement from the student's health-care provider verifying that the student has asthma, diabetes, or severe allergies.
3. For school personnel to administer over-the-counter medication, a physician must certify that administration of the drug is necessary during the school day.
4. In the container dispensed by a pharmacist with the student's name, name of medication, and date the prescription was filled, and clearly marked directions.
5. Student's name and birthdate

6. Names of medication/equipment
7. Dosage to be taken at school
8. Relationship to meals
9. The medication should be taken and side effects
10. Any reasons not to take medication
11. The date medication should be stopped

Students may ask for health counseling from the school nurse, including:

1. Review of health condition medications, triggers, precautions
2. Role play of the procedure to be used when necessary
3. Review of medication policy and disciplinary actions for sharing medication
4. Self-medication contract requested by the parent and signed by the student

Students who are at risk for medical emergencies, such as those with asthma, diabetes, and severe allergies, should have an emergency health-care plan developed for them by their doctor and parent(s)/legal guardian to address emergency administration of medicine.

Students may not distribute, purchase, or sell any medication, prescription, or non-prescription. Medications may not be transported to and from school on a school bus unless a self-carry form is on file at the school. Otherwise, medications must be brought into the school office by the parent and picked up there as well.

MONEY, CAFETERIA, AND SCHOOL FEES

Breakfast and Lunch Information

School breakfast and lunch are free for Hasty students during the 25-26 school year. Supplemental items, like cookies, chips, etc., are available for purchase. You can either send money with your child or prepay at this website: <https://www.k12paymentcenter.com/>. If you would like to place restrictions on what your child can purchase or consume in the cafeteria, please send this information in a letter to your child's teacher or call our cafeteria manager. We will make every effort to honor your request. **Please do NOT bring restaurant or fast food items to your child at lunch. He/she will not be able to eat it at school.** Please be considerate of all the students. This policy is in effect in all elementary schools in the school system.

Visitors at Lunch:

Please allow us time to get our routines in place. We will allow lunch visitors beginning September 29th. We will use a schedule for lunch guests this year.

Follow these steps if you visit for lunch:

- Make sure the lunch guest is on the school pickup list. Guests not on the list will not be able to enter our building.
- Have your ID ready.
- Ring the front doorbell and notify office staff that you are coming to eat with your child.
- A front office staff member will check your picture ID and verify that you are approved to visit.
- You will sign the Visitor's Log and be given a Visitor's sticker.
- Your child's teacher will be notified that you are coming for lunch.
- You will walk through the 2/3 hall, go up the ramp, and wait outside the cafeteria doors for your child's class to come by. Once they do, you may join them.
- At the end of lunchtime, your child will walk back to the classroom with the class.
- We do not allow visitors to walk students back to the classroom after lunch. Once you leave the cafeteria, you will go back to the school office to sign out with a member of our office staff.

Breakfast and Lunch are FREE this year!!

Student Fees

A system-wide instructional fee of \$7.00 is required of all students in kindergarten through fifth grade. This should be paid at the beginning of the school year. Please make every effort to attempt to pay this fee for your child(ren). This fee helps with the cost of instructional materials, resource books, physical education equipment, and first aid supplies. Additionally, a technology fee of \$35 is required annually. Please make every effort to pay the fees through the School Cash Online website/APP.

Worthless Check Program

Worthless checks received by Davidson County Schools will be turned over to the District Attorney's Office. The criminal process will be issued, if needed, to collect restitution for the amount of the check. Penalty fees will be applied.

PROMOTION STANDARDS

One of the most important responsibilities that we have as educators is monitoring student performance and behavior. It is equally important to inform parents regarding the progress their children are making in the classroom. Each teacher has developed a plan for contacting parents regarding student progress. Samples of student work, graded papers, grade sheets, homework, and folders including classwork are examples of the material that will be sent home to you. In many cases, the teacher will ask you to return a signed form stating that you have reviewed your child's work. Your cooperation and assistance with this procedure will allow parents and teachers to maintain contact, improve communication, schedule conferences, and effectively improve student performance.

Principals have the authority to promote or retain students based upon the standards approved by the board and any applicable standards set by the State Board of Education.

For Students in Grades K-2

To be promoted in grades K-2, students must meet teacher standards in language arts and mathematics, as well as requirements stated in the system's Attendance Policy.

For Students in Grades 3-5

To be promoted in grades 3-5, students must meet teacher standards and attendance requirements, and achieve at or above Level III on North Carolina's End-of-Grade Tests in reading and mathematics. State law also requires that students be retained in third grade if the student fails to demonstrate reading proficiency appropriate for a third-grade student as demonstrated on a State-approved standardized test of reading comprehension administered to third-grade students.

TITLE IX & STUDENT GRIEVANCES

The Davidson County Board of Education believes all students and staff working in our schools will not be treated unfairly because they are a woman or a man, because of what they may look like, or personal beliefs they may have. Threatening, teasing, or making fun of a person is not acceptable. Also, included in these beliefs would be unwanted sexual behavior where someone might make another person feel uncomfortable. Every individual in Davidson County will be able to work in a safe, organized, and encouraging learning/working environment. The Board is committed to ensuring that all students and staff are empowered and given equal opportunity in all academic and employment activities. The Board does not allow illegal, unfair treatment based on race, color, birthplace, gender, pregnancy, religion, military service, age, or disability. When individuals violate Title IX, appropriate action will be taken, up to and including suspension (for students) and possible termination (for staff).

TOBACCO & VAPE FREE SCHOOL POLICY

The Davidson County Board of Education recognizes that the use of tobacco is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, employees, visitors, and school facilities. The Board believes that the use of tobacco products on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, on school property, or at a school-related or school-sponsored event is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff, and visitors. The Board acknowledges that adult employees and visitors serve as role models for the students. The Board recognizes that it has an obligation to promote positive role models in schools and promote a healthy learning and working environment, free from unwanted smoke and tobacco use for the students, employees, and visitors on the school campus. Finally, the Board recognizes that it has the legal authority and obligation pursuant to G.S. 115C-407 Policy Prohibiting Tobacco Use in School Buildings as well as the federal Pro-Children's Act Title X of Public Law 103-227 and the No Child Left Behind Act.

1. **Tobacco Use Prohibited...**No student, staff member, or school visitor is permitted to use any tobacco product at any time, including non-school hours:

- A. In any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented, or chartered by DCS
- B. On any school grounds and property - including athletic fields and parking lots – owned, leased, rented, or chartered by the Davidson County Board of Education or
- C. At any school-sponsored or school-related event on-campus or off-campus. In addition, school district employees, school volunteers, contractors or other persons performing services on behalf of the school district also are prohibited from using tobacco products at any time while on duty and in the presence of students, either on or off school grounds or property or at any school-sponsored or school-related event or at any other time that students are under the authority of school personnel.

2. **Definition of Tobacco Products and Tobacco Use...**For this policy, "tobacco product" includes cigarettes, cigars, blunts, bidis, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco products. "Tobacco use" includes smoking, chewing, dipping, or any other use of tobacco products.

3. **Signage...**Signs will be posted in a manner and location that adequately notify students, staff, and visitors about the 100% tobacco-free school policy.

4. **Compliance for Students...**Compliance for students engaging in the prohibited behavior will be provided in accordance with the provisions incorporated in Davidson County Board of Education Policy 6.11, Standards of Expected Student Behavior, Rule 9.

5. **Compliance for Staff and Visitors...**Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use policy will be in accordance with personnel policies and may include verbal warning, written reprimand, or termination. Visitors using tobacco products will be asked to refrain while on school property. Law enforcement officers may be contacted to escort the person off the premises or cite the person for trespassing if the person refuses to leave the school property.

6. **Opportunities for Cessation...**The administration will consult with the county health department and other appropriate health organizations to provide students and employees with information and access to support systems, programs, and services to encourage them to abstain from the use of tobacco products.

7. **Prevention Education...**The administration will consult with appropriate health organizations to identify and provide programs or opportunities for students to gain a greater understanding of the health hazards of tobacco use and the impact of tobacco use as it relates to providing a safe,

orderly, clean and inviting school environment. Per G.S. 115-81a3.11, the administration will ensure that the North Carolina Healthful Living Education Standard Course of Study for grades K-9 be taught using sequential, age-appropriate, current, accurate, evidence-based on curricula, and skills-based approaches. In the elementary setting, students in 5th grade will partake in a program called D.A.R.E., which is run by the Davidson County Sheriff's Office.

8. Procedures of Implementation

The administration will develop a plan for communicating the policy to staff, students, parents, and the public. A compliance protocol, which identifies procedures for reminding adults of the policy and outlines consequences for students, staff, and visitors who repeatedly violate the policy, will be created and communicated to all students, staff, parents, and the public. Adopted: January 8, 2007.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

Every student's routine for leaving school is recorded on information forms in their classrooms. **The routine for leaving school must be followed each day, unless a note written by the parent or guardian is sent to the office and teacher specifying different arrangements.** Students will not be allowed to get off their school bus at a different stop, nor will they be allowed to ride a different bus than the one to which they are assigned. The teacher then submits this written note to the office.

All transportation changes MUST be in writing AND received in the office NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM.

Transportation changes after 2:00 pm create confusion for students and staff. Our top priority is for students to arrive safely at the correct destination in the afternoons. Therefore, we will not accept transportation changes after 2:00. We also will not take any bus or car changes over the telephone. This is a safety concern, and we need a parent's signature on any changes.

VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

Parents are encouraged to maintain contact with their child's teacher. It is strongly encouraged that parent-teacher conferences be scheduled throughout the year as needed; however, conferences **must be** scheduled when teachers have concerns. Having a scheduled conference date and time will allow teachers to have work samples and other information available to share with you at the scheduled time.

All visitors/parents to the school are required to stop by the office upon entering the school to sign in. A visitor's badge will then be issued which is to be worn during the visit. All staff members are required to survey visitors for a badge and to request that they return to the office to obtain one if they have not done so. For safety purposes, no one will be allowed to enter our buildings without a badge.

VOLUNTEER POLICY: Any volunteers who wish to work in our school and within our classrooms must complete the DCS Volunteer Contract with the office, as well as have a current background check on file with DCS. **Background Checks must be completed and can take up to 30 days to process.** Parents and community volunteers are NOT to be in classrooms until the office verifies that we have both of these documents on file. We will give teachers all approved forms, and they may contact you to set up a volunteer work schedule. We must always know who is in our school building and why; this is a safety precaution. DCS has a handbook for volunteers that you will be given if you are approved to volunteer and if you are asked by a staff member to come into the school to assist them. If instruction is disrupted by your presence, you may not be asked to volunteer inside the school building.

Davidson County Schools Board Policy Manual

Our Parent/Student Handbook serves to present policies and procedures that are most pertinent to Hasty Elementary. It is not an all-inclusive document. For detailed information about Davidson County Schools' Board Policies, please visit: www.davidson.k12.nc.us. Under the Administration tab, click on School Board and then School Board Policy Manual.

We look forward to a great school year and want to partner with you to ensure the success of your child.

Please be sure to sign and return the handbook acknowledgement form to your child's teacher during the first week of school.

Thank you!

Hasty Elementary Parent/Student Handbook Acknowledgement



"A Community Where Kids Come First."

Please read the contents of the Parent/Student handbook and return this form, signed and dated, back to your child's teacher within the first week of school. Thank you for your partnership in your child's education. It is going to be a fantastic school year!

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Grade: _____

We have read and reviewed the Parent/Student Handbook together. I understand and agree that my child will abide by the rules and regulations set by the Davidson County School District and Hasty Elementary School in order to create a positive and safe learning environment for all students.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Date: _____