

## Notice to Parents

### ***Right to Request Information On Teacher Qualifications***

Dear Elementary School Parents:

The teachers and staff are excited about providing your child an exciting learning experience. We welcome you to visit our schools any time to talk about your child and his or her progress during the year.

You may have heard about the federal "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB) Act of 2001 that impacts all public schools in the United States. One of the key provisions of that federal plan is to make sure our schools have the most highly qualified teachers in the classroom that we can possibly have. In fact, should you wish to receive information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers, NCLB allows you to ask and our schools to provide the following information:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subjects he or she teaches.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional license or whether licensing criteria have been waived.
- The teacher's degree major and any other graduate certification or degree held, and the field of discipline of the degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by a para educator and, if so, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please feel free to submit your request in writing or contact your school principal at school, and he or she will gladly follow up with you.

Thank you for all you do to support your child's education!

Your Elementary School Principals  
Hays USD #489

### **Special Education**

A full range of special education services are available to meet specific student needs. If a student is having difficulty in school, general education implements an intervention plan first. If a student appears to require special education services, a multidisciplinary evaluation is completed to determine eligibility and need for services.

## W e l c o m e

This handbook is designed to serve as a guide to the elementary schools in USD 489. It should be kept as a ready reference.

To accomplish our Mission Statement, all our schools must function under certain guidelines and regulations. We expect everyone attending our schools or being a part of them as a parent or guardian to recognize these regulations, to understand them, to abide by them, and to instruct their children about their responsibilities as students. It is also important for students and their parents to become acquainted with the school routines, services, and activities outlined in this handbook.

All of the policies in this handbook have been reviewed by the USD 489 Board of Education and are part of the Board of Education policies.

### ***Board of Education***

Karie Younger, President  
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### ***Central Office Administration***

Fred Kaufman, *Superintendent*  
Will Roth, *Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction*  
Richard Cain, *Assistant Superintendent for Finance*  
Mark Hauptman, *Assistant Superintendent for Special Services*

## Our Program

The educational program for the elementary schools includes the basic subjects of reading, writing, English, spelling, mathematics, social studies, science, health and physical education, music, art, and special services.

All of the elementary schools in Hays USD 489 offer programs for kindergarten through grade five. In each of these schools, kindergarten is an all-day program. Several of the schools also have a Head-Start classroom and some of the schools have other Pre-K programs as well.

During the last several years, a great deal of research has been done on how students learn and teaching methods that best promote student learning. USD 489 teachers and administrators are well versed in this current research, and efforts are in process to bring improved, research-based instruction to the students in the district's classrooms. Some of these important practices include:

- Providing a positive learning atmosphere in the school and classrooms.
- Cooperative learning.
- Algebra and geometry concepts in earlier grades.
- Increased student writing in all content areas.
- Connecting what is taught to real-life experiences students have previously experienced/learned to promote understanding, meaning, and remembering what is taught.
- Teaching to the different ways that students learn (visual, auditory, kinesthetic, etc.).
- Increased active student participation in the learning process and increased teacher-student interaction.

If you wish to know more about any of the above, please feel free to talk to your child's teacher or principal.

Active parent participation is encouraged in all district schools. Parents who are interested in becoming more involved in their children's school should contact the principal. Parents are also invited to visit their children's classrooms at any time.

## Title I District Parental Involvement Plan USD 489, Hays Public Schools

Parental interest, support and guidance are major contributing factors to any successful Title I instructional program. Toward this end, USD 489 public schools will provide opportunities for parents to participate in activities that include but are not limited to those listed below:

1. Staff and parents in Title I schools will plan and conduct at least one informational meeting each year to share information on programs and services and to encourage the involvement of parents in the educational process.
2. Parents will be provided information on programs, activities and opportunities for involvement through newsletters, invitations, personal notes, and telephone calls.
3. The school shall notify each child's parents in a timely manner that the child has been selected to participate in Title I, including information about why the child was selected.
4. Staff and parents in Title I schools will develop, implement and annually review school compacts as a method to regularly identify and address goals for student progress.
5. Staff and parents will participate in regularly scheduled parent teacher conferences to address student progress and needs.
6. The school parent involvement program will be coordinated with parent organizations, school volunteer programs, and school site councils.
7. Staff and parents at each school will develop and disseminate a school parent involvement policy to outline specific provisions for parent and community involvement. The policy will be reviewed annually and filed in the district Title I office.
8. Parents must be involved in an organized, ongoing and timely way in the planning review and improvement of Title I programs. This may be accomplished by creating a separate Title I advisory group or by ensuring that parents of participating Title I children have seats on existing school-wide committees such as parent advisory council.
9. The school must provide Title I parents with reports on school performance and their children's assessment results.
10. The school must explain and describe the school's curriculum, assessments used to measure student progress and standards that students are expected to meet.

The Hays Public Schools solicit and welcome suggestions for improving the effectiveness of our Title I programs. Suggestions may be made at any time by contacting Title I staff, building principals or the assistant superintendent in charge of Title I programs.

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parents and schools have joint responsibility for children's development. What happens to them both in school and at home affects their total behavior. In order to inform parents of their student's progress, report cards will be issued each nine-weeks at most schools. Conferences will be scheduled once this year during the month of October. Additional conferences may be scheduled upon request by either the parent or the school. Your principal will advise you of the progress information procedure for your child's school.

## **Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety**

The safety of your child is one of our major concerns. Your cooperation is needed to build good safety habits. Please urge your child to:

- Walk on sidewalks.
- Cross only when the intersection is clear and at marked crossings.
- Never enter a strange automobile.
- Go directly to and from school along predetermined walkways.

### ***We urge that bicycle riders:***

- Obey all safety regulations.
- Park bikes in the racks provided.
- Be in grades three through five to ride bikes to school.
- Not ride bikes in the street near the school, on the sidewalks, or on school grounds.
- Secure their bike with a chain and lock.

Students will be asked to forfeit bicycle use for a specified period of time if they are found to make improper use of the bicycle.

**Skateboards, rollerblades, and scooters are prohibited.**

## **Fire, Tornado, and Crisis Drills**

Fire, tornado, and crisis drills are held at irregular intervals throughout the school year. When the alarm is sounded, students should quickly and quietly accompany the teacher to designated areas. The teacher will call the roll. Check emergency instructions posted in each classroom.

## **School Bus Safety**

Follow these rules on the bus:

1. Observe same conduct as in the classroom.
2. Be courteous, use no profane language.
3. Do not eat or drink on the bus.
4. Keep the bus clean.
5. Cooperate with the driver.
6. Do not be destructive.
7. Stay in your seat.
8. Keep head, hands, and feet inside the bus.
9. Sit in assigned seats, if assigned by the driver.

USD 489 BOE Policy 3.721

### **CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES:**

Transportation privileges will be lost for a period extending to a maximum of the remainder of the school year for a pupil who either persistently violates the rules or commits a major violation.

## **Enrollment**

Enrollment for elementary schools takes place prior to the start of each school year; check with your school for the schedule. We preserve the neighborhood schools concept while offering choice; parents may send their child to any school within the district they wish.

### **Enrollment Fees**

USD 489 charges a \$15 enrollment fee, which is not refundable. Students who enroll during the 4th nine-week period are not required to pay the enrollment fee.

### **Insufficient Payment**

If a check is returned because of insufficient funds, the writer of the check will be notified in writing that they have 10 days to make payment in the form of cash, cashier check, or money order. If payment is not received during this 10-day extension, the school district reserves the right to turn the claim over to the Ellis County Attorney.

### **School Hours**

Lincoln	8:12 a.m.–3:10 p.m.	O’Loughlin	8:00 a.m.–3:05 p.m.
Roosevelt	8:15 a.m.–3:13 p.m.	Washington	8:17 a.m.–3:20 p.m.
Wilson	8:01 a.m.–2:59 p.m.		

### **Arrival and Departure**

Supervision will be provided for students 20 minutes prior to the beginning of the school day. Students are expected to depart from the school grounds immediately upon dismissal. If students have not been picked up within 20 minutes after dismissal, the students will be placed in the after-school program. The appropriate after-school care fee will be charged.

### **Attendance, Absences, and Tardies**

Since school is your child’s business, he/she should be at school every day and on time. Good school work and regular attendance are closely related.

- A child is counted absent when he/she is not present at school for any reason.
- A child is unexcused when he/she is absent without the knowledge of his/her parents.
- It is the responsibility of the parent to inform the school of a child’s absence prior to the beginning of the school day.
- A call will be made to the parent if there has been no parental contact.
  - Tardy students may be expected to make up the lost time.

### **Student Consultation/Detention**

When it becomes necessary to detain a pupil after school for an extended period of time, the parent will be notified. Occasions such as these may result from the need of the pupil to complete an assignment or detention due to a discipline problem.

#### **Truancy**

Truancy is defined by KSA 72-113 as lawful and inexcusable absence from school for three consecutive days, or five days or more within a single semester, or seven days in a school year. An unexcused absence is defined as absence from school for any significant part of the school day in which a student is not in attendance and neither the parent /guardian nor the school is aware and/or approves the absence. [USD #489 BOE Policy 3.131]. The school will adhere to the requirements of KSA 72-113 in informing parents and the county attorney of nonattendance.

#### **Student Records**

The district collects and maintains only that data about individuals which is necessary in order for the schools to accomplish their primary goals. No information other than that used for personal identification and factual data of a cumulative nature will be collected, maintained, or disseminated without informed consent of the individual and/or the parent or guardian of students. [USD #489 BOE Policy 3.320]

#### **Directory Information**

Certain information is routinely released at various times during the school year. This information is classified as directory information. The following categories are listed as directory information: student's name, address, telephone number, picture, parent or guardian, date and place of birth; weight, height, participation in and eligibility for officially recognized activities; dates of attendance or grade placement; honors and awards received; and the most recent educational agency or school attended by the student. If you choose not to have any of this information released, you will need to contact the school administration.

#### **Parent Groups**

Each elementary school has an organized parent group—in some schools it is a Home & School Association, in others a Parent-Teacher - Association or Parent Advisory Council. All schools have site councils, which are made of staff members, parents, and community members. These groups, which provide guidance, volunteer assistance, financial aid, and student-teacher support, are vital to the success of our schools. These parent groups are also informally organized through a Parent Advisory Council Coalition that helps coordinate parent activities and programs throughout the district.

### **Early Childhood**

USD 489 believes strongly in early childhood education. During the 2000-01 school year alone, USD 489 received more than \$1.5 million in state and federal funds for early childhood education. Nearly 40 staff members serve over 500 families in Ellis County early childhood programs.

#### **Parents As Teachers/Early Head Start**

The PATHS program serves families with children ranging in age from newborns to age three. Income-eligible pregnant women also qualify for this program's services. PATHS provides parents with current information on child development and parenting through personal home visits. Income-eligible families also have available to them training that helps them develop and achieve goals to meet their individual needs.

#### **Hays Head Start**

Head Start services are available to three-and four-year olds in Ellis, Rush, and Russell counties. Head Start is a free preschool for income-eligible families that helps prepare children for kindergarten by giving them a head start on their education in a school setting. Head Start is the only preschool program in Hays accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

#### **After School Care**

All elementary schools in Hays offer fee-based, after-school childcare in the school setting for their students. The children have the opportunity to expand their learning day in a warm, caring, well-supervised, fun environment. Students can get help with their homework, play outside when weather permits, and learn life skills like cooking, arts, and crafts. The peace of mind quality childcare provides for our parents is priceless. For more information, please refer to your school's daycare handbook.

#### **Assembly Policy**

**Purpose:** Assemblies are to have well-defined goals tied to district curriculum. They are to be within the emotional, intellectual, and social capacities of the students. Special care is to be taken to ensure assemblies are respectful of families and children with diverse beliefs, cultures, and values. Assemblies are not to endorse, advance, or promote any particular religion or religious practice. Assemblies are also not to express disapproval of, inhibit or disparage any particular religion or religious belief.

**Responsibility:** With administrative approval, outside speakers or performers may be invited to make special presentations at assemblies. Administrators have the authority to interrupt or suspend the presentation at their discretion.

**Notification:** Notification of scheduled assemblies, including speaker name and content, will be provided to parents or legal guardian through electronic and or printed materials. Parents or legal guardians may request that their student be excused from an assembly. Excused students will be required to participate in an approved alternate academic activity. [USD #489 BOE Policy 6.460]

## Cell Phones

In order to ensure the learning environment of all elementary students is not interrupted by student cell phones ringing, we are asking that students **leave their cell phones at home**. If for some reason a student must bring a cell phone to school, it needs to **remain in the backpack and turned off** until the student leaves the school building at the end of the day.

If a student brings a cell phone to school and it rings during class time, the teacher will take the cell phone, turn it off and keep it on his/her desk until the end of the school day. At that time, it will be returned to the student. If there are any additional occurrences, the cell phone will be brought to the office and parents will be asked to pick up the cell phone from the office. If you need to contact your student and give him/her a message, please call your child's school office. The office staff will get the message to your student before the end of the school day.

## Bullying

Bullying on USD 489 property, in a USD 490 vehicle or any USD 489-sponsored activity or event is prohibited. The Superintendent of USD 489 shall develop a plan to address bullying on USD 489 property, in USD 489 vehicles and at USD 489-sponsored activities and events. The plan shall include provisions for training and education of staff and students. The plan shall be submitted to the Board of Education for its approval. When approved, the Superintendent shall assure that the plan is implemented. *As used in this Policy, the following definitions apply:* "Bullying" means:

**(A)** Any intentional gesture or any intentional written verbal or physical act or threat that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for a student or staff member that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, knows or should know will have the effect of:

- Harming a student or staff member, whether physically or mentally;
- Damaging a student's or staff member's property
- Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of harm to the student or staff member; or
- Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of damage to the student's or staff member's property; or

**(B)** any other form of intimidation or harassment prohibited by any policy of USD 489.

Elementary students will remain aware of bullying/peer abuse behaviors and will refrain from such behaviors. Bullying/peer abuse behaviors would include, but are not limited to:

**Physical Abuse:** touching, pinching, shoving, pushing, hitting, fighting, disrespect.

**Verbal Abuse:** taunting, jeers, name calling, bullying, intimidation, threats, disrespect.

**Social Abuse:** ostracizing or social isolation, scapegoating, or blaming others, gestures, disrespect.

**Sexual Abuse:** written or verbal communication of a sexual nature, inappropriate touching, disrespect.

Students are to report incidents of bullying behaviors to school staff who will then meet with the students involved to resolve the issue. Continued incidents of bullying behaviors will further include the involvement of parents and possible discipline actions as deemed appropriate by the administration.

## Dress Code

This dress code is intended to promote appearance that refrains from interference with the intended function of the school or school activity or creates potential health and safety hazards. Neatness and cleanliness of personal hygiene is encouraged at all times.

- For reasons of health and safety, shoes must be worn.
- Except in those situations where approved by a school-sponsored group or activity in advance of the activity, headgear (hats, caps, bandanas, sunglasses, stocking caps, headcovering) should not be worn during school hours.
- Items of apparel and appearance that are considered distracting, unsafe, offensive, revealing (bare backs or shirts that expose stomachs), or suggestive (direct or indirect reference to alcohol, drugs, sex, profanity, gang affiliation, satanism, tobacco etc.), should not be worn.

Students dressed inappropriately may be asked to secure the proper attire before returning to class.

Sponsors of extracurricular activities may individually set - additional guidelines to serve the best interests of their organizations.

"Appropriateness of dress and appearance" will be determined by and enforced by the administration on an individual basis.

## Inclement Weather

Parents are advised to tune to local radio stations for details of possible school closings. In the event of a closing during school hours, please advise your children as to exactly what they are to do. Students will remain at school until arrangements have been made for their transportation.

## Withdrawals and Transfers

When your family is changing its place of residence, be sure to contact your principal **in advance** for proper withdrawal procedures. If you transfer within the district, your child's records will be transferred from his/her present school to the receiving school. When you leave the district, a signed request for transfer of records is required.

## Student Behavior

Our goal is to guide each child in the development of desirable character traits so that self-discipline may be exercised. We strive to see that every child is treated with fairness and respect and has equal opportunity. We will not permit any child to disrupt school in any manner to the degree that the educational opportunities of other children are hindered.

## In-School Suspension

In-school suspension will be an option at the principal's discretion.

## Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion from School

Arrangements for a formal hearing will be made within 10 days of the suspension to determine the most appropriate disposition of the individual case. This action will be reserved for such situations as continued violation(s) of any published code whereby alternative interventions are deemed ineffective; possession of any item intended for use as a weapon; false fire alarm; or bomb threat.

## Outdoor Play

We encourage the students to go outside to play whenever the weather permits. **Please be sure your child has proper clothing for outdoor play.** A short recess period in the morning and afternoon is a good refresher for students. We encourage the entire class to participate in the recess periods.

## Materials/Textbooks

Textbooks are provided by the schools. Parents are encouraged to teach their children to be responsible for good care of the books and other school property.

## Acceptable Use Agreement USD 489

USD 489 offers a comprehensive system of technological equipment. Users may have access to internal and external resources in order to retrieve and process information designed to facilitate learning and enhance educational information exchange.

USD 489 assumes responsibility for the management of the structure, hardware, and software that allow users access to information technologies for educational purposes. District equipment includes (but is not limited to) computers, drives, printers, scanners, networks, video, and audio recorders, cameras, photocopiers, telephone, modems, and other related technological resources. Software includes (but is not limited to) computer software, print and non-print resources. Networks include (but are not limited to) all voice, video, and data systems, including the district's internal network and the Internet.

The purpose of these technology systems is to facilitate communications in support of education and research that is consistent with educational objectives and the outcomes for USD 489. The school district reserves the right to monitor all use of technology systems. The district may, at its discretion, review any and all technology systems accessed by users. Such monitoring may be conducted without notice.

Acting as agents of USD 489, the administration will determine whether or not specific use of the technology systems is appropriate and/or consistent with acceptable use. This decision is final. The use of district technology systems is a privilege and may be revoked at any time. USD 489 is not responsible for any actions taken by the users that do not support the purposes and outcomes of USD 489.

## Health Services

### **USD 489 HEALTH SERVICES:**

The district employs registered nurses to serve the schools for health related needs and health education. Parents should report any special health condition involving their child to the school nurse. If necessary, the school nurse, with the input of the parents and the health care provider, will develop a special health care plan addressing the specific needs of the student.

**Immunizations and Health Assessments:** Kansas law and USD 489 policy requires all students to meet immunization requirements and to have these records on file at school. **Students not meeting these requirements will be excluded from school. Enrollment of kindergartners must include a record of current immunizations and a health assessment.**

**Medication Procedure:** It is recommended that every possible means be taken to give students medication at home. If it becomes necessary for a student to take any form of medication at school, these steps must be followed:

1. A parent or guardian must complete and sign a Medication Request Form available in the school office or on the school web site.
2. The medication must be in the original, completely labeled container.
3. All medication will be kept in the Health Office. Any exceptions to this must have prior approval.\*\*\*

**Contagious Diseases:** Students exhibiting symptoms of a contagious disease or illness will not be allowed in school. A student with fever, vomiting, severe sore throat, undiagnosed rash or skin eruptions, severe cough or cold symptoms, or red eyes with discharge should remain home. A student must be fever-free (oral temperature under 100 degrees), without the benefit of fever-reducing medication, for 24 hours before returning to school.

**Illness/ Injury:** When students become ill or injured at school, they will be evaluated by the school nurse or other designated personnel. Every effort will be made to contact a parent or guardian in case of serious illness or accident.

**Screenings:** Hearing and vision screenings will be conducted as required by Kansas state law and by parental request.

\*\*\* USD #489 has adopted a policy for "Student Self-Administration of Medications" under certain conditions. Please refer to Board Policy 3.312 for more information.

## Personal Safety

Some courses, by their nature, require special safety precautions. Students are expected to demonstrate knowledge of and follow safety regulations as required by the instructor.

## Insurance Coverage

USD 489 does not provide insurance to cover injuries involving students. Student accident insurance is available, however. Contact the building principal for information about this program.

## Lost and Found

A lost and found facility is maintained at each attendance center. Please label all apparel and school supplies. Unclaimed articles will be donated to a community organization.

## Telephone

Parents should feel free to call the school concerning any matter dealing with their children. We request that teachers and students not be asked to come to the telephone during class. **Students' after-school arrangements should be made prior to the school day.**

## Student Valuables

Each student should assume the responsibility of taking care of his or her own possessions. The school district does not carry insurance on students' personal property items and is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged property. **Please do not allow your child to bring personal toys, games, cell phones, other electronic devices, money, etc. to school.**

## Property Damage

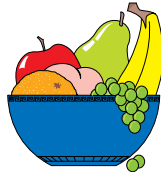
Students who destroy or vandalize school property will be required to pay for losses or damages. Willful destruction may result in disciplinary action. Accidental damage should be reported to the office immediately.

**School personnel reserve the right to search student lockers and any personal property brought onto USD 489 property.**

## Meal Programs

USD 489 is committed to providing children with nutritious meals and nutrition education. The district participates in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs, the After School Snack Program, the Summer Food Service Program, and the Child and Adult Care Feeding Program.

The district's Nutrition Services Department continually works to lower sugar, salt, and fat in meal offerings and to tailor menus to suit age groups and nutritional needs. The Nutrition Services Department also works with teachers to bring additional nutrition education to district students.



**Lunch**—A supervised lunch program will be maintained at each attendance center. Students who bring a sack lunch may purchase milk by the carton. Carbonated beverages are discouraged. Parents are welcome to eat at school with their child. Guest quantities are limited. We do request that parents notify the school secretary by 9:00 a.m. if they wish to eat that day. Check with your school for lunch fees. Free or reduced-price lunches are provided to children whose family meets income eligibility requirements. Applications are given to each enrolling family; additional forms are available from each school office and the Board of Education office.

**Breakfast**—Breakfast programs are available at all schools. Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch will also qualify for free or reduced breakfast. Check with your school for breakfast prices and times of service.

## School Visitation

Parents are encouraged to visit our schools. Children visiting school must be accompanied by an adult. **All visitors must check in to the main office upon arrival.**

## Prohibited User Activity may include but is not limited to:

- Using, possessing, or distributing any media containing applications or data inconsistent with educational objectives.
- Using the technology systems for personal or private business, for product advertisement or political lobbying, or for incurring financial commitments over the internal or external network.
- Using the technology systems to disrupt the activity of others, to harass or discriminate against others, to gain unauthorized access to computer systems or programs, or to initiate any type of virus in any computer system or program.
- Using profanity, obscenity, discriminatory language, vulgarities and other inappropriate language, graphics or sound.
- Using the system to obtain or to disseminate pornographic and/or sexually suggestive content.
- Revealing any personal, confidential, or private information about another individual such as home address, phone number, etc.
- Representing oneself as someone other than who you are.
- Using someone else's account number or password or allowing someone else to use your account number or password.
- Trespassing in folders not authorized to users.
- Damaging equipment or intentionally wasting resources.
- Removing hardware and/or software from the premises without prior authorization.
- Violating any federal or state copyright or unfair trade law.
- Violating any federal, state, local, common law, or criminal law.
- Conducting any activity that exposes the district to litigation or expenses.
- Violating any laws that might suggest libel or slander.
- Personally benefiting from the sale of "User-Developed Subject Matter" created while under the supervision or employment of USD 489.

## Harassment

What is harassment? Harassment is verbal or physical conduct of an offensive nature. It could be student-to-student, staff-to-student, student-to-staff, or staff-to-staff. Harassment could be perceived as intimidating, hostile or offensive. It could also be directed toward someone because of his or her gender.

Examples of harassment include but are not limited to:

- verbal "kidding";
- suggestive remarks, gestures, or jokes;
- remarks about one's appearance;

- defaming the reputation of an individual through verbal rumors, written notes or graffiti;
- displaying offensive illustrations;
- intimidating behavior; and
- pulling at clothing.

Harassment will not be tolerated in USD 489. Regardless of whether they are reported or not, harassment problems have negative consequences in the workplace and classroom and can seriously affect the safety, health, and self-esteem of the individual. The USD 489 Board of Education's policies concerning harassment are on file in the offices of the principals and counselors.

**Any student who believes he or she has been subjected to harassment should visit with the principal, guidance counselor, or - another certified staff member.** Every effort will be made to preserve confidentiality for both the accuser and the accused, to the extent the investigative process allows.

## **Weapons Policy**

A student shall not knowingly possess, handle or transmit any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon on the school grounds or off the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event. Violation of policy with regard to possession/use of explosives, firearms, or other weapons as defined in current law shall result in expulsion from school for a period not to exceed one calendar year. For more information, refer to USD 489 BOE policy 3.317.

## **Interrogation and Investigation**

Building administrators and others designated by the superintendent may conduct investigations and question students about infractions of school rules or the student conduct code.

If there is reason to believe a violation of criminal law has been committed, the principal shall notify the appropriate law enforcement agency and may request further investigation of the alleged violation.

### **COORDINATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT**

School administrators may meet periodically with local law enforcement officials to discuss the district's policies and rules regarding law enforcement contacts with the district.

### **INITIATED BY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND CONDUCTED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

When law enforcement officers conduct an investigation and/or question a student(s) during school hours, the building principal shall make reasonable attempts to contact parents, guardian or representative of the student(s) prior to questioning. To the extent possible, reasonable requests of the parents, guardian or representative shall be observed. Notification or attempted notification of parents, guardian or representative shall be documented by the administrator involved. If a student's parents, guardian, or representative is not present during questioning of a student, the principal shall be present.

### **INITIATED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT**

The administration shall cooperate with law enforcement officers who are conducting investigations of suspected child abuse. Law enforcement officers shall not be permitted to conduct investigations during school hours except in demonstrated emergency situations. If a demonstrated emergency is found, the principal shall require identification of law enforcement officials and reasons for the interrogation or investigation of a student. If the principal is not satisfied with either the identification or the reason, the request shall not be granted. The principal shall attempt to notify the superintendent and the officer's superiors of the reasons for the refusal.

### **VIOLATIONS OF CRIMINAL LAW**

Information on criminal conduct shall be turned over to law enforcement officials.

### **TAKING STUDENTS INTO CUSTODY**

Students shall not be voluntarily released by school officials to law enforcement authorities unless the student has been placed under arrest or taken into custody by law enforcement or SRS. Reasonable effort shall be made to notify the student's parents, guardian or representative when students are removed from school for any reason by law enforcement authorities.

### **INTERROGATIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS**

Notification efforts shall be documented. Parents shall not be notified by school officials when their child is taken into custody by SRS and/or law enforcement as a result of allegations of abuse or neglect.

When a student has been taken into custody or arrested on school premises without prior notification to the building principal, the school staff present shall ask the law enforcement officer to notify the principal of the circumstances as quickly as possible.

### **DISTURBANCE OF SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT**

Law enforcement officers may be requested to assist in controlling disturbances at school and if necessary to take students or other persons into custody.

[USD 489 BOE policy 3.380]

## **Substance-Free Schools**

A student shall not, regardless of the quantity:

- possess or consume a beverage containing alcohol;
- possess or use tobacco in any form;
- consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away any substance defined by law as a drug.

## **Drug Dog Policy**

At the request of the Superintendent or Acting Superintendent of Schools, Law Enforcement Officers may use trained dogs on school premises to identify property which may contain illegal or illicit materials and to determine whether materials are present which may threaten the general health, welfare, and safety of students and/or district employees. Trained dogs may be used for general searches or for specific locations.

[USD 489 BOE POLICY Appendix F]

## Calendar Highlights

<b>AUGUST</b>	17	In-Service Day
	18	Classes Begin (1/2 day a.m.) Workday (1/2 day p.m.)
	19	First Full Day of School
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	7	Labor Day Holiday, <i>No School</i>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	23	In-Service Day, <i>No School</i>
	29-30	*Parent-Teacher Conferences, <i>No School*</i>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	25-27	Fall Recess
<b>DECEMBER</b>	18	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester
	21-31	Winter Recess, <i>No School</i>
<b>JANUARY</b>	1	Winter Recess, <i>No School</i>
	4	Teacher Workday, <i>No School</i>
	5	Classes Resume
	18	In-Service Day, <i>No School</i>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	15	In-Service Day, <i>No School</i>
<b>MARCH</b>	15-19	Spring Break, <i>No School</i>
<b>APRIL</b>	2	Good Friday, <i>No School</i>
<b>MAY</b>	16	HHS Baccalaureate, 1:30 p.m.
	16	HHS Commencement, 3:30 p.m.
	19	Last Day of School (1/2 day)
		Teacher Work Day (1/2 day)

### GRADING PERIODS

		DAYS
Oct. 16	1st Nine Weeks	42.5
Dec. 18	2nd Nine Weeks	41.0
Mar. 05	3rd Nine Weeks	42.0
May 19	4th Nine Weeks	<u>46.5</u>
	<i>Totals</i>	172.0

\*Evening conferences held the weeks of Oct. 19-30.

## Mission Statement:

***To provide a quality learning experience for every child in every classroom every day.***



Fred Kaufman, Superintendent  
 Rockwell Administration Center  
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 Hays, Kansas 67601  
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Unified School District 489, Ellis County, Kansas, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or religion in - admission or access to or treatment or employment in its programs and activities. Neither will the district tolerate sexual harassment. If you have questions regarding the above, please contact the Title IX Coordinator or the Section 504 Coordinator: Fred Kaufman, Superintendent of Schools, 323 West 12th Street, Hays, Kansas 67601, (785) 623-2400.



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## USD 489 Elementary Schools

<b>Lincoln</b> 1906 Ash Street <i>Principal:</i> Elaine Rohleder	<b>623-2500</b>
<b>O'Loughlin</b> 1401 Hall Street <i>Principal:</i> Nancy Harman	<b>623-2510</b>
<b>Roosevelt</b> 2000 MacArthur Street <i>Principal:</i> Janci Kugler	<b>623-2520</b>
<b>Washington</b> 305 Main Street <i>Principal:</i> Allen Park	<b>623-2540</b>
<b>Wilson</b> 101 East 28th Street <i>Principal:</i> Tom Meagher	<b>623-2550</b>

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# 2009-10 Elementary Schools

*Lincoln*  
*O'Loughlin*  
*Roosevelt*  
*Washington*  
*Wilson*

*A HANDBOOK FOR STUDENTS  
AND PARENTS*