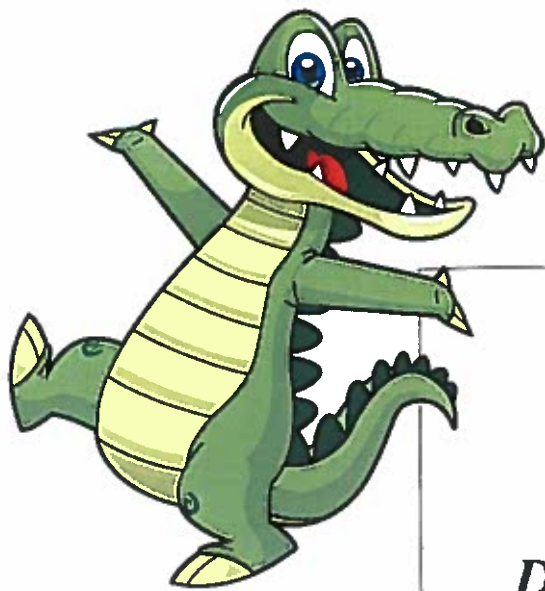


# **Virgil I. Grissom Elementary School**



**National School of Character  
Family & Student Handbook  
2016-2017**



**TOGETHER  
WE  
CAN MAKE  
A  
DIFFERENCE**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Together we can make this a productive school year for your child. Our mutual goals for student success are based on a common and consistent expectation for a safe and orderly school environment. Within this environment we will foster and honor responsible, respectful and resourceful student behavior.

Your child's teacher has reviewed the contents of this handbook with him/her. Please reinforce the importance of the school-wide expectations by reviewing it with your child and signing the contract at the back of the book. We look forward to working with you and your child. Together we can make a difference!

  
Dr. Arico, Principal

# Virgil I. Grissom Elementary School Is A School full of CHARACTER!

Character education is the shared responsibility of parents, teachers and members of the community, who come together to support positive character development in our youth. Together we teach the values and skills necessary to help children succeed and develop socially, emotionally and academically. Take a moment to review our school's core values and review them with your child.

## Our Core Values





Virgil I. Grissom Elementary School  
Character Pledge

We, the Grissom Gators, pledge to

Give our best every day

Respect each other in every way

Include everyone in all we do

Share our ideas and listen too

Set a good example for one and all

Offer help when needed no matter how small

**Make every day count!!**



# How parents can help...

- Participate on the Character Education Committee
- Help teach your children the importance of the school-wide expectations at home, at school, and in the community
- Model the expected behaviors for your child
- Help your child rehearse and practice expected behaviors
- Volunteer in school activities
- Attend parent workshops
- Communicate with your child's teacher and the school counselor.

**Before they come to school, teach them to be successful socially, emotionally and academically!**

## **Teach your child to:**

- ✓ Smile and say "good morning"
- ✓ Ask for help when needed
- ✓ Give compliments to others and use kind words
- ✓ Say "Please, Thank you, and Excuse Me"
- ✓ Make eye contact with others when they are speaking
- ✓ Identify and express his/her feelings when frustrated, confused, intimidated, worried, or disappointed
- ✓ Have good body posture when listening, face the speaker





# Our School Mission:

We, the Virgil I. Grissom Elementary School Community, are committed to create lifelong learners by embracing different learning styles, creating a safe environment, developing strong character, creating local community awareness, and preparing our students for the global community by working together with administrators, faculty, students, families and the community at large.

# Our School-Wide Expectations:



# Expectations:

Apply to ALL areas of school life! You are expected to BE SAFE, BE RESPECTFUL & BE RESPONSIBLE at all times and in all places.

- ✓ **Classroom**
- ✓ **Gym**
- ✓ **Cafeteria**
- ✓ **Hallways**
- ✓ **Main Office**
- ✓ **Bus stop**
- ✓ **Bus**
- ✓ **Library**
- ✓ **Speech Room**

- ✓ **Field Trips**
- ✓ **Computer Room**
- ✓ **Art Room**
- ✓ **Counseling Office**
- ✓ **Bathroom**
- ✓ **Music Room**
- ✓ **Playground**
- ✓ **Nurse's Office**
- ✓ **Lobby**





	Be Safe	Be Respectful	Be Responsible
<b>Hallways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay in line</li> <li>• Face forward</li> <li>• Keep a safe distance</li> <li>• Keep hands and feet to self</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow others to join the line</li> <li>• Remain quiet so classes will not be distracted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep the hallways free of litter</li> <li>• Keep hands off bulletin boards</li> <li>• Pick up items that fall</li> </ul>
<b>Classroom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow directions</li> <li>• Respect the personal space of others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eyes on the speaker,</li> <li>• No talking when the speaker is talking</li> <li>• Raise your hand to speak</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be prepared</li> <li>• Complete your work</li> <li>• Do your best effort</li> </ul>
<b>Cafeteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sit at your assigned table</li> <li>• Make sure your lunch mother knows where you are at all times</li> <li>• Do not share food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use inside voices</li> <li>• Use kind words.</li> <li>• Exhibit good table manners</li> <li>• Think about other people's feelings</li> <li>• Wait your turn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean up your table</li> <li>• Help others</li> <li>• Stay in your designated area</li> </ul>
<b>Bathrooms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wait your turn</li> <li>• Wash your hands</li> <li>• Report problems immediately to a grown-up</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect the privacy of others</li> <li>• Use the facilities appropriately</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep the facility clean</li> <li>• Flush the toilet</li> <li>• Throw trash in garbage can</li> </ul>
<b>Buses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep hands and feet out of the aisles</li> <li>• Listen to the bus driver</li> <li>• Remain seated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use inside voices and kind words</li> <li>• Share seats and make room for others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know what bus you are on</li> <li>• Make sure you have all your belongings before you exit the bus</li> </ul>
<b>Playground</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remain in your designated area</li> <li>• Do not walk behind swings</li> <li>• Be careful on the equipment</li> <li>• Keep hands and feet to self at all times</li> <li>• No rough play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow all children to play</li> <li>• Use problem solving strategies to solve disagreements</li> <li>• Use kind words</li> <li>• Share and take turns</li> <li>• Play fair</li> <li>• be a good sport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report big problems to an adult immediately</li> <li>• Pay attention to how you are treating others and making them feel</li> </ul>



## Consequences for non-compliance

Students will be held accountable for their behaviors. It is our school's policy to ensure that all students know what the behavior expectations are, reinforce those expectations, help students rehearse them and correct non-compliant behaviors. Depending on the frequency and severity of non-compliant behaviors students may experience consequences.



"OR" you will  
have one of  
the following  
consequences:



**Practice Expected Behavior**  
**Think-About-It**  
**Parent Notification**  
**Referral to Principal**  
**Loss of Privileges**  
**Detention**  
**Suspension**

**"Doing the right thing" is your choice!**

\* The list of consequences is not intended to be all inclusive, but rather represents the more common ones experienced by students. The administrator of the building may use his discretion in determining the appropriate discipline of a student. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

## Social Consequences of Unexpected Behavior:

It is also our job to teach students that their behavior affects others around them. Students need to be socially mindful that others are watching their behaviors and formulating feelings and thoughts about them based on their behaviors. When students are non-compliant it makes other students feel:

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ <b>Hurt</b>          | ✓ <b>Embarrassed</b>  |
| ✓ <b>Worried</b>       | ✓ <b>Scared</b>       |
| ✓ <b>Uncomfortable</b> | ✓ <b>Left-out</b>     |
| ✓ <b>Frustrated</b>    | ✓ <b>Disrespected</b> |

Help your child to be a good citizen of Grissom School. All students can make good choices and think about the thoughts and feelings of others!

# The Contract

I have read the Grissom School of Character Handbook.  
I understand that I am expected to always:



I also understand there will be consequences if I do not do what is expected of me. I understand that these expectations are in place to keep me safe, help me learn and to create a happy school climate. I know that my behavior is important. I understand that what I do affects others.

I agree to follow all of the school-wide expectations and to practice everyday doing my best to be a Grissom Student of Good Character.

Print Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Be responsible...please return your signed  
CONTRACT immediately.**

**If you or your parents have any questions  
regarding our school or district  
handbooks, please notify your classroom  
teacher.**



**CHARACTER COUNTS @  
Virgil I Grissom Elementary School  
Home of the Grissom Gators**