

Please read and return the last signature page to your classroom teacher as soon as possible.
Thank you!



UPRIVER SCHOOL PARENT-STUDENT MANUAL 2026-2027

We take PRIDE in our school!

Respectful 
Responsible 
Resilient 
Ready to Learn 

“Committed to quality education and collaboration by teaching skills, developing knowledge, and fostering both responsibility and confidence so that all students become productive citizens.”

T.J. Blackwell, Principal
Sarah McQueen, Secretary
Office: 208-245-3650

75 Fern Street
Fernwood, ID 83830
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www.sd41.org

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UpRiver School Panther Pride!

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year at UpRiver School!

At UpRiver, we believe every student thrives best in a supportive environment built on strong connections between home and school. Open communication with parents and guardians is key to building this partnership. This handbook outlines our school's expectations and is meant to be a helpful resource throughout the year. Please take some time to review it and keep it accessible for future reference. If you ever have questions or need clarification, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

We're excited to kick off a great year together! Our team is eager to work alongside students, families, and our community to make this year a success. Thank you for being an important part of the UpRiver learning community.

Sincerely,

The UpRiver Staff

UPRIVER SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of UpRiver School is to provide a safe and caring environment in which students can fulfill their potential for academic and personal growth, enabling them to become responsible citizens of their homes, schools, and communities. Toward this end, we must help students acquire study, thinking, and reasoning skills, and facilitate self-directed learning and the desire to know more. We will also help students develop self-discipline and responsibility, emphasizing the basic values of honesty, unselfishness, respect for authority, and the importance of work.

St. Maries Joint School District No. 41 is dedicated to providing an educational culture that will continually assess the knowledge, changing needs, and challenges of our students and adapt our practices to prepare them to become successful citizens.

ST. MARIES JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT #41 DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE OR DENY SERVICES ON THE BASIS OF AGE, RACE, RELIGION, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX AND/OR DISABILITY

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

Parents should help students plan their arrival so they arrive at school **no earlier than 7:30am** on school days. **The school will not provide supervision until 7:30am.** Students will leave school grounds upon dismissal at 2:15pm (Monday) and 2:45pm (Tuesday-Friday).

Please call the office by 1:00pm if you need to make alternate arrangements for your child after school.

DAILY SCHEDULE:

	<u>TUESDAY-FRIDAY</u>	<u>EARLY RELEASE MONDAY</u>
Teachers Arrive	7:30	7:30
Breakfast	7:30 – 8:00	7:30 – 8:00
Warning Bell	7:55	7:55
Tardy Bell	8:00	8:00
Grades K – 6	8:00 – 2:45	8:00 – 2:15
Grades K/1 – Recess	9:20 – 9:35	9:20 – 9:35
Grades 2/3/4/5 – Recess	9:35 – 9:50	9:35 – 9:50
K/1 Lunch & Recess	10:55 – 11:25	10:55 – 11:25
2/3/4/5 Lunch & Recess	11:10 – 11:40	11:10 – 11:40
Grades K/1 – Recess	12:40 – 12:55	12:40 – 12:55
Grades 2/3/4/5 – Recess	12:55 – 1:10	12:55 – 1:10
Student Dismissal	2:45	2:15
Instructional Staff Dismissal	3:15	3:15

ATTENDANCE, TARDIES, & LEAVING EARLY/ARRIVING LATE

By state law, students are expected to have regular and punctual patterns of attendance. We encourage you to schedule dental and medical appointments outside of the school day when possible. For safety reasons, students ***must be signed out*** at the office before leaving school grounds prior to the end of the day. If your child will be absent or tardy, please call the office at 245-3650. The best learning occurs when students have regular attendance. We appreciate your efforts in helping us with this issue. Students who are habitually absent may be reported to the school board for a truancy hearing.

This policy criteria is based on the theory that prompt and regular attendance in school is the beginning of dependability in adult business, personal, and social life. Furthermore, regular attendance is important, because valuable skills and information gained in the classroom may or may not show up on tests or be reflected in an academic grade. The general welfare of all students is best served by regular attendance.

The intent of the Board of Trustees is to have students attend school on a regular basis. Regular and consistent attendance results in increased learning. It is also the intent of the Board of Trustees to have the regular classroom teacher present whenever possible. A student's presence in the classroom with the regular teacher contributes to time on task, and time on task contributes directly to learning.

1. Any student absence **beyond ten (10) days** per semester may mean the loss of credit in those classes missed or grade level retention.
2. An absence, for ANY REASON, other than a school-sponsored or an administration approved absence will count toward the ten-day (10) limit. School-sponsored or administration-approved absences are:
 - A. Those that occur due to school-sponsored activities, since these are considered an equivalent educational experience. These exemptions will apply to students participating in sports events, cheerleading, music-related events, school clubs, academic field trips, and others deemed co-curricular.
 - B. Bereavement in the immediate family (grandmother, grandfather, father, mother, sister, brother.) Any extended bereavement may be reviewed by the Building Attendance Committee;
 - C. Medical or dental appointment, illness, or hospitalization verified by a licensed medical provider's note which cites specific dates.

These are the ONLY absences which WILL NOT be used in calculating the attendance record.

3. Absences which will be counted in the ten (10) day limit will include such areas as: illness, family trips, work days, vacations, visiting friends or relatives, suspensions in and out of school, watching tournaments when not an actual participant, hair or photography appointments, skiing, hunting, court appearances, attending concerts, shopping, or any others not mentioned which are unacceptable to the Building Attendance Committee.
4. Students will be expected to gather, complete, and submit any and all missing or incomplete class assignments, work, and/or projects. Students will be afforded two (2) days for every one (1) day of absence to complete and submit such assignments, work, and/or projects.
5. After five (5) absences from school/class, a letter will be sent to the student's home, indicating the school policy and the number of days missed.
6. After seven (7) absences from school/class, a second letter will be sent to the student's home, indicating the severity of the situation and explaining in detail the alternatives for non-compliance.
7. Upon the student exceeding the tenth (10th) absence, the student may have credit withheld or be denied grade promotion and may be referred to the Building Attendance Committee. If referred, that student, with parental/guardian accompaniment must appear before the Building Attendance Committee. The Building Attendance Committee will consist of the building principal, guidance counselor, and those teachers in whose classes the student has exceeded the allowable number of absences.
8. The Building Attendance Committee will review the absence reports to determine if the student will have credit withheld or be denied grade promotion, which will occur unless extenuating circumstances surface. Extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Building Attendance Committee.
9. The Building Attendance Committee can, after hearing a student/parent/guardian's appeal for attendance waiver, deny credit, or put certain stipulations on a student whose credit or grade promotion will be dependent upon an agreement reached with the student/parents/guardians concerning attendance for the remainder of the semester.
10. Any decision to withhold credit or deny grade promotion can be appealed to the Superintendent by the student/parent/guardian. The student/parent/guardian must request a meeting in writing with the Superintendent within ten (10) school days from the Building Attendance Committee hearing. If student/parents/guardians do

not accept the Superintendent's decision, they may appeal such decision through a request of a hearing with the Board of Trustees to be held at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Any request to appear before the Board of Trustees must also be in writing.

11. If the student/parent/guardian appeal is not granted, the student will remain in that particular class for the remainder of the semester with a NO CREDIT (N/C) grade assigned, which will not affect the student's GPA, if the student has a passing grade at the end of the semester. If the student does not have a passing grade at the end of the semester, he or she will receive a failing grade for the semester. If disciplinary issues occur, the student may be suspended per Board policy.

12. If the student/parent/guardian appeal is granted, the student will return to class with the Building Attendance Committee's stipulations. If the stipulations are violated, a loss of credit or grade level promotion will result.

13. The Building Attendance Committee may also make decisions regarding the student's participation in extra-curricular activities.

TARDIES:

For any K-12 student who has reached a total of five (5) tardies, a warning letter may be sent to the student/parent/guardian, and the student will be referred to the Attendance Committee for consideration.

DISENROLLMENT DUE TO LACK OF CONTACT:

To ensure accurate enrollment records and ongoing student participation, a student will be disenrolled from the school if there has been no contact from the parent/guardian and no documented student participation for 10 consecutive school days. Prior to disenrollment, the school will make reasonable attempts to contact the family using the contact information on file. Families are encouraged to notify the school promptly of any circumstances affecting attendance/school participation.

LEAVING EARLY/ARRIVING LATE:

A child cannot leave school during the day without a parent signing him/her out in the office. We will not release a student to anyone other than parents or legal guardians without permission from parents. Students who are tardy or are returning to school from an appointment must first check in at the office.

MEDICATION (See Board Policy)

We encourage you to schedule your child's medication dose to be taken at times when they are not at school. If it is necessary for your child to take a dose of medication while at school, please complete the following steps:

- Come to school to fill out an **AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION FORM**. This form must be completely filled out with information including the name of medication, dose, time to be taken, side effects, and requires a parent or guardian's signature and a doctor's signature.
- The parent/guardian needs to bring the student's medication to the school. Please do not send medication to the school with the student!
- Medication **must** be provided in an **original, labeled medication container**. Pharmacists may make an extra, labeled medication container for you. Over the counter medication must be supplied in an individual dose packet. **Medication that is not supplied in the proper container will not be administered.**
- **The office must be notified of any child using an epi-pen or inhaler. A care plan will be written for these students to maximize safety.**
- When your child no longer needs to take the medication or when the school year ends (whichever comes first), the parent/guardian needs to pick up the medication. Medications will **not** be sent home with the student. Medication that is not picked up from the school by a parent/guardian will be destroyed.

We are very willing to help your child attain their optimum health so that they can learn well while at school. Please help us to handle medication safety by following the above steps. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office or Panhandle Health Services at 245-4556.

COMMUNICATION OF CONCERNS

Parents and students may have concerns, questions, or even complaints that only school personnel can answer. It is strongly encouraged that you contact us as soon as any concern develops; please do not wait until the concern becomes a problem. The first person to contact when a concern arises is the teacher. Teachers can be contacted by placing a call to the office or through email. The teacher will return your call and arrange an appointment to visit with you if needed or requested. Teachers will not be excused from their room of students to either talk or see anyone while class is in session. The principal should be contacted only after areas of concern have been discussed with the teacher. The principal, teacher, and parent(s) will then meet to discuss the concern if necessary.

BEHAVIOR

UpRiver School emphasizes the *Panther Pride* which include Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Resilient, and Be Ready to Learn. Our behavior expectations are included in the Appendix as is our Behavior/Consequence Matrix. Staff intentionally and routinely teach students these behavior expectations. We hold our students to these high expectations to create a safe, respectful learning environment for our school.

Students earn Panther Paws for meeting and exceeding school rules. These may be exchanged for classroom and/or school incentives. Students also have the opportunity to earn recognition for monthly awards around identified character traits.

Students who do not follow the *Panther Pride* expectations will earn consequences for their choices and have opportunities for relearning and practicing appropriate expectations. Consequences may include but are not limited to: time outs, restricted privileges, loss of recess, restitution, problem-solving conference, behavior contract, detention, in-school suspension, and out of school suspension. Parents/Guardians will be contacted when a student receives a suspension.

BUS RULES AND EXPECTATIONS (See Board Policy)

1. While waiting for the bus, stand in an orderly line. Do not engage in horseplay as the bus approaches the bus stop. DO NOT move toward the door until it is opened and your bus driver motions for you to enter. When exiting the bus, do not stand up until the bus comes to a complete stop AND the door is opened.
2. Once the bus is in motion, you cannot leave your seat. Please do not even ask.
3. Unless you have prior written approval from your school, you cannot be dropped off anywhere except your designated stop.
4. Follow directions of the bus driver the FIRST time given.
5. Keep all body parts and personal belongings out of the aisle. Do not extend your arms, head, or any other objects out of the windows.
6. Sit correctly, facing forward in your seat. Do not turn around or sit sideways.
7. Respect the rights and safety of others. Keep your hands and feet to yourself and do not throw or pass objects. Do not harass or call other students names.
8. Weapons, fire products, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, bad language, obscene gestures, or ANY controlled substance will not be tolerated on the bus.
9. Any animal, nuisance item, or object regarded as possibly dangerous is not allowed on the bus.
10. No food or beverages (except water) are to be consumed on the bus.
11. For safety reasons, the school bus driver has the option to prohibit the use or confiscate electronic communication devices (ECD) if they become disruptive or annoying. Passing an ECD to other passengers or taking pictures with any device is forbidden at all times. The driver may use their

discretion in returning the confiscated device to the student at the end of the route, or require parents to retrieve the devices from the Transportation Supervisor.

****Students who will need transportation to a location other than home (such as daycare, etc.) will need to fill out a “Special Request for Two Address Busing”. This form can be completed in either the office or at the Transportation Department. Only one Two Address Busing is allowed per student. We understand there are times that your student may need to ride a bus other than their normal bus or “Two Address Bus”. Should this happen, please contact the school office and arrangements will be made for “Emergency Busing”.**

BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS, & ITEMS FROM HOME

Bicycles, scooters, and skateboards are permitted on campus but are to be dismounted and walked on the school grounds before and after school. We provide a bicycle stand but the school is not responsible for lost or stolen items, so make sure your child has the equipment necessary to secure their bicycle, scooter, or skateboard. We encourage parents to have their children wear helmets when riding to school.

Unless brought to school specifically for “Show and Tell” or other specified class project/assignments, please refrain from allowing students to bring personal items from home. This includes footballs, basketballs, toys, etc. or items to play with at recess. Unfortunately, there are times when an item gets lost, the item causes disagreements on the playground, or it causes a distraction to learning when brought to the classroom. If students bring items that were not requested for the class, those items will be kept in the office or with the teacher for students to take home with them at the end of the day. No ammunition, toy guns, squirt guns, sling shots, fireworks, peashooters, etc., will be permitted in school (See Board Policy on Discipline). For water bottle guidelines-See Board Policy.

STUDENT DRESS CODE (See Board Policy)

Student dress and personal appearance shall not disrupt or distract from the educational environment of the school or tend to diminish instructional effectiveness or be hazardous to the health and safety of others.

Dress guidelines include:

- Footwear will be worn at all times. For safety reasons, slippers and flip-flops are strongly discouraged.
 - In winter, boots will not be allowed as appropriate footwear for Physical Education. Please be sure students bring appropriate shoes to participate.
- Hats, visors, bandanas are worn only outside of the building.
- In winter, for safety purposes:
 - Shorts are not permitted without cold weather gear underneath
 - Capris or short pants will not be permitted unless exposed skin is covered by socks or cold weather gear.
- Torso and undergarments should not be exposed.
- Clothing that has hate speech or refers to gangs, drugs, alcohol/tobacco, sex, violence, and innuendos of obscene behavior or inappropriate school behavior should remain at home.
- Any student wearing an item of clothing which causes distraction will be asked to wear a provided shirt over their attire or required to contact home for alternate clothing.

COLD WEATHER AND RECESS

Children are required to go outside for recess, weather permitting. Please do not send a note requesting that a student stay in at recess unless absolutely necessary. Recess periods are only 15-20 minutes long and children need this time to relax away from the classroom. As a general rule, if a child is well enough to be in school, they are well enough to go out for recess.

Please prepare your child for the temperatures of an Idaho winter by dressing him/her properly with a heavy coat, hat, boots, and gloves or mittens. The rule of thumb for young children is to dress them in one or more layer of clothing than an adult would wear in the same conditions. (HealthyChildren.org)

Students are required to have gloves, snow pants, jacket, and snow boots to be able to play in the snow. Boots should be a water proof boot for puddle areas and to avoid cold and wet feet. If a student does not have these, they may be required to stay on the paved area of the playground to ensure that they do not get wet or excessively cold.

POWER OUTAGES

If unable to contact the school during a power outage, please try 208-245-3066.

SNOW DAYS

There may be days during the winter when it is not safe for our buses to transport children. If you suspect that school might be cancelled due to weather conditions, please view local television stations: KREM – Channel 2, KXLY – Channel 4, or KHQ – Channel 6. Information will also be posted on KOFE 1240 radio. They begin broadcasting school closure information at 5:30am. The district notification system, Skylert, will also be utilized to inform families of school closures or emergency information.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES/CELL PHONES (See Board Policy)

In elementary classrooms, electronic devices must be turned off, out of sight, and not on their person for the duration of the school day. Student devices may be in lockers, backpacks, and checked in with the office or teacher. Students are responsible for the electronic communications devices they bring to the school. The District shall not be responsible for loss, theft, or destruction of electronic communication devices brought onto school property.

Devices are defined as: All personal electronic communication devices including, but not limited to, the following personal devices and accessories used for communication and entertainment: cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, Bluetooth (wireless) earbuds/headphones, video recording devices, personal digital assistants (PDA), iPods, iPads, laptop computers, tablet computers and other similar electronic devices.

Cell phones are distractions for students and often for their classmates as well. In order to protect the student learning environment, violations will be as follows:

First Offense-Phone call to parent/guardian & phone is placed under office supervision for the day.

Second Offense-Phone call to parent/guardian & phone is placed in the office until parent/guardian claims it.

Third Offense-Phone call to parent/guardian & phone is placed in the office until a parent/guardian claims it. The student will use a check in/out system each day.

BREAKFAST/LUNCH INFORMATION

Breakfast is offered from 7:30 to 7:55 a.m. and is free to all students. An adult breakfast is \$3.55. Student lunches are \$4.40 for K-5th. Adult lunches are \$5.65 each. The reduced meal cost is \$0.40. If your child wishes to purchase only milk, the cost is \$1.10. Meal credits may be purchased by the day, week, or month from the kitchen staff or through the District website E-funds link (sd41.org). Charges are allowed up to a maximum of 5 days.

Application forms are available in the office for free or reduced meals. Please fill out a form if you think you may qualify. Menus are sent home on the first of each month and are also available on our website.

FOOD ITEMS FROM HOME

UpRiver School recognizes the importance of its students maintaining and demonstrating a healthy lifestyle. Our suggestion is that for classroom celebrations that healthy snacks and drinks are brought to share with

classmates instead of chips, candy, etc. We also encourage students to bring healthy foods and drinks when choosing cold lunch instead of hot lunch. Students who bring a lunch from home will not have access to a refrigerator. Please consider this as you are preparing your child's lunch. Unless it is packed in a school lunch, energy drinks will not be permitted for student consumption.

TELEPHONE USE

Children need permission from their teacher in order to use the school phone. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR STUDENTS KNOW HOW THEY ARE TO GET HOME AFTER SCHOOL EACH DAY. Discussing after school plans with your children before leaving home each morning allows us to keep phone lines available for emergency use.

Permission to call home will be given only significant illness/injury and other emergencies. Student cell phones may be used before and after school.

LOCKERS

Second through Fifth grade students may be assigned a locker. Lockers are the property of the school and may be inspected at any time. Students are not allowed to change lockers without the teacher's permission.

LOST AND FOUND

Labeling your personal property will help us return lost items to their rightful owner. If you lose something, please report it to your teacher and the office. Those who find property should turn it in to the red bin marked as "Lost and Found" by the school office.

Please do not leave your clothes and/or valuables in the restrooms, classrooms, or on the playground. Turn money or valuables in to your teacher or the office. Unauthorized borrowing is discouraged. At various times throughout the year, the lost and found items will be displayed for students and parents to check. Any unclaimed items will be donated or discarded at the end of the semester and school year.

HOMEWORK

Teachers are encouraged only to assign homework which is purposeful, meaningful, and of high quality. Please contact your child's teacher for his/her homework policy and expectations.

TEXTBOOKS, LIBRARY BOOKS, & CHROMEBOOKS

Items that are checked out to students become their responsibility. Lost or damaged books must be paid for and students will be assessed the cost for repairs or replacements. Library check out privileges may be revoked.

PARENTS, VISITORS, & VOLUNTEERS

Parent involvement is crucial to a child's success at school. We encourage and need parent, relative, and community volunteers in our classrooms and during activities. We also have a PTO that helps greatly in our school. If you are interested in becoming involved as a volunteer at UpRiver School, please call our office at 245-3650. **For safety reasons, all volunteers are required to complete the "Volunteer Form" and provide the office with a copy of their driver's license.** When volunteering, volunteers must sign in and out each time they enter the building.

ALL parents, visitors, and volunteers MUST first check in/check out at the office before entering the school halls, classroom, or playground and wear a visitor/volunteer badge supplied by the office. This badge must be returned when leaving the building.

STUDENT ADMISSION BIRTH CERTIFICATES (See Board Policy):

By law, a copy of your child's state certified birth certificate or other reliable proof of student identity and birthdate must be provided upon enrollment. Parents have 30 days to provide the birth certificate after enrolling

their student. In compliance with Idaho Code 18-4511 (Missing Child Reporting Act), we must report the failure to obtain a birth certificate to the Benewah County Sheriff's Office. Students must meet State of Idaho age requirements to gain admission to school. To be eligible for kindergarten, a student must be 5 years old on or before September 1. To be eligible for first grade, a student must be 6 years old on or before September 1.

STUDENT INSURANCE

The school is not responsible for injuries that may occur at school. It is possible to obtain inexpensive insurance to cover your child during school hours. Online information and enrollment is available at www.studentinsurance-kk.com.

STUDENT RECORDS (See Board Policy)

St. Maries Joint School District No. 41 keeps official records on all students. Parents have the rights to read or obtain copies of their children's records. Please call the office for specific information regarding accessing student records.

TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE

The District recognizes that Internet resources are integral to the learning environment. Students are offered supervised access to the School District No. 41 network and the Internet for educational purposes. Filters are in place to block inappropriate content and student activity on the Internet will be monitored through adult supervision. School technologies, including access to the Internet, are to be used in a responsible, ethical, and legal manner. If you choose not to give your child permission to access the Internet, the child will still be responsible for appropriate and ethical use of technologies.

- Students must understand the importance of Internet safety and not share personal information about themselves or others.
- Students should be courteous and respectful and should not use inappropriate language.
- Students should demonstrate ethical behavior and not copy someone else's work without permission.
- Students should not delete, copy, or change files that belong to others without permission.
- Students should respect District computers and the network and should not change computer settings or cause damage to school computers.

Inappropriate use of school technologies will result in disciplinary action including the loss of privileges, conduct referral, or other disciplinary action as described in the student handbook.

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION (See Board Policy)

Board policy and District rules and regulations list the following causes, but are not limited to, for temporary suspension of elementary students: willful disobedience, disruptive behavior; vandalism; vulgarity or profanity; use or possession of alcohol or tobacco; theft; carrying a weapon or dangerous object; throwing snow or ice; acts affecting health & safety; harassment; fighting; threats (direct, indirect, written, oral and/or visual).

THREATS

1. Verbal threats or comments of physical harm/injury by one student to another will not be tolerated at any grade level. Depending on the nature of the incident, out of school suspension and police contact are possible. **This is not a joking or teasing matter.**
2. Any verbal threats or comments about harming the school or school property will not be tolerated. Depending on the nature of the incident, out of school suspension and police contact are possibilities. Again, this is not a joking or teasing matter. Please remind your child to tell an adult if he/she is being teased or being called names. We can solve the situation, but we need to know.

3. Bullying, Hazing, Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Intimidation, or Menacing Behavior of any kind will not be tolerated.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

Building principals and the Superintendent have responsibility for investigations concerning hazing, harassment, intimidation, bullying, or menacing. The investigator(s) shall be a neutral party having had no involvement in the complaint presented.

Any student, employee, or third party who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this Policy or feels he/she has been a victim of hazing, harassment, intimidation, bullying, cyber bullying or menacing in violation of this Policy shall immediately report his/her concerns.

Harassment Complaint Form can be found in Board Policy at www.sd41.org.

4. Board Policy outlines provisions regarding weapons. If a student accidentally brings something to school that he/she realizes should not be at school, the student needs to tell an adult as soon as possible. All toy weapons are to stay off of school grounds and buses.

SEX OFFENDERS (See Board Policy)

We are committed to creating a safe and respectful environment. Visitors are welcome on school property provided their presence will not be disruptive. Visitors, including parents, must check in at the office. Civility and orderly conduct is expected among all individuals on school property. Pursuant to Idaho Code Section 18-8329, registered sex offenders only have limited rights to enter or be near school property. Additional information can be obtained from the School District office at 208-245-2579 or through the Department of Probation/Parole.

SEX EDUCATION OPT-IN POLICY (See Board Policy)

In the case of any planned sex education, any parent or legal guardian must sign a permission slip in order to have his or her student participate. Alternative educational activities shall be provided for those excused.

POLICIES AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE:

Section 504, Title VI, Title VII, and Title IX Discrimination and Sexual Harassment

St. Maries Joint School District No. 41 hereby advises students, parents, employees and the general public it does not discriminate on the basis of handicap (Section 504), race, color, or national origin (Title VI and Title VII) or sex (Title VI, Title VII, and Title IX), and offers employment and educational opportunities without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, or handicap. Grievance procedures are available to interested persons and inquiries regarding this non-discrimination policy may be directed below:

Section 504 Coordinator (Handicap Discrimination)

Suzanne Siekawitch

P.O. Box 384, 240 S. 11th Street, St. Maries, Idaho 83861

Telephone: (208) 245-2579

Title IX Coordinator (Sexual Discrimination)

Dr. Teresa Rensch, Superintendent of Schools

P.O. Box 384, 240 S. 11th Street, St. Maries, Idaho 83861

Telephone: (208) 245-2579

See Title IX Grievance Reporting Form.

Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act

St. Maries Joint School District No. 41 does not discriminate on the basis of handicap condition in admission or access to its programs and activities. No person shall be denied employment solely because of any physical, mental or medical impairment, which is related to the person's ability to engage in the activities involved in the job for which application has been made. An impartial hearing procedure is available to students and their parents to resolve differences dealing with educational services available under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

Title VI (Section 601) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

As required by the Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, St. Maries Joint School District No. 41 does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, or national origin.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Title VII prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of color, national origin, and sex; therefore, sexual harassment is job discrimination. As required by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, St. Maries Joint School District No. 41 does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, or national origin.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

As required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, St. Maries Joint School District No. 41 does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the educational programs or activities that it provides. The District does not discriminate in employment of persons on the basis of sex, including recruitment, appointment, salary and benefits.

Title IX also protects students from unlawful sexual harassment in all of the school's programs and activities whether they take place in the facilities of the school, on a school bus, in a school's class, at a class training program sponsored by the school at any other location, or elsewhere in relation to the school or a school-related activity. Title IX protects both male and female students from sexual harassment, regardless of who the harasser is. The District will not tolerate any conduct against students in violation of these requirements and disciplinary action will be strictly enforced against all individuals who engage in prohibited conduct.

Sexual Harassment is defined as any unwanted sexual advances, including a request for sexual favors, or verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature which alarms or annoys you, interferes with your privacy or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment. Examples of Sexual Harassment include, but are not limited to: telling offensive jokes, questioning or commenting on someone's sexuality, displaying sexually explicit photographs, spreading sexual rumors, making comments about someone's body or attire or standing or rubbing against a person, making suggestive noises, gestures or comments.

A hostile environment is one that interferes with one's work performance and may include such events as verbal comments, displaying sexual materials and unwanted sexual contact. To be illegal, a hostile environment must be severe and pervasive, an isolated remark, or event is not sufficient to constitute a hostile environment. The incident must also be unwelcome.

The District is responsible under Title IX to respond to written or verbal reports of sexual harassment and sex discrimination, and all staff must report incidents of sexual harassment or sexual discrimination to appropriate administrative personnel. Title IX prohibits retaliation against anyone who has made a complaint, testified, assisted or participated in any manner in any investigation, proceeding or hearing relating to a complaint of sex discrimination and sexual harassment.

The District's official responsible for the coordination of activities relating to discrimination on the basis of sex is Superintendent Dr. Teresa Rensch. She can provide information on Title IX, including information about her position as a coordinator, complaint procedures and district policies to any student or employee who feels that

his or her rights under Title IX have been violated by the District or its officials. In addition, any student or employee may make an inquiry or complaint directly to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights.

Under federal law, any school receiving federal money is required to have a policy against sexual discrimination and notify employees, students and parents of this policy. The District's policy against Sexual Harassment (Policy No. 502.12), the Form to report Sexual Harassment (502.12.2), the District Title IX Policy (Policy No. 502.12.1) can all be located on the District's website, in any District Administrator or Counselor's Office or in the student handbook.

APPENDIX

St. Maries Joint School District #41 2026-2027 Calendar

2026

August					
M	T	W	TH	F	
3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	17 - Secretaries Return/Buildings Open
24	25	26	27	28	25-27 Teacher Prof Dev/Work Days
31					First Day of School - August 31 Full Day - No Early Release
September					
M	T	W	TH	F	
	1	2	3	4	3,4 - No School
7	8	9	10	11	7 - Labor Day
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30			14,21,28 Early Release
October					
M	T	W	TH	F	
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	5,12,19,26 Early Release
19	20	21	22	23	29 - End of Qtr 1
26	27	28	29	30	30 - No School, 1/2 Tchr Wk Day, 1/2 Tchr PD
November					
M	T	W	TH	F	
2	3	4	5	6	5 - PK-8 After School PT Conferences
9	10	11	12	13	6 - No Students, PK-12 PT Conference, 9-12 E-Day
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	23-27 No School Thanksgiving Break
30					2,9,16,30 Early Release
December					
M	T	W	TH	F	
	1	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	18	7,14 Early Release
21	22	23	24	25	12/21 - 1/1 No School Christmas Break
28	29	30	31		

2027

January					
M	T	W	TH	F	
				1	12/21 - 1/1 No School Christmas Break
4	5	6	7	8	4 - Return from Christmas Break
11	12	13	14	15	21 - End of Qtr 2
18	19	20	21	22	22 - No School, 1/2 Tchr Wk Day, 1/2 Tchr PD
25	26	27	28	29	4,11,18,25 Early Release
February					
M	T	W	TH	F	
1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
15	16	17	18	19	15 - No School, Presidents' Day
22	23	24	25	26	1,8,22 Early Release
March					
M	T	W	TH	F	
1	2	3	4	5	25 - PK-12 After School Open House
8	9	10	11	12	26 - End of Qtr 3
15	16	17	18	19	26 - No Students, PK-12 PT Conference; 9-12 E-Day
22	23	24	25	26	1,8,15,22 Early Release
29	30	31			3/29 - 4/2 Spring Break
April					
M	T	W	TH	F	
			1	2	3/29 - 4/2 Spring Break
5	6	7	8	9	5 - No School, 1/2 Tchr Wk Day, 1/2 Tchr PD
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	30	12,19,26 Early Release
May					
M	T	W	TH	F	
3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	
24	25	26	27	28	3,10,17,24 Early Release
31					31 - No School Memorial Day
June					
M	T	W	TH	F	
	1	2	3	4	4 - Last Day of School
7	8	9	10	11	7 - Teacher Work Day

	First and Last Day of School Instruction
	No School
	Non Instructional Contract Days
	Paid Holidays
	After School PT Conferences
	PK-12 PT Conf / 9-12 E-Day
	Early Release Mondays

Panther Pride Behavior Expectations

	Hallways	Multi-Purpose Room/ Cafeteria	Bathrooms	Multi-Purpose Room/ Assembly	Inside Recess	Office
Voice Level	0 = No Voice	2 = Inside Voice	1 = Whisper	As Appropriate	2 = Inside Voice	2= Inside Voice
Be Respectful	✓ Give others their personal space. ✓ Close lockers softly.	✓ Wash your hands before you eat. ✓ Keep hands on your own tray/food. ✓ Use your manners. ✓ Choose a spot to eat and stay in one place.	✓ Give others and yourself privacy. ✓ Wash hands after using the bathroom. ✓ Take turns at the sink.	✓ Keep hands and feet to yourself. ✓ Clap after a performance.	✓ Take turns. ✓ Play fairly. ✓ Include others. ✓ Choose one play area: - o Switch room – quiet games, coloring - o Library – computers, reading - o Multi-Purpose Room – game of teacher's choice	✓ Wait quietly & patiently. ✓ Stay in student area of the office.
Be Responsible	✓ Stop, listen, and follow directions promptly. ✓ Keep your locker clean and organized. ✓ Help keep hallways clean.	✓ Use walking feet. ✓ Hold your tray with two hands. ✓ Clean up after yourself. ✓ Help keep the area clean. ✓ Raise your hand to be excused from the table.	✓ Flush the toilet. ✓ Use only the toilet paper and paper towels you need. ✓ Clean up after yourself. ✓ Only 2 people in the restroom at a time.	✓ Stop, listen, and follow directions promptly. ✓ Stay seated with your class. ✓ Enter and exit quickly and quietly.	✓ Clean up materials and area. ✓ Listen and follow directions promptly. ✓ Play safely.	✓ Always have your office pass. ✓ Quickly complete your task and head back to your classroom. ✓ Only office staff open guest doors.
Be Ready to Learn	✓ Be respectful of others' learning. ✓ Quickly and quietly move to your destination.	✓ Be supportive of others. ✓ Kindly remind others to use their manners. ✓ Check the chart for dismissal times.	✓ Quickly and quietly use the bathroom and return to your destination.	✓ Listen attentively. ✓ Participate appropriately. ✓ Allow others to listen and learn. ✓ Support our speakers/guests.	✓ Show good sportsmanship. ✓ Quickly and quietly move to your destination.	✓ Be respectful and courteous to staff and other students in the office. ✓ Quickly return to your class.
Be Resilient	✓ Walk quietly even when excited or headed to recess/lunch ✓ Follow teacher and staff directions	✓ Resolve conflict: take a deep breath, calm down, Kelso's wheel, ask a grown-up for help ✓ Clean up messes without complaint ✓ Wait patiently in the lunch line	✓ Inform a grown-up if the bathroom is a mess ✓ Wait patiently for your turn if the restroom is full	✓ Remain focused and calm ✓ Follow teacher/staff directions even if they are new or different ✓ Focus on what you enjoyed about the assembly/presentation	✓ Resolve conflicts: take a deep breath, calm down, Kelso's wheel, ask a grown-up for help ✓ Include others ✓ Try again if you don't succeed at something	✓ Follow directions of office staff. ✓ Treat items in the office with respect and 'treat others' with kindness.



Panther Pride Playground Rules

	Tire Swing	Swings	Playground Equipment	Slides	Monkey Bars/Spider	Basketball	4 Square & P6 Ball	Snow
Be Respectful	- Respect riders' wishes. - Count to 60. - Stay away from swinging area. - K-3rd students keep feet inside tire. 4th-6th students may put feet outside tire. 1 pusher	- Swing straight. - Stay back and leave plenty of room. - Push from behind. - Stay away from swinging area if not swinging.	- Keep paths open without blocking. - Allow others a turn and share...	- One person at a time. - Go down feet first, on your bottom.	- Leave room for others. - One person at a time on the ladder. - Go across one way, one at a time.	- Follow the agreed upon rules of the game. - Students not following rules or showing good sportsmanship will be restricted from playing.	- Follow the agreed upon rules of the game. - Students not following rules or showing good sportsmanship will be restricted from playing.	- Respect others' creations. - Walk around icy areas. - Keep snow on the ground.
Be Responsible	- K-3rd-3 people at a time. 4-6th-2 people at a time... - Line up behind the pole. - Stop to get off the swing. 1 pusher per swing	- Sit on the swing. - Stop to get off the swing. - Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. - Use equipment as intended. 1 pusher per swing - Keep the drainage rock where it belongs and on the ground.	- Climb down off the high platform instead of jumping. - Enter the equipment from a designated entry point. - Keep the drainage rock where it belongs and on the ground. - Keep hands and feet off of others.	- Keep hands and feet to yourself. - Keep woodchips, mud, or water off the slides. - Keep the wood chips and drainage rock where it belongs and on the ground.	- Keep hands and feet to yourself. - Stay in a seated position when on top. - Use hands when climbing on the spider.	- Even number of players. - Use the equipment and pole as intended. - Keep hands off basketball rim and net.	- You are out if 2 or more players say you are out. - In 4 Square player 1 serves to player 3. - P6 ball has the middle crown serve to any other area. - All plays must be a hit/push not a grab/catch/hold.	- Dress for the weather: boots, snow pants, gloves are required to play in the field. - Enjoy the library, classroom, or alternate setting if not dressed appropriately.
Be Ready to Learn	- Sit on the tire. - Keep gravel in box. - Remind others of rules.	Remind others of rules.	- Remind others of rules. - Use the field for chase/tag games.	Remind others of rules.	Remind others of rules.	- Show good sportsmanship. - Remind others of rules.	- Show good sportsmanship. - Remind others of rules.	Remind others of rules.
Be Resilient	- Resolve conflicts: take a deep breath, calm down, Kelso's wheel, ask a grown-up for help - Include others - Try again if you don't succeed at something - Be prepared for some of the areas to be restricted to maintain supervision.							

When the bell rings/whistle blows: Stop playing, walk on the blacktop, put away equipment (last person who had it), and show line basics when standing in line.



UpRiver School

Behavior/Consequence Matrix

Behavior			
Teacher/Staff Managed	Teacher/Staff Managed	Office Managed	Office Managed
Tier I	Tier II	Tier III	Tier IV
Disruption Noncompliance Disruptive Horse Play Running in Building Loud Voice/Yelling Talking out of turn Off-Task Unnecessary Noise Name-calling Insulting/taunting Start/Spread Gossip Threat to exclude/excluding Lying Negative comments/mean messages Breaking lunch/recess/hallway rules Littering Chewing Gum/Eating/Drinking without permission	Defiance Verbal abuse/disrespect (peer or teacher) Swearing Stealing Misuse/Abuse of School Property Cheating Work Refusal/Missing Assignments Inappropriate Dress/Language Spitting-not on others Hitting/Kicking/Slamming doors/walls/etc... Leaving Class without Permission Low-level property damage (items belonging to student e.g. pencil, pen, paper etc.) Cell Phone 1 & 2 (Referral)/Technology violation/internet misuse Repeated Tier I Behavior that does not respond to Tier I consequences (3x in a day)	Aggressive Touching (push/kick/stomp/spitting on others) Using item as weapon (putting students in harms way) Threat of harm toward self/others Touch/Hit Private Parts Harassment(racial/sexual)/Bullying/cyber-bullying Overt Defiance/Disrespect (continued, extreme) Property Destruction (not including pens/pencils/paper) Theft/Forgery Leaving School without Permission Cell Phone 3rd violation/Technology violation (3 in a quarter)/internet misuse: adult content Exposure/Pantsing Reference to weapons or acts of violence (conversation, writing, pictures) Repeated Tier I or II Behavior that does not respond to consequences (3x in a day-documentation required)	Extreme property damage Drug, alcohol, tobacco, vape use/possession Hitting/kicking/punching/fighting Threatening with a weapon Weapon possession/use
Response/Consequences			
Redirect the Behavior Reteach and Practice Proximity Control Private conference (hallway or class) Modified Seating In-class reset Opportunity to Apologize/Make it Right Body Break Make a Kelso's Wheel Choice	Tier I Response Make-up Work/Homework Academy Loss of logical privilege/written reflection Detention Clean up 5-minute reset/Out of Class Refocus Make a Kelso's Wheel Choice Student-Teacher Conference (during student time-recess/lunch/free time) *Communication home by teacher/student is required.	Loss of Privileges (recess/lunch) Detention Suspension from specials class (e.g. PE, Library, etc.) Reteach and Practice Office time-out Principal/student/teacher meeting Parent Conference Behavior Contract In school or out of school suspension *Office Referral required *Parent contact by admin *Skyward documentation by admin	In school or out of school suspension/expulsion Behavior Contract/Plan Safety Plan Parent Conference Law enforcement as necessary *Office Referral required *Parent contact by admin *Skyward documentation by admin



Child's Name: _____

IDAHO SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS EXEMPTION

In the event of a disease outbreak, a child exempted from Idaho school immunization requirements may be excluded from school for the duration of the outbreak. Please check the box(es) below, and date each line regarding all vaccine-preventable diseases for which an exemption is claimed.

- | | | | |
|--|-------|--|-------|
| ☐ Diphtheria (DTaP, Tdap, Td) | _____ | ☐ Hepatitis B | _____ |
| | Date | | Date |
| ☐ Tetanus (DTaP, Tdap, Td) | _____ | ☐ Hepatitis A | _____ |
| | Date | | Date |
| ☐ Pertussis (Whooping Cough) (DTaP, Tdap) | _____ | ☐ Meningococcal | _____ |
| | Date | | Date |
| ☐ Measles (MMR) | _____ | ☐ Varicella (Chickenpox) | _____ |
| | Date | | Date |
| ☐ Mumps (MMR) | _____ | ☐ Varicella Disease History: My child has had chickenpox but was not diagnosed by a licensed healthcare professional. | _____ |
| | Date | | Date |
| ☐ Rubella (German Measles) (MMR) | _____ | ☐ All required immunizations | _____ |
| | Date | | Date |
| ☐ Polio | _____ | | |
| | Date | | |

- ☐ I decline to provide details regarding my child's exemption status. NOTE: Your child will be considered exempt from all required school immunizations.

☐ MEDICAL EXEMPTION (This exemption requires the signature of a licensed physician.)

As the child's physician, I certify that the physical condition of this child is such that the immunization(s) checked above would endanger the health of the child.

- ☐ This medical exemption is permanent.
- ☐ This medical exemption is temporary. Duration of temporary exemption: ____/____/____

I hereby request that this child be exempted from the Immunization Requirements for Idaho School Children (IDAPA 16.02.15) due to a medical condition for which immunizations are contraindicated.

Name of Physician (PRINT) Signature of Physician Medical License # Date

As the child's parent/guardian, I understand that in the event of a disease outbreak my child may be excluded from school for the duration of the outbreak. By signing this form, I am not waiving any of my child's rights to an education under Article 9, Section 1 of the Idaho Constitution if my child is excluded from school during a disease outbreak.

Name of Parent/Guardian (PRINT) Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

Full Name of Exempted Child (PRINT) Child's Date of Birth (Month, Day, Year)

☐ RELIGIOUS/OTHER EXEMPTION

As the child's parent/guardian, I am exempting for religious or other reasons. I understand that in the event of a disease outbreak my child may be excluded from school for the duration of the outbreak. By signing this form, I am not waiving any of my child's rights to an education under Article 9, Section 1 of the Idaho Constitution if my child is excluded from school during a disease outbreak.

Name of Parent/Guardian (PRINT) Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

Full Name of Exempted Child (PRINT) Child's Date of Birth (Month, Day, Year)

OPTIONAL: Parents/guardians may include a signed written statement regarding religious/other exemptions on the back/Page 2 of this document.

OPTIONAL STATEMENT:

As the child's parent/guardian, I exempt my child from school immunizations for the following reason(s):

Name of Parent/Guardian (PRINT)

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

St. Maries Joint School District No. 41
P. O. Box 384 - 240 S. 11th Street
St. Maries, ID 83861
Telephone: 208 245-2579
Fax: 208 245-3970
Website: <http://www.sd41.org>



August 14, 2025

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are pleased to notify you that in accordance with the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015*, you have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's teacher. Specifically, you may request the following:

- Whether the teacher has met Idaho State Department of Education's qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualifications of licensing criteria have been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and, if so, their qualifications.
- You will be notified in writing if your child has been assigned or has been taught for more than four consecutive weeks by a teacher who has not met the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) highly qualified criteria.
- Information regarding any State or local education agency policy regarding student participation in mandated assessments and include a policy, procedure, or parental right to opt the child out of such assessment.

Please be assured that St. Maries School District #41 is dedicated to providing students with a quality education. The information regarding the qualifications of your child's teacher and/or the classroom paraprofessional may be obtained from the principal of the school your child attends.

Sincerely,

T.J. Blackwell
Federal Programs Director
St. Maries School District #41

UpRiver School Title I Program Family Involvement Plan

The St. Maries School District Title I Program is committed to family involvement and strives to create a partnership between home and school that promotes academic success for every UpRiver student. We believe in the importance of communication between teachers and parents. UpRiver communicates with parents on a regular basis through parent teacher conferences and quarterly reports. A Title I Building Leadership Team (BLT) is established to advocate for parental involvement and provide input for the Title I Program. Parents are asked to annually assess the Title I Program and survey results are used to improve the quality of our Title I Program.

UpRiver School Title I Program School-Parent Compact

UpRiver staff:

- believes that each child can learn and will be prepared to teach to the needs of each child in order to meet state achievements standards.
- maintains open lines of communication with students, parents, and the classroom teacher.
- motivates and encourages your child to practice academics at home by providing materials to enhance literacy.

Parent/Guardian are encouraged to support their child by:

- seeing that their child attends school regularly, is on time, and completes daily homework.
- providing a healthy home environment that encourages their child to be successful in school.
- promoting positive attitudes about school.

Student is encouraged to:

- believe that he/she can and will learn.
- be responsible for his/her own behavior.
- cooperate with teachers and classmates.

SIGNATURE PAGE:

Please return to your child's teacher by the end of September. Thank you!

Dear Student and Parent/Guardian:

Welcome to another new and exciting school year here at UpRiver! Part of our school year begins with the discussion of the student handbook. This helps students understand the expectations that allow for our school to run smoothly. Each teacher specifically goes over our Panther Pride behavior plan with our students.

We require each student to sign along with their parents/guardians, signifying that they have reviewed the handbook. Should you have any questions about the handbook, please contact your child's teacher or the office at 208-245-3650.

Thank you!

T.J. Blackwell
Principal

This signature form indicates that both the student and parent/guardian have reviewed the handbook and understand all expectations and rules posted in the handbook.

Name of Student (Printed)

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date