SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY 2026 - 2027

“HOME OF THE WOLF PUPS”
K-5TH



STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK

SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY

“Committed To Excellence”

Bright key
A Community Collaboration Unlocking Every Child's Potential
Selma Street
2015 ~ Present



2016 - Present

ALLIANCE FOR A HEALTHIER GENERATION
2016-2018
Bronze

CLAS
SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION
2018

NATIONAL BETA CLUB
EST. 1934
2019 - Present

National BETA
SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION
2019-2020

National BETA
SCHOOL OF MERIT
2021-2022

National BETA
SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION
2021-2022

2022
ALL STAR
National Beta

peerhelpers
2021 ~ Present

National BETA
SCHOOL OF MERIT
2022 - 2023

SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY

“Committed To Excellence”











SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY

“Committed To Excellence”

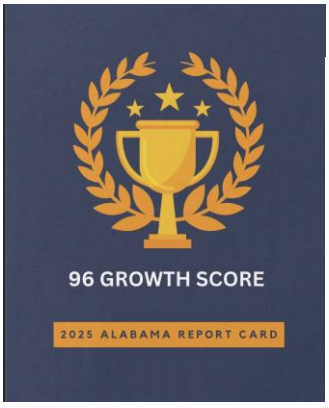










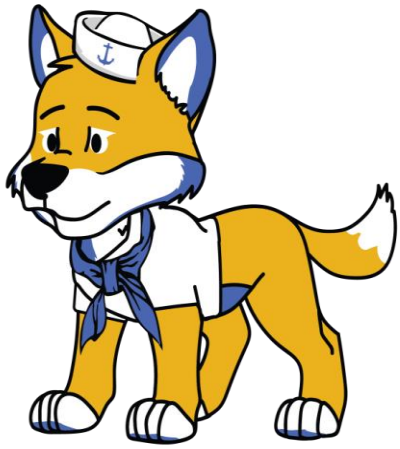




VISION STATEMENTS

THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ARE COMMITTED TO PARTNERING WITH OUR STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND THE COMMUNITY TO HELP ENSURE THAT ALL OF OUR STUDENTS MAKE PROGRESS AND ARE PREPARED UPON GRADUATING FROM SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY.

THE VISION OF DOTHAN CITY SCHOOLS IS TO HAVE EVERY LEARNER EQUIPPED WITH THE SKILLS, CONFIDENCE, AND READINESS TO LEARN, AND THRIVE TODAY AND FOR THEIR FUTURE.



MISSION STATEMENTS

THE MISSION OF SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IS TO PROMOTE *SAFETY, SUCCESS,* AND *EMPOWERMENT!* We Are SSE!

THE MISSION OF THE DOTHAN CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM IS TO PREPARE THE WHOLE CHILD TO BUILD A BETTER TOMMORW.

21st Century Learning School



Where Learning Is:

Active **~ Students will be assigned engaging work.**

Challenging **~ Teachers will hold high expectations and teach in a way that enable students to learn deeply.**

Meaningful **~ Students will learn with a purpose with application of knowledge.**

Public **~ Students will produce high-quality work for presentations to audiences.**

Collaborative **~ School stakeholders will work together to create a culture.**

Habits of Scholarship: "SUCCESS" in School and Beyond!

~Responsibility

~Perseverance

~Revision/Reflection

~Inquiry (Evidence-Based)

~Perspective

~Collaboration

~Leadership

~Service



WILDCAT CHEER

Who are we?
We are one TEAM!
Who are we?
We are Hard Workers!
Who are we?
We are Wise Scholars!
Who are we?
We are Brave Leaders!
We are WILDCATS!
We are CREW!

Selma Street Anthem (Old Town Road)

I'm gonna love My CREW, I'm gonna raise my scores, I'm gonna.. strive till I can't no more.

I'm gonna love My CREW, I'm gonna raise my scores, I'm gonna.. strive till I can't no more.

I got My CREW at my back, We're lovin' where we're at, I'm focused mind on track, and the Staff is where it's at.

Learning is my goal. I got this I know! Solving quick and fast, Selma Crew...we got that SWAG!

Can't nobody stop me from learning, Can't stop me from learnin'. Wheels in my head keep churning. They keep on churnin'.

Selma Street Elementary School

1501 West Selma Street Dothan, AL 36301

Dionne Blair **Phone: 334-794-1463**
Principal **Fax: 334-794-1464**

Dear Parents, Students, and Community,

It is with great pride that I welcome you to another fantastic year at Selma Street Elementary, Home of the Wolf Pups! The entire staff and I will continue a commitment of building strong relationships with our stakeholders, setting high expectations for our students, and maintaining consistency in our efforts. At Selma Street, we remain excited about educating children and will seek to ensure that a safe, caring environment is maintained where rich learning opportunities abound within our school.

Parents are valued partners at Selma Street Elementary. Your commitment to partnership and participation will be vital in order for our students to reach their maximum potential. We encourage you to visit the school often, consult with the staff, and participate in activities at our school. This includes but is not limited to the following: 1. Becoming actively involved in our school's Parent Teacher Organization and Bright Key activities, 2. Attending parent conferences and meetings, 3. Volunteering and participating in school events, 4. Helping with homework and reading with your child, and 5. Routinely stressing the importance and value of education within the home.

Our Student/Parent Handbook will serve as a great resource for you this school term. I encourage you to take the time to read each section of the handbook with your child and refer to it as needed throughout the year. Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding any questions or concerns that arise upon review of this handbook.

Remember, "Together Everyone Accomplishes More!" On this year, let's continue to work together as a TEAM. Through successful partnerships with our parents, community, and staff, we will ensure that all of our students make progress and are successful citizens.

Committed to Excellence!

Dionne Blair
Principal

SELMA STEET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PHILOSOPHY

The faculty and staff of Selma Street Elementary School believe that children are our most valuable resource. We believe that the school should enable each student to develop to his or her maximum ability intellectually, socially, morally, physically and emotionally.

We recognize individual differences and believe each student must be placed in a level of academic work whereby an umlimited degree of success and achievement can be attained. The curriculum will stress the educational objectives set forth in the Alabama State Course of Study and the elementary school program outlined for Dothan City Schools.

Each student shall be given the opportunity to develop and acquire the necessary understandings, skills, attitudes, appreciation, initiative, and qualities that will equip the student to participate in a successful role as a productive citizen in a democratic society.

We believe that opportunities for leadership, self-discipline, the development of positive attitudes toward self and respect for the rights and opinions of others should be provided in a safe environment by our school.

Selma Street Elementary School recognizes its role as one of obligation toward the betterment of the community. It must continually evaluate the needs of the community and promote qualities that enable children to be good citizens.

We acknowledge the importance of a continuous process in planning and evaluation designed to determine whether or not objectives are being achieved and whether or not the curriculum and the student are adapted to each other.

SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BELIEFS

- We believe that the faculty, staff, parents, and students are essential and should work together as a team,
- We believe that every child is a valued individual and is entitled to a fun, safe, and caring environment in which to learn,
- We believe every child possesses unique qualities,
- We believe every child should be challenged to reach his/her potential,
- We believe that utilizing technology enhances teaching and learning and helps to prepare them for the future,
- We believe in fostering positive character traits of lifelong learners,
- We believe in empowering our students to become a “community of responsible citizens”, and
- We believe in multiple assessment tools and accountability.

SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OBJECTIVES

- To offer opportunities for students to develop respect for others and to acquire additional understanding necessary to become responsible members of a democratic society.

- To provide a balanced curriculum that will meet an individual's need to succeed to the best of his/her ability in physical, mental, and social development by considering learning styles, abilities and backgrounds of students.

- To develop classroom environments in which a positive self-concept and appreciation for the rights of others are fostered.

- To foster a positive attitude, an interest in learning, and an appreciation for knowledge by assisting students in acquiring and developing basic academic and technological concepts and skills.

- To provide each student opportunities to develop leadership, self-discipline, and creativity.

- To provide real-world experiences for the student to develop the skills of higher-order thinking, problem solving, and independent study habits.

- To continuously evaluate and up-date the curriculum and procedures to ensure a rigor and relevant instructional program for children.

- To maintain a wholesome relationship between the community and the school by establishing and maintaining open lines of communication.

- To involve parents and other community members in a comprehensive volunteer program consisting of classroom story readers, career speakers, field trip chaperones, field day helpers, fund-raising organizers, classroom helpers, and special interest speakers.

School Calendar
2026 – 2027

Teacher PD Days	**July 30 – August 4**
Open House	**August 3**
First Day for Students	**August 5**
Progress Reports	**September 2**
Teacher Workday/Student Holiday	**September 4**
Labor Day	**September 7**
Fall Break	**October 5 – 9**
Report Cards	**October 14**
Veteran's Day Holiday	**November 11**
Progress Reports	**November 12**
Thanksgiving Holidays	**November 23 – 27**
Christmas/New Year's Holidays	**December 21 – January 4**
Teacher Workday/Student Holiday	**January 4**
Report Cards	**January 6**
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday	**January 18**
Progress Reports	**February 10**
Teacher Workday/Student Holiday	**February 15**
ACAP State Testing Grades 2nd – 5th	**March 1 – April 8**
Report Cards	**March 17**
Spring Break	**March 22 – 26**
Students Return	**March 30**
Teacher Workday/No School	**April 9**
Progress Reports	**April 21**
Last Day for Students and Report Cards	**May 25**
Last Day for Teachers	**May 26**
Memorial Day Holiday	**May 31**

177 Student Days **187 Teacher Days FACULTY AND STAFF**

FACULTY AND STAFF
2026 - 2027
Dionne Blair, Principal

Assistant Principal
Dr. Lavonda Senn

Secretary & Clerical Assistant
Denese Burt
Melissa Bohannan

Guidance Counselor
Wendy Anderson

Reading Specialist
Trevor McElderry

Kindergarten
Gene'a Mitchell
Kendra Helms - Chair
Anna Nolen
Terika Davis

First Grade
Nicole Reynolds
Misty Bradford
Destinee Buchanan
Julie Ratcliffe - Chair

Second Grade
Tamayo Riley
Kacey Kilgore
Ariel Stopper – Chair
Kelsea Keeble

Third Grade
Kimyada Granger-Hooten
Andrea Battles – Chair
Lashonda Neal
Christina Atwell

Fourth Grade
LaToya White - Chair
Madisyn Bell
Maeghan Gillon

Fifth Grade
James Perkall – Chair
Brandy Porter-McCray
Zoria Curry

Media Specialist
Mitzy Liane Martin

Resource Specialist (LINC)
Tonya Branham

Reading Intervention Teacher
Sherell Brown

Math Specialist
LaTonja Dawsey

Physical Education Coach
Vernoris Carter

Parental Involvement Specialist
Laura Hatcher

FACULTY AND STAFF
2026 - 2027

Physical Education Aide
Tiffany Huff
Jameka Oates

Nurse
Lynn Chan

Resource Teachers
Julia Lowery
TBD
TBD

Speech Pathologist
TBD

EL Teaching Assistants
Brisa Ramirez
Erika Mendola

Custodians
Adean Vinson (Head)
Isaiah Walker
Khaliah Jones

Paraprofessionals
Alexia Wilson
Karen Tidwell
Alecia Whigan

Tutors
Lee Ann Holland
Terrie Lee
Deanna Tucker
Kelli Woodham
Dr. Phyllis Medley

Computer Instructional Aide
Kendra Spurling

Art Teacher
Hollie Reeves

Child Nutrition Program
Sonya King, Lunchroom Mgr.
Sharon Smith, Asst. Lunchroom Mgr.
Cassandra Waller
Paula Ford
Jeffery Macon

Bright Key Resource Coordinator
Anne Katherine Phillips

DAILY SCHEDULE

7:00 Staff on "Morning Arrival Duty" will report for supervision of students.

7:10 Breakfast Begins.

7:15 Staff on carpool duty will report for supervision of students.

7:20 **Carpool drop-off at 7:20 at the back of the school.**

7:40 School Day Begins.

Students arriving after the tardy bell must report to the office for a tardy slip. (Parents must accompany them.)

Tardiness because of buses is not the student's fault and will not be counted against a child's record. **Note – students cannot be tardy and qualify for perfect attendance.**

Please make every effort to have your child at school on time. Also, please try to schedule doctor appointments for the afternoon. If this is not possible, a written excuse must be brought from the doctor's office upon return to school by the student.

2:25 Dismissal Prep

2:30 Dismissal Begins

NOTE: ALL STUDENTS MUST BE PICKED UP BY 3:00 P.M.

LUNCH SCHEDULE

10:25 – 10:50	KINDERGARTEN
11:00 – 11:25	2ND GRADE
11:30 – 11:55	1ST GRADE
11:40 – 12:05	5TH GRADE
12:05 – 12:30	4TH GRADE
12:10 – 12:35	3RD GRADE

PE SCHEDULE

7:50 – 8:20	Adaptive PE
8:20 – 9:05	3RD GRADE
9:05 – 9:50	4TH GRADE
9:50 – 10:35	5TH GRADE
10:40 – 11:25	1ST GRADE
11:55 – 12:40	KINDERGARTEN
12:40 – 1:25	2ND GRADE

INITIAL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

A birth certificate, verification by County Health Department, hospital record, or Bible record are acceptable records to verify birth dates for any child entering the first grade or kindergarten programs in Dothan City Schools. A child entering kindergarten, first grade or Dothan City Schools for the first time must present a certificate of immunization, certificate of measles immunization, and record of birth. Immunization cards and copies of record of birth are to be attached to the original Application for Admission and become a part of the cumulative folder.

~EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Dothan City Board of Education that no student will be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity on the basis of sex, race, religion, belief, national origin, ethnic group or disability.

~EQUAL ACCESS

Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 and the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act

• Pursuant to the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 and the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, all homeless, migratory, and LEP children must have equal access to the same free appropriate public education, including public preschool education, provided to other children and youth. Such children will be provided the opportunity to meet the same challenging state content and state student performance standards to which all students are held without being stigmatized or isolated. The enrollment of homeless, migrant, and English Learner (EL) children and youth shall not be denied or delayed due to any of the following barriers:

- Lack of birth certificate
- Lack of school records or transcripts
- Lack of immunization or health records
- Lack of proof of residency
- Lack of transportation
- Guardianship or custody requirements

~ATTENDANCE ZONES

The Dothan City Board of Education is operating under an Order of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama which sets forth attendance zones for the Dothan City Schools for which the Dothan City Board of Education is responsible for enforcing. Parents, teachers, and students must assist in the enforcement of the attendance zone so that no student will attend an overcrowded school and efficient use can be made of existing buildings and facilities. A child attending the Dothan City Schools must attend the school serving the attendance zone in which the child's custodial or legal guardian reside. No student residing outside of the Dothan City limits can attend Dothan City Schools.

If a child is residing with someone other than his custodial parent or legal guardian and the place of residence is located in an attendance zone other than the zone in which the custodial parent or legal guardian resides, proof must be submitted to the Superintendent that said place of residence is the primary or permanent residence of the child. Such proof must be submitted in a form supplied by the Superintendent that said place of residence is the primary or permanent residence of the child. Such proof must be submitted in a form supplied by the Superintendent and will be verified under oath and must be presented to and acted upon by the Dothan City Board of Education. In the event said child has a legal guardian, satisfactory proof such as a letter of guardianship must be supplied along with the verified statement. No transfer will be made or become effective until approved by the Board. This approval will only be given when verification by the Superintendent and/or Board Attorney establishes that the proposed action does not violate the requirements of the Federal Court Order.

Anonymous Alert Reporting System

Students or parents in the school community can anonymously submit any suspicious activity, bullying, or other student-related issues to a school administrator(s) using our tip line, available on our school website. You can report by visiting our school website and completing the anonymous contact form. You will receive confirmation once your report has been submitted to the school district. Alternatively, you can call the tip line at 334-685-0543.

This system is monitored between 7 AM to 5 PM during the school year. Reports submitted outside these hours or during holidays will be addressed on the next school

day. False reporting is taken very seriously and will be dealt with to the full extent of the law. This system is not intended for emergencies requiring immediate assistance. In case of an emergency, please call 911. We encourage everyone to report any critical issues. Your vigilance helps us maintain a safe and supportive school environment.

Arrival

The front lane entrance of the school will be used for bus drop-offs and pick-ups. The back of the school near the lunchroom will be used for carpool and daycare drop-offs. Social distancing practices will be instituted. Once students exit their bus or car, Duty Staff will direct students to their classrooms to be seated for breakfast. Students who eat breakfast at school should arrive before 7:30 a.m. **The instructional school day begins at 7:40 a.m**. **Students arriving after 7:40 should be accompanied to the secure location area at the front of the school by an adult.** A tardy will be recorded and a pass to class will be issued. An unexcused tardy will result in the loss of perfect attendance.

All car and daycare riders are to be dropped off at the back of the school (cafeteria side). This procedure will be strictly enforced. Selma Street Staff must be able to access the parking lot at the front of the school and report for duty at the time specified by Board Policy.

Attendance

All students enrolled in the Dothan City School System are required to be in continuous attendance and abide by the policies governing attendance as outlined by the State of Alabama and the local Board of Education. Alabama Legislative Act 93-972 requires a parent/guardian to be responsible for enrolling their children in school, ensuring that they attend school regularly, and requiring that they conduct themselves properly while in school.

School begins at 7:40 a.m. After 7:40 a.m., a student is considered tardy. Students are considered present when they are in attendance for 3 1⁄2 hours each day. Students are considered absent if they check in after 11:30 or check out before 11:30.

Excused tardies do not count against perfect attendance. **Unexcused tardies and early check-outs will count against the student's attendance.**

Parents are encouraged to make medical and dental appointments outside of school hours. **Late check-ins and early check-outs are discouraged because of the instructional time that the student will miss.** However, if appointments are scheduled during the school day, parents should try to **give the school advanced notice.**

Any student leaving school during the school day must check out in the Office of the Principal. **A written excuse from the doctor or dentist should be brought to the office when the student checks in during the school day, or on the first day the student returns to school.** Students arriving late or picked up early will be considered unexcused if a doctor's excuse is not submitted. A student must be in attendance for at least 3 1⁄2 hours to be counted in attendance for the day.

Students who have appointments scheduled during the school day will not be excused for a whole day of attendance (example: student has a 10:00 am dentist appointment and does not come to school for the entire day). In instances like this, the student should come to school, check out before the appointment, and check back in after the appointment for the remainder of the day.

Students receiving special education services must be in attendance the length of the regular school term and school day unless the IEP Team specifies a different length of time based on the individual needs of the child.

An absence may be excused by the principal for the following reasons:

1. pupil is too ill to attend school,
2. inclement weather which would be dangerous to the life or health of the child if the attends school,
3. legal quarantine,
4. death in the immediate family,
5. emergency condition as determined by the superintendent or principal, or
6. student excused by the principal for attendance at special events, based on Parent/Guardian request, shall be considered absent and excused but shall not be considered to be perfect in attendance. <u>Such approval must be based on a written request submitted and approved in advance by the principal.</u>

Absences

Excused: An absence may be excused by the principal for the following reasons:

1. pupil is too ill to attend school,
2. inclement weather which would be dangerous to the life or health of the child if he attends school,
3. legal quarantine,
4. death in the immediate family,
5. out of town trips must be pre-approved by the principal,
6. emergency condition as determined by the superintendent or principal, or
7. student excused by the principal for attendance at special events, based on Parent/Guardian request, shall be considered absent and excused but shall not be considered to be perfect in attendance. Such approval must be based on a written request submitted and approved in advance by the principal.

Students will be given the opportunity to make up work within (5) school days unless extenuating circumstances are given consideration by the teacher and/or principal.

Only ten (10) parent notes will be accepted per year.

Absences beyond ten (10) days per year must be substantiated by a physician's statement unless excused by the principal. Patterns of absences will be addressed on an individual basis.

Unexcused: Any absence not approved by the principal is unexcused, i.e., work, truancy, suspension, or Parent/Guardian neglect. Patterns of absences will be addressed on an individual basis.

Behavior

Parents/Guardians Responsibility (Act 94-782; Ala. Code 16-28-3)

The Alabama Legislature passed Act 94-782 stating that Parents/Guardians are responsible for enrolling their children in school, ensuring that they attend school regularly, and that they conduct themselves properly as pupils.

The Dothan City School System recognizes the privilege and the responsibility of Parents/Guardians in supporting and demanding responsible behavior from their

children. In an effort to ensure Parents/Guardians awareness and acceptance of that responsibility, reasonable efforts will be made to contact Parents/Guardians regarding Class II and III misconduct. Reasonable efforts will be made on Class I offenses if such misconduct is continuing and notification is needed. Reasonable efforts may include one or more of the following: telephone calls, copies of referrals, Parents/Guardians conferences, letters to Parents/Guardians, registered mail, and when possible, home visits. In the event of continued misbehavior, Parents/Guardians may be asked to sit in class with their child. Petitions may be filed with the Juvenile Court if the child is in need of supervision beyond that given by the Parents/Guardians. Warrants may be filed requiring the arrest of Parents/Guardians who do not require their children to properly conduct themselves in school. **Parents/Guardians will be responsible for conducting themselves in an orderly manner while on school campus for conferences and any other school-related activities. Parents/Guardians conducting themselves in a disorderly manner are subject to the Criminal Codes of Alabama.**

Bright Key

Bright Key is a partnership between Wiregrass Foundation and Dothan City Schools to pilot an innovative community school initiative. Bright Key involves school-community stakeholders (teachers, parents, students, and neighborhood residents) in the identification and implementation of programs and services to maximize the academic potential of every child at Selma Street Elementary.

Bus Offenses

The principal and/or principal designee has the authority to suspend a student from the bus. The suspension will be for a reasonable and specific period of time. Attempts will be made to notify the parent(s) prior to the suspension. (See Dothan City Schools Code of Conduct). **Any student violating safety procedures or disobeying the bus driver will be reported directly to the principal. Cameras have been installed on all buses and can be accessed for review of incidences by the Transportation Department and/or Principal.**

Actions for School Bus Offenses

First Referral	Conference with student; copy of referral sent to parents
Second Referral	Bus privilege denied for 3 days
Third Referral	Bus privilege denied for 6 days
Fourth Referral	Bus privilege denied for 12 days
Subsequent Referrals	Bus privilege denied TBD by Principal

NOTE: See the below

- Horse playing (rough or rowdy play) on the first offense will result in 10 days bus suspension; second offense may result in more than 10 days due to the severity of the bus suspension.
- Any damages by the student to the bus would require reimbursement by the student's parent/guardian.
- If a student is denied bus privileges due to misconduct, Parent/Guardian will be responsible for student's transportation to and from school each day.

Students may receive disciplinary referrals for misbehavior in bus lines or other holding places. Action procedures as outlined above will be used.

Cancellation of School

Cancellation of school takes place only during extraordinary circumstances, such as extreme weather, equipment failure, or public crisis. The school board and administrators are aware of the hardships caused by an abrupt cancellation. Therefore, school will not be cancelled unless a significant safety risk has been created by unusual circumstances. Every practical means will be used to notify parents of an impending cancellation, including website, School Messenger, REMIND, radio, T.V., and newspapers. **Please talk with your child about what they are to do if school is cancelled and if they are sent back home during the school day.**

Car/Daycare Riders

All car riders will be picked up at the back of the school (cafeteria side).

Daycare riders will be picked up during dismissal at the front of the school next to the new addition parking lot (in the loop).

All students will be dismissed from their classrooms by announcement from the Office. 3rd – 5th grade Carpool Students will be directed to the gym and wait for their name to be called for pick-up. K – 2nd grade Carpool Students will be directed to the lunchroom. Once seated, all students will listen for their name and then exit the side door of the lunchroom for pick-up. All Daycare riders will be escorted to the Media Center. **Safety practices will be followed by all students during dismissal.**

Students who are checked out, after 2:00 and before 2:30 each day, must return the next day with an excuse for an excused absence. If no excuse is submitted, students will incur an unexcused absence that will count against attendance.

Crisis/Reunification Procedures

In the event that a campus evacuation is necessary, all students and staff will be transported to a pre-determined relocation site (Primary – Ridgecrest Baptist Church; Secondary – South Park Church of Christ). The following communications may be used to inform parents of campus evacuation: School Cast, Parent Remind/Dojo, Phone Calls/Text Messages, Selma Street Facebook Page, and/or District/School Websites. Upon arrival, parents will be directed by designated staff to the "sign-out" area at each site. As a safety precaution, parents may be asked to provide identification before a child is released to them. No student will be released without a presentation and verification of an identification card when asked.

Dismissal

School dismisses each day at 2:30. The early buses will begin loading at 2:20 p.m. Please make sure your child knows how he or she is getting home in the afternoon. This should be discussed before the child leaves for school in the morning, thus eliminating the need for us to interrupt their class. Any child going home some way other than their usual documented way must have a written note from the parent. If there is a doubt and no note, the child will be

sent home the way he/she regularly goes home. **All students must be picked up by 3:00 p.m.**

Maintaining order and safety is important to us at Selma Street. During end of day dismissal, the office plays a vital role in helping to maintain order, alertness, and smooth transitions. **Therefore, there will be "no checkouts after 2:00."**

Dress Code

It is the policy of the Board of Education that good grooming and personal appearance are essential, if not critical, elements in the teaching and learning process. Therefore, it is expected that students dress in such a manner that will ensure the health and safety of the school. Furthermore, the dress and personal appearance will not be disruptive or interfere with the legitimate interest and welfare of students. Students are also expected to choose their clothes in good taste, wearing only those clothes, which are appropriate for the educational environment. All students are expected to comply with the Dress Code. For compelling reasons, such as medical requirements, the principal or superintendent, may, at their discretion, review an individual situation to determine whether a modification of a provision is required for the health and safety of a particular student or other compelling reason. The School Administration will judge the appropriateness of any "fad" or questionable article of apparel. With this in mind, the following rules concerning dress and grooming are mandatory for all students attending Dothan City Schools. Students who fail to follow these rules will be subject to disciplinary action. **(See full Student Dress Code Policy K-12 on the DCS Webpage)**

Early Dismissals

A student must check out through the office with the parent or legal guardian or documented designee signing approval. Students are not to be checked out early except for illness and/or appointments. **Maintaining order and safety is important to us at Selma Street. During end of day dismissal, the office plays a vital role in helping to maintain order, alertness, and smooth transitions. Therefore, there will be "no checkouts after 2:00."** Again, frequent checkouts that are unexcused will result in loss of academic instruction and Perfect Attendance. **Students receive instruction from 7:40 – 2:30 each day. Therefore, we ask that you do not attempt to check out your child only to avoid carpool traffic, etc.**

Electronic and Wireless Communication Devices 6.23

The Dothan City School Board recognizes that students carry personal electronic communication devices. Schools Board Members also recognize that parents provide these devices for their children so they can be in touch in case of emergency. School requires a students' attention. In recent times, personal electronic devices have become a distraction in the classroom and also a source of concern; especially when used to video or take pictures of other students, or bully using electronic methods. Please note that in case of extreme emergency, for example, a lockdown situation or active shooter, law enforcement shares that multiple cell phones and calls jam their systems and also false statements of the situation can be shared which often confounds the work of school officials, law enforcement, and emergency services. Pursuant to the Freeing our Classrooms of Unnecessary Screens for Safety (FOCUS) Act and the above reasons, the following is being proposed:

1) No student may possess a wireless communication device in any public elementary or secondary school building or on the grounds during the instructional day. WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICE. A cellular telephone, tablet computer, laptop computer, pager, gaming device, or any other portable electronic device including smart watches identified in a wireless communication device policy that has the capability of exchanging voice, messaging, or other data communication with another electronic device, Phones must be turned off and stored off the student's person during school hours. The prohibition on using wireless devices will be enforced during the instructional day, meaning all school hours, in both school buildings and on school grounds.

2) Students are explicitly prohibited from using any type of electronic device to record audio or video segments at any school function or event, or to have the devices turned on during the INSTRUCTIONAL DAY. The period of time during which a public elementary or secondary school is open and in session for purpose of meeting the minimum number of instructional days or hours pursuant to Section 16-13-231, Code of Alabama 1975. The term also includes class transitions, lunch, non-instructional times, and any other time specified in a wireless communication device policy.

3) Transportation will allow cell phones on the bus if the phone is on silent or

vibrate.

4) Nothing in the policy shall prohibit a teacher or school official from allowing the use of these devices in a productive manner as part of an instructional lesson, approved specialized project, or for specific research with principal's prior approval per lesson plan.

5) A student may use, operate or possess a wireless communication device if the use, operation, or possession occurs during an emergency threatening the life or safety of the student or another person.

6) Exceptions for Students with Disabilities (IEP/504 Plans):

In accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, reasonable accommodations will be made for students with disabilities only when the use of a personal electronic device is specifically identified and justified in the students' IEP or 504 plan to provide a free appropriate public education for the students. Such determinations must:

- Be based on a comprehensive evaluation and the individualized needs of the student.
- Be documented within the IEP or 504 plan, following a IEP or 504 team meeting.
- Include a review of alternative, school-managed assistive technology or communication tools before a personal device is considered.

The use of personal cell phones for medical or educational purposes shall not be approved based solely on parent or physician request and will only be permitted when explicitly determined by the IEP or 504 team as necessary for students' access to their educational program

Consequences:

Elementary (K-5)

- If a student is guilty of unauthorized use of the device during school hours, the device will be taken and held by the school official. The parent or guardian

will be contacted and expected to pick the device up at the school.

 Violation of this policy for the second time will result in the collecting of the device; parent/guardian will pick up the device and the student will be placed in In School Suspension/Alternative Placement (1-2 days).

 Subsequent violations will result in the collecting of the device; parent/guardian will pick up the device and the student will be placed in In School Suspension/Alternative Placement (3-5 days). In addition, the student is no longer permitted to bring any electronic devices on school campus.

Refusal to surrender the device when asked by the school official will be considered a Code of Conduct Class II- Code 299-

Emergency Drills

An emergency management plan is provided for the safety and security of students and staff. Fire drills and/or tornado drills are conducted monthly. Lockdown drills and bomb threat drills are practiced twice each year. In the event of emergency weather conditions, the school will follow the directions of Dothan City School Superintendent. **Remember,** telephones may be extremely busy during this time. The DCS and Selma Street Websites, School Cast, and/or the DCS and Selma Street Facebook Page may be used to alert parents of emergency weather conditions. **Parents, please inform your children of what they are to do in case of rain or severe weather.**

Extended Day

There will be NO Extended Day this year.

Family Education Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA)

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Student education records are protected by the federally mandated act FERPA. This Act gives parents certain rights with respect to the student's educational records. These rights transfer to the student at the age of eighteen. http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa

FERPA requires that the Dothan City School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Dothan City Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the district to the contrary in accordance with District procedures.

Field Trips

Field trips are designed to supplement different aspects of the curriculum and to introduce students to the resources of the community. Parents must sign field trip permission forms before a child is allowed to participate in the activity. Bus space limits the number of parent chaperones. **After May 1st, any money for field trips, pictures, grade level graduations, Book Fair items, etc. must be paid in cash.**

Students who participate in field trips are expected to travel to the field trip activity as a group and to participate and remain with the field trip group for the duration of the activity. Students shall be required to travel to and from all field trip activities in the transportation vehicle provided by the school system. Only in extenuating circumstances will students be released to their parents/guardians during or after a field trip activity. Parents must submit a written request explaining the circumstances, receive approval from the principal, and present themselves to the teacher to sign the child out of the field trip. No child shall be released to persons other than his/her parent/guardian while on a field trip.

Students with a "D" or "F" average in conduct will not be allowed to attend off campus field trips.

In addition, any student with a "F" average in conduct can have campus activities withheld at the Principal's discretion.

********IMPORTANT**
Teachers determine the cost of field trips based on the number of students who will be participating. Therefore, we may not be able to refund field trip money if the student is unable to participate.

Fighting

Selma Street Elementary School has a "no fight policy" in place. Fighting is strictly forbidden on the school premises. Breaking this rule will result in immediate disciplinary measures. (**Refer to Dothan City Schools Code of Conduct)**.

Giftedness Assurance Statement

Gifted students are those who perform at or who have demonstrated the potential to perform at high levels in academic or creative fields when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment. These students require services not ordinarily provided by the regular school program. Students possessing these abilities can be found in all populations, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human endeavor. Teachers, counselors, administrators, parents or guardians, peers, self, or any other individuals with knowledge of the student's abilities may refer a student. Additionally, all second grade students will be observed as potential gifted referrals using a gifted behavior checklist. For each student referred, information is gathered in the areas of Aptitude, Characteristics, and Performance. The information is entered on a matrix where points are assigned according to established criteria. The total number of points earned determines if the student qualifies for gifted services. To make a referral, contact the Resource Specialist at your child's school.

Gifts and Flowers for Students

Please do not send items such as flowers, balloons, candy etc. to the school for your child. They will not be delivered to their classroom.

Heating Food in Microwave

"Because of the inconsistency of heat distribution from microwave use, and the lack of appropriate temperature testing equipment, **no DCS employee is allowed to heat student food items sent from home in microwave ovens."**

Homework

It is oftentimes necessary for students to complete homework. Homework can be useful for multiple purposes:

- To encourage development of independent study habits, skills and responsibilities.

- To enrich, reinforce, and extend learning by providing additional educational opportunities outside the classroom.

- To provide for advance preparation for an upcoming classroom activity discussion, unit of study or assessment.

- To provide an opportunity for parents to be familiar with and involved in the school's educational program and their own child's progress.

Parents, homework will only be used by teachers as a formative assessment practice to help inform their instructional planning and reteaching.

ACCORDING TO THE DOTHAN CITY SCHOOLS ELEMENTARY PROCEDURES POLICY, HOMEWORK WILL NOT BE TAKEN AS A GRADE FOR THE GRADEBOOK NOR USED AS A FORM OF PUNISHMENT.

Illness or Injury

In case of illness or injury, a child will be cared for temporarily by a member of the school staff (preferably the school nurse). School personnel will render first aid treatment only. If emergency medical treatment is necessary, the parents and paramedics will be contacted. Please be sure that emergency telephone numbers are current and on file at the school.

Internet Safety and Use of Technology 4.10

4.10.4 Adoption of Rules and Regulations – The Superintendent is authorized to develop for Board approval additional or more specific rules and regulations regarding access to and use of its technology resources and

to require adherence to such rules and regulations through such means as the "Acceptable Use Agreement" and application of appropriate disciplinary policies and procedures. Such rules and regulations will address or provide:

a. Measures to block or filter Internet access to pictures that are obscene, that constitute child pornography, or that are harmful to minors;

b. Restriction of access by minors to inappropriate material on the Internet; limit internet access to age-appropriate subject matters and material.

c. The safety and security of minors when they are using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;

d. Prevention of "hacking" and other forms of unauthorized use of and/or unlawful access to computer or Internet files, sites, databases or equipment; and

e. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and

f. Restriction of minors' access to harmful material.

g. Educating minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

h. Prohibit access to websites, web applications, or software that exposes students to the disclosure, use, or dissemination of their personal information.

i. Prohibit students from accessing social media platforms, except when expressly directed by a teacher solely for educational purposes.

LinC (See "Gifted Assurance Statement")

Selma Street provides enrichment to students in grades 3-5 through the LINC program. Once referred, academic and behavioral data is reviewed to determine qualification for enrichment services outside of the regular classroom. At the end of each school year, all second grade students will be observed as potential gifted referrals using a gifted behavior checklist. For each student referred, information is gathered in the areas of Aptitude, Characteristics, and Performance. The information is entered on a matrix where points are assigned according to established criteria. The total number of points earned determines if the student qualifies for enrichment services as a third grader**.**

Lost and Found

Articles found at school should be turned in to the office. They will be placed in the **Lost and Found** area. Please mark child's name with permanent marker on all jackets, sweaters, coats and personal items. Unclaimed items will be donated to an agency at the end of the school year. Selma Street will not be responsible for lost items.

Lunchroom

Students who bring their lunch may purchase milk.

On special occasions, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's, etc, parents will be invited to join their child for lunch. (Different grade levels on different holidays) **Parents, please know that you are welcome to join your child for lunch on any other regular school day provided you call the Lunchroom Manager**

(794-1465) before 9:00 a.m. on the day you wish to visit. Parents will pay for their meals in the lunchroom. Carbonated drinks, drinks in glass containers, and meals from fast food establishments are not allowed.

LUNCH	DCS Employee----	$3.75 per day
	Visitor Lunch-----	$4.50 per day
BREAKFAST	Extra milk----	$ .50
	DCS Employee---	$2.75 per day
	Visitor Breakfast---	$3.50 per day

Meals (Students)

Dothan City Schools became eligible to participate in the USDA Community Eligibility Program (CEP) for the 2023-2024 school year and the following three years. **During the time the school district operates under CEP, no free and reduced price meal applications will be distributed or processed, and all students will be able to receive a complete breakfast and lunch meal at no cost.** Students who wish to get milk only, will be charged a la carte price. This provision will begin the first day of school.

Medication

According to Dothan City Schools,

- Prescription medications will be administered only upon specific instructions from licensed physicians saying that the medication must be administered at school.

- The Physician Medication Authorization Form (MC-1) must be completed for each administered medication. No medication may be added to a form on file. (See form in back of handbook).

- Non-prescription medication, including Tylenol, Pepto-Bismol, aspiring, etc, will **not** be administered at school.

- Medications are **not** to be kept in the personal possession of students.

- Students are not to bring medications to school. If a medication is to be given, a parent must bring it with a **Medication Authorization Form.**

Opt-Out Student Release Publicity Information

Parents/Guardians can opt-out of having photos, videos, or other identifiable information shared about their child. **(Please see Opt-Out Form in your child's Open House packet.)** This form must be submitted annually to keep the restrictions active and returned to the school office.

Parent Involvement

Parent involvement begins at home with parents letting their children know that school is important and a priority. Parent involvement means sending children to school ready to learn. It means making sure that your children have necessary supplies and materials to work with each day. Parent involvement also means supporting your children and school by being present at school events and volunteering when possible. Parent involvement means communicating with the teacher on a regular basis so that questions or concerns can be addressed in a timely and efficient manner. **Parents, we NEED YOU!**

Parents Right to Know Notification

Please refer to the "Parents Right to Know" pages at the back of this handbook.

Parent Volunteers

The Selma Street faculty and staff consider parent volunteers to be a very special resource. Please look for information in your child's beginning of the year packet on how to become a "Parent As Crew" volunteer. In addition, you can call the school and speak with the school Parent Involvement Specialist, Laura Hatcher. (334-794-1463)

Parties

Class parties are limited to two parties a year – Christmas and Valentine's Day. **Please do not send party invitations to be handed out to friends unless the whole class is being invited. This prevents hurt feelings.** If you intend to send cupcakes or treats to your child's classroom for his/her birthday, please be sure to make prior arrangements with the classroom teacher. The treats will have to be given out during the planned recess time. (See information at the back of the handbook).

Pets

No pets are allowed at school. (However, appropriate incorporation of small animals through classroom observation and instructional learning opportunities may be approved at Principal's discretion.)

PTO MEETINGS

TBD (To Be Determined)

MAY DAY

TBD

Pictures

Fall ~ September 30, 2026
Spring ~ March 3, 2027
Cap & Gown Pictures ~ April 28, 2027

Recess

Students will be provided a daily fifteen minute supervised "recess/snack" break. Snacks will be sold on campus for $1.00 each. **In addition, students can**

bring a snack from home labeled with their name. NOTE: Snacks will not be withheld from students by school staff as punishment.

Reporting Schedules

Progress Report Dates

Sept. 2, 2026
Nov. 12, 2026
Feb. 10, 2027
Apr. 21, 2027

Report Card Dates

Oct. 14, 2026
Jan. 6, 2027
Mar. 17, 2027
May 25, 2027

Promotions and Retentions

Promotion and retention are based on an evaluation of academic, physical, social, and emotional growth. Primary reasons for considering retention are:

- Indifference or lack of effort on the part of a capable student
- Physical or social immaturity
- Lack of academic progress
- Frequent or long absences

Report cards are sent to parents every nine weeks. These should be signed and returned to school the following day. Progress reports are sent home the fifth week of each nine weeks and should also be signed and returned. Progress reports provide parents an excellent method of monitoring their child's progress in each subject while enough time remains to improve grades, if necessary. If retention is a possibility, it will be communicated either in verbal and/or written form.

Response to Intervention (RTI)

RTI is an intervention module designed to meet the needs of general education students at-risk of failure due to academics, behavior, or drop-out.
The RTI process is conducted by a decision-based committee (Problem Solving Team) composed of administrators, regular education teachers, counselors, and others as needed. The PST meets monthly to discuss at-risk students (Reading/Math/Behavior) and develop a plan of action for improvement. For more information, contact the RTI/PST chairperson, Dr. Lavonda Senn.

Safety Vestibule Visitor Procedures

When visiting the school, **all visitors** are to proceed directly to the secure location entrance at the front of the school where you will be buzzed inside the building. Once inside, all visitors are to report directly to the clerk window. Before visiting within the building, all visitors must be cleared. As a safety precaution, the procedure for clearance begins by presenting one's state issued driver's license. A pass will be provided to all visitors upon clearance through the visitor management system. The pass must be affixed to a visible area of clothing (i.e. shirt or dress) before leaving the secure office area and continuing to your **approved, designated area** within the school. Before exiting the building, all visitors will report back to the secure location office area to sign-out with the office staff. **Please note: No child will be checked out by a visitor (other than the parent) unless the parent has listed them for checkout approval on their child's Office Information Sheet.**

School-wide Classroom Expectations

In addition, review Selma Street's Positive Behavior Support/Discipline Policy Plan at the back of the handbook.

- Be prepared for class (have all necessary work materials and a positive attitude).
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to myself.

- Respect others' feelings, property, and personal space.
- Raise hand for permission to speak or leave my seat.
- Complete all assignments in a timely manner.

Consequences

Classroom consequences may consist of one or more of the following:
Verbal warnings, Parent Contact, Counselor,
Detention, Office Referral

***NOTE: <u>A conduct grade will be determined based on the number of (flags/demerits/checks) received during the week.</u>**

Rewards

- Students may receive possible classroom rewards.
- Students may be given free computer time.
- Students may earn free homework passes.
- Students who earn an A average in Conduct for each of the nine weeks will be recognized and rewarded at the end of the grading period. "Pawsitive Behavior"
- Students have the opportunity to be selected as the Good Citizen of the Month and have lunch at a local restaurant.
- Students "Caught Exhibiting a Habit of Character" will have an opportunity to be recognized and rewarded by Ms. Blair, the Principal, on Fridays.

School Cast

Dothan City Schools uses an automated phone messaging system called School Cast. This system provides the ability to easily contact parents/guardians immediately of news that needs to be communicated regarding severe weather, school start time delays, early dismissal and school closings. **In order to ensure that you receive messages from the School Messenger system properly,**

please provide new phone numbers and email addresses to your child's teacher or the school secretary promptly. It is common practice to provide emergency contact information for your student at the beginning of each school year. **Should your information change throughout the year, it is crucial that you provide the updated information.** This way, when messages are sent, it will reach you.

School Supplies

Parents are expected to provide supplies, such as paper and pencils for their child throughout the year. (See grade-level supply list) Please check with your child's teacher throughout the year to determine if additional supplies are needed. All shared classroom spaces will be cleaned and sanitized daily. All students and staff will be encouraged to respect the space of others at all times. There will be no sharing of supplies.

Snacks

Snacks will be sold on campus for $.75 each. In addition, students can bring a snack from home labeled with their name. We encourage students to bring healthy snacks such as fruit, popcorn or granola bars. Please do not send candy, soft drinks, or glass containers. Snacks will be eaten during a recess/snack break. **NOTE: Snacks will not be withheld from students by school staff as punishment.**

Special Activities

Bright Key Programs (Student/Parent)
Library Media
Pup Squad (4^{th} & 5^{th})
Computer/Keyboarding (K-5)
Physical Education
PE Club
Student Govt. Association
Junior Beta Club
Guidance Counseling
Peer Helpers
Bright Key Ambassadors

Special Instructional Programs

Accelerated Reading Program (K-5)
iReady (K-5)
SPIRE ~ Tier 3 Reading Intervention
Reading Horizons (K-5)
Heggerty (K-5)
Amplify CKLA Reading (K-5)
Envision Math (K-5)
Teacher Created Materials ~ Tier 3 Math Intervention
IXL Web-Based Program (K-5)

Student Conduct Folders

Weekly assessments, observations, portfolios, projects, discussion and specific additional work will be considered in the grading process. **Your child's graded work will be sent home on Wednesday in the student folder. Notes and information sheets will be sent home in the folder also. Parents are asked to look over schoolwork, grades, etc. sign the folder and then return it to the teacher on Thursday.** Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and necessary to maintain good parent-teacher relations.

Support Services

Bright Key (Tutoring, Mentoring, Career)
Response to Instruction (RTI)
Positive Behavior Support (PBS)
Supplemental Services 4 Student Success (S4)
Full Time Nurse/Guidance Counselor
Learning Supports
Parental Involvement Specialist
Computer Lab
After School TutorialProgram - TBD
LINC (Learning in Collaboration) Classes
Speech and Language
Special Education
English as a Second Language Support Services

Substitute Teacher(s)

Every student will periodically be taught by a substitute teacher. Academic and behavior standards will remain the same. All of our substitute teachers receive training and approval from Kelly Services/Central Office.

Tardies

A student may be considered tardy when he/she is not in the assigned seat at 7:41 a.m. Excused tardies (ex. approved physician note, principal or designee approval) do not count against perfect attendance. Patterns of tardiness will be addressed on an individual basis. **Tardies will start over second semester.** Early checkouts also have a negative effect on your child's academic success, and will be handled in the same manner as tardies. ***Parental Involvement Specialists and/or School Resource Officers will follow up on subsequent and chronic tardies.***

Consequences for Unexcused Tardies/Early Checkouts for Elementary School Students

3rd, 4th, & 5th Tardy/Early Checkouts: Written/Verbal Communication with Parent/Guardian

6th Tardy/Early Checkouts: Parent/Guardian Conference and/or a referral issued to the Houston County Truancy Prevention Project.

Subsequent/Chronic Tardies/Early Checkouts:

Parent/Guardian Conference and/or a referral issued to the Houston County Truancy Prevention Project. May also result in a referral to the Houston County District Attorney's Office as directed by the Secondary Schools Director for Dothan City Schools.

Telephone

The office telephone is a business phone and is not to be used by students except in an emergency. Students are not allowed to use the phone to make personal arrangements, such as requesting permission to go to another child's home after school. Please make arrangements on how your child will get home from school **before** he/she comes each day. **Be sure to send the teacher a note whenever plans are different than usual for getting your child home.**

Textbooks

All textbooks are furnished by the State of Alabama. **All lost or damaged books must be paid for by the parent/guardian,** as the school is required to replace lost books. A Textbook Form is signed by all parents at the beginning of the year.

Transfers/Withdrawals

The classroom teacher or office personnel should be notified at least one day in advance of the withdrawal of a student. This will permit time for the school records to be brought up-to-date and will also prevent parents from having to wait.

NOTE: If you are moving and are withdrawing your child from school, please send a note to the school with your new address and the name of the new school your child will attend. Your cooperation is always greatly appreciated.

Visitors

Research shows children perform better in school when their parents take an active role in the school. When visiting the school, **all visitors** are to proceed directly to the secure location entrance at the front of the school where you will be buzzed inside the building. Once inside, all visitors are to report directly to the clerk window. Before visiting within the building, all visitors must be cleared. As a safety precaution, the procedure for clearance begins by presenting one's state issued driver's license. A pass will be provided to all visitors upon clearance through the visitor management system. The pass must be affixed to a visible area of clothing (i.e. shirt or dress) before leaving the secure office area and continuing to your **approved, designated area** within the school. Before exiting the building, all visitors will report back to the secure location office to sign-out with the office staff. **Please note: No child will be checked out by a visitor (other than the parent) unless the parent has listed them for checkout approval on their child's Office Information Sheet. Parents, if you desire a conference, please make prearrangements with the teacher.** The office can assist with this process. Remember, when visiting that parents are not to stop by their child's

classroom to chat with the teacher unless scheduled. **Instructional time is too important!**

SELMA STREET ELEMENTARY

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT PLAN

&

DISCIPLINE POLICY

2026 – 2027

(In addition, please familiarize yourself with the 2025 - 2026 DCS Elementary Student Code of Conduct.)

DISCIPLINE

A considerable amount of time is spent on teaching children appropriate behavior. Teachers model behavior and teach rules and procedures every moment of the day at the beginning of school. We know that if students know the expectations of the teacher and of the principal and understand the consequences, then the likelihood is greater that they will exhibit appropriate behavior so that optimal learning can occur.

In life, there is a need for procedures so that people can function in society knowing the acceptable and efficient ways people do things. School is no different. We have a procedure for walking to recess, PE, hallway travel, eating in the lunchroom, being a nice audience participant, etc. Considerable time is spent **TEACHING** our students what we expect. The important thing to remember is that we teach rules and procedures very explicitly **before** any conduct folders go home or any discipline referrals are written.

Teachers use steps in their classroom discipline plan. When these steps are exhausted, then the student may be sent to the Principal, Program Specialist, and/or the Counselor. There are also steps that the Principal and Program Specialist use before sending students to alternative school, etc. unless there is aggressive behavior involving the safety of your child or someone else. Action is taken immediately in these situations.

This process is necessary because the overall goals, as outlined on the previous page, are to provide a safe learning environment wherein students can be taught and challenged academically. Your child is very important to us. Together, we can support each other in the education of your child and prepare them for the middle grades.

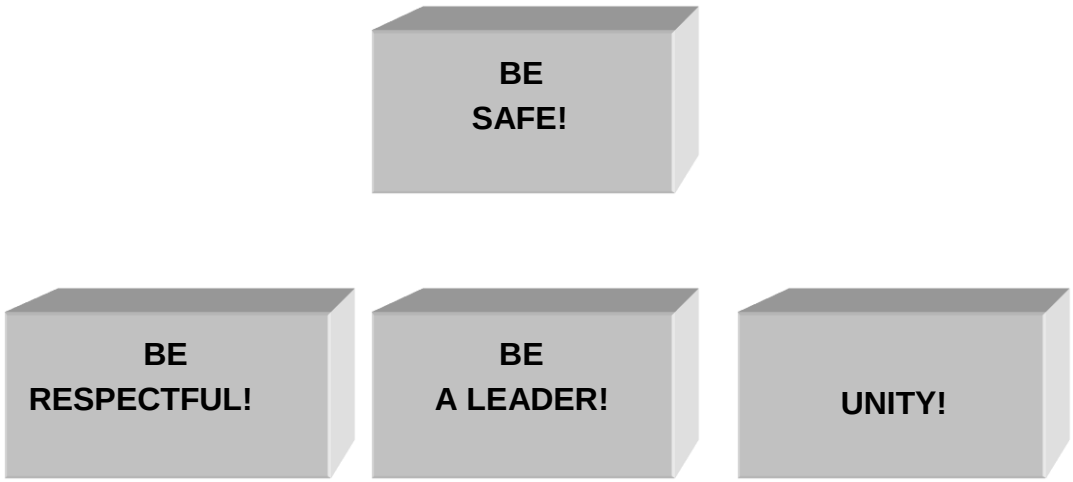
Please review the following expectations and procedures in our Positive Behavior Support Plan.

Selma Street Elementary School

Discipline Policy
2026 - 2027

Philosophy – "The Four Core" School Standards

Selma Street Elementary School's Positive Behavior Support Plan seeks to create a learning community where we work together to create a **SAFE** and **RESPECTFUL** environment where **UNITY** is exhibited as we are empowered to become impactful **LEADERS**.



Students will:

- Learn and play in a safe way and use good judgment.
- Consider the health and safety of oneself and others.
- Follow school rules on the playground, in the classroom, and in all parts of the school.
- Use equipment appropriately.

Students will:

- Respect everyone's right to learn.
- Speak and act in a kind and courteous way to other children and adults.
- Peacefully resolve conflicts by talking and listening to the other person.
- Follow the instructions of supervising adults.

Students will:

- Be prepared to learn by coming to school on time with all of the appropriate materials and homework assignments completed.
- Respect and take care of school and private property.
- Manage their time at school in a way that facilitates learning.
- Follow established guidelines and routines.

Rights and Responsibilities

Student

The student has the right to a public school education in an environment conducive to learning. The student is expected to do the following:

- Respect the privacy and property of others.
- Exhibit behavior that will encourage learning for themselves and others.
- Obey class/school rules and expectations for conduct and citizenship.
- Give parents/guardians all notices and information received from the school everyday.
- Do homework and read everyday outside of school time.

Parent

The parent has the right to expect that the school will address the learning needs of their child in an equitable way, respecting the individual differences of children. The parent has the right to be informed of their child's progress and of

areas where closer home-school cooperation is needed. The parent is expected to do the following:

- Send their child to school every day, on time, and prepared to work.
- Respond to communications from the school pertaining to their child.
- Cooperate with the school staff in solving behavioral problems.
- Develop in their children respect for the rights and property of other people.
- Understand and support the fair and consistent implementation of the Selma Street Elementary School's Discipline Policy.
- Show respect to students, school staff, and to other parents.

Teachers and Support Staff

The teacher and the support staff have the right to teach in an atmosphere that fosters satisfaction in their work with the support and guidance of the administration in maintaining high professional standards. The teacher is expected to do the following:

- Work with students so they understand what they are expected to learn.
- Help the students realize, as individuals, they are important and that they should act in a responsible way.
- Encourage and help the student understand and support school rules.
- Know and enforce the rules and policies of the school consistently.
- Use procedures appropriate for age, background, and level of maturity in dealing with inappropriate behavior from students.
- Seek conferences with parents and other school personnel in an effort to help students who present behavior problems.
- Keep parents informed weekly of student's academic and behavioral progress.
- Show respect for students, parents, and to other school staff.

Administration

The administration has the right to expect the cooperation of staff, students, and parents and seeks to facilitate the school’s function as a learning institution. The administration is expected to do the following:

- Make the school community aware of the Dothan City Schools' Code of Conduct and Selma Street Elementary School's Discipline Policy.
- Review these discipline policies annually.
- Support all school personnel in maintaining appropriate and effective discipline.
- Be available for conferences on discipline and academic matters.
- Provide staff assistance with serious problem situations and inform teachers of administrative disciplinary action.
- Identify a line of authority at Selma Street, during absence of administration, for disciplinary matters.
- Show respect to students, parents, and to all school staff.

Standards of Behavior

Generally, students are expected to:

- Follow directions given by staff members and other trained personnel in the school.
- Show respect toward school property and the property of others.
- Use computers and other technology resources in a responsible manner for educational purposes.
- Interact with peers and adults in a respectful way.
- Remove hats and other head coverings when in the building.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to oneself.
- Follow Fire Drill procedures quietly.
- Follow school safety procedures.
- Be considerate of others.
- Respect the work of other students displayed in the hallway.
- Be respectful of the school building and campus (cleanliness).
- Have a pass (unless the student is with their class).

Restroom

Students are expected to:

- Carry nothing but the bathroom pass into the bathroom.
- Respect the rights of other students who are in the restroom.
- Respect the property in the bathroom and help keep it clean.
- Keep walls and doors free from any drawings, markings, or writing.
- Ensure that tissue is used for the appropriate reasons.
- Use the faucet correctly for hand washing.

Bus

Students are expected to:

- Wait appropriately while at the bus stop and in school holding areas.
- Follow the instructions of the bus driver.
- Board and exit the bus in an orderly manner.
- Keep aisles clear of all materials.
- Remain seated while on the bus.

- Keep hands and body to yourself.
- Be quiet and respectful to students seated nearby.

Walking To and From School

Students are expected to:

- Walk safely obeying crossing guards, patrols, and traffic signs.
- Walk on sidewalks and appropriate walkways.
- Avoid approaching or talking to strangers.
- Walk directly home at the end of the school day or go to the place the parent has designated.

Assembly

Students attending an assembly are expected to:

- Walk and enter assembly quietly in order to hear instructions.
- Come prepared to sit through an entire assembly.
- Listen and pay attention to the presenter.
- Show appreciation for the assembly by applauding at appropriate times.
- Follow the directions of the adults in charge.

Lunchroom

Students are expected to:

- Speak and act in a respectful manner toward all adults and fellow students.
- Stop talking and listen when an adult is speaking to them.
- Use quiet voices.
- Use proper manners.
- Ask permission to leave their seat.
- Throw trash away when the table is called.
- Refrain from sharing food during lunch due to food allergies.
- Raise their hand if they need assistance.
- Keep their hands to themselves.
- Follow the directions of their teacher at all times.

Playground

Students are expected to:

- Speak and act in a respectful manner toward all adults and fellow students.
- Follow the directions of the playground teachers on duty.
- Follow the playground rules of safety.
- Wear closed shoes to play on the climbing equipment.
- Play cooperatively and respectfully.
- Keep hands to oneself.
- Line up when the whistle blows or lineup is called.
- Place all trash in the garbage cans before entering the building.
- Stand quietly until their teacher arrives.
- Leave toys and sports supplies at home, including electronic devices (games, phones).

Clothing

School personnel may advise students about appropriate dress for school, in accordance with the **Dothan City Schools' Dress Code Policy**. Parents may be notified in cases of non-compliance or when clothing:

- Is likely to cause disruption to school activities
- Does cause a disruption to school activities
- Endangers health or safety of other students

Incentives

Students are given the opportunity to be rewarded in the following ways for appropriate behavior throughout the year:

- Receive "Caught Exhibiting a Habit of Character" tickets from faculty and staff
- Principal reward on Fridays-"Caught Exhibiting a Habit of Character" Tickets (Random drawing from fish bowl.)
- Good Citizen of the Month
- Daily and/or weekly rewards from classroom teachers
- Daily and/or weekly rewards from support staff
- "A conduct" reward by Principal each nine weeks

- “Pawsitive” Behavior Certificate Recognitions throughout the year - TBA
- End of the year award(s) for A conduct
- Principal Award Honorees
- Monthly “Wildcat Etiquette” recognition for one (K-2) & one (3-6) class (lunch presentations)
- Reading Rewards (School & Classroom Levels)

General Information
AHERA Notification

"All buildings used by the Dothan City Schools are free of friable (airborne) asbestos. Most buildings contain some forms of non-friable asbestos (most commonly in floor tile). This asbestos is managed according to an approved management plan, which may be examined in each principal's office. The Dothan City Schools are in full compliance with A.H.E.R.A. (the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act) and asbestos containing material is inspected on a regular basis as required by law.

Section 504:34 CFR 104.4(a)
Title II: 28 CFR 35.130 (a)
Guidelines IV-N

"No qualified person with a disability is excluded from, denied benefits of, or subjected to discrimination in any course, program, service, or activity solely based on the basis of disability."

Section 504:34 CFR 104.34 (a)(b)
Title II: 28 CFR 35.130 (d)
OCR Guidelines VI-A, 44FR 17167

ESL (English as a Second Language)

Undocumented children and young adults have the same right as U.S. citizens and permanent residents to attend primary and secondary schools. In fact, like other children, undocumented students are required under state law to attend school until they reach a legally mandated age. This is especially true for English as a Second Language child. For more information about registering an undocumented student to attend school in Dothan City Schools, please contact the principal.

ESL (English as a Second Language) is a program designed to provide tutorial assistance for students whose home language is other than English. A Home Language Survey must be completed for each student registering for enrollment. Any student whose registration or Home Language Survey indicates a first language other than English on any of the survey questions is a language-minority student and qualifies for tutorial assistance.
Upon request of a limited English proficient parent, an interpreter will be provided as soon as possible, given the date, time, and place of needed interpreter. The interpreter will translate the individual academic achievement results of the student to the parent(s) and also interpret to the parent(s) in a language they can understand.

"Disabled secondary students with disabilities must be placed in the regular environment of any vocational or other school program or activity to the maximum extent appropriate to their needs with the use of supplementary aids and services."

Title IX Coordinator			Section 504 Coordinator
Bertha Guilford			Alyssa Dyer
1665 Honeysuckle Road			1665 Honeysuckle Road
Dothan, Alabama 36305			Dothan, Alabama 36305
334-793-1397, ext. 209			334-793-1397, ext. 242

Technology Acceptable Usage Policy

Electronic instructional materials are selected by Dothan City School System to implement, enrich, and support the educational program for students. These materials must serve both the breadth of the curriculum and the needs and interests of individual students and employees. To this end, policies must be in place to assure the selection of materials of the highest quality and appropriateness. **The policies contained within this document are to serve as legal and acceptable use of the Dothan City Schools network (DCSNet), as well as, copyright and acceptable use of video and software within the classroom environment.**

DCSNet Acceptable Use Policy establishes policies and guidelines for the use of Internet and the Dothan City School System's wide area network for students and Dothan City School System's employees. **The use of this electronic resource is a privilege not a right.** Failure to adhere to the policy will result in the revocation of the user's access privilege. At school, student access to the DCSNet and the use of the Internet will be under teacher direction and will be monitored as any other classroom activity.

We recognize that the use of technology always requires attempts to balance the benefits against the possibilities of danger, security problems, and abuse. Rapid changes in technology and growth in the range of content available makes this a constant challenge. Thus, it is the intention of Dothan City Schools that all technology resources will be used in accordance with any and all school system policies and procedures as well as local, state, and federal laws and/or guidelines governing the usage of technology and its component parts. Additionally, it is implied that all students and employees of Dothan City Schools will use the provided technology resources so as not to waste them, abuse them, interfere with or cause harm to other individuals, institutions, or companies.

See the full policy on the DCS Webpage.

Parental Notification Statement

Title I Schools

Schools must provide parents with many kinds of information and notices in a uniform and understandable format and, to the extent practical, in a language that parents can understand. Please notify the school office or our English Language Department at 793-1397 ext. 236229 if you need the information below in another language.

At the beginning of the school year, school districts supported with Title I funds must notify parents that they may request information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers and paraprofessionals. Such a school must also give timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned or is being taught by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

Your child is attending a school that receives Title I funds. As a parent of students attending a Title I school, you may request information regarding the professional qualifications of the students' classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, the following:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas where the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status, through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, as well as the field of discipline of certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications, including state requirements:

- Secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent.
- Completed two years of study at an institution of higher education.
- Obtained an associate's (or higher) degree.
- Workkeys Assessment.

If you would like to receive the above information, please make your request in writing to Dionne Blair, Principal.

A school that receives Title I funds must inform each parent as soon as practicably possible after the test is taken about their child's achievement level on each state academic assessment.

Notificación a los Padres de Título 1 Fondos

Las escuelas deben dar a los padres de muchos tipos diferentes de información y las comunicaciones en un formato uniforme y comprensible y, en la medida de lo posible, en un idioma que los padres puedan entender. Con base en la información que sabemos en el momento de esta publicación, esto es lo que vamos a ofrecer.

Al comienzo del año escolar, los distritos escolares que reciben fondos del Título 1 deben notificar a los padres información sobre las calificaciones profesionales de los maestros del estudiante. Dicha escuela también debe dar aviso oportuno de que el niño del padre ha sido asignado o está siendo enseñado por un maestro que no está altamente calificado.

Una escuela que recibe fondos de Título 1 debe proporcionar a cada información de los padres sobre el nivel de logro de su hijo en cada una de las evaluaciones académicas estatales tan pronto sea prácticamente posible después de tomar la prueba.

Su hijo asiste a una escuela que recibe fondos de Título 1. Como padre de familia de los estudiantes que asisten a una escuela de Título 1 puede solicitar información sobre las calificaciones profesionales de los maestros del estudiante, incluyendo como mínimo, lo siguiente:

- Si el maestro ha cumplido con los criterios de calificación y licenciamiento para los niveles de grado y las materias en las que el maestro enseña.
- Si el maestro está enseñando bajo emergencia u otro estado provisional a través del cual se ha renunciado a los criterios de calificación del estado o licencia.
- El grado de bachillerato del maestro y cualquier otra certificación o título obtenido por el maestro y el campo de la disciplina de la certificación o título.
- Si el niño recibe servicios de profesionales y de ser así, sus calificaciones.

Si usted desea recibir esta información, por favor haga su petición por escrito a la atención de Dionne Blair, Principal.

Por favor, disculpe cualquier error de este documento fue traducido usando un sitio web de traducción libre.