

Parkway Elementary School



Student Handbook

2026-2027

The Tupelo Public School District serves the community by engaging each student in an excellent education that develops skills and citizenship needed for success in a global society.



Parkway Elementary School
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662-842-2076 Cafeteria

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Welcome To Parkway



Welcome to Parkway Elementary! I'm excited about the opportunities your child has here. Our school provides a positive environment where students engage in fun, challenging learning experiences that build a strong foundation for future success. Clear communication is essential to ensure every child has the best possible experience.

Our teachers create engaging lessons, and we strive to maintain a safe, supportive environment where students feel confident participating each day. By setting high expectations for learning and behavior—and consistently applying them—we can help all students succeed. Your support is key to making this happen.

We value parent involvement and encourage you to connect with your child's teacher about opportunities to volunteer or participate in school activities. Strong partnerships between home and school make a meaningful difference, and we are committed to open, two-way communication.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 662-844-6303 or cagary@tupeloschools.com

I look forward to a successful school year as we work together to support your child.

Thank you for trusting us with your child's education!

—Mrs. Gary

Parkway Mission Statement



The mission of Parkway Elementary School is to actively engage all students in learning that will meaningfully connect them to the world.



TPSD Board Policies

To access TPSD Board Policies listed below, use the following steps:

Go to: <http://www.tupeloschools.com>

Click About Our District Click Board of Trustees

Click Board Policies

To view policy, type Policy Code next to the Descriptor.

Subject to Change ... This Student Handbook is provided as a reference and information guide to the students of Tupelo Public Schools and Parkway Elementary.

While it contains policies current at the time of printing, we are constantly reviewing and updating policies. Therefore, the handbook may not always reflect the most current policy or information. All policies and procedures are summarized in our handbook are subject to unilateral change at the sole option and discretion of the Tupelo Public School District.



ELEMENTARY STUDENT GUIDEBOOK TOPICAL REFERENCE TO BOARD POLICIES

A. STUDENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS TOPICS

REFERENCE: TPSD POLICY CODE

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICIES UNDER TITLE I

LAA TITLE I PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

PROHIBITION AGAINST SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR DISCRIMINATION

JB STUDENTS COMPLAINTS OF
SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION / HARASSMENT – TITLE IX

BIRTH CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS FOR ENROLLMENT

JBC SCHOOL ADMISSION

FREE AND REDUCED MEAL PROGRAM

EEA FREE/REDUCED LUNCH

ANY CHANGES IN THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

EEA FREE/REDUCED LUNCH

SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY (HEALTHY, HUNGER-FREE KIDS ACT OF 2010)

JG SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

JQN EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

ABSTINENCE EDUCATION

ICG SEX-RELATED EDUCATION

INSTRUCTION IN RECOGNIZING AND AVOIDING SEXUAL ABUSE

ICG SEX-RELATED EDUCATION

PROVISION OF FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION TO STUDENT WITH DISABILITIES

IDDF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

JBC SCHOOL ADMISSION

PROOF OF RESIDENCY FOR ENROLLMENT

JBC SCHOOL ADMISSION

DISTRICT OWNERSHIP OF STUDENT LOCKERS; RIGHT TO SEARCH

JCDA SCHOOL SEARCHES

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS TO STUDENTS

JG CDC ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS TO STUDENTS JG CDA ASTHMA MEDICATIONS

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

JGFC DISMISSALS

RESPONSIBLE AND ACCEPTABLE USE OF TPSD COMPUTERS AND NETWORK AND INTERNET SAFETY PROGRAM

IFBGA INTERNET AND EMAIL SAFETY AND ACCEPTABLE USE COMPUTER POLICY

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

EDA STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

STUDENT RESIDENCY AND TUITION
JBCC STUDENT TUITION FOR OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENTS

**COMMUNICABLE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND MANAGEMENT OF
 STUDENTS WITH THE DISEASE**
JGCC COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

CHALLENGE PROGRAM
IDE GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAM

EARLY LITERACY PROGRAM
ICHI LITERACY BASED PROMOTION

WEIGHTED GRADES
IHA GRADING SYSTEM

**PARENTAL OBJECTIONS TO SEX EDUCATION, FAMILY LIFE INSTRUCTION
 AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES**
ICG SEX-RELATED EDUCATION

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE EDUCATION AVAILABILITY
IK LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY INSTRUCTION

ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
IDFA INTRAMURAL / INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

PARENTAL RIGHT TO REVIEW INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
IJJ INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)
IHF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

**RIGHT OF STUDENTS WITH IEP TO PARTICIPATE IN GRADUATION CEREMONY
 (HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)**
IHF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT, INCLUDING WAIVER OF REQUIRED CLASSES
IHF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

DUAL ENROLLMENT
IDAG DUAL ENROLLMENT

B. STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TOPICS
REFERENCE: TPSD POLICY CODE

BULLYING
JDDA BULLYING

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES
JCDAC DRUGS AND ALCOHOL (POSSESSION OR REASONABLE SUSPICION)

FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS
JCDAE POSSESSION OF WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

GANGS AND GANG RELATED ACTIVITY
JCBB GANG ACTIVITY

SEXTING AND OTHER PROHIBITED USES OF TECHNOLOGY
IJB CIPA POLICY – ACCEPTABLE USE
IFBGA INTERNET AND EMAIL SAFETY AND ACCEPTABLE USE COMPUTER POLICY
JB STUDENT COMPLAINTS OF SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION / HARASSMENT – TITLE IX

PROHIBITION AGAINST SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR DISCRIMINATION
JB STUDENTS COMPLAINTS OF
SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION / HARASSMENT – TITLE IX

FAMILY EDUCATION RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT
JRAB COMPLIANCE WITH FERPA

DIRECTORY INFORMATION DISCLOSURE AND FERPA RIGHT TO OPT OUT
JRAB COMPLIANCE WITH FERPA

FERPA RIGHT TO REVIEW EDUCATION RECORDS
JR STUDENT RECORDS

TITLE I: PARENT RIGHT TO KNOW
LAA TITLE I PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

NON-DISCRIMINATION – TITLE VI, TITLE IX, SECTION 504, ADA
BAAB NON-DISCRIMINATION / EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

**NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION COORDINATOR(S) AND PROCEDURES FOR
 MAKING A COMPLAINT OF DISCRIMINATION OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT**
BAAB NON-DISCRIMINATION / EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

SEX EQUITY POLICY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES
JB STUDENTS COMPLAINTS OF
SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION / HARASSMENT – TITLE IX

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY PROCEDURES
JCDAD BUS CONDUCT

DRESS CODE
JCDB DRESS CODE FOR STUDENTS

OUTSTANDING FEES AND FINES
JS FEE POLICY

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE CODE
JCB CODE OF CONDUCT
JD STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE

PARKING
JGFF AUTOMOBILE USE

DRUG TESTING
JCDAB STUDENT DRUG TESTING PROGRAM

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION PROCEDURES, WITH DUE PROCESS REQUIREMENTS
JDE EXPULSION
JCAA DUE PROCESS

NOTICE OF DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION
IDDH SECTION 504 – AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT – NONDISCRIMINATION

C. GENERAL INFORMATION TOPICS

REFERENCE: TPSD POLICY CODE

ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT NOTIFICATION
EM HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**ATTENDANCE, ABSENTEEISM, TRUANCY**JBD ATTENDANCETARDINESS AND EXCUSESJBAC TRUANCY**PARENT COUNCIL**LEB RELATIONS WITH PARENT ORGANIZATIONS**TPSD GOALS**BA BOARD OPERATIONS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES MISSION STATEMENT**TPSD MISSION**BA BOARD OPERATIONS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES MISSION STATEMENT**SCHOOL VISITATION PROCEDURES**KM VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS**WAIVER OF SCHOOL**FEES JS FEE POLICY**ABSTINENCE EDUCATION**

ICG SEX-RELATED EDUCATION

FIELD TRIPSIFCB FIELD TRIPS AND EXCURSIONS**PARKING DECALS**JGFF AUTOMOBILE USE**RECOGNITION FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**AGA RECOGNITION FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURES**EBBD EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

D. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES NOTIFICATIONS TOPICS

REFERENCE: TPSD POLICY CODE

IDEA PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

IDDF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

IDEA REQUEST FOR EVALUATION

IDDF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

IDEA REQUEST FOR DUE PROCESS

IDDF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

IDEA CHANGE OF PLACEMENT

IDDF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

NOTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION SERVICES

IDDF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

IDDH SECTION 504 – AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT –
NONDISCRIMINATION AND EXHIBIT)

CURRICULUM & GRADING

TPSD HAS A PUBLISHED CURRICULUM AND PACING GUIDE IN K-5 WITH A STRONG FOCUS IN READING AND MATHEMATICS WITH SUPPORTS OF SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES CONTENT. OUR STUDENTS RECEIVE A SOLID FOUNDATION OF BASIC SKILLS THROUGH A VARIETY OF TECHNIQUES. IN ORDER TO DETERMINE STUDENT MASTERY OF GRADE LEVEL SKILLS, COMMON ASSESSMENTS, STAR READING AND STAR MATH, AND MAJOR/MINOR GRADES ARE GIVEN IN CLASS. PROMOTION AND RETENTION IS BASED ON TPSD POLICY IHE.

KINDERGARTEN PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS

(released by MDE Spring 2019)

The early childhood years are a critical time in the development for every child. The learning that takes place during the first eight years of life serves as the foundation for all later academic, social, emotional, physical, and motor development. All children are capable of learning and meeting developmental milestones. Therefore, the Kindergarten Guidelines are proposed to assist all early childhood educators in their efforts to provide a high-quality, evidence-based program serving kindergarten children to support school readiness.

School Readiness Definition

“Responsibility for school readiness lies not with children, but with the adults who care for them and the systems that support them” (National Governors Association, 2005, p. 29). School readiness is a multi-dimensional construct that goes beyond the skills, knowledge, and disposition of children as they enter kindergarten. Children are eligible for school when they have reached the chronological age established by the state; however, school readiness is achieved through a combination of efforts involving children, families, schools, communities, and the state.

READY CHILDREN show an eagerness to explore, discover, engage, and learn. They demonstrate interest and abilities in all dimensions of early learning and development: social and emotional development; language development; cognition and general knowledge; physical well-being and motor development; and approaches toward learning. Children are unique individuals who do not develop at the same time or in the same way. Therefore, school readiness should be viewed as a continuum of behaviors rather than a rigid, narrow set of proficiency skills. Any age-eligible child who is eager to attend kindergarten should be deemed “ready.”

READY FAMILIES recognize their role as their child’s first and most stable teacher and advocate while understanding their child’s current level of development. Families ensure a safe and consistent environment, promote good health, provide steady and supportive relationships, and understand their relationship with the school system to ensure a smooth transition.

READY SCHOOLS provide a welcoming, inclusive environment for all and have professional educators who consistently advance student growth and achievement, with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and abilities, while working in partnership with families and communities.

READY COMMUNITIES include businesses, faith-based organizations, early childhood service providers, community groups, and local governments collaborating to support schools and children’s long-term success by providing families access to information, affordable services, and high-quality early learning opportunities.

READY STATES play a crucial part in supporting communities, schools, and families through developing appropriate policies; providing adequate funds; ensuring access to high-quality early development and learning opportunities; preparing and retaining a world-class early childhood workforce; ensuring an infrastructure to coordinate services, including data systems for accountability, and demonstrating political leadership to make school readiness a state priority.



**Adapted from National Governors Association.
2005. Building the foundation for bright futures:
Final report of the NGA Task Force on School
Readiness.**

ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING A HIGH-QUALITY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM WILL:

- 1.IMPROVE THEIR SELF-CONCEPT;
- 2.INCREASE THEIR INTELLECTUAL GROWTH;
- 3.ENLARGE THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD, PEOPLE,
EXPERIENCES, IDEAS;
- 4.INCREASE COMPETENCIES AND SKILLS IN ORAL LANGUAGE, LITERACY,
WRITING, LISTENING, AND THINKING;
- 5.INCREASE THEIR COMPETENCIES AND SKILLS IN MATHEMATICAL
REASONING AND SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION;
- 6.INCREASE THEIR SKILLS INVOLVED IN PHYSICAL COORDINATION AND
GROSS AND FINE MOTOR SKILLS;
- 7.INCREASE THEIR COMPETENCE IN DEALING WITH EMOTIONS, FEELINGS,
AND SOCIAL SITUATIONS;
- 8.INCREASE THEIR SELF-DIRECTION AND INDEPENDENCE;
9. DEVELOP COOPERATIVE, TRUSTING RELATIONSHIPS;
- 10.DEVELOP THEIR NATURAL CURIOSITY AND CREATIVE POTENTIAL; AND
- 11.DEVELOP A LOVE OF LEARNING





2026-27 TPSD Calendar

July 1, 2026	Begin FY 2027
July 2-3, 2026	District Holiday (Independence Day Observed)
July 27, 2026	Staff Report
July 27-30, 2026	Professional Development Days
July 31, 2026	Students Report
September 1, 2026	First Quarter Progress Reports
September 7, 2026	District Holiday (Labor Day)
October 2, 2026	End of First Quarter
October 5, 2026	Second Quarter Begins For Students
October 9, 2026	First Quarter Report Cards
October 12, 2026	District Holiday (Columbus Day)
October 13-14, 2026	Fall Break (196+ Day Employees)
October 13-16, 2026	Fall Break (Students and 187 Day Employees)
November 17, 2026	Second Quarter Progress Reports
November 23-27, 2026	District Holidays (Thanksgiving)
December 18, 2026	End of Second Quarter (60% Day)**
December 21, 2026-January 1, 2027	District Holidays (Christmas)
January 4, 2027	Staff Reports (Professional Development Day)
January 5, 2027	Third Quarter Begins For Students
January 7, 2027	Second Quarter Report Cards
January 18, 2027	District Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr Day)
February 9, 2027	Third Quarter Progress Reports
February 15, 2027	District Holiday (President's Day)*
March 8-12, 2027	District Holidays (Spring Break)
March 17, 2027	End of Third Quarter
March 18, 2027	Fourth Quarter Begins For Students
March 25, 2027	Third Quarter Report Cards
March 26, 2027	District Holiday (Good Friday)*
March 29, 2027	District Holiday (Easter Monday)
April 20, 2027	Fourth Quarter Progress Reports
May 21, 2027	End of Fourth Quarter/End of Year for Students (60% Day)**
May 21, 2027	Fourth Quarter Report Cards
May 21, 2027	Graduation
May 24-25, 2027	Professional Development Day/No Students
May 31, 2027	District Holiday (Memorial Day)
June 30, 2027	End FY 2027

Reserved For Makeup Days *
 Students follow early dismissal schedule **
 First Semester: 90 days
 Second Semester: 90 days
 Student Day Total: 180 days
 Staff Day Total: 187 days

GETTING YOUR CHILD TO AND FROM SCHOOL

ARRIVAL- Classroom instruction begins at 7:50 a.m. Adult supervision begins at 7:15 am. The safety and security of the children is our top priority. Please do not attempt to drop off your child if there is not a staff member outside. Parents are urged to observe instructional time and drop off students in plenty of time to avoid tardiness.

* We ask that all car-riders in the morning and afternoon stay in the car-rider line for drop off and pick-up. *

TPSD Employees will be able to drop children off at the office at 7:05 a.m.

DISMISSAL- All students will be dismissed at 2:50 p.m. If you are picking up your child, please do so at the designated area. A note from home must accompany your child if a change in afternoon transportation is needed. If your child has not been picked up by 3:15 p.m., we will begin calling parents and daycares.

Please help your child's daily attendance by having them at school every day and on time.

A student is considered tardy if he/she arrives after 7:50 a.m. An adult must sign in a student who is late. Tardies are reported to the state attendance officer.

Consequences for excessive tardies each 9 weeks are as follows:

- 5th tardy** — parent letter; 10th tardy—overnight required conference with parent
- 15th to 19th tardy** — Parent contacted by phone
- 20th tardy** — CPS referral



The Tupelo Police Traffic Committee has recommended that all traffic enter from Cliff Gookin Blvd (from soccer fields direction) onto Rutherford Road to enter Parkway's campus.

MORNING DROP-OFF

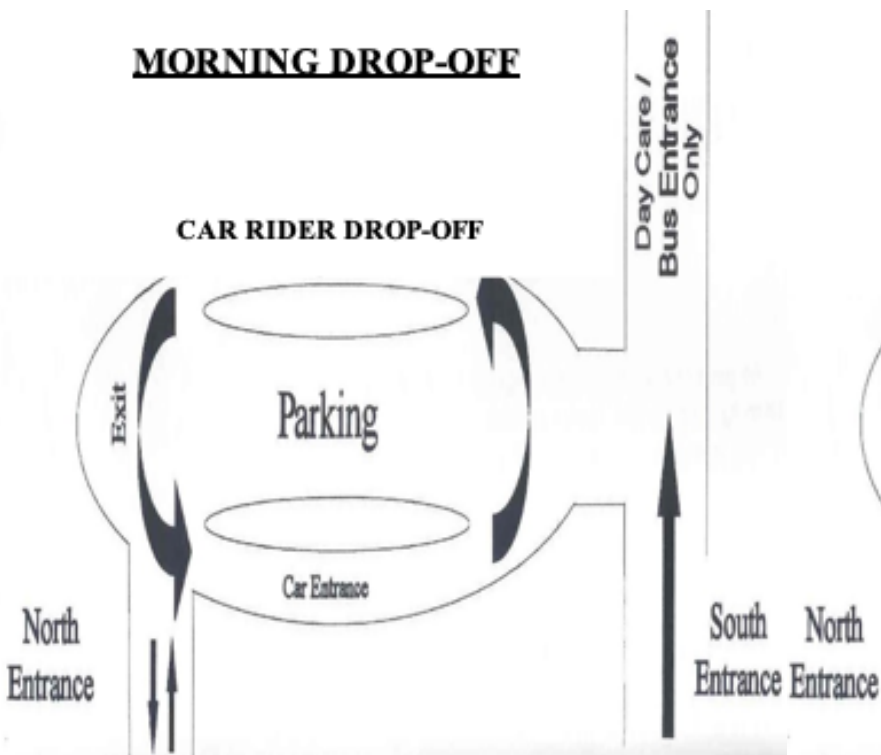
In the mornings, when traveling from the soccer fields direction, turn right into the **NORTH** entrance and travel to the **FRONT** of the school to **drop off** your child.

AFTERNOON PICK-UP

In the afternoons, when traveling from the soccer fields direction, turn right into the **SOUTH** entrance and travel to the **BACK** of the school to **pick up** your child.

MORNING DROP-OFF

CAR RIDER DROP-OFF



AFTERNOON PICK-UP

BUS/DAYCARE PICKUP



Parkway Elementary

School Specials and more

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GRADE LEVEL PLAYS - EVERY STUDENT IN EACH GRADE PARTICIPATES IN A PLAY EACH YEAR. BEING IN A PLAY PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH CHILD TO PERFORM IN FRONT OF AN AUDIENCE. THIS BUILDS SELF-CONFIDENCE IN OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHES STUDENTS NOT ONLY TO PERFORM BUT PROPER AUDIENCE ETIQUETTE AS WELL.

ART- OUR STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ART CLASS EVERY WEEK. IN ART, THE CHILDREN LEARN A VARIETY OF TECHNIQUES SUCH AS: WATER COLORING, SHADING, DIMENSIONS AND OTHERS. PARKWAY CHILDREN'S ART WORK CAN BE FOUND DURING THE SPRING IN THE GUM TREE MUSEUM OF ART.

MEDIA CENTER- EVERY CHILD HAS ORGANIZED TIME TO VISIT THE MEDIA CENTER ONCE A WEEK; HOWEVER, THE CHILDREN HAVE ACCESS TO THE MEDIA CENTER EVERY DAY. DURING MEDIA CLASS, THE CHILDREN LEARN HOW TO UTILIZE THE MEDIA CENTER MORE EFFICIENTLY. THE MEDIA CENTER OFFERS A VARIETY OF NONFICTION AND FICTION BOOKS ON ALL READING LEVELS FOR EACH STUDENT. WE ALSO HAVE WONDERS TEXTBOOKS THAT ARE PROVIDED TO EACH STUDENT.

TECHNOLOGY- ALL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ALL TECHNOLOGY ASPECTS OFFERED AT PARKWAY. DURING TECHNOLOGY CLASS, THE CHILDREN LEARN A VARIETY OF COMPUTER TECHNIQUES. THE CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMS THAT ENHANCE THEIR LEARNING IN THE AREAS OF READING AND MATH.

CLUBS- SEVERAL AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS ARE OFFERED ON A MONTHLY BASIS. THESE GROUPS ENGAGE IN FUN LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND ARE LED BY TEACHERS AND INTERVENTIONISTS.

ARTS INTEGRATION- PARKWAY HAS PARTICIPATED IN AN ARTS INTEGRATION GRANT FOR THE PAST 6 YEARS. THIS YEAR, WE WILL INCREASE THESE EFFORTS BY PARTICIPATING IN THE WHOLE SCHOOLS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MS ARTS COMMISSION.

TPSD CHALLENGE- CHALLENGE CLASSES ARE PROVIDED FOR INTELLECTUALLY GIFTED CHILDREN IN GRADES 2-8 IN TPSD. STUDENTS ARE SCREENED IN THE 1ST GRADE THROUGH TEACHER OBSERVATIONS, GROUP INTELLIGENCE TESTS AND ACHIEVEMENT TESTS. IN SOME CIRCUMSTANCES, STUDENTS ARE SCREENED IN HIGHER GRADES. THE MS DEPT. OF EDUCATION REGULATIONS REQUIRE THAT ALL CHILDREN SCORE AT OR ABOVE THE 90TH PERCENTILE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE CHALLENGE PROGRAM. STUDENTS WHO ARE IN THE PROGRAM MEET FOR 5 HOURS EACH WEEK WITH THE CHALLENGE TEACHER.

LITERACY STATEMENT- BEGINNING IN THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR, A STUDENT SCORING AT THE LOWEST ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL IN READING ON THE ESTABLISHED STATE ASSESSMENT FOR 3RD GRADE WILL NOT BE PROMOTED TO 4TH GRADE UNLESS THE STUDENT MEETS THE GOOD CAUSE EXEMPTIONS FOR PROMOTION.

PARENT CONFERENCES- PARENT CONFERENCES MAY BE SCHEDULED AT ANY TIME BY CONTACTING YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER OR THE SCHOOL OFFICE AT (662) 844-6303.



The PTO is an organization of parents and teachers that works together to improve the school environment. Everyone is invited to join and to share in that partnership of support. Through monthly general meetings and PTO emails, parents are kept up to date on plans and progress of our school. The PTO sponsors several projects during the year, such as: Fall Festival, Family Breakfasts, Teacher Appreciation, Christmas Stars, Invest in your Child, Box Tops for Education, Kroger Rewards, and numerous other fun family/student/staff events.

PTO Officers



President– Taylor Shumpert
Vice President– Kebebe Wilson
Secretary– Shantel Pierce
Treasurer– Ashley Quimby

**Please contact the school office if you
would like to volunteer for PTO!**



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO JOIN THE
PARKWAY PTO GROUPME
FOR MORE UPDATES**

Important Information

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY

(ATTENDANCE—JBD TPSD BOARD POLICY)

TO BE CONSIDERED AS HAVING ATTENDED SCHOOL FOR A FULL DAY, A STUDENT MUST BE PRESENT FOR 66% OF HIS/HER INSTRUCTIONAL DAY AS FIXED BY THE BOARD FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL AND STUDENT SCHEDULE. FOR PURPOSES OF REPORTING ABSENTEEISM, A STUDENT WHO HAS AN ABSENCE THAT IS MORE THAN 34% OF THE STUDENT'S INSTRUCTIONAL DAY SHALL BE CONSIDERED ABSENT THE ENTIRE SCHOOL DAY.

EXCUSED ABSENCES SHALL INCLUDE:

***PARENTAL EXCUSED ABSENCES** – STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO HAVE A MAXIMUM OF **3 EXCUSED PARENTAL ABSENCES** PER SEMESTER. THESE ABSENCES MUST BE SUBSTANTIATED IN WRITING WITHIN 2 SCHOOL DAYS OF THE ABSENCE. A PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST SEND A SIGNED NOTE, EMAIL OR FAX TO THE OFFICE. THE NOTE SHOULD INCLUDE THE CHILD'S NAME AND DATE OF ABSENCES. A PARENT SIGNED CHECKOUT WILL ALSO SUBSTANTIATE A PARENTAL EXCUSED ABSENCE. A PARENTAL EXCUSED ABSENCE MAY BE FOR ONE CLASS, ANY 30-MINUTE PERIOD WITHIN A CLASS OR AN ENTIRE DAY.

***MEDICAL EXCUSED ABSENCES** – STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED EXCUSED MEDICAL ABSENCES WHEN THE ABSENCES RESULT FROM ILLNESSES AND INJURY WHICH PREVENTS THE STUDENT FROM BEING PHYSICALLY ABLE TO ATTEND SCHOOL; A MEDICAL OR DENTAL APPOINTMENT; ISOLATION ORDERED BY THE COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER, AND STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OR APPROPRIATE SCHOOL OFFICIAL. EXCUSES FROM THE DOCTOR OR DENTIST MUST BE SUBSTANTIATED IN WRITING WITHIN 2 SCHOOL DAYS OF THE ABSENCE.

***UNEXCUSED ABSENCES** – ANY UNEXCUSED, TARDY OR DISMISSAL, WHICH DOES NOT MEET THE CRITERIA OF AN EXCUSED ABSENCE, SHALL BE CONSIDERED UNEXCUSED. NO ABSENCE WILL BE CONSIDERED EXCUSED WHEN IT IS DUE TO SUSPENSION, EXPULSION OR OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION.



Safety Information

*EVACUATION SITE: In case of evacuation of the building due to a fire or other threatening situation, we will bus all children and staff to HARRISBURG BAPTIST CHURCH to remain there until our building is pronounced safe by the police department.

*In the event that our school is under a tornado warning, Parkway Elementary will be in lock-down in our safe area until the warning is lifted. Students may not be dismissed or checked out during a warning, for the safety of staff and students.



Fire and Tornado Drills

Fire & tornado drills are held once a month throughout the school year.

Help your child remember these basic rules:

- 1- No Talking, Please!
- 2- WALK
- 3- Move quickly & quietly to designated areas for fire & tornado drills.

The instructions & routes are posted in each classroom & throughout the building & will be discussed with all students.



Medications at School



PARENTS MUST REQUEST, IN WRITING, THAT PRESCRIBED MEDICATION BE GIVEN BY SCHOOL OFFICIALS. PARENTS MUST ALSO READ AND SIGN A COPY OF THE POLICY, WHICH WILL BE KEPT ON FILE BY THE SCHOOL NURSE.

MEDICINES MUST BE BROUGHT TO THE NURSE IN THE ORIGINAL CONTAINER WITH THE PHARMACY INFORMATION LABEL ATTACHED, LISTING THE NAME OF THE PRESCRIBING PHYSICIAN, THE NAME OF THE MEDICINE, THE DOSAGE, AND THE ADMINISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS.

1. THE INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE SPECIFIC, SUCH AS "BEFORE MEALS" OR "WITH FOOD," ETC.
2. MEDICINES WILL ONLY BE ADMINISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS ON THE ORIGINAL CONTAINER PHARMACY LABEL.
3. NO MORE THAN A FORTY-FIVE SCHOOL DAY SUPPLY OF MEDICATION WILL BE STORED AT THE SCHOOL. THE NURSE SHOULD RETURN ANY UNUSED, DISCONTINUED, OR OBSOLETE MEDICATION TO THE PARENT OR DESTROY IT WITH THE PARENT'S PERMISSION.
4. MEDICINE THAT IS NOT REPOSSESSED BY THE PARENT WITHIN 7 DAYS OF NOTIFICATION BY THE THE SCHOOL NURSE WILL BE DESTROYED BY THE PRINCIPAL OR THE SCHOOL NURSE.

IF THE STUDENT'S PHYSICIAN HAS PRESCRIBED AN OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATION FOR THE STUDENT, IT MUST BE IN AN UNOPENED, ORIGINAL CONTAINER, WITH A PHARMACY LABEL SHOWING THE STUDENT'S NAME, DIRECTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING, AND THE RECOMMENDED DOSAGE. IF THE PRESCRIBING PHYSICIAN HAS GIVEN THE PARENT A SAMPLE MEDICATION, THE CONTAINER MUST BE LABELED AS STATED HEREIN.

STUDENTS MAY SELF-ADMINISTER ASTHMA AND ANAPHYLAXIS MEDICATION ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW AND BOARD POLICY. EACH STUDENT WITH ASTHMA OR ANAPHYLAXIS IS REQUIRED TO HAVE AN ASTHMA ACTION PLAN OR ALLERGIC REACTION CARE PLAN, SIGNED BY HIS/HER HEALTH PROVIDER AND UPDATED ANNUALLY, ON FILE AT THE STUDENT'S SCHOOL. NEITHER THE DISTRICT NOR ITS EMPLOYEES SHALL, BY LAW, BE LIABLE FOR ANY INJURY SUSTAINED BY THE STUDENT WHO HAS SELF-ADMINISTERED AN ASTHMA INHALER OR ANAPHYLAXIS MEDICATION.

ACCESS TO ALL STORED MEDICATION WILL BE LIMITED TO THE PRINCIPAL, SCHOOL NURSE OR DESIGNEE WHO WILL WITNESS THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MEDICATION.





THE PRINCIPAL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL PERSONS IN THE BUILDING AND ON THE CAMPUS AND WILL SCHEDULE VISITS FROM PARENTS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL PROFESSIONALS. THE FOLLOWING POLICY APPLIES TO ALL VISITORS ENTERING A SCHOOL OTHER THAN FOR ATTENDANCE AT A SCHEDULED ACTIVITY OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC:

TO ENSURE THAT NO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS ENTER THE SCHOOL WITH WRONGFUL INTENT, ALL VISITORS WILL REPORT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE UPON ENTERING TO RECEIVE AUTHORIZATION AND IDENTIFICATION PASSES TO VISIT THE BUILDING. PARENTS OR CITIZENS WHO WISH TO OBSERVE A CLASSROOM WHILE SCHOOL IS IN SESSION MUST ARRANGE THE VISIT IN ADVANCE WITH THE PRINCIPAL. PRINCIPALS ARE AUTHORIZED TO REFUSE ENTRY ONTO SCHOOL GROUNDS TO ANYONE WHO DOES NOT HAVE LEGITIMATE BUSINESS AT THE SCHOOL AND TO REQUEST ANY UNAUTHORIZED PERSON ENGAGING IN UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT TO IMMEDIATELY LEAVE SCHOOL PROPERTY. PRINCIPALS ARE FURTHER AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF EMERGENCY AND TO SEEK PROSECUTION TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THE LAW WHEN PERSONS VIOLATE THE INTENT OF THE POLICY.



FOOD ALLERGIES/OUTSIDE FOOD

TO MAINTAIN A SAFE AND HEALTHY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT, PARKWAY ELEMENTARY FOLLOWS GUIDELINES ALIGNED WITH TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT HEALTH AND WELLNESS PRACTICES, INCLUDING BOARD POLICY JG – SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY.

DUE TO STUDENT AND STAFF HEALTH CONCERNS, INCLUDING SEVERE ALLERGIES, NO FOOD CONTAINING **PEANUTS, TREE NUTS, OR SEAFOOD/SHELLFISH** IS PERMITTED AT SCHOOL.

IF FOOD IS SENT FOR A CLASS CELEBRATION (E.G., BIRTHDAYS),
THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES MUST BE FOLLOWED:

ITEMS MUST BE COMMERCIALY PREPARED AND STORE-BOUGHT
FOOD MUST BE SEALED IN ORIGINAL PACKAGING WITH A VISIBLE INGREDIENT LABEL
HOMEMADE OR UNSEALED ITEMS ARE NOT PERMITTED
ALL ITEMS MUST BE PEANUT-FREE, TREE NUT-FREE, AND SEAFOOD-FREE
DRINKS MUST BE FACTORY-SEALED

PARENTS MUST CONTACT THE TEACHER IN ADVANCE TO ARRANGE ANY CELEBRATION. TEACHERS WILL SCHEDULE AN APPROPRIATE TIME THAT DOES NOT INTERRUPT INSTRUCTION.

FOOD DELIVERIES (E.G., DOORDASH, UBER EATS, ETC.) ARE NOT PERMITTED FOR STUDENTS. THE SCHOOL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DENY ANY ITEMS THAT DO NOT MEET THESE GUIDELINES OR THAT MAY POSE A SAFETY CONCERN.

TPSD Discipline Supervisors:

Dr. Brock English, Deputy Superintendent

Mr. Art Dobbs, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Melissa Thomas, Assistant Superintendent

Parkway Pandas:

At Parkway Elementary School, students are expected to exhibit responsible behavior and to maintain positive attitudes that will contribute to their own well-being, as well as the well-being of others.

Rules and procedures are developed to help students learn self-discipline and understand the forms of conduct expected. For all to benefit, enjoy, and learn in a safe environment, discipline and rules must be maintained. The primary responsibility for appropriate conduct rests with the student. Parents should discuss with their children the importance and need for good behavior and positive attitudes while in school.

PARKWAY PANDAS MOTTO:

- BE RESPONSIBLE**
- BE RESPECTFUL**
- BE READY**



Communication Procedures

Communication is essential to a successful school year. Effective communication means knowing how and to whom to direct a suggestion, an inquiry, or a problem. The guidelines below are meant to help you communicate effectively with the personnel at our school.

HOW SHOULD AN INQUIRY OR PROBLEM BE DIRECTED?

Questions, suggestions, or problems should be presented in a positive way with the assurance that school personnel want to do a good job. Through the counselor's office, you should schedule a mutually convenient time to meet with your child's teacher. Gather and clarify information relevant to your concerns, and work cooperatively toward a satisfactory conclusion.

TO WHOM SHOULD A SUGGESTION, INQUIRY OR PROBLEM BE DIRECTED?

- Direct your communication to the person in the position closest to the situation.
- First, see if your child can take care of the problem without your assistance. This is usually the best solution. If the problem is not solved, then move to the next point.
- Contact the teacher in a specific situation involving an individual or classroom. These people have the most direct contact with the students and are the most familiar with their responses to other students, procedures, instructional goals, and evaluations.
- Contact the Principal in general situations involving more than an individual or classroom, or if satisfaction is not gained after talking with the teacher. The principal is responsible for the overall management of the school and its personnel, general student discipline, teacher direction and evaluation, implementation of district policy, and the total school program.

Notice of Non-discrimination

The Tupelo Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, marital status, veteran status, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Director of Human Resources/Title IX Coordinator

TPSD Administrative Office
Post Office Box 557
Tupelo, Mississippi 38802
662-841-8850

***For Section 504 Compliance issues:**

Section 504 Coordinator
TPSD Administrative Office
Post Office Box 557
Tupelo, Mississippi 38802
662-841-8850

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Tupelo Public School District routinely makes certain directory information about students public. This directory information includes the student name, address, telephone number, picture, height, and weight of athletes; extracurricular activities; awards; honor rolls; electronic listings; Internet web pages; and other information typically found in school yearbooks, programs, bulletins, and student newspapers. In addition, the District discloses names, addresses, and telephone numbers to military recruiters upon request. Parents and eligible students shall have from July 15 until September 1 to review this notice and request in writing that all or any part of the directory information not be disclosed without prior written consent.

Asbestos Notification

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) regulations established by the EPA, all school districts are required to provide an annual notification to all parents, teachers, and employees regarding our asbestos management program. This annual notification informs all persons of their option to review the Asbestos Management Plan for our school district.

To provide ongoing management of the asbestos in our schools, all asbestos-containing Materials (ACM) are inspected every six months by an accredited asbestos inspector. Any changes to these materials are recorded in a surveillance report as part of the management plan.

Additionally, an accredited Asbestos Management Planner conducts a comprehensive inspection of all ACM's every 3 years. This 3-year inspection has been performed as required, and a copy has been filed with the Mississippi Department of Education. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is located in the principal's office at each school. In addition, copies of all Asbestos Management Plans for the district are maintained in the Superintendent's office located at 72 South Green Street. If you are interested in reviewing this information, please contact the Central Office at 662-841-8850 to schedule an appointment.

Title I Programs Student and Parent Information and Acknowledgment Form

Upon parent request, the qualifications of teachers and assistants employed in schools or programs funded by Title I will be provided. The Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) located at Martin Luther King School and the Early Literacy Program in each K-2 elementary school are funded by Title I. For further information, please contact the ECEC's Principal, the Elementary School Principal where your child attends, or the Director of Federal Programs.

The purpose of the Title I School-Wide Planning Team is to develop a united effort among parents, teachers, and the public at large as one means of securing the highest educational advantages for our children. To accomplish this mission, the School- Wide Planning Team focuses on providing a forum for communication between parents, teachers, and administrators, and works together to set goals for Parkway Elementary and the develop effective parent and community involvement strategies.

School-wide meetings are held twice a year. The formal members of the council include representatives from each grade level, parents, and community members. If you are interested in serving on the Parkway School-Wide Planning Team, please contact the principal at 662-844-6303. Title I Annual Parent Meetings are held in the fall of each school year. The Annual Meeting provides parents and the general public with information about the Parkway Elementary Title I program and an opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions. Your attendance at these meetings is encouraged and appreciated.

Your pre-school-aged and school-aged children have certain rights or protections under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act. For more information, contact your school principal or Dr. Corlis Curry at 662-841-8850.

Family Engagement is encouraged by parents, guardians, and community members. Along with your child's teacher, our Family and Community Engagement Specialist, Ms. Irish Meaders, can assist in coordinating participation. Ms. Meaders can be reached at 662-844-6303 or by email ipmeaders@tupeloschools.com.

Parents-Right-To-Know

The qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals employed in schools funded by Title I will be provided upon request by parents. Title I School-Wide programs are available at the Early Childhood Education Center and the eight K-5 elementary schools. For further information, please contact the principal of the school where your child attends or the Director of Federal Programs, Dr. Corlis Curry, at 662-841-8850. In addition, a parent may request information on the level of achievement of the parent's child on each state academic assessment, and/or a timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

STUDENT AND PARENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

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THIS STUDENT HANDBOOK IS PROVIDED AS A CONVENIENCE TO THE STUDENTS OF TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT (TPSD). WHILE IT CONTAINS SOME INFORMATION CURRENT AT THE TIME OF PRINTING, TPSD IS CONSTANTLY REVIEWING AND UPDATING POLICIES, SO THE HANDBOOK MAY NOT ALWAYS REFLECT THE MOST CURRENT POLICY. ALL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES SUMMARIZED IN THIS HANDBOOK ARE SUBJECT TO UNILATERAL CHANGE AT THE SOLE OPTION AND DISCRETION OF THE TPSD.

OUR SIGNATURES VERIFY THAT WE HAVE BEEN ENSURED ACCESS TO AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE 2026-2027 STUDENT HANDBOOK AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE HANDBOOK IS A WORK-IN-PROGRESS DOCUMENT AND THAT CHANGES MAY BE MADE THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR IN RESPONSE TO UNANTICIPATED EVENTS.

A COPY OF THE CURRENT POLICIES OF THE TUPELO PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT IS AVAILABLE AT WWW.TUPELOSCHOOLS.COM AND AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

WE CERTIFY THAT AT THE START OF THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR, WE ENSURED ACCESS TO AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE 2026-2027 STUDENT HANDBOOK AND THAT A HARD COPY IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN OUR MAIN OFFICE.

STUDENT (PLEASE PRINT) _____

SIGNATURE _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN (PLEASE PRINT) _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

AFTER REVIEWING THIS PUBLICATION,
PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS DOCUMENT TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL.