



EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS

Inspiring each student every day

EP Online
Elementary
Student
Handbook

[EP Online Elementary Kindergarten - Sixth Grade Student Handbook](#)

Academic Success

The Eden Prairie School District is committed to the academic success of all students. We know you have entrusted your student's education to us, and we promise to work diligently to educate each child in a safe, caring, and engaging environment.

Daily Reading and Daily Work

Daily Reading guidelines will vary from grade to grade, and from subject to subject. For district policy for "Academic Success"

- **Daily Reading:** Literacy is the foundation of all student achievement; it is our expectation that all students spend at least 15-30 minutes each day reading.
- **Class Assignments:** In an online school setting there are 'live' sessions where students are expected to be online to participate in daily learning. Classroom assignments are mostly completed outside of those 'live sessions.' Students will need to utilize their time wisely each day to complete assignments and continue to make progress.

Family Involvement

Learning at Home: Research supports that families are the earliest and most significant teachers in a child's life. A child's value of education and lifelong learning is also impacted by teachers, caregivers, and outside influences. Families know their child best and can 1.) help foster learning by linking current and past experiences, 2.) by asking questions that help the child reflect, and 3.) by supporting the child's growing knowledge of self and what works best for him or her. More information about how families can take an active role in their students' education can be found at www.edenpr.org.

Student Support Services

- **English Language Services:** Specialized English language instruction and support is available at each school for English Learners. Instruction is directed at acquiring both social and academic language. In addition to specialized services, enrichment occurs within the classroom through teacher differentiation of curriculum and instruction for our multi-language learners.
- **Psychologist:** Each elementary school has a school psychologist. Our school psychologist is involved with children, families, and school teams to support students and their educational programming needs.
- **Instructional Specialists:** These content specialists support students and staff to ensure high-quality instruction and student achievement in the areas of reading and/or math.

- **Social Worker:** Each elementary school has a school social worker whose role is to support the social-emotional learning and growth of children. The school social worker works with families, teachers, and other staff to address concerns about student achievement, behavior, and facilitates connections to needed social and mental health services.
- **Special Education:**
 - Special Education services are available to any student eligible for specific disability services as defined by state and federal law. Disability areas include speech/language, emotional behavioral disorders, other health disabilities, physically impaired, traumatic brain injury, visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, specific learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, visually impaired, cognitive disabilities, and severely mentally impaired.
 - A student may also be eligible for services because of a specific developmental delay through age seven.
 - Students may be referred for a Special Education assessment by parents or teachers.
 - Parents will be involved in a review of the evaluation and the decisions regarding eligibility and services.
 - Services are described through the development of an Individual Education Plan (IEP). Students are served in accordance with district, state, and federal guidelines.
- **Assessments:** District-wide, assessments are used to evaluate curriculum and instructional effectiveness. Individually, the tests are used to evaluate each student's progress towards the achievement of benchmarks and standards. Test results are shared with parents through various means.
 - **FAST (FastBridge Learning)** assessments are administered to K-6th grade students in the fall, winter and spring.
 - **MCA-III (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment)** in Math and Reading are given to all 3-6 grade students in the spring. Science MCA assessment is given to 5th grade students in the spring.
 - **FAST** as well as other assessments may be administered to some students at other times of the year in order to monitor progress. .

Communications

Alerts

The district has the ability to call and email all district families. In order to help ensure that you receive these important messages, please go to www.edenpr.org and make sure that we have the correct email address and phone numbers for us to use.

- **Updating Family Contact Information:** You can update your email address and cell phone number yourself by logging into the parent portal and click on "Family Members". Make the necessary changes and click "Update" in each cell that you change. If you have moved or changed your primary home phone number, please contact your students' schools to have that information updated in the system. Contact us with questions at (952) 975-7094 or helpline@edenpr.org.
- Families can also receive time-sensitive notifications, such as school closures and weather-related information via the [district mobile app](#). The app is free and available for Apple, Android or Windows devices.

Publications

Families with students attending Eden Prairie Schools receive print and electronic publications from the district.

- **District Communications:** To ensure you're receiving electronic communication from the district and your school, log onto the district website, www.edenpr.org. You can update your email address and cell phone number yourself by logging into the parent portal and click on "Family Members". Make the necessary changes and click "Update" in each cell that you change. If you have moved or changed your primary home phone number, please contact your students' schools to have that information updated in the system.
- **School Communications:** Each school uses electronic communication. Communication includes news on upcoming events, school expectations, and reminders. Classroom teachers also keep parents informed with electronic communication through the Campus Parent Portal Schoology, and e-mail. This information is also posted on your school website and can be obtained through requested hard copy.

Email

Families with students attending Eden Prairie Schools receive electronic communications and publications from the district.

- **Updating Family Contact Information:** You can update your email address and cell phone number yourself by logging into the parent portal and click on "Family Members". Make the necessary changes and click "Update" in each cell that you change. If you have moved or changed your primary home phone number, please contact your students' schools to have that information updated in the system.

Changes in Student Information

If you have any address, home or work phone number changes during the school year, it is very important that families notify your child's teacher and the office. The office needs current telephone numbers in case you need to be reached during the day. Families will then be assured of receiving all school-related mailings.

- **Updating Family Contact Information:** You can update your email address and cell phone number yourself by logging into the parent portal and click on "Family Members". Make the necessary changes and click "Update" in each cell that you change. If you have moved or changed your primary home phone number, please contact your students' schools to have that information updated in the system.

Registering your child

If your child attended an Eden Prairie School last year, they will automatically be registered for the current school year and you will receive information from your child's teacher prior to the beginning of the school year. Preschool children who are listed on census information will automatically be sent kindergarten registration information. Census information forms are sent out each year via the district office.

- **New Families:** If you are new in the area, please contact our District Central Registration Office for registration materials. You may either pick up the forms at the Administrative Services Center or call 952-975-7008 and have them mailed to you.
- [Link to Welcome Center website.](#)

Parent Problem Solving How To's

Throughout the school year, situations at your elementary school may bring about questions or concerns for students or families. The process described below is structured to promote resolving situations quickly to the satisfaction of all parties involved. This process also encourages those people closest to the situation to examine and develop solutions to concerns. A positive resolution of these situations enhances communication, builds trust between members of the school community, and benefits the educational program for the students. Please follow the steps below if you have a question or concern:

- **Step 1 – Contact the appropriate staff member:** The first step in resolving a concern is to discuss it with the staff member(s) most closely involved. Most likely this is your child's classroom teacher. More than 95 percent of all questions or concerns are resolved at this level.
- **Step 2 – Contact the Head of School:** If your question or concern remains unresolved, contact the Head of School. He/she is the instructional leader in charge of the school and the person responsible for handling questions or concerns regarding the school's operation. The Head of School can share school information and explain procedures,

guidelines, and policies. He/she is available to listen and support your student and family.

- **Step 3 – Contact the appropriate district administrator:** If the previous steps have been unsuccessful, contact the appropriate district administrator or the Associate Superintendent. We sincerely hope that we can work together to solve problems as they arise. Please know we believe clear, open, honest, and two-way communication is the key to promoting positive home-school connections

Website

Our district website, www.edenpr.org allows you to stay in closer contact with Eden Prairie Schools – click the “Schools” menu to find the website for your school. Information available online includes general information, teacher web pages, supply lists, calendar, lunch menus, newsletters, parent involvement, etc.

Conferences

Eden Prairie Schools recognizes the importance of families and teachers working together. Families and teachers communicate and build relationships at conferences. EP Online meet has a different structure for conferences than other EP Schools. Teachers will contact families at least monthly for a conference call to provide updates about a student's progress.

End of Semester Report Cards

End of semester report cards will be available online by logging onto the district website, www.edenpr.org, with your username and password.

- If you need assistance with your username or password, contact the website helpline at helpline@edenpr.org or (952) 975-7094. The timeline for grading and reporting will be posted on the district’s website; school officials will inform families when report cards are ready to view.

Student Behavior

Expectations of Adults and Students

Teachers and school personnel seek to co-create a positive learning environment with students in classrooms, and as a school community. This includes building trusting relationships with each student by getting to know individual strengths, interests, and culture. Schools will foster a learning environment that values multiple perspectives and articulates how our differences make us stronger.

If students demonstrate inappropriate behavior at school, an adult will seek to understand what happened, support the child in reflecting on their behavior, and provide opportunities for restoring relationships, as applicable. In addition, specific consequences may be applied; parents may be contacted, depending on the nature of the behavior, frequency of the behavior, and severity of the specific incident.

Adults will:

1. Create a balanced approach for all learning.
2. Create a climate for learning that includes:
 - Opportunities for students to explore and construct their learning through student choices, practice, trial, error and reworking
 - Knowing the students culturally, and individually, by being fully cognizant of their individual strengths and interests
 - Co-creating classroom rituals that maximize learning bell-to-bell
 - Creating a climate that respects difference and allows for multiple perspectives without hurting others
 - Fostering opportunities for students to determine responsibility in meeting academic, social, and emotional expectations in monitoring their self-control

Students will:

1. Participate fully in the learning experience.
2. Participate actively in the learning experience by being fully engaged, fully prepared, raising engaging questions, and effectively and positively communicating with all students and staff.
3. Participate actively in the learning experience by sharing information about themselves—strengths, weakness, and culture to create common bonds in curricular, co-curricular and extracurricular activities.
4. Participate actively in the learning experience by respecting differences while asserting perhaps a divergent viewpoint, doing so without harm to the other students, staff, team, other leader, and property.
5. Demonstrate empathy (knowing others) to build fruitful relationships that create a cohesive learning opportunity for all and through self-control behave in an ethical manner.
- **If a student is unable to demonstrate how to be Safe, Responsible, and Kind and disrupts the learning for other students, adults may:**
 - Redirect and re-instruct, work with and ensure that student fully understands the expectations
 - Work in partnership with family, students, staff and other significant adults to determine additional strategies and/or consequences

- Create an accountability system with the student and parent/guardian with clear consequences or processes for resolution for additional violations
- Refer to Peer Mediation or Conflict Resolution or other proven processes
- Determine if there are extenuating physical, emotional or mental challenges
- Submit referral as required
- Move to remove from class, suspension, or expulsion

Severe Behavior

The Eden Prairie Schools' student management program is based on the foundation that students have a right to be educated in a manner which is not disrupted by the behavior of other students. Teachers or adults in authority have the responsibility to require appropriate behaviors of all students so they can deliver instruction effectively. Behaviors which are considered "severe" will be met with a stricter set of consequences, depending on the severity of the behavior, the frequency of the occurrence, and the student's age. Severe behavior incidents include, but is not limited to:

- Repeated refusal to cooperate
- Fighting/assault/or causing physical/verbal harm to another
- While online, uses controlled substances including tobacco
- Written or verbal threats
- Property damage
- Stealing
- While online show or threaten to use a weapon or toy replica weapons
- Harassment of another individual, including hazing, sexual or racial harassment, or verbal abuse
- Attempting to access inappropriate websites when working on the computer
- Other behaviors that cause excessive disturbance to the school day

These behaviors are subject to one or more of the following consequences:

- Parent phone call and conference
- In-school or out-of-school suspension
- Restitution
- Referral to Eden Prairie Police Department
- Referral to outside agencies
- Recommendation for expulsion

The Pupil Fair Dismissal Act (Statutes 121A.40-121A.56) will be followed with reference to any out-of-school suspension.

Safe and Supportive Schools

Eden Prairie Schools believes each student, regardless of age, race, gender, ability level, religious beliefs, national origin, sexual orientation (actual or perceived), or physical attributes, deserves the right to be educated in an environment that does not interfere with their educational opportunities or ability to participate in school functions or activities or receive school benefits, services, or privileges. To that end, acts of bullying towards another student or groups of students will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in a swift and serious manner.

According to the Minnesota Safe and Supportive Schools Act bullying means any intimidating, threatening, abusive, or harming conduct that is objectively offensive in nature. Furthermore, there is an actual or perceived imbalance of power between the student engaging in prohibited conduct and the target of the behavior and the conduct is **repeated or forms a pattern**. The act of cyber-bullying which refers to bullying others by using technology or other electronic devices, or retaliation for asserting, alleging, reporting, or providing information about bullying or knowingly making a false report about bullying in any form are prohibited as well. **Bullying does not refer to a one-time argument or disagreement between students.**

Our intent is to create and maintain a safe and welcoming environment by taking a proactive rather than reactive approach. To prevent or stop bullying or cyberbullying behaviors we will provide ongoing training around anti-bullying techniques and strategies for all staff and students.

If bullying occurs while attending school (virtual classrooms, break out rooms) or at any school-related function, school-sponsored activity, event, or trip, the incident should be reported to the EP Online designated primary contact person (Head of School, associate Head of School, or social worker) who will begin an investigation as soon as possible. If bullying/cyber-bullying takes place off of school property and impacts the educational process, it should be reported to the school. In the event an act of cyber-bullying has occurred the same protocol will be followed. Cyber-bullying may take place on or off school property.

If the result of the investigation concludes bullying or cyberbullying took place the offender(s) could receive consequences ranging from written conduct reports to loss of privileges during the school day to in or out of school suspensions depending on the severity of the incidents.

Dress Code

Appropriate dress is a necessary component in providing an optimal learning environment. Students may not wear clothing that presents inappropriate language (as determined by each classroom teacher or administrator), drug or alcohol advertising, or ethnic, racial, or sexist put-downs. Your clothing must not become a distraction to the educational environment. Clothing that does not cover the shoulders, midriff and chest, clothing that does not cover undergarments, and undergarments that are worn as outer garments, are all examples of dress that creates a distracting environment. Students who wear such clothing will be required to change clothes.

Electronic Devices -

All students are provided iPads as learning tools for all grade levels, K - 5. Your child's teacher will communicate with you regarding specific classroom procedures and expectations. Filtered and monitored internet access is provided when the student connects to our wireless network. If students bring a mobile device to school, the school is not responsible for loss, damage, or theft.

Birthdays

Our classroom teachers may acknowledge and celebrate the birthdays of their homeroom students.

i-Learn Expectations

The mission of Eden Prairie Schools is "To inspire each student to learn continuously so they are empowered to reach personal fulfillment and contribute purposefully to our ever-changing world". Our world is changing with a new generation who never knew life without the Internet. Technology is a major tool in our personal lives as well as many professions. Our students will be prepared to demonstrate digital responsibility, technological awareness and the ability to use technology to create, research, communicate and produce in the academic and professional setting. *i-Learn@EP* is about creating engaging curriculum, dynamic learning environments and students who are better prepared for the world beyond our school doors; it is not about the device, but rather how to use the device in education.

Eden Prairie Schools Expectations for Student Learning:

- Engaging and relevant learning experiences and development of life skills
- Learning experiences that encourage cooperation, collaboration, and innovation
- Use current technology to create, research, communicate and produce academically sound products

- Demonstrate respect, self-control, ethical behavior and empathy as classmates and members of our communities
- Being responsible citizens in our schools and communities, as well as the digital world

Responsible Citizenship:

Being a responsible citizen in our schools, communities and the digital world requires responsibilities adapted for a changing world. We embrace the following conditions of being a digital citizen:

- Respect yourself. I will select names that are appropriate. I will consider the information and images I post online.
- Protect yourself. I will protect my personal details, contact details or a schedule of my activities.
- Respect others. I will NOT use technology to bully or tease other people.
- Protect others. I will protect myself and others by reporting abuse, and not forwarding inappropriate or hurtful materials or communications.
- Respect & protect intellectual property. I will suitably use and cite and all content use intellectual property (websites, books, media, software, etc.) according to the copyright or creative commons licensing.

Access to Eden Prairie Schools’ owned technology is a privilege and not a right. At any point access to devices, internet and the like can be revoked.

Student Digital Responsibility: As listed below, but not limited to:

Personal Safety

Do not send any message that includes your personal information such as: home address, personal phone numbers and/or last name for yourself or any other person. Do not send information regarding your schedule (where you are/will be, timing, dates, etc.).

Password Protection

Never share your password, steal or use another person’s password. If a password is lost or compromised the student or teacher should call the technology helpdesk. A technology support specialist will help resolve the password issue.

Privacy

Students and families need to know that files stored on school computers are not private.

Network and Internet access is provided as a tool for educational purposes only. Eden Prairie Schools (EPS) has the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review, and store at any time, without prior notice, any and all usage of the computer network and Internet access including

transmitted and received information. All information files are the property of EPS and no user shall have any expectations of privacy regarding such files.

Online Etiquette

Follow the guidelines of accepted behaviors within your schools' handbook. Use appropriate language and graphics. Swearing, vulgarities, suggestive, obscene, belligerent, harassing, threatening or abusive language of any kind is not acceptable. Do not use this device to make, distribute or redistribute jokes, stories, to bully anyone, or pass along obscene material or material which is based on slurs or stereotypes relating to race, gender, ethnicity, nationality, religion or sexual orientation.

Blogging and/or Podcasting

Use of blogs, podcasts or other Web 2.0 tools are considered an extension of the classroom. Whether at home, or in school, any speech that is considered inappropriate in the classroom is also inappropriate in all uses of blogs, podcasts or other Web 2.0 tools.

Plagiarism/Copyright/Licensing

Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's words or ideas as your own. Students are required to give proper credit to all Internet sources used in academic assignments, whether quoted or summarized. This includes all forms of media on the Internet, such as graphics, movies, music and text. Plagiarism of Internet resources will be treated in the same manner as any other incidences of plagiarism, as stated in your school's handbook. In addition, students must adhere to the copyright laws of the United States (P.L 94-553) and the Congressional Guidelines that delineate it regarding software, authorship and copying information. All students should also adhere to the Creative Commons licenses where the author/artist denotes what media may be shared, remixed or reused.

Proxies

The use of anonymous proxies to get around content filtering is strictly prohibited and is a direct violation of this agreement.

Accessing/Posting Inappropriate Material

Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, forwarding, downloading, scanning or displaying materials (including photos of students and staff) that are defamatory, abusive, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit, sexually suggestive, threatening, discriminatory, harassing and/or illegal is a violation of this agreement.

Photos and Video

Students are not to take pictures or videos of staff or students without staff permission. Any student use of cameras in Eden Prairie Schools should be part of a class or club activity. Unapproved camera use is a violation of this agreement.

Malicious Use/Vandalism

Any malicious use, disruption or harm to the school unit's technology, networks and Internet services, including but not limited to hacking activities and creation/uploading of computer viruses, is a violation of this agreement.

No student shall obtain or try to obtain other students' accounts, files, and/or data. Students are NOT to remove or attempt to remove or circumvent the management system or modify the operating system and software installed on each iPad. Using or possessing hacking software is a violation of this agreement. Students who attempt to hack or "jailbreak" any EPS iPad will be in violation of this agreement.

Tech Support

If technical difficulties arise with the iPad, or non-conforming content is discovered, the iPad will be restored by Tech staff. If the Technology staff needs to restore the iPad, the District is not responsible for the loss of content put on the iPad by the student.

Traveling with Device

Devices are only supported inside of the United States. It is advised for all families traveling outside of the United States to provide personal devices. Schoology and other software used by EP Online my experience blocking when traveling outside of the US due to the restrictions placed on the device and/or region of the world.

Information Regarding the iPad in Eden Prairie Schools -

iPad General Precautions

- Students should come to school each day with a charged iPad.
- **The iPad is Eden Prairie Schools' property.**
- The iPad must remain free of any writing, drawing, stickers, or labels that are not issued and placed onto the device by EPS staff.
- Cords and cables must be inserted carefully into the iPad to prevent damage.
- Never expose an iPad to extreme temperatures, direct sunlight, or prolonged periods of time in rooms that are not at a normal room temperature.
- iPads must be kept in a secure location at all times; it is the student's responsibility to know where their iPad is at all times. For students learning at home, Do NOT leave

unsupervised, or lend to friends or family members outside of your home. During times when the iPad is not needed, place the iPad in a secure location.

iPad Cases

Acknowledging the importance of a protective case for the iPad, Eden Prairie Schools invested in purchasing protective cases for all of the iPads. iPads need to be in the EPS issued protective case.

- The iPad should ALWAYS be in its protective case.
- The iPad should be charged (EPS provides a charger) and ready to use each day.
- Do NOT place your iPad in a book bag that contains food, liquids, heavy or sharp objects.

iPad Screen & Cleaning

The screens are sensitive to pressure and therefore can be damaged; they are scratch resistant, **not scratch proof**.

- The screens are made of glass and can either break or shatter.
- **Do NOT use liquids to clean the iPad.** This includes, but is not limited to: window cleaners, household cleaners, aerosol sprays, solvents, alcohol, ammonia, or abrasives.
- PLEASE USE: A soft, dry cloth or anti-static cloth.

iPad Care

- Only labels or stickers approved and placed onto the iPad by EPS staff are acceptable.
- Never leave an iPad unattended. It is your responsibility to keep your iPad stored in a safe, secure, temperature appropriate space.
- Do NOT dismantle or attempt to repair the internal workings of the iPad or the iPad case.
- Contact the help desk if your iPad is not working.

Storing Documents

There will be limited storage on the device and academic files take priority over personal. Several backup options exist to cloud storage or personal computers. Students should backup their files.

Applications and Content

Students, with the support and permission of parents may install apps or other content having an educational purpose on their iPad. Applications or content that does not have an educational purpose and is disruptive to the educational process or at home will be removed from the device.

Student Discipline

If a student violates any part of the above policy, he/she will be subject to disciplinary action. The disciplinary action for a violation will range from the student needing to check his or her iPad in and out of school each day for a period of time, to having all iPad privileges revoked.

In instances where the student has put his/her own safety or the safety of others at risk (i.e. bullying), iPad privileges will be revoked immediately.

iPad Statement of Responsibility for Parent/Guardian and Student

We understand that instances of damage, destruction, or loss of the assigned iPad. These instances will be dealt with on a case-by case basis. Incidents of gross negligence or repeated incidents may result in financial restitution from the family, up to the cost of the entire device if warranted. If the device is damaged beyond repair or lost, the cost of replacement is \$400. Samples of approximate repair and replacement cost of individual parts are listed below. If there is damage that can be repaired the student will be charged for the actual cost of repair.

- Replacement iPad - \$300
- iPad Brick - \$13
- iPad Cable - \$7
- iPad Glass Damage - \$100
- iPad Case Replacement - \$32

Volunteering

District Volunteers

A variety of district-level committees and advisory councils, such as the Curriculum Advisory Council, Finance Advisory Committee, Special Education Advisory Council, and Community Education Advisory Council, are important ways parents can help shape district policies, procedures, and programs. For more information, log onto www.edenpr.org or call (952) 975-7150.

Attendance

We believe each student should be in school every day. Regular school attendance is directly related to success in academic work, benefits students socially, provides opportunities for important communications between teachers and students, and establishes regular habits of dependability important to the future of the student. Class attendance is a joint responsibility to be shared by the student, parent or guardian, teacher, and administrators. Eden Prairie Schools is a participant in the Hennepin County Attorney's Office *be@school* program. This program seeks to improve school attendance and increase the opportunity for Hennepin County's children to realize their potential. In collaboration with the County efforts, Eden

Prairie aims to have each student attend school every day. In accordance with the Minnesota Compulsory Instruction Law, Minn. Stat. 120A.22, the students of the school district are REQUIRED to attend all assigned classes and/or study halls every day school is in session, unless the student has been excused by the school board from attendance because the student has already completed state and school district standards required to graduate from high school, has withdrawn, or has a valid excuse for absence.

Late Arrival/ Early Departure

Please contact your child's teacher if your child(ren) is arriving late or leaving early from required online sessions. The message should include the parent/guardian's name, student name, and reason for absence. Excused reasons for being late or leaving early will follow the same listing as excused absences. Students who are late due to oversleeping or missing the bus are considered unexcused and may be counted as tardy or in some cases, as an unexcused absence.

Excused Absences

The following reasons shall be sufficient to constitute excused absences:

1. Illness
2. Serious illness in the student's immediate family
3. A death or funeral in the student's immediate family or of a close friend or relative
4. Medical, dental, or orthodontic treatment, or counseling appointment
5. Court appearances occasioned by family or personal action
6. Religious instruction not to exceed three hours in any week
7. Physical emergency conditions such as fire, flood, storm, etc.
8. Official school field trip or other school-sponsored outing
9. Removal of a student pursuant to a suspension.
10. Religious observance
11. Family vacation (limited to 5 days per year) handled as excused absences and students will be permitted to complete make-up work
12. Family emergencies
13. A student's condition that requires ongoing treatment for a mental health diagnosis

In order for an absence to be excused, a parent needs to contact the child's teacher prior to, or the day of the absence. The parent needs to state when the child will be absent and explain the reason for the absence. Students whose absences are excused are required to make up assignments missed or to complete alternative assignments as deemed appropriate by the classroom teacher. Students who accumulate excessive absences, even when excused, will work with the school staff and parents to develop a plan to assure attendance at school daily.

Tardiness

Students are expected to be online at the start of the classes the teacher has required. Failure to do so constitutes tardiness.

Excused Tardiness

Valid excuses for tardiness are:

1. Illness
2. Serious illness in the student's immediate family.
3. A death or funeral in the student's immediate family.
4. Medical, dental, orthodontic, or mental health treatment.
5. Court appearances occasioned by family or personal action.
6. Physical emergency conditions such as fire, flood, storm, etc.
7. Any tardiness for which the student has been excused in writing by an administrator or faculty member.

Unexcused Tardiness:

An unexcused tardiness is failing to be in an assigned area at the designated time class period commences without a valid excuse.

Unexcused Absences for Truancy

These are examples of absences that will not be excused:

1. Truancy which is an absence that is not approved by the parent and/or the school district
2. Any absence where the student/ family failed to comply with any reporting requirements of the school district's attendance procedures
3. Vacations with family without prior notice and exceeding 5 days
4. Any other absence not included under the attendance procedures set out in this policy

Consequences of Unexcused Absences

- School district staff will work with the parent, student and the Hennepin County Attorney's office be@school program and follow the three-day notification and six-day Parent Group Meeting process.
- If unexcused absences continue after following be@school process, the Hennepin County Attorney's office will follow with necessary legal action to ensure attendance at school.
- Absences resulting from official suspension will be handled in accordance with the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. 121A.40-121A.56.
- Days during which a student is suspended from school shall not be counted in a student's total accumulated unexcused absences.

- Along with following the Hennepin County Attorney’s be@school programs, the student or his or her parent or guardian may, within a reasonable time, request a conference with school officials regarding the student’s absences and the prescribed discipline. The notification will state that the school strongly urges the student’s parent or guardian to request such a conference.

Curriculum Content Review

As part of its policy, the district has specified a procedure for a parent, guardian, or adult student 18 years or older to review the content of instructional materials, address concerns, and propose alternative instruction for an individual student. The procedure spells out three action steps beginning with an informal meeting of the adult and responsible staff members. If the concern is not resolved, it will be taken to the Head of School. If resolution cannot be reached, the parent/guardian/adult student will be asked to complete a form and a meeting involving representatives of the district and site Teaching and Learning staff will be convened.

Fees -

Materials that are part of the basic educational program are provided with state, federal, and local funds at no charge to a student. Students are expected to provide their own pencils, paper, erasers, and notebooks. Students may be required to pay certain other fees or deposits, including (not an all-inclusive list):

- Cost for materials for a class project that exceeds minimum requirements and is kept by the student.
- Security deposits for the return of materials, supplies, or equipment.
- Field trips considered supplementary to the district’s educational program.
- Admission fees or costs to attend or participate in optional extracurricular activities and programs.
- Voluntarily purchased student health and accident insurance.
- Use of musical instruments owned or rented by the school district.
- A school district-sponsored driver or motorcycle education training course.
- Transportation to and from school for students living within two miles of school.
- Transportation of students to and from optional extracurricular activities or post-secondary instruction conducted at locations other than school.

Students will be charged for textbooks, workbooks, and library books that are lost or destroyed. The school district may waive a required fee or deposit if the student and parent/guardian are unable to pay. For more information, contact your school’s Head of School.

Parent Right to Know

If a parent requests it, the school district will provide information regarding the professional qualifications of his/her child's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, the following:

1. Whether the teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional licensing status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived;
3. The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree;
4. Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

In addition, the school district will provide parents with information as to the level of achievement of their child in each of the state academic assessments. The school district also will provide notice to parents if, for four or more consecutive weeks, their child has been assigned to or taught by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

Pledge of Allegiance -

Students will have the opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America weekly. Any person who does not wish to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance for any personal reason may elect not to do so. Students must respect another person's right to make that choice. Students will also receive instruction in the proper etiquette toward, correct display of, and respect for the flag.

Release of Directory Information

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act requires school districts to notify parents/guardians and students that certain information from student records may be released and made public without the written consent of the parents or students 18-years-of-age or older. This information is called "directory information." Directory information includes name, residential mailing address, telephone number, date and place of birth, grade in school, major field of study, participation in officially organized activities and sports, weight and height of athletic team members, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, previous school attended, and photos. These publications could include district-initiated publications such as calendars, newsletters, annual reports, and brochures. They also include school-initiated publications such as student newspapers and yearbooks. In addition, media, including weekly community newspapers, metro daily papers, and television stations may ask to take photos of district students. **Parent/guardians or students of majority age who do not want directory information released for internal and/or external use should indicate this on the annual "Directory Release Form" located on the parent portal by October 1. If you need a hard copy**

of the form, please contact your child's school. Hard copies of the form should be turned into the school office by October 1.

Student Records

Eden Prairie Schools has adopted a policy about the rights of parents and students with respect to school records. This policy complies with federal and state laws guaranteeing the right to examine and challenge the contents of student records. The Minnesota Legislature has said that all school records are deemed private. This means that the district cannot release any information without permission except directory information. A summary of census information along with grades and attendance data is stored electronically when students leave the school system.

Student Surveys

Occasionally, the school district utilizes surveys to obtain student opinions and information about students. If you have questions related to the rights of parents/guardians and eligible students about conducting surveys, contact your Head of School.

Health

The Health Services staff work in partnership with educational staff to provide students with high quality and consistent health care and health management. Find Health Services forms online at www.edenpr.org.

Immunizations Up to Date

Eden Prairie Schools is part of the “No Shots, No School” program. All students must have proof of vaccine to start school. Students who have special medical problems and cannot be vaccinated, or whose parents conscientiously object, may receive legal exemption. Contact Health Services for assistance with accessing immunizations or to get information on exemptions.

Insurance

Eden Prairie Schools does not carry accident, disability, or medical insurance for students. Coverage is through the student’s family medical coverage, including the cost of ambulance services. The district does carry public/general liability coverage for district premises and/or employee negligence. MinnesotaCare health insurance is available for those families who qualify based on monthly income and family size. Questions about this plan can be directed to the school nurse or social worker.

Restricted Activities

Written doctor's excuses are required for students who need to be kept in from recess at elementary school or who need to miss physical education. The note must state how long the restriction will be in effect.

Policies and Guidelines -

Bullying Prohibition

The school district is committed to providing a safe and respectful learning environment for all students. Acts of bullying, in any form, by either an individual student or a group of students, is prohibited on school district property or at school-related functions.

Distribution of Non-School-Sponsored Materials on School Premises -

The school district recognizes that students and employees have the right to express themselves on virtual school property. This protection includes distributing non-school-sponsored material, subject to school district regulations and procedures, at a reasonable time and place and in a reasonable manner.

Equal Education Opportunity -

The school district does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, parental status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, or age. The school district also makes reasonable accommodations for disabled students.

Equal Employment Opportunity -

The school district does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, age, family care leave status, or veteran status. The school district also makes reasonable accommodations for disabled employees.

Harassment and Violence Prohibition -

It is the policy of the school district to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from harassment and violence on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance sexual orientation, or disability. The school district prohibits any form of harassment or violence on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability.

Hazing Prohibition -

Hazing is prohibited. No student will plan, direct, encourage, aid, or engage in hazing. Students who violate this rule will be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the school district's "Student Discipline" policy.

Internet Acceptable Use Policy -

Users are expected to use Internet access through the district system to further educational and personal goals consistent with the mission of the school district and school policies. Uses which might be acceptable on a user's private personal account on another system may not be acceptable on this limited-purpose network. In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, the district filters Internet access. Students are directed to inform staff immediately if they receive any image or communication that is inappropriate.

Nondiscrimination -

The school district is committed to inclusive education and providing an equal educational opportunity for all students. The school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, parental status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, or age in its programs and activities. If you have questions about this policy, please contact your Head of School.

- **Disability Nondiscrimination:** The school district shall not engage in contractual or other arrangements that have the effect of subjecting its qualified applicants or employees with disabilities to discrimination on the basis of disability. The school district shall not exclude or otherwise deny equal jobs or job benefits to a qualified individual because of the known disability of an individual with whom the qualified individual is known to have a relationship or association.
- **Student Sex Nondiscrimination:** The school district provides equal educational opportunity for all students, and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex. No student will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity operated by the school district on the basis of sex.

Notice of Violent Behavior by Students

The school district will give notice to teachers and other appropriate school district staff before students with a history of violent behavior are placed in their classrooms. Prior to giving this notice, district officials will inform the student's parent or guardian that the notice will be given. The student's parents/guardians have the right to review and challenge their child's records, including the data documenting the history of violent behavior.

Tobacco-Free Schools -

If for any reason, EP Online students are attending school events or visiting school property the following tobacco policy is in place.

School district students and staff have the right to learn and work in an environment that is tobacco-free. School policy is violated by any individual's use of tobacco or tobacco-related devices in a public school, on school grounds, in any school-owned vehicles, or at any school events or activities. Students may not possess any type of tobacco or tobacco-related device in a public school, on school grounds, in any school-owned vehicles, or at any school events or activities. Any student who violates this policy is subject to school district discipline. Contact the school Head of School or another staff member if you have questions or wish to report violations.

Weapons -

If for any reason, EP Online students are attending school events or visiting school property the following weapons policy is in place.

The district has adopted a weapons policy. Anyone who has reason to believe a weapon is on a school site, bus, or at a school-sponsored activity has a duty to report that information to the site administrator, police officer, or any adult supervisor. Possession is defined as, but not limited to, having a weapon on one's person or in an area subject to one's control in a school environment. Weapons are defined as any object, device, instrument, or substance designed as a weapon or through its use capable of threatening or producing bodily harm, or which may be used to inflict self-injury, including, but not limited to: firearms, loaded or unloaded, functional or non-functional, look-alike or facsimile or having the appearance of a weapon; all knives; objects designed to be worn over fists or knuckles; blackjacks, clubs, nunchucks or throwing stars; explosive or incendiary devices; bows and arrows, slingshots, razors; poison chemicals including mace, pepper gas, or similar sprays; firearm muffler, silencer, or ammunition; any object modified to serve as a weapon; articles designed for other purposes such as pencils or scissors but used to inflict bodily harm or intimidate others.

Violation of the weapons policy may result in one or more of these consequences: out-of-school suspension, confiscation of the weapon; notification of the police, recommendation for expulsion or exclusion from school for up to one year. Students with disabilities who violate the policy will be disciplined in accordance with the requirement of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

