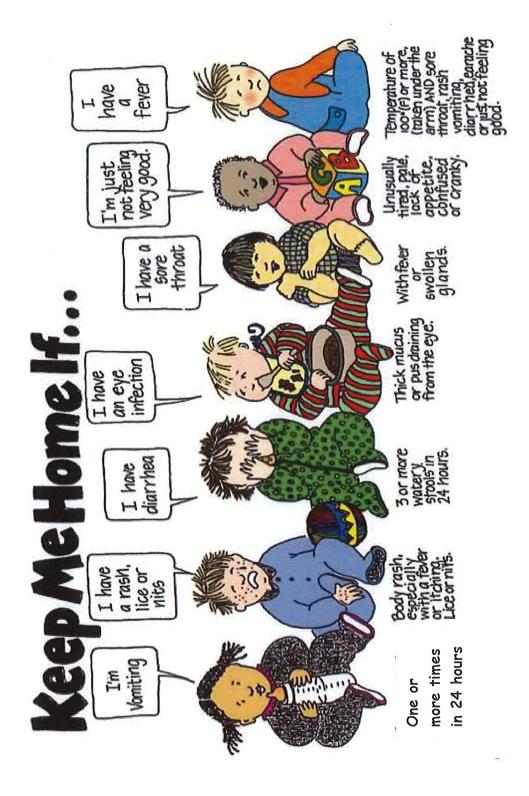


The Grove
Buena Vista School District's Early Learning Program

# The Grove Sick Child Policy

Please help us minimize illnesses in the home visit and classroom setting. These guidelines should be used to help you decide whether you should bring your child to school or reschedule with your family mentor. Children need to be symptom free for 24 hours or have a doctor's note to return to school or to schedule a home visit. If it is determined from the following symptoms that your child will not be attending, please call the main Thank you! -5270 or your family mentor.





# **ALERT**

We have some children with severe allergies to nuts in our school. Absolutely no nuts allowed in any form inside the school building. If you or your child eats nuts before coming to school, please have them or yourself brush teeth and wash hands before entering the building. Thanks for your help to keep kids safe!



# **ALERT**

We have some children with severe allergies to nuts in our school. Absolutely no nuts allowed in any form inside the school building. If you or your child eats nuts before coming to school, please have them or yourself brush teeth and wash hands before entering the building. Thanks for your help to keep kids safe!

# The Grove

Developmental and Mental Health Screening and On-going Assessment

**Purpose**: To ensure that all children enrolled receive a formal assessment within 60 days of enrollment and as needed of their developmental needs as well as to build collaborative relationships among children, families, staff and mental health professionals.

## Procedure:

- 1. DECA (Deveroux Early Childhood Assessment) tool is used to assess children's protective factors and behavioral concerns using a pre, post, and possibly a mid-year checkpoint. In collaboration with the Director and Mental Health Consultants, teachers review data.
- 2. The ASQ and ASQ S-E are used to screen a child's development in all domains within 60 days of the beginning of the school year and/or enrollment. This is done at the screening night or as needed individually. Reference Developmental Screening Procedure for further information.
- 3. Teachers utilize Teaching Strategies GOLD to assess child development. There are 3 checkpoints throughout the school year. GOLD data is shared with families throughout the year.
- 4. Classroom teams use research and evidence-based strategies to support children in a manner that is individualized as well as classroom wide using information from all screening and assessment data.

# A. Center's Purpose and Our Philosophy of Child Care and Education

The mission of Buena Vista School District is "to ensure every student reaches the peak of success".

BVSD's Early Childhood program exists to help lay the important high quality foundational experiences and education necessary for this mission to be accomplished in the very early years, beginning prenatally and continuing into Kindergarten. We believe that parents are their child's first and longest standing teacher and so together we partner to accomplish the mission.

We do this by providing high quality and individualized early learning experiences and environments for children and families through purposeful play, applying intentional teaching strategies guided by formative assessment in all areas of child development as described by the Colorado Developmental Learning Guidelines, and keeping current in and applying research and evidence-based early childhood practices.

# **B. THE AGES OF CHILDREN ACCEPTED**

The Grove will accept children ages 12 months and walking to 6 yrs. of age.

The Grove on Main Campus is state licensed as a child care facility for children ages 1-6.0 years of age.

The Grove on CR 320 Campus is state licensed as a child care facility for children ages 2.9-6.0 years of age.

Roots: Our home based program for pregnant women and families with children 0-3 yrs. old

Funding for our preschool programs comes from several sources including:

**Individual Grants** 

Colorado Preschool Program

Tuition

B.V.S.D-I.D.E.A (Individuals with disabilities Education Act)

# C. HOURS OF OPERATION

#### Preschool in session:

@ The Grove on Main: Monday-Thursday 7:50 AM-3:10 PM

@ The Grove on CR 320: Monday-Thursday 7:45 AM-3:00 PM

# **BASE Camp:**

Monday-Thursday 7:00 AM-7:50 AM & 3:10 PM-5:30 PM

Buena Vista School District R-31 determines holiday closures

Calendar will be posted and sent to parents

#### Toddler care in session:

Monday-Friday 7:30 AM-4:00 PM

# **Staff Hours:**

Monday-Friday 7:30 AM-3:30 PM

Center phone number 719-395-5270

Roots Home-Based Program:

Kathy Paschall, Family Mentor-719-293-4606

Sarah Romack, Family Mentor-719-203-0369

#### D. INCLEMENT WEATHER

All inclement weather decisions are based on concerns for student, parent and staff safety. If school is canceled, announcement through the Infinite Campus messenger communication system will notify parents either by home phone, cell phone or e-mail that school has been cancelled for the day. Please make sure your preferred main phone number and method of contact is updated with The Grove's Administrative Assistant.

Please make sure that your child is dressed for our changing Colorado weather. A warm morning does not necessarily mean a warm afternoon. Students will not be outside for recess if the temperature/wind chill factor is below 20 degrees or over 90 degrees.

# Regarding "Late Start"

If BVSD Issues a "late start", morning session will be canceled.

# **BASE CAMP late start & policy:**

If BVSD issues a "late start", the morning session of BASE Camp will be canceled.

If BVSD issues an "early release due to inclement weather, the afternoon session of BASE Camp will be canceled.

# E. Admission and Registration Process

The BVSD Early Childhood Program will accept enrollment applications throughout the year. Enrollment decisions are influenced by availability of the following number of slots & the funding requirements that accompany those slots.

- 1. Funding Source (for preschool only)
  - a. Colorado Preschool Program (CPP): follow CPP guidelines for enrollment
  - b. District: District Employees receive ½ day no-cost preschool (covered by BVSD)
  - c. Colorado Preschool Assistance Program (CCAP): Apply with DHS
  - d. Tuition-Based: Determined by sliding fee scale
  - e. Special Education: We reserve at least 1 open spot in each classroom to be able to abide by BOCES & SPED rules and regulations.
- 2. Waiting list order based on age, eligibility, need, & application date

#### F. FEE SCHEDULE

# The Grove Early School

Sliding Fee Eligibility Guidelines Effective June 2019

Morning and Afternoon Sessions are the SAME price. Full Day is double, depending on level.

| Household Size Level 1=\$260 |                     | Level 2=\$220   | Level 3=\$180   | Level 4=CCAP         |  |  |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|--|--|
| 2                            | \$3,857 and above   | \$3,046-\$3,856 | \$2,234-\$3,045 | Less than \$2,233.00 |  |  |
| 3                            | \$4,432 and above   | \$3,621-\$4,431 | \$2,808-\$3,620 | Less than \$2,807.75 |  |  |
| 4                            | 4 \$5,007 and above |                 | \$3,383-\$4,194 | Less than \$3,382.50 |  |  |
| 5                            | \$5,582 and above   | \$4,770-\$5,581 | \$3,958-\$4,669 | Less than \$3,957.25 |  |  |
| 6                            | \$6,157 and above   | \$5,345-\$6,156 | \$4,533-\$5,344 | Less than \$4,532.00 |  |  |
| 7                            | \$6,732 and above   | \$5,920-\$6,731 | \$5,107-\$5,919 | Less than \$5,106.75 |  |  |
| 8                            | \$7,307 and above   | \$6,494-\$7,306 | \$5,682-\$6,493 | Less than \$5,681.50 |  |  |

Families who make less than 165% FPL (Federal Poverty Level) may qualify for CCAP (Colorado Child Care Assistance Program). An application and information is available at the front desk.

# **Breakfast and Lunch Accounts**

Meals occur family style, which is part of the preschool curriculum to help promote decision-making, communication, sharing and eye/hand coordination. Family style breakfast and lunch are part of our preschool curriculum. If you choose for your child to be enrolled, you must purchase a breakfast and/or lunch ticket. Breakfast is \$1.35 and lunch is \$2.50. Free and Reduced Meal applications will available, please apply if this cost is a concern. Their meal(s) will be deducted from their meal ticket via a PIN code. (Please note, tuition and meal tickets must be made separately.) Please refer to the nutrition policy in our parent handbook for more information. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.

# Seedlings Toddler Program

Effective June 2019

Full day only=\$40/day

Family style lunch is part of the program's curriculum. If you choose for your child to participate in the program, you MUST purchase lunches, which are deducted from lunch accounts vie PIN code.

(PLEASE NOTE: Tuition and lunch payments must be made separately).

# G. Identifying where children are at all times

- Sign-in lists are maintained and checked on a daily basis by staff in each classroom
- Staff count and document numbers of children present and post numbers daily in a visible area in each classroom.
- When a class leaves the building, the teachers will carry an updated daily list with them and will post specifics on where the classroom is.
- When children leave the classroom/building for any reason they are in the company of a staff person or a parent/guardian (in the event of pick-up)

# Protocol for going to outdoor recess:

Count students when leaving for outdoor recess

# **Protocol for coming in from outdoor recess:**

- Count students at line up on fence (color coded)
- A minimum of 2 teachers are present during line up time
- When in vestibule, teachers will complete a head count
- When back in the classroom, teachers will complete a head count

# H. Guidance, positive instruction, supporting positive behavior, discipline and consequences

Guidance-In terms of discipline, guidance is our main philosophy.

Children need guidance as they learn to develop self-regulation, gain responsibility for their actions and make choices that are acceptable. Teachers have primary responsibility for producing an environment in which these social and emotional skills are supported. Teachers are able to recognize when intervention is an appropriate measure or when child self-control can be developed. Teachers always model respect, composure and conflict resolution. The child's self-pride is also always respected. Teachers make an effort to speak with families to obtain their input on what techniques work best with their child. Volunteers have no responsibility or authority in discipline matters, except to prevent physical harm.

Classroom environment, daily schedule, lesson plans and curriculum all allow children the opportunity to develop social and emotional skills necessary for self-regulation. Children are supervised at all times and teachers monitor situations in order to make the most of learning experiences for each child. Expectations are made clear to children and positive behavior is acknowledged while negative behaviors are ignored whenever possible.

Severe behavior concerns-In the event of a severe behavior problem, teachers will work with families & staff to develop an individual behavior plan as a team

We partner with Sol Vista who, through the *Mental Health Referral procedure* and reflective consultation, can support teachers and/or parents through mental health concerns.

# I. Illnesses, accidents, and injuries

The Grove will obtain, upon admission, telephone numbers of the child's physician or other appropriate health care professional and telephone numbers where the parent/guardian and at least one other responsible adult can typically be reached in the event of accident, illness or other emergency. Written authority will be obtained to arrange for medical care in the event of an emergency and will be on file the first day a child attends preschool.

When accidents, injuries or illness occur, a responsible adult will notify the parent /guardian. If necessary, the physician or medical facility will be called as per written instruction of the parent/guardian. Staff will hold current first aid and CPR certificate. Any child too ill to remain in the classroom will be comfortably cared for and supervised in the Director's office or Avery Parsons Elementary school nurses room. Portable first aid kits will be available to staff at all times including field trips.

Accident reports will be filled out for each incident and will follow Child Care Licensing guidelines on reporting required accidents to the department.

## J. Responding to Emergencies such as lost children, tornadoes, and fires

# Lost Children

Sign-in sheets and/or current check in system are checked daily and used as daily attendance list. Children are continually counted throughout the day (see G. Identifying where children are at all times). When a class leaves the building, the daily list is taken along. In the event of a missing child, the following procedure takes place:

- 1. Director is notified
- 2. Staff are designated to search both inside and outside the building and the perimeter of the building.
- 3. If the child is not found after a thorough search of the building and perimeter, 911 is dialed. The child's family is also called at this time.
- 4. If the police and parents are notified, a debriefing session will be held and report made to both staff and parents as to the circumstances surrounding the lost child.

## Fires & other emergencies

Staff will respond to all disasters or emergencies by following the most current BVSD R-31 Emergency Operations Plan.

(included in this policies & procedures binder).

#### **Evacuations**

Each classroom will exit out the front entrance doors of the preschool, walking down the sidewalk on the west side of the preschool playground, proceeding to the sidewalk on the south side of the preschool playground.

Procedure being used for second exit; each classroom will exit through the north emergency door into the primary hallway of APE, turning right and exiting out of the building through the east doors to the east sidewalk then walking south to the main sidewalk in front of the preschool playground.

Teachers and aides will be in charge of checking all rooms for children and close all doors in the preschool building, exiting safely and quickly. Teachers and aides shall check all exits to make sure they are clean and free of excess debris for safe, fast and obtainable exits; during snowfall, check and clean off all stairs. Staff and children will assemble in central location to verify head count and take attendance.

# K. Transporting Children

The Grove follows state licensing and federal regulations regarding the transportation of children as specified and directed by the BVSD R-31 Transportation Department.

All parents will sign a field trip/bus transportation form at the beginning of enrollment of their child and/or as needed. All transportation provided will be within city limits unless otherwise stated and with pre-approval form parents/guardians.

Employees will **not** transport students in their own vehicles.

# L. Field trips, television and video viewing, weapon play, and special activities, including staff responsibility for the supervision of children.

**Field Trips**-The BVSD Early Childhood Program recognizes that field trips are a hands on approach to learning which allow us to share our community resources and learn more about culture. It is the desire of our preschool to include field trips as a supplement to children's total preschool experience. Field trips are verbally approved by the Director prior to scheduling. During field trips staff-child ratios are always maintained.

Video Policy-What is screen time? "Screen time" is any time spent in front of a screen, such as a TV, computer, video game player, smart phone or tablet. Screen time is a sedentary activity. Very little energy is used during screen time. Health and safety experts in child care recommend that providers limit screen time to no more than 30 minutes per week. Limiting media time for kids two and older during their time in child care will help meet the AAP recommendation: reduce screen time to no more than 2 hours per day including screen time at home.

# **Electronics & Screen Time use Policy**

When caring for children, staff must refrain from personal use of electronics including, but not limited to, cell phones and portable devices, except in the case of collecting assessment data for Teaching Strategies GOLD or communicating with parents using Brightwheel.

All screen time is prohibited during snack or meal times.

Big screen time is limited to 30 minutes per week, except for special occasions.

Computer & tablet time must be limited to non-consecutive 15 minute increments not to exceed 30 minutes per day, except for special occasions.

#### Policy on weapon play

Children learn about their world through play, they use play to act out situations that they are interested in, want to know more about, or possible future roles. The world that we live in affects what children are exposed to and what type of play scenarios they participate in. In today's society, heroes often carry guns. These individuals include police officers, military personnel, super heroes, and popular characters. Many children engage in dramatic play in which guns are used.

Updated 5/17/2018

| M. | Children's safety | related to | riding in a | vehicle,  | seating, | supervision, | and | emerger | ncy |
|----|-------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|----------|--------------|-----|---------|-----|
|    |                   |            | procedure   | es on the | road.    |              |     |         |     |

All children will be transported by their families or in accordance with transportation policy. (see K)

# N. Releasing children to authorized caregivers

#### **Documentation of Authorized Caregivers:**

- Files at the The Grove will be regularly maintained which include the names, address and phone numbers of individuals whom parents have authorized to pick up the child for them. Staff will ask for identification from individuals not known to them.
- 2) Care-giving adults who bring the child to or remove the child from the facility will sign children in and out of the facility.

#### Policy for handling an Unauthorized person:

- 1) Children will not be released to an unauthorized individual.
- 2) The office will contact the custodial parent.
- 3) Telephone authorization to release a child is not encouraged but will be accepted on an emergency basis. Staff member taking phone message will record information on the contact sheet at the Administrative Assistant's desk. In cases where there is a question of identity, a return call to the parent/guardian to verify her/his identity will be made. A Driver's License will be asked for and reviewed to prove identity.
- 4) The parent/guardian will be asked to update the child's contact information upon next visit to the program.

#### Safety issues regarding release of child:

1) The staff at The Grove will take the following actions when any person picking up a child is reasonably suspected to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol and is functionally impaired:

Staff will make every effort to detain the person at the program (ask the person to sit down, engage the person in conversation, show things or ask the person to wait). While the person is being detained, the Director or another staff person will contact the local police department. The child will only be released to a parent or person who has custody of the child.

2) The staff will not release a child to a person who has a restraining order against them; a current copy of the order must be in the family file. Custody/Restraining Orders are made known to all staff.

# O. Procedures when a child is not picked up

When no responsible adult arrives to pick up a child within 15 minutes of the end of a session, a staff member will call the parent/guardian or other designated adult.

After 30 minutes from the end of a session, if the child is still not picked up, The Department of Social Services and local law enforcement will be notified.

# P. Children who arrive late and their class/group is away from the center on a field trip of excursion

#### Children who arrive late

- It is important to the flow of the classroom as well as for the comfort of your child to be on time. Groups are formed and teachers take great care to create a plan. We try to minimize distractions for the teacher as well as for the rest of the children in the classroom.
- If your child will be late or you will be picking up your child early, please notify the front office.

Children who arrive late and their class is away from the building have several options:

- Parents may transport their child to the activity. In this case the class will be contacted in order to add the child to their attendance list.
- Parent may decide to take their child home.
- If another classroom is an appropriate setting and staff ratios are sufficient the child may be able to stay in the other classroom.

# Q. Storing and Administration of Medication and delegation of medication administration.

If a child is prescribed a medication that needs to be given during regular school/child care hours, we require that the medication is brought to the School Nurse at the Elementary school and an "Authorization to Administer Medication" form be completed by the child's physician.

Medication will not be given without a signed medical authorization for the particular prescription or non-prescription medication.

All medications to be given must be brought into the School Nurse in the <u>original container</u> with the current date, child's name and physician's name clearly on the label, as well as instructions for administration given by the doctor.

# Only those delegated and trained by the school nurse shall be allowed to administer medicine.

# For parents:

Please do not give your child medications that they are to administer themselves while at Preschool, such as cough drops, salve, etc. Non-prescription medications must be accompanied by written authorization from your child's physician, along with instructions for administering.

If your child has a prescription for an EPI PEN for treatment of allergy symptoms or an inhaler for asthma, please ask your child's doctor to prescribe an extra one that may be kept in the classroom's locked mediation box in case of emergency.

# R. Children's personal belongings and money

Parents are asked to leave their children's toys and money at home. If children bring personal items to The Grove, they are put in the child's cubby until the end of the day. The Grovel is **not** responsible for lost or missing personal items. Exceptions may be made between the teacher and the parent in consultation with the Director.

# S. Meals and Snacks

- 1) Parents/guardians of children enrolled at The Grove will either pay for a breakfast or lunch ticket (or both) through the district's food program or sign up for the free/reduced meal program.
- 2) Families are invited to eat lunch with their child. **Please notify the staff or program secretary before 8 am** if you plan to join us for breakfast or lunch.
- 3) If families choose for their child NOT to participate in breakfast or lunch, they must bring their child in at 9am for the morning session and 12:30 for the afternoon session. Full day students will not have this option.
- 4) The Grove will provide one third of the daily nutritional needs of the child enrolled in a half day program and one half to two thirds of the daily nutritional needs of the child enrolled in a full day program (based on the Child and Adult Care Food Program Standards-see appropriate "Creditable Foods Guide for Child Care Centers"). Children who arrive early or who are simply hungry may require an extra snack.
- 5) Foods for meals and snacks shall be chosen not only to meet the child's nutritional needs, but also to contribute to good dental health. The children will brush their teeth at least once during school hours.
- 6) For conditions in which menus need to be modified, such as for food allergies, digestive or metabolic disturbances, etc., this information shall be kept as part of the child's record. A supporting statement, signed by a physician as to the type of modified diet needed, must be kept on file at the center and updated periodically.
- 7) In cases where a child cannot eat a particular food item due to religious beliefs or for other reasons, the nutritionist will work with the family to develop menus to provide adequate nutrition suitable for the family.
- 8) Menus will be posted in the food preparation area and a common viewing area (parent message boards) where it's accessible to all. A copy of the menu should be sent home to care providers.
- 9) A consistent meal schedule will take place. The meal should be eaten at a leisurely pace, about 20-30 minutes to finish.
- 10) Mealtime will take place in a quiet, will-lit, well ventilated area that encourages socialization.
- 11) A period of quiet activity will be scheduled before lunch so the children can come to the table relaxed and ready to eat.
- 12) Family style food service and children's participation in nutritional learning activities will take place only to the degree that proper safety and sanitation practices can be followed. The children should be allowed to help set the tables before the meal when possible. The teachers should sit with the children and eat what is being served in order to model good eating behaviors. The children should be allowed to serve themselves and to pass serving bowls to each other. Serving utensils bust be long enough so they will not fall back in the bowl and short enough so they will not flip out of the bowl. (See safety and Sanitation Policy)

# T. The Grove Toileting and Diapering Procedure

Toileting will be handled on an individual basis. In the case that a child will need more than regular assistance in toileting or to be diapered, the child's family will be asked to help develop a plan. Families will be expected to provide training pants and /or extra underwear and clothing on a daily basis. The Grove has some supplies available in the case of emergencies.

Children will be treated with dignity, respect and patience during changes. Children will be expected and encouraged to help themselves as much as possible during each change. Change of clothes will take place in each classroom within the toilet stall area. Diapering will occur in the classroom bathrooms. If the staff restroom is used, the door will be left ajar and the child will never be left alone.

Universal precautions procedures will be followed to prevent the spread of disease and to keep areas sanitary. These include the use of gloves during changes, bleach water for cleanup, placing soiled clothes in a plastic for parent/guardian to pick up the soiled wipes and/or diaper in a plastic bag for disposal. Staff and children will both wash hands after toileting and/or diapering.

# U. VISITORS

The Grove welcomes and encourages parent/guardians and volunteers to visit the school at any time. All visitors must check in at the preschool front desk, sign in and wear an identification tag to indicate that they are guests in the preschool building. Volunteers who come on a regular basis are <u>required</u> to fill out a BVSDR-31 volunteer packet and undergo a background check. We ask those who come regularly to phone in if they can't attend on a specific day.

# V. Parent and staff conferences

**Purpose:** Conferences provide teachers and families with the opportunity for an in-depth discussion of each child's development and adjustment to the program. Conferences provide a time for families to share their observations of their children, ask questions, discuss their expectations, or express concerns. Conferences also offer opportunities to identify ways to improve the child's learning in the home and in school.

#### Procedure:

- 1) Family/Teacher/Student Led Conferences are held twice yearly. In general these occur in the Fall and Spring.
- 2) Family/Teacher conferences are held at the preschool, in your child's classroom, or in your home. Families will be signed up for a specific time slot based on preferences presented by the teaching staff. Teaching staff encourage families to attend with written reminders and phone calls when necessary.
- 3) Teachers prepare forms, information and work samples ahead of time as needed using the data entered in Gold.
- 4) Families are asked to give their input and ideas as part of the conference. Together, ideas for child development are created for at home, in school or for transitions.
- 5) Upon the request of a parent, a missed conference may be re-scheduled or conducted at any other time during the year.
- 6) Families are given a copy of the conference form. Teaching teams share important information with team members for planning purposes. The Lead teachers gather completed forms to the Director who looks over all forms, initials and places in child's file.

# W. FILING A COMPLAINT ABOUT CHILD CARE

If you believe a State Licensing Violation has occurred, you may file a complaint with:

Division of Child Care
Colorado Department of Human Services
1575 Sherman St
Denver, CO 80203-1744

1-800-799-5876 or FAX 303-866-4453

# X. Reporting of Child Abuse

Any caregiver or staff who has reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect or who has observed the child being subjected to circumstances or conditions that would reasonably result in abuse or neglect must immediately report or cause a report to be made of such fact to the county department of social services or local law enforcement agency.

# Child abuse reporting hotline:

## 1-844-CO-4-KIDS

The Grove & Home Visiting Child Abuse reporting procedure:

- 1. Immediately inform your administrator or his/her designee of your concerns. No one has the authority to veto the reporting.
- 2. If it is necessary for school personnel to examine a student for evidence of physical abuse, two adults should be present during the examination and the examination should follow the "gym class rule." Only examine the areas that can be seen if the child were wearing shorts and a t-shirt. Do not examine the child any further.
- 3. Complete the Known or Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect/Endangerment Reporting Form.
- 4. Call Department of Human Services Hotline 1-844-CO-4-KIDS
- 5. DO NOT conduct an investigation regarding the case. Investigations are the responsibility of the appropriate law enforcement agency staff and/or the Department of Human Services.
- 6. Give a copy of the Known or Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect/Endangerment Reporting form to the director. The Director will make necessary district-level notification.
- 7. Retain a copy of the Known or Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect/Endangerment Reporting Form in a confidential file. Do not file in the student's special education or cumulative file.
- 8. Parents will be notified by Chaffee County Department of Human Services staff or law enforcement agency staff. Do not contact parents.

# Y. Notification when Child Care Services are Withdrawn or when a Parent withdraws their child from The Grove

Parents/guardians have the right to withdraw children from our program at any time. Parents complete a withdrawal form.

Z. How decisions are made and what steps are taken prior to the suspension, expulsion or request to parents or guardians to withdraw a child from care due to concerns about the child's behavioral issues.

Avery Parsons Early School will follow the steps for accepting children based on the written Admissions and Acceptance Policy. No Child will be denied admission based on behavior, medical compromise or immune deficiency. APES will work with the parent/guardian of the child and a team of professionals that service the child to determine the best educational plan to meet the needs of that child. Temporary suspensions and/or expulsions will be used sparingly and as determined involving a team of specialists and after the provision of reasonable modifications. Each child's plan will be developed on a case by case basis to best meet the needs of the individual child.

If temporary suspension is deemed necessary, we will do all we can to help the child return to full participation in all program activities a quickly as possible while ensuring child safety by:

- Continuing to engage with the parents and a mental health consultant, and continuing to utilize appropriate community resources;
- Developing a written plan to document the action and supports needed;
- Providing services that include home visits; and, others as deemed necessary