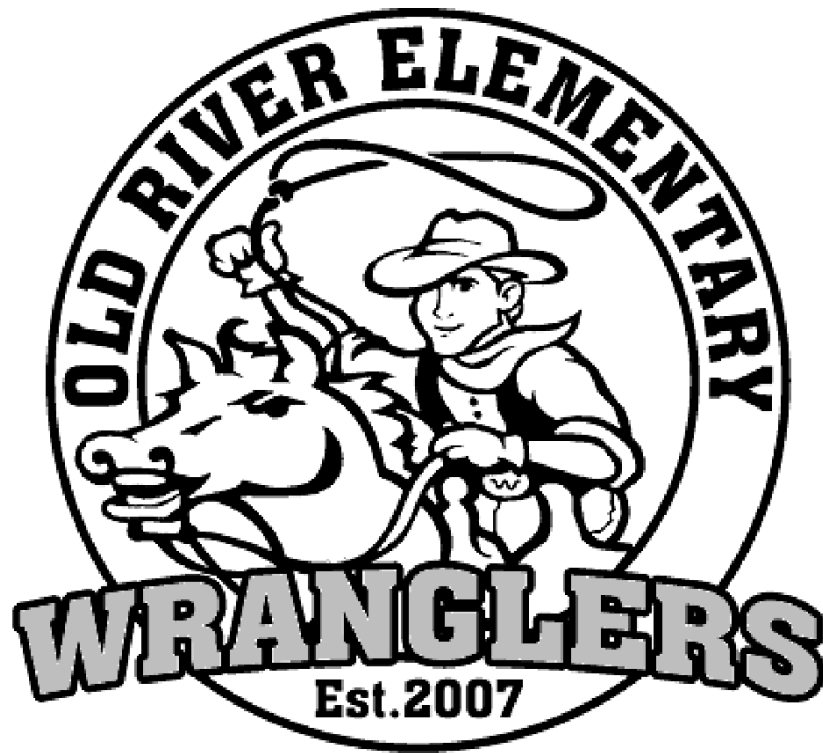




Family Handbook 2026 – 2027

Old River Elementary
9815 Campus Park Dr.
Bakersfield, CA 93311
(661) 664-7009

Old River Elementary
"California Distinguished School"

Creating Lifelong Learners through Honest Words, Honest Actions, Honest Day's Work

Welcome to Old River Elementary!

It is my privilege to serve as the principal of Old River Elementary School, where we are committed to providing every student with a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment. Our staff believes that strong relationships, high expectations, and a partnership with families are the foundation of student success.

This Parent Handbook has been created to serve as a helpful resource throughout the school year. Inside, you will find important information about our school procedures, expectations, programs, and daily operations. Taking a few minutes to review the handbook together as a family will help ensure that students understand what is expected of them and that parents know what to expect from us. When we share a common understanding of our routines and expectations, we create a more positive and successful experience for every child.

We believe that parents are their child's first and most important teachers. Your partnership and involvement play an essential role in your child's education, and we encourage you to communicate with your child's teacher and our staff whenever questions or concerns arise. By working together, we can provide every student with the support they need to learn, grow, and thrive.

Please keep this handbook as a reference throughout the year. If you have questions about any of the information included, we encourage you to contact the school office. We are always happy to assist you.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for entrusting us with your child's education. We look forward to working together to make this a successful and rewarding school year for every Wrangler.

Mrs. Kathy Josephson
Principal, Old River Elementary School

GENERAL INFORMATION

ACCIDENTS, ILLNESS and SAFETY

In the case of accident, illness, or injury at school, children are given first aid and every effort is made to contact the parent. As such, it is **very important that changes in telephone numbers and addresses be reported to the school promptly**. In the event that the parent cannot be reached, we will call the person named on the emergency card to act on your behalf. We urge all children to use crosswalks and sidewalks, where available, coming to and from school. Please help your child choose the safest route possible.

ARRIVAL

For the safety of our Wranglers, thank you for obeying all parking and loading zone instructions including the designated handicapped spots. This can be a great opportunity for you to model patience and cooperation to the children in your car and your neighbors.

Arrival/Drop-off:

- The Old River campus opens and supervision begins at 8:05 AM. Instruction will begin at 8:28 AM each morning and for this reason, students are required to be in their seats at this time. Students who arrive on or after that time are required to come through the office for a late pass.
- TK/K students enter at Gate 2 (off Campus Park Dr) in front of the kindergarten playground and other grades enter at Gate 4. Students in SDC enter at Gates 7 or Gate 8 near our back parking lot. If you are dropping off a TK/K and another student, your older Wrangler may enter with the younger child.
- To ride their bicycle to school, students must turn in a bicycle permit. [Bicycle Permission Forms](#) will be available at the beginning of the school year.
- For safety reasons, students may be escorted onto campus by parent/guardian **ONLY** on the first day of school.

Parent/Guardian Pick-up

Keeping safety in mind, students shall be released during the school day to the custody of an adult only if:

1. The adult is the student's parent/legal guardian with a picture ID.
2. The adult has appropriate identification and the verified authorization of the student's parent/legal guardian with custody.
3. The adult is listed on the white enrollment card as an emergency contact or other.

ATTENDANCE & ATTENDANCE LAW

California law requires that all students attend school regularly. Absences must be verified and fall within allowable categories defined in Education Code § 48205. Compulsory attendance is governed by §§ 48200–48293. Excessive absences may result in referral to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB).

Related Board Policies:

- [BP/AR 5113](#) – Absences and Excuses
- [BP/AR 5113.1](#) – Chronic Absence and Truancy
- If your child is absent from school for **ANY** reason, please call the office at 661-664-7009 by 9:00 a.m. to report the absence and the cause. If you are unable to call, please send a note to the **school office** regarding the absence. You may also leave a voice mail message before or after school hours, please state your child's name, date of absence, teacher, and reason for the absence. When the school does not receive a call and/or note regarding the absence within three days, the absence is marked as unexcused.
- If your child is absent for **three or more days**, and you would like to request homework, please call the school office in the morning or send a ParentSquare message to the teacher. Please allow the teacher 24-48 hours to compile the work. Unexcused absences or failing to provide proper verification of an absence for more than 10 consecutive days can result in the student being dropped from class. If absences become excessive, administration will reach out to parents to schedule a meeting.

AWARDS

Students in grades 4–6 have the opportunity to earn a school letter by participating in various school activities. Points are cumulative from the fourth grade and are given for such activities as scholastic achievement, music, athletics, and student government. Point totals are calculated by teachers at the end of each quarter and awards are given out at the end of the year assembly.

Typically the last Friday of each month is designated Wrangler Day. All Wranglers are encouraged to wear our school colors of denim blue and red, school logo apparel, and/or western style clothing. Students from each classroom are chosen as Wrangler of the Month. Staff selection of those learners is based on achievement, effort, improvement, and evidence of living the Wrangler Motto for students...*"Honest Words, Honest Actions, and an Honest Day's Work."*

BEHAVIOR STANDARDS

At Old River Elementary, we actively teach our school-wide behavior expectations to all students. Teachers will continue to personalize procedures and routines in their classrooms. We focus on being positive and restorative in all situations. We work diligently in three areas of effective discipline:

- Reflective: The student should be reflecting & gaining insight into their behavior.
- Restorative: The student should have an opportunity to repair the relationships or items that were damaged.
- Instructional: The student should gain specific knowledge and practice skills that will help them in the future.

All students are encouraged *to choose to follow our school rules inside the classrooms and on the playground, while riding the school bus, on field trips, and when participating in after school sports.* The biggest payoff to our Wranglers is a *safe, learning focused environment.*

BIKE SAFETY

Students at Old River Elementary are allowed to ride their bicycle to school with a valid [Bicycle Permission Form](#) signed by parent and student, these are available in the office. Bicycles may not be ridden on campus or on the sidewalks adjacent to the school. Bicycle riders should park their bicycles in the rack and lock them securely. By law, bike riders must wear an approved helmet at all times when riding. Students are to be responsible for the care and storage of their helmets.

Students should keep in mind that riding a bicycle to school is a privilege. A student who does not wear a helmet or fails to use good judgment when riding a bicycle may lose the privilege to ride a bicycle to school. For safety reasons, we have forbidden children from bringing skateboards, scooters, or rollerblades on campus.

BIRTHDAYS

Teachers may celebrate students' birthdays in the classroom, **although parties are not held.** To align with the district's nutrition policy, cupcakes or other sweet treats, like cookies will not be accepted. We **do not** allow flowers or balloon bouquets to be delivered to the office or classroom as they can be easily ruined and generally become a distraction.

In place of bringing birthday sweet treats on campus, here are some alternatives.

- Send an individual gift for all students in the classroom that could include items such as pencils, crayons, erasers, individually wrapped healthy snacks, or stickers. Please let the teacher know you will bring individual gifts and what is in them in advance so the teacher may let the office staff know.
- Donate a book to the Old River Library in honor of your student's birthday.
- Make a donation to your student's teacher of a book or item she or he needs in the classroom in honor of your student's birthday.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Students residing in some parts of our attendance area are provided bus transportation to and from school. For safety reasons, we have bus riding rules that our students must follow. Students who do not adhere to the rules may receive a bus referral or may be refused transportation for a period of time. A complete set of the bus riding rules have been included in the [Parent Information Booklet](#) distributed by the Panama-Buena Vista Union School District office. Students are also expected to behave appropriately while traveling to and from the bus stop and while waiting for the bus. If a child needs to take another way/mode of transportation home, please send the teacher/office a note stating that they will not ride the bus but will ride home with the named adult. Old River students should:

- Arrive at the stop five minutes before the scheduled pick up time
- Board and exit the bus only at their designated stops
- Wait at the stop in an orderly manner
- Respect other people's property

CAFETERIA PROGRAM

Breakfast and lunch will remain **free** to enrolled students due to the California legislature passing the Free School Meals for All Act, 2021. To fund free meals, we require that you complete the Education Benefit form when it is provided that supports this process. Monthly menus will be shared monthly in ParentSquare. Breakfast is served from 8:05 to 8:25 a.m. No breakfasts will be served after 8:25 a.m. so that students have time to eat and can get to class on time. Hot lunches are provided (milk included). Additional milk may be purchased for .50 cents. Adult lunches may be purchased for \$4.50 and must be paid. The adult pricing is also for children who are not enrolled in the district.

Students must take a minimum of 3 of the items offered to be eligible for free (reimbursable) meals.

- For example, a student could take a fruit, a vegetable, and a milk to complement their lunch from home, and it would be free, but they can't take only milk without being charged 50¢.

CAMPUS SAFETY

To further your child's security and proper identification of adults on campus, gates will be closed during instruction.

- School activity hours are 8:05 a.m. – Grade specific dismissal period (See Dismissal from School)
- Office hours are 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday
- Parent/Staff conferences should be scheduled in advance during non-instructional time.

CELL PHONES AND SMART WATCHES

Students may bring phones to school, but the devices must remain off and in students' backpacks during the school day. Students may wear smart watches, but the sound for notifications must be turned off, and the watch cannot be a distraction during the school day. For purposes of this policy and procedure, the "school day" is defined as the moment a student enters the school grounds until the student exits the school grounds following the final dismissal bell.

CLASSROOM PARTIES

Class parties are planned by the teacher and will be held on predetermined days, like Halloween, the day before Autumn, Winter, and Spring breaks, Valentine's Day, Battle of the Books, and the End of the Year. On those days, treats may be brought to school. Birthday parties are not held, but they will be celebrated in the classroom. (see Birthdays).

CLASS PLACEMENT

Class lists are carefully developed each summer for the following year by the teachers and the principal. We attempt to form balanced classes considering the number of boys and girls, academic levels, etc. Careful thought is given to the placement of each child and to the composition of the class. Class lists are generally posted on the Monday before school begins.

Regrettably, it is not possible to place each student with the teacher of his/her parents' choice or the same teacher an older child had.

CLASSROOM STANDARDS

Students learning on a safe and kind campus is the top priority at Old River Elementary School. Rules of courtesy (BOOTS) to fellow students and teachers shall be followed at all times. Each student should behave in a manner that does not disrupt the rights of other students to learn. See Behavior Matrix at the end of this document.

School wide and classroom procedures that promote positive behavior, safety, and learning will be taught and reinforced consistently in each classroom.

COMMUNICATION WITH TEACHERS and SCHOOL

Good communication between parents and the teacher is an important part of your child's education. **Should you desire a conference with your child's teacher, please email him/her directly or message via ParentSquare.** The teacher will contact you to set up the date and time for the conference.

To ensure a strong communication link to our families, most notices from the office will be sent via [ParentSquare](#) and in some cases printed on paper and sent home in your child's backpack. Please check your child's backpack daily.

[ParentVue](#) is the program we use to communicate your student's assignment's grades. First through sixth grade teachers enter assignments approximately every two weeks so you may stay apprised of students work completion. Progress reports are sent home by the same grade levels in the middle of each grading period.

CORE CURRICULUM

Old River staff members teach the core curriculum to every student in the school. The core curriculum includes the books and materials adopted by the Panama-Buena Vista Union School District from the list approved by the State of California. A description and explanation of the curriculum, the forms of assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet are detailed for parents at Back to School Night at the beginning of each school year. The district Grade Level Expectancies are distributed at this time.

DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL

Students are to exit the campus after being dismissed from the classroom. Students will be watched during the ten minute dismissal period, but after-school supervision is not provided. There are no provisions for primary students to wait on campus for older students, and no supervision is available on the playground. For your child's safety, make sure he/she walks home, rides the bus, or is picked up promptly. While students are waiting for parent/guardian pickup, we ask that all students refrain from climbing, jumping on any school property or trees.

TK-3 dismissal @ 2:50 (1:20 every Wednesday) will exit from:

- TK, **Gate 3**
- Kindergarten, **Gate 1 or 2** based on teacher
- Grade 1, **Gate 4**
- Grade 2, **Gate 5**
- Grade 3, **Gate 2**
- SDC (TK-3) for parent & bus, **Gate 7 or 8**
- Bus riders/daycare vans, **Gate 6**

4-6 dismissal @ 3:00 (1:30 every Wednesday) will exit from:

- Grade 4 - **Gate 4**
- Grade 5 - **Gate 4 or 5** based on teacher
- Grade 6 - **Gate 5**
- SDC (4-6) for parent & bus, **Gate 7 or 8**
- Bus riders/daycare vans, **Gate 6**
- **Do not enter the office loop until 3:00 PM**

DRESS CODE

In order to promote a school atmosphere where all children are able to learn, Old River students are expected to dress appropriately. As such, the following dress code (E.C. section 35183(d)) will be enforced:

1. Excessively large trousers, pants, and overalls may not be worn. All trousers and pants must be worn at the waist. Belt ends may not hang down. Overalls must be worn with straps on the shoulders, not hanging loose.
2. Commercial lettering or printing will be allowed on shirts and sweatshirts as long as it is appropriate for school. No clothing may be personalized other than with a given name. Jackets, backpacks, binders, etc. may bear the name of the owner in printed block letters. Any personalized printing or writing on clothing, backpacks, binders etc., is not acceptable, nor is writing on the hands or other parts of the body.
3. Pants, shorts, or skirts with holes or heavy fraying above the knee are not acceptable.
4. Clothing that is excessively revealing is unacceptable. This includes:
 - Backless halter tops or dresses; tube tops; tops cut low at armpits or neckline.
 - Clothing that shows bare midriffs
 - Shorts and skirts the length of which are shorter than mid-thigh.
 - Clothing that is transparent or revealing
5. Suggestive clothing or objects may not be worn which are libelous, obscene, or depict illegal or gang-related activity. This includes buttons, arm bands, shirts, insignias, etc. Clothing with crude or vulgar printing or pictures depicting tobacco, drugs, alcoholic beverages or clothing that is sexually suggestive or disruptive is not acceptable.
6. Shoes must be worn at all times.
 - Students may be restricted to wear footwear that has a strap or are completely enclosed. During Physical Education (P.E.), Intramurals, or other designated physical activity, athletic shoes or completely enclosed shoes should be worn unless arrangements have been made.
7. Cosmetics to the face and hair that distract from the educational process are unacceptable.

The Board and administration reserve the right to declare any mode of dress, in their estimation, inhibits the education process or threatens the safety and protection of all students as unacceptable. If students are dressed in an unacceptable manner, parents will be notified and corrective measures must be taken before the student will be allowed to return to class.

The principal, staff, students and parent/guardian at each school may establish reasonable dress and grooming regulations for times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities.

EMERGENCIES/ DISASTERS/ EVACUATIONS

In the event of serious accidents or injuries at school, students are given first aid and every effort is made to contact the parents immediately. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that we have *current home, work, cell and emergency contact telephone numbers*. We ask that parents complete it, in pencil, and return by the indicated date. Please contact us immediately if there is a need to update this information.

Contingency plans and supplies are in place to deal with any emergency or disaster situation that may arise. Students regularly participate in fire and earthquake drills. In the event of a major

disaster, students will be held at school in a safe location until they are picked up by parents or other designated adults.

If there is a need to evacuate the students from this campus, they will be transported to a site designated and publicized by the Panama-Buena Vista District Office. Students would be chaperoned and remain at that site until being picked up by a parent or other designated adults.

FOOD, DRINKS, AND CANDY

Old River focuses on healthy eating for our students. For this reason, we limit the treats and candy brought on campus (see Birthdays). We encourage nutritional snack choices for students. Teachers have multiple identified days for approved parties. On these days, parents are able to bring treats. Students are not allowed to share their food with other students. For this reason, snacks like chips should be in a personal bag or container. Large/family size bags are not allowed at school. Gum is not allowed on school grounds. Students may bring drinks onto campus in the morning; however, sugary drinks such as sodas, energy drinks, or sweetened coffees should be finished and placed in the trash or in their backpack/lunch pail if it has a cap before entering class. These drinks can spill, create sticky messes, attract insects, and sometimes make it harder for students to stay focused during class. Students should not bring energy drinks to school. These beverages often contain high levels of caffeine and other stimulants that can negatively affect children's focus, hydration, and overall well-being during the school day. Some students may also experience headaches, stomach discomfort, or increased heart rate after consuming them. We encourage students to bring their own water bottles to school. We do have a water bottle filler in our cafeteria and drinking fountains on the playground.

FIELD TRIPS

Teachers occasionally arrange field trips that are intended to extend and enhance the curriculum. You will be advised in advance of field trips. Your written permission will be required before your child will be allowed to participate. You are encouraged to return permission slips promptly as district policy will not allow us to accept verbal consent or for the student to attend without your written permission. To ensure the safety and supervision of all students, we kindly ask for your understanding with the following expectation: students must travel to and from the field trip with their assigned class and school staff. Additionally, students will not be released directly to parents or guardians at the field trip location.

FOG DELAYS

In the event of fog, you are advised to refer to local radio, television, and web sites for information on fog delays. Local stations will broadcast the names of districts on a fog delay. If it is announced that there will be a two-hour transportation delay for the Panama-Buena Vista School District, this would include Old River School. Buses run exactly two hours later than usual. However, if you transport your child to school, or allow them to walk, he/she may report to their class at 8:05 AM. Appropriate activities will be provided until the majority of students arrive.

HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION or INDEPENDENT STUDY GUIDELINES

Home and Hospital Instruction (HHI) is a *limited* program available to students who incur a temporary disability which makes school attendance in the regular day class(es) or alternative education program impossible or inadvisable and requires instruction at home or in the hospital

or other residential health facility. The goal of HHI is to maintain a pupil's former level of performance while recovering. Parents may request Home and Hospital Instruction/Home-bound Instruction if it has been determined by a physician that the student will be out of school for a period of three weeks or longer (greater than 15 days of instruction). HHI is not authorized by the physician, but by the District. It is the primary responsibility of the parent or guardian of a student with a temporary disability to notify the District when their child is temporarily disabled and needs individual instruction at home or in a hospital or other residential facility.

Students in grades TK through eighth grade who will be absent 3 to 15 days are eligible for **Independent Study**. Students with an IEP will require authorization through the IEP process. Parents should request Independent Study at least 5 days prior to the absence, except in the case of an emergency. Students will not be dropped for absences with a completed Independent Study Agreement.

HOMEWORK

Homework offers a valuable opportunity for teachers to meet the individual educational needs of your child. Assignments vary by grade level and from class to class according to the interest, skills, and maturity level of the child. The district has a 90/10 policy. A student's grade is based 90% on assessments and 10% on homework.

As a parent you can:

- Designate a regular study time on those days that homework is given
- Provide a quiet place for study
- Monitor assignments through dialogue with the teacher and ParentVue
- Minimize interruptions from family, friends, and various media

HONOR ROLL AND PRINCIPAL'S LIST

Students in grades 4–6 are eligible for the Honor Roll. To qualify for the Honor Roll, a student must obtain a "B" (3.0) average in all academic subjects for the quarter. A grade below "C" (D or F) in any subject will prevent a student from being on the Honor Roll regardless of the overall average. Receiving a "D" or "F" in conduct will also disqualify a student from the Honor Roll regardless of the grade average.

Principal's List recognition will be given to those students whose grades in the academic subjects are all either "A" or "A-".

LOST AND FOUND/STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Inquiries regarding lost items may be made by our students during recesses and during the dismissal period after school. A "Lost & Found" rack is maintained for articles of clothing. The rack is usually located near Gate 4. **To avoid confusion, coats, sweaters, hats, lunch boxes, helmets, etc., should be clearly marked with a student's first and last name.**

Students, not the school, are responsible for items they bring to school. Personal items such as toys or any other item of significant value, should not be brought to school. Items that are not claimed by the end of each semester will be donated to relief agencies.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

State laws and district policies govern the taking of medication by students while at

school. Anytime prescription medication is to be given by school personnel it must be in a container with the pharmacist's label attached. Before we can administer any medication (prescription and/or non-prescription), we must have on file a completed form, Pupil Medication to be Administered at School, which will give us the specific instructions regarding your child's medication. The form must be signed by the parent and the prescribing physician.

Students may carry and use emergency medications such as asthma inhalers or epinephrine auto-injectors only if specific forms are completed and on file. This includes a written healthcare provider's authorization and a parent/guardian's signed release of liability.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Vocal and instrumental music is an integral part of our curriculum. In the primary grades (TK-3), music is taught by the classroom teacher and one quarter by the vocal music specialist. Grades four, five, and six are taught weekly by the vocal music specialist. Students in grades five and six may also participate in our chorus and instrumental program. Qualifying students will receive information regarding instrumental music after school begins. All grade levels receive instruction on visual arts bi-weekly by our art specialist.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Old River Elementary School strives to support parental involvement in all school programs by continuing to emphasize and improve communication between the school and home. Special programs, notes, telephone calls, parent/teacher conferences, bulletins, and ParentSquare messages form the basis of communication between the school and parents. Parents are encouraged to present suggestions at meetings, on an individual basis, or by written communication. All suggestions are taken seriously and are responded to in a timely fashion. Parents are encouraged to be frequent visitors in the classroom, and teachers actively seek parent participation and assistance. Old River Elementary School invites parents to attend assemblies, watch programs, and participate on field trips.

Parent Committees and Councils:

- The Parent Club, a volunteer group of parents, raises funds and works to provide special materials, services, and opportunities for Old River students and staff.
- The English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC) is composed of parents of English Learners.
- The School Site Council is a group of elected representatives from a school's staff, parents, and students (at the secondary level) that works with the principal to develop, review, and evaluate school improvement programs and budgets. They are responsible for creating and overseeing the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA).

PARENT RIGHTS

Parents/guardians have the right to be informed of and participate in decisions regarding their child's education, including access to records, instructional materials, and school programs, as provided under California Education Code §§ 48980, 49063–49079 (pupil records/FERPA alignment).

Related Board Policies:

- [BP/AR 5125](#) – Student Records
- [BP 6020](#) – Parent Involvement

PERSONAL ITEMS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Unless a student has a medical need, purses and fanny packs should remain in the classroom and should not be taken to recess. These items can be used to carry toys, phones, and other personal items outside, which can easily be lost, damaged, or create distractions during recess. Toys and sports equipment should remain at home unless a teacher has planned a special day and has specifically invited students to bring an item. Toys and sports equipment brought on regular school days can become distractions and may lead to items being lost or disagreements between students.

PLC WEDNESDAYS

The Panama-Buena Vista Union School District has established PLC or professional learning communities, that will be held to provide time for regular, ongoing professional development in an effort to examine student assessment data, utilize assessment data to plan instruction, allow time for training on new programs and curricula, provide in-service for teachers on instructional strategies, and focus on school improvement.

To that end, the last 1.5 hours of each Wednesday is scheduled for completing the work explained above. TK – 6th grade students are released 1.5 hours early on those days. The number of instructional minutes have not changed as we added minutes to the other instructional days. Thank you for planning ahead for prompt pick-up, etc. on these days.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The district regards photographs as a category of directory information that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Therefore, a student's photograph, together with the student's name, may be published on district or school websites/social media. unless the student's parent/guardian has notified the district in writing to not release the student's photograph without prior written consent.

Related Board Policies:

- [BP/AR 5125.1](#) - Release of Directory Information.
- [BP/AR 1113](#) - District and School Websites

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be sent home quarterly in grades K-6. Parent/Teacher conferences take place at the end of the first grading period.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD (SARC)

The SARC, available in the office, provides information on school policies, practices, student test scores, and school and district demographics.

SOCIAL MEDIA MONITORING (E.C. section 49073.6)

The district intends to and will collect data from pupils' social media, and may use such data in disciplinary actions involving students and/or district employees. The information gathered and/or maintained will pertain directly to school or student safety. Pupils and their parents/guardians may inspect this information and request correction or deletion. The information will be deleted within one year of the pupil reaching the age of 18 or within one year of the pupil no longer being enrolled in the district, whichever comes first. The social media

records of a pupil may be inspected by the pupil or the pupil's parent/guardian and corrections or deletion of the information may be requested. Requests to inspect a pupil's collected social media information, or to correct or delete the information, may be made to the principal or other site administrator who, within five school days, shall make the records available for inspection or respond to the request for correction or deletion of the information. Students 17 and their parents/guardians also may have a district-level hearing to appeal the decision not to change or delete records.

SPEECH SERVICES

Some children have speech difficulties that require special help. Students who appear to have speech disorders will be screened by our speech team members and possibly placed into speech therapy. You will be contacted if your child is a candidate for speech services, as your permission is required before therapy can begin.

SPIRIT WEEKS

In order to promote and maintain school spirit, we will have spirit weeks throughout the school year. These will usually take place in the fall, winter, spring and end of year. All students and staff are encouraged to participate.

SPORTS PROGRAMS

Panama-Buena Vista Union School District provides an after school sports program. Competition is between teams from various schools. The program is limited to qualifying students in grades five and six. Participation in spring track is open to qualifying students in grades 4-6. Information regarding this program will be distributed by the coaches after school begins. Students may be removed from any sports team at the discretion of the site principal. Poor grades, poor attendance, and disciplinary actions such as multiple behavior reports or suspensions are potential reasons for this action.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Student progress in all academic areas will be monitored and assessed throughout the year. Conferences, report cards, progress reports, phone calls, written communication, and Student Success Team (SST) meetings provide parents with additional information about student progress. The parents and faculty are encouraged to partner in this SST forum to address academic, attendance concerns and behavioral concerns.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Student behavior is governed by California Education Code §§ 48900–48927. Schools emphasize positive behavioral interventions; however, violations may result in disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion consistent with due process requirements.

Related Board Policies:

- [BP/AR 5144](#) – Discipline
- [BP/AR 5144.1](#) – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process
- [AR 5144.2](#) –Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities)

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student Council is a program in which participants learn leadership/service skills and the elements of the democratic process by discussing issues and ideas that come before them. The Student Council is made up of elected officers and representatives from each of the intermediate classes. Each class will be able to appoint one student representative. The elected officers are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Safety, and Historian.

TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT (Parent/Guardian)

Chromebook Devices are an important learning tool and are for educational purposes only. In order to be loaned a device, the parent must accept the following responsibilities:

- I understand my child has been issued a Device to enable his/her education outside school. I will adhere to the following guidelines to ensure the safe, efficient and ethical operation of this device.
- I understand that providing internet access is my responsibility.
- I will supervise my child's use of the device at home.
- I will not attempt to repair or alter the device.
- I will only clean the device with a soft, dry cloth.
- I will report to the school any problems with the device.
- I am financially responsible for the replacement of this device if it is lost or willfully damaged.
- **I understand if my child loses or damages their device, they may not be able to participate in extracurricular activities.**
- **WILLFUL DAMAGE:** I understand Students/Parents-Guardians are responsible for full payment of willful damages to Devices. Warranty, Accidental Damage Protection, or School District Device Protection DOES NOT cover intentional damage of the Devices.

TECHNOLOGY USE

Students must comply with the District Acceptable Use Policy when using technology resources, consistent with Education Code §§ 48900 (student conduct) and 51870–51874 (technology use). Misuse may result in disciplinary action and/or loss of privileges.

Related Board Policies:

- [BP/AR](#) 6163.4 – Student Use of Technology

➡ Full legal notices are available in the District Annual Notice.

TITLE IX / NONDISCRIMINATION

The District prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived protected characteristics, including sex, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation, in accordance with Title IX (20 U.S.C. § 1681) and Education Code §§ 200–262.4.

Related Board Policies:

- [BP/AR](#) 5145.3 – Nondiscrimination/Harassment
- [BP/AR](#) 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment

UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCEDURES (UCP)

The District follows Uniform Complaint Procedures pursuant to 5 CCR §§ 4600–4670 to address complaints related to programs, discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and other legally protected areas.

Related Board Policies:

- [BP/AR 1312.3](#) – Uniform Complaint Procedures

VISITING CAMPUS

Out of concern for your child's security and safety during the school day and as per California Ed. Code 32211 and 44810, it is required that any visitor check in with the front office **before** entering the school grounds. Whenever you arrive at Old River (for a scheduled visit or other business), please enter the office and the clerk will check you in using the Raptor system at the office first. You will need to bring a government ID. We will give you a visitor tag to wear so you will not be questioned by our staff. We do our best to minimize interruptions and protect our students from unwanted visitors. If you would like to visit a location other than a classroom, principal approval must occur at least 48 hours in advance.

If you would like to observe the classroom, please contact your teacher at least 48 hours before you would like to visit. Parental visits are limited to twice per month for a maximum of one hour per visit. Additional visits may be scheduled through the principal if more observation time is needed. Please help us by checking-in with the office first. See detailed procedures on the next page.

Parents are able to eat lunch and attend any special events without calling ahead. We ask that after having breakfast or lunch with your child, you do not go to another part of the campus. It is our intention to minimize interruptions to the classroom, and thereby, protect instructional time.

CLASSROOM VISITATION PROCEDURES (Observation of Instructional Program by Parents) From Adopted District Administrative Procedures

Who May Visit: The right to observe a child's instructional program during classroom time resides solely with a child's parent, legal guardian, or foster parent and does not extend to grandparents, other interested close relatives, or caregivers as defined in Family Code Sections 6550-6552. A grandparent, close relative, or caregiver may schedule a classroom visit if a parent has provided written permission and the classroom teacher consents. Visits by grandparents, close relatives, or caregivers must be scheduled through the Principal rather than the classroom teacher.

Scheduling: Visits shall be scheduled by the classroom teacher for a time and date convenient to both the parent and the teacher. The parental observation date shall be within a reasonable time frame following the initial request. A request for a specific date must be made no less than 48 hours in advance.

Frequency and Duration: To minimize interruptions and distractions during valuable classroom time, parental classroom observations are limited to two visits per month per related student with a maximum duration of one hour per visit. If there is a need for more parental observation, additional visits may be scheduled through the Principal.

Parental Conduct During Classroom Visitation: Parents may enter and exit the classroom only once during each visit. Parents shall remain in the back of the classroom and may not interact with students or

the teacher unless the interaction is initiated by the classroom teacher. Unnecessary noise and/or movement must be kept to a minimum.

The classroom teacher may direct a parent to leave the room if the parent's presence or conduct unduly interferes with the instructional program, and the parent must leave the classroom if directed to do so. Any concerns or complaints may be addressed directly to the classroom teacher after regular school hours or to the Principal.

Violation of Classroom Visitation Rules: A violation of the classroom visitation rules may be resolved by the classroom teacher through counseling of the offending parent privately. If this form of correction is not effective, the Principal may, as necessary, temporarily preclude a parent from visiting his/her child's classroom during regular school hours for a period of time not to exceed 14 continuous days.

When a parent has been precluded by the Principal from visiting his/her child's classroom, the parent may appeal the decision to the District's Assistant Superintendent in charge of Educational Services who will investigate and consider the matter in a timely fashion.

Notification of Classroom Visitation Procedures: Parents shall receive notification of classroom visitation procedures. The notification used should be substantially as follows:

"Parents are encouraged to visit their child's classroom and observe the instructional program. Visits must be scheduled directly with the classroom teacher and, generally, at least 48 hours in advance.

"Distractions and interruptions seriously impair the educational process. To minimize distractions during valuable classroom time, parental visits are limited to twice per month for a maximum of one hour per visit. Additional visits may be scheduled through the principal if more observation time is needed.

"While visiting, parents are generally required to remain quiet and in the back of the room in order to minimize the classroom interruption which a visitor's presence typically causes.

"Copies of the school's classroom observation procedures are available upon request."

REFERENCES: Education Code Sections 32212, 35160, 49091.10, 51101 PBVUSD Board Policy 1250

VOLUNTEERS

We encourage parent volunteers in the classroom and Parent Club. Volunteers, guided by the teacher's need, provide much needed and appreciated extra support for students. We greatly appreciate your participation in your child's education! Your teacher will reach out and begin to schedule volunteers, as needed, after school begins.



Old River Elementary Positive Behavior Matrix



A Wrangler will always remember their **BOOTS**

Honest Words, Honest Actions, and an Honest Day's Work					
Expectations	B Be Responsible	O Operate safely	O Own your actions	T Take Initiative	S Show Respect
Cafeteria 	- Clean up after yourself - Throw food and trash away	- Remain seated until excused - Walk at all times - Eat your own food	If you drop something, pick it up	If you see something on the floor, pick it up	- Talk quietly - Follow adult's directions
Hallways 	- Keep hallways clean and clear - Walk in line	- Walk on the right facing forward - Use sidewalks only	Follow the rules even when no one else is around	Remind other students how to walk in the hallways	- Use Quiet voices - Keep hands and feet to yourself
Playground 	- Be a good sport - Freeze when the bell rings - Line up when the whistle blows	- Use playground equipment properly - Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself - Walk on blacktop	- Apologize if you do something wrong, even if it was an accident - Respectfully accept consequences	- Return playground equipment - Report unsafe and unkind actions - Include others	- Use kind words to solve problems - Use appropriate language - Take turns
Bathrooms 	- Flush toilet - Keep bathrooms clean - Turn off water	- Walk at all times - Keep both feet on the floor (off toilet and stalls) - Wash hands with soap	- Use assigned restrooms - If your drop something, pick it up and throw it away	If there are too many people inside, wait outside until someone comes out	- Respect privacy - Use a quiet voice - Get in, get out
Classrooms 	- Listen and follow directions the first time - Take care of materials	- Walk in class - Push in your chair - Chair legs on the ground	- Actively participate - Accept consequences respectfully	- Ask for help - Complete all work - Help classmates	- Voices off when it's not your turn - Raise hand - Hands, feet, and objects to yourself

Old River Elementary

Bell Schedule 2026-2027

<u>TK</u>		<u>Kindergarten</u>		<u>1st and 2nd Grades</u>	
8:05-8:28	Supervision Begins	8:05-8:28	Supervision Begins	8:05-8:28	Supervision Begins
8:28-9:40	Instruction	8:28-9:30	Instruction	8:28-9:40	Instruction
9:50-10:05	Recess	9:30-9:45	Recess	9:40-9:55	Recess
10:05-11:20	Instruction	9:45-11:00	Instruction	9:55-11:35	Instruction
11:20-12:05	Lunch	11:00-11:45	Lunch	11:35-12:20	Lunch
12:05-2:50	Instruction	11:45-2:50	Instruction	12:20-2:50	Instruction
2:50	Dismissal	2:50	Dismissal	2:50	Dismissal

<u>3rd Grade</u>		<u>4th Grade</u>		<u>5th and 6th Grade</u>	
8:05-8:28	Supervision Begins	8:05-8:28	Supervision Begins	8:05-8:28	Supervision Begins
8:28-10:00	Instruction	8:28-10:00	Instruction	8:28-10:20	Instruction
10:00-10:15	Recess	10:00-10:15	Recess	10:20-10:35	Recess
10:15-12:05	Instruction	10:15-12:05	Instruction	10:35-12:35	Instruction
12:05-12:50	Lunch	12:05-12:50	Lunch	12:35-1:20	Lunch
12:50-2:50	Instruction	12:50-3:00	Instruction	1:20-3:00	Instruction
2:50	Dismissal	3:00	Dismissal	3:00	Dismissal

Every Wednesday is 90-minute early out.
On Wednesday, grades TK, K, 1, 2, & 3 dismiss at 1:20 PM and grades 4, 5, & 6 dismiss at 1:30 PM

Old River PARENT HANDBOOK Signature Page

The Old River 2026-2027 Parent Handbook is available online through ParentSquare. Printed copies of the handbook are available at the school.

After your review, please sign and return the acknowledgement attached below, indicating you have received and reviewed these materials. Signed forms are to be returned to your child's teacher.



Cut and return the bottom portion to your child's teacher.

I have read the Old River 26-27 Parent Handbook and will contact the office if there are any further questions.

Student Name

Teacher's Name

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

