



June 2023

Dear School Board Members,

Below is a list of the minor changes for the 2023-2024 elementary student handbook. Changes include staff revisions, updating and inserting new language. Changes are marked in **red**.

If you have questions/concerns regarding the elementary handbook, please contact our principal group and we can help you.

Thank you,

Bemidji Elementary Principals

**List of Changes:**

**1. New Director of Business Services added: Ashley Eastridge.**

**2. Updated: Elementary Food Service Program**

It is the mission of the Bemidji School Food Service program to provide healthy and satisfying breakfast and lunch meals to all students. We believe that starting the school day with a nutritious meal is important to supporting student learning and positive behavior. ~~To this end, Bemidji School district offers FREE breakfast to all elementary students. Lunch is \$2.90 for elementary students.~~ Students who bring their lunch from home or students who are eating school lunch may purchase an extra milk for \$.75..

**The MN Free Meal Program will start with SY'23-'24. This program will allow a free breakfast and free lunch for every student daily. We will claim meals and receive reimbursement from federal and state funding based on the Application for Education Benefit status for students. So completing applications is still very**

important but all students will be offered and can receive a free breakfast and lunch daily.

Additional costs will be -2nd breakfast - \$2.50      2nd lunch - \$5.00

Extra Entree - \$2.50

**3. Removed: Breakfast and lunch are served daily to all students. Breakfast is FREE for all elementary students and the price of lunch is \$2.90. Milk purchased for a lunch brought from home costs \$.60.**

#### **4. Updated: Emergency Evacuation**

In case of an emergency at one or more of our schools, students will be evacuated according to the following schedule. Parents are urged to listen to local radio stations for announcements regarding emergency situations.

<b><u>If the emergency is at:</u></b>	<b><u>We will transport to:</u></b>
Gene Dillon Elementary	<del>High School</del> Sanford Event Center
Horace May Elementary	<del>High School</del> Sanford Event Center
J.W. Smith Elementary	<del>High School</del> Sanford Event Center
Lincoln Elementary	<del>High School</del> Sanford Event Center
Northern Elementary	<del>High School</del> Sanford Event Center
Solway Elementary	<del>High School</del> Sanford Event Center

#### **5. Updated: Community Education**

~~The community education staff and advisory council provides several programs to all of the elementary students. Information about each of these programs is— distributed to the students several weeks before the program begins. These activities include volleyball, soccer, football, and basketball, wrestling and summer activities.~~

#### **Community Education**

The community education staff and advisory council provides several programs to all of the elementary students. Information about each of these programs is distributed digitally through the Peachjar app to all students/families with an email address in the district skyward system. Information and registration can be found on the Community Education website: [www.bemidjicommunityed.com](http://www.bemidjicommunityed.com). These activities include recreational sports, art, music and other enrichment opportunities and summer activities for all ages. For more information please call 218-333-3284.

### **Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)**

Early Childhood Family Education believes that parents are the child's first teacher and offers classes for information and support to parents in this important role. Licensed teachers provide age appropriate preschool experiences for children from birth through age five. Parents and children attend class, spending part of the session doing activities together, and then separating for the last half of class for parent discussion groups. Childcare is provided and classes are offered both daytime and evening at the Bemidji Community Education Center, 3300 Gillett Dr NW, Bemidji, MN 56601 with their number being 218-333-3284.

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### **School Age Care**

Kids & Company is an after school program that provides a safe and quality environment for children in grades K-5. Qualified, caring staff provides a varied choice of activities (art, crafts and hobbies, computer, games, sports and play) that enhance positive self concept and socialization. The program is offered each school day at several elementary schools immediately after school until 5:45 p.m. Parents who work, attend school or for some reason are unable to be home during these hours will find that Kids & Company can provide the fun learning environment they seek for their children. A full day summer program is also offered. Before school care may also be offered if enough registrations are received. For more information call 333-3100, ext. 35309.

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**6. Updated:** ~~If an American Indian student chooses to wear a bandana for representation of their culture it will be allowed with approval from the building principal and Indian Education personnel.~~

American Indian youth may utilize a bandana for culturally appropriate and functional use to keep their hair neat and out of their faces with approval by the building principal and Indian Education personnel.

**7. Added: Parent/Guardian Involvement**

**8. Inserted: Google Workspace Notification**

At ISD 31 we use Google Workspace for Education; a set of educational productivity tools from Google that includes Gmail, Calendar, Docs, Classroom, Meets and other tools used by tens of millions of students and teachers around the world.

Students use their Google Workspace for Education accounts to complete assignments, communicate with their teachers, sign into Chromebooks, and learn 21st century digital citizenship skills. The suite of tools extends to additional services including **YouTube**, which teachers use to supplement instruction and allow students to collaborate and connect to school both during and outside of the regular school day.

Google has added age restrictions to some additional services in an effort to better protect students under 18 by restricting access to content and various features. Other services to which students may have access in this category include:

- Google Cloud Print
- Google Earth
- Google Maps
- Google Translate

- Blogger (grades 9-12)

Google provides information about the information it collects, as well as how it uses and discloses the information it collects from G Suite for Education accounts in its G Suite for Education Privacy Notice. You can read that notice online at [https://gsuite.google.com/terms/education\\_privacy.html](https://gsuite.google.com/terms/education_privacy.html).

As part of our user agreement with Google, they are asking that we obtain permission from parents to allow students under 18 to use these additional services. By signing off on the Acceptable Use Form you agree to allow your student to continue using these services as part of their daily educational experience.

### **Digital Tools Notification**

ISD 31 uses a variety of digital tools to support student learning. Technology vendors and software is utilized to support work as we help all students develop the skills necessary to succeed in an ever-changing world.

We have an inventory of our curriculum, testing, and assessment tools posted at <https://www.bemidji.k12.mn.us/parent/digital-resources> and include an outline of the student data elements within each tool. This list is maintained and communicated annually to all families at the start of the school year.

Please reach out to your child's building administrator for additional questions regarding specific digital tools used in classrooms.