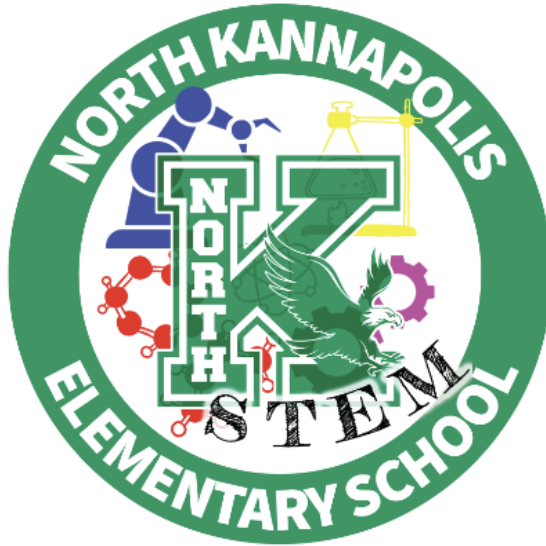


North Kannapolis STEM Elementary School



2026-2027 Student & Family Handbook

800 N. Walnut St.
Kannapolis, North Carolina 28083
Office Number: (704) 933-2935
Fax Number: (704) 932-5502

NORTH KANNAPOLIS STEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Lauren Dobbin, Principal
Garrett Cooperman, Assistant Principal

SCHOOL HOURS

Students Enter Building: 8:05
Tardy: 8:35
Dismissal: 3:30
Office 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
Teacher Hours: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

School Mascot: Eagle
School Colors: Green and White

MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering lifelong learners for the future.

CORE VALUES

Collaboration: Together, we strive to do our best work.
Compassion: We lift each other up.
Perseverance: We keep going through challenges.
Integrity: We are honest and trustworthy in all that we do.
Innovation: Our learning leads to action and our actions lead to learning.

SCHOOL PLEDGE

At North Kannapolis, all Eagles will be respectful, responsible, and safe,
and we will always try our best.

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SAFE SCHOOLS

Please help us keep our school safe by following our school policies and procedures, as well as the directives of staff members when you visit. Please sign in using our Raptor program. You will be required to wear a visitor badge. A visitor Pass will be provided for you.

ARRIVAL/ DISMISSAL

It is important for each of us to cooperate and follow directions when bringing or picking up children. Safety is our main priority. Parents must avoid getting out of their cars and crossing the drop-off lane; this slows the flow of traffic and causes delays. When **dropping off or** picking up children, use a single lane; no double lane for pickup or arrival unless directed to do so.

Afternoon Dismissal

Dismissal begins at 3:30 PM and all car riders must be picked up by 3:50 PM. Follow the directions of the staff working in the parking lot. Parents must not leave cars unattended. Car rider tags must be clearly displayed in vehicles to expedite the car dismissal line. No students will be permitted to be signed out from the office after 3:00 PM.

Bus Riders

Each eligible student is assigned to a morning bus route and afternoon bus route. Students may not ride any bus other than their assigned bus. Students must follow all school expectations to continue to ride the bus.

Changes to PM Transportation

For a **temporary/ emergency** change to PM transportation, please do the following by 3:00PM:

- Send a written and signed note with your child or a [ParentSquare](#) message to notify the school

- Also phone the front office to confirm with staff on site.

After 3:00PM, transportation changes cannot be guaranteed.

For **permanent** changes to a student's transportation, a legal guardian must make those changes with our front office staff in person.

Early Dismissal/ Sign-Out

A parent/ guardian must first come to the front office to sign the student out. Once the parent/ guardian arrives, office personnel will call the child to the office for dismissal. Please have a picture ID ready.

We also request that the teacher be notified in writing (via a signed note or [ParentSquare](#) message) when a child is to be picked up early and who will be picking up the child.

Any child leaving prior to 12:00 PM will be marked absent for the day.

Early Release Days

The following days are Early Release Days for students for the 26-27 school year.

- October 9th
- December 18th
- March 5th
- May 26th

Dismissal on these days will take place from 12:30-12:50 PM.

Before School Care

1. Before School Care for 2026-27 will operate from 7:00 - 8:05 a.m.
2. The total cost for Before School Care for the 2026-27 school year will be **\$720.00**.

This can be paid using one of three options:

- a. A one-time, full payment of **\$720.00** submitted by August 11.
- b. 2 equal payments of **\$360.00** submitted by August 11, and by December 1.
- c. 9 Monthly payments of **\$80.00** following the schedule below -

- Monday, August 10, 2026
- Tuesday, September 1, 2026
- Wednesday, October 1, 2026
- Monday, November 2, 2026
- Tuesday, December 1, 2026
- Monday, January 4, 2027
- Monday, February 1, 2027
- Monday, March 1, 2027
- Thursday, April 1, 2027

3. As in the past, a late fee of **\$10.00** will be required for any payments made after the dates provided above.
4. There are no reduced or prorated rates for partial months. The monthly fee covers staffing for the whole month, so parents can take advantage of as much of the month they have paid for as they wish.
5. If payment is not received within 3 school days of the dates provided above, students will not be permitted to participate in KCS Before School Care. Students can resume attending once payment and late fees have been paid.
6. Families participating in KCS Before School Care should register by completing the following [form](#). A QR Code is provided below.
7. Tuition can be paid through School Cash Online only. Cash or checks will **not** be accepted. Please do not hesitate to contact Tracy Dellaporta at 704-933-2935 or via email at tracy.dellaporta@kcs.k12.nc.us if you have any questions.

Registration Form:



Releasing Children To Custodial Parents

A child must be released by the school to any legal parent. Please review your legal papers on file in the office at the beginning of

each school term to be sure they reflect the most recent court decision.

ATTENDANCE

We emphasize school attendance in Kannapolis City Schools. As parents and teachers, we know there is a clear relationship between good attendance and school achievement. Our goal is to encourage students to strive for perfect attendance!

We know that not all children will attain this goal, yet it is still our hope to instill the importance of good school attendance. North Carolina Compulsory Attendance Law (GS115C-378) states parents and guardians are responsible for ensuring that their children attend school each day it is in session (180 days). A student must be in attendance at least **3 hours 20 minutes** during the official school day to be counted present.

School personnel may request that a law enforcement officer accompany them if a home visit is necessary. If, after ten accumulated unexcused absences in a school year, the principal or their designee determines that the parent/guardian has not made a good faith effort to comply with the law, school personnel may file a truancy petition in the county where the student resides.

If the principal or their designee determines that the parent/guardian has made a good faith effort to comply with the law, the principal may file a complaint with the juvenile court counselor that the child is habitually absent from school without a valid cause. Documentation that demonstrates that the parents/guardians were notified and that the child has accumulated ten absences which cannot be justified under the established attendance policies shall constitute parent responsibility for absences.

According to NC law, trips or vacations are considered unexcused absences unless prior approval is received from the principal. If you are planning a trip and believe the absences should be excused, please obtain an "Opportunity for Education" form from the school office or download one from our

website. This form will need to be returned back to school at least one week before the absences begin. Please note that no forms will be accepted after the trip has been taken. No trips of any nature will be approved as excused absences during the End of Grade Tests for grades 3-5.

Excused absences

Absences from school will be excused for the following reasons:

- Illness of the student
- Death in the immediate family
- Religious holidays approved by the school system
- Education opportunities with prior approval from the principal. *(maximum of 5 days/year)
- Court or Administrative proceedings
- The school may request a doctor's statement for frequent or lengthy absences for illness.

Notes

When a child returns to school after being absent, the parent or guardian is expected to send a note via ParentSquare to the Data Manager, Tracy Dellaporta, within two days of absence with the following information:

- The date of the note
- The date of the absence
- The specific reason for the absence
- Parent signature
- Written notes, email messages or [ParentSquare](#) messages should always be sent even when there has been verbal communication.

Unexcused

Unexcused absences will be considered truant. When a student has accumulated between three and six unexcused absences, parents will be notified by the Principal that they may be in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law. After ten unexcused absences, the school Attendance Committee will partner with the parent/guardian(s) to support improved attendance.

Returning after sickness

Children must be free from diarrhea, vomiting and fever for 24 hours without medication before returning to school.

Make-up work from a planned absence

If your child has a planned, extended absence and you would like them to have the opportunity to engage with instructional materials, please notify your child's teacher at least five (5) school days in advance. Completing this work does not replace new instruction and does not count for attendance.

Inclement Weather

The KCS Superintendent decides when schools require closing. Parents should check ParentSquare for official notifications and follow KCS social media for up-to-date information concerning school closings. Please make sure to keep all emergency contact information up to date.

A form will be sent home at the beginning of the year for parents to indicate what their child is to do when school closes early due to inclement weather.

CAFETERIA

Breakfast & Lunch

We are pleased to offer a free breakfast program for our students.

Balanced lunches are served in the cafeteria at no cost. A copy of the month's [menu is available online](#).

Lunch Guidelines

Kannapolis City Schools is committed to promoting student health, reducing childhood obesity, providing a variety of nutritional foods, and promoting lifelong healthy eating habits. Meals brought from home should not include soda, energy drinks, fast food items.

Lunch Visitors

Please help us keep our school safe by following all school expectations when you visit for lunch.

- Must sign in the front office.
- Complete a name tag and wear it.
- Permitted in Eagle Nest (only) with only your child/student.
- A student must have parent approval to have lunch with a visitor.
- Lunch visitors are only approved to visit the Eagle's Nest and the front office. Other areas of the school are closed to lunch visitors.
- Lunch visitors may use the restroom in the front office.
- *Please clean up lunch items from Eagles Nest tables and floors.*
- Students must return to their class at the end of their scheduled lunch time.
- All lunch visitors (including children) must remain at the tables during the lunch visit and adhere to all school expectations. *The aquaponics lab can be viewed but must not be touched - our fish and plants are sensitive!*

STUDENT CELEBRATIONS

Food Policy for Student Parties

For birthdays or classroom celebrations, all foods provided for students are to be packaged/store-bought. Homemade items are not allowed for student consumption. This precautionary guideline provides school personnel with a "contents label" to protect students with specific food allergies.

Painting the Rock & Personalized Digital Sign Messages

Families may call the front office and pay in advance to reserve a day to have the rock spray-painted or a message on the Digital Sign to recognize students' birthdays.

- \$5.00 to spray paint Spirit Rock
- \$20.00 for 5 days on Digital Sign

Student Birthdays

No invitations to birthday parties are allowed at school. These are not items that

can be distributed on the school campus or bus.

If you plan to send a treat to be shared for your child's birthday during their lunch time, please check with your child's teacher to ensure that what you plan to send/ bring will be appropriate and safe for all classmates, who may have dietary restrictions or allergies.

Examples of acceptable treats:

- a pre-wrapped oatmeal cookie for each child;
- a box of bakery cookies or pastries (enough for each child to have one);
- individually packaged Italian ices; etc.

No flowers or balloons should be sent to your child during school; these items cannot be sent to your child's class or home on the school bus.

DRESS CODE AND UNIFORM POLICY

Below is the KCS School Board Policy on student dress. When a student is found to be out of dress code at school, staff will bring the student to the office and call home to request a change of clothes be brought so the student can return to class in appropriate dress.

[KCS Dress Code Board Policy 4316](#)
[KCS Dress Code Details Regulation 4316-R:](#)

The Kannapolis City Board of Education believes that a safe and supportive learning environment is essential to operating successful schools. To this end, the Board has adopted a student dress code to assist administrators, teachers, students and parents in fulfilling a mission of Kannapolis City Schools to provide all students quality educational opportunities that enable them to become successful and responsible citizens. This dress code is designed to encourage learning, promote positive behavior and support safety.

Policy 4316, Student Dress Code and this regulation apply to clothing, jewelry, book bags, and other personal articles. The dress code shall embody and be consistent with the following board requirements:

1. Clothing and appearance must not be provocative or obscene and clothing must not depict or display words or images that are profane, vulgar, obscene, and/or violent;
2. Clothing and appearance must not be disruptive; and
3. Clothing and appearance must not threaten the health or safety of students or others.

TOPS

- Collared short-sleeved or long-sleeved shirts
- KCS Spirit Wear
- Shirts shorter than mid-thigh if untucked
- Collared dresses or tunics are permitted and should be mid-thigh or longer in length
- Cover shoulders, chest, back and midriff completely
- Undergarments are not to be visible

BOTTOMS

- Shorts, pants, capris, skirts (does not include athletic/exercise pants or jeans)
- Solid navy, black, khaki or gray
- Worn at waist level
- Shorts, skirts and dresses reach mid-thigh or longer
- Tights, leggings or other form fitting attire may be worn under approved bottom wear
- Undergarments are not to be visible

OUTERWEAR - JACKETS, COATS, SWEATERS, PULLOVERS, SWEATSHIRTS, HOODIES, and VESTS

- Hoods must be removed from the head while inside the school building or on the school bus
- If outerwear is removed, approved top must be worn

SHOES

- Worn at all times
- Tied or properly fastened
- Bedroom slippers, flip-flops and athletic slides are not appropriate footwear

HEADWEAR

- Headwear, with the exception of scarves and headbands, is not permitted in school buildings or buses

- Headwear exceptions may be made for religious or healthcare reasons, with school level administrative approval
- Hats, caps, toboggans, do-rags, full head wraps, and hoods are not permitted headwear
- Bandanas are not permitted in any fashion or worn in any manner

EXCEPTIONS

- School clubs or teams wearing approved shirts or uniforms as approved by the principal
- Spirit Days and other special occasions established by the principal (bottom wear must still be mid-thigh or longer; shoulders, chest, back and midriff must still be covered completely; ties and bow ties may be worn)

For the purposes of this dress code, clothing that is see-through, cut, torn, advertises drugs/alcohol, displays offensive, obscene or pornographic words or images, or is otherwise disruptive is not permissible.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

KCS Board of Education Behavior Policy [4300](#)

KCS Board Of Education Weapons & Dangerous Objects Policy

It is the policy of the Kannapolis City Board of Education ("Board") that no employee or student shall possess or carry (whether openly or concealed) any gun, rifle, pistol, dynamite, cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, power explosive as defined in NC Gen. Stat. 14-284.1, bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles or any other weapon of like kind, not used solely for instructional or school sanctioned ceremonial purposes, in any school building or bus, on any school campus, grounds, recreation area, athletic field, or other property owned, used or operated by the Board of Education.

Bullying And Harassment

Bullying and/or harassing are strictly prohibited. The repeated pattern of intimidation may be real or threatened. There are 3 types of bullying: physical, emotional, and relational. Bullying may include, but not limited to: verbal taunts, name calling, implied or stated threats, and exclusion from peer groups. Bullying can occur in person, or through social networking sites, texting, blogging, and the internet. Students who feel bullied, harassed or intimidated at school by an adult or another student should report the concern to a teacher, administrator or other staff member at school. Kannapolis City Schools has policies prohibiting bullying, harassment and discrimination.

Schoolwide Rules

North Kannapolis Elementary School continues to implement school wide rules and expectations. Please see the following rules and expectations for all areas of our school to help your student to have positive days!

Voice Levels:

- Level 0- No talking, no sounds
- Level 1- Whisper
- Level 2- Normal speaking voice
- Level 3- Outside voice

Classrooms/ Connect	
Be Respectful	• Be a good listener. • Allow others to learn. • Use kind words and actions. • Be honest.
Be Responsible	• Be engaged and do quality work. • Use materials appropriately and put them away. • Complete work on time. • Follow directions and classroom routines.
Be Safe	• Move appropriately through the room. • Keep hands, feet, & objects to self. • Use inside voices.

Hallways & Walkways

Be Respectful	• Walk in a straight line. • Give others space. • Remain silent (Level 0).
Be Responsible	• Return to class promptly. • Keep hallways clean. • Greet others with a silent wave.
Be Safe	• Use walking feet. • Keep hands at sides. • Keep eyes ahead. • Stay on the right side of the hall.

Cafeteria	
Be Respectful	• Use inside voices. • Eat your own food. • Follow instructions. • Say please and thank you. • Line up quietly when it is time to leave.
Be Responsible	• Help keep all tables clean. • Keep food on the tray. • Empty trays and all trash into the container.
Be Safe	• Use walking feet. • Stay seated with both feet under the table. • Keep hands, feet & objects to yourself.

Restrooms	
Be Respectful	• Allow privacy for everyone. • One person per stall. • Use the restroom equipment properly.
Be Responsible	• Always flush the toilet. • Put all trash in appropriate containers. • Return to the classroom promptly. • Report any problems to teacher or custodian.
Be Safe	• Use walking feet. • Keep hands, feet & objects to yourself (no horseplay). • Wash hands with soap; rinse until clean. • Keep water in the sink.

Playground* (additional info below)	
Be Respectful	• Enter building silently (at Level 0). • Share equipment. • Take turns. • Use equipment for its intended purpose.
Be Responsible	• Line up at first signal. • Return all equipment to its proper area. • Put litter in trash bags.
Be Safe	• Participate in school-approved games only. • Stay in designated areas. • Follow rules for equipment and games. • Use kind words to solve problems.

Buses* (additional info below)	
Be Respectful	• Use kind and appropriate words. • Follow all directions of the driver the first time. • When there is a line, wait patiently.
Be Responsible	• Be ready to load/ unload at your stop. • Remember all belongings. • Keep the bus clean and damage-free.
Be Safe	• Use Level 1/ Level 0 volume as directed. • Remain seated until the bus stops. • Keep hands, feet & objects to self. • Keep backpacks in lap, and all items in backpack.

Playground Safety

During the school day, only students and staff are allowed on the playground.

The playground areas are unsupervised after school hours. Do not allow children to return to the playground areas without adult supervision. Please report any existing playground safety concerns to the office. Thank you for your cooperation in taking proper precautions to

prevent injuries from occurring.

Bus Expectations

Kannapolis City Schools expects students to demonstrate appropriate behavior on the school bus. Students are expected to follow bus rules and follow discipline guidelines. It is a privilege to ride the bus in the state of North Carolina. Students who misbehave on the bus and receive referrals are subject to suspension and expulsion from the bus. Administration will determine the appropriate consequence for students receiving a bus referral.

Cellular Devices

Any needed calls home by children will be conducted with a staff member using a school phone (for sickness, etc). Children will not be allowed to call home for homework, library books, etc. All student phones must stay in their book bags and remain turned off. Please call the school if a message needs to be delivered to your student.

Extra Money And Valuables At School

Children should not make a practice of bringing money or valuables to school. If sending cash to the school, please put lunch money, snack money, fees, etc. in an envelope with the child's name, teacher's name, the amount of money enclosed, and the purpose for the money written on the outside.

With the exception of school-approved activities, **no toys are allowed at school at any time.** Prohibited items may be confiscated and will need to be picked up by a parent or guardian.

FIELD TRIPS

Parents will be given a 4-week notice of any field trip their child will be attending outside KCS.

Each field trip has its own unique needs and environments, and staff must make decisions that best account for safety

and the site's policies. The following scenarios will be determined trip-by-trip:

- Parents invited to attend
- KCS-approved volunteers invited to chaperone
- No visitors allowed

Siblings are not permitted to attend field trips with a parent.

Since field trips are educational, all students in a class should go on the field trip unless there are unusual circumstances.

If parents want to take their child home directly from the field trip site, they must sign their child out with the teacher.

HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Administration of Medication During School Hours

If your child must have medication of any type during school hours, including over-the-counter drugs, you have the following choices:

- You may come to school and give the medication to your child at the appropriate time(s). All medicines must be in the original container.
- You may obtain a copy of a medication form from the school nurse. Take the form to your child's doctor and have them complete the form by listing the medication(s) needed, dosage, and number of times per day it is to be administered. This form must be completed by the physician for both prescription and over-the-counter drugs.
- You may discuss with your child's doctor an alternative schedule for administering medication (e.g., outside of school hours.)

If your child is subject to unusual health hazards such as an allergy to bee stings, and/or requires special medical intervention (e.g., asthma, diabetes, etc.), please notify the school nurse.

The school does not assume responsibility for students who administer medication to themselves (self-medicate).

At the conclusion of a student's treatment, the unused medication must be removed from the school by the parents.

School personnel will not administer any medication to students unless they have received a medication form properly completed and signed by the doctor, and the medication has been received in an appropriately labeled container. Medication must be brought in by a parent and given to the school nurse. Office staff will not accept medications. In fairness to those giving the medication and to protect the safety of your child, there will be no exceptions to this policy.

If you have any questions about this policy or other issues related to the administration of medication in the schools, please contact the school nurse.

Alcohol and Drugs in Elementary Schools

If a student in grades K-5 is in possession of alcohol or drugs, the following guidelines will be followed:

Each case or occurrence will be dealt with individually.

Students who are in possession of alcohol or drugs not prescribed by a doctor or are under the influence of same will be removed from class and may be suspended from school. In either case, a parent conference will be required before the student returns to class.

The principal will get all of the facts concerning the case and confer with the assistant superintendent, and an appropriate plan of action shall be set in motion.

It will be a joint decision of the principal and assistant superintendent before calling in any outside agencies.

The plan of action will be written and signed by the principal and assistant superintendent.

Law enforcement will be called in, as appropriate.

Vaccination Policies

The North Carolina General Statutes (G.S. 130A-152(a)) require immunizations for every child present in this state. Every parent, guardian or person in loco parentis is

responsible for ensuring that their child(ren) receive required immunizations. If you have specific questions regarding your child, please contact your child's health care provider or your local health department. North Carolina requires the following immunizations:

Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis

Five doses (DTaP). Three doses by age seven months and two booster doses, the first by age 19 months and the second on or after the fourth birthday and before entering school for the first time. If the fourth dose was administered on or after the fourth birthday, the fifth dose is not required.

A booster dose of tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap) vaccine is required for individuals who have not previously received it and are entering the seventh grade or by 12 years of age, whichever comes first.

Individuals entering college or university for the first time on or after July 1, 2008 must have had three doses of tetanus/diphtheria toxoid; one of which must be tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis.

Polio

Four doses. Two doses by five months of age, a third dose by 19 months of age and a booster dose on or after the fourth birthday and before entering school for the first time. If the third dose was administered on or after the fourth birthday, the fourth dose is not required if the third dose was given at least six months after the second dose.

Measles

Two doses at least 28 days apart. One dose on or after 12 months of age and before 16 months of age, and a second dose before entering school for the first time. The requirement for a second dose does not apply to individuals who entered school, college or university for the first time before July 1, 1994.

A person who has been diagnosed prior to January 1, 1994 by a physician (or designee such as a nurse practitioner or physician's assistant) as having measles (rubeola) or an individual who has been documented by serological testing to have a protective antibody titer against measles is not required to receive measles vaccine. Individuals born before 1957 are not required to receive measles vaccine except in measles outbreak situations.

Mumps

Two doses. One dose on or after 12 months of age and before age 16 months, and a second dose before entering school, college or university for the first time.

A physician's diagnosis is not acceptable for mumps disease(s). Individuals must be immunized or have laboratory confirmation of disease or

have been documented by serological testing to have a protective antibody against mumps. Individuals born before 1957 are not required to receive the mumps vaccine. Individuals that entered the first grade for the first time before July 1, 1987 or college or university before July 1, 1994 are not required to receive the vaccine. Individuals that entered school, college, or university before July 1, 2008 are not required to receive the second dose of mumps vaccine.

Rubella

One dose on or after 12 months of age and before 16 months of age.

A physician's diagnosis is not acceptable for rubella disease(s). Individuals must be immunized or have laboratory confirmation of rubella disease or have been documented by serological testing to have a protective antibody titer against rubella. Any individual who has attained his or her fiftieth birthday is not required to receive rubella vaccine except in outbreak situations. Any individual who entered college or university after his or her thirtieth birthday and before February 1, 1989 is not required to receive rubella vaccine except in outbreak situations.

Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)

Three doses of HbOC or PRP-T, or two doses of PRP-OMP before age seven months and a booster dose of any type on or after age 12 months and by age 16 months.

Individuals who receive the first dose of Hib on or after seven months of age and before 12 months of age are required to have two doses of HbOC, PRP-T or PRP-OMP and a booster dose on or after 12 months of age and by 16 months of age. Individuals who receive the first dose of Hib on or after 12 months of age and before 15 months of age are required to have only two doses of HbOC, PRP-T or PRP-OMP and a booster dose two months later. Individuals who receive the first dose of Hib vaccine on or after 15 months of age are required to have only one dose of any of the Hib conjugate vaccines. Individuals who have passed their fifth birthday are not required to be vaccinated against Hib.

Hepatitis B

Three doses. One dose by three months of age, second dose by five months of age and a third dose by 19 months of age. The last dose of hepatitis B vaccine series shall not be administered prior to 24 weeks of age. Individuals born before July 1, 1994 are not required to receive the hepatitis B vaccine.

Varicella

Two doses administered at least 28 days apart. One dose on or after 12 months of age and before age 19 months, and a second dose before entering school for the first time.

An individual with laboratory confirmation of varicella disease immunity or has been

documented by serological testing to have a protective antibody titer against varicella is not required to receive varicella vaccine. An individual who has documentation from a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant verifying history of varicella disease is not required to receive varicella vaccine. The documentation shall include the name of the individual with a history of varicella disease, the approximate date or age of infection, and a health care provider signature. Individuals born before April 1, 2001 are not required to receive varicella vaccine. The requirement for the second dose of varicella vaccine shall not apply to individuals who enter Kindergarten or first grade for the first time before July 1, 2015.

Pneumococcal

Four doses. Three doses by age seven months and a booster dose at 12 through 15 months of age. Individuals who receive the first dose of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine on or after seven months of age and before 12 months of age are required to have two doses at least four weeks apart; and a booster dose at 12 through 15 months of age. Individuals who receive the first dose on or after 12 months of age and before 24 months of age are required to have two doses at least eight weeks apart to complete the series. Individuals who receive the first dose on or after 24 months of age and before five years are required to have one dose to complete the series. No individual who has passed his or her fifth birthday shall be required to be vaccinated against pneumococcal disease. Individuals born before July 1, 2015 are not required to receive pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

Meningococcal

Two doses. One dose is required for individuals entering the seventh grade or by 12 years of age, whichever comes first, on or after July 1, 2015. A booster dose is required for individuals entering the 12th grade or by 17 years of age, whichever comes first. Individuals who entered seventh grade before July 1, 2015 are not required to receive the first dose. The booster dose does not apply to individuals who entered the 12th grade before August 1, 2020. If the first dose is administered on or after the 16th birthday, a booster dose is not required. Individuals born before January 1, 2003 shall not be required to receive meningococcal conjugate vaccine.

Required vs. Recommended

North Carolina law requires children receive certain vaccines. But in order to be fully protected from vaccine-preventable diseases, children should receive all age-appropriate immunizations.

For more information about vaccine preventable diseases and immunizations recommended, please refer to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#), and the [Immunization Action Coalition](#).

INSTRUCTION

Instructional Fees and Supplies

Kannapolis City Schools' policy requires a \$15.00 instructional fee and \$10 technology fee from all elementary students. This covers instructional supplies, art supplies, and Cabarrus Arts field trips. These fees, totaling \$25.00 are payable at the beginning of the school year or when the student registers. Fees may be paid [here](#).

Fees for damage to school equipment range from \$25.00 to \$325.00. Please be sure to reinforce with your student at home the learning they receive at school about responsible care for equipment.

Parents should check with their child's teacher for the particular materials students should have before buying school supplies. You may pick up a supply list in the office for any grade level and it is also located on the district website.

Programs for Students with Special Needs

Students with special needs may qualify for specially designed instruction provided through the implementation of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or a Behavioral Intervention Plan. See the [KCS Exceptional Children Department website](#) for more information.

Report Cards and Grading

Kannapolis City Schools utilizes a standards-based grading system for all students in grades K-5. The approach allows teachers to communicate students' level and/or proficiency on each academic standard using the following scale:

- L = Limited Progress

- P = Progressing
- M = Meets
- E = Exceeds

Additional information regarding standards-based report cards will be discussed with your child's teacher during the first quarter parent-teacher conference.

Progress reports will be sent home midway through the quarter. Report Cards will be sent home at the end of the quarter.

FAMILY/SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

School-to-Family Communication

North Kannapolis Elementary School uses the following media to share information. Please be sure to connect with us, keep your voicemail box free, and look out for updates from the school via:

- [ParentSquare](#)
- Social Media
- Automated Phone Messages

Keeping Information Current

It is important to keep the school office informed of contact information. Please notify the school immediately if there is a change in status during the school year:

- Address
- Phone number (home, work & mobile)
- Employment
- Emergency contacts
- Medical documentation
- Custody and/or legal information
- Other information that could be helpful to the school and your child

Appointments with Staff

Please call or message to set an appointment with all Administrative Staff, Counselors, and Teachers. Scheduling ahead of time allows us to fully address your or your child's needs.

Interruptions

Interruptions to the academic schedule interfere with the learning process of all students. Please try to schedule appointments and other trips before or after

the school day so your child will not miss valuable educational instruction.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences allow parents and teachers to discuss the student's progress, learning expectations for the year, and leverage a partnership between home and school to best support the student's growth.

Parent-teacher conferences will be arranged by your child's teacher at the end of the first nine (9) weeks of school. It is extremely important that you take advantage of this opportunity to discuss your child's progress. Your child's teacher will advise you when the conference will be held.

If you wish to have a conference with your child's teacher at any time during the school year, please contact the teacher directly.

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

The PTO is extremely active and supportive. Parents are encouraged to join the PTO in August and to participate in PTO activities as much as possible. This organization contributes time and raises funds to support the school.

Please help make a positive impact – JOIN PTO. Contact Mrs. Dobbin or Mr. Cooperman for additional information!

Volunteering

We encourage parents and guardians to be involved in their child's schools. NC General Statute 99-28.3 allows for parents or guardians to take four hours of unpaid leave from their jobs every year in order to volunteer in their child's school. For the safety of our students, all volunteers are required to have a background check completed. The background check forms are available at the school front office or at this link:

<https://www.kcs.k12.nc.us/departments/human-resources/forms>

PICTURES & YEARBOOKS

Individual pictures of each student will be taken in the fall for the yearbook and class pictures in the spring.

Yearbooks are sold and distributed at the end of the year.

Dates and prices will be announced in advance.

SOLICITATIONS

Students are not allowed to sell items or collect money for any organization. All fundraisers, PTA events, etc. are through the parents, not the students.

LOST & FOUND

The school keeps a Lost & Found area. Staff will place items in the Lost & Found area for student pick up. All items left will be packed and given to charity each month.

We encourage parents and students to put names in outerwear and on lunch bags to assist students in properly identifying their belongings. When small items like jewelry or money are found, they may be turned in to the office and claimed there.