



Primary School  
Parent/Student Handbook  
2021-2022

[Becker Primary School Website](#)

*Preparing self-directed learners to thrive in a changing  
global community.*

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**RELEVANT POLICIES:**

The following policies/forms can be accessed at the District website; [www.becker.k12.mn.us](http://www.becker.k12.mn.us).

[Student Attendance Policy](#)

[Internet Use Policy](#)

[Medication Authorization Form](#)

[Student Discipline Policy](#)

[Weapons Policy](#)

[Harassment & Violence Policy](#)

[Bullying Prohibition Policy](#)

[Controlled Substance Policy](#)

[Testing Opt Out Form](#)

Dear Primary School Parents and Students,

Welcome to Becker Primary School! The faculty and staff look forward to getting acquainted with new families to our school, and reacquainted with former students and their families. Our goal is that each student has a successful, safe, and enriching school year.

This handbook will provide you with general information concerning our school. We ask that parents and students take the time to become familiar with the policies, procedures, and expectations in this handbook. Most questions you have will be addressed in this guide as well as other topics relevant to your child's/children's education. Parents are a very integral part of your child's educational success. We encourage parents to carefully read through information that comes home from your child's teacher to help your child build the foundational skills to become lifelong learners.

This fall there will be assessment days for your child prior to starting the school year. This will be similar to what we have been doing for the past several years with conferences and assessments at the beginning of the school year. This has been a positive experience for both students and their parents. The assessment days will be Tuesday, September 7th from 11:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Wednesday, September 8th from 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The first day of school for kindergarten, first and second grade will be Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

The intent of the beginning of the school year assessment will be to:

- Provide time for your child's teacher to do a benchmark assessment to know your child's reading level
- Ease the anxiety level for your child by spending time with your child's teacher
- Give parents an opportunity to ask questions and share any family concerns
- Bring in supplies
- Your child will also be assessed on High Frequency Words

Please plan on spending 1 ½ hours – 2 hours with your child on this assessment day. As a parent, you will be able to watch a video giving an overview of what to expect for the school year. You will also be able to purchase school lunches and some school supplies. Please note we will **NOT** be having an open house this year for K-2 families. The assessment days will take the place of an open house so you can take care of things during this time.

We are very proud of our school, students, staff, and programs offered at Becker Primary School. Thank you for your help in making this a positive and memorable school year. If you have any questions, suggestions, or desire further information, please contact the Primary School Office at 763-261-6330.

Sincerely,

Dale Christensen,  
Principal

Preparing self-directed learners to thrive in a changing global community.

*BECKER SCHOOLS*  
*CORE VALUES*

**RESPONSIBILITY**

**EXCELLENCE**

**SAFETY**

**PARTNERSHIP**

**EDUCATION**

**COMMUNICATION**

**TRUST**

### **Becker Primary Goal**

School is a personal, vital, enjoyable and motivating experience for all children.

Each child has a healthy self-concept and sense of purpose, and endeavors to develop his/her individual interests and talents.

Each child develops the basic skills of computation and communication.

Students are equipped with resources necessary to become lifelong learners.

The strengths and skills of adults and children are utilized to improve the program and make teaching and learning a rewarding adventure.

### **Becker Primary Motto**

**“Be the very best person you can be.”**

## **Mission Statement**

*Preparing self-directed learners to thrive in a changing global community.*

### **BECKER SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

Aaron Jurek - Chair  
763-262-1081

Cindy Graham - Director  
612-221-1314

Mark Swanson - Vice Chair  
763-234-0727

Connie Robinson – Treasurer  
763-360-6169

Sarah Schafer – Director  
763-442-0150

Ryan Obermoller - Clerk  
952-381-4440

### **BECKER ADMINISTRATION**

Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Jeremy Schmidt  
[jschmidt@isd726.org](mailto:jschmidt@isd726.org)

763-261-4502  
Ext. 3116

Primary Principal, Dale Christensen  
[dchristensen@isd726.org](mailto:dchristensen@isd726.org)

763-261-6330

Intermediate Principal, Nathaniel Boyer  
[nboyer@isd726.org](mailto:nboyer@isd726.org)

763-261-4504

Middle School Principal, Chantal Boyer  
[cboyer@isd726.org](mailto:cboyer@isd726.org)

763-261-6300

High School Principal, David Kreft  
[dkraft@isd726.org](mailto:dkraft@isd726.org)

763-261-4501

Assistant Superintendent, Minda Anderson  
[manderson2@isd726.org](mailto:manderson2@isd726.org)

763-261-4501  
Ext. 3133

School Nurse, Sadie Terwey  
[sterwey@isd726.org](mailto:sterwey@isd726.org)

763-261-4501  
Ext. 3119



## School Day

### **School Starting and Dismissal Time:**

School begins each morning at 8:00. No students should arrive before 7:50. The Safety patrol students are on duty to help at the street crossing at 7:50 a.m. Students arriving after 8:00 are to report to the Primary Office before going to their classroom. The Primary students are dismissed at 2:40 p.m.

### **Cancellation/late starts/or early dismissal:**

When there is danger or a health risk for students, the administration may decide to cancel school for the day, start classes late, or close school early.

Parents should have a plan in case of any emergencies. Two Radio stations are notified of the cancellations--WCCO (830) and WJON (98.1 FM or 1240 AM) 3 television stations WCCO (4) and KSTP (5) and KARE (11). Please make arrangements at the beginning of the school year so that the students know where they are to spend the day or partial day if their parents are not home.

### **Student Drop Off and Pick up:**

Parents can only access the Primary School drop-off and pick-up area from the ONE-WAY lane off of Third Street across from Morris Street at the north end of the Bus Garage complex. Watch for signs.

Primary students will be dropped off on the northeast end of the Primary School (next to the Football field) between the hours of 7:50 am - 8:00 am or 2:30 pm and 3:00 pm. Parents must then exit on to Hancock Street.

**This is a drop-off area only; parents cannot park and walk students into the building.**

Parents who wish to walk into the school with their students will need to park in Lot A and cross at the crosswalks between the buses.

Parents can drop-off and pick-up students on Third Street along the curb on the north side of the street (the school side). Students can cross the Intermediate playground and enter the Primary School at Main Door.

If your child will have any changes in dismissal routine (picked up) you must provide a **written note** or a **phone call** indicating what the change will be. If we do not receive one or the other, **your child will be sent home on the bus**. If you pick your child up early from school, you must sign them out in the office.

### **School Security**

The Primary School building will be locked from 8:20 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

During the school day, when the buildings are locked, visitors are asked to press the call button near the main entrance. The school secretary will welcome you: ask your name, and the purpose of your visit. Visitors who are granted access to the building must report to the office, check out, and return the visitor's badge upon leaving the building. Signs will be posted at each building entrance explaining the protocol for visitors as described above.

## FOOD SERVICE

Through waivers offered from USDA and MN Department of Education breakfast and lunch is FREE for ALL students in grades Pre K-Grade 12 for the 21-22 school year. Breakfast, lunch and milk prices for the 2020-2021 school year are as follows:

- Breakfast - \$0.00
- Lunch - \$0.00
- Extra Milk - \$0.50 per carton

Although meals are free for all students, applications for the free or reduced lunch program will be sent home at the beginning of the year and are available at each school and the district office and we strongly encourage all families who may be eligible to apply. Students in households that meet the free or reduced-price meal income guidelines will generate additional aid for the school district such as Compensatory revenue, Title 1 Federal Aid, and technology funds. This aid is critical in providing instructional services for at-risk students and students who are behind their peers. The funding allows the district to provide additional remedial instruction for students, offer free or reduced price meals, reduced price activities, fees and district-provided hotspots.

### **Milk for students with cold lunches**

Half pint cartons of milk are available in the lunchroom for the students who bring their own lunches. Each milk carton sells for .50 cents. Each time a student purchases milk, their lunch account is charged the correct amount. (Students who eat hot lunch receive a half pint of milk with their meal and it is included in the price of the hot lunch.)

### **Milk break**

Milk break is separate from the lunch account. Parents will need to pay \$35.00 for half a year or \$70.00 for the entire year. Milk break is for grade 1 and 2 students only.

### **Breakfast**

Students in Grades 1 and 2 will have the option to have breakfast as soon as they arrive at school. The cost for the breakfast is free this year. As soon as they are finished with breakfast, they will report to the classroom.

Kindergarten students will be eating breakfast with their class. All kindergarten students will receive free breakfast.

**Becker Primary School Supply List**  
**2021-2022**

## **Kindergarten**

**These items will be available to purchase at school on assessment days:**

- Headphones \$5
- Kiwi Pack \$5
- Kindergarten Folder \$1
- Scholastic Let's Find Out \$5.95
- Becker Primary Field Trip T-Shirt \$6.00

### **Additional Required Items:**

Bring to your child's assessment conference please:

- 1 1.5 inch binder
- 2 highlighters
- 1 plastic pencil box (Standard size, approx 4.5x8.25) no zippered pouches or metal boxes. No dividers. Needs to hold crayons and markers.
- 1 set CRAYOLA watercolor paints
- 2 boxes 24 count CRAYOLA crayons
- 2 boxes CRAYOLA CLASSIC COLORS 10 count broad tip markers
- 1 black sharpie marker
- 1 bottom pocket folder
- 1 wide lined spiral notebook
- 1 composition notebook
- 1 pair FISKAR pointed child size scissors
- 3 JUMBO size ELMER'S glue sticks
- 1 bottle ELMER'S glue
- 2 pack BLACK wide tip EXPO dry erase markers
- 1 box tissues
- BOYS: disinfectant wipes and Snack size baggies
- GIRLS: disinfectant wipes and Gallon size baggies

## **First Grade**

**These items will be available to purchase at school on assessment days:**

- Headphones \$5
- Kiwi Pack \$5
- VIP Folder \$1

### **Additional Required Items:**

- 1 Colored Pencils - Crayola - 12 Ct
- 1 Composition Book - Wide Ruled - 100 Ct
- 1 Crayons - Crayola- 24 Ct- Box
- 4 Dry Erase Markers - Expo- Black
- 1 Sharpie- Black- Fine Point
- 1 Eraser- Large

- 3 Folders- Plastic and Pocket- Blue, Red, Yellow
- 2 Glue- Elmer's- Washable School Bottle- 4 oz
- 1 Glue- Elmers- Washable Stick - Purple- .77 oz- 3 Ct
- 1 Highlighter - Yellow - 1 Pk
  
- 1 Markers - Washable - Crayola - Classic - 10 Ct - Thick
- 1 Notebook - 1 Sub - Spiral - Wide - Asst - 70 Ct
- 1 Paint - Watercolor - Crayola - Oval - Washable
- 2 Pencil - Ticonderoga - Sharpened - No 2 - 12 Pk
- 1 Pencil Sharpener - Canister - 2 Hole
- 1 Scissors - Fiskar - Kids - 5 inch - Pointed
- 1 Box Tissues
- 1 Pkg. Wipes - Disinfectant
- 1 Box Zipper Bags Snack ( BOY)
- 1 Box Zipper Bags Sandwich (GIRL)

## **Second Grade**

**These items will be available to purchase at school on assessment days:**

- Headphones \$5
- Kiwi Pack \$5
- VIP Folder \$1

### **Additional Required Items:**

- 24 #2 Ticonderoga pencils sharpened
- 1 handheld pencil sharpener
- 1 pack of pencil top erasers
- 1 Crayola colored pencil set
- 2 large eraser
- 1 small pencil box for inside of desk
- 1 box Crayola 24 crayons
- 2 bottle of Elmer's glue
- 1 boxes Crayola markers
- 4 large glue sticks
- 1 scissors
- 2 composition notebooks (9  $\frac{3}{4}$  x 7  $\frac{1}{2}$ )32
- 3 plastic 2 pocket folders, bottom pockets
- 4 dry erase markers
- 1 white board eraser
- 1 ruler with (in & cm)
- 1 deck of playing cards
- 1 set of Crayola watercolor paints
- 2 boxes of Kleenex
- 1 disinfectant wipes
- GIRLS: 1 box quart Ziploc slider bags
- BOYS: 1 box gallon Ziploc slider bags

## ACADEMICS

### **Academic Services and Alternatives:**

The School District makes every effort to meet the needs of children with disabilities. Accordingly, Special Education services are provided within the school setting. As a member of the Sherburne and Northern Wright County Special Education Cooperative (offices in Monticello), Becker School has access to coordination services for special education programs. Special services available are programs for Speech Therapy, Vision and Hearing Impaired, Specific Learning Disabilities, Emotional/Behavior Disorders, Early Childhood Special Education, Mentally Handicapped, other Health Impaired and Physically Impaired Services. If parents have questions concerning any of these services, they should call the principal.

### **Curriculum:**

The description of Becker Primary School curriculum is divided into several parts -- language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, and applied arts.

Language Arts - The language curriculum includes all of the disciplines of communication: reading, speaking, listening, spelling, and writing, including punctuation and grammar. Each of the language activities contributes to the total development of effective communications. Much of the instruction in oral and written expression occurs as a part of other subjects in the curriculum when students are expected to write, speak, and listen.

The Journeys developmental reading program has high priority in the primary curriculum. The students will develop reading strategies through guided reading, shared reading and read alouds. The goal of reading instruction is for children not only to learn how to read, but also to enjoy reading to become lifelong learners. The primary school has created a building bookroom to meet the needs of each learner.

Included in language arts instruction is an emphasis on writing, which reinforces and develops the related communication skills. Creative writing, critical thinking, spelling, punctuation, and writing style are important to good writing and communication.

Mathematics - The Becker School district uses the Everyday Mathematics series. This series emphasizes logical math processes rather than computational skills only. Skills are taught then reviewed continuously.

Social Studies - The sequence of the social studies program begins with the child's immediate environment and expands to places, events, and people farther removed in time and space. This "expanding environment" approach to social studies includes some form of history, geography, economics, government, and sociology at each grade level.

Science - The primary goal of the science curriculum is to help children develop an understanding of the physical world in which they live. Thus, a balance of life science, physical science, earth and space science is taught.

Health education is included in the science curriculum, with emphasis on both physical and

mental health. Instruction in healthy living includes topics such as nutrition, safety, first aid, body care, anatomy, self-esteem, decision making, and consumer health.

Applied Arts - Music, art, and physical education are an integral part of the curriculum. The music specialist, the physical education specialist and the art specialist have the major responsibility for meeting the requirements in their respective field, and the classroom teachers supplement the specialist.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:**

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled after the first trimester in November and after the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester. These conferences are designed to highlight and celebrate each student's accomplishments as well as to discuss and develop plans for areas of concern. Parents may request a conference at any time during the school year by calling the primary school office.

**Report cards:**

At the end of each trimester, report cards are issued for each student.

## ACTIVITIES

### **Community Education Classes:**

Community Education offers classes for K-2 grade students throughout the school year as well as the summer break. For more information call the Community Education office at 762-261-4506 or go on-line to [becker.k12.mn.us](http://becker.k12.mn.us) and click on Community Education.

### **Youth Sports:**

Sporting opportunities are offered throughout the year. The Youth Sport opportunities are independent of the School District.

## ATTENDANCE

It has been proven that good school attendance contributes to success in academics, benefits students socially, provides opportunities for important communications between teachers and students and establishes regular habits of dependability important to the future of the students. The Staff at Becker Primary School would like to see all children in school everyday. However, we all realize there are some reasons children need to be excused from school.

### **Excused absence or tardy:**

illness, injury, death in a family, medical (doctor, dentist, psychologist, etc.) appointments, family emergency, family trip (We ask that these be kept at a minimum and pre arrangements be made with the classroom teacher),

### **Unexcused absence or tardy:**

missed bus, overslept, or the school is not notified by phone or note. 3 unexcused tardies are equivalent to one unexcused absence.

### **What should you do if your child needs to be absent?**

If your child is going to be absent, please call 763-261-6330 before school in the morning. If the office does not receive a call, the office will attempt to contact the parent. In addition, please send a note the next day with the child's name, date of absence(s), reason for absence(s), and parent signature.

### **What to do if your child needs to be picked up early?**

If a parent needs his/her child dismissed other than the usual times, the child needs to be checked out at the office. The child will be called to the office. This process is a safety precaution for your child and it also minimizes disruptions.

### **No Child will be dismissed from the classroom.**

### **Procedures for Excessive Absences:**

1. Becker schools will monitor absences that are 10% or greater of the academic time in the following manner:

**2. Step 1** – A phone call by a staff member assigned by the building administrator expressing concerns with attendance.

**3. Step 2** – Letter

The intent of the letter is to heighten the parent's awareness of the school's concerns with the number of days the student is absent and the concern if the pattern continues. After such notification, the student or his/her parent or guardian may, within a reasonable time, request a conference with the 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.

**4. Step 3** – Letter

The parent will be informed that the pattern for excessive absences is intensifying. Any further absences will require a physician's note or an assessment by the district nurse. The district nurse will make contact with the family. If the parents don't follow the protocol, the absence will be unexcused and procedures relating to truancy or educational neglect will be followed.

### **Homework**

If your child is absent for only one day, do not call the school to request homework. However, if your child has a prolonged absence, and you desire homework for him or her, please give the teacher one day of notice to get the work together.



## Code of Conduct/Discipline

### **Adult Code of conduct:**

All adults at Becker Primary School are expected to be positive models for students. Obscene and foul language, threats or yelling will not be tolerated. If necessary, adults will be asked to leave the school and return when they are in control.

### **Positive Behavior Support (PBS):**

Becker Primary School is incorporating a Positive Behavior Support program into our everyday school environment. The students will be taught behavior expectations to follow for all areas of the building including: classroom, hallway, bathroom, lunchroom, bus, freeplay, etc. We expect the student's to "Be the very best person you can be". The staff is committed to helping children to reach their full potential to help students along a path of life-long learning. The Key components of our positive behavior program are for students to: Be their Bulldog Best with Behavior, Attitude, Responsibility and Kindness.

### **Bullying:**

Bullying is considered a form of harassment and will not be tolerated.

A complete copy of this and all District policies can be accessed in the Primary Office

### **Harassment:**

Everyone in District 726 has a right to feel respected and safe. Use of words (verbal or written), pictures, actions, touch or gestures that make another person feel uncomfortable will be considered harassment and will not be tolerated. Bullying is considered a form of harassment and will not be tolerated.

A complete copy of this and all District policies can be accessed in the Primary Office

### **Discipline policy:**

Good student discipline is essential for all aspects of the primary school. Support and cooperation between the parents, students, and staff is necessary in order to maintain a good learning environment. To achieve this the School Board has adopted an extensive School Discipline Policy. The following is a summary of the pertinent rules of conduct from the policy given below. The entire policy is available in the primary office upon parents' request and is also on the Districts web site, [www.becker.k12.mn.us](http://www.becker.k12.mn.us)

All students have the right to an education & the right to learn. All students have the responsibility for their behavior and for knowing and obeying all school rules, regulation, policies and procedures. Failure to comply with the school's rules and regulations will result in disciplinary action against the offending students. In general, any behavior that disrupts instruction or violates the rights of others is unacceptable and subject to disciplinary action which may result in loss of privileges, suspension and or expulsion as a result of their action.

### **Playground rules:**

1. Students may not eat food, chew gum, or have candy in their mouths during recess.
2. Fighting, name calling, physical or verbal assaults are forbidden.
3. The use of profanity or obscene language or gestures is forbidden.
4. Students may not play in the parking lot.
5. Snowball throwing is prohibited.
6. Squirt guns or other water devices are not allowed on school property.
7. In the school building, children must walk and keep to the right when meeting or walking with groups in the hallways.

### **Rules of conduct:**

1. Regular attendance is required of all students.
2. Vandalism, harassment, theft, physical or verbal assaults are prohibited.
3. Threats or disruptions to the school operation are forbidden.
4. Controlled substances, dangerous, harmful, or nuisance articles are prohibited from the school premises.
5. No weapons, toy weapons, or model weapons are permitted.
6. Bullying or fighting among students is forbidden.
7. Any attire or personal grooming, which endangers a person or interferes with school, or creates a class disruption is prohibited.
8. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the school district and are prohibited at all times.

### **Locker Searches:**

The school provides lockers for all students, although some students share a locker with one other person. The classroom teachers assign lockers to students in their class and require that the students regularly clean their lockers. The lockers remain the property of the school and are subject to search by school personnel at any time.

### **Student Transportation**

#### **Bus routes:**

Students may ride ONLY on the bus they have been assigned. If a child is visiting someone on another bus route, the parents must provide their own transportation. Parents must make arrangements for their child's transportation home from any after school activities.

If your child will have any changes in dismissal routine (picked up etc.) you must provide a **written note** or a **phone call** indicating what the change will be. If we do not receive one or the other, **your child will be sent home on the bus.** If you pick your child up, you must sign them out in the office.

#### **Rules for Bus Riders:**

Since School Board Policy views the school bus as an extension of the classroom, all rules and regulations found in the Rules of Conduct of Board Policy will apply to students' conduct while on the bus. The following are the rules and regulations, which specifically apply to safe bus conduct:

1. Students should be at the stop by the time the bus arrives and waiting on the side of the road.
2. Students are to remain seated while the bus is in motion.
3. Students are to keep their hands, feet, and personal articles to themselves. This

includes keeping the aisle open at all times.

4. Students are not to use foul or obscene language or gestures.
5. Students are to maintain a reasonable noise level to ensure the driver can hear traffic noise and trains.
6. Students should not extend any part of their bodies or other objects from the windows or door of the bus.
7. Students are to keep the floor and seats clean from refuse and gum.
8. Students will not be allowed to have any articles on the bus that the driver deems unsafe or a nuisance.
9. The bus driver has the right to give additional directions to students, which he/she believes are necessary for the safety of the students on the bus.

**Consequences:**

Failure to comply with the above safety regulations could result in one or more of the following consequences:

- 1). Verbal warning from the driver
- 2). An assigned bus seat for a specified period
- 3). A parent contact by the driver and/or principal.
- 4). A misconduct form being sent to the principal which may result in:
  - A. Student/principal conference, possible loss of free play.
  - B. Parent/student/principal conference for second conference for second misconduct offense.
  - C. School disciplinary action
  - D. Suspension of bus transportation privileges for a specified period.
  - E. Recommendation to the School Board for permanent exclusion from transportation services.

The school is legally liable for services from the time they board the bus until they are dropped off at the bus stop. For this reason, students are not permitted to leave school grounds once they are dropped off at school. Students are not permitted to get off the bus at any building but the building where they attend school.

**Smoke free environment:**

Becker Primary is a smoke-free school. Using tobacco is not permitted in the school buildings, vehicles, or on the grounds.

**Weapons policy:**

The School Board Policy specifically forbids all types of weapons including firearms, ammunition, pellet guns, gun replicas, knives, clubs, or any articles normally used to harm or intimidate another person. No weapons are permitted in school, on the bus, or on the school grounds. Penalty for the possession of a weapon is an initial suspension from school, and could result in expulsion or exclusion from school.

| <b>B.A.R.K.</b>  | <b>BEHAVIOR</b>  | <b>ATTITUDE</b>                      | <b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>                                   | <b>KINDNESS</b>                                      |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>BUS</b>   | I STAY IN MY SEAT<br>I KEEP HANDS TO MYSELF<br>I USE A LEVEL 2 VOICE | I AM READY TO BE MY<br>BULLDOG BEST  | I TAKE CARE OF MY THINGS<br>I LISTEN TO THE BUS DRIVER  | I USE NICE WORDS<br>I USE MANNERS                    |
| <b>IN CLASS</b><br>HOMEROOM, SPECIALS<br>W/IN, ETC             | I RESPECT OTHERS<br>I RESPECT PROPERTY<br>I USE SELF-CONTROL         | I TRY MY BEST<br>I BELIEVE IN MYSELF | I STAY ON TASK<br>I AM PREPARED<br>I FOLLOW DIRECTIONS  | I USE NICE WORDS<br>I AM HELPFUL<br>I WORK AS A TEAM |
| <b>AROUND SCHOOL</b><br>BATHROOM, HALLWAY<br>CAFETERIA, OFFICE | I WALK<br>I KEEP MY HANDS TO MYSELF<br>I USE A LEVEL 2 VOICE         | I AM MY BULLDOG BEST                 | I PICK UP<br>I LISTEN TO ADULTS<br>I GO WHERE I NEED TO | I USE NICE WORDS<br>I USE MANNERS                    |
| <b>PLAYGROUND</b><br>OUTSIDE, ROOM 500                         | I PLAY FAIR<br>I PLAY SAFE<br>I TAKE TURNS                           | I HAVE FUN                           | I LISTEN TO ADULTS<br>I LINE UP AT MY BELL              | I AM A GOOD FRIEND<br>I INCLUDE OTHERS               |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### **Birthday Celebrations:**

In the interest of reducing distractions during the academic day, birthday celebrations need to happen outside of the school day. This includes sending flowers, balloons, etc.

If your child wants to give a treat to the class in observance of his/her own birthday this is permitted, but children are not required to bring treats for their birthday. (Please check with classroom teacher in advance)

**Notice:** All treats must be commercially prepared and handed out in the original wrappers. Minnesota Department of Health regulations forbid the distribution of homemade treats in school. It is also recommended that all treats are peanut free.

### **Communication**

#### **Whom to call:**

Parents who have questions concerning their child's progress, curriculum, homework, or discipline issues are encouraged to call the classroom teacher. While phone calls will not be put through to the classroom during the academic day, teachers will be given messages or a message can be left on their voicemail. Teachers can also be contacted by email. (Small letters: teacher's first letter of first name last name@isd726.org. If the problem cannot be resolved or the teacher has been unable to return your call or email, please call the Principal at 763-261-6330.

If your child reports bullying or other types of harassment to you please call or come in to talk to the Principal or teacher about the incident as soon as you become aware of the incident. We investigate and deal with all incidents of harassment or bullying in accordance with our discipline policy.

#### **Appointments with Teachers:**

We ask that you protect classroom instructional time and not interrupt the teacher when students are in the classroom. Such interruptions take the teacher's attention away from your child and the rest of the class. If you need to talk to a staff member, we ask that you request an appointment time by sending an email to the staff member.

#### **Parent Concerns and Meetings:**

Parents are encouraged to call the school and talk with the classroom teacher about concerns they have for their child. Parents may want to arrange a meeting with the teacher. Please be aware that during the academic day, teachers generally are not available for either calls or meetings as they are expected to be in the classroom teaching. However, a call in advance can help facilitate meeting times. The Principal is also available to assist parents but the classroom teacher is the place to start. A reminder that when we try to advocate for our children we often do so with great emotion. Issues can usually be solved more quickly and easily when the parties involved treat one another with respect. The staff at Becker Primary School wants what is best for your child and we welcome the opportunity to work with you in addressing problems and concerns.

**Data privacy:**

All students and parents have the right under federal law to expect that most information collected by the school is protected and confidential. According to Federal Data Privacy Law, most information collected by a school falls under the umbrella of data that is protected. Data privacy laws protect information concerning discipline issues as well as consequences resulting from a behavioral incident. Any parent who has questions concerning data privacy is encouraged to contact the building principal. Staff Members are trained to never release information about students to anyone except custodial parents.

**Release of Student Directory Information:**

In accordance with the Minnesota Data Practices Act, Becker Public Schools may release the following information without permission unless the district has been notified that it should not be released.

Under the federal law, directory information includes the following information relating to a student:

- Students name, address and telephone number
- Student's gender and date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Date of attendance and grade levels completed
- Degrees and awards received
- The most recent previous educational agency or institution attended
- Photographs for school district publications and local newspaper

The Becker School District considers all of the above to be "Directory Information". Federal rules define directory information to mean, "Information contained in the education records of a student which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed." 34 C.F.R., Sec. 99.3.

A parent or adult student has the right to refuse to permit the designation of some or all of the categories as directory information with respect to that particular student. If, as parents, or adult student, you wish not to have any or all of the above information to be considered "Directory Information," you should contact the Primary School Office in writing by September 30. If you enroll your child after September 30<sup>th</sup> then you should notify the office in writing within 30 days of your child starting school.

**Student Dress and Appearance (Policy 504):**

1. Tennis shoes are required for physical education classes each day.
2. Warm clothing is needed by all children throughout the fall and winter. Room temperatures are kept at about 70 degrees, making it necessary for the children to wear sweaters, long-sleeved shirts, light jackets, slacks, warm socks, etc.

3. Warm outer clothing is necessary for the daily recess period. Each day, except during very cold or wet weather, all children go outside for about 20 minutes of “free play.”
4. Shirts must touch the top of shorts/pants/skirt while standing with hands at the student's side. Sleeveless shirts must have a strap the width of at least three adult fingers.
5. Clothing reflecting obscenity, hate, racial, gender, or religious put-downs, or advertisements or logos for alcohol, tobacco or drugs will not be allowed. This includes objectionable emblems, badges, symbols, signs, words, objects or pictures on clothing or jewelry communicating a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory to a protected minority group, evidences gang membership or affiliation, or approves, advances, or provokes any form of religious, racial, or sexual harassment and/or violence against other individuals as defined in Becker School District Policy 413 will not be allowed. This includes representations of confederate flags, swastikas, KKK signs and similar symbols, and applies to school property or school sponsored events on or off of school property including the parking lot and the school buses.
6. Any clothing that a faculty member finds to be offensive or interfering with the learning environment will be reported to the office. The student may then be asked to change the clothing or be sent home.
7. Encourage your children to dress neatly and in good taste.
8. Students need to wear appropriate shoes for free play. No Flip Flops or open toed shoes should be worn.

**Emergency drills:**

Becker Primary will have periodic fire and tornado drills with students. In accordance with State Law, Becker Primary will practice lockdown drills to ensure everyone knows what to do to ensure safety. All drills are done in an effort to be prepared in case of an emergency. If you are in the building during an emergency drill, please evacuate the building or move to the designated area.

**Emergency plan:**

The Becker School District has an emergency response and evacuation plan in the event of a nuclear accident or terrorist event. Parents are urged to get information from the radio or TV. Do not call or come to the school, as these actions will put children at risk by clogging communication lines as well as blocking escape routes.

**Field Trips:**

Permission slips are used for all field trips, and must be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to school before the student can participate in a field trip.

## HEALTH SERVICES

### HEALTH INFORMATION

**Students who become ill at school:** If a child becomes ill during the school day, the parents will be contacted at home or at work to inform them of the illness and request that they come and take the child home. If the parents cannot be reached, contact will be made with the person designated by the parent in Skyward. Typical reasons children are sent home include, fever of 100 degrees or more, vomiting, diarrhea, red and runny eyes, rash, or other suspicious skin conditions, severe cough, and other signs of acute illness.

**(If you change your phone number at home or work or there is a change in your emergency contact person, please update this information in Skyward as soon as possible. All information is confidential.)**

### MEDICATION FOR STUDENTS

Dispensing medication (including acetaminophen and ibuprofen) is not the responsibility of the school. However, the Board recognizes that children may have chronic and/or acute health conditions that may require medication during school hours. If it is essential for a student to take medication during the school day, the following protocol will be followed:

Administration of prescription medication by school personnel for a chronic health condition requires a written physician's authorization. In special situations, a verbal order from a physician is acceptable and is to be followed with a written physician's authorization. Students may possess and use asthma medications as defined by the guidelines stated in Minnesota Sessions Laws 2001, Chapter 84 - Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2000, Section 121A.22, Subdivision 2. This Act is effective August 1, 2001.

Administration of over-the-counter medication (including acetaminophen and ibuprofen) requires written authorization from a parent or legal guardian.

Student's medication must be in its original container. Prescription medication must be appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician. The medication will be given to the child as prescribed on the label.

Student's medication must be brought to the office by an adult for safekeeping.

In most cases, medication prescribed for three times a day does not need to be administered during school hours. It is most effective if administered every eight hours.

Homeopathic, herbal, or home preparations will not be administered at school.



## **HEALTH AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

It is the responsibility of the parents to inform the school on how to care for their children in case of accident or illness. The parents for each student enrolled must fill out a Health Information Form. Since students often become ill during the day and are not able to stay in school, it is important that arrangements are made with a neighbor or relative to pick up the child and care for him/her when neither parent is available.

This is to inform you of the following procedures for administering medication to your child:

1. Administration of prescription medication by school personnel must only be done according to the written order of a licensed physician and written authorization of a parent.
2. Medication must be brought to school by an adult. The container must be appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician.
3. Medication will be taken by the child at the designated time supervised by delegated personnel. The time the medication is given and the initials of the person giving the medication must be documented in the student record.
4. Limited quantities of the medication should be brought to school; therefore, the pharmacist should put the medication in two containers, one for school and one for home.
5. Mixed dosages in a single container will not be accepted.
6. All medication administered at school will be kept in the school health office in a locked cabinet.
7. A new consent form is required when the dosage or time of administration is changed.
8. Parents are expected to notify the school when medication is discontinued. If the medication is resumed, a new consent form must be received.
9. Tylenol or over-the-counter medication will be administered to children with written parental permission only. It must be in the original container with written instructions as to dose and time of administration. The school may require a written order from the doctor if the proper use of any over-the-counter medication is questioned.
11. New consent forms with appropriate signatures must be received annually.
12. It is usually possible to manage medication at home (medicine prescribed 3 times per day can be given and is more effective before school, after school, and bedtime).

### **Internet/Acceptable Use:**

Becker Public schools is committed to the use of technology and the internet for educational purposes. Technology has allowed teachers to enhance and extend curricula in ways not even envisioned a few years ago. The school district embraces the use of personal and school-owned devices for the advancement of teaching and learning. In making decisions regarding student access to the school district computer system and the Internet, including electronic communications, Becker Public Schools considers its own stated educational mission, goals, and objectives. Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees. Access to the school district computer system and to the Internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards, and other resources while exchanging messages with people around the world. The school district expects that faculty will blend thoughtful use of the school district computer system and the Internet throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in their use.

The school district is providing students access to the school district computer system, which includes Internet access. The purpose of the system is more specific than providing students with general access to the Internet. The school district system has a limited educational purpose, which includes use of the system for classroom activities, educational research, and professional or career development activities. 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.

The use of the school district system and access to use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Depending on the nature and degree of the violation and the number of previous violations, unacceptable use of the school district system or the Internet may result in one or more of the following consequences: suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges; payments for damages and repairs; discipline under other appropriate school district policies, including suspension, expulsion, or exclusion; or civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws.

### **Use of Digital Devices at School and School Activities:**

In keeping with the district's technology goals, the district recognizes the value of mobile devices as learning tools and for communication purposes. Student use of these devices will be governed by the following procedures:

- The use of mobile devices during instructional times is at the discretion of the classroom teachers and building administrators
- When the use of electronic devices is not required during class, they should be set aside to prevent distraction.
- Students shall not use any electronic device that disrupts or detracts from the educational environment.
- Students may not use mobile devices in any manner that violates any district or school policies, including policies and guidelines governing copyright, harassment, Internet Acceptable Use, and academic integrity.
- Cameras or any devices with recording capability are not permitted to be used in locker rooms, restrooms, or any area where students and staff have a "reasonable expectation of privacy".
- Students are not allowed to photograph or videotape students or staff at school without their consent with the exception of public events such as concerts or athletic contests.
- Students' use of mobile devices while in the school building must comply with the district's Acceptable Use Policy regardless of whether they are connecting through the school's network

- or through a cell carrier.
- The district retains the right at any time to view and/or investigate the contents of students' school issued devices at school.
- Any inappropriate use of cell phones for the purpose of using text messaging to harass or threaten others, or to plagiarize, copy or otherwise cheat academically is subject to the hazing and harassment policy and will result in disciplinary action. (District Policy 526)
- The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Violations of these guidelines will be handled on an individual basis and may include confiscation of the device, conference with parents, suspension of the right to carry a phone/device, referral to the school resource officer, or other consequences.

**Lost and found:**

Each year students lose or misplace items of clothing as well as other things. Parents are encouraged to somehow label clothing and other belongings for easier identification. If your child seems to be missing some articles of clothing, the school LOST AND FOUND would be the first place to check.

**Lost or stolen property:**

The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Students are discouraged from bringing anything to school except their books and study materials. Attempts will be made to locate lost items; however, there is not enough time or personnel to complete thorough searches or investigations.

**Mandatory reporters:**

All school staff are mandatory reporters. This means that staff members are obligated by Minnesota law to report any incidents of suspected child abuse or neglect.

**Pets:**

Families are asked not to bring pets into the school building. If parents have made prior arrangements with the classroom teacher, setting a specific date & time, pets may be brought to the designated spot outside of the building where the class can view the animal. No pets are allowed on any school bus. Pets must be brought and returned home by the parent(s).

**This change in procedure is in response to the many children and staff members with asthma and allergies.**

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

The entire Becker Primary School recites the Pledge of Allegiance each morning. Any student who wishes to abstain from reciting the Pledge is free to do so.

## **SAFETY**

### **Pedestrian safety:**

1. Whenever possible, use the sidewalks on the way to school.
2. When crossing the street, cross only at the marked crossings or at a street intersection.
3. Safety Patrol students are assigned to help children cross Hancock Street at the Rye Street intersection as well as the corner of Hancock Street and Third Street.
4. Parents who pick up their children in a car after school should not double park, since this increases the danger to those children who are crossing the street.
5. Students who walk to school should not arrive before 7:50.

### **Bicycle Safety:**

For the safety of both walkers and bike riders, it is important that all children riding bicycles to school observe the following rules:

1. Ride bicycles on the street, not on the sidewalk.
2. Pedestrians have the right-of-way.
3. Bicycles must observe the student Safety Patrol the same as automobiles.
4. Only one person may ride the bicycle. Do not give anyone a ride to or from school.
5. Bicycles must be parked in one of the bike racks.

### **Visitors:**

All visitors must report to the office to sign in and receive a visitor pass. To ensure the safety of students, staff reserves the right to ask for identification or to deny admittance. For security purposes and to keep classroom disruptions to a minimum, visitors are not allowed to enter classrooms or hallways. If parents drop off items, the office staff will deliver items or, if necessary, call students to the office. Students are not allowed to bring friends or relatives to school.

### **Volunteers and Background Checks:**

Parents are welcome and encouraged to volunteer. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the classroom teacher and prearrange a time to volunteer to ensure the time is beneficial for everyone involved. Non-school aged children are not allowed into classrooms or on field trips. Depending on the nature of the involvement, volunteers may be required to complete and pay for district background checks. Volunteers will need to review the volunteer guidelines and sign a confidentiality statement.

## **Support Services**

### **Social Worker**

A full time social worker is available to work with students individually or in groups to help students develop appropriate social and emotional skills.

### **Behavior Interventionist**

A full time Behavior specialist is available to work with students individually or in groups to help students develop appropriate social and emotional skills.

### **Reading Interventions**

Support is provided for children who need extra help in reading through computerized programs, small group and/or one on one instruction.