

SCHOOL HANDBOOK
2014-2015



TRAVERSE MOUNTAIN ELEMENTARY
2500 W CHAPEL RIDGE RD
LEHI, UT 84043
801.610.8725 FAX 801.701.6280
<http://traversemountain.alpineschools.org>

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Elementary 2500 W. Chapel
Ridge Rd.
Lehi, UT 84043
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Mission: We will Learn, Encourage, Achieve, & Dream!

Schedule

EARLY OUT MONDAYS

1st through 6th grades
-Track A: 8am-1:15pm
-Track B: 9:15am- 2:30pm
Kindergarten
-AM: 9:15-12:00am
-PM: 12:35-2:30pm

TUESDAY-FRIDAY

1st through 6th grades
-Track A: 8am-2:15pm
-Track B: 9:15am- 3:30pm
Kindergarten
-AM: 9:15am-12:00pm
-PM: 12:35pm-3:30pm

General Rules that will be used school-wide are:

1. Be Safe
2. Be Respectful
3. Be Responsible
4. Be Courteous

*See a table completed by faculty & students with indicators representing each of the four general rules at the end of the handbook.

*A Tiger Team Behavior Report will be sent home as needed to report positive and negative behaviors based on the school rules. (See TIGER TEAM REPORT below...)

Accidents and Illness

If accidents or illness occur, the school will contact the parents or the designated person on the health information sheet. The Emergency and Health Information Sheet is critical, and we ask that you return it and keep it up to date.

Alpine Foundation

School patrons may make a tax-deductible contribution to our school through the district's Alpine Foundation. The donation can be designated to the school or a specific classroom. Forms are available in the office or a DONATE button is easily available on our school's homepage.

Arriving at School

Students should not arrive more than 10 minutes before their assigned time. Supervision is not provided in classrooms before or after school. As the bell rings, students should enter through the designated door assigned by their teacher.

Attendance

The Utah Compulsory Attendance Law requires that children between six and eighteen years of age attend school unless excused by the Board of Education. Frequent absences or tardies disrupt the instructional and learning process. The process is often difficult to repeat.

-TARDY - Parents should notify the teacher through a note or phone call that their child will be tardy if the circumstance is beyond their control.

-TRUANCY - Deliberate absence from school with or without parent knowledge.

-EXCUSED ABSENCES - include verifiable illness or other family emergencies. Please do not keep your child out of school to shop, baby-sit, etc. Please send a note to the teacher to verify an excused absence.

*Teachers and school personnel will make every effort to work with students and parents to encourage consistent attendance. After 3 consecutive unexcused absences, the teacher will contact parents. After 6 consecutive unexcused absences, the principal will contact parents.

Bicycles & Scooters

Children may ride bicycles or non-motorized scooters to school. Upon approaching school grounds, students should **WALK** their bikes, remove their rollerblades, or fold their scooters. Bikes should be taken directly to the bike racks and locked. Scooters may be taken inside and put in the coatroom. Because of safety, bikes and scooters may not be ridden during school hours (i.e. during recess). Students should remember to always walk bikes when crossing at crosswalks. Please label all scooters & bikes with child's name.

Book Orders

Many teachers distribute order forms for students to purchase books through companies at reduced prices. If you choose to participate, please write a check

payable to the specific book company. Please contact your child's teacher with questions.

Classroom visits

Parents are welcome to visit their child's classroom. For the safety of our students, please check in at the office first. Please make arrangements with the teacher in advance if you wish to visit. Please limit the visit to 30 minutes and do not interrupt the teacher or students during the visit.

Occasionally, out-of-town friends or cousins come to visit family during the school year. Because of liability issues, these guests are not to accompany students to school.

Closed Campus

For the safety and welfare of students, we maintain a closed campus. Students should not leave the school grounds without permission.

Dress Standards

We appreciate your help in making sure that your child is dressed appropriately for school. Some important guidelines are included:

Hair - Should be clean and well groomed. Hairstyles that are distracting or need constant attention are not acceptable.

Clothing - Should be neat, clean, and not distracting in appearance. Clothing with slogans or insignia which are contrary to the educational purposes of the district are not allowed. Short shorts, short skirts, halter-top, tank top, spaghetti straps, bare midriffs, cutoffs, and jeans of a "grubby" type are not acceptable.

Headwear - Hats and other disruptive headwear should not be worn during class time. Hats may be worn outside during recess.

Footwear - Shoes and socks should be worn at all times. Sandals are permissible, but flip flops are not as they result in cut toes and are not effective during PE and recess. When snow boots are worn, please send shoes to be worn in the building. Wheels in shoes must be removed and left at home.

Dress for the Weather - Children should arrive at school dressed so they can play comfortably outside. All children are expected to go outside after lunch unless the weather conditions are extreme. If you desire your child to stay in after lunch because of illness, please send a note to the teacher.

Evacuation

In the event of an evacuation, students will be grouped on the grass field or alternative site in inclement weather. Parents will be notified through E-mail and/or automated phone system if children need to be picked up.

Fees

Students in kindergarten through sixth grade shall not be charged fees. However, donations will be accepted towards supplies, assemblies, fieldtrips, or other activities. No child will be penalized for not making a donation. If a student loses or destroys school property, the cost of repair or replacement is not a fee and will not be waived.

Field Trips

Occasionally, classes will extend learning beyond the classroom by going on a field trip. Your child's teacher will send home information regarding each field trip along with a permission slip. Parent volunteers are often asked to help supervise during trips. We appreciate your help, but ask that preschool age children not come along.

Gum and Candy

Gum and/or candy should not be brought school. Birthday treats should be purchased at the store.

Homework

Homework is an extension of class work, and studies show that it is effective in helping students make greater educational gains. Parents are encouraged to become involved in what their children are doing in school by working with them. Please provide a quiet place and time for students to work effectively.

Inside Recess

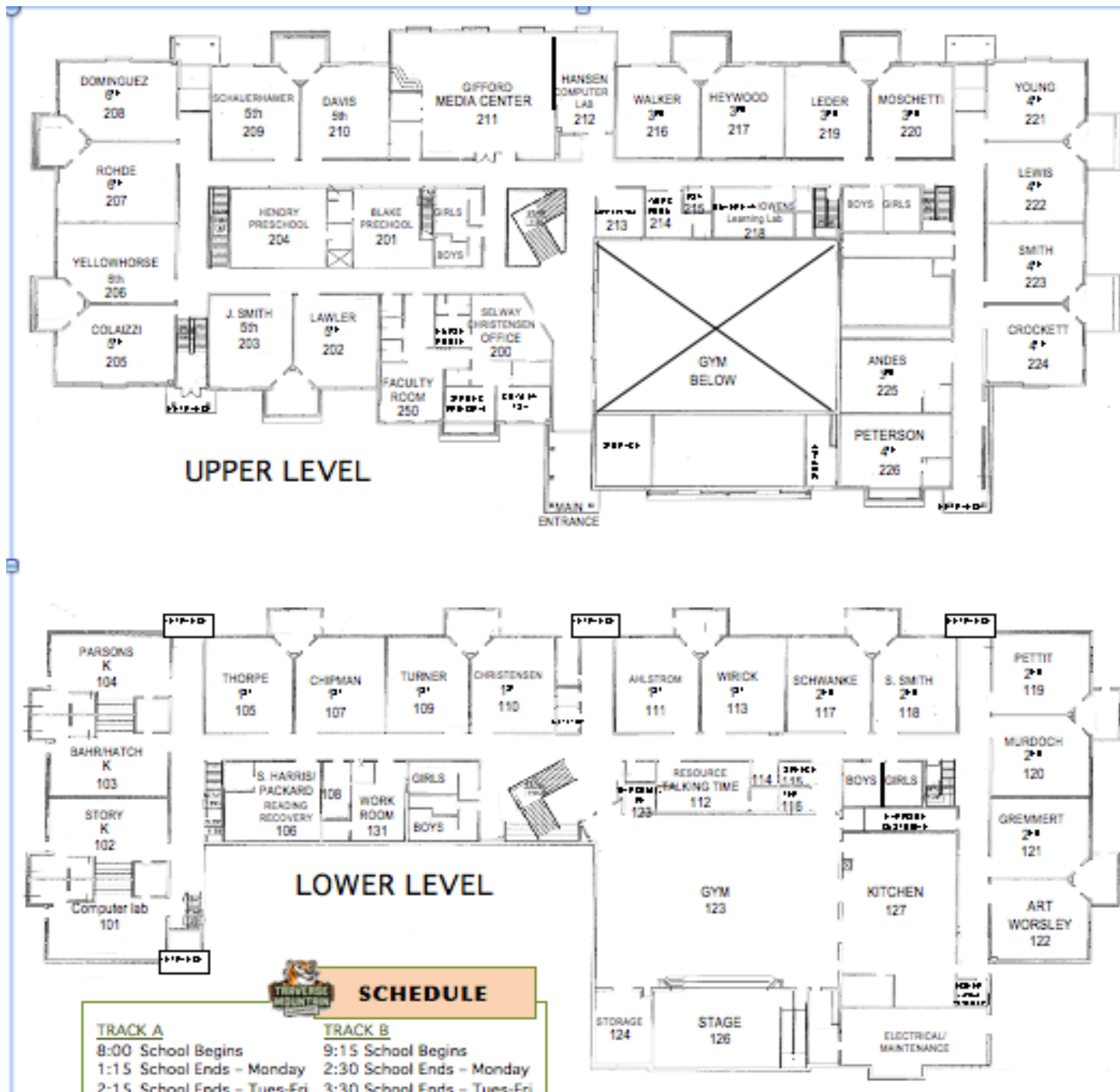
Students will generally go outside even on winter days unless the weather is extreme. We will keep students in when the temperature is 20 degrees or below. We take the wind chill into account. We follow the state's air quality guidelines and keep students in if warranted because of unhealthy air. If your child needs to stay in because of illness, please send a note to the teacher.

The Leader in Me

We use The Leader in Me program to help develop staff and student development using the 7 Habits as established by Franklin/Covey. We are looking for extended funding to continue our training opportunities.

Lunch

Students may eat school lunch or bring a lunch from home. The school lunch menu is available on our school website. Lunch is \$1.75 and Breakfast is \$.85. Parents are encouraged to keep their student's account with a positive balance. MyPaymentsPlus (link on our website) is a free and effective way to check your child's balance. There is even a new smartphone app you can use to update balances. If a child is paying with check or cash, please have them go to the lunchroom and pay before school starts. Students that are charging in excess of \$6 will only be given milk and a cheese sandwich. Parents are welcome to eat school lunch. Adult meals are \$2.75.



Medication

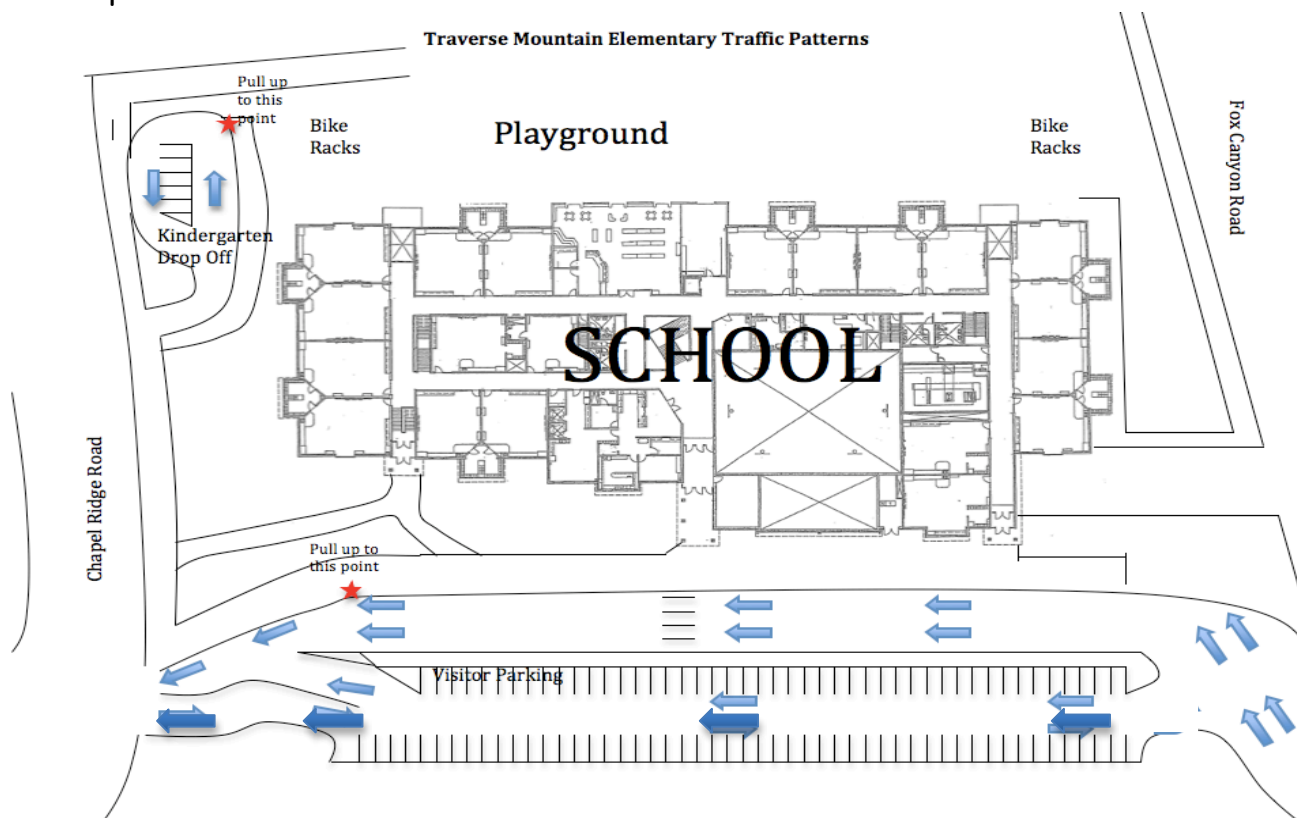
School personnel cannot give children medication without a written "medication administration release form" completed by the physician. The form is available in the office. Tylenol may be given with permission from a parent.

Newsletter

A monthly "e-newsletter" and weekly E-mail updates will be developed to share highlights and upcoming events for the school. We are striving to do most of our communication electronically. If you need a hardcopy of newsletters, please contact the office.

Parking and Student Drop off/Pick up

Please follow safe traffic procedures when driving near and at the school. Please drop off and pick up along the curb only. Please pull to the end of the drop off area if you are waiting for a student, therefore allowing other parents to pick up their children. **If you need to enter the school, please do not park along the drop off zone in front of the school or the small drop off zone south of the kindergarten area.** Also, please follow our procedure of "Drop & Go" when dropping off your child. If you need to watch your child until the bell rings, give an item to the teacher, or sign homework and practice spelling words, please park in a parking stall. In front of the school, please use the drop off lane and do not drop off in the parking lot requiring your child to cross through the drop off zone.



- KINDERGARTEN DROP OFF/PICK UP - We are asking that only parents of kindergarten students (and their older siblings) use the small drop off zone at the southwest corner of the school to drop off and pick up at the 9:15 and 3:30 times.

- Preschool parents: Please use the 30 Minute Visitor Parking if you are coming inside to drop off or pick up your preschool child.

Pets

Pets should not be brought to school unless arrangements have been made with the teacher. Please be mindful of students with allergies. Parents should accompany the pet to school and take it home after it has been shown.

Phone Use

School phones are for school business and emergencies only. Please make arrangements with your child prior to school about day care, whether to walk home, etc. A phone is available to call with illness, lunch charges, etc.

Playground Procedures

The following is a general list of procedures for recesses, PE and other times students are using the playground and playing fields. If other activities are deemed dangerous to the safety of any student, Mr. Stephenson or a playground supervisor will instruct all students about the activity.

- Shoes must be worn at all times in all areas.
- Students will keep hands and feet to self at all times (No contact sports such as tackle football.)
- Rocks and bark must be left in bark area and not thrown.
- No climbing up or jumping off of trees, swings, fences, slides or other equipment.
- Tag is allowed in all areas other than play equipment (not in area with bark).
- Take turns on play equipment including swings (count to 30...)
- If a ball goes over any fence, you must contact a playground supervisor.
- All students are expected to stay outside during the entire recess period.
- While at any recess, use the restrooms downstairs in the center of the building.
- Valuable toys often get lost or broken and shouldn't be brought from home.
- During the winter, please dress appropriately for the weather. Remember, no throwing snow and please stay clear of ice.

* Consequences for not following procedures (depending on severity):

First time: a verbal warning will be given.

Second time: a five-minute time out will be given.

Third time: A Tiger Team Behavior Report will be completed.

Fourth time: Mr. Stephenson will conference with student and contact parent.

* A TIGER TEAM BEHAVIOR REPORT may be issued during anytime, including recess, and sent home to report positive or negative behavior.

* If any safe school violations (fighting, bullying, etc.) take place, students will be referred to Mr. Stephenson immediately. Recess privileges may be taken away for an extended time and a Tiger Team Behavior Report will be sent home.

PTA

The PTA is organized to support and speak on behalf of children at our school, assists parents in developing skills needed to raise and protect children, and encourage parent and public involvement in public school throughout the nation.

The objectives of the PTA include:

- Promote the welfare of children in home, school, and community.
- Raise the standard of home life.
- Secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children.
- Bring home and school into close relation.
- Develop unified efforts between educators and the general public.

Report Cards

Student progress reports will be sent home three times throughout the year.

You may access current grades through Skyward. If you have questions or concerns about your child, please don't wait until Parent Conferences. Your child's teacher will be glad to meet with you about your child's progress. Please contact them and make an appointment.

Safe Schools

It is Alpine School District's intent to maintain a safe and positive atmosphere by prohibiting acts of violence, aggressive behavior, intimidation, possession of weapons, criminal behavior, or gang activity on school property. The Safe Schools Policy prohibits disruptive acts, dangerous weapons, hazing or harassment, abetting, gangs, secret societies, hate groups, and other prohibited acts.

Definitions

Disruptive acts: Acts that disrupt the daily operation of the school including but not limited to physical or sexual assault, intimidation, aggression, possessing or displaying a dangerous weapon.

Dangerous weapon: An item capable of causing death or serious bodily injury, or a facsimile or representation of the item. Dangerous weapons as deemed by these rules shall include but not be limited to firearms, knives, metal knuckles, straight razors, explosives, and poisonous gases.

Hazing/Harassment: Intimidation of a student or staff member or any act that injures, degrades, or disgraces a student or staff member.

Abetting: The act of supporting, encouraging, and/or assisting activities that violate the Safe Schools Policy.

Gang/Secret Society/Hate Group: A group of two or more people who form an allegiance and engage in a range of disruptive behaviors that may include violent or unlawful activity or which advocate hatred or discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, national origin, or disability.

Other Prohibited Acts: Students may not:

- a. Wear, possess, use, distribute, or sell any clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs, or other things which are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gangs, secret societies, or hate groups.
- b. Commit acts, or uses speech, either verbal or non-verbal (gestures, handshakes, etc.) showing membership or affiliation in gangs, secret societies, or hate groups.
- c. Use speech or commit any acts or omissions in furtherance of the interests of the gang, group, or society, including, but not limited to 1) soliciting others for membership, 2) requesting persons to pay for protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person, 3) committing other illegal acts or other violations of school district policies, 4) inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person, 5) defacing school property (books, lockers, walls, etc.)

Students who participate in other prohibited activities described above shall be dealt with in accordance with the procedures outlined in Alpine School District's Rules and Regulations.

Sexual Harassment

Alpine School District is committed to the maintenance of a learning environment which is free of any form of sexual harassment; an environment where students may attend school free of unwanted conduct or communication of a sexual nature; one which is in compliance with the state and Federal laws dealing with this form of discrimination.

Skyward

Parents have access to their child's grades on the internet. There is a link to Skyward from our school website.

Spirit Days

Fridays are Spirit Days at Traverse Mountain Elementary. On these days, students are encouraged to wear their school shirts or a shirt with the school color (green). Some spirit days may include a special theme. We encourage school spirit and hope that you can help your child join in.

Student Check Out

For safety and legal concerns, parents must come into the school office to pick up their children if they need to be checked out during school hours. Students will be turned over to their parents or guardians after the parent or guardian has signed the check out log. Please do not ask over the telephone to have a child sent home. Parents should not call to ask that a child meet them outside. Students will be called to the office once a parent has signed them out in the office. Your understanding and cooperation with this policy is appreciated.


School Community Council

This committee is made up of parents and school employees. They meet monthly and focus on student improvement, safety, and development of school goals. Each representative is listed on our website.

TIGER TEAM BEHAVIOR REPORT

This is a duplicate form that will be sent home to report positive and negative behaviors by students. Parents are asked to review the report, keep the white copy, and sign & return the yellow copy. See copy below:

TRAVERSE MOUNTAIN TIGER TEAM BEHAVIOR REPORT	
Student _____	Date _____
Teacher _____	Completed by _____
This report is to indicate <input type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE Behavior	
<u>Reason:</u>	<u>Explanation:</u> (student or teacher write the who, what, where, & why)
<input type="checkbox"/> Following Directions	
<input type="checkbox"/> Respect for Others	
<input type="checkbox"/> Respect for Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> Safe Schools	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
(*White: Parent Copy •Yellow: Parent sign and return) Parent Signature _____	



Website

Our school website is updated regularly. Please check it often for information, dates, and activities at the school. <http://traversemountain.alpineschools.org>



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