Perkins Local School District
Policies & Building Procedures

FURRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2026-2027

Furry Elementary School

310 Douglas Drive
Sandusky, OH 44870
419.625.4352
furry.perkinsschools.org

Principal: Mr. Eric Kaman
Asst. Principal: Mr. Dwayne Arnold

Table of Contents

🏴‍☠️ Foreword

- Furry Elementary Directory
- Perkins Local School District Directory
- Statement of Nondiscrimination
- Mission Statement
- Educational Philosophy
- District Cultural Initiative
- Perkins Local Schools 2025-26 Calendar

🏴‍☠️ School Admissions & Communication

- Admissions/Withdrawals
- School Hours
- School Fees
- Supply List
- School Safety Drills
- Surveillance Cameras
- Emergency School Closing or Delay
- Online Access To Student Information
- Student Records and Privacy
- Student Pictures
- Teacher Communication
- Telephone Messages
- Notices/Newsletters

🏴‍☠️ Attendance Policy

- District Policy
- Student Absences & Excuses
- Early Dismissal Of Students
- General Attendance Information
- Truancy Policy

🏴‍☠️ Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

- Grading Systems
- Report Cards
- Homework
- Essentials/Special Area Teachers
- Guidance Services
- Identifying Gifted Students
- Library Services
- Little Treasures Preschool
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Parent Teacher Organization
- Promoting Parental Involvement (Code IGBLA)
- Search for Children with Disabilities - District Policy
- Speech & Hearing Services

🏴‍☠️ Acceptable Use - District Policy

- Use of Artificial Intelligence (Code EDC)
- Use of Cellphones and Electronic Communications Devices by Students (Code JFCK)
- Use of Computer/Online Services and Internet Safety (CodeEDE)
- Use of District-Owned Laptops (Code EDEC-R-1)
- Technology Usage

Table of Contents

🏴‍☠️ Code of Conduct

- Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)
- Anti-Harassment, Bullying, Hazing & Other Aggressive Behavior
- Use of Electronic Communications Devices
- Student Dress Code
- Alcohol Use By Students/Student Drug Abuse
- Tobacco Use and/or Possession by Students
- Biological and Chemical Threats
- Discipline Code Classification
- Suspension, Emergency Removal & Expulsion of Students
- Discipline Options
- Student Searches and Seizures
- Investigations by Law Enforcement
- Playground Rules
- Cafeteria Rules
- School Bus Safety Regulations
- Important Notices

🏴‍☠️ Health & Safety

- Student Health Services and Requirements
- Use of Medications
- Emergency Medical Authorization Form
- Illness or Accidents
- Immunization Requirements
- Communicable Disease
- Treatment for Head Lice
- Vision/Hearing Screening

🏴‍☠️ Transportation

- Furry Elementary School's Procedure
- School Bus Safety Regulations
- Bus Discipline

🏴‍☠️ General Information

- Cafeteria Information
- Nutrition Services/Free and Reduced Price Meals
- School Visitation Policy
- Arrival & Dismissal by Car
- Bicycle Rules
- Birthday Celebrations
- Field Trips
- Lost and Found
- Parking
- Recess
- Walking Students/Delivering Items to the Classroom
- Volunteers & BCI Paperwork
- Court Ordered Custody Requirements
- Rights of Homeless Parents and Their Children

Foreword

The Student Handbook was developed to provide specific information about certain policies and procedures relevant to being a student in Perkins. Please take time to become familiar with the important information contained in this handbook and keep the handbook available for reference. Please note that the majority of information in our handbooks is standardized and applies to all students K-12. If you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook, you are encouraged to talk to your teachers or the building principal. This handbook replaces all prior handbooks and other written material on the same subjects. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein are revised, the language in the most current policy or administrative guideline prevails. Current board policies and administrative guidelines are available on the district's website.

Furry Elementary Directory

Address: 310 Douglas Dr., Sandusky, OH 44870

Office: 419-625-4352

Mr. Eric Kaman - *Building Principal*
Mr. Dwayne Arnold - *Assistant Principal*
Dr. Hillary Turner - *Preschool Director*
Mrs. Kim Deming - *Building Secretary*
Ms. Jasmine Kennedy - *Secretary/Receptionist*
Mrs. Diane Smith - *School Counselor*

Perkins Local School District Directory

Perkins Local Schools Board of Education
President: Dr. Bradley Mitchell
Vice President: Mr. Scott Hart
Members: Mr. Eric Lapata, Mrs. Alison Judy, and Mr. Jason Dulaney

Superintendent
Dr. Lonny Rivera

Director of Student Services
Dr. Suzi Leone

Asst. Superintendent
Mrs. Rena McClellan

Treasurer/CFO
Mrs. Brittany Keller

Board Meetings
Regularly scheduled school board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM. Special meetings are held as needed. Board meeting dates and agendas are available by calling the board office or checking the district website.

District Buildings/Offices:	
Superintendent/Board Office	419-625-0484
Furry Elementary	419-625-4352
Meadowlawn Intermediate	419-625-0214
Briar Middle School	419-625-0132
Perkins High School	419-625-1252

District Services/Department:	
Maintenance, Buildings, & Grounds	419-621-2053
Athletics	419-621-2061
Food Service	419-502-2402
Psychologist	419-625-1252
Transportation	419-625-1272

Statement of Nondiscrimination

The Perkins Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. The following person has been designated to handle complaints and aid compliance with the District's nondiscrimination policies on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, and national origin:

Dr. Lonny Rivera, Superintendent
3714 Campbell Street, Suite B
Sandusky, OH 44870
419-625-0484

The Superintendent may refer some matters and has designated responsibilities as follows:

Title IX – Mr. Jeff Harbal, *High School Principal*: 419-625-1252
Sexual Harassment – Mr. Jeff Harbal, *High School Principal*: 419-625-1252
504 Coordinator – Dr. Suzi Leone, *Director of Student Services*: 419-625-0484

All communications should be directed to the above individuals at:
3714 Campbell St., Suite B, Sandusky, Ohio 44870.

Mission Statement

The Perkins family strives for unsurpassed educational opportunities so every student may reach their greatest potential.

Educational Philosophy

District Policy

The Board is committed to providing a program of education which is consistent with the following tenets:

- Education contributes to the continuous improvement of our democratic society and the cultures it encompasses through the development of concerned, contributing and patriotic citizens.
- The dignity and worth of the individual are respected. Each individual is given the opportunity to participate in our society to the best of his/her ability.
- The educational program is conducive to the optimum intellectual, physical, social and emotional development of all youth.
- Basic knowledge, skills, understandings and appreciations are necessary for full-life functioning.

- All youth are introduced to the humanities and the arts and provided the opportunity to pursue further studies in these areas.
- The immediate and projected personal and societal needs of our youth receive continuous appraisal.
- The development of self-appraisal skills, decision-making techniques and self-discipline by our youth helps them in assuming the responsibility for setting realistic immediate and long-range personal, academic and career goals.
- The development of moral and ethical values by youth is an important aspect of personal maturity for which the parents assume the primary responsibility. However, the schools strive to reinforce their efforts.
- Continuous physical, mental and emotional growth and development are promoted through the maintenance of appropriate educational programs for youth.
- Self-realization and self-expression are encouraged.
- The educational program meets or exceeds the State Board of Education standards. The development and implementation of a program of continuous evaluation based upon stated goals and objectives are necessary for effective program revision and improvement.

District Cultural Initiative

The Pirate Way

Perkins Local Schools has created and adopted **The Pirate Way** which revolves around the core beliefs of **TRUST, OWN, & CONNEC**T. The Pirate Way is based on Focus 3, a mindset that encourages individuals to have positive attitudes and measured responses when confronted with adversity and difficult situations.

At the heart of The Pirate Way is the **R Factor** that guides individuals toward positive behavior, how they make decisions, and the actions they take. The R Factor is based on a simple equation: **E+R=O**. Spelled out, it means when confronted with an **Event**, a person's **Response** determines the **Outcome**. The R-Factor is broken down into six disciplines that students will learn and practice: **Press Pause**, **Get Your Mind Right**, **Step Up**, **Adjust & Adapt**, **Make a Difference**, and **Build Skill**.

The Pirate Way helps prepare people and set them up for success when they must React to an Event, good or bad, leading to a positive Outcome of: ***We can count on each other***; ***We take responsibility***; and ***We support each other***.



Perkins Local Schools 2026-27 Calendar

Staff In-Service Days - *Wednesday, August 19 - Friday, August 21*

First Day Of School - *Monday, August 24*

Labor Day *(No School) - Monday, September 7*

Staff Professional Development Day *(No School) - Friday, October 9*

Staff Day *(No School) - Wednesday, November 25*

Thanksgiving *(No School) - Thursday, November 26*

No School - *Friday, November 27*

Winter Break *(No School) - Monday, Dec. 21 - Sunday, January 3*

Staff Day *(No School) - Friday, January 15*

Martin Luther King Jr. Day *(No School) - Monday, Jan. 18*

Staff Day *(No School) - Friday, February 12*

Presidents Day *(No School) - Monday, February 15*

Staff Professional Development Day *(No School) - Tuesday, February 16*

Spring Break *(No School) - Friday, March 26 - Sunday, April 4*

Graduation - *Sunday, May 30*

Memorial Day *(No School) - Monday, May 31*

Last Day Of School - *Wednesday, June 2*

Staff In-Service Day - *Thursday, June 3*

2026-2027 Grading Periods:

Quarter 1: Aug. 24 – Oct. 23 *(43 Days)*

Quarter 2: Oct. 26 – Jan. 14 *(46 Days)*

Quarter 3: Jan. 19 – March 19 *(45 Days)*

Quarter 4: March 22 – June 2 *(42 Days)*

Totals: ***176 Pupil Days, 185 Total School Days***

🏴‍☠️ School Admissions & Communication

Admissions/Withdrawals

The District provides free education to District residents between the ages of five through 21 who do not possess a diploma and to any preschool child with a disability.

A student is considered a resident of the District if he/she resides with a parent or parents whose place of residence is within the boundaries of the District or if the student resides within the boundaries of the District and (a) is in the legal or permanent custody of a government agency or a person other than the student's parents; (b) resides in a home; or (c) requires special education. Proof of residency must be provided as per board policy.

At the time of enrollment, new entrants at all grade levels will be required to present a birth certificate or document as evidence of birth, a certified copy of any child custody order or decree, proof of having received or being in the process of receiving required immunizations, and copies of those records pertaining to him/her which are maintained by the school most recently attended. If, for some reason, there are questions concerning your actual residence, the Principal or her designee may ask you to submit additional information before enrolling your child. New Kindergarten students must be five years old on or before September 30th. Registration/ Kindergarten Screening is held each spring. When registering any new student, parents must present a birth certificate, social security number, immunization records, proof of residence and custody papers, if applicable. If transferring from another school district, parents should arrange to have copies of academic records sent to us. This will ensure proper placement of the child in the academic programs.

Students who are transferring to another school should inform the school office so that the proper credentials may be prepared and forwarded upon receipt of your permission to release. We must receive parental permission for release of records before anything will be sent to any school. All materials belonging to the school must be returned before departure. All fee obligations must be taken care before release of records.

Open Enrollment

A student from another Ohio School district may be enrolled as permitted by Perkins Local School Board policies and procedures. Please contact our Administrative Services Center with your Open Enrollment questions.

Withdrawals

When withdrawing from Perkins Local Schools, a parent or guardian must be present, sign the Withdrawal Notice, and the following must be met:

- All fees are paid, including library fines, etc.;
- Books are returned in satisfactory condition; and
- Assigned work is completed.

You must provide the address of the new school and your family's forwarding address. Your child's records will be sent within 14 days of our receiving a request for records from the new school.

School Hours

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Early Drop–off for students will start at 8:45 a.m. each school day for breakfast. Those children not eating breakfast will sit and wait quietly until it is time for them to go to their classroom.

If your child arrives after the bell at 9:00 am you will need to bring your child into the building and sign them in. A student will not be allowed into class without the signed slip for the teacher.

We understand that many of our families need to drop their children off at various buildings in the district. We will work with our families to ensure that their child arrives at their respective school in a timely manner.

School Fees

All schools assess school fees predicated on consumable expenditures for that grade, school, or subject. School fees for the 2026-2027 school year are $45.00 and are due at the beginning of the school year.

Supply List

All of our teachers will provide you with a supply list. Supply lists can be found on the district's website (www.perkinsschools.org).

School Safety Drills

By law, we will conduct school safety drills as mandated by the state of Ohio. These drills are handled in a manner to simulate the real situation to ensure pupil safety in the event that such an emergency would occur. Pupil cooperation is demanded and discipline will be strict. Emergency procedures and areas have been designated according to the Ohio Fire Marshall and are posted in each room throughout the school.

Surveillance Cameras

District Policy

The Board recognizes the value of electronic surveillance systems in monitoring activity on school property and in school vehicles in protecting the health, welfare and safety of its students and staff. Carefully weighing the rights of privacy of students and staff against the District's duty to maintain order and discipline, the Board authorizes the use of electronic surveillance systems.

Emergency School Closing or Delay

School closings/delays due to inclement weather or other emergencies are broadcast on local radio stations and regional television stations. In addition, notification will be made using the Alert System and information will be posted on the Perkins Local Schools Web Site www.perkinsschools.org.

Please do not make calls to the schools or other media, as this will tie up phone lines and delay the announcements. In the case of a two-hour delay, school begins at 11:00 a.m. When the school has a delayed start, there is no morning Little Treasures (preschool).

Online Access To Student Information

Students and parents are able to access information via a web-based system. Students use their ProgressBook account to access curriculum resources, report cards, and additional individual student information. Parents can access student lunch accounts and transportation information via their ProgressBook account. Parents can access ProgressBook from the Parents dropdown menu on the district website. The district website can be found at www.perkinsschools.org.

Student Records and Privacy

District Policy

In order to provide students with appropriate instruction and educational services, it is necessary for the District to maintain extensive educational and personal information. It is essential that pertinent information in these records be readily available to appropriate school personnel, be accessible to the student's parent(s) or the student in compliance with law, and yet be guarded as confidential information.

The Superintendent is responsible for the proper administration of student records in keeping with State law and Federal requirements and the procedures for the collection of necessary information about individual students throughout the District.

Upon request, all records and files included in the student's cumulative file are available to parent(s) or the student (if he/she is over 18 years of age). This request must be in writing and is granted within seven calendar days. No records are to be removed from the school. A principal, teacher or other qualified school personnel must be present to explain any of the tests or other material.

All rights and protections given to parents under law and this policy transfer to the student when he/she reaches age 18 or enrolls in a postsecondary school. The student then becomes an "eligible student."

Both a custodial and non-custodial parent have access to a student's health and educational records unless agreed to otherwise in writing by both parents or specifically stated by court order as received by the District.

Student Pictures

Each year our school provides an opportunity for parents to have their child's pictures taken. The cost of the pictures is determined by the particular picture package that you select. Information and other forms concerning pictures will be sent home two or three weeks in advance. A yearbook will be available at a cost determined closer to its distribution at the latter part of the school year. Student Pictures are taken at the beginning of the school year and in the spring.

Teacher Communication

Teacher communication is encouraged and appreciated via school email, notes and phone. Teachers will share their school email with their families at Open House and at various times throughout the year so that families can contact them with questions and/or concerns.

Telephone Messages

Telephones in the school are for school business. For this reason children are discouraged from calling home for forgotten items. We appreciate your support in helping our students accept responsibility for their materials. If there is a personal emergency or situation, the office personnel will deliver the message to your child. Feel free to call your child's teacher with any questions that are classroom specific. On occasion, school staff may call and leave a voicemail for you. Please listen to the voicemail prior to calling the school so that we can direct you to whoever called you when you return their call.

Notices/Newsletters

Notices, bulletins, and/or newsletters will be sent home with your child, or communicated via ClassDojo. Please look through your child's book bag and/or folders on a daily basis so that you are kept up to date on current events at Furry Elementary School. Non-residential parents who wish to have access to newsletters, grade cards, or other progress information sent to them should contact their child's teacher. Your child's teacher will be responsible for sending home additional copies of school correspondences. Our weekly e–newsletter, as well as other notices, will be sent home via email. It is important that your email is correct and updated as your email address changes.

🏴‍☠️ Attendance Policy

District Policy

*Student Absences and Excuses

The Board acknowledges that student absences from school for any reason, whether excused or unexcused, take away from instructional time and have an adverse effect on student learning.

Regular attendance by all students is very important. In many cases, irregular attendance is the major reason for poor schoolwork; therefore, all students are urged to make appointments, do personal errands, etc., outside of school hours.

Reasons for which students may be excused include, but are not limited to:

1. personal illness of the student;

2. illness in the student's family necessitating the presence of the child;

3. quarantine for contagious disease;

4. emergency or other set of circumstances in which the judgment of the Superintendent constitutes a good and sufficient cause for absence from school, which may include but not be limited to absences due to documented medical, behavioral or dental appointments;

5. needed at home to perform necessary work directly and exclusively for parents or legal guardians for a limited period of time when approved in advance by the Superintendent (applies to students over 14 years of age only when all statutory obligations have been met for such excusal);

6. death in the family (applies to absences of up to 18 school hours unless a reasonable cause may be shown for a longer absence);

7. up to three religious expression days per school year in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3320.04;
8. traveling out of state to attend a Board-approved enrichment activity or extracurricular activity (applies to absences of up to 24 school hours);

9. post-secondary visitation, for which a student may be marked as “present” for such absences for up to three days per school year;

10. pre-enlistment reporting to a military enlistment processing station, for which a student may be marked as “present” if the absence is used to help fulfill graduation requirements;

11. absences of a student of a military family for purposes of visiting their parent, legal guardian or custodian who is an active duty member of the uniformed services that has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting;
12. absences due to a student's placement in foster care or change in foster care placement or any court proceedings related to their foster care status;

13. absences due to a student being homeless;

14. attending a driver education course outside of core curriculum (applies to absences for two hours per day up to eight hours maximum, which cannot exceed four consecutive days or can be nonconsecutive) or
15. as determined by the Superintendent.

The District makes an attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student who has not notified the school of the student’s absence that day regarding that student’s absence without legitimate excuse within 120 minutes of the start of the school day. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to determine and use the appropriate notification procedure and methods consistent with State law.

Student make-up work for religious expression days is managed in accordance with State law and Board policy for such absences.

A student cannot be suspended, expelled or removed from school solely because of unexcused absences.

Each student who is absent for reasons other than religious expression days must immediately, upon return to school, make arrangements with his/her teacher(s) to make up work missed. Students who are absent from school for reasons not permitted by State law may, or may not, be permitted to make up work. Each case is considered on its merits by the principal and the respective teacher(s). Students who are absent due to an in-school or out-of school suspension are permitted to make up missed classroom assignments in accordance with District level policies and procedures. Students are requested to bring a note to school after each absence explaining the reason for the absence or tardiness in accordance with procedures and timelines defined in District level policies and procedures.

The Board does not believe that students should be excused from school for vacations or other non emergency trips. The responsibility for such absences resides with the parent(s), and they must not expect any work missed by their child to be retaught by the teacher. If the school is notified in advance of such a trip, reasonable efforts are made to prepare a general list of assignments for the student to do while he/she is absent.

Interventions and Supports

A chronically absent student is a student who misses at least 10% of the minimum number of hours required in a school year under Ohio Revised Code (RC) 3313.48 for the school a student attends.

The District consults with the county juvenile court, parents, guardians and other persons having care of a student attending school in the District in developing this policy.

This policy and any procedures developed must align with any District or school improvement plan developed pursuant to State or Federal Law.

The Board may consult or partner with private, public and nonprofit agencies to assist students and families in reducing absences.

Prevention strategies

The Board directs the administration to implement the following strategies, when

deemed appropriate to prevent students from becoming chronically absent:(this list can and should be customized to reflect District practice and align with District plans to meet District needs):

1. **Universal Screening: District and building teams regularly review attendance data alongside other student data using an early warning system to identify areas of need early on, allowing for timely interventions**

2. **Data-Based Decision-Making: Collecting, analyzing, and using various forms of data to inform student needs and allocate resources to ensure decisions are grounded in evidence and tailored to the specific needs of students**

3. **Progress Monitoring: Ongoing and frequent collection of data to assess student performance and evaluate the effectiveness of instruction and supports in order to adjust strategies to better support students and improve attendance**

4. **Team-Based Problem Solving: A collaborative, responsive, and systemic process for understanding and addressing complex problems impacting students through personalized outreach to students and families, intentional engagement strategies, and ongoing process monitoring**

5. **Shared Leadership: A collaborative approach to providing strong, ongoing leadership for implementing an integrated multi-tiered system of supports, including infrastructure, professional development, and monitoring to ensure that staff have the skills and support to create strong foundations for learning**

6. **Professional Capacity: Ensuring staff members are knowledgeable, organized, and equipped to deliver effective instruction using an integrated multi-tiered system of supports**

7. **Communication and Collaboration: Essential processes to promote and support engagement and shared responsibility for creating conditions for effective instruction for all students through a strengths-based lens among all teaching and non-teaching staff, administrators, families, caregivers, and students**

Notifications

The District notifies a student's parent, guardian or custodian when the student has been absent from school for 10% (Board must determine number of hours, not to exceed 5% of minimum required hours under RC 3313.48) **of the minimum number of hours required in a school year under RC 3313.48 for the school a student attends.**

Tiered supports

The Board directs the administration to implement a tiered system that provides more intensive interventions and supports for students with greater numbers of absences and includes resources to help students and their families address the root causes of the absences.

Evidence-based academic and non-academic instruction and supports are organized across three tiers: (can and should be customized to reflect District practice and meet District needs):

Tier I – Universal Supports
School-wide attendance expectations, positive attendance messaging, and prevention practices provided to all students and families.

Tier II – Targeted Supports
Early intervention and supportive outreach for students missing between 5% and 19% of Instructional time.

Tier III – Intensive Supports
Individualized interventions, community partnerships, and intensive support services for students missing 20% or more of instructional time.

The District establishes at least one absence intervention team to work with students at risk of becoming chronically absent and their families to improve attendance at school.

HB 166 added a requirement that districts will attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student regarding that student's absence without legitimate excuse within 120 minutes of the start of the school day using a method consistent with State law. The following methods are acceptable:

- A telephone call placed in-person
- An automated telephone call (via a system that includes verification that each call was actually placed)
- A notification sent through the school's automated student information system
- A text message
- An email
- An in-person visit
- Any other notification procedure that has been adopted by resolution of the Board of Education

Schools are not required to notify a parent who notifies the school of the student's absence within the first 120 minutes after the beginning of the school day. In addition, an immunity provision is included in the new law, which states that a school district or any officer, director, employee or any member of the District Board of Education is not liable in a civil action for injury, death or loss to person or property from an employee's action or inaction in good faith compliance with the law.

HB 491 requires boards to adopt a policy establishing parameters for completing and grading assignments missed due to a student's suspension. The policy must permit the completion of classroom assignments missed and students must receive at least partial credit for completed assignments. The policy may permit grade reductions and must prohibit the receipt of a failing grade solely on account of the student's suspension. Districts may further customize this policy to reflect parameters or outline in detail in student handbooks.

Furry Elementary School Attendance Procedures

At Furry Middle School, we know that every day of school matters. Regular attendance is essential to student success, and students who miss school frequently are more likely to struggle academically, socially, and emotionally.

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 3321.04, parents and guardians are responsible for ensuring that their child attends school each day school is in session.

Our goal is to work in partnership with families to remove barriers and support student attendance. Under Ohio law, our focus is on early intervention, communication, and support—not punishment.

Reporting an Absence

If your child will be absent, please call the Briar Middle School office at (419) 625-0132 and provide:

- **Student's name**
- **Parent/Guardian's name**
- **Date of absence**
- **Reason for the absence**

The District may request documentation, such as a doctor's note, court document, or other verification to excuse an absence.

Understanding the Two Types of Attendance Concerns

Ohio law looks at missed school hours in two different ways.

1. Chronic Absenteeism – Every Absence Counts

A student is considered chronically absent when they miss 10% or more of the school year for any reason.

What Counts?

Every missed hour counts, including:

- **Illness**
- **Doctor or dental appointments**
- **Vacations**
- **Unexcused absences**
- **Suspensions**
- **Any other excused or unexcused absence**

Our Response

Chronic absenteeism is a signal that a student is missing too much instructional time. It is not a disciplinary matter. The school will reach out to families to identify barriers and provide support to improve attendance.

2. Habitual Truancy – Only Unexcused Absences Count

Habitual truancy applies only to unexcused absences and carries specific legal requirements under Ohio law.

A student is considered habitually truant when they accumulate:

- **30 consecutive unexcused hours; or**
- **42 unexcused hours in one school month; or**
- **72 unexcused hours in one school year.**

Our Response

When these thresholds are met, Ohio law requires the District to convene an Absence Intervention Team (AIT) to develop an Absence Intervention Plan designed to improve attendance and remove barriers preventing the student from attending school regularly.

How We Support Families: Step-by-Step

Step 1: Early Warning Letter – 5% Threshold

If your child misses 5% or more of the minimum required school hours, the District will provide written notification to the parent or guardian, which may include an email, letter, or other form of communication.

This letter is not disciplinary. It is intended to:

- **Keep families informed of attendance concerns;**
- **Encourage communication between home and school; and**
- **Offer support and resources before attendance becomes a larger concern.**

Step 2: Attendance Support Team

If absences continue to increase, the school may invite you to meet with our Attendance Intervention Team, which may include counselors, administrators, social workers, and other support staff.

Together, we will develop a personalized plan to help overcome barriers such as:

- **Illness or medical concerns**
- **Transportation issues**

- **Anxiety or mental health concerns**
- **Family circumstances**
- **Other challenges affecting attendance**

Our goal is to work collaboratively with families to improve attendance and support student success.

When Legal Action May Be Required

Juvenile court involvement is considered an absolute last resort.

Under Ohio law, if a student meets the definition of Habitual Truancy, the attendance officer is required to file a complaint in juvenile court unless the student and family are actively participating in and making satisfactory progress on the Absence Intervention Plan.

However, a complaint generally will not be filed if the student and family are:

- **Actively participating in the Absence Intervention Plan; and**
- **Making satisfactory progress toward improving attendance as defined by District guidelines.**

Important Protections for Your Child

- **Students cannot be suspended, expelled, or removed from school solely because of attendance concerns or unexcused absences.**
- **Chronic Absenteeism = Every absence counts (excused and unexcused).**
- **Habitual Truancy = Only unexcused absences count.**
- **Our primary goal is to keep students in the classroom, not the courtroom.**

We Are Here to Help

If your family is experiencing challenges with transportation, health issues, housing concerns, anxiety, or any other obstacle affecting school attendance, please contact us as soon as possible.

The earlier we know about a concern, the sooner we can connect your family with resources and work together to support your child's success.

Together, we can ensure every student has the opportunity to attend, achieve, and succeed.

🏴‍☠️ Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Grading Systems

District Policy

The administration and professional staff devise grading systems for evaluating and recording student progress. The records and reports of individual students are kept in a form which is understandable to parents as well as teachers. The Board approves the grading and reporting systems as developed by the faculty, upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

The Board recognizes that any grading system, however effective, has subjective elements. There are fundamental principles which must guide all instructors in the assignment of marks and achievement. The achievement mark in any subject should represent the most objective measurement by the teacher of the achievement of the individual. A variety of evaluation measures are used and accurate records are kept to substantiate the grade given.

An individual should not receive a failing grade unless he/she has not met stated minimum requirements. Grades are a factor used to motivate students. Poor or failing grades should trigger a variety of instructional and intervention activities to assist the student in achieving better grades by the next grading period, if possible.

Furry Elementary Procedure

Core Academic Areas are graded as Meets Expectations or Progressing. Essentials (Art, Computer, Music, Physical Education) and Academic Behaviors (Social Growth and Work Habits) are graded as Meets Expectations or Progressing.

Report Cards

Report cards are distributed once each nine-week grading period to parents via email. Parents are encouraged to monitor student's progress through ProgressBook. Report cards will be shared at the close of each quarter. Interim reports or some form of communication will occur at the mid-point of each nine week period. You have the ability to view your child's progress at your convenience using the parent access to ProgressBook.

Homework

District Policy

As long as it is properly designed, carefully planned and geared to the development of the individual student, homework meets a real need and has a definite place in the educational program. It is not used for disciplinary purposes. The extent and type of homework given is decided by the classroom teacher within the framework of specific instructional plans.

Homework is assigned to help the student become more self-reliant, learn to work independently, improve the skills which have been developed and complete certain projects such as the reading of worthwhile

books and the preparation of research papers. Home study assignments also afford a way for parents to acquaint themselves with the school program and their own children's educational progress.

Essentials/Special Area Teachers

Getting a well-rounded education requires the services of many people. We have a physical education teacher, art teacher, and vocal music teacher. We also have the services of a speech and hearing therapist, school psychologist, Title I reading teachers, a guidance counselor, and a nurse. District programs for the developmentally disabled, learning disabled, or severe behaviorally disabled are available for students that qualify.

Guidance Services

Guidance Services are available to all students at Furry. The school guidance counselor presents programs in classroom settings which are designed to enhance student's self- esteem, consideration for others, respect for their school and responsible decision making. Individual and small group guidance services are available. Students may request a meeting with the counselor to discuss individual concerns.

If you would like school guidance services for your child, please contact Furry's Guidance Counselor, Diane Smith, at (419) 625-4352.

Identifying Gifted Students

The state of Ohio requires school districts to identify students for potential areas of giftedness. Students are identified as gifted in cognitive ability, specific academic achievement areas, and/ or visual/ performing arts areas through state approved assessment procedures and creative thinking through state approved assessment procedures. Perkins Local Schools provides a continuum of services to support the varying instructional and social emotional needs of gifted learners. The Gifted Intervention Specialist (GIS) and General Education teachers collaborate to provide direct services in the areas of Reading and Math.

Library Services

The library is open daily and may be used by students for informational and recreational reading. Once books are checked out, the library materials become the student's responsibility. The school will notify the student's family if a book is lost or damaged and appropriate arrangements will be made for restitution to the school. Books and magazines are loaned for a one week period. Please note the "Lost and Damaged Book Fees" section of this handbook.

If a child has an overdue book he/she may not check out another book until the overdue one is returned.

Lost and Damaged Book Fees:

- Lost Book...Cost of the Book
- Slight Binding Damage (repairable with glue)...$4.00
- Broken Binding (needing to be rebound)...$10.00
- Broken Corners...$1.00 per corner, $4.00 max
- Torn Pages (repairable)...$1.00 per page, $10.00 max
- Missing Pages...Cost of the book
- Water Damaged Books (unable to use)...Cost of the book

- Water Damaged Books (we can live with)...$5.00
- Cover Damaged...$3.00

If there is any question at all on whether a book needs to be rebound, please check with the library. If they cannot fix it, the student will be charged the broken binding fee.

Little Treasures Preschool

There is a separate Parent Program Guide for our Preschool in addition to this handbook. Attempts are made to align the expectations stated in the Parent Program Guide with this handbook. If there are questions or conflicting statements between the Parent Program Guide and the Furry Handbook, please contact the office for clarification.

Preschool Enrollment opens each year on April 1.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled during each school year. Conferences make it possible for the parent to meet with each of their child's teachers. Dates for conferences will be posted in the school newsletter, on the building website and messaged through ProgressBook. Please take advantage of these opportunities to strengthen the parent-teacher teamwork necessary for any child's success in school. Ongoing parent-teacher communications are strongly encouraged. You can contact your child's teacher through email or by leaving a message with the main office. Conferences are generally held in November and February but can be scheduled at any time throughout the school year.

Parent Teacher Organization

The Parent-Teacher Organization is important to the life of our school district. Information is sent home at the beginning of each school year from our PTO officers encouraging our families to become involved with their organization. The PTO meets regularly during the school year. Current BCI paperwork needs to be on file with the district in order to volunteer in our school.

Promoting Parental Involvement (Code IGBLA)

District Policy

The Board promotes parental involvement in the public school system. The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to develop procedures necessary to comply with the provisions of this policy.

This policy is made publicly available and posted prominently on the District's website.

Read The Policy: https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/perkins/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DF3LLJ542CAB

Search for Children with Disabilities - District Policy

All students with disabilities living within the District are identified, evaluated and placed in appropriate educational programs. Additionally, all parentally-placed private school children with disabilities who reside in a state other than Ohio and attend a private school within the District are located, identified and evaluated. Due process requirements, procedural safeguards and confidential treatment of information are adhered to as required by State and Federal law.

Speech & Hearing Services

Speech and hearing services are available to students at Furry School. Children requiring these services are identified through screening procedures, teacher referrals and parent referrals. Due to state laws and regulations, parent permission is required for testing and also for placement in the program.

🏴‍☠️ Acceptable Use - District Policy

Use of Artificial Intelligence (Code EDC)

The Board recognizes the need to prepare staff and students for an increasingly technological future. Thus, the Board is committed to providing staff and students with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate emerging technological innovations effectively and appropriately, including generative artificial intelligence (AI).

Read The Policy (Follow the link and click on Policy Tab):
https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/perkins/Board.nsf/Public

Use of Cellphones and Electronic Communications Devices by Students (Code JFCK)

Recognizing the impact of student cellphone use on student mental health and achievement and the distractions cellphones present within the classroom, use of student cellphones must be as limited as possible during school hours.

Read The Policy (Follow the link and click on Policy Tab):
https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/perkins/Board.nsf/Public

Use of Computer/Online Services and Internet Safety (CodeEDE)

Technology can greatly enhance the instructional program, as well as the efficiency of the District. The Board recognizes that careful planning is essential to ensure the successful, equitable and cost-effective implementation of technology-based materials, equipment, systems and networks.

Read The Policy (Follow the link and click on Policy Tab):
https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/perkins/Board.nsf/Public

Use of District-Owned Laptops (Code EDEC-R-1)

The use of District-owned laptops is a privilege, and students may be denied access at any time. Students wishing to participate in the laptop program must comply with the following guidelines and procedures and comply with the laptop agreement expectations. Students:

Read The Policy (Follow the link and click on Policy Tab):
https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/perkins/Board.nsf/Public

Technology Usage

Students are encouraged to use the school's computers, network, internet connection, and their assigned student account(s) for teacher assigned, educational work. All references to schools in this section will mean any school in the Perkins Local School District. The term computer or computer equipment includes but is not limited to electronic devices, personal or school owned, that are used on school property (including on district-owned vehicles) or during district-sponsored trips. Student accounts are defined as accounts provided for student use by the district or a teacher to access resources or materials to complete educational work either within a school building or while at an offsite location.

Students are responsible for their behavior and communication on the network and while using any student account regardless of location. Transmission of any material in violation of any State or Federal law or regulation, or Board policy is prohibited. Unauthorized or inappropriate use of the network or student accounts, including any violation of these rules, may result in cancellation of privilege, disciplinary action consistent with the Student Code of Conduct, and/or civil or criminal liability.

Parents or guardians and students are advised that the Board makes every effort but may not be able to technologically limit access to only those services that have been authorized for the purpose of instruction, study, and research related to the curriculum. Use of student accounts or equipment which takes place on an internet connection other than the Board's will not inherently contain equivalent protections. It is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access to information and communications that they and/or their parents or guardians may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable, or controversial regardless of internet connection used. No privacy in communication over the internet and the network is to be expected.

Student use of the district's computers, network, accounts, resources, and internet services (Network) are governed by district Policies as well as the Student Code of Conduct. In order to verify compliance with these guidelines, the Board reserves the right to monitor, review, and inspect any (not all encompassing): directories, files, documents, messages, and/or network activity. If these items are residing on, sent through, or created using the network or a student account. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

The district staff may review computer files, messages, or other communications that are created by the student. Material may be reviewed for grading, appropriate content, or misuse. It may also be reviewed for any harassing or threatening material (e.g., cyber bullying), trade secret protection and/or any vulgar or obscene content.

Students using computers are expected to abide by the following rules:

Students shall only access district resources by using their assigned account. Use of another person's account or password is prohibited. Students may not allow others to utilize their password. Students will log out of their accounts when they are finished using a device. If a previous session is found logged in under another student's account, it is expected that the previous account is logged off and the next student will properly log in under their own account.

Students shall not intentionally seek out, obtain copies of, or modify data, or passwords belonging to other users. Students may not portray or imitate other user's accounts.

Students are permitted to use networked software and school-supplied software. Programs written by the student, which are part of an assignment in a school's course of study, may be run, as required, for that course of study's requirements with teacher supervision.

Students shall not download programs from the internet, nor may they copy programs from any removable device or other outside media. Students may not install or delete programs, extensions, or apps on the school's computers without express permission.

Students shall not use the internet or network to engage in hacking or other unlawful activities. These activities may include but are not limited to privilege escalation, exploitation of system vulnerabilities, data harvesting, or user impersonation.

Students are not permitted to perform security or penetration testing on the district network for any reason without explicit permission from the technology department. This can include network mapping, scans, vulnerability scanning or other forms of reconnaissance.

Students who discover flaws or vulnerabilities in the district network or systems will utilize responsible reporting practices and notify the district technology department. Use of discovered vulnerabilities for malicious or unauthorized activities is prohibited.

Students shall not create keyboard macros. Macros written by the student which are part of an assignment in a school's course of study may be run, as required, for that course of study's requirements with teacher supervision.

Students should only use computer programs or websites approved by the classroom teacher.

Students may utilize district technology to participate in online learning or related group discussion as directed by teachers. This may include the use of district-approved technology to chat or communicate with staff and other students. Students will utilize applications as directed and should practice proper digital citizenship including not disrupting other students, participating in cyberbullying, using profanity, or making transient threats of harm.

A teacher may authorize the copying of student-created work to a removable device or other outside media. The use of a removable device or other outside media is not permitted without permission from a teacher.

Students may not have food or drink when working on school computers.

All copyright laws are to be enforced. Illegally downloading, displaying, or sharing copyrighted works such as movies, songs, books, or games is prohibited.

Students are not to unplug or change any computer device or network connections. Students are not to change any display screen settings.

Students are not to change any program's toolbars or settings.

Students are not to add or delete any program icons on the desktop or Start Menu. Students are not to modify or remove any identifying labels on computer equipment. Students are not to modify or remove any printer settings.

Students are not to remove, disassemble, modify, damage, or destroy any components of a computer, networking device, or other piece of technology.

Students will not remove technology resources from their assigned building without recorded permission from building leadership or the technology department. Any equipment approved to be used off site will

adhere to all aspects of this technology usage policy and the device should only be used for classwork or designated needs. Systems should not be considered a replacement device through which to conduct personal activities.

Malicious use of computers or the school's network to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate any other computer system and/or damage the software components of a computing system is prohibited. Students may not use computers or the school's network in such a way that would disrupt the network's use by others.
Students are to advise school staff when they observe any violation of the school's policy for the use of the school's computers.

Students are to advise school staff when a school's computer malfunctions in any way (example: a program is not opening or closing properly) the teacher will notify the technical support staff so that the computer can be repaired.

The possession of; or the taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing content including but not limited to nude, obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfers or other means (commonly called texting, emailing, sexting, etc.) may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law. Any person possessing, taking, disseminating, or sharing nude, obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs may be punished under this code of conduct and may be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

Students should practice proper digital citizenship and digital civility while interacting with others on the network. Communication on the network that threatens, harasses, or bullies others should be reported to the building administrator or another trusted adult.

Students should not make transient threats of harm using district technology, applications, or accounts. Any threat of harm may be reviewed, and disciplinary actions taken.

The use of electronic devices for recording purposes must have prior approval.

Students may not send unsolicited or unwanted documents, messages, images, or data to other students or staff. Receiving unsolicited or unwanted content should be reported to staff or building leadership. Content found to violate the Student Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary actions being taken.

Students are not permitted to use their cellular phones or electronic devices in the school building. Students using their cellular phones, wearable technology, or electronic devices may be subject to school discipline. Contents of cell phones, wearable technology, or electronic devices may be searched if there is a reasonable suspicion that it may have been used in an activity prohibited by the Code of Conduct. At the building leadership's discretion, students confiscated cellular phones, wearable technology, or electronic devices may only be returned to their parents or guardians.

Wearable devices such as smartwatches, fitness trackers, or devices with similar functionality are also not permitted. Staff may ask students to remove or disable wearable technology. If parents or guardians feel they need to contact or communicate with the student while class is in session, contact should go through the building's main office as opposed to messaging or calling directly to a wearable device.

Perkins will provide access to filtered wireless internet for personally owned computing devices for educational purposes. The Technology Usage Policy fully applies to personal computing devices. Configuration changes, installed software, or tools which violate the Code of Conduct or negatively impact

the network may result in the loss of privilege to utilize a personal device. This privilege may be restored when the device is determined to no longer violate this policy or negatively impact the network.

District computers should not be used for playing games unless sanctioned through a classroom or club activity and only during times directed by a club advisor or teacher. If gaming activities are disruptive or negatively impact the learning environment, they may be blocked.

Students are not allowed to circumvent the internet filter or click-through warnings. This includes through the use of Virtual Private Network (VPN) providers or internet proxies. Personal computing devices are not to be attached to the Perkins network other than the wireless network provided for student use. Computing devices that have been determined to be a threat to network integrity will be immediately removed from the network and will not be allowed to connect until the technology department is assured that the cause for removal has been resolved.

As a condition to using Perkins' wireless network, students should have no expectation of privacy in their use of the network, and by agreeing to the handbook awareness statement specifically understand that their personal computing device may be confiscated and searched anytime school officials have reasonable suspicion of violations of the Technology Usage Policy or any other Board policies, guidelines, or laws.

Violations

Violations of these rules may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to detention or suspension. Violations also may result in removal from the wireless network, confiscation of equipment, notification to the appropriate legal authorities and/or other legal action may be pursued.

Student speech online is a protected right; however, this right is not unlimited. Student speech which occurs on school grounds or through the use of district technology should adhere to the Student Code of Conduct. Statements of cyberbullying, threats, harassment, or other speech that impacts the schooling environment or violates the Code of Conduct can be addressed by the district.

Student speech that takes place outside of school grounds and utilizes personal accounts or technology are the responsibility of the parent or guardian to monitor or address. Student speech which occurs off school grounds but creates a severe disruption to the school environment can also be addressed by school administration or applicable law enforcement.

Parents and guardians should discuss proper and appropriate use of social media or other services with their students and be aware of their student's actions online. Student speech that occurs on public social media or other sites or services falls under that platform's terms of service. The district does not have direct control over the public speech of its students and cannot directly remove content from public services. If the district becomes aware of inappropriate accounts or content, the content may be reported to the social network or site, but this does not guarantee the removal of the content in a timely fashion or at all.

Use of the internet and any information procured from the internet is at the student's own risk. The Board makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through the network will be error-free or without defect. The Board is not responsible for any damage a user may suffer, including, but not limited to, loss of data, service interruptions, or exposure to inappropriate material or people. The Board is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the internet. Information (including text, graphics, audio, video, etc.) from internet sources used in student papers, reports, and projects should be properly cited as a source or reference material. The Board will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the network. Students,

parents, or guardians will indemnify and hold the Board harmless from any losses sustained as the result of misuse of the network by the student. Use of the network by students may be limited to those students whose parents or guardians have acknowledged the Student Handbook and this Technology Usage Policy.

The use of technology outside of the district network (for example a home internet connection or cellular network or hotspot) may not provide the same levels of filtering, monitoring, or protections as outlined in this handbook. Parents and guardians should be aware of these limitations and ensure adequate expectations are established for the responsible use of technology outside of the district network.

Please note Perkins will not be able to provide technical support for personal computing devices. The district will not be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged property whether it be by accidental or malicious means including but not limited to other users, viruses, malware, spyware, or bot traffic.

Technology Usage Agreement

If you do NOT desire for your child to use district-provided technology while at school, please submit a letter to your building principal. In the event that we do not receive this information, ALL students will be permitted to use district-provided technology according to the provisions listed in the Technology Usage Policy.

🏴‍☠️ Code of Conduct

District Policy
Perkins Local Schools' Code of Conduct seeks to foster self-discipline in all students and maintain an appropriate educational atmosphere. First and foremost, the district is committed to implementing a system of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) to promote school safety and good behavior. All students are expected to be responsible citizens and to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with Federal, State, and local laws, Board policies and Administrative Guidelines, and in a way that respects the rights and safety of others.

The Board believes that students should assume responsibility for their behavior and the consequences of their actions. The Board has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior by its students.

Because the Board believes that students, staff members, and visitors are entitled to function in a safe school environment, students are required to report knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence to the principal. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to discipline. In addition, sexual harassment of a student may reasonably be considered child abuse that must be reported to the proper authorities.

This Code of Conduct is in effect while students are under the authority of school personnel or involved in any school activity. This includes but is not limited to school buses and property under the control of school authorities, and while at interscholastic competitions, extracurricular events, or other school activities or programs.

In addition, this Code of Conduct includes 1.) Misconduct by a student that occurs off school district but is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on school district property; and 2.) Misconduct by a student that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a district official or employee or the property of an official or employee.

Furthermore, participation in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic sports, is a privilege and not a right. Students may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities for offenses or violations of the Student Code of Conduct or Athletic Code of Conduct. Students prohibited from participation in all, or part of any extra-curricular activity are not entitled to further notice, hearing and/or appeal rights.

Violation of the Code of Conduct may result in: verbal or written warning or reprimand, parental contact or conference, after-school, morning or lunch detention, referral to school counselor, in-school detention, out-of-school suspension, emergency removal, referral to law enforcement agencies, expulsion, permanent exclusion, compensatory payment of damages, loss of bus privileges, loss of credit for assigned work or tests, assigned work relation to the offence, or loss of other privileges.

Philosophy: In creating an atmosphere for an effective learning environment and establishing the concept of a well-ordered school in which all individuals can work to the best of their ability, it is important to

recognize that all segments of the school community (students, teachers, parents, non-certified staff and administration) have definite rights as well as definite responsibilities.

Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)

District Policy

Students are expected to conduct themselves in such a way that exhibits respect and consideration for the rights of others. Students of the District must conform with school regulations and accept directions from authorized school personnel. The Board has “zero tolerance” of violent, harassing, intimidating, bullying or any other inappropriate behavior by its students.

A student who fails to comply with established school rules or with any reasonable request made by school personnel on school property and/or at school-related events is subject to approved student discipline regulations. Students are also subject to discipline, as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct for misbehavior that occurs off school property when the misbehavior endangers the health and safety of students within the District or adversely affects the education process. The Superintendent/designee develops regulations which establish strategies ranging from prevention to intervention to address student misbehavior, and provides continuing instruction in dating violence prevention in health education courses in grades 7 through 12.

Furry Elementary Procedure

We, the staff at Furry Elementary School, pride ourselves in teaching our students how to behave in an acceptable manner in both social and academic settings. We understand that the school setting may be new for most of our students and rules and expectations at home may be different from ours at school. We believe in restorative practices when dealing with behavior and/or discipline issues and therefore, allow our children to learn and grow from their mistakes and/or poor choices. The staff at Furry Elementary School intervene and monitor our students to ensure that they learn appropriate school behaviors.

Anti-Harassment, Bullying, Hazing & Other Aggressive Behavior

District Policy

Hazing, bullying behavior and/or dating violence by any student/school personnel in the District is strictly prohibited, and such conduct may result in disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion from school. Hazing bullying and/or dating violence means any intentional written, verbal, graphic or physical acts, including electronically transmitted acts, either overt or covert, by a student or group of students toward other students/school personnel with the intent to haze, harass, intimidate, injure, threaten, ridicule or humiliate. Such behaviors are prohibited on or immediately adjacent to school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity; in any District publication; through the use of any District-owned or operated communication tools, including but not limited to District e-mail accounts and/or computers; on school-provided transportation or at any official school bus stop.

Hazing, bullying and/or dating violence can include many different behaviors. Examples of conduct that could constitute prohibited behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Physical violence and/or attacks;
- Threats, taunts and intimidation through words and/or gestures;
- Extortion, damage or stealing of money and/or possessions;
- Exclusion from the peer group or spreading rumors;

- Repetitive and hostile behavior with the intent to harm others through the use of information and communication technologies and other web-based/online sites (also known as “cyber bullying”) such as the following:
    - Posting slurs on websites, social networking sites, blogs or personal online journals;
    - Sending abusive or threatening e-mails, website postings or comments and instant messages;
    - Using camera phones to take embarrassing photographs or videos of students and/or distributing or posting the photos or videos online and using websites, social networking sites, blogs or personal online journals, e-mails or instant messages to circulate gossip and rumors to other students.
- Excluding others from an online group by falsely reporting them for inappropriate language to internet service providers.

In evaluating whether conduct constitutes hazing or bullying, special attention is paid to the words chosen or the actions taken, whether such conduct occurred in front of others or was communicated to others, how the perpetrator interacted with the victim and the motivation, either admitted or appropriately inferred.

Please visit our website, www.perkinsschools.org to report bullying, domestic violence, drug/substance abuse, sexual harassment, verbal abuse, academic cheating, or any other concerns via our Safety Hotline. Information will be sent directly to the appropriate administrator or agency. Reports may be submitted anonymously.

Use of Electronic Communications Devices

District Policy

Students may be allowed to possess pagers, cellular telephones and other electronic communications devices while on school property or while attending school-sponsored activities on or off school property. Electronic devices may not be used inside of the classroom, study hall, assembly, or other instructional settings unless permitted by an administrator or instructor for educational purposes.

Violators of this policy are reported to the principal. The device will be given to an administrator who may assign additional consequences including retention of the device for an extended period of time and/or requiring a parent/guardian to pick up the device. The District assumes no liability if these devices are broken, lost or stolen.

Furry Elementary School’s Procedure

At this time, there is no reason for your child to bring any type of electronic toy or communication device to school. If a device is brought to school by your child, it will be collected and stored in the office. You will be called so that you can make arrangements to come and pick up the device at your convenience.

Student Dress Code

District Policy

Part of the total education of the students is learning to dress appropriately and behave responsibly in a variety of situations. Attendance at school and school-related functions is a specific situation which requires the student to use good judgment. Students are expected to dress in a manner that is appropriate to the school environment and does not cause disruption to the academic process. Research has shown a correlation between appearance and behavior, especially in the school setting.

These regulations will assist parents, students, faculty and administrators in determining appropriate student standards for dress while at school or school-sponsored activities.

- Parents and students maintain responsibility for their dress and personal appearance.
- When any dress or grooming interferes with the cleanliness, health, welfare or safety of students, or when any dress or grooming disrupts the educational process by being distracting, indecent or inappropriate to the educational process, it is prohibited.
- Sponsors and teachers of elective programs (such as vocational classes) or elective activities (such as sports and music) may require more strict standards regarding dress and appearance for participants in their program or activity.
- The principal, with the assistance of the faculty, has the responsibility of uniformly administering the dress code. The decision of the principal is final.
- As new trends in fashion or dress are accepted or become out of date, the District reviews the changing standards of the community served.

Students shall observe general guidelines for dress and appearance, including:

- No shorts or miniskirts that end above mid-thigh;
- No shirts and blouses that expose the midriff;
- No tank tops, muscle shirts or halters
- Hats, coats, bandannas, sweatbands, and sunglasses are not to be carried to, or worn in, class;
- No clothing or other apparel that promotes hate, profanity, vulgar or negative messages;
- Anything advertising or related to alcohol, tobacco and drugs, or anything sexually explicit, is not permitted;
- No transparent garments, open mesh garments or garments with large open sides may be worn without an underliner;
- Appropriate footwear must be worn and must not present a safety hazard;
- No Biking pants or spandex;
- Hair must be clean, worn out of the eyes and groomed at all times; no extreme or distracting hair or makeup;
- Body-piercing adornments are not to be extreme or distracting;
- Lower garments are to be worn at waist level. If a belt is worn, it must be of proper length. Undergarments are not to be exposed;
- No "dog collars", spiked bracelets or chains that could be dangerous to persons or destructive to school property;
- No gang- or cult-related items of any kind and
- No inappropriate cutoffs, tattered clothing or clothing with holes.

Violation of the dress code can result in removal from class (until the violation can be resolved) and/or disciplinary action.

Furry Elementary School Procedure

In addition to the guidelines stated in the district's policy, the following will be enforced at Furry:

- Students may not wear shorts from November 1 to March 31.
- Shorts are permitted to be worn from our first day of school through October 31 and April 1 until our last day of school.
- Shoes or sandals with straps must be worn at all times. Flip-flops are discouraged as they often break and are the cause for trips and falls which result in injury.
- The weather is changeable as is the indoor climate of the building. Your child may want to keep a sweater or sweatshirt in their book bag to be comfortable.
- Hats and sunglasses are not to be worn or carried openly during school, except on special occasions designated by the child's teacher and/or principal.

Alcohol Use By Students/Student Drug Abuse

District Policy

The Board does not permit any student to possess, transmit, conceal, offer for sale, consume, show evidence of having consumed or used any alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, unprescribed drugs, look-alike drugs or any mind-altering substance while on school grounds or facilities; at school-sponsored events; in other situations under the authority of the District or in school-owned or school-approved vehicles. Included in this prohibition are any substances represented as a controlled substance, nonalcoholic beers, steroids, tobacco and tobacco products and drug paraphernalia.

The Board wishes to emphasize the following requirements:

- A student is required to obey existing laws on school grounds and while involved in school activities. School authorities have the same responsibility as any other citizen to report violations of the law. The final disposition of any problem, however, is determined by the building principal with due consideration of the welfare of the student and of any other relevant factors involved.
- Discipline is imposed independent of court action. Students are subject to immediate
- suspension or expulsion proceedings for possession or use of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages.
- Parents and students are given a copy of the standards of conduct and the statement of disciplinary sanctions and are notified that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory.
- If conditions warrant, the administration refers the student for prosecution and offers full
- cooperation in a criminal investigation.
- A reduction in penalty may be considered if the student receives professional assistance. Professional assistance may include but not be limited to an alcohol/drug education program; assessment with follow-through based on the assessment findings, counseling, outpatient treatment or inpatient treatment.

The Superintendent establishes and the Board considers for approval detailed procedures for dealing with students who may have a drug or alcohol problem. These procedures are in compliance with all applicable laws and observed by all staff members. It is the desire of the Board for students with problems to feel secure enough to ask for help from their teachers or counselors without fear of reprisal. Confidentiality shall be maintained within the limits of the law. The long-range welfare of the student is paramount.

Tobacco Use and/or Possession by Students

District Policy

Health professionals have determined that the use of tobacco products can be detrimental to one's health. The Board wishes to encourage good health practices among the students of this District, as well as compliance with Federal and State law. Therefore, the Board prohibits the smoking, use or possession of tobacco in any form including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, clove cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff and any other forms of tobacco by any student in any area or vehicle under the control of the District or at any activity supervised by any school within the District.

Disciplinary measures taken against students for violations of this policy comply with the requirements of State law and related District policies.

Violations will result in the following:

- First Offense: In-school suspension for a minimum of three days is required and may be referred to law enforcement.
- Subsequent Offense: The student is suspended for five (5) to ten (10) days pending action on a recommendation by the building principal.

Biological and Chemical Threats

District Policy

A student shall not cause a disruption or obstruction to the school's operation by threat of the release or presence of any biological agent, hazardous substance, or poison, regardless of the circumstances of the threat. Because of the widespread terror that such threats produce, it will be deemed to be of the most serious nature and will be punished accordingly. Emergency removal of the student from school premises, as well as expulsion, and permanent exclusion shall be considered as remedies for the punishment of such conduct. This will result in the loss of participation in any extracurricular school activities, as well as the loss of the right to be on any school premise.

Discipline Code Classification

1. Disruption of School

A student, by the use of violence, force, coercion, threat, harassment or insubordination, causes disruption or obstruction to the educational process.

2. Damage to Property

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to school or private property on school premises or at a school activity. A student may be responsible for monetary damages.

3. Unauthorized Use of School or Private Property

Students are expected to obtain permission to use any school property or any private property located on school premises. Any unauthorized use may be subject to disciplinary action.

4. Degrading Acts

A student shall not engage in any act which does or tends to frighten, degrade, disgrace, or threaten any person within the school system.

5. Vulgar and Obscene Language, Materials or Gestures

Students shall not use vulgar or obscene language or gestures toward any other student or toward any school person in such a manner that could be offensive or disruptive. Nor shall students possess any obscene or pornographic materials.

6. Insolence Through Manner

A student shall not, through their actions, show, engage or behave in such a way which demonstrates disrespectful or defiant behavior to school personnel or school policy.

7. Willful Disobedience, Insubordination and Disrespect

A student shall follow reasonable directions and will comply with the reasonable requests of all school personnel.

8. Verbal and Other Forms of Non-Contact Aggression
Any speech, verbal or written, inciting panic or non-contact action which provokes, threatens or appears to threaten physical injury to a staff member, student, visitor, or other person associated with the school district will not be tolerated and is considered aggression against that person.

9. Unacceptable Physical Contact
Students shall not engage in any activity which occurs when they choose to deal with conflict using aggressive and hostile physical contact such as pushing, shoving, grabbing, ripping, punching, hitting, kicking, or using physical restraint.

10. Extortion
Extortion is the use of threat, intimidation, force or deception to take or receive something from someone else. Extortion is against the law.

11. Dangerous Weapons or Instruments
A student shall not possess, handle, transmit, or conceal any object, which might be considered a dangerous weapon or instrument. Some examples are, but not limited to: fireworks, explosives, guns, knives, lighters, or chemicals.

12. Snowballs
Because of possible physical harm from a misdirected snowball, students shall not throw snowballs on school property.

13. Unauthorized Use of Fire
Unauthorized use of fire to burn or attempt to burn any property whether public or private, within the grounds of the school system or while under the jurisdiction of school personnel.

14. Emergency Alarms and Equipment
A student shall not initiate a report warning of an impending catastrophe or discharge or use emergency equipment without just cause.

15. Theft and/or Possession of Stolen Items
A student shall not cause or attempt to take into possession or possess the public or private property of any other person on the school grounds or while under the authority of school personnel.

16. Leaving School Without Permission
A student upon arrival to school may not leave the school grounds without parental notification and administrative approval.

17. Tobacco and Nicotine
A student shall not possess or use tobacco and/or nicotine products on school grounds or at school sponsored activities. Disciplinary procedures will comply with Section 2151.87 of the O.R.C.

18. Narcotics, Steroids, Alcoholic Beverages, Drugs, Inhalants, and Look-A-Likes
A student shall not possess, use, distribute, attempt to buy or sell, conceal, or give evidence of having consumed any alcoholic beverages, dangerous drugs, narcotic or mind-altering substance or look alike counterfeit controlled substance on school grounds or at school sponsored activities. No student shall

directly or indirectly falsely represent a counterfeit controlled substance as a controlled substance. Drug paraphernalia shall not be worn, carried, or be brought to school or school events.

19. Hazing, Bullying, and Harassment Hazing

Hazing - It is the policy of the Perkins Local Board of Education and School District that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times. Hazing is defined as doing an act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. Administrators, faculty members and all other employees of the school district shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances or events, which might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, involved students shall be informed by the discovering school employee of the prohibition contained in this policy and shall be required to end all hazing activities immediately. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the superintendent.

Bullying - Bullying, harassment, and intimidation is an intentional written, verbal or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once. Types of bullying include physical, verbal, written, or graphic acts, including electronically transmitted acts. The intentional act also includes violence within a dating relationship. Prohibited activities of any type, including those activities engaged in via computer and/or electronic communications devices, are inconsistent with the educational process and are prohibited at all times. No administrator, teacher or other employee of the District shall encourage, permit, condone or tolerate any hazing and/or bullying activities. No students, including leaders of student organizations, are permitted to plan, encourage or engage in any hazing and/or bullying. The behavior causes either mental or physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student. This behavior is prohibited on school property or at a school-sponsored activity. Administrators, faculty members, students and all other employees who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with Ohio law.

Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing, bullying and/or dating violence does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

Sexual Harassment - Ohio and Federal laws prohibit unwanted sexual advances or unwanted visual, verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such behavior should be reported immediately, will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action, and possible prosecution. Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. It can take the form of unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; verbal harassment or abuse, such as insults, suggestive comments and demands; leering and subtle forms of pressure for sexual activity; physical aggression, such as touching, pinching and patting; lewd pictures, sexual jokes and attempted rape.

20. Immoral Act

Commission of an immoral act may subject a student to discipline.

21. Cheating/Dishonesty

Our goal is integrity. Each student should perform the work assigned. Cheating is the dishonest or unauthorized use of another person's work either by Copying that person's daily work or test answers. The possession of "cheat sheets", whether actually used or not, is interpreted as cheating.

22. Plagiarism

Students will not copy materials or claim ownership of another person's work or Artificial Intelligence entity's work.

23. Aiding or Abetting Violation of School Rules
Any student who assists or encourages another student in the violation of any school rule may also be disciplined.

24. Failure To Accept Discipline
The school may use informal disciplinary measures such as, but not limited to, written assignments, time out, detentions (lunch), Extended School Day, etc. to prevent the student from being removed from school. "Forgetting" about the discipline or failing to make arrangements in advance, even when legitimate reasons keep a student from complying with the discipline, will be considered a failure to accept disciplinary measures and may result in further disciplinary action.

25. Public Display of Affection
Public displays of affection are prohibited.

26. Trespassing
Although schools are public facilities, the law does allow the school to restrict access on school property.

27. Cutting or Skipping Class
A student who is in attendance at school but who fails to attend one or more regularly assigned classes (cutting class) will be subject to disciplinary action.

28. Computer/Laptop Misuse
Students must abide by all regulations contained in the Perkins Local Schools' Network Acceptable Use

29. Violation of Electronic Device Policy
Students must abide by all regulations contained in Briar's Electronic Device and Cell Phone Policy.

30. Violation of Student Dress Code
Students must abide by all regulations contained in Briar's Dress Code Policy.

31. Misc. Misconduct
Any action judged by school officials to involve misconduct and not specifically mentioned in other sections may be dealt with as insubordination. The authority of school officials extends beyond the school day. Any misconduct on or off school property, which directly relates to and adversely affects the welfare and morals of the school is within the scope of authority of school officials.

Suspension, Emergency Removal & Expulsion of Students
District Policy

Suspension
The Superintendent, principals, assistant principals and other administrators may suspend a student from school for disciplinary reasons outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. No period of suspension is for more than 10 school days. Suspensions may extend beyond the current school year if, at the time a suspension is imposed, fewer than 10 days remain in the school year. The Superintendent may apply any or all of the period of suspension to the following year.

The Superintendent may require a student to perform community service in conjunction with or in place of a suspension. The Board may adopt guidelines to permit the Superintendent to impose a community service

requirement beyond the end of the school year in lieu of applying the suspension into the following school year.

The guidelines listed below are followed for all out-of-school suspensions:

- The student is informed in writing of the potential suspension and the reasons for the proposed action.
- The student is provided an opportunity for an informal hearing to challenge the reason for the intended suspension and explain his/her actions.
- An attempt is made to notify the parent(s) by telephone if a suspension is issued.
- Within one school day, a letter is sent to the parent(s) stating the specific reasons for the suspension and including notice of the right to appeal such action.
- Notice of this suspension is sent to: the Superintendent, Treasurer and Student's school record (not for inclusion in the permanent record).

Permanent Exclusion for Suspension

If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, the notice contains that information.

Appeal Procedure for Suspension

Should a student or a student's parent(s) choose to appeal the suspension, he/she must do so within 10 calendar days of the notice of suspension. The appeal shall be in writing and made to the Superintendent. At the request of the student or of the student's parent(s) or attorney, the meeting may be held in executive session. All witnesses are sworn and a verbatim record is kept of the hearing. The decision of the Board shall be acted upon at a public meeting. The student may be excluded from school during the appeal process.

Appeal to the Court for Suspension

Under State law, appeal of the Board's or its designee's decision may be made to the Court of Common Pleas.

Emergency Removal of a Student

If a student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process, the Superintendent, principal, assistant principal or personnel employed to direct, supervise or coach a student activity program may remove the student from the premises.

If either suspension or expulsion is contemplated, a due process hearing is held within three school days after the removal is ordered. Written notice of the hearing and the reason for removal and any intended disciplinary action is given to the student as soon as practicable prior to the hearing. The student has the opportunity to appear at an informal hearing before the principal, assistant principal and Superintendent/designee and has the right to challenge the reasons for the removal or otherwise explain his/her actions. The person who ordered or requested the removal is present at the hearing. Within one school day of the decision to suspend, written notification is given to the parent(s) of the student and Treasurer of the Board. This notice includes the reasons for the suspension and the right of the student or parent(s) to appeal to the Superintendent/designee.

If the Superintendent or principal reinstates a student prior to the hearing for emergency removal, the teacher may request, and is given, written reasons for the reinstatement. The teacher cannot refuse to reinstate the student.

In an emergency removal, a student can be kept from class until the matter of the alleged misconduct is disposed of either by reinstatement, suspension or expulsion.

In all cases of normal disciplinary procedures in which a student is removed from a curricular or extracurricular activity for less than 24 hours and is not subject to further suspension or expulsion, due process requirements do not apply.

Student Expulsion

Expulsion is the removal of a student for more than 10 days, but not more than one year. An expulsion can extend beyond the end of the school year if there are fewer school days than expulsion days remaining. The Superintendent may apply any remaining part or all of the period of the expulsion to the following school year.

The Superintendent may require a student to perform community service in conjunction with or in place of an expulsion. The Board may adopt guidelines to permit the Superintendent to impose a community service requirement beyond the end of the school year in lieu of applying the expulsion into the following school year.

The Superintendent shall give the student and parent(s) written notice of the intended expulsion, including reasons for the intended expulsion. The student and parent(s) or representative have the opportunity to appear on request before the Superintendent/ designee to challenge the action or to otherwise explain the student's actions. This notice shall state the time and place to appear, which must not be fewer than three days nor more than five days after the notice is given.

Within one school day of the expulsion, the Superintendent shall notify the parent(s) of the student and the Treasurer of the Board.

The notice shall include the reasons for the expulsion, the right of the student or parent(s) to appeal to the Board or its designee, the right to be represented at the appeal and the right to request that the hearing be held in executive session.

The Superintendent will initiate expulsion proceedings against a student who has committed an act that warrants expulsion even if the student withdraws from school before the Superintendent has held the hearings or made the decision to expel the student.

Permanent Exclusion for Student Expulsion

If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, the notice shall contain that information.

Appeal to the Board for Student Expulsion

A student or a student's parent(s) may appeal the expulsion by the Superintendent to the Board or its designee. The expulsion appeal must be within 14 calendar days after the notice of intent to expel was provided to the student, parent, guardian or custodian. The appeal request shall be in writing to the Treasurer and at the request of the student or of the student's parent(s) or attorney, the meeting may be held in executive session. The student may be represented in all such appeal proceedings and is granted a hearing before the Board or its designee. All witnesses are sworn and a verbatim record is kept of the hearing. The decision of the Board shall be acted upon at a public meeting. The student may be excluded from school during the appeal process.

Appeal to the Court for Student Expulsion

Under State law, the decision of the Board may be further appealed to the Court of Common Pleas. Any student who is expelled from school for more than 20 days or into the following semester or school year is referred to an agency, which works towards improving the student's attitudes and behavior. The Superintendent provides the student and his/her parent(s) with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the public and private agencies providing such services.

Discipline Options

Institutional Authority-Furry Elementary School's Procedure

Once a student is on school property or enters the school bus, the student is subject to the authority of the school for the sake of the accomplishment of a goal common to the students within the school system in keeping with the policies or rights and responsibilities set forth. The student remains under the authority of the school during the school day in the school building, and at all school sponsored programs and functions, whenever and wherever they may be held.

Student Searches and Seizures

District Policy

The right to inspect students' school lockers or articles carried upon their persons and to interrogate an individual student is inherent in the authority granted school boards. All searches are conducted sparingly and only when such search is reasonably likely to produce tangible results to preserve discipline and good order and the safety and security of persons and their property.

Student lockers are the property of the District, and since random searches have a positive impact on reducing drugs and other criminal activity, it is the policy of the Board to permit the building administrator to search any locker and its contents as the administrator believes necessary. Such notice will be posted at or near the entrance to the school grounds and at the main entrance to each school building.

The Board directs the Superintendent to authorize the use of dogs trained in detecting the presence of drugs. The dogs may be used to patrol the school facilities and grounds, including the lockers and parking areas. Use of dogs may be unannounced and random. If a trained canine alerts to a particular vehicle, locker or other container, it shall create reasonable suspicion to search that vehicle, locker or container in accordance with this policy.

Investigations by Law Enforcement

District Policy

Searches of Student Property by Law Enforcement Officials

A law enforcement agency is required to produce a warrant prior to conducting any search of a student's personal property kept on school premises. When the law enforcement officials have reason to believe that any item which might pose an immediate threat to the safety or security of others are kept in a student locker, desk or other storage space, searches may be conducted without a previously issued warrant.

Interrogations by Law Enforcement Officials

The schools have legal custody of students during the school day and during hours of approved extracurricular activities. It is the responsibility of the school administration to try to protect each student under its control; therefore, the following steps shall be taken.

The questioning of students by law enforcement agencies is limited to situations where parental consent has been obtained or the school official has made an independent determination that reasonable grounds exist for conducting an interrogation during school hours.
Whenever possible, law enforcement officials should contact and/or question students out of school. When it is absolutely necessary for an officer to make a school contact with a student, the school authorities will bring the student to a private room and the contact is made out of the sight of others as much as possible. The school principal must be notified before a student may be questioned in school or taken from a classroom.

The administration shall notify the parent(s) of the student to be interviewed by the law enforcement officials, if the law enforcement officials have not, before the student is questioned so that the parent(s) may be present if they so desire.

To avoid possible criticism, a school official requests to be present when an interrogation takes place within the school.

When law enforcement officials remove a child from school, the administration will make an attempt to notify the parent(s).

Law enforcement officials should always be notified by the school principal whenever a student is involved in any type of criminal activity. When the principal learns of this involvement, he/she should notify the juvenile officer or detective bureau of the law enforcement agency. The school should not attempt to handle matters which are properly in the realm of a law enforcement agency.

Additional Furry Elementary Policies

Playground Rules

All students will be expected to use above the line choices on the playground at all times. It is expected that students will use good manners, line up quickly and quietly when the whistle blows, show respect by inviting others to play, use kind words and actions, as well as use the equipment safely.

Unacceptable activities include but are not limited to the following:

- Playing in the mud, water, or deep snow.
- Climbing or standing on the sliding board.
- Rolling or wrestling on the ground.
- Throwing snowballs or stones.
- Sliding on the ground.
- Roughhouse type of running and screaming.
- Shoving and pushing of any kind.
- Standing on swings, climbing on swings, or more than one person on a swing.
- Playing on the black top at the east or west end of the building.
- Playing near windows.
- Climbing on the fence or backstop.
- Playing around the cars.
- Pushing while waiting in line.
- Loitering around waiting for the bell.
- Use of hard balls.

- Tackle football.
- Fighting.

Cafeteria Rules

- Use good table manners and soft voice.
- Remain seated.
- Listen to and follow directions of the adult on duty.
- Keep hands, feet and objects (including food) in control.
- Raise your hand if you need help.
- Students will be dismissed by the lunchroom monitor.
- Packed lunches should be a balanced lunch (ex. sandwich or cheese and crackers, vegetable, fruit, or cookie.) No soda pop should be packed in lunches. Beverages should be milk, fruit juice, or bottled water.

School Bus Safety Regulations

Review these Bus Behavior Safety Regulations with your child. These regulations apply for daily transportation and extracurricular trips.

- The bus driver is in charge. Do as the bus driver asks the first time.
- Students will be seated as directed by the driver and may be assigned a seat.
- Students need to be seated quickly upon entering the bus.
- Do not get out of your seat while the bus is moving. You may only switch seats with permission of the driver.
- Only bring items aboard the bus that you can hold in your lap.
- Keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus at all times.
- Items not allowed in school are not allowed on the bus.
- Keep the bus aisles and emergency exits clear at all times.
- No foul or inappropriate language is allowed.
- Yelling, loud voices or horseplay is not permitted on the bus.
- Eating or drinking on the bus is not permitted.
- Help keep the bus clean; put all trash in the trash can.

The Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code spell out what cannot be transported on a school bus. If there is a question please contact the Bus Transportation Department.

Important Notices

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities are entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (I.D.E.I.A.), and, where applicable, the Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.), and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Notification of Criminal Activity

School staff may report suspected criminal misconduct by a student to law enforcement. Law enforcement officers will be permitted to carry out necessary law enforcement functions in the schools, including the removal of a student from school grounds in appropriate circumstances.

Video Surveillance

For student safety and welfare, video surveillance cameras are placed throughout the district in buildings, on school grounds, and on buses. Actions recorded on these cameras may be used as evidence in disciplinary action and these records will remain in the possession of the school/district.

🏴‍☠️ Health & Safety

Student Health Services and Requirements

District Policy

The Board recognizes the responsibility of the schools to help protect the health of students. Health services are an integral part of comprehensive school improvement, assisting all students to increase learning, achievement and performance. Health services coordinate and support existing programs to assist each student in achievement of an optimal state of physical, mental and social well-being. Student health services ensure continuity and create linkages between school, home and community service providers. The District's comprehensive school improvement plan, needs and resources determine the linkages. The principal is responsible for the administration of the health program in his/her school.

Of necessity, school health services must be limited to the prevention and detection of health problems, referral of problems through parents to the family physicians or community health agencies and emergency care.

Each school shall have on file for each student an emergency medical authorization form providing information from the parent(s) on how they wish the school to proceed in the event of a health emergency involving the student and authorization for the school in case emergency action must be taken.

Annually, the District will notify parents of physical exams or screenings conducted on students except for vision, hearing or scoliosis.

Use of Medications

District Policy

Many students are able to attend school regularly only through effective use of medication in the treatment of disabilities or illnesses that do not hinder the health or welfare of others. If possible, all medication should be given by the parent(s) at home. If this is not possible, it is done in compliance with the following.

- The school nurse or an appropriate person appointed by the Board supervises the secure and proper storage and dispensing of medications. The drug must be received in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescribing physician or others licensed to prescribe medication.
- Written permission must be received from the parent(s) of the student, requesting that the school nurse or an appropriate person comply with the physician's order.
- The school nurse or other designated individual must receive and retain a statement which complies with State law and is signed by the physician who prescribed the drug or other person licensed to prescribe medication.
- The parent(s) must agree to submit a revised statement, signed by the physician or other licensed individual who prescribed the drug, to the nurse or other designated individual if any of the information originally provided by the physician or licensed individual changes.
- No employee who is authorized by the Board to administer a prescribed drug and who has a copy of the most recent statement and is liable in civil damages for administering or failing to administer the drug, unless he/she acts in a manner which would constitute "gross negligence or wanton or reckless misconduct."

- No person employed by the Board is required to administer a drug to a student except pursuant to requirements established under this policy. The Board shall not require an employee to administer a drug to a student if the employee objects, on the basis of religious convictions, to administering the drug.

Inhalers for Asthma

Students have the right to possess and use a metered-dose inhaler or a dry-powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms or before exercise to prevent the onset of asthmatic symptoms. The right applies at school or at any activity, event or program sponsored by or in which the student's school is a participant.

In order for a student to possess the inhaler, he/she must have written approval from the student's physician and parent or other caretaker. The principal and/or the school nurse must have received copies of these required written approvals.

Epinephrine Autoinjectors

Students are permitted to carry and use an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen) to treat anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions). The right to carry and use an EpiPen extends to any activity, event or program sponsored by the student's school or activity, event or program in which the school participates.

Student possession of an EpiPen is permitted only if the student has written approval from the prescriber of the medication and, if a minor, from his/her parent. Written approval must be on file with the principal and, if one is assigned, the school nurse. In addition, the principal or school nurse must receive a backup dose of the medication from the parent or student.

Use of Medication-Furry Elementary School's Procedure

The Perkins Local School District recognizes that some students may only attend school regularly through effective use of medication in the treatment of disabilities or illnesses that will not hinder the health or welfare of others. If possible, all medications should be given by the parent at home. If this is not possible, medication will be administered by the school nurse or other designated individual once the board-approved guidelines above are met. It should be noted that this policy applies to all medication, including those sold over the counter. Exceptions to this policy are made in specific situations which are arranged cooperatively by parent, student, physician, principal, and school nurse. Parents should also send in a signed note to the school if students need to use cough drops during school hours.

If a student is to receive medication at school, that medicine must be brought to school by the parent/guardian (medication may not be transported by students on the school bus). All medications must be brought to school in the original prescription container along with a Physician's Request for Administration of Medication at School Consent Form. These forms are available at the school office or Perkins Schools website. A parent may not amend the physician's prescription, only the physician may do so, and a new form to this effect must be completed and signed by the physician to amend the prescription.

If you do not have the completed form and you wish for your child to receive an antibiotic, acetaminophen/ibuprofen, cough syrup, etc. during the school day, you or someone you designate may come to school and administer that medication. We will be glad to call your child from class for this purpose.

Emergency Medical Authorization Form

For returning students, we must have on file a completed Emergency Medical Authorization Form for each student by October 1st of each school year. It is especially important to include a description of any health problems of the student and to identify an adult who can assume responsibility for the student in case of an illness or emergency. New students must have a completed Emergency Medical Form on file within one week of their first day of school. It is very important that you keep the Furry office informed of changes in phone number, contact information and medical updates.

Illness or Accidents

If your child becomes ill or an accident of sufficient nature occurs making it necessary for the child to go home, you will be called. The Emergency Medical Authorization Form, as completed by the parent or guardian, will be referenced for calling. If you cannot be reached, we will call the alternates that you have designated on your Emergency Medical authorization Form. Please try to designate alternatives who generally are accessible to the school in a short amount of time. It is very important that you keep the office informed of changes in phone number, contact information and medical updates.

Exclusion of sick children from school is the responsibility of the school administration and or clinic nurse. Transporting of sick children to their home is the responsibility of the parents. Whenever a student becomes ill at school and wants to go home, the student will be taken to see the nurse. Temperature will be taken, and symptoms will be reported and monitored. No student will be excused to go home unless one of the parents or designee is personally contacted and can come to pick the student up. The student must be signed out of school, by the parent, guardian or emergency contact person. At no time should an ill student remain in a restroom or unsupervised area.

Any child with the following symptoms should not remain at school: Fever (99.8* or higher), vomiting, diarrhea, unidentified rash, severe injury or contagious illness. In order to return to school the child needs to be free of fever, diarrhea, vomiting for 24 hours. A note from a physician allowing the child to be at school is necessary for rashes and contagious illness.

Whenever a student becomes ill at school and wants to go home, the student will be taken to see the nurse. Temperature will be taken, and symptoms will be reported and monitored.

Immunization Requirements

A child entering school in the State of Ohio is required to be successfully immunized against: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, measles, mumps, rubella, Hepatitis B, and chickenpox (varicella). Ohio law requires that no pupil shall be admitted to school unless: he/she has written evidence that immunization has taken place, is in process, or a formal waiver has been signed by the parent/guardian.

Students already enrolled in school have their immunization records reviewed regularly by the clinic nurse. If your child is lacking the necessary records, the nurse will notify you. If opting to waiver, it needs to be completed and signed every school year. For more information on required immunizations for Ohio school attendance, go to www.odh.ohio.gov.

Communicable Disease

If your child has any communicable disease, please notify the school immediately. Children are not permitted to attend class with any symptoms of a communicable disease unless the school has a note from

a physician indicating that the disease is no longer contagious. A complete table of diseases, symptoms and readmission to school can be found at www.odjfs.state.oh.us.

In the event that your child has a suspected communicable disease, they may need to be picked up from school. communicable Disease Guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health will be followed.

Treatment for Head Lice

Upon occasion, students may be found to have head lice. Head lice is contagious and students are to be excluded from school until corrective action is taken by the home. The clinic nurse at Furry will conduct lice checks periodically and if an active lice case is found, that child will go home until treated. The clinic nurse is available as a resource and will have safe and appropriate treatment options to share. We also encourage parents to call the child's physician. Your child will be readmitted to school only after being examined by the clinic nurse. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

Vision/Hearing Screening

Vision and hearing screenings are conducted on all children in preschool, kindergarten and 1st grade as required by the Ohio Department of Health. Screenings take place at the beginning of each school year and throughout the year as requested by parent or teacher. The Speech and Language Pathologist can also screen for hearing. The clinic nurse will notify the parent/guardian if a child is having difficulty passing the required tests. The nurse often has information on area resources for follow up and can be contacted by calling the school if any questions or concerns.

🏴‍☠️ Transportation

District Policy
The Board furnishes transportation in compliance with State law. This fact does not relieve parents of students from the responsibility of supervision until such time as the student boards the bus and after the student leaves the bus at the end of the school day.

Students on a bus are under the authority of, and directly responsible to, the bus driver. The driver has the authority to enforce the established regulations for bus conduct.

Disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver is sufficient reason for refusing transportation services or suspending transportation services to any student once proper procedures are followed.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent or other administrators to suspend a student from school bus riding privileges for a period not to exceed one school year. The only due process required is the student must receive notice of an intended bus riding suspension and an opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or other administrator before the suspension is imposed.

The complete student Transportation Handbook is available on the district website.

Furry Elementary School's Procedure

Students have the privilege of using the transportation provided by the school district. A student, who fails to maintain appropriate behavior while waiting for the bus, walking to or from the bus stop, or riding the bus, may lose this privilege. No food or drink may be consumed on the bus. All students must stay seated while riding the bus. Shouting, screaming, and general unruly behavior will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action.

Students are assigned to a specific bus. Students are not permitted to ride other buses.

The Perkins Local School District complies with state statutes regarding the transportation of pupils to and from school (O.R.C. 3327). Boards of Education are charged by the Ohio Revised Code to provide transportation to pupils living in the district. The Perkins Board of Education transports K–12 students.

Boarding and Departing the Bus
To insure that your child gets to school in a safe and timely manner, we ask that they adhere to the following guidelines:

- Students need to be at designated bus stops at least five (5) minutes ahead of time, ready to load, and not waiting in vehicles when the bus arrives, this is for their safety.
- Students are asked to respect the surrounding property, such as mailboxes, grass, or landscaping while waiting for the bus and to leave the bus stop location clean of any litter.

- Wait at the stop in an orderly manner – stay clear of the road, no horseplay, etc...
- Stay clear of the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the doors open.
- Walk quickly and quietly to your seat.
- Remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop.
- Exit the bus carefully, using the handrails.
- Only depart at your scheduled stop or a stop identified in a written request from your parents to the school office.

Crossing the Road

- Take ten (10) giant steps beyond the number of the bus. Look up to see the driver who will signal you with a drop of his/her hand.
- Check both ways for traffic in the center of the road before crossing.
- Never go back to pick up anything you drop or forget.
- Listen! If the driver blows the horn, check traffic.
- Walk straight across – not on an angle.
- Do not go to the mailbox.

School Bus Safety Regulations

Review these Bus Behavior Safety Regulations with your child. These regulations apply for daily transportation and extracurricular trips.

- The bus driver is in charge. Do as the bus driver asks the first time.
- Students will be seated as directed by the driver and may be assigned a seat.
- Students need to be seated quickly upon entering the bus.
- Do not get out of your seat while the bus is moving. You may only switch seats with permission of the driver.
- Only bring items aboard the bus that you can hold in your lap.
- Keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus at all times.
- Items not allowed in school are not allowed on the bus.
- Keep the bus aisles and emergency exits clear at all times.
- No foul or inappropriate language is allowed.
- Yelling, loud voices or horseplay is not permitted on the bus.
- Eating or drinking on the bus is not permitted.
- Help keep the bus clean; put all trash in the trash can.

The Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code spell out what cannot be transported on a school bus. If there is a question please contact the Bus Transportation Department.

Bus Discipline

The Ohio Revised Code stipulates that the bus driver is responsible for maintaining order on the bus (O.R.C. 3319.41). Students are expected to extend drivers the same respect and courtesy extended to teachers and administrators. The bus driver has the authority to use the following measures to modify pupils' behavior; depending upon the severity of the incident, methods of correcting student behavior may include:

- Verbal reprimand
- Communication with parent
- Refer to building principal

- Assign seat
- Written citation
- Suspension of bus privileges
- Suspension from school
- Recommendation for expulsion
- Referral to legal authorities
- Students or parents will pay for damage for vandalism to bus or seats.

🏴‍☠️ General Information

Cafeteria Information

The cafeteria uses a computer system to track lunch payments and purchases. Parents can send either cash or a check to cover lunch costs. Please write your student's first and last name on the memo line of the check or the envelope to assure the money is deposited in the correct account. Pre-payments may be made by the week, the month or more. Please make payments at the beginning of the week.

Pay Schools is an internet system that accepts credit/debit card payments for lunch and will show the balance and a brief history of the student's account. There is a small charge for using your credit/debit card, but none to check your child's balance or history. More information can be obtained from the Perkins web page by clicking the button for Pay Schools. You will need your student's ID number. Money will rollover from one year to the next. At the end of the year, unpaid cafeteria balances may result in report cards being held.

The lunch program is offered for the convenience of parents and students. Charging is allowed only in an emergency. Elementary students are allowed three charges. A letter will be sent home when the lunch account is one dollar or more negative. A second and third letter will be sent home after the next two charges. A free and reduced form will be sent home after the third charge. After three charges, the student will not receive the published lunch. They will receive a peanut butter sandwich and a carton of milk.

Parents will have five days to satisfy the balance, return a completed free or reduced lunch form or make other arrangements with the building principal. If at the end of five days, the parent has made no attempt to provide for the child's lunch, the principal will notify Children's Services as per school policy. If you would like to give your child the option of purchasing a la carte items, you must send a note to the cafeteria giving permission.

If a parent brings a forgotten lunch or lunch money to school, he/she should bring it to the school office. At the end of the year, unpaid cafeteria balances may result in report cards being held.

Parents have the choice of blocking a la carte items from their child's account. Written notification is required to block or unblock a la carte items. The cafeteria uses a computer point of sale system. A finger scan system is used to bring up the student's account. The account can also be accessed by student name. The student's school picture is included with their account.

Payments for lunch are received at the end of the serving line, and may be made by either check or cash. Please be sure to include your student's first and last name on the memo line of the check. Change is not provided. If your student brings in $10, the full amount will be placed on his/her account. Pay Schools is an internet system that accepts credit card payments for lunch and will show the balance and a brief history of the student's account. There is a small charge for using your credit card, but none to check your student's balance or history. More information can be obtained from the Perkins web page at the link for the Treasurer. A student ID number is required to access any account information.

Students will be allowed to charge up to three breakfast and three lunches. Free and reduced lunch forms are available online through Pay Schools Central or access on the school website and may be filled out and submitted at any time during the year. https://payschoolscentral.com/

2026-2027 Standard Lunch Pricing
Grades K-8: $4.75
Grades 9-12: $5.00

If you have any questions, please contact the Food Service Director, Kelsey Meyer, at 419-625-1252 between 8:00 am and 2:30 pm or by email at kmeyer@perkinsschools.org.

Guidelines for Lunchroom Conduct

- Use good table manners and soft voice.
- Remain seated.
- Listen to and follow directions of the adult on duty.
- Keep hands, feet and objects (including food) in control.
- Raise your hand if you need help.
- Students will be dismissed by the lunchroom monitor.
- Packed lunches should be a balanced lunch (ex. sandwich or cheese and crackers, vegetable, fruit, or cookie.) No soda pop should be packed in lunches. Beverages should be milk, fruit juice, or bottled water.

Nutrition Services/Free and Reduced Price Meals

District Policy
The District does not charge students eligible for free lunch under the National School Lunch Act or Child Nutrition Act a fee for any materials needed to participate fully in a course of instruction. This exception only applies to recipients of free lunch, not students who receive reduced-price lunch. This provision does not apply to extracurricular activities and student enrichment programs that are not courses of instruction.

School Visitation Policy

District Policy
To maintain the safety of students and staff and to ensure that no unauthorized persons enter buildings, all visitors must first report to the main office to receive authorization to visit. (Authorization is not needed for school programs, assemblies, graduations and athletic events.)

All participants and spectators of school programs, assemblies, graduations and athletic events are expected to abide by all applicable laws, local ordinances, Board policies and District and building regulations pertaining to public conduct on District property.

School principals and their designees are authorized to take appropriate action to prevent and remove, if necessary, unauthorized persons from entering District buildings, loitering on the grounds and/or creating disturbances anywhere on District property.

Furry Elementary School Procedure

All visitors to the building are to arrange visits with the child's classroom teacher prior to entering the building. The teacher will inform the office of approved classroom visitors daily. All visitors to the building will check in at the office, sign in and receive and wear a visitor's badge while in the building. Students are not to bring visitors (other students) to school unless they have prior permission from the principal. Student visitors from the immediate area will not generally be approved. Upon leaving, all visitors must sign out in the office.

Arrival & Dismissal by Car

Arrival by Car

Students arriving to school by car will be permitted into the building at 8:45 a.m. Please enter our back parking lot and pull around the side of the building. Cars should form lines in our back parking lot and safely drop your child off at the side of our building as directed by school personnel. Please say your good-byes and make sure your child has all of their belongings ready to go while you are waiting in your car, so when it's your child's turn to exit your car, they can do so quickly and safely. All children must exit the car on the side closest to the building to ensure their safety. Adults are to remain in their car so that our line can continue to move.

As long as you are in our car line by 8:45, your child will be able to enter the building and not be marked tardy. Our side doors remain open as long as your car is in line by 8:45 and there are cars in our line. At 9:00, our side doors will close if there are no cars in line and you will need to park at the front of our building and walk your child into school. Children arriving after this time will be marked tardy. Many of our children who are dropped off are residents. Please understand that we have bussing available for our district residents and you will be encouraged to use our school bus as transportation for your child to help with traffic congestion around school.

Dismissal by Car

Our back gate will open by 3:15 each day to help limit the traffic congestion in our neighborhood. Please enter our back parking lot and pull around the side of the building. Cars should form lines in our back parking lot as they do for arrival. Students dismissed by car will begin the dismissal process at 3:30. All children must enter the car on the side closest to the building to ensure their safety. Adults are to remain in their car so that our line can continue to move.

Our car line will not start moving until after 3:30. As long as you are in our line by 3:40, we should be able to have all of our children dismissed by 4:00 each day. Many of our children who are picked up are residents. Please understand that we have bussing available for our district residents and you will be encouraged to use our school bus as transportation for your child to help with traffic congestion around school.

Bicycle Rules

Any student riding a bicycle to school must present to the principal's office a permission note signed by a parent or legal guardian. The school is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged bicycles. No skateboards or roller blades should be brought to school.

Dismissal by Walking

Dismissal of Walker

- Students who live in the surrounding neighborhood can walk home from school if they are

picked up by a parent/guardian or other person on file with the school who has permission to do so. Students will not be released without an appropriate adult to pick them up.
- Students who walk home from school are dismissed at the main entrance of the school.
- For safety reasons, any student who is being picked up in a vehicle must be picked up at the side of the school. The vehicle must enter the pick up line behind the school mentioned above.
- Vehicles that park to pick up students at the main entrance will be directed to the back of the building.

Birthday Celebrations

Birthday Treats

Students celebrating birthdays may bring a small treat for all their classmates to help celebrate their birthday. Any edible treat needs to come with a list of the ingredients used so that your child's teacher can make sure all of the students can have the treat.

Flower or balloon bouquets delivered to school will be refused and sent back to the store where they were purchased, unless the teacher and family have coordinated this delivery prior to the celebration. Flower and balloon bouquets cannot be sent home with your child on the school bus, Arrangements will need to be made by the family to pick-up those deliveries in the office prior to the end of the school day.

Party Invitations

If your child is having a birthday party or other occasion, which requires an invitation after school, we ask that invitations not be distributed at school unless the entire class is to be invited. The school will not distribute addresses and phone numbers. Options: All students receive invitations; All boys receive invitations; and All girls receive invitations.

Field Trips

Field trips are an extension of the classroom and provide a meaningful learning experience for the children. The parent will receive a "Request for Permission" form in advance of the trip that requires travel out of the district. This form must be completed, signed and returned to the school prior to the trip. Children without parental permission will not be permitted to leave the school campus for out of district trips. If you refuse your child's field trip privilege, they must still attend school. If they are not in attendance on a field trip day it is counted as an unexcused absence and your fee will not be reimbursed.

Occasionally, trips to other buildings in the school district will be scheduled. Notices will be sent home regarding district trips. Parental permission forms are not required for intra-district trips. If you have any objections to the intra district trip, it is your responsibility to contact the school office prior to the trip.

Parent chaperones, with a BCI, are always encouraged. Only the students enrolled at Furry School are permitted to participate in field trips. Siblings of those students are not permitted to attend. Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to accompany the class on the trip. Due to limited room on the bus, parental volunteers may be limited on some field trips. Students may bring the following on the bus for trips: coloring books, crayons, puzzle books, library books. Electronic devices and games are not permitted.

Restroom Use Policy During Field Trips: During field trips, every attempt will be made to ensure that chaperones of both genders are present to supervise public restroom use. In all cases, a student shall be sent into his/her own gender restroom with at least one other student. If a same gender chaperone is not available to enter the restroom with students, a chaperone of the opposite gender shall wait immediately outside the restroom to ensure the safety and security of students while using the restroom.

Lost and Found

Our lost and found is kept in the main hallway on hooks and in a wooden box. Remind your child to check the box if articles of apparel are lost. Marking your child's clothing will reduce the number of lost articles. Lost and found items will be donated to an area thrift store at the mid-point and end of each school year. Money and other valuables should not be sent to school unless requested by the teacher. All money should be in a sealed envelope, marked with the child's name, amount of money and its intended use.

Parking

Please abide by the "No Parking" signs in our parking lot and on the streets surrounding school. The Perkins Police Department monitors our parking and will issue tickets to those who are parked illegally. Please do not park in the spaces that are marked at the west end of our front parking lot. Our buses use that extra space to make the turn safely when delivering and picking up students from our school. Please be respectful of our neighbors and do not block driveways while waiting for our back gates to open for dismissal. Please do not park and leave your car in the Fire Lane in front of our school. If you find it necessary to come into the building, please park in the parking lot and enter the building.

Recess

Students go outside for recess whenever possible. Temperatures, wind conditions, rain, ice, etc. are taken into consideration before children are sent outside. Please make sure your child is properly dressed for recess when he/she comes to school. While children are outside for recess, we ask that they play safely in an effort to prevent accidents from occurring. Flip-Flops or sandals without straps are discouraged as our children who often wear them at school often trip and fall during the day.

Once a student has gone outside for recess, he/she should not re-enter the building until the conclusion of the recess time, unless directed by the supervisor/ monitor.

The temperature is monitored daily during the winter months. The children will go out for recess as long as the temperature is above 20 degrees and the chill factor is not too low. There will be times when we go outside for a quick walk-around just to get some fresh air.

With a doctor's excuse, we will allow your child to stay in from recess. The child will be monitored in the front lobby by office personnel. The doctor's note must include the reason and the length of time for the indoor stay.

Walking Students/Delivering Items to the Classroom

To ensure the safety of all students, parents are not allowed to walk their child to class. Due to education taking place at Furry Elementary School, parents are not allowed to deliver items to the classroom during the school day unless the parent has made arrangements with the teacher and the teacher has informed the office of the visit/delivery. Items can be left at the office and your child will be called to the office to pick it up when it is convenient for the child and their teacher. The only families that are permitted to walk their child into their classroom are those families enrolled in our Little Treasures Preschool Program.

Volunteers & BCI Paperwork

There are many opportunities for volunteers to become involved at Furry. Should you be interested in volunteering your time in our school, please call the school office, 419-625-4352. BCI checks must be on file two weeks before an event. All parents/guests who would like to volunteer in the school and/or have the opportunity to attend field trips must have their most recent BCI paperwork on file at the Administrative Services Center.

BCI Checks need to occur every 5 years. A copy of your BCI paperwork needs to be sent to the Administrative Services Center. If you are unsure of the status of your BCI paperwork, please contact the school office. A parent and/or guardian will not be permitted to volunteer and work with children in isolation or chaperone a field trip if their BCI paperwork is not on file with the Administrative Services Center.

Court Ordered Custody Requirements

The law states that a certified copy of a child's custody order or decree or modification of an order or decree be added to the other admission documents to be presented by the pupil at the time of his/her initial entry to school. It is the duty of the custodial parent to notify the school of custody arrangements resulting from a divorce, dissolution of marriage or other order pertaining to a child who is a pupil in a public or non-public school and update the school with current/additional documents throughout the school year. This must be done by providing the person in charge of admission at the pupils school with a certified copy of the custody order. All custody information will be kept confidential.

Rights of Homeless Parents and Their Children

District Policy

The Board believes that all school-aged students, including homeless students, have a basic right to equal educational opportunities. Accordingly, the District must enroll each homeless student in the District in the school determined to be in the student's best interest. A homeless student is defined as an individual who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. The District complies with the Ohio Department of Education's Plan and State and Federal laws for the education of homeless students.

If a situation should arise that has not been addressed in this handbook, you should contact the school to obtain the information that is needed with respect to the situation with which you are interested. The principal has the final say in such matters. Please review and use this handbook as a reference when needed.