Oak Meadow Elementary School & Buckeye Union Mandarin Immersion Charter School

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK 2026-2027

Oak Meadow Elementary School & Buckeye Union Mandarin Immersion Charter School

Oak Meadow Principal - Amy Pirkl
BUMI Principal - Lu Zhai, Ed.D.

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Oak Meadow School Colors: Navy & Burgundy
Oak Meadow Mascot: Raptor
Oak Meadow Website: https://www.ome.buckeyeusd.org

BUMI School Colors: Red & Gray
BUMI Mascot: Panda
BUMI Website: https://www.bumi.buckeyeusd.org

District Website: https://www.buckeyeusd.org/

Staff Emails:
First initial last name@buckeyeusd.org
Example: John Smith would be jsmith@buckeyeusd.org

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Oak Meadow Elementary School
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Greetings and welcome to Oak Meadow and Buckeye Union Mandarin Immersion!

Hello Oak Meadow and BUMI Families,

At Oak Meadow and BUMI, it is our responsibility to help students develop not only academically but socially, emotionally, and behaviorally as well. When a student struggles in any one of these areas, it often causes them to struggle in the other areas as well. We work to support our Raptors and Pandas through a Multi-Tiered System of Supports which utilizes our various experts on site to support students where needed - academically, socially, emotionally, and/or behaviorally.

Relationships are the foundation for students to have a positive school experience. With this belief, I strive to support the whole school community in building strong, positive relationships. Some ways for families to help build these relationships are to participate in school activities put on by our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), seek volunteer opportunities on site, and participate in various committees.

Families play a large part in the success of our students. Some ways for families to help their children succeed at school are to read communications from teachers and the site, ensure your child attends school consistently and arrives on time, and encourage them to always try their best. I hope we can work as a team to support our Raptors and Pandas.

I look forward to getting to know all of our students this year and working collaboratively with their families to support student success. If I can ever be of assistance, please feel free to call or email me at apirkl@buckeyeusd.org.

Sincerely,

Amy Pirkl & Lu Zhai

Oak Meadow Principal & BUMI Principal

Home/School Communication

We believe that productive home-school communication is one of the most important variables in guaranteeing school success. As parents, you can help keep communication open and productive by:

- Taking time to read the monthly parent bulletin will be sent to your email address. The bulletin is also available on our website. It contains timely information about school programs and events.

- Making a commitment to attend Back-to-School Night, Open House, and parent conferences.

- Returning correspondence in a timely fashion. You may need to work with your son or daughter to ensure they return notes on time.

- Talking with teachers and the administration about positive things happening at school. Calling attention to successful practices is important for reinforcing them.

- Discussing questions or concerns about a classroom or teacher with that teacher as soon as they arise. Teachers appreciate honesty and early communication. They also appreciate knowing that parents realize there are two sides to every story.

- Discussing concerns **not resolved at the classroom level** with the Principal. Bringing unresolved issues to the attention of the principal will usually result in a satisfactory resolution.

*Read the bulletin
* Check Friday folders
*Read classroom newsletters
*Always call the teacher first if you have questions or concerns
* Attend school functions
*Use the school website

Academic Assessments

Improving student achievement is the key goal of the Buckeye Union School District. To monitor student learning, students are given classroom, district, and state assessments. Assessments are used to recommend student placements in various school programs and to plan how to increase student achievement at the school and across the district. In the spring, all students in grades three through eight take the state-mandated Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) in Language Arts and Mathematics, Science (CAST) in 5th and 8th grade only, and Physical Fitness Test (PFT) in 5th and 7th grade only.

Anti-Bullying, Discrimination, & Harassment

Our Commitment

Buckeye Union School District is committed to a safe, welcoming, and inclusive learning environment for every student. Instruction and counseling are provided to promote positive relationships, acceptance and inclusion. The district prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, bullying, and retaliation at school, on the way to and from school, at school-sponsored or school-related activities, and online or off campus when the conduct creates a substantial disruption at school.

Anti-Bullying

Students are not allowed to bully other students or provoke conflicts. Such behavior will result in the imposition of disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion, depending on the nature and seriousness of the violation.

Bullying is any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including written or electronic communication, directed at one or more students including, but not limited to, unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived imbalance of power between individuals with the intent to cause emotional or physical harm. Bullying can be physical, verbal, or social/relational and involves repetition or potential repetition of a deliberate act.

Cyberbullying includes the electronic creation or transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account or assuming that person's online identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

Examples of the types of conduct that are a violation of school rules and may constitute bullying and, as a result, are prohibited by the district include, but are not limited to:

- Physical conduct that inflicts harm upon a person's body or possessions, such as hitting, kicking, pinching, spitting, tripping, pushing, taking or breaking someone's possessions, or making cruel or rude hand gestures
- Language that includes saying or writing hurtful things, such as teasing, name-calling, inappropriate sexual comments, taunting, or threats to cause harm

- ❖ Social/relational behavior that harms a person's reputation or relationships, such as leaving a person out of an activity on purpose, influencing others not to be friends with someone, spreading rumors, or embarrassing someone in public
- ❖ Digital communication, such as sending demeaning or hateful text messages or emails, sending rumors by email or by posting on social networking sites, or posting embarrassing photos, videos, websites, or fake profiles

Anti-Discrimination & Harassment

Behavior or statements that degrade an individual on the basis of their race, ethnicity, culture, heritage, gender, sex, sexual orientation, physical/mental attributes, religious beliefs or practices shall not be tolerated. Violation of this policy by a student will result in the imposition of disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion, depending on the nature and seriousness of the violation.

Examples of the types of conduct that violate school rules, and are therefore prohibited by the district include, but are not limited to:

- ❖ Verbal conduct such as derogatory comments, slurs, or unwanted sexual advances, invitations or comments, epithets.
- ❖ Visual conduct such as derogatory posters, photography, cartoons, drawings or gestures.
- ❖ Physical conduct such as assault, unwanted touching, blocking normal movements.
- ❖ Retaliation for having reported or threatened to report harassment.

The district also prohibits sexual harassment at school and at school-sponsored or school-related activities. Anyone who engages in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action. Staff will clearly communicate to students that sexual harassment is prohibited and advise students to report any sexual harassment that they experience or observe. (Board Policy and Administrative Regulations 5131.2, 5145.7-9)

Examples of the types of conduct that violate school rules, may constitute unlawful sexual harassment, and are therefore prohibited by the district include, but are not limited to:

1. Unwelcome repeated acts of leering, sexual flirtations or propositions.

2. Unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments or sexually degrading descriptions.

3. Graphic verbal comments about an individual's body, or overly personal conversation.

4. Sexual jokes, stories, drawings, pictures, or gestures.

5. Spreading sexual rumors.

6. Touching a person's body or clothes in a sexual way.

Attendance

Daily school attendance is critical for a student's success. By law, parents are obligated to send their child to school daily. Parents are strongly encouraged to schedule medical appointments during non-school hours. A student's absence from school shall be excused for the following reasons: personal illness, quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer, medical appointments, attendance at a funeral service for a member of the immediate family or court appearances. Please note that, even though an absence is considered to be excused, for purposes of funding, any absence reduces funding to the school and district.

Upon advanced written request by the parent/guardian and the approval of the principal or designee, justifiable personal reasons for absences include but are not limited to: observation of a holiday or ceremony of his/her religion, attendance at religious retreats not to exceed four hours per semester, participation in religious instruction or exercises in accordance with district policy. All other absences are considered unexcused. Whenever possible, a student who is absent for a reason other than illness should attend at least the minimum school day.

When a student who has been absent returns to school, the parent needs to provide a written note or contact the school office to verify the reason for the absence. School absences are monitored carefully throughout the year. If a student has more than fourteen absences in a school year for illness, a physician may be asked to verify further absences for illness. Excessive excused absences and/or tardies may also require notification to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB).

A student absent from school without a valid excuse or tardy in excess of thirty minutes (30) or more on three (3) or more days in one (1) school year is considered truant. Parents will receive written notification in the event their child is truant. Students who continue to have unexcused absences or tardies of thirty minutes (30) or more may also require notification to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). This is a requirement of the California Education Code 48200. *{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5113.1}*

Each class period is carefully structured by the teacher. When a student is late, not only is important instruction missed, but also class is disrupted. Students are required to arrive in class on time. **All students arriving late must check into the office before going to class.**

Students who walk, receive rides or ride their bikes to school should arrive **no earlier than 7:45am**. If a student needs to arrive early, please make arrangements with the Extended Day Program as there is no supervision on campus before 7:45 a.m. Students should be picked up **no later than 2:15 p.m.**

Behavior Expectations

Since positive behavior is essential to academic progress, the teachers and staff of the Buckeye Union School District work together to encourage productive behavior in a firm, fair, and consistent manner.

Our school discipline plan is based on the premise that teachers are here to teach and students desire to learn. Therefore, it is our expectation that all students will behave in such a way that will not interfere with the learning of other students.

As a staff we have developed schoolwide expectations. All staff use common language when working with students around meeting behavioral expectations. We have school wide systems to prevent and respond to classroom and school behavioral concerns. We strive to create and maintain a safe learning environment where teachers at OM/BUMI can teach and students can learn.

Oak Meadow and Buckeye Union Mandarin Immersion School-Wide Expectations

I am **SAFE**
I am **RESPECTFUL**
I am **RESPONSIBLE**

When students make a personal choice to obey established expectations, positive consequences will occur, such as verbal praise, notes of recognition to the students and parents, special prizes, Positive Action Tickets, etc. Students who choose not to obey established rules will receive consequences as part of a progressive discipline model.Consequences may include a loss of recess, phone calls home, parent meetings, suspension from school, or other consequences as defined by the teacher and/or administrator.

The staff at Oak Meadow School and BUMI considers positive student behavior to be very important. We do not look upon this as solely the responsibility of the school. We feel that by working together with parents, we can create an environment in which children have the optimum opportunity to learn and to develop self-discipline and problem-solving skills.

Teachers in each classroom have established their basic classroom rules. At the beginning of each school year, teachers review their rules and consequences. Please discuss classroom rules with your child. It is important for both the school and home to be consistent in enforcing rules for good behavior. We have found that when the rules and consequences are clear, as well as consistently enforced, students have a feeling of security and are more successful in school. We use the Positive Action Program to ensure a healthy, safe and happy school climate.

Positive Action Tickets

Children caught doing good deeds that benefit the school, help their classmates, or assist staff, are given a Positive Action Ticket. Students write their name and room number on the ticket and place it in a basket in the office. Every week, six names are drawn from the basket, and they receive a reward.

Referral Slips

During recess and lunch times, Oak Meadow and BUMI have a referral system in place to allow playground monitors to communicate behavior concerns with the classroom teachers, and/or office. If your child receives a referral at recess time, a copy of it will be sent home for your signature. Please return it to your child's classroom teacher.

Oak Meadow & BUMI Bell Schedule
2026-2027

Grade(s)	Regular Day	Wednesdays *Early Release*	Minimum Days
AM TK & OM AM K	7:40 am - 11:10 am	7:40 am - 10:25 am	Regular Schedule
PM TK	11:11 am - 2:41 pm	10:25 am - 1:10 pm	Regular Schedule
OM PM K (in K/1 blend)	9:57 am - 2:07 pm	9:57 am - 1:10 pm	8:40 am - 12:02 pm
BUMI K & All 1st-5th Grades	7:55 am - 2:07 pm	7:55 am- 1:10 pm	7:55 am - 12:02 pm

Regular Day Schedules		
AM Recess		
OM & BUMI AM TK	9:15 - 9:45	(Snack/Lunch for AM TK)
AM OM K	9:45- 10:15	(Snack/Lunch for AM Kinder)
1st Grade & BUMI K	9:30 - 9:48	
2nd Grade & 3rd Grade	9:50 - 10:08	
4th Grade & 5th Grade	10:10 - 10:25	
Lunch Recess		
BUMI K, OM PM K, &1st Grade	10:40 - 11:20	1st eat @ 10:40 BUMI K & OM PM K eat @ 11:00
2nd Grade & 3rd Grade	11:25 - 12:05	2nd eat @ 11:25 3rd eat @ 11:45
4th Grade & 5th Grade	12:10 - 12:50	4th eat @ 12:10 5th eat @ 12:30
PM Recess - No PM Recess on Wednesdays		
PM TK	1:00-1:30	(Snack/Lunch for PM TK) **Wed 12:00 - 12:30*
BUMI K, OM PM K/1, & 1st Grade	12:55 - 1:10	
2nd Grade & 3rd Grade	1:10 - 1:25	

Minimum Day Recess & Lunch Schedule		
	Recess Time	**Lunch Time**
AM TK	9:15-9:45	
OM AM K	9:45-10:15 *(*Wed 9:30-10:00)*	
BUMI K, OM PM K, & 1st Grade	9:30 - 9:48	10:40 - 11:00
2nd Grade & 3rd Grade	9:50 - 10:08	11:05 - 11:25
4th Grade & 5th Grade	10:10-10:28	11:30 - 11:50
PM TK	12:30-1:00	

Bicycles/Scooters/Skateboards

Any student that chooses to ride their bicycle/scooter/skateboard to school must abide by the following rules:

1. Students shall ride bicycles/scooters/skateboards in a safe manner at all times.
2. Students shall observe all traffic rules and laws.
3. By law, students must wear a helmet.
4. Bicycles/scooters/skateboards are not permitted on campus except for the appropriate storage area.
5. When arriving at or leaving school, bicycles/scooters/skateboards must be walked on campus and across crosswalks until off campus.

Students who violate any of the above rules may be subject to a disciplinary consequence and/or have the bicycle/scooter/skateboard taken away and returned only to a parent.

{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulations 5142 and 5142.3}

Bus Riders/Bus Fees

Students may only ride the bus to and from school from their designated bus stop on their assigned bus. This means that students may not change buses, get off at a different bus stop or ride a bus other than their assigned bus.

Students who reside beyond the minimum transportation distances listed below shall be eligible for transportation service to the school of their attendance area:

1. Grades Kindergarten (if full day) - 5th: 2 miles

2. Grades 6th-8th: 2.8 miles

A bus transportation fee will be charged for students who ride the bus to and from school. The only students exempted from the transportation fee are students who have been directed by the District to attend a school outside their attendance area or who have transportation stipulated in their Individual Educational Program. Families may qualify for free or reduced (50%) transportation rates based on family income as defined by state and federal guidelines. In accordance with district policies, bus riders in grades 1-8 will be dropped off at their designated bus stop, whether or not an adult is present to meet them. Kindergarteners will not be dropped off at the bus stop unless an adult is present or parent has given permission for kindergarteners to walk home alone or with a sibling (Kindergartner Walk Slip). For more information on transportation please visit the BUSD Transportation Webpage

{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulations 3541 and 3541.2}

Bus Rules: School Bus Rules

Bus rules are to be followed whenever a student rides the bus. Parents are asked to review the bus rules with their child and encourage him/her to act safely.
The bus driver has complete authority in operating the bus at all times. If, for any reason, a driver determines that a student's behavior is creating an unsafe situation on the bus, the District has the authority to deny transportation privileges and/or apply additional school disciplinary consequences. Camera mounts may be installed on buses for video surveillance. Video may be used to provide evidence of student misconduct. In all instances of misconduct, the rider and his/her parents shall be given notice and warning. For more information regarding transportation please reference the BUSD Transportation Webpage

{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5131.1}

Cell Phones/Phone Watches and Other Personal Devices

Students may carry cell phones to school. Students may use them only before and after school. Cell phones/Phone Watches and other electronic devices must be stored in the student's backpack (including headphones or earbuds) and turned off as soon as the first bell of the day rings and must remain off and in the backpack until the last bell rings (this includes lunch time). The school will not be responsible for any lost, damaged, stolen or confiscated electronic devices. Use of a cell phone or electronic device in the classroom may be permitted on a limited basis when directed by a teacher. If a student is not following this policy, he/she will receive disciplinary consequences and the electronic device will be confiscated and returned only to a parent. Phones are available in the office for emergencies only. (Board Policy 5131)

Cell phone guidelines are as follows:

- Cell phones/Phone Watches must be turned off from 7:45am - 2:07pm which includes lunch.
- Cell phones/Phone Watches are to be stored in the student's backpack from **7:45am - 2:07pm**
- Cell phones/Phone Watches are not to be used at any time indoors (such as classrooms, gyms, office or library, etc.)
- Cell phones/Phone Watches are not to disrupt school activities. Any phone that makes audible sounds because they have not been turned off is a violation even though the phone may not be visible.
- The school will not be responsible for any lost, damaged or stolen cell phones or other devices.
- Cell phones/Phone Watches or other devices will be confiscated when there is a violation in the cell phone policy.
- Cell phones/Phone Watches will be returned only to the parent/guardian of the student.
- Students violating the Cell phones/Phone Watches policy may receive disciplinary action.
- The camera feature on Cell phones/Phone Watches may not be used at any time.

Classroom and School Visitations

Parents/guardians and interested members of the community are encouraged to visit the school and observe the educational program. Visits during school hours should be arranged in advance with the teacher or principal. If a conference with the teacher is desired, an appointment should be set with the teacher during non-instructional time. When school is in session, all visitors must go directly to the school office to register (Penal code 627.6) before going into instructional areas. Once registered, they will receive a name badge that must be worn at all times while on campus. *{Reference Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 1250}*

Climate for Learning

The school staff is committed to providing a safe, orderly and caring learning environment where students feel comfortable, share responsibility for maintaining a positive school climate, and take pride in their school and their achievements. As a school, we encourage attitudes and behaviors that promote mutual respect and harmonious relations. One of the ways the school promotes conflict resolution is by providing students with opportunities to work out differences with TEAM Raptors at recess and lunch. Students are also invited to share their opinions about school policies and practices through our school leadership team.

Closed Campus

To ensure student safety and supervision, the Board of Trustees has established a closed campus policy at all district schools. Once a student arrives on the school grounds, they must remain on campus until the end of the school day. If a student leaves school grounds without this permission, a student is considered truant and is subject to disciplinary action.

{Reference: Board Policy 5112.5 and Education Code 44808.5}

Parents, guardians or other adults taking students from school before the regular dismissal time must come to the office and sign out the student. Students will not be released to anyone not listed on the student's emergency card. If the adult requesting to check a child out of school is unknown to the office staff, identification will be required.

All visitors to campus must sign-in at the office and wear a sticker identifying them as a visitor to campus. Parents, guardians or other adults may not linger on campus once school is in session and should not arrive at campus for pick-up more than 15 minutes prior to the end of the school day.

Concerns/Complaints

The district has adopted a clear set of procedures to address concerns and complaints. Please use the following steps when you have a concern.

1. Classroom concerns should first be brought to the attention of your child's teacher. Please call or email the teacher to explain your concern. Small concerns may be addressed through a phone call; larger concerns are better addressed in a conference.
2. If the classroom concern is not satisfactorily addressed with the teacher or the concern is a school level concern, then please call the school administrator. Small concerns may be addressed through a phone call; larger concerns are better addressed in a conference.
3. If the concern is not satisfactorily addressed with the school administrator, then a meeting should be scheduled with a district representative. The district representative will facilitate resolution based on district complaint procedures set forth in board policy. A copy of this procedure is available in the Human Resources Department at the district office and on the district website under the parent resources tab. www.buckeyeusd.org

{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 1312.1-4)

Dogs on Campus

Buckeye Union School District has implemented a "no dogs on campus" rule. Dogs (or other animals) are not allowed on school campuses unless they are certified service animals or are part of a school event or instructional program. In all cases, prior approval of the teacher and a school administrator is required to bring any animal on campus.

Dress Code

The Governing Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate, including clothing that provides appropriate sun protection. Students' dress

and grooming must not present a health or safety hazard to themselves or others or a distraction that would interfere with the education process. Personal appearance standards for students are defined in the dress code. A student who violates the dress code may be subject to disciplinary action. (Board Policy 5132)

The development of attitudes and behavior patterns in dress and grooming should be a part of each student's total educational experience. School clothing is, in some degree, a reflection of one's attitude about self and school. We try to maintain a professional, friendly atmosphere in which teachers can teach and students can learn. Students are expected to attend school in clean, neat clothing. Dress, hairstyle, or makeup that is distracting in nature or interferes with the study habits of students in the class or school shall not be acceptable. The following guidelines are intended to define appropriate student attire and personal grooming.

- Shoes must be worn at all times. Backless shoes, "wheelies", or shoes with wedges or heels higher than 1" are not permitted.
- Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed and may not distract the learning environment.
- Shorts and other appropriate undergarments shall be worn under dresses and blouses for the sake of modesty and while participating in PE or playing on equipment.
- Sunglasses may be worn out to recess unless they are deemed a distraction or a problem of any kind. They must be put away when in the classroom.
- Other articles or apparel which may be considered objectionable or dangerous may be prohibited by the site administration.
- Inappropriate shirts include halter tops, crop tops, spaghetti straps, mesh or see-through sheer tops. Shirts must not expose the midriff or cleavage. Tank top straps must be at least one inch wide.
- Pants should be worn at the waist without "sagging;" no undergarments should be visible.
- Clothing with inappropriate lettering, printing, message patches, and artwork is prohibited. This includes references to drugs, alcohol, satanic themes, sex, and violence.
- Chains of any kind (such as wallet chains), and clothing or jewelry with protrusions that could be considered dangerous or unsafe are not allowed.
- Gang-related attire is strictly prohibited and subject to the interpretation of the administration.
- Hats with brims may be worn but must be removed when inside any building. Hats must be worn with the brim in the front. Hats must be stored while in class.
- Flannel/satin pajama type pants/shorts are not allowed.

Students wearing inappropriate attire or footwear may be sent to the office and will be asked to call their parent or guardian. Students will be given the opportunity to change into

appropriate clothing, if available at the school site, or request the parent to bring a change of clothing or footwear. Students will return to class upon meeting dress code standards. If you have any questions regarding dress and grooming, please call the school office.

{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5132}

Emergency Card

Each year parents are requested to fill out emergency information that lists the names and telephone numbers to be used if it is necessary to reach parents or other designated adults during the school day. If the information you have originally turned in changes, please notify the school so that the card can be updated. Emergency cards can be the lifeline for the proper care of your child. Children cannot be released to individuals not listed on their emergency card, even under emergency conditions.

Due to the confidentiality of student information, school staff are not allowed to give out any information (phone, address, etc.) to individuals other than those listed on the student's emergency card.

If there has been a parent separation, we cannot withhold information from either parent unless legal documents are on file. Please speak with an office staff member if you need further information in this area.

(Reference Board Policy and Administrative Regulations 5125 and 5125.1)

Emergency Procedures

The school has a well-developed and complete emergency response plan that is coordinated with local agencies. The emergency plan clearly identifies the specific actions for any emergency situation. Students and staff practice monthly emergency procedures such as fire drills, lockdown, and classroom evacuations during the school year and are familiar with how to respond in an emergency situation.

Should an emergency situation arise at school, our emergency phone notification system would be used to send out a message to parents/guardians to advise them of the situation. This phone notification system delivers messages in minutes and is a valuable resource for keeping parents/guardians updated.

There is one role that you as a parent/guardian can do to ensure that firefighters, law enforcement and school officials are able to handle an emergency. PLEASE DO NOT RUSH TO THE SCHOOL TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD. An influx of parents will only slow our ability to handle a situation as resources will have to be used to manage parents and guardians, rather than the emergency situation. Emergency plans have been developed with the assistance of other public agencies, and our staff has been trained on these plans with our main goal being to reunite children with their parents/guardians as quickly as possible. Students will not be released except to the care of parents/guardians or to an adult designated on their emergency card.

It is also important that you not try to contact your child via cell phone during an emergency, as it may interfere with our ability to manage students in a safe and orderly manner. We appreciate your support and commitment to work together with school staff and law enforcement to ensure the safety of your students.

{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 3516}

Extra-Curricular Activities

There are a variety of opportunities available for students to be involved at OM/BUMI. School. These include Team Raptors, Kindness Crew, Spelling Bee, sports, the recycling team, and Oak Meadow's Student Leadership Team. Please look for information on these opportunities in the monthly newsletter and/or Friday Folders.

Field Trips

A field trip permission form is sent home with your child for each field trip. This form must be returned with a parent signature in order for your child to leave on the trip. Permission will not be granted by phone. All students are expected to ride the bus to and from the field trip and may not be released to ride home with his/her parent from the field trip unless a written note is received in advance. **All parents accompanying students on a field trip must be fingerprinted.** Siblings are not allowed to accompany parents chaperoning a field trip.

Private vehicles shall not be used to provide transportation to any school-related events. Parent/guardian may transport his/her own child only from district sponsored events or activities with approval from an Authorized District Sponsor or School Site Principal (Form E3541.1). Parents are required to sign out their children with the parent sign out process at the end of the school related event.

Food Service Program

This year breakfast and lunch is available for all students at no cost to families every school day. Menus for school lunches are available online at www.buckeyecafe.org.

Forgotten Lunch Procedure

If a student has forgotten his/her lunch at home, parents may drop the lunch off in the office. Students need to check the office before going to lunch and may pick up his/her lunch then. Please be sure your child's name is on the lunch.

Health and Wellness

The Buckeye Union School District recognizes the link between health and learning and desires to provide a comprehensive program promoting healthy eating and physical activity for district students.

The Wellness Committee assists with policy development and advises the district on health-related issues, activities, policies, and programs. The district's nutrition education and physical education programs are based on research consistent with the expectations established in the state's curriculum frameworks, and designed to build the skills and knowledge that all students need to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

The school district encourages school organizations to use healthy food items or non-food items for fundraising purposes and encourages school staff to avoid the use of non-nutritional foods as a reward for students' academic performance, accomplishments, or classroom behavior.

School staff will encourage parents/guardians or other volunteers to support the district's nutrition education program by considering nutritional quality when selecting any snacks which they may donate for occasional class parties.

{Reference: Board Policy 5030}

Homework

Homework should be an extension or practice of what was learned in school. Students are expected to complete and hand in homework. Homework should be designed so that parents can serve as a resource to their child without diminishing the student's sense of responsibility.

To be effective, homework assignments should not place an undue burden on students and families. Homework should reinforce classroom learning objectives and be related to students' individual needs and abilities.

Homework is defined as school-related work that is an important part of the instructional program. When it is properly implemented, students will:

- Develop regular study habits and the self-discipline necessary for study to be effective and the ability to work independently
- Gain more information than would be possible in the classroom situation alone
- Have more opportunity to develop a personalized, creative approach to projects and other school work
- Learn to budget their time effectively
- Come into contact with out-of-school learning resources.

Recognizing the individual abilities of children, the time it takes to complete homework will vary. Homework should not exceed the recommended amount of time indicated below:

1st Grade – ½ hour per night
2nd Grade – ½ hour per night
3rd Grade – ½ hour per night
4th Grade – 1 hour per night
5th Grade – 1 hour per night

In addition to the above time, each child should read 20 minutes each day. Children who don't yet read may use picture books or have books read to them.

{Reference: Board Policy 6154}

Illness or Injury

Parents will be promptly notified of any serious injury or illness that occurs on the school grounds or on the bus. Notification of non-serious injury or illness may be made at the discretion of the school staff or site administrator. It is important that the school knows who to call. Be sure to keep up-to-date information on your child's emergency card, which is on file in the school office. If the accident or injury warrants, the school will call 911 and notify the parents immediately. The school does not have a full-time nurse.

Independent Study Contracts

Students who are going to be out of school for three or more days for reasons other than illness or injury may be eligible for independent study. Independent Study Contracts may be issued up to two times in the school year. The length of an Independent Study Contract is not to exceed fourteen (14) school days for grades K-3 or 14 school days for grades 4-8 per school year. There is a specific set of district criteria for independent study. The criteria for approval include an acceptable reason for requesting the independent study and evidence that the student will work independently to complete assignments. This program requires a contract signed by the parent, student, teacher, and principal. The contract specifies the amount of work to be completed, the amount of time to be spent each day, when the work will be turned in to the teacher, and how the work will be evaluated. An Independent Study Contract **must be requested at least one week prior** to a planned absence so that teachers can prepare materials for the student. An Independent Study Contract will not be issued for the first three weeks of school or the last three weeks of school since the contract must be completed BEFORE the end of the school year. Independent Study Contract forms are available in the school office.

{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6158}

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found is located near the Multi-Purpose Room. Parents should put student names on clothing and other belongings. You are also encouraged to check for lost articles as soon as possible. The school cannot be responsible for any lost belongings. Lost and Found items will be donated to charity at the end of each trimester.

Medication at School

In compliance with the California Education Code 49423, when an employee of the school district gives medication to a student, the employee must be acting in accordance with the written directions of a physician and with the written permission of the student's parent or legal guardian. These authorizations must be renewed whenever the prescription changes and at the beginning of each school year. *The prescription label on the container is not acceptable as a physician's statement. Over-the-counter medications will be given if prescribed by a physician or dentist.*

ALL MEDICATION BROUGHT FROM HOME MUST BE IN THE ORIGINAL CONTAINER AND KEPT IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THIS INCLUDES NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION. THE SCHOOL CANNOT FURNISH ANY MEDICATION, INCLUDING ASPIRIN.

We require all medications to be stored in the nurse's office and be administered only when the physician's and parent's/guardian's signed permissions are on file. Students are not allowed to have medication in their possession at school, walking to and from school, or on the school bus. This practice provides for the safety of all students on campus. The only exception to this policy is if the student's well-being is in jeopardy unless he/she carries the medication.

If you anticipate a visit to your student's physician or dentist and expect that medication may be prescribed or the dosage changed, please stop by the school office for the appropriate forms.

Parent Participation

The Buckeye Union School District believes in working with parents as partners in a child's education. Parents are strongly encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education. Following are some suggestions for how to participate in your child's education.

- Ensure that your child attends school regularly.
- Talk with your child about what they are learning in school and ensure that homework is completed and turned in on time.
- Involve your child in reading. This could involve reading to your child, having your child read to you or discussing what you and your child are reading together.
- Model the love of reading for your child. If they see you as a reader, they'll want to read too.
- Encourage your child to participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities.
- Monitor and regulate the television your child watches and video games they play.
- Work with your child at home on learning activities that extend classroom learning.
- Become familiar with your child's grade level standards. California Content Standards
- Attend parent conferences and school sponsored events.
- Volunteer in your child's classroom or for other school activities.
- Participate in parent groups at your child's school.
- Participate in site and district decision-making groups such as the LCAP Parent Advisory Committee, School Site Council (i.e., Single School and Safety Plans), English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC), District English Language Committee (DELAC), Budget Committee, Wellness Committee, Master Plan, and PTO.

{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulations 1240 and 5020}

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

The PTO is an exciting and vital organization that works to support the students of Oak Meadow and BUMI Schools. The PTO works to enrich the school experience by providing many of the educational and entertaining assemblies attended by the students.

PTO sponsors several social activities and fundraisers throughout the school year. Fundraisers provide the students with school supplies, scholarships for special field trips, technology, educational equipment, music and PE equipment, large playground structures, and building/grounds improvements. Some of the major gifts to the school include Chromebooks, the marquee in front of our school, tumbling mats, ball walls, and the PE climbing wall.

Personal Property/Prohibited Items

Personal property having no bearing on studies is a distraction to the learning environment and should be left at home. It is also advisable not to bring large sums of money to school. All objects which in any way might be considered dangerous or disruptive to the learning environment shall not be brought to school. The school is not responsible for housing or theft of confiscated items, nor is it responsible for personal property that is lost, stolen, or damaged. Repeated confiscation may result in administrative consequences.

Prohibited Items

California Law does not permit the following dangerous items at school:

- Firearm or imitation firearm

- Knives
- Explosive devices or substances (including matches, lighters, etc.)
- Alcohol, tobacco and drug related products including vaping are not permitted. The use of tobacco products is prohibited at any time in district-owned or leased buildings, on district property and in district vehicles. Any person who violates the district's policy on tobacco-free schools shall be asked to refrain from smoking and shall be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate.

Reference Board Policy and Administrative Regulations 5131.6, 5131.62, and 4020).

Report Cards

The primary purpose of report cards is to clearly communicate a student's areas of strength and areas needing improvement based on the California Content grade level standards. To provide students and parents with specific information on student achievement, students receive standards-based report cards at the end of each trimester. The goal is for students to meet each grade level standard by the end of the school year. Teachers use a variety of common assessments to determine whether a student is meeting standards. The standards for each grade level are available at the California Department of Education website at California Content Standards

Students in kindergarten through fifth grade shall receive a standards-based report card which may include narrative comments. Progress reports are given at the first trimester parent conference for all students and serve as an indicator for how a student is progressing. The distribution of report cards and progress reports ensures parents have a sense of their child's performance. Parent conferences are held at least once per school year for all students. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's teachers if they have any questions about their child's progress.

School Site Council (SSC)

The School Site Council is composed of parents, school employees (both certificated and classified) and members of the community. The main purpose of the SSC is to act as an advisory group to review school improvement and monitor progress toward meeting school goals in order to provide the best possible program for the students, as well as reviewing the discipline policy, safety plan and approve the proposed budget. This is accomplished through reports on progress toward school-wide goals.

Special Education

The district strives to provide an educational program to meet the needs of all children within the district. A student shall be referred for special educational eligibility only after the resources of the general education program have been considered and modified in an attempt to meet the student's needs. If a student is referred to special education, parents will receive a notification of parental safeguards and an explanation of the proposed assessments. Following the completion of the assessments, a written report will be compiled. The results of the assessment will be discussed at an Individual Educational Program (IEP) meeting. At the IEP meeting, the team will determine if the student meets eligibility for special education. If the student meets eligibility, a plan will be developed that will be reviewed at least annually. The district provides special education services, as described in Education Code (56000-56001).

Special Services/Programs

A variety of special resources and programs are provided for students with unique needs. These programs include:

Counseling
A counselor is available on a limited basis at each site.

English Learners
Students who are non-native English speakers are assessed annually using the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) to identify their level of fluency in English. Students who are not fully fluent in English participate in the program for English learners to increase their English fluency and vocabulary. Teachers use specific instructional strategies to help students learn the curriculum while learning English. Parents meet in a District English Advisory Council.

Gifted And Talented Education (GATE)
The Buckeye Union School District offers GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) identification and supports at all school sites throughout the District. Program opportunities for GATE are site based; however, a fall administration of the OLSAT (Otis Lennon School Ability Test) is provided district wide in order to identify qualifying students. Opportunities for enrichment/support in and out of the classroom are provided as available.

Health Services
The district will verify that students have complied with legal requirements for health examinations and immunizations before enrolling a student in school. Failure to provide proof of required immunizations will result in the student being excluded from school. The district administers vision, color vision, hearing and scoliosis screening as required by law.

Student Success Team (SST)
The Student Success Team is a school-site team, which identifies effective strategies to meet the needs of individual students who are not progressing due to academic, social, emotional, behavioral, medical, or other concerns. The Student Success Team process is a collaborative process between the school and the parents on behalf of the student. The Student Success Team meeting will include the parent, the student's teacher, administrator, and other support staff as needed.

Suspension or Expulsion – Ed Code 48900-48915

A pupil shall not be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion unless the principal/designee or the Superintendent/designee determines that the pupil has committed a violation of Ed Code 48900 et seq. A copy is available in the office.

Telephone Usage

The telephone in the office is a business phone. Students may use it only for an emergency call. We do not interrupt instructional teaching time for calls to the classrooms. The office will take messages as needed or transfer calls to a teacher's voice mail. All teachers have voicemail and/or emails and check messages daily.

Tobacco, Alcohol, Vape, and Drug Free Zone

The Governing Board believes that the use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs adversely affects a student's ability to achieve academic success, is physically and emotionally harmful and has serious social and legal consequences. Therefore, all schools and district facilities are tobacco, alcohol and drug free sites. The use of any tobacco, alcohol or drug products is prohibited within any district property, facility, or vehicle. This prohibition also applies to all individuals attending events on school campuses or representing the district at school-sponsored activities that are held at locations other than district property.

{Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulations 5131.6, 5131.62, 4020 and 5131.6

Volunteers

Volunteers are an integral part of the programs on our campus. We encourage the participation of parents/guardians and other community members as volunteers in our classrooms and chaperoning field trips. All volunteers must be fingerprinted, complete annual Mandated Reporter training, and have read, understand, and agree to the Volunteer Statement on Confidentiality (provided in the student/parent handbook below). If you would like to learn more or have questions, please contact your child's teacher or the school office. The fingerprint form is available from the school office or you may download it from the District website. Upon processing, please return a copy of the form to your school office.

Upon clearance, visitation rules will apply each time you volunteer. You are required to sign in at the school office and wear an identification badge issued by the school office.

Volunteer Statement on Confidentiality

We value the contributions that parents/guardians and other community members make to our schools. We welcome volunteers in our classrooms and chaperoning field trips.

There are times when a volunteer may see or hear something regarding a student's academic progress, a discipline issue, or other matters that must be kept confidential. Therefore, we ask volunteers to be aware that individual students' information should not be discussed with anyone other than the appropriate school officials.

By applying to be a volunteer, I agree that I have read, understand, and agree to the Volunteer Statement on Confidentiality. Additionally, I understand that it is required to scan and e-sign the Google Doc. available in the school office.

Please Note: Volunteer information is available on our District website under Parent Resources → Volunteers

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION/GOALS

The Board of Trustees is responsible for adopting a vision for the district and setting district policies and procedures. The Board of Trustees meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Meeting locations are announced in the school newsletter and on the district's website. The district website contains a variety of information about the district on its operation. Board agendas are posted at the school office. Board agendas, and minutes can also be found on the district's website (www.buckeyeusd.org). Parents and community members are encouraged to attend Board meetings. Information on how to give input at Board meetings is available at all Board meetings.

Members of the Buckeye Union School District Board of Trustees

Member	Melissa Keyzer
Member	Jon Yoffie
Member	Brenda Hanson-Smith
Member	Kirk Seal
Member	Scott Masten

District Administration

Superintendent	David Roth Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent of Business Services	Jackie McHaney
Director of Curriculum & Instruction	Rachelle Ball
Director of Student Services	Nicole Schraeder
Director of Facilities	Brian McCahon
Director of Fiscal Services	Dana Rizzuto
Director of Transportation	Jessica Simon
Maintenance Supervisor	Nathan Morris

Vision Statement

It is the vision of the Buckeye Union School District to provide the highest quality educational program for all students in order that they fulfill their innate potential, become lifelong learners, and contribute to society as responsible citizens.

Mission Statement

Working together with families, the community, and a highly qualified staff, the Buckeye Union School District ensures that each student masters the knowledge and skills needed to maximize his/her academic and personal success in a global society.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS

BLUE OAK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2391 Merrychase Drive
Cameron Park, CA 95682
530-676-0164
916-933-5149
Julie Hughes, Principal

BUCKEYE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4561 Buckeye Rd.
Shingle Springs, CA 95682
530-677-2277
916-933-2333
Kevin Cadden, Principal

SILVA VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
3001 Golden Eagle Lane
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
916-933-3767
530-677-8953
Brandon Beadle, Principal

CAMERADO SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL
2480 Merrychase Drive
Cameron Park, CA 95682
530-677-1658
916-933-0584
Sara Matley, Principal
Brenda Brown, Assistant Principal

VALLEY VIEW CHARTER MONTESSORI
1665 Blackstone Parkway
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
530-672-3890
916-939-9640
Paul Stewart, Principal
Amanda Alessandro,Assistant Principal

OAK MEADOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL/
BUCKEYE UNION MANDARIN IMMERSION
7701 Silva Valley Parkway
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
916-933-9746
530-677-9818
Amy Pirkl, OM Principal
Zu Zhai, BUMI Principal

WILLIAM BROOKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
3610 Park Drive
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
916-933-6618
530-677-2875
Joel Dameral, Principal

ROLLING HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL
7141 Silva Valley Parkway
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
916-933-9290
530-676-2490
Debra Bowers, Principal
Sean Gallagger, Assistant Principal

BUCKEYE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
5049 Robert J. Mathews
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
530-677-2261
916-985-2183
David Roth, Superintendent

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
2480 Merrychase Drive
Cameron Park, CA 95682
530-677-2261
916-985-2183
Jessica Simon, Supervisor