

Bert Raney Elementary School
Student Handbook
2020-2021



Bert Raney Elementary School
555 7th Avenue
Granite Falls, MN 56241
Phone: 320.564.4081 option 3
Fax: 320.564.4427
Principal: Mrs. Hansen

***Our Motto: A Community of Learners Building
a Foundation for Future Success!***

Dear Families,

On behalf of the Bert Raney Elementary staff, I would like to welcome you back to school! A special welcome to our new students and staff who will be joining us for the 2020-21 school year.

This handbook is provided for your information and outlines procedures that relate to the policies adopted by the Yellow Medicine East School Board. This handbook is a reference regarding your child's responsibilities and rights based on the expectations and policies adopted by the school district. Please realize this handbook does not cover all situations, but is intended as a guide.

The Yellow Medicine East School Board approved this handbook and its contents at their June-2020 board meeting. This handbook may be changed or amended during the school year. Changes made throughout the school year can be viewed on our school's website, <http://www.isd2190.org>.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me via phone (320) 564-4081 ext 114 or via email at lhansen@isd2190.org.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Hansen, Principal
Bert Raney Elementary School

This handbook does not cover Covid-19 practices or procedures. Bert Raney Elementary School will notify parents directly with information relating to Covid-19.

QUICK FACTS

SCHOOL BERT RANEY ELEMENTARY
PHONE NUMBER (320) 564-4081 ext 3
FAX NUMBER 320-564-4427
ADDRESS 555 7TH AVE
INTERNET WEBSITE <http://www.isd2190.org>
MISSION TO PROVIDE A CARING ENVIRONMENT OF HIGH EXPECTATIONS THAT PREPARES EVERY STUDENT FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE AND INSTILLS THE VALUE OF LEARNING.
ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL MRS. HANSEN
ELEMENTARY SECRETARIES NICOLLE KOTEK, JULIE POFF
OFFICE HOURS 7:00AM TO 3:45PM
SCHOOL HOURS 8:15AM TO 3:00PM
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS MR. RICH SCHNEIDER

YELLOW MEDICINE EAST SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

CHAIR..... SHARON RUPP VICE CHAIR..... SONJA PEDERSON
CLERK..... N/A TREAS..... JEREMY CORNER

MEMBERS: AMANDA LECY, JEREMY LEBLANC, RON WINTER

BERT RANEY ELEMENTARY STAFF:

KINDERGARTEN ANGIE JANS, SAMANTHA GORT
FIRST GRADE KRISTINA BLACKWELDER, KERRI SHACKELFORD
SECOND GRADE BECKY LEISETH, JOANELLE SANNEERUD
THIRD GRADE THERESA LIGHTFOOT, JULIE RUNIA
FOURTH GRADE TRISH JESSEN, ROXIE TANNER
FIFTH GRADE AMY HOERNEMANN, JENNA LECY, LOUANN PASLAWSKI
AMERICAN INDIAN FAMILY LIAISON LAURIE BLUE- POOLER
CUSTODIANS/MAINTENANCE FRANCIS STAAB, TERRY PAULSON
RON POOLER, TODD REISHUS, TONY BERINGER
ELL CINDY LAVIN
MUSIC BETH JAHN
NURSE CASSIE SUTER
PHYSICAL EDUCATION MARY GREY
TITLE I MARYELLA CLOUSE, PEGGY KVAM
SOCIAL WORKER TAMMY CARRUTH, AMY ENGESSER
SPECIAL NEEDS LYNDSAE DACK, SADIE KLUVER, LESLIE KNUTSON, KEISHA LOUWAGIE
LESLIE REFSLAND, DANAE RUPP, DAVE SCHUELER, MELISSA SCHULTE
SPEECH CLINICIANS JUNE FRENCH, JEN THULL
TAG COORDINATOR ELAINE HALVERSON
YME/MVCC PARAPROFESSIONALS
JULIE AMMERMANN, MISSY ARNESON, NAOMI BARBER
KARA CAIN, BERNADETTE CARSTENSEN, KATHY ENNINGA, CASEY FINKEN
DESIRAE GONZALEZ, KAYLA GRUSSING, DAWN HALVORSON, MELISSA JIMENEZ
CARRIE KNUDSON, DONNA KOSAK, SHELBY NIELSEN, JULIE NORDAUNE, ANGIE OLSON
CAROLYN OLSON, PAULA PANITZKE, ALEXIS PETERS, HEATHER RICHTER-KLING, TRISHA RILEY
LORI SCHINDELE, TAMI SMITH, CONNIE TIMM, NANCY TRUDEL, TAMMY ZIESKE
PRESCHOOL COORDINATOR KEISHA LOUWAGIE
PRESCHOOL TEACHERS JILL STARK, ASHLY COLE
PRESCHOOL PARAPROFESSIONALS JULIE JAENISCH, JACKIE TORVIK

PROCEDURES

This handbook reflects Yellow Medicine East School District policies, which can be viewed at <http://www.isd2190.org/Content2/96>.

ACCESS TO SCHOOL RECORDS- DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), parents or 18-year-old students have the right to review and inspect school records pertaining to the student. Requests should be made to the elementary principal who will arrange for the records to be reviewed.

With the exception of data collected by a public school on certain nonpublic students and parents, directory information related to a student may be released and made public without the written consent of the parents (or an eligible student) if the district gives public notice of the categories of information which it has designated as directory information. (See MSBA/MASA Policy Reference Manual - Model Policy No. 515.) Directory information is defined by federal law. The federal law and regulations provide that the following information may be considered directory information:

- The student's name; address; telephone listing; electronic mail address; photograph; date of birth; place of birth; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; dates of attendance (dates of attendance means the period of time during which the student attends or attended a school or schools in the school district. The term does not include specific daily records of a student's attendance at a school or schools in the school district.); grade level; enrollment status; degrees; honors and awards received; and the most recent educational agency or institution attended by the student. Parents or legal guardians may refuse to permit designation of any or all of the above categories as directory information. This refusal should be made in writing and be communicated to the Elementary School Principal by September 15 of each year.

Directory information may also include the name, address, and telephone number of the student's parent(s). Data on nonpublic school students collected by a public school is private data and may not be designated as directory information unless prior written consent is given by the child's parent or guardian. Minn. Stat 13.32, Subc. 4a.

ALLERGY (Peanut/Nut/Latex/Pets)

Yellow Medicine East School District is "nut safe". Our schools are NOT completely peanut/tree nut free, but measures are in place to provide a safe environment for students with known peanut/tree nut allergies. Yellow Medicine East School District is a "latex-aware" environment.

The Yellow Medicine East School Board has passed a resolution that no latex products will be allowed in the district school buildings. This resolution was made to address the increasing number of latex allergies to people of all ages. This ban includes balloons, gloves, erasers, or any other product made from latex rubber.

Visiting pets/animals are prohibited in YME schools. An exception will be made for service animals and approved classroom curriculum units involving animals as part of a lesson or lessons.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL TIME

If your child does not ride the bus, please time his or her arrival for **8:00AM**. Breakfast for 1st-5th grade elementary students will be served from 7:45-8:05 in the cafeteria. Elementary students arriving after 8:05AM, who wish to have breakfast, will receive a to-go breakfast from the cafeteria to be taken to their classrooms. PreK and Kindergarten students will have breakfast together in the cafeteria after the start of the school day. By 8:15AM all students should be in their classrooms. Students may go to their classrooms when the first bell rings at 8:00AM. Classes will begin at 8:15AM and end at 3:00PM.

ATTENDANCE

We believe:

- Students with regular attendance achieve better academically
- Students with regular attendance are better adjusted to school
- Learning that is lost due to absence can never be adequately replaced
- Students with regular attendance have an understanding of the purpose and direction of their education

School attendance laws of Minnesota require that children must attend school regularly. Children are required to be in school every day unless they are ill or there is an emergency in the family. If your child is absent from school, please call 320 564-4081, ext 244 before 9:30AM and leave a message or give the secretary the following information: name of student, grade, teacher, length and reason for absence and note whether or not you will be picking up homework.

A student will be marked tardy if he/she arrives after school starts and within one hour of the start of the school day, between 8:15AM and 9:15AM. If arrival is after 9:15AM a student will be marked absent ½ day. If the student leaves before 2:30PM for the remainder of the day, the student will be marked absent ½ day.

Excused Absence

Excused absences are for all legitimate reasons. Administration will determine the legitimacy of all absences. A student has the right and obligation to make up any work missed. The student will be required to make arrangements with the teacher to make up any school work missed.

The following reasons include, but are not limited to, approved excused absences:

- Illness. A physician's statement may be required after three consecutive days of illness.
- Family leave (emergency, funerals, serious family illness, vacation)
- Religious observances
- School sponsored events
- Suspension

An absence must be excused within 2 days or the absence will remain unexcused.

*Administration retains the right to determine whether an absence is excused.

Unexcused Absence

Unexcused absences are for reasons not accepted by school officials. The following are examples of unexcused absences: oversleeping, running late, refusal by student, missing the bus, running errands, shopping, babysitting, haircuts, etc.

1. Three unexcused absences in a school year will result in parent notification.
2. Five unexcused absences in a school year will result in parent notification and a notification will be sent to the school district's social worker.
3. Seven unexcused absences in a school year will result in a report to County Child Protective Services.

*Administration retains the right to determine whether an absence is excused or unexcused.

Tardy

A student will be considered tardy if he/she is not in their classroom by 8:15AM. Students who are late should report to the office to receive a tardy slip before going to their classroom. Tardiness is unfair to the child who misses instruction and also interrupts the classroom learning for the other students.

1. Excessive tardies may require a parent/student meeting with school personnel.

Truancy/Educational Neglect

A student who misses the whole day or part of the day without the consent of either the school or parent/guardian is considered truant. It is considered educational neglect when a child under the age of 12 is absent from school without a lawful excuse for seven days in a school year. The school is legally required to report educational neglect to the County Child Protective Services if the parent provides no excuse or an insufficient excuse, which deems the absence as unexcused.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS/POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS/STING PRIDE - “Practicing Respect in all I Do Everyday!”

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports set building-wide expectations and encourages students to make positive behavior choices. Building expectations are modeled by all staff, displayed in all areas of the building, and are to be followed by all students. See the chart below for the specific expectations:

	All Settings	Classroom	Hallways	Playground	Cafeteria	Bathroom	Bus
Respect Myself	Be safe Be prepared Do your best	Make good choices Be honest	Walk Stay in own space	Be active Be safe	Eat own food Take your time Stay seated	Do your business Flush Wash hands	Stay seated on bottom Face forward
Respect Others	Be kind Hands to self Feet to self	Be kind Use appropriate voices Follow directions Stay in own space	Voices off Hands to self Feet to self Walk to the right	Play safe Play fair Include others Share equipment	Use quiet voice Hands to self Feet to self Practice good table manners	Use quiet voice Give others privacy	Use quiet voice Hands to self Feet to self
Respect Property	Keep it clean Keep school in good condition	Keep it clean Keep classroom in good condition	Keep it clean Hands to self Feet to self	Keep it clean Use equipment properly	Keep it clean Keep your food on your tray	Keep it clean Turn water off	Keep it clean Keep bus in good condition

The goal of this plan is to promote a safe and caring environment where all students are taught the difference between appropriate and inappropriate behavior.

BIKE SAFETY

If parents approve, students may ride their bicycle to school. Children should follow all bicycle safety rules, which include one person on a bike. We also encourage students to wear bicycle helmets. Students should park their bicycles in the appropriate bike racks. We recommend that only children in the third through the fifth grades ride their bicycles to school.

Children are not permitted to ride their bikes during the school day. Bicycles should be locked in the bike rack as it is not possible to guarantee their supervision.

BIRTHDAY TREATS

You may send treats with your child to help celebrate their birthday. All treats must be commercially made. **BERT RANEY ELEMENTARY IS A PEANUT/TREE NUT SAFE BUILDING. PLEASE REMEMBER THIS WHEN YOU PURCHASE SNACKS.** Suggestions for optional treats would be: fresh fruit, pencils, stickers, small notepads, etc. It is strongly encouraged that you check with the school nurse prior to purchasing birthday treats for a classroom to ensure allergy guidelines are met. Please make sure that enough treats are sent for all classmates.

- Unless all the boys and girls in your child's homeroom are invited to a party, birthday invitations should not be distributed at school. Please send them through the mail or contact the parents directly.

BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT

Each student is responsible for the care and return of all books and equipment. He or she should have respect for all school furnishings. When a child has books at home, it is expected that the parent will assist the child in the proper care of the books and in getting them to return the books as soon as possible.

Books and equipment that are lost or destroyed will be valued based on age. An appropriate fine will be charged to the student who has misplaced or misused the material, according to MN Statute 120.74, subd. 1.

BULLYING

Bullying means any written or verbal expression, physical act or gesture, by a student that is intended to cause or is perceived as causing distress to one or more students and which substantially interferes with another's educational benefits, opportunities, or performance.

Upon receipt of a complaint the school district shall undertake or authorize an investigation by district officials or a third party designated by the school district. The district may take immediate steps to protect the complainant, reporter, or other students pending the completion of the investigation. Upon completion of the investigation the district will take appropriate action. Action may include but not be limited to: warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination, or discharge. Additional information can be viewed on our school website, <http://www.isd2190.org/Content2/96> - Policy 514.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Students who ride buses should assemble at the bus stops not earlier than 5 minutes before the scheduled arrival of the bus. If your child is to ride a bus other than their regular bus, please notify the office in writing or by phone. Students will not be permitted to ride on an unassigned bus without permission. Students need a written note from the office before riding a bus other than their regular bus. Instruct your child in the procedure he/she should use if they should miss their bus after school. They should report to the office or their classroom teacher so that transportation arrangements can be made.

State law mandates that all students must meet state bus training requirements. Students will be provided with training and must meet the basic requirements to be eligible to ride school buses.

The responsibility of a school bus driver is great. They cannot do a good job if there is distraction and confusion. The cooperation of students and their parents is needed for good bus behavior. Children whose behavior jeopardizes their safety and the safety of others by distracting the driver may lose the privilege of riding. Loss of riding privileges also means that students will not be able to be transported during the school day for field trips. Student misconduct will be reported to the parent by the transportation department. Eating, chewing gum, and/or drinking beverages is prohibited on regular bus routes.

BRE transportation is provided by Bennett and Bennett Transportation. Please direct busing questions and concerns to Bennett and Bennett Transportation at (320) 564-4766.

CELL PHONES

Unless approved by a staff member, BRE does not allow the use of cell phones during the school day. Students are encouraged to leave their cell phones at home, but if they are brought to school may be left in their lockers, backpacks or other storage as provided by their teacher. If there is an emergency, please call the office and we will make sure the student receives the message promptly. All rooms are accessible by email, telephone and/or the intercom and we will deliver messages in a timely manner.

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Community groups are encouraged to use school facilities when they are not being used for school or student events. We are proud of our facility and would like you to see and use it. Call the Community Education Office to make arrangements to use the building. (320) 564-4081 ext 111.

CONFERENCES AND REPORT CARDS

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled in the fall and spring. If needed or desired, parents or teachers may request special conferences at any other time of the year.

Report cards are issued to students in grades K-5 at the end of each quarter. This report reflects the student's performance in terms of his or her maturity and ability. Students are assessed in subject areas as well as in student habits and social growth areas. The following will apply to reporting students' progress:

1. Grades reflect students' daily work, class participation, and test/quiz results.
2. No "F" will be issued unless parent(s) have been informed of academic concerns prior to the end of the grading period.
3. Special needs students shall be graded in a manner determined by the special needs instructor and noted in their Individualized Education Plan.

Individual teachers may also correspond with parents in other ways during the course of the school year.

CYBERBULLYING

The misuse of technology including, but not limited to, teasing, intimidating, defaming, threatening, or terrorizing another student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other employee of the school district by sending or posting e-mail messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or website postings, including blogs; also may constitute an act of bullying regardless of whether such acts are committed on or off school district property and/or with or without the use of school district resources.

DISCIPLINE

Bert Raney Elementary has implemented Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) schoolwide. The PBIS process encourages students to make positive behavior choices by following building expectations. Building expectations are taught by classroom instructors, modeled and expected by all staff, and should be followed by all students.

DRESS CODE

We believe that there is a positive relationship between dress and attitude. Students are expected to show good judgment in dress and grooming at all times. We encourage students to dress in a neat manner that reflects pride in themselves and their school. Any appearance that causes adverse comment or undue attention when it detracts from the educational program of the school will not be allowed. When grooming and/or appearance is detrimental to student safety or of questionable taste, this will necessitate a change in appearance and/or grooming. Students will be required to change these items. Students may not wear clothing that advertises tobacco or alcohol companies or that is sexually suggestive or offensive. Exposed undergarments will not be allowed. No gang related clothing, colors, or symbols will be tolerated. A simple rule is neatness and decency.

Be sure that your children are dressed appropriately for the weather. Children do go out for play and should be dressed each day with this in mind.

DRUG-FREE SCHOOL

It is the goal of District 2190 to maintain a safe and healthy environment for staff and students by prohibiting the use of alcohol, toxic substances and controlled substances without a physician's prescription. Students who have a prescription from a physician for medical treatment with a controlled substance must comply with the school district's student medication policy. A student who violates this policy shall be subject to discipline in accordance with the district's discipline policy. Such discipline may include suspension or expulsion from school.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

We request that we have on file the name, address and phone number of a relative or friend in case we cannot reach you in an emergency. If you have a regular schedule of activities, please let us know your schedule along with the phone numbers where you can be reached. Cell phone numbers and email addresses are also useful if you have them. It is essential that this record be kept current. A new form should be completed at the beginning of each school year. This form will be distributed with other back to school information. Please let the office know if there are any changes or additions during the year.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

In case of emergency or inclement weather, school may be dismissed early. Buses will leave soon enough to enable them to make their route. However, if this is impossible, children will be housed where the parents desire them to be. Emergency care slips are provided for parents to designate this information. If we have your phone number on file, you will receive an automated call or text through the "JMC Messaging" system. Radio stations and TV stations will carry announcements of school schedule changes.

If your child is to go somewhere other than their normal destination on an early dismissal day, please notify the school in the fall.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER PROGRAM

The ELL/ESL program is available to assist students whose first language is one other than English. Students qualify for services based on test scores as well as parent and teacher recommendations. Students who meet the qualifications receive help from an English as a Second Language instructor.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are planned for grade levels throughout the course of the school year. They are intended to extend the learning that has occurred in the classroom. We believe that it is a privilege that students earn by demonstrating responsible behavior at school on a daily basis. Students are responsible for completing their assignments in a timely fashion and have school work up to date at the time of the field trip. It also means that they have demonstrated appropriate behavior both in the classroom and around the school.

Specific information about field trips for individual grade levels will be shared with parents. A blanket field trip permission form is to be signed by the parent.

FOOD SERVICE PROGRAMS

Each family has a food service account and all family members eating in school utilize the same account. The account is intended to be a prepaid charge account so meals are paid for prior to your family member using the account. The Food Service Department will send out or email a "LOW BALANCE NOTICE" when your account reaches \$10.00, at that time money should be added to your account to maintain a positive balance. Food Service Payments can be made by sending money with your student to school, mailing your payment, or using the online payment portal.

Please complete the application for free/reduced meals. The application may not only qualify your family for meal benefits, but it is also used to determine other federal funding for our school district. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the Food Service Office @ 320-564-4081 ext 174.

The cost for extra milk will be taken directly from your food service account. Even if your child is on the free meal plan, you will be responsible for the cost of the extra milk. If you do not want your child to have extra milk with a meal or during the snack break, please notify the elementary office or your child's teacher.

FORBIDDEN ITEMS

Forbidden items that have no place in school include but are not limited to: trading cards, heelys, knives, weapons of any kind, cigarettes, drugs, laser lights, needles, water guns, baseballs (hard balls), bats or pornography. These items, plus anything else which causes problems of control at school, will be taken from students. Students may be suspended or expelled for knowingly or unknowingly violating the school district's weapon policy. It is very important that you review the weapon policy with your child/children. <http://www.isd2190.org/Content2/96> - Policy 501.

GANG RELATED ITEMS

Our school has a zero tolerance policy relating to gang related paraphernalia. Gang related clothing, colors, or symbols will not be tolerated. Collectible material will be confiscated. Clothing will need to be changed or removed. Students who are not cooperative or continue to wear gang-related clothing or put gang related symbols on clothing, notebooks, and other materials will be removed from school until a conference with a parent or guardian occurs to resolve the issue.

GYM SHOES/PHY. ED.

It is school policy that children should have tennis shoes for physical education. We recommend mid-weight shoes with arch supports and cushioned soles. All students will need a swimsuit and towel for the fall swimming unit. If a child is not going to participate in physical education classes, he or she must bring a note from home and/or your doctor.

HARASSMENT

The school district prohibits any form of religious, racial, sexual harassment and violence. Any person who believes that he or she has been the victim of such harassment or suspects that such actions have taken place should immediately report the alleged acts to the building principal. Upon receipt of a report, school district officials will conduct an investigation or have one completed by a third party designated by the school district. Upon receipt of a report, the district will take appropriate actions which may include but not be limited to: warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination or discharge.

HEALTH SERVICES

The health office is staffed each school day to provide health and educational services. The school nurse is available for consultation with parents, if needed. Please alert the school nurse or teacher if your child has a particular health problem that may affect the child's learning or functioning at school. If your child is on medication that is administered at home and may affect their attention or behavior at school, please let the school nurse and/or teacher know. Please note that the school nurse is not in the building at all times - when the school nurse is not in the building other staff such as building administrative assistants may/will be covering the health office.

Pupils are required to have a certification of their immunizations or the appropriate waiver certificate on file. Students will not be allowed to attend school without proper immunizations or notarized documentation of exemption.

If your child needs to be excused from physical education, please send a note. If it is to be a long-term excuse from physical education activities (over one week), the child must bring an excuse from a physician. The school district reserves the right to request a note from a physician at any time if restrictions from physical activity are requested.

The hearing and vision of all children are screened annually. Both can be tested any time by request of the parent or teacher. Health Services will draw the parent's attention to any matters that appear to require professional medical attention.

Communicable Disease Guidelines for School

Communicable illnesses should be reported to health services as soon as possible. If a child is hospitalized or has a lengthy illness, parents should also call the school nurse so plans for continuing the child's education can be made. A physician's statement may be required after three consecutive days of illness.

Children should be kept home when they have:

- Fever 100° or higher
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Extreme congestion or nasal drainage
- Persistent cough
- Student is not feeling healthy enough to perform routine activities in the classroom

Reasons student may be sent home from school:

- Fever of 100° or higher
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Persistent cough that is interfering with normal daily activities
- Student is displaying symptoms of a potentially contagious disease (ex: rashes, sore throat, pink eye, etc.)
- Pediculosis - live lice found in student's hair
- Student is not feeling healthy enough to perform routine activities in the classroom

Children may return to school when:

- They are fever free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medication
- They have been on an antibiotic 24 hours for treatment of a bacterial infection
- 24 hours after vomiting/diarrhea has subsided and fluids have been replenished
- Head lice: Readmitted after hair has been treated and clothing has been laundered. The nurse will check student's hair before readmission to school
- Student is feeling healthy enough to perform routine activities in the classroom
- The school reserves the right to request a doctor's note to clear any student for return to school if there is concern of the student being contagious

The nurse or other staff members provide basic first aid and care for minor illnesses and injuries for students at school. To ensure a healthy environment we will dismiss ill students to parents/guardians. If we are unable to reach the parent/guardian or they are unable to arrive within a reasonable time, we will contact the designated emergency contact. Please make sure to provide accurate contact numbers that allow the school to reach you or

the emergency contact at all times. It is the parent's responsibility to provide transportation home for the child. The child should be picked up as soon as possible.

If an injury or illness is of a serious or life threatening nature, emergency services will be contacted, followed by the parent or legal guardian. The designated emergency contact will be notified in the event the parent or legal guardian cannot be reached.

Medication will be given at school only when failure to take medication could jeopardize a student's health. Administration of the medication must be supervised by health services or an appointed staff member. No medication will be given without a medication administration consent form completed and signed by the parent/guardian and a licensed healthcare provider. Medication must be sent in its original container, which is labeled with the child's name.

HOMEBOUND OR HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION

Homebound or hospital instruction is available for children who are absent from school due to prolonged illness or disability. A request to the school must be made by the child's physician. After we have that, instruction may be provided by the pupil's regular classroom teacher or other licensed staff. Part-time instruction in the school with part-time instruction in the home is also available to the child who cannot participate in a full time program.

HOMEWORK

Homework policies vary from grade to grade, teacher to teacher, and from subject to subject. Students are usually given study time during the school day to complete assignments. As the child progresses through the grades, the amount of homework increases. The general rule is 10 minutes for each grade in school (4th grade = 40 minutes). The amount may vary from day to day. Students who do not use class work time wisely, may find that they need additional time to complete their assignments at home. Occasionally, a student may have a special project which might take several hours of work at home. However, work for these projects may be spread over several days.

INSURANCE

The school does not carry insurance for accidents that may occur on the playground or elsewhere. You need to have your own policy in force.

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

The use of the school district system and access to use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Depending on the nature and degree of the violation and the number of previous violations, unacceptable use of the school district system or the Internet may result in one or more of the following consequences: suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges; payment for damages and repairs; suspension, expulsion, or exclusion.

All School District systems equipment and electronic resources must be used for educational related purposes. Unacceptable uses include but are not limited to reviewing, uploading, downloading, storing, printing, posting, transmitting, or distributing:

1. Pornographic, obscene or sexually explicit material
2. Obscene, abusive, vulgar, rude, threatening, disrespectful, or sexually explicit language
3. Materials that use language or images that are inappropriate or disruptive to the educational setting
4. Information that could cause damage or danger of disruption to the educational process
5. Materials that use language or images that advocate violence or discrimination toward other people (hate literature) or that may constitute harassment

Technology is ever changing. YME is making every effort to offer students and staff the latest innovations. This means that policy and guidelines are also changing. The full policy can be seen on our website: <http://www.isd2190.org/Content2/96> - Policy 524.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION/ORIENTATION

Each spring our school conducts a kindergarten kickoff event for the next year's kindergarten-age classes. Children whose fifth birthdays occur on or before September 1st are eligible for entrance into Kindergarten. You will need to present a birth certificate at the time of registration. Contact the elementary school office to fill out registration data.

LOCKERS

Lockers are assigned for storing clothing, books, and lunch boxes. Lockers should not be used to store articles of value such as purses, tickets, or money. We request that valuables be left at home. School lockers are the property of the school district. At no time does the school district relinquish its exclusive control of lockers provided for the convenience of students. Inspection of the interior of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time, without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. The personal possessions of students within a school locker may be searched only when we have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence of a violation of law or school rules. As soon as is practical after the search of a student's personal possessions, we will provide notice of the search to the students whose lockers were searched unless disclosure would impede an ongoing investigation by police or school officials.

LOST AND FOUND

All lost articles found at school are kept in a special depository where students or parents may claim them.

- It is a good idea to put your child's name on articles of clothing.
- Encourage your child to check the collection if they are missing something.
- When an article is lost, don't let time lapse before trying to locate it.
- Use caution in allowing articles of sentimental or monetary value to be brought to school.

Please call the office with questions. Lost and found articles are usually given to charity prior to the start of a new school year and mid-year as needed.

MONEY

Except for small amounts, payment by check made out to the school or school district would be appreciated. Checks eliminate the problem of money being lost on the way to school. Payments for activity fees/passes and lunch may be made by credit card through the "Sting Store - Online Payment" link under the "For Parents" section of the school district website. When cash is sent with younger children, please put it in an envelope with the child's name, room number (or teacher's name), and reason for payment (example: field trip, lunch, milk, etc.) written on the outside. Please emphasize with your children the danger of leaving valuables in their desk, locker or other places at school.

OUTSIDE ACTIVITY AND RECESS

Weather permitting, all students are encouraged and expected to go outdoors during activity and recess periods. We use the following guidelines for requiring students to go outside. Wind chill is the criteria used and is applied as follows:

- Warmer than 0 degrees -- outside activity/recess for all students.
- Between 0 degrees and -10 degrees -- activity/recess time shortened.
- Colder than -10 degrees -- indoor recess for all students.

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather.

PRESCHOOL - LITTLE STINGERS

Bert Raney Elementary School is home to the Little Stingers Preschool programs. Children who are ages 3, 4 & 5 are eligible for preschool and should contact Preschool Coordinator, Keisha Louwagie at klouwagie@isd2190.org for registration and program information.

REVIEW OF CURRICULUM CONTENT AND ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION

The Yellow Medicine East School District believes in the principles of intellectual freedom. Members of the community are welcome to review curriculum and instructional materials. Any parent, guardian, or adult student in District 2190 may express concerns about the content of instructional materials in the district's educational program. Whenever a concern is expressed, the district will respond in accordance with the procedures described in the Procedure for Review of Curriculum Content and Alternative Instruction policy. The intent of this procedure is to provide parents and guardians the opportunity to review instructional materials, address concerns and propose alternative instruction for their child. The intent is not to interfere with the rights of others to receive the instruction in question nor does it relieve the student from meeting state and district requirements or essential learner outcomes.

SCHOOL BULLETINS AND NEWSLETTERS

From time to time during the school year, bulletins and newsletters will be sent home from school. It is important that parents read these bulletins to be informed about school events. Your interest in reading them will encourage children to continue bringing them home. These may also be emailed and/or posted on the school website.

SCHOOL PATROL

Students in the fourth and fifth grades serve the school as School Patrol Officers on a volunteer basis. They assist the walking students at the crossings near the school (on 7th Avenue only) both before and after school. All students are asked to respect and obey these officers.

SCHOOL PICTURES/MEMORY BOOK

Our school contracts annually to have pictures taken of the school children during September. Information regarding prices, times and days will be distributed in a timely fashion. We also publish a memory book each spring that contains pictures of all students and a variety of candid shots as well. Information regarding the memory book will be sent home with students.

SCHOOL SECURITY

Our district has implemented a proactive security policy in an attempt to make our school a safe place for our students. Visitors are asked to enter from the main entrance at Bert Raney. A visitor will need to press an office notification button located outside of the entrance that will signal the office. The office secretary will request your name and intent of your visit. The door will unlock and visitors may then proceed to the office. In addition, our district has security cameras installed throughout the building and school grounds to assist with student and staff safety.

SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

Smoking and/or the use of tobacco in any form is prohibited on school district property. As a district, we are dedicated to providing a healthy, comfortable, and productive environment for staff, students and citizens. Violations to this policy will be handled as outlined in the district's Smoke Free Environment policy.

STUDENT RECORDS

The school has on file the grades, attendance records, standardized test scores and discipline records that have resulted from your child's work since they started school. If your child has attended schools other than Yellow Medicine East, these records may also be on file. The parent or guardian may see the contents of these records by making an appointment with the principal or secretary. You may have copies made of anything in the school record at a cost of \$1.00/copy. You are not permitted to take the original record out of the office. Statements from the parent/guardian may be placed in the student's record if it pertains to school work.

The parent may request that items be removed from the file. This request should be in writing. It is the decision of the principal to grant or not grant the request. The decision can be appealed to the superintendent and then the Board of Education. Records cannot be transferred without written permission from the parent/guardian with the exception of a public school in the state in which you have enrolled after transferring from this school.

TELEPHONE CALLS

Students may not be interrupted during school hours by outside calls and messages except in case of emergency. If it is necessary to reach your child's school on a school day between 7:00 AM and 3:45 PM, dial Bert Raney Elementary at 320-564-4081 ext 3. The school secretary will relay messages to students. Students will be allowed to use the phone only in cases of emergency. Please make after-school plans prior to leaving in the morning.

Parents who wish to contact a classroom teacher should be prepared to leave a message requesting that the teacher contact the parent at the teacher's convenience. Teachers are generally not available to come to the telephone during the time school is in session. Leaving a message may be necessary even before or after school since the teacher may be involved in a conference or attending meetings at the time your call is made.

TESTING

All 3rd-5th grade students take the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments. All ESL students take the ACCESS for ELLs test. The results of these tests are shared with parents as they become available. The information from these tests is utilized to determine if students need additional help and support in the areas of reading, mathematics and writing.

TITLE I

The Title I program is available to assist students who are experiencing difficulty in reading and/or math. Bert Raney is a Title I school for the 2019-20 school year. Parents of students in Title I schools may request, and the school will provide to the parents on request, information regarding the qualifications of the student's classroom teachers, including:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which the 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, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

A Title I Parent-School Compact is reviewed and signed by all parents at Fall Conferences.

VISITORS AT SCHOOL

Parents are always welcome at Bert Raney Elementary School. We encourage parents and grandparents or anyone interested, to visit school during the school day, we do ask that you limit your visit to no more than 30 minutes. If you wish to visit a class, a call to the office beforehand would be appreciated. There are times when visiting a classroom will be disruptive to the schedule. Visitors are required to sign in at the elementary office before visiting other parts of the building.

WEAPONS

Yellow Medicine East School District has a Zero Tolerance policy with regard to weapons in a school location. The school district will act to enforce this policy and to discipline or take appropriate action against anyone who violates this policy. A weapon can be defined as: any object, device or instrument designed that is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict self-injury.

Examples of such weapons include, but are not limited to: pellet guns, BB guns, all knives, blades, clubs, metal knuckles, nunchucks, throwing stars, explosives, fireworks, mace and other propellants, stun guns, ammunition, poisons, chains, arrows, and objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon.

No person shall possess, use or distribute any object, device or instrument having the appearance of a weapon and such objects, devices or instruments shall be treated as weapons including but not limited to, weapons listed above which are broken or non-functional, look-alike gun; toy guns; and any object that is a facsimile of a real weapon. School location includes any school buildings or grounds, school activities or trips, bus stops, school buses or school vehicles.

Consequences for using, possession or distribution of weapons or look-alike weapons shall include:

- immediate out-of-school suspension
- confiscation of weapon
- immediate notification of police
- parent or guardian notification
- recommendation to the superintendent of dismissal for a period of time not to exceed one year.

The full policy can be viewed at <http://www.isd2190.org/Content2/96> - Policy 501.

This handbook reflects Yellow Medicine East School District policies, which can be viewed at <https://www.isd2190.org/Content2/96>