

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Kresson staff, I hope you share our enthusiasm as we begin a new school year. We are looking forward to an exciting year full of wonderful learning experiences for our students and families.

HANDBOOK

This school handbook is intended to clearly present the rules and regulations of Kresson School. Please read it carefully and refer to it as needed. Parents are encouraged to read the rules and regulations and to support the school in our efforts to maintain a quality learning environment.

All students are expected to use the school handbook. It will also serve as a communication link between school and home.

IMPORTANT SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Kresson Office 856-424-1816 ext. 5
Nurse's Office 856-424-1816 ext. 1
District CER Office 856-795-2025 ext. 5232
Kresson CER. 856-424-1816 ext. 2165

SCHOOL DAY OPERATIONS

Preschool - Grade 5

- School day operations will be from: 9:00am - 3:25pm
- The school will receive and supervise students beginning at 8:40am
- Dismissal begins at 3:25

Main Office Visits

If needed, parents are to drop off lunches, musical instruments, etc. in the main office vestibule but will not be permitted to enter the school. This is for safety reasons and the office staff will be happy to gather these items and distribute them to your child's teacher.

1. Secretaries will ask for the purpose of a visit using the vestibule intercom system if there is a need for an inquiry.
2. All visitors will be required to show identification prior to entering the building.
3. Sign-in and sign-out sheets will be located in the vestibule.
4. If a child is late, he/she will be dropped off by being buzzed into the office. Parents do not need to enter the main office with the child. Children can hand notes to the secretary if needed.
5. Parents or guardians/designees who are picking up a sick child should buzz the intercom for the main office staff. The nurse will be notified by the office and the parent/guardian will meet the child in the vestibule. The nurse will release students from her office.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Recording Absences in Genesis

To ensure consistency across the district in how student absences are calculated, we will follow the guidelines below:

Regular School Day -

- In school for less than 2 hours - counted as a Full-Day Absence
- In school for 2 to 4 hours - counted as a Half-Day Absence

Early Dismissal or Delayed Opening -

- In school for less than 1.5 hours - counted as a Full-Day Absence
- In school for 1.5 to 3 hours - counted as a Half-Day Absence

ARRIVAL TIME: As the school is unsupervised until 8:40 AM, students are not permitted in the building before then. If parents must drop off their elementary children at school before 8:40 AM on a regular basis, they should contact CER to make arrangements through the School Age Child Care Program.

If a child is late for school, a **parent MUST accompany** the student to the office and sign the student in.

ABSENCE: When a child is absent for any reason, a parent or guardian should call the nurse's office at 856-424-1816 ext.1. Calls may be made either the night before or before school begins on the morning of the absence.

QUICK TEXT ALERTS FOR EMERGENCIES

Starting on January 1, 2026, we began using text messages for emergency updates, such as late buses, unexpected schedule changes, or school closures. All general announcements will continue to come through email and phone calls. Our goal is to keep you informed quickly, clearly, and conveniently.

SCHOOL ATTIRE

We expect all students to dress appropriately for school. Kresson School is air-conditioned, so tank tops that have straps less than two inches wide, Crop tops and "short" shorts are unacceptable. Hats or hoods are not to be worn inside the school building. Students need to always wear proper foot attire. Flip-flops are not acceptable.

PHONE OR ADDRESS CHANGE

Notify the Kresson Main office, the nurse's office and your child's homeroom teacher if your address or phone number changes.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Kresson School community expects each student to contribute to a productive learning environment. Respect for the rights of others, consideration of their privileges, and cooperative citizenship shall be expected of all members of our community. Conformity to school rules, respect for property, and pride in one's work are essential for a safe environment. Courtesy, honesty, and decency are attributes that are expected and valued at our school.

GENERAL SCHOOL RULES

1. Students will speak and behave respectfully toward each other and staff. 2. Students will keep their hands, feet, and all objects to themselves at all times. 3. Students are not allowed to bring or chew gum in the building or outside areas. 4. The following peer-to-peer aggression will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary consequences:

- Name-calling
- Threats of physical aggression
- Spreading rumors
- Hitting, pushing, grabbing, or slapping
- Exclusion
- False reports
- Using objects to hurt others

HALLWAY RULES

1. Students will keep halls open to passing classes by walking to the right.
2. Students will walk through the hallways quietly.
3. Students will keep the school clean by picking up papers from the floor, and by keeping hands and feet off the walls.

ASSEMBLY RULES

1. Students will file in quietly and get seated immediately.
2. Students will listen attentively to directions and to the assembly program.
3. Students will show their appreciation appropriately.

BUS RULES

1. Students will take a seat and buckle up as soon as they get on the bus and remain seated until they exit the bus.
2. Students must keep all hands, feet and book bags out of the aisle.
3. Eating or drinking is not permitted on the bus.
4. General school rules are to be followed on all buses.
5. Infractions are to be reported to the bus driver or bus supervisor. .

LUNCHROOM RULES

1. Students will enter and exit the APR in an orderly fashion.
2. Students will raise their hand in order to get up from the table.
3. Students will wait to be dismissed from their tables by one of the lunchroom supervisors.
4. Students will clean up their eating area before leaving their table.
5. Students will use appropriate manners and in-door voices during lunch.

RECESS RULES

OUTDOOR RECESS

1. Students will play only in designated areas.
2. Students will use equipment properly:
 - a. One person on the slide at a time, go down slides feet first.
 - b. Sit only on swings; one person per swing.
 - c. No tricks or hanging off playground equipment.
3. Students will walk outside and return to the building in a quiet, single line.
4. Students will keep sand, dirt, and other objects on the ground.
5. Students will avoid stepping in puddles, ice and snow.
6. Students will return balls to designated area.

INDOOR RECESS

1. Students will follow classroom rules.
2. Ball playing or running in the classroom is not allowed.
3. Students are to remain seated and may read, draw or play a quiet game.
4. Students will use "indoor voices" only.

POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES FOR INFRACTIONS

1. Student/Teacher conference
2. Verbal warning
3. Written warning
4. Student calls parent
5. Student/Counselor conference
6. Suspended recess
7. Student/Principal conference

8. Parent conference
9. Principal detention
10. In-school suspension
11. Suspension

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Students assume responsibility for loss and damage of their clothing, equipment, books or instruments. The school tries to ensure the protection of all property but is not responsible for it. Large sums of money should not be brought to school.

CELL PHONE AND SMARTWATCH GUIDELINES

Cell phones and smartwatches are not to be used during the school day. If a student chooses to have these devices on for texting, etc. during the school day, the following consequences will be enforced:

- 1st time – warning issued by teacher – student puts device away.
- 2nd time – device taken by teacher – teacher returns device at the end of the day.
- 3rd time – device taken by teacher & given to principal – principal returns device & notifies parents.
- 4th time – device taken by teacher & given to principal – principal notifies parents that they have to pick up the device.

LOST AND FOUND

Found items are placed in the cabinet by the stage in the All-Purpose Room. Students should check the stage during school hours for lost property. It is advised that the student's name be written on all personal property.

MEDICATION POLICY

Medication will be administered to students in school provided:

1. Medication is given to the nurse in its original container.
2. Medication is labeled with the child's name, name of medication, and amount to be given.
3. A note is provided from the physician and parent giving directions for dose of medication, time to be given, the purpose of the medication, and the termination date. This applies to prescription as well as over the counter medications.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

We are proud of parent participation at Kresson throughout the year. Many parents participate daily in various school activities. We encourage parents to volunteer to serve on school committees. Flyers asking for help with school activities will be posted in Kresson's virtual backpack. The hard work and commitment of parents is essential to a successful school.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled once a year in November. Your child's teacher will tell you more about scheduling the conference at Back-to-School Night. Further parent-teacher meetings can be made on an as-needed basis.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

Back-to-School Night offers parents the chance to meet their child's teacher and get a brief overview of the curriculum, routines of the class, and other valuable information. In order to avoid disruption, please leave children at home.

REPORT CARDS

All students receive report cards quarterly. Report cards may be viewed through the parent portal. A hard copy of the report card will no longer be sent home. Student performance in grades two through five is measured by the following grades:

A = 100 – 92

B = 91 - 83

C = 82 - 74

D = 73 – 65

F = 65 - below

I = Incomplete

BOOKS

Textbooks issued and books checked out of the library during the year are the property of the school district. The student shall pay for lost and/or damaged books. It is the responsibility of each student to keep his/her books in good condition.

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Students who leave class to attend the academic enrichment program are responsible for understanding the concepts taught and tested in their regular class. Teachers should not be expected to re-teach all missed material.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

Instrumental lessons are for those students who are seriously interested in learning a musical instrument. Learning an instrument requires hard work, dedication, and practice.

Students must take the responsibility to find out about, and obtain, all work missed while out of class for instrumental lessons.

NUTRITIONAL GUIDELINES

The NJ nutrition law states that food of minimal nutritional value as defined by the US Department of Agriculture cannot be served, sold or given out during the school day. These foods include items listing sugar, in any form, as the first ingredient (forms of sugar include corn syrup, dextrin, fructose, high fructose corn syrup, galactose, honey, lactose, malt maltose, maple syrup, molasses, and sucrose). This will include all forms of candy.

An exception is made for special school celebrations or curriculum related activities. Special school celebrations include classroom parties and end of year activities. Although exceptions are made for celebrations, the law lists specific foods that can never be served, sold or given out during the school day, regardless of a special celebration. This list includes: soda, water ice, candy and candy coated popcorn. **NO EDIBLE TREATS ARE TO BE SENT IN FOR STUDENT BIRTHDAYS.**

In order to comply with the law during special celebrations such as class parties the following are examples of items that may be provided to students: pretzels, popcorn (not caramel corn or Cracker Jacks), granola bars, fruit, Rice Krispy treats, cupcakes, and brownies.

These rules do not govern what you send in with your child for lunch, only what the school provides or allows for a group of children. We do ask you to help us with the “spirit” of the law, which is to encourage good nutritional decisions and to create sound eating habits.

FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS

As we are all aware, many students in school have food allergies. The following procedures are in place at Kresson School in order to help keep these students safe:

1. Access to a nut-free-table in the lunchroom.

2. Delegates, in addition to the school nurse, are trained to give Epinephrine in the event of an emergency.
3. Information is sent home at the beginning of each school year informing classmates of students with food allergies and which foods cannot be sent to the classroom.

We work closely with parents of students who have food allergies to ensure that the classroom is a safe environment for every child. Please contact Mrs. Uscinowicz, the school nurse, with any questions or concerns relating to food allergies.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Dismissal at Kresson School begins promptly at 3:25 PM (1:40 PM on a half day). All K – 5th grade students are dismissed directly from their homeroom by category (car pick-up, walker, bus, escort). All kindergarten students are supervised and walked to the Gym (bus), CER, or carline. Preschool students will exit through the Early Childhood Center doors.

At 3:20 assigned staff report to the car pick-up line and/or out to the front of the building to supervise bus students, carline students and walkers.

WALKERS/BIKERS: At 3:25 PM, all walkers and bikers are dismissed and must exit by the doors just before the gym that lead to the bike rack/sidewalk. Staff positioned out in front of the building will help supervise walkers/bikers until they exit school property.

CAR PICK UP: At 3:26 PM, carline students are asked to exit the rear of the building through the APR door. Two to three staff members will meet students and line them up (weather permitting, outside). Three cars at a time are moved up to the loading zone. Students are loaded and the car is permitted to exit. Any students not picked up are permitted to call home and/or placed into CER at parent's expense.

CER STUDENTS: At 3:27 PM, all CER students are called to report to the All Purpose Room where they are met by CER staff and attendance is taken.

BUS RIDERS: At 3:28 PM, bus students are dismissed from their classroom to the gym. Buses are called one at a time and each bus is announced two times. Staff members are assigned duty and are positioned in the gym and in the front of the building. Students must ride their assigned bus. If buses arrive on time, dismissal ends no later than 3:35 PM. Students riding any buses not at Kresson by 3:35 will remain in the gym with adult supervision. These students are supervised by the bus/safety coordinator until their bus arrives.

KPFA

The Kresson Parent Faculty Association (KPFA) is an organization of concerned and caring parents and teachers who volunteer their time and effort in order to make their children's school days as rewarding and fulfilling as possible. KPFA serves Kresson School in four areas:

1. Raises funds to purchase supplemental educational materials, assembly programs, computer hardware and software, and recess and playground equipment.
2. Sponsors social and family events such as the Welcome Back Picnic, Trunk or Treat, and Candy Bar Bingo. KPFA is always looking for ideas for new events and projects to provide students and families the chance to get together during the year.
3. Organizes parent volunteers to assist in various ways within the school. KPFA also organizes and regulates room parents..
4. Provides school and community services such as school logo clothing sale, Kresson Yearbook, hospitality for KPFA meetings, Feed-A-Family, Thanksgiving food baskets, the Giving Tree, and the Faculty/Staff Luncheon.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to the staff and faculty members of the school, the families of the children attending the school, and community members who reside in the Kresson School sending area.

Payment of annual dues grants family membership, entitling the member(s) to voting privileges and the opportunity to participate and chair committees, and to be a room parent.

KPFA business is conducted at general meetings scheduled throughout the school year. The meetings are presided over by the Executive Board consisting of co-presidents, vice presidents, a secretary and treasurer. Three faculty representatives also sit on the board.

CHECK FOR IMPORTANT NEWS & INFORMATION

All information and correspondence for school and KPFA events and projects is sent home via e-blasts, the virtual backpack and flyers.

DUE DATES

KPFA must strictly enforce all deadlines. Late orders, payments and volunteer forms cause numerous problems and inconveniences to the KPFA committee chairpersons and are unfair to the volunteers who donate so much of their time to organize and conduct events.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence to KPFA should be addressed as follows:

KPFA/Event Name or Project
Child's Name
Child's Teacher

SPECIAL NOTE

We recognize that there are times when families face financial setbacks, making it difficult to participate in KPFA-sponsored activities. If this occurs, please allow KPFA to help. Notify the school and KPFA funds will be made available.

CARE SOLACE

Voorhees Township Public Schools is committed to the health, safety, and well-being of our students, staff, and families. We are proud to remind everyone of our partnership with Care Solace to support our ongoing commitment. If you or a family member are looking for help with mental health or substance use, Care Solace will quickly connect you to community providers matched to your needs. Call 888-515-0595 at any time or search on your own at caresolace.com/voorhees.