# Kohler Elementary School

Student & Parent Handbook 2025-2026

KOHLER PUBLIC SCHOOLS 333 Upper Road Kohler, WI 53044



### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

Dear Parents:

As part of online registration, you are asked to review/acknowledge the handbook with regards to our policies/procedures. You can always locate our **Elementary Student Handbook** on the Kohler School website <a href="www.kohlerpublicschools.org">www.kohlerpublicschools.org</a>. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. We are looking forward to a fantastic school year.

Sincerely,

**Nathan Hinze** 

Elementary Principal

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### **FOREWORD**

Dear Students and Parents:

Welcome to Kohler Elementary School. Our purpose is to prepare all of our young people with the capacity to pursue their dreams.

This handbook will answer many of the questions you have about your child's elementary education. It also provides an additional avenue of communication between the school, children, and parents as it explains our expectations and procedures. Please review this carefully and visit the school website to look even more closely at all the Board's policies and district guidelines.

Every student in the Kohler School District has the right to a quality education. To ensure every student exercises that right, the district has established procedures regarding appropriate and expected behavior. The guidelines for student responsibilities are designed to create an orderly environment that is safe for all students and staff. The rules are built to develop the habits and discipline of success.

We encourage each student in his/her academic, social, and extra-curricular efforts. We are here to support each student and look forward to a successful and exciting school year.

Any student who experiences bullying behavior, witnesses bullying behavior, or is aware of any inappropriate behaviors threatening school safety is expected to report the behavior to a teacher or administrator.

Sincerely, **Nathan Hinze**, *Principal* 

### **Kohler School District Mission**

Every day at Kohler Schools we **inspire** inquiry; **engage** hearts, minds and bodies; and provide supports to ensure all students can **achieve** success.

Our mission: Inspire, Engage, Achieve

# **2025-2026 CALENDAR**

July 21 - August 1	Online registration opens
August 25-28	Pre-session program for all faculty
August 27	Elementary supply drop off 3:00-5:00 pm
September 1	Labor Day- No School
September 2	First Day of School
October 14	Parent Teacher Conferences
October 16	Parent Teacher Conferences
October 17	No School - Teacher Professional Development Day
October 31	First quarter ends
November 3	Second quarter begins
November 21	No School - Teacher Professional Development
November 28	Early Release (1/2 day for students)
November 27-28	No School - Thanksgiving Recess
December 22 - January 2	No School - Winter break
January 5	School resumes
January 22	End of 2nd quarter/1st semester
January 23	No School - Teachers Record and Professional Development Day
January 26	Third quarter begins
February 17	Parent Teacher Conferences
February 19	Parent Teacher Conferences
February 20	No School - Teacher Professional Development Day
March 20	End of 3rd Quarter
March 23 - March 27	No School – Spring Break
March 30	School resumes
March 30	Start of 4th quarter
April 3	No School
May 1	No School - Teacher Professional Development
May 17	No School
May 25	No School - Memorial Day
June 9	Last Day of School (half day)
June 10	Teacher Record Day

# **KOHLER SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT**

NAME	POSITION	EXTENSION	EMAIL ADDRESS
Mike Juech	Superintendent	7201	juechm@kohler.k12.wi.us
Andrea Walter	Pupil Services Director	7207	waltera@kohler.k12.wi.us
OPEN	Coordinator of Learning & Development		
Nathan Hinze	Elementary Principal	7206	hinzen@kohler.k12.wi.us
Natasha Rowell	High/Middle School Principal	7282	rowelln@kohler.k12.wi.us
Ryan Sprenger	Athletics, Activities & Kohler Kare Director	7205	sprengerr@kohler.k12.wi.us
Adam Turner	Technology Coordinator	7214	turnera@kohler.k12.wi.us
Isaac Patterson	Business Manager	7204	pattersoni@kohler.k12.wi.us
Laura Multer	ES Counselor (grades 4K-5)	7203	multerl@kohler.k12.wi.us
Melissa O'Connor	MS Counselor (grades 6-8)	7270	oconnorm@kohler.k12.wi.us
Courtney Nachreiner	HS Counselor (grades 9-12)	7273	nachreinerc@kohler.k12.wi.u s
Nicole Johnsrud	School Nurse	7208	johnsrudn@kohler.k12.wi.us
Adrianne Seymour	Executive Assistant & HR Specialist	7200	seymoura@kohler.k12.wi.us
Theresa Andrews	HS/MS/AD Assistant	7202	andrewst@kohler.k12.wi.us
Elissa Fischer	Elementary Assistant	7210	fischere@kohler.k12.wi.us
Drew Dantzler	Maintenance/Grounds	7218	dantzlera@kohler.k12.wi.us

# **KOHLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACULTY**

POSITION	NAME	EXTENSION	EMAIL ADDRESS
4K	Betty Bley	7226	bleyb@kohler.k12.wi.us
4K	Kaitlyn Johnson-Kong	7234	barageniom@kohler.k12.wi.us
4K	Nicole Wittwer	7234	wittwern@kohler.k12.wi.us
5K	Karen Bittner	7224	bittnerk@kohler.k12.wi.us
5K	Katie Magle	7248	maglek@kohler.k12.wi.us
5K	Holly Wessel	7231	wieselh@kohler.k12.wi.us
<b>1</b> st	Kelly DeAmico	7229	deamicok@kohler.k12.wi.us
<b>1</b> st	Madeline Dettloff	7232	dettloffm@kohler.k12.wi.us
<b>1</b> st	Jody Solberg	7262	solbergj@kohler.k12.wi.us
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rikki Bruggink & Jordan Carini	7235	brugginkr@kohler.k12.wi.us carinij@kohler.k12.wi.us
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Julie Dich	7221	dichj@kohler.k12.wi.us
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tonya DePagter	7233	depagtert@kohler.k12.wi.us
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Meredith Niesen	7245	niesenm@kohler.k12.wi.us
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sarah Prokash	7220	prokashs@kohler.k12.wi.us
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Holly Risseeuw		risseeuwh@kohler.k12.wi.us
4 <sup>th</sup>	Kathleen Dudek	7253	dudekk@kohler.k12.wi.us
4 <sup>th</sup>	Jennifer Roeber	7255	roeberj@kohler.k12.wi.us
4 <sup>th</sup>	Grace Swanson	7284	swansong@kohler.k12.wi.us
5 <sup>th</sup>	Lisa Cornielsen	7286	cornielsenl@kohler.k12.wi.us
5 <sup>th</sup>	Kate Markert	7267	markertk@kohler.k12.wi.us
5 <sup>th</sup>	Courtney Wagner		wagnerc@kohler.k12.wi.us

# **KOHLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACULTY** (continued)

POSITION	NAME	EXTENSION	EMAIL ADDRESS
Adaptive PE	Jacob Morelli		morellij@kohler.k12.wi.us
Art	Carly Dellger	7264	dellgerc@kohler.k12.wi.us
Human Health & Development	Kelly Cole	7228	colek@kohler.k12.wi.us
Library	Sarah DeGroff	7213	degroffs@kohler.k12.wi.us
Physical Education	Rebecca Luedtke	7247	luedtker@kohler.k12.wi.us
Reading Specialist	Ben Schaenzer		schaenzerb@kohler.k12.wi.us
Reading Specialist	Laurie Turner	7216	turnerl@kohler.k12.wi.us
Special Education	Michelle Weinandt	7265	weinandtm@kohler.k12.wi.us
Special Education Assistant	Deb Konecke	2920	konecked@kohler.k12.wi.us
STEAM	Derek D'Amico		damicod@kohler.k12.wi.us
Vocal Music	Alexa Allis	7243	allisa@kohler.k12.wi.us

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Please become familiar with the following information and keep the handbook available for your use. It can be a valuable reference during the school year. Should you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook, contact the elementary principal, who you will find listed in the Staff Directory section of the handbook.

This handbook summarizes many official policies and administrative guidelines of the School Board and the District. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein is revised after July 1, 2025, the language in the most current policy or administrative guideline prevails.

### **SCHOOL HOURS**

4-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K)	8:00 AM to 11:00 AM
5-Year-Old Kindergarten (5K) through Grade 5	8:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Early Release Day Schedule	Elementary students are released at 11:40 AM.
Elementary Student Services Office Hours	7:30 AM to 4:00 PM

### **TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

District Office	920-459-2920
Elementary Office	920-803-7210
Fax Number	920-459-2930

### **ATTENDANCE**

It is Board Policy that whenever a student is absent from school or expected to be tardy, the parent should **call the Elementary Attendance Line <u>before 8:00 AM</u>.** Research clearly shows how important school attendance is for mental health and academic achievement. Missing 10% or about two days per month over the year has academic and social implications. We do follow both district and state/county law regarding truancy practices.

- CALL 920-459-2920: follow the prompts to the Elementary School attendance line, and leave a message including your child's name, grade/teacher, and reason for the absence; OR
- Email Ms. Fischer, our school secretary, directly at <a href="fischere@kohler.k12.wi.us">fischere@kohler.k12.wi.us</a> including your child's name, grade/teacher, and reason for the absence.

The Elementary Secretary will contact the home as soon as possible if a parent has not called in the absence. It is necessary to send a note with your child when he/she returns to school following an absence if the school has not received prior notification.

If you have to take your child out of school during the day, we ask that you either call the attendance mailbox in advance or send a note with your child to the Elementary office. We will have your child waiting in the office when you specify. Students leaving early will need to be signed out at the office. We will not release children to anyone other than parents without direct permission from a parent.

If you have to remove your child from school for an extended time we ask that you contact the school as early as possible. An administrator may excuse a pupil from school for medical reasons, a family emergency, or an educational trip with the student's parents. If a pupil's planned absence is to exceed 5 days, parents should contact the Elementary Principal.

If a child is recovering from an illness and needs to stay in during recess or be excused from physical education, **parents must notify the teacher in writing.** Kohler Public Schools' Sick Child Guidelines are on our website.

### **TARDIES**

As part of State Statute 118.15, our district must set consistent start and end times, as well as cut-off times for what is considered "tardy." **Arrival time for students is between 7:40-7:50 AM. Students are expected in their classroom at 8:00 AM.** District "tardy" time for arrival is anytime after 8:00 AM. If a child leaves school between 2:30-3:00 PM, the child will receive a "tardy" in the system to reflect the time missing from school. All educational times during the day are important in helping us achieve our many academic and social goals for children.

Students tardy to school must report to the office for a tardy pass before reporting to the classroom. Students who must leave during the school day must be picked up by the parent(s) in the elementary office and obtain a "Leave the Building" permit. Upon the student's return to school, a permit must be presented/signed in the elementary office before returning to the classroom. Children will not be allowed to wait outside the building unattended.

If your child is absent a portion of a school day for an appointment, and you provide a medical excuse, this would be considered an exempt absence and will not count against the 10-day maximum allowed.

Teaching staff will work with students on establishing prompt attendance. The administrator will contact parents of students with more than 5-10 unexcused tardies. All tardiness will become part of the student's permanent record.

### **ABSENCES**

Parents can excuse their children for any reason from school for ten school days, according to the State Statute. (See the Absence Notification section in this handbook for these procedures). These days are intended to provide enough flexibility for families while ensuring proper student attendance. Families may choose to use these days for family vacation time that does not fall during a break, appointments, and other necessary life events. If you provide a doctor's note for an appointment, the absence will be exempt and will not count against these ten days. Parent-reported illnesses are considered "excused" but not exempt unless we receive a doctor's note. After three consecutive illness days, a doctor's note may be requested.

If your child is absent for a portion of a school day for an appointment, and you provide a medical excuse, this would be considered an exempted absence.

### **PANDEMICS**

The school's pandemic protocols regarding student health and safety will be followed during a CDC-identified pandemic.

Students who miss school due to a pandemic-related reason will have the absences considered exempt and will not count against the 10 allowable days if they participate in virtual online learning during the time of the absence. Attendance policies will be flexible during an identified pandemic.

### **ENTRANCE AGE**

Student admission age policy for the Kohler School District is as follows:

- A. Children will be admitted to the 4-year-old kindergarten program if their fourth birthday falls on or before September 1 of the year in which they propose to enter school.
- B. To be admitted to the 5-year-old kindergarten or first grade, their fifth or sixth birthday, respectively, must fall on or before September 1 of the year in which they propose to enter school.
- C. Transfer students shall be admitted to the grade level most compatible to their educational progress or to a grade level mutually agreed upon by the Principal, teacher, and the parent(s) or guardian(s).

### ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

ALL visitors must enter the school from the MAIN ENTRANCE (Door 2) off the parking lot at Upper Road. All other doors will be LOCKED and not accessible. Elementary students will enter through the two doors adjacent to the elementary playground (Doors #6 and #9). The doors will be opened and monitored by school staff 10 minutes prior to the start of school. There will be supervision on the playground beginning at 7:40 AM until the bell rings at 7:50 AM. At 8:00 AM, doors will be locked and instruction begins. During inclement weather days (heavy rain, thunderstorms, temperatures below zero), elementary students will enter the Main Entrance and proceed to the STEAM Commons for supervision beginning at 7:40 AM. Students arriving via the playground will enter door #6 under the canopy and go directly to the STEAM Commons. At the 7:50 AM bell, students will be directed to their classrooms. Students arriving at 8:00 AM or later must enter the office doors and will be marked as tardy.

### **DISMISSAL PROCEDURES**

Elementary students are dismissed on the playground or alternatively at door 2 (by the main office). Please make sure you make arrangements with your child regarding where to meet. Please notify your child's teacher of standard pick-up protocols and notify the office and teacher of any changes in routine. All students must be picked up from school by 3:15 PM. After school Kohler Kare is available if you are unable to pick up your child by 3:15 PM.

### **BUS TRANSPORTATION**

Kohler Public Schools has a policy involving a two-mile limit on bus transportation unless there are extenuating circumstances. Transportation is limited to no more than two (2) locations (this includes the home residence). ALL families that want bus transportation must complete this **bus form** within the registration window to guarantee bus service. For bus-specific questions (i.e., pick up/drop off times or changes since registration), **please call Johnson School Bus company at** 920-893-5941.

### **Leaving Time**

Each bus is under the direct supervision of a trained driver. The bus leaves the school lot within 5 minutes of the last bell. Children must be on the bus and ready to depart on time. Students who miss the bus *must* report to the main office. Parents will be contacted for pick-up if their child misses the bus. In the interest of safety, parents are asked to help in instructing their children to follow the rules as listed below:

### **Arrival Time**

- 1. Bus riders shall conform to the same standards of conduct and cleanliness that are expected of them at school.
- 2. Riders are expected to obey the bus driver promptly. Refusal to obey the driver shall be a sufficient reason for being denied transportation services.
- 3. The rider or his/her parents must pay for damage done by the rider to the seats or other bus equipment.
- 4. Riders shall not extend heads or limbs out of a window at any time or throw anything out of windows.
- 5. Riders shall remain seated at all times while the bus is in motion.
- 6. Riders are expected to be on time at the designated bus stop. The bus will come to a full stop but will not wait for students.
- 7. Loud talking, yelling, or unnecessary commotion distracts the driver and could result in an accident. Rough and boisterous behavior is not permitted.

### **BICYCLE RIDERS**

Bicycle riders are to observe safety rules to and from school. **The use of helmets is strongly encouraged**. During school hours, bicycle riding is not permitted on school grounds. Bikes are to be parked properly in designated areas. Please remind your child to keep his/her bike locked when not in use. The school assumes no responsibility for stolen bicycles. **Skateboards, Roller Blades, and Scooters** can be used to and from school. However, they are not to be used for recreation on school grounds at any time.

### **HOT LUNCH PROGRAM**

The Kohler School District serves nutritious meals every school day. We offer a hot lunch program featuring a full meal. Students may put money into their lunch accounts in the morning in the cafeteria or parents can put money into their accounts online. Elementary students will not be allowed to purchase a la carte menu items from the cafeteria.

### **LUNCHROOM BEHAVIOR**

We expect students to observe proper behavior during lunch by being respectful, responsible, and safe. Students are expected to keep the noise level at an appropriate level.

- Stay Seated (Safe)
- Walk & Line up (Safe)
- Personal Space and Clean hands (Safe)
- Welcome-include all (Respectful)- no saved seats
- Listen to adults (Respectful)
- Use good manners/kind words (Respectful)
- Throw away garbage(Responsible)
- Eat only your food (Responsible)
- Level 2 voice (talking) -during lunch; 0 voice level when prompted

### SCHOOL CLOSINGS

The District Administrator will decide when to close school for weather-related or other emergencies. Parents may use our phone system for information by calling <u>920-459-2920</u> and listening to option number 7 (Emergency School Closing Information). Official announcements are also made over Sheboygan radio stations **WHBL** (1330 AM) and other TV/radio stations that serve the Sheboygan area.

### SCHOOL VISITATION

Parents are welcome to visit the school. *All visitors to the school must report to the office prior to entering the rest of the building, or the playground, and sign in.* We ask that you make arrangements for your visit in advance out of courtesy to your child's teacher. We can also help you arrange your schedule to see the activity in which you are interested.

### FIRE AND TORNADO DRILLS

Fire and tornado drills are held in accordance with the state mandates. It is of the utmost importance that youngsters practice proper procedures in an orderly manner.

### PLAYGROUND BEHAVIOR

Recess will be scheduled for outside except during inclement weather. During the winter months, students will be expected to go outside unless the wind chill factor is below 0°F. Playground supervision is provided, and any problems that arise should be reported to the playground supervisors. Any illness or injury that occurs while students are outside should be reported immediately to the playground supervisors.

Recess should be a time for relaxation and fun, which must include safe play. Activities that are acceptable in your yard or in the neighborhood may not be appropriate on school grounds. Students are directly responsible to the playground supervisor and are expected to observe playground rules.

# We follow the Kohler PBIS expectations of being Respectful, Responsible, and Safe in all settings. On the playground that means:

- 1. Using equipment safely and appropriately.
- 2. Following safety/game rules with good sportsmanship.
- 3. Being weather-ready: having appropriate gear for the weather. (i.e., boots and snow pants are required for any play, not on the blacktop).
- 4. Listen to adults.
- 5. We welcome and include others. We take turns and share.
- 6. We use our "Stop Walk and Talk" strategies to address problems and go to an adult when needed.
- 7. Follow KHFOOTY expectations: Keep Hands Feet and Other Objects To Yourself.
- 8. Line up when called facing forward with personal space.
- 9. Follow school rules for sports.

### SPECIFIC PLAYGROUND EXPECTATIONS

### Slides/Swings/Playground equipment

- One student to a swing with students seated until the swing stopped,
- Widely walk around swings when they are in motion
- Swings are for swinging back and forth only (not twisting or other uses)
- Slide down only on your bottom, and wait for others to move before going down
- Use climbing equipment appropriately
- No tag or ball play on the equipment

### **Play including Sports**

- No weapons-including toy/pretend weapons and no threats at any time
- Only kind appropriate language is used
- Aggressive hurtful play, bullying or fighting will not be tolerated
- Any activity that the playground supervisor deems dangerous will not be permitted
- · Agree to rules of play of elsewhere
- Be a good sport
- If a ball goes out of boundaries, get an adult
- · Bring in unused equipment

### **Snow/Winter Play**

- Snow can be built with, but not thrown.
- Ice is not safe to slide on and should not be thrown/kicked
- Students must wear clothes appropriate for the play. (Boots/snow pants for snow play otherwise they remain on the blacktop, hats/mittens, and coats when cold weather)

### TREATMENT OF LOCKERS, DESKS, AND STORAGE AREAS

Lockers, desks, and storage areas are school property under the control of the school district. They are made available for student use. These areas are subject to random searches. Damage done to lockers, desks, and storage areas due to misuse will be billed to the student.

- 1. Personal materials such as pictures, posters, etc. may be fastened to the inside of the locker. Locker chandeliers are not allowed.
- 2. Jammed or otherwise inoperable lockers should be reported to the office immediately.
- 3. The school district reserves the right to inspect or search any locker.

### STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Students are encouraged to use the school's technology resources for educational purposes. Use of such resources is a privilege, not a right. Students must conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical and legal manner. Unauthorized or inappropriate use, including any violation of the District's policies and administrative guidelines, may result in cancellation of the privilege, disciplinary action or civil or criminal liability. Prior to accessing the internet at school, students must sign the Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement each year.

### **CELL PHONES & OTHER DEVICES**

### It is important that you and your child review the following:

Kohler Schools recognizes that parents/guardians may wish to be in close contact with their children during the school day, and therefore, students may be provided with a cellular telephone. Elementary students are required to keep their cell phones or other devices in their lockers/backpacks and be powered off. Smartwatches are permitted but must be set to silent mode during periods of instruction. The elementary lockers are not locked up and we strongly discourage elementary students from bringing cellphones to school. If smartwatches are interfering with the learning of students or violate our technology expectations, they will be removed and returned at the end of the day. Please be advised that the school is not responsible for lost or stolen cell phones or other devices.

If a student needs to use a telephone, he/she is advised to come to the Elementary Office and ask permission to use the office phone.

### **SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

Search of a student and his/her possessions may be conducted at any time the student is under the Board of Education, if there is reasonable suspicion that the student is in violation of law or school rules. A search may also be conducted to protect the safety of others or as otherwise permitted by law. Students are provided lockers, desks, and other equipment in which to store materials. It should be clearly understood that this equipment is the property of the school district and may be searched at any time if there is suspicion that a student has violated the law of school rules.

### **USE OF TOBACCO/NICOTINE IS PROHIBITED**

The possession or use of tobacco/nicotine or any illegal substances prohibited by law is prohibited on school property or at any school-related event.

### **WEAPONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

The District prohibits students, staff, and visitors from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon in any setting that is under the control and supervision of the District for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the District including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the District, a school-sponsored event, or in a District vehicle without the permission of the District Administrator.

The The term "weapon" means any object which, in the manner in which it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons include but are not limited to, firearms (including, but not limited to, firearms as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3)), guns of any type, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, ammunition, and explosives.

Any student who has reason to believe that a person has or will violate this guideline shall report to the school principal or the supervisor of the activity immediately. The report should include as much detail as possible concerning the person(s) involved, the weapon, the location of the person(s), and how this information was obtained.

No student is to confront the person possessing the weapon, but a staff member has the option of confronting the person if the staff member believes the risk of injury to self or others is minimal or if immediate action is necessary to prevent injury to any person.

A principal or activity supervisor receiving a report of weapons possession shall have the option of conducting a search for the weapon in accordance with AG <u>5771</u>, Search and Seizure, or contacting local law enforcement for assistance.

Any interaction with the person should have as its primary objective the safety and welfare of people in the area rather than obtaining possession of the weapon.

The District Administrator will refer any student who violates this policy to the student's parents or guardians and to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system. The student may also be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.

### **VIDEO SURVEILLANCE**

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video surveillance and electronic monitoring equipment. Any person who takes action to block, move, or alter the location and/or viewing angle of a video camera shall be subject to disciplinary action.

### STUDENT DRESS GUIDELINES

Students are expected to exercise good judgment regarding their attire and grooming so as not to disrupt the educational environment and to establish a healthy school climate. Clothing must be clean, in good repair, and worn in such a manner as to exercise good taste and not to detract from the learning environment. Student's attire should be neat, clean, and appropriate for the school setting.

- 1. Hats/caps are only allowed outside of school unless a special dress day has been announced.
- Slogans or logos, which contain profanity, obscenity, or that advertise or depict
  cigarettes or tobacco products, alcohol, drugs, weapons, or sexual acts are not
  permitted. Language that is demeaning to any person or group, or anything that is
  considered by the administration to be in poor taste or demeaning to any person or
  group is not allowed.
- 3. The school administration may disallow other types of clothing that may jeopardize a safe and orderly environment for the students and school staff.

### **ACTIVITIES/CLUBS**

We work with the Kohler Public Library and Kohler Village to provide enrichment opportunities via clubs or specialized activities.

### REPORT CARDS

Report cards may be viewed through the Kohler School website at <a href="https://www.kohlerpublicschools.org">www.kohlerpublicschools.org</a> Click on the Family Access tab and view your student's progress. If parents do not have access to a computer or have any questions, contact Elissa Fischer at 920-803-7210.

Report Cards are designed as a tool to provide parents with clear communication about a student's progress and performance. The standards-based report card reports the student's academic performance based on Kohler's grade-level standards and expectations.

Academic standards are derived from the Department of Public Instruction's Wisconsin State Standards for each subject area. Report cards are just one of the many ways in which teachers communicate with parents; ongoing communication and sharing of concerns or positive news are encouraged.

**Standards-Based Grading:** The goal of standards-based grading is to document each student's level of achievement based on learning targets. A standards-based report card allows teachers to more accurately report student progress toward meeting the standards that are the focus of learning during each quarter of the year with the goal to achieve proficiency in all skills and knowledge by the end of the school year.

- A score of (4) would indicate that a student exceeds grade-level standards by consistently demonstrating an advanced level of understanding and/or the ability to apply their knowledge at a higher level.
- A score of (3) would indicate that a student meets the grade level standard. The student demonstrates mastery of the standard.
- A score of (2) would indicate that a student is approaching an understanding of a
  grade level standard, but still may be in need of additional instruction and/or
  support.
- A score of (1) would indicate a developing proficiency of a grade-level standard. The student shows beginning evidence of understanding the standard.

### PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences are held each school year. The main purpose of this conference is to provide a sound working relationship between the school and home in order that the child's growth in all areas of development will be a cooperative enterprise.

A parent may schedule a conference with a teacher at any time outside of the parent-teacher conference window. To do this, parents just need to call the teacher and indicate they would like a conference. Likewise, the teacher may contact parents when he/she wishes to discuss a student's progress.

### STUDENT RECORDS

Student records are maintained in the interest of the pupil in order to assist the school in providing appropriate educational experiences. All student records are confidential and only released under the guidelines established by State and Federal laws of confidentiality. Parents or Guardians have the rights:

- 1. To deny the release of such information,
- 2. To inspect, review, and obtain copies of the student records,
- 3. To request the amendment of the student's school records if they believe the records are inaccurate or misleading.
- 4. To consent to the disclosure of the student's school records, except to the extent State and Federal law authorizes disclosure without consent,
- 5. To file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office of the U.S. Department of Education.

### **DEALING WITH SCHOOL-RELATED CONCERNS**

If the concern/issue involves the classroom teacher, we ask that you start there and discuss the problem with the teacher. If you are not satisfied, this matter should then be taken to the principal. If the matter deals with something outside the realm of the classroom teacher, you should take your concerns directly to the school administration.

### STUDENT HEALTH

Professional medical, dental, and vision examinations are not required for entrance into Kohler Public Schools, but it is highly recommended. A health record is initiated at the time of entrance and is updated as the student progresses through school. Parents are asked to provide the school with new health information at the beginning of each school year and to notify the School any time there is a new health problem that the school should be aware of. Health records for students are maintained by the school nurse. Requests for vision and hearing screenings on an individual basis may be made at any time throughout the school year by faculty or parents. Please include any drug allergies on the Health Emergency Form. This information may be necessary in case of an emergency.

### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

Parents are reminded of their responsibility to report certain communicable diseases with which their children are afflicted. This information needs to be reported to the Kohler Schools and the Sheboygan County Division of Public Health. Some examples of diseases that need to be reported are chicken pox, measles, mumps, rubella, pertussis (whooping cough), and viral hepatitis. The purpose of reporting this information is to permit school and/or health department personnel to make necessary decisions to prevent or control the spread of these diseases among susceptible people.

Conjunctivitis, lice, scabies, strep, and ringworm are not reportable diseases but are very contagious. If your child should have these, please seek treatment and make the school nurse and/or school office aware. In some cases, the child should be on antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school. Preventing the spread of infection is our main priority.

### **IMMUNIZATIONS**

State law requires all public and private school students to present written evidence of immunization against certain diseases within 30 days of admission. These requirements can be waived only if a properly signed health, religious, or personal conviction waiver is filed with the school. Non-compliance must be referred to the District Attorney's office. The Student Nurse will contact you if your student is non-compliant.

### **INJURIES AND ILLNESS**

Students are instructed to report any personal injuries or accidents that occur during the school day to their teacher or school office. First-aid services will be provided as needed, however, in some instances of illness or injury, the school will contact the parents and request that they come for their child.

### MEDICATION POLICY

No medication will be given to a student by school personnel without written authorization from the parent or guardian and the doctor. Authorization forms for the administration of medicine are available in the school office. Medication must be sent in the original labeled container.

### **CURRICULUM**

Students in Kohler Elementary School receive instruction based on the Wisconsin Standards with a focus in the areas of reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Please contact the elementary principal with any questions at 920-803-7206.

### **ART**

Elementary students begin taking art classes in 4K grade and continue through grade 5. Art classes enable elementary students to express themselves visually while working with a variety of media. Students in grades K-5 have 60 minutes of art instruction with a certified art teacher each week and 4K students have 30 minutes of art each week

### **VOCAL MUSIC**

Vocal music is scheduled as follows:

- 4K: (1) 30 minute session per week
- Grades K-5: 45 minutes (on a 3-day rotation)

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All children are expected to participate in physical education unless a written excuse from a physician is presented. Requests for an excuse from participation on a daily basis cannot always be honored. If your child has serious symptoms of a cold, sore throat, etc., and you feel that his activity should be limited, he will probably benefit most by remaining home. The emphasis in the elementary grades is on physical fitness, skill development, cooperation, and sportsmanship. Pupils in grades 4K - 5 should have a pair of tennis shoes that tie, and these shoes must be different from the ones they wear to school (no black soles please). Swimming units are presented during grades 4 through 5. Any student wearing glasses will be required to wear glass bands during physical education classes. The District will not be held responsible for damage to glasses. Students in grades K-5 have 45 minutes (on a 3-day rotation) of physical education instruction with a certified teacher each week.

### LIBRARY

The Library Media Center serves an important role in the elementary school. Students in grades 4K - 5 have one regularly scheduled library period with the Library Media specialist each week. The library has computers that the students have access to during the school day for projects and assignments. All students have access to the Internet for school-related projects. Books are checked out for two weeks and may be renewed if needed. There are no fines for overdue books. The library also serves as the community's public library. The public library hours are posted on the library doors.

### STEAM

All students participate in STEAM curriculum each week. Their exploration of science, technology, engineering, art and math through projects, hands-on learning, and culminating experiences allow for a deeper understanding of concepts, which transfer to other academic areas. Students in K-5 have 45-minute classes on a 3-day rotation while 4K has 30 minutes per week.

### **TESTING PROGRAM**

Elementary students are required to participate in various forms of assessment. In addition to assessments in the curriculum, we use universal screeners to determine whether each student is likely to meet, exceed or not meet the established benchmarks. We also use progress monitoring tools to assess a student's academic and behavioral performance and to measure improvement or responsiveness to instruction.

Grades 3-5 will also participate in state standardized testing in the spring. Specifically, students in Grades K-3 will participate in the State Aims Web Plus Assessment three times a year while 4K students will participate in the testing twice a year.

### ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION

Response to Intervention (RTI) is grounded in the belief that ALL students can learn and achieve high standards when provided with effective teaching, research-based instruction, and access to a standards-based curriculum. A comprehensive system of tiered interventions is essential for addressing the full range of student's academic and behavioral needs.

At Kohler Elementary School, we utilize a multilevel system of support to help our students achieve success both academically and behaviorally. We provide universal academic screening to all students 2-3 times a year to identify students who may need additional support in reading/language arts and math. Students who have been identified to be below benchmark receive "in addition to" instruction in the area of need. The intervention includes the delivery of skill-specific, evidenced-based academic intervention options in a small group setting in addition to core instruction. Skill instruction is explicit and discrete (a few skills at a time) and is matched to student skill deficits.

Through our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) system, we use a proactive systems approach for creating and maintaining a safe and effective learning environment. In addition to our universal teaching of behavior expectations, students who need additional instruction will receive support through our Check in and Check Out (CICO) program. This is evidenced-based support where students are matched with an adult who encourages positive behaviors each day and provides feedback to the student on their performance at the end of each day based on a daily progress report. In addition, students may receive support through mentoring or working with the school counselor.

### CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Wisconsin and Federal laws specify that each school district identifies all individuals who are suspected of having disabilities. The Kohler School District serves eligible students between the ages of 3 and 21. The following are identified categories within special education:

- Other Health Impaired
- · Emotional Behavioral Disability
- Intellectual Disability
- Specific Learning Disability

- Hearing Impairment
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Visual Impairment
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Autism
- Speech or Language Impairment
- Significant Developmental Delay

Parents and/or teachers may refer any individual they think may have a disability. Referrals should be brought to the attention of the School Psychologist, who will schedule a records review meeting to discuss the nature of the referral and what steps need to be taken to process the referral. A copy of the complete referral process is available in the Student Services Office.

After a disability is determined, a decision is made on whether special education services are required. A placement offer is made based on the Individual Education Plan (IEP) goals. The placement offer must be signed by the parents prior to the implementation of the IEP. For further information please refer to the Kohler School District website's Pupil Services and Special Education page.

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**

Home Language Surveys will aid in the identification of students with **Limited English Proficiency**. Classroom accommodations are available to students with Limited English

Proficiency. Every mid-year, the State ACCESS Testing takes place for students from K-12,
who have been identified as English Language Learners. Students who reach Level 5+ will
exit the program and their progress will be monitored thereafter.

### **ACCOMMODATION OF SINCERELY HELD RELIGIOUS BELIEFS**

Situations may arise in which the parent has requested that their child not participate in a particular instructional activity. Board of Education policy authorizes such requests to be honored if the reason relates to a conflict between the subject matter and religious or philosophical beliefs held by the parents. Requests may not be honored, however, if the reason relates not to the subject matter but to pedagogy or other concerns. In such cases, the parent should contact the Principal.

### CHILD-FIND ACTIVITIES

The school district must locate, identify, and evaluate all children with disabilities, including children with disabilities attending private schools in the school district, regardless of the severity of their disabilities. The school district has a special education screening program to evaluate all children with suspected disabilities who are at least three years old. Upon request, the school district will screen a child who has not graduated high school to determine whether a special education referral is appropriate. A request may be made by contacting Andrea Walter, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education at 920-803-7207.

# PROCEDURES FOR PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS IN ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS

To ensure the best educational climate for our students, it is necessary to have an orderly and educationally sound policy for the placement of students in elementary classrooms. We feel this annual process of grouping should be completed with the following goal in mind:

- 1. Each room should be grouped as heterogeneously as possible.
- 2. Each group should be balanced in regard to leadership, learning ability, behavior and special problems.

Parental input into the process should only be made when it is felt that there is strong educational evidence that their child will benefit from placement with a certain classroom teacher.

### **REQUEST PROCEDURES** are as follows:

- Parents must submit their request that their daughter/son be placed in a specific classroom in writing to the Elementary Principal during the request window.
   Late requests will not be accepted. A parent signature must be included in the request.
- 2. Parents will be limited to one teacher request per child's 4K-5th grade career.
- 3. The Elementary Principal will consider the parent's request and may review all necessary data (test records, health records, behavioral records, teacher progress reports, etc.) as well as consult with the sending and/or receiving teachers.
- 4. Requests may be denied if granting the request leads to unbalanced classes in areas of gifted and talented, special needs, etc.
- 5. Classroom lists cannot be considered permanently established until the beginning of the new school year.

# **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM**

The purpose of the <u>school counseling program</u> is to impart specific skills and learning opportunities in a proactive, preventative manner, ensuring ALL students can achieve school success through academic, career and personal/social development experiences. The four components of the comprehensive School Counseling program are School Counseling Curriculum, Individual Planning, Responsive Services, and System Support.

### Blue Bomber Balance-school counseling

Universal bi-monthly classroom lessons are taught in grades 5K through fifth, as well as three introductory transition lessons for the 4K classes in the fall. Second Step and Skills for Growing by Lions Quest are the sequential, developmental, research-based programs that are used as our main curriculum sources. The curriculum is available for parents to review. Topics include but are not limited to: listening; following directions, assertiveness, feelings, empathy, emotion management, problem solving, decision making, career awareness, peer pressure, refusal skills, and wellness - how to be healthy & safe around medications and unknown substances and tobacco, alcohol & other drug awareness.

### **Small Group and Individual Counseling**

The Responsive Services component of the Comprehensive School Counseling Program includes Individual Counseling, Support Group Facilitation, Crisis Response as well as coordination, referral, and outreach with community agencies. Responsive Services address the immediate concerns of students. The purpose is prevention and intervention regarding a number of issues that students bring to school that can interfere with their academic achievement. These issues include divorce, loss, abuse, anxiety, depression, anger control, alcohol & drug abuse, suicide, coping, peer and family issues. The role of the School Counselor is to provide brief counseling sessions. If more in-depth counseling or therapy is necessary the counselor facilitates access to other community resources for the student and their family.

# **HUMAN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT INSTRUCTION - Grades 4-5**

This educational program is designed to support and enhance parents' efforts and provide information and instruction appropriate to each grade, age, and level of maturity of their children.

For our 4th-grade students, the following topics will be covered in the program:

### Boys and Girls:

- The importance of personal hygiene
- Common questions from kids their age during puberty

### Girls Only:

- What is a period/menstruation?
- As a part of normal development, when can I expect menstruation to occur? (age/ how often)
- Who do I go to for help at home?
- What do I do if it happens at school? Who do I go to for help at school?
- Common questions regarding menstruation

For our 5th-grade students, the following topics will be covered in the program:

- The physical and emotional changes that take place during puberty
- The importance of personal hygiene
- Common questions from kids their age during puberty

The students will be separated into two gender-based groups. The program includes a video and a question-and-answer session. We want parents to be aware of this program so that they can have an opportunity to discuss topics with their children at home.

# **ELEMENTARY EXPECTATIONS & DISCIPLINARY GUIDE**

### **PURPOSE**

The intent of the **Elementary Disciplinary Code** is to give students some direction and expectations for their social behavior. As students move from grade to grade, there is a maturing process that should take place.

Each student is responsible for his/her behavior. There are some consequences that come about as a result of a student's decision to behave in one manner or another. The consequences are not intended to be punitive but should be viewed as an opportunity for the student to correct his/her behavior in the future.

### POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS (PBIS)

Optimal student achievement (both academic and behavioral) can be attained by utilizing a proactive systems approach for creating and maintaining a safe and effective learning environment. We use PBIS to promote a positive and accepting climate for learning.

Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be safe

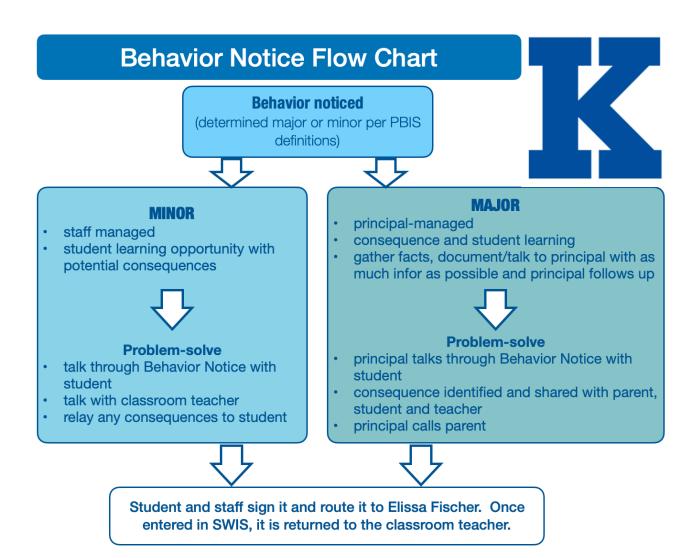
When school expectations are followed, students have an opportunity to be recognized for their efforts by receiving Bomber Bucks (or other acknowledgment) and by participating in our School Wide Celebrations.

Elementary students can earn Bomber Bucks for following expectations. Bomber Bucks are given by staff to students to acknowledge positive behavior. Once received, the bucks are placed in a savings account within the Elementary Classroom and can later be used to purchase items from The Hangar School Store.

We focus on acknowledging students for consistent positive behavior. Data is used system-wide to determine areas of need for re-teaching and to determine the school-wide behavior focus for the month. Routines and language are consistent throughout the school. Students will be taught the school expectations for classroom and non-classroom settings such as the cafeteria, bathrooms and hallways. Our PBIS Behavior Matrix reflects the language and teaching of expectations:

### When PBIS Expectations are not met and potential discipline

When school expectations are not followed, students are re-taught the expectations along with other appropriate consequences. If a student does not follow one of the expectations, a minor or major behavior notice may be issued with a focus on re-teaching expectations, being accountable, and ensuring behaviors do not continue to occur. Based on these referrals we design interventions at the school-wide, classroom, and small group/individual level. The data indicates that leveled systems of support may include a general review of expectations, skills-based instruction, restorative practice, incentive/monitoring programs, and mentoring.



III.Q SV IV SV IIV SKO		Bo	Bomber Pride Matrix hler Elementary Scho	Pride M	Bomber Pride Matrix Kohler Elementary School	_		HI LAND CONTINUES
Expectations	Always	Hallway	Bathroom	Cafeteria	Playground	Classroom	Bus	Assemblies
RESPECTFUL We are considerate, appreciative, and accepting.	Use kind words     Appropriate Voice	Whole body listening     Appropriate language     Rind words	Give Privacy     Appropriate language & kind words	Welcome     include all     Listen to     adults     Good     manners	• Listen to adults • Welcome 8. include all	• Good manners & take turns • Welcome & include others • Listen to adults	• Appropriate language & Kind words • Listen to adults	Look & listen     Respond appropriately     Sit with quiet body in seats
RESPONSIBLE We are accountable for our actions, choices and the results.	• Be on time • Be prepared	Close lockers quietly bathroom appropriat Be timely Throw a garbage Keep organized Repaper to	tely way ash	• Clean up your area sh, • Throw • \ garbage away up your food	ake turns & are Nhistle-Line		• Food & drink in backpack	• Follow directions
VOICE LEVEL	• 0-3	O-during school     - 2-Before/after school	•0-1	• 2-lunch • 0-when prompted	• 0-3	.1	• 2	.1
SAFE We are aware of our surroundings and practice safety first.	• KFHOOTY • Use Stop, Walk & Talk	Face Forward     Walk always     Stay to the right	Wash hands     Calm body     Neat & clean	Walk & Line     up     Stay Seated     Personal     Space	• Use equipment appropriately • Follow rules • Weather Ready	Personal space Stay seated     Calm body Face forware     Follow rules	Stay seated     Face forward	Stay with class     Personal     Space
Definitions:	Voice Levels 0=no voice 1=whisper 2=talking 3= outside	<b>KHFOOTY</b> Keep Hands Feet & Other Objects To Yourself	& Other Objects		Kind Words  =use I messages  =use appropriate staff & stupolite words =use positive tone of voice =THINK (True, Helpful, Insp	Kind Words  =use I messages =use appropriate staff & student names =polite words =use positive tone of voice =THINK (True, Helpful, Inspiring, Necessary & Kind)	is ssary & Kind)	DOOR AND DISEASED THE

Behavior such as (but not limited to) will be reported to the elementary principal immediately.

- Willful disobedience
- Open defiance
- · Acts of misbehavior which disturb the school environment
- Continued refusal to follow school regulations
- Fighting or attacking another person
- Deliberate use of bad/inappropriate language
- Behavior endangering the safety of others
- Possession of illegal items
- Vandalism
- Sexual Harassment
- Other forms of Harassment
- · Possession of weapons
- Bullying
- Cyberbullying

### BULLYING

Bullying is intentional aggressive behavior repeated over time and involves an imbalance of power and an intent to harm. Bullying can be physical, verbal, electronically transmitted, psychological (e.g., emotional abuse), through attacks on the property of another, or a combination of any of these. Examples of bullying may include:

- A. Physical hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, pulling, taking and/or damaging personal belongings or extorting money, blocking or impeding student movement, unwelcome physical contact.
- B. Verbal taunting, malicious teasing, insulting, name-calling, making threats.
- C. Psychological spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships, coercion, or engaging in social exclusion/shunning, extortion, or intimidation.
- D. Cyberbullying the use of information and communication technologies such as e-mail, cell phone and text messages, instant messaging (IM), defamatory personal websites, and defamatory online personal polling websites, to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. If the investigation finds that aggressive behavior has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate discipline, co-curricular sanctions, and/or disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

Consequences that are listed below will range from detentions, conditions on participation, suspension, or expulsion as per the decision of the Elementary Principal. The Elementary Principal will notify the Kohler Police Department of acts that are in violation of the local/State/Federal law.

### **Disciplinary Probation**

- Conference with parents, student, teacher(s), and Elementary Principal.
- Documented plan of action
- Monitoring of student behavior
- Suspension (in-school –or- out of school) will result in failure to meet identified goals

### **Out of School Suspension**

- A maximum of 10 days (determined by Elementary Principal)
- Parents meet with the Elementary Principal and related school staff
- Parents will return the child to school at the end of the suspension for a short meeting with the Elementary Principal.

### **Expulsion Hearing before the Kohler School Board**

- The Elementary Principal will recommend expulsion of student to Board of Education
- Parents and student will present their case to the Board of Education
- Board of Education will vote whether to expel

### **EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY**

The Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of any characteristic protected under State or Federal law including, but not limited to, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability in any of its student program and activities.

Students who have been identified as having an impairment or disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disabilities Act shall be provided with appropriate educational services. Parents who have questions should contact the Special Education director at extension 920-803-7207.

Any person who believes that the Kohler Schools or any staff person has discriminated against them in violation of Section 504/ADA Policy 2260.01 may file a complaint. A formal complaint can be made in writing to the Title IX coordinator(s) listed below:

HS/MS Principal 333 Upper Road Kohler, WI 53044 920-803-7282 tixcoordinator@kohler.k12.wi.us

Athletics & Activities Director 333 Upper Road Kohler, WI 53044 920-803-7205 tixcoordinator@kohler.k12.wi.us

The complaint grievance procedure is described in Board Policy 2260. The policy and form are available on the school district website.

The complaint will be investigated and a written acknowledgement given to the complainant within forty-five (45) days of receipt of a written complaint and a determination of the complaint within ninety (90) days, unless the parties agree to an extension, or unless the complaint is within the procedures of Chapter 115 of the Wisconsin Statutes governing exceptional educational needs. Education Department General Administrative Regulations, commonly called EDGAR complaints, shall be referred directly to the State Superintendent. If at any time during the investigation process the investigator determines that the complaint is properly defined as Bullying, under Policy 5517.01 - Bullying, and not harassment under Policy 5517, because the conduct at issue is not based on a student's protected characteristics, the investigator shall transfer the investigation to the appropriate building principal. Under no circumstances will the District threaten or retaliate against anyone who raises or files a complaint.

Kohler School District is committed to an educational environment that is free of harassment of any form. The school will not tolerate any form of harassment and will take all necessary and appropriate action to eliminate it, including suspension or expulsion of students and disciplinary action against any other individual in the school district community. Additionally, appropriate action will be taken to stop and otherwise deal with any third party who engages in harassment against our students.

This student and parent handbook is based, in significant part, on policies adopted by the School Board and administrative guidelines developed by the Superintendent. The policies and guidelines are periodically updatd in response to changes in the law and other circumstances. Therefore, there may have been changes to the documents reviewed in this handbook since it was published. If you have questions or would like more information about a specific issue, please visit our website at <a href="https://www.kohlerpublicschools.org">www.kohlerpublicschools.org</a>.

Last updated: July 6, 2025