

Starr Elementary Student Handbook



Starr Elementary
400 Professor Brown Road
Starr, SC 29684
(864) 352-6154

Melissa M. Davis, Principal and Title IX Coordinator
Ariel Davis, Assistant Principal of Instruction

Starr Families,

Welcome to Starr Elementary! We are so excited about the school year and can not wait to work with you and your child. At Starr Elementary, we believe all students learn and grow at their own pace; our goal is to provide high quality instruction, as well as, foster a love of learning in each child that will last a lifetime. We look forward to working with you and your family. It is going to be a great school year!

Please read the information provided in this packet carefully and let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

School Hours

7:40 a.m. - 2:35 p.m.

Arrival

- ❖ During normal operation, the school day begins at **7:40 a.m.** and ends at **2:35 p.m.** A car rider may not be dropped off at school before **7:15 a.m.** Teachers are not on duty until 7:15, so it is imperative that students not arrive before this time. Car riders should be at school no later than **7:40 a.m.** This allows students five minutes to walk to class. Students may not be dropped off at the front of the school. This is for buses only. Parents of students arriving late and parents of Head Start students should park in the front parking lot. Do not park in the bus lanes please! **Students arriving after 7:40 are marked tardy and must be signed in at the office by a parent before being admitted to class. Again, do not park in the bus lanes. You must park and walk your child in the door.**

Early Dismissal

- ❖ If a student is to be dismissed from school due to an emergency, the parent must report to the office to sign the student out. Please do not ask to sign your child out after **2:15 p.m.** unless you have an emergency or a doctor's appointment.
- ❖ Students must be picked up by **3:00 p.m.** Parents who consistently send their children to school before 7:15 or pick them up after 3:00 will be required to meet with the principal and/or social worker.
- ❖ Please make sure your child knows how they are to get home each day from school. The school secretaries are not responsible for relaying messages to your child on how they will be going home each day.

Dismissal

- ❖ Bus riders will dismiss at **2:30 p.m.** and car riders will follow shortly after.

Communication

- ❖ School Website:
 - School information and events are featured and updated on the Starr Elementary website (<https://www.acsd3.org/o/starr-elementary-school>).

- ❖ School Messenger:
 - We will send voice and text messages out with important information and reminders throughout the year; please be sure that your information is current in PowerSchool, so you do not miss these messages.
- ❖ District App:
 - If you have not joined our Anderson SD 3, please do so as soon as possible. Our Communication Coordinator, Dylan McCoullough, provides a lot of information and highlights activities and events throughout the year.
- ❖ Social Media Page:
 - Our school has a Facebook page, Starr Elementary School. If you have an account, we would love for you to follow our page. Again, this is a great way to stay abreast of important events, information, etc.
- ❖ Other Forms of Communication:
 - Teacher Homework Folder/Binder, Friday Folders, Weekly Newsletter (provided by homeroom teacher), Monthly Newsletter (provided by the school), emails, phone calls and notes/letters.

Attendance Rules

- ❖ Regular attendance at school is extremely important to the education of your child. Absences from school will be classified as excused or unexcused. In accordance with the South Carolina law and Anderson District Three policy, an intervention conference will be held with parents and administration when a student accrues **five unexcused absences** and will be referred to the Anderson County Attendance Office. In addition, a student will be considered for retention due to excessive absences.
- ❖ Lawful Absences Shall Be:
 - Personal Illness
 - Death or serious illness in the immediate family
 - Religious holidays of his/her faith
 - Appointments for medical or dental reasons
- ❖ Lawful Absence Excuse:
 - When the student is lawfully absent, he/she shall:
 - Present a note to his/her homeroom teacher from home or a doctor within three days of returning to school. If the excuse is not presented by the third day, the absence will be considered unexcused and considered unlawful.
 - The excuse shall include the name of the student, the reason for the absence(s), the date(s) of the absence(s), and the signature of the parent/guardian, medical doctor, or dentist.
 - A student may be excused for personal illness up to five times by parents/guardian signature. After the five times limit, a student shall be excused only with a signed excuse from a medical doctor or dentist. Always obtain a medical or dental excuse every time you visit the doctor so these can be used during the year when a doctor visit may not be necessary.

Please Note: As part of the Every Student Succeeds Act, beginning December 2017 the United States Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights will require the South Carolina Department of Education to report "chronic absenteeism" for all students. Chronically absent students are students absent 10 percent or more of their enrollment period in a school season. An absent student is one who misses 50 percent of the instructional day for any reason regardless of whether the absence is excused or unexcused.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As part of the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which began in December of 2017, the US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights will require SCDE to report Chronic Absenteeism for all students. As defined by the OCR, chronically absent students are those absent 10 percent or more of their enrollment period in a school. An absent student is one who misses 50 percent of the instructional day for any reason and regardless of whether the absence is excused or unexcused.

Beginning 2018-2019 school year any student that misses 50 percent of his/her instructional day for any reason, whether the missed time is excused or unexcused, will be marked absent.

For instance, at the Elementary schools the instructional day begins at 7:45 a.m. and ends at 2:45 (420 minutes). A student must be present 50% of the day from 7:45 until 11:15 (210 minutes) in order to be counted present for the day.

At the middle and high schools students must be present 50% of each period to be counted present for that period. For instance if a period lasts 55 minutes the student must be in that class for at least 28 minutes to be counted present for that class.

Student attendance is a key factor in student achievement and being absent from school is a loss in instruction and learning for the student.

Melissa M. Davis
Principal

Attendance Expectations and Awards

❖ Expectations:

- Regular and punctual attendance is essential for the optimum growth and development of students. For this reason, Starr Elementary is proud to recognize students who have made the outstanding effort to attend school each day. At the end of the school year, attendance awards are presented in two categories.

❖ Awards for the Year:

- Perfect attendance is awarded to students who have no tardies or absences for the entire school year.
- Faithful attendance is awarded to students who have three or fewer absences or tardies for the entire school year. Tardies will result in the denial of the award.
- ❖ *We want these awards to be a true honor for the hard work of the students and parents who have actually accomplished Perfect or Faithful Attendance. We realize the standards are high, but that is the true definition of Perfect Attendance.*

Parent Portal

- ❖ Access to your child's grades (1st-5th) and attendance is provided to you through this link. You will also use it to register your child for the upcoming school year.. The website location is <https://www.acsd3.org/page/parent-resources>. You may receive your confidential ID and password by visiting or contacting the school office. Please be sure to bring your driver's license.



Student Enrollment Procedures

- ❖ Basic requirements for student enrollment:
 - Copy of birth certificate
 - Copy of social security card
 - Immunization record
 - Current proof of residency (phone, water, or power bills that show address)

Visitors

- ❖ Parents are not only welcome, but encouraged to visit Starr Elementary School. For safety and security reasons, all visitors are required to come to the office upon arrival. All visitors must present a driver's license or state issued ID to receive a visitor's pass. This is required each time visiting. Upon departure, visitors are asked to return to the office and sign out. We do ask that parents call the school to pre-arrange conference times with classroom teachers. We will be mandating a clear bag policy for all visitors.

Guidance Counselor

- ❖ Starr Elementary has a guidance counselor who is available to address concerns of students, teachers, or parents.
- ❖ The counselor works to facilitate each student's success with character education and academics by collaborating with families and teachers.
- ❖ Individual and group counseling sessions are available to all students.

Health Procedures

- ❖ All students entering for the first time must have proof of immunizations; "NO SHOTS, NO SCHOOL." The school nurse will work with parents to ensure student immunizations are in compliance with state law.
- ❖ Starr Elementary has a full-time registered nurse on duty during regular school hours. If a student becomes sick or injured, he/she will be sent to the health office. If after observation, the illness or injury appears to warrant contact of a parent, reasonable efforts will be made to contact parents. Parents may be requested to come and pick up a student at that time. If sickness or a minor injury occurs near dismissal time, the student may be sent home on the bus.
- ❖ Emergency information sheets are to be completed and updated each year. **If changes are made in employment, telephone numbers, or alternate contacts, please call the office (352-6154) so changes can be recorded.**
 - In the event of serious illness or injury every effort to contact parents will be made. If the school is unable to contact parents or reach an emergency number and the illness/injury is thought to be of such a nature to require the services of a

doctor, the child will be taken to the hospital for treatment. This action in no way implies that the school assumes financial responsibility for the illness/injury.

- ❖ There are some students who have special health problems. The principal, nurse, and teachers should be advised of those students who require immediate or special attention for conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy, heart conditions, or any other physical conditions. **It is imperative that these students have up-to-date and accurate emergency information on file at all times.**
- ❖ Generally, medications (including aspirin) will not be dispensed by the school or by any school personnel. Students who bring medications to school to take during the school day must have written parental permission to take the medicine (see the school nurse for correct form). All medications should be brought to the health office for storage as students arrive at school. A note from the parent/doctor as to how the medication is to be administered must accompany the medication. All medication is to be furnished by parents in its original packaging or pharmacy labeled bottle. Students will report to the health office to take all medications. All controlled medications must be brought to the nurse by a parent or guardian.

Special Needs Services

- ❖ In striving to meet the educational needs of all students, Starr Elementary recognizes that some students may be in need of extra assistance to maximize their educational potential. Students that continue to show weakness in reading and/or math will be considered for our Multi Tiered Support System (MTSS). This process consists of three tiers. Students are monitored and may receive extra intervention in Tier II. If no progress is noted after significant time based on data, then a student may be recommended for Tier III. Tier III may consist of students being tested to see if a learning disability might be the issue. Our goal at Starr Elementary is to identify struggling students early and give them intense intervention so that testing will not be necessary. Parents are involved in every aspect of the process and all placement and programming decisions.
- ❖ Our MTSS Coordinator is the Assistant Principal of Instruction, Ariel Davis You may contact her (davisa@acsd3.org) at any time if you have questions or concerns about your child's progress.

Conferences

- ❖ School/Home communication is KEY! Teachers, administrators, and parents share common goals of creating positive learning experiences for students.
- ❖ Our school strives to hold at least one parent-teacher conference during the school year. Parent-Teacher conferences are encouraged. If the teacher feels a conference is necessary, the school will contact the parents. If for any reason a parent wishes for a conference with the teacher, the parents should contact the teacher at school to schedule a mutually agreeable time. When parents have concerns or issues to discuss, they are encouraged to discuss the issue with the classroom teacher first. If the situation is not resolved, parents may address the issue with the principal.

Grading Procedures

- ❖ Report cards are issued at the end of each nine weeks. This is a means of informing parents/guardians of student progress throughout the year. The following letter grade system is used at Starr Elementary:

Kindergarten

Instruction

E5=Exemplary
M4=Mastery
D3=Developing
A2=Approaching
N1=Not Mastered

First-Fifth Grades

A = 100–90 Excellent
B = 89–80 Good
C = 79–70 Fair
D = 69–60 Passing
F = 59 and below - Failure

Extra-Curricular

S = Satisfactory
N = Needs Improvement
U = Unsatisfactory

Honor Roll Requirements

- ❖ Outstanding academic work is recognized through our Honor Roll system. Students are selected for the Honor Roll each grading period. To be placed on the Honor Roll, **students in grades 1-5** must demonstrate the following:
 - A Honor Roll = all A's in all academic subjects at the end of each 9 weeks grading period.
 - A/B Honor Roll = no grade less than a B with at least one A in academic subjects at the end of each 9 weeks grading period.

Homework

- ❖ Homework is a teacher-planned learning activity, which takes place largely outside of the student's regular school hours. It should reinforce classroom learning and expand on a student's school experience. Homework is considered an important part of the instructional program. Parents are encouraged to set aside a regular time each evening to discuss any papers their child may have brought home from school and to talk with their child about what they learned each day. Although homework may not be assigned each night, time should be spent reading, writing, studying math facts, reviewing for tests, etc. Teachers may offer additional suggestions for evening activities.
- ❖ Whenever students are absent, parents may request that homework be sent home with a sibling, relative, or neighbor. Requests for homework assignments should be made in the morning. The student shall be allowed to make up schoolwork missed during an absence. Within four days after returning to school, the student must either make up all work or establish a schedule acceptable with the teacher.

Technology

- ❖ Refer to the 1:1 Handbook on Parent Portal for complete information on our technology policies, procedures, and costs. Please consider purchasing the technology insurance.
- ❖ Links to 1:1 and Chromebook Information: Please Read...
 - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ghR1uiMI4dJfivVH2rWhoUoEv4kS7eD_/view?usp=sharing
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1utMv1dnxGj7ZWHA2Psv3W0vx1xJJTgka/view?usp=sharing>
- ❖ Students are expected to maintain school issued technology in good working condition at all times.

Discipline

- ❖ The teachers and staff at Starr Elementary School strive to provide the best possible education for students. Discipline is a cooperative effort among students, parents, teachers, and administrators. In order to produce the best learning environment, it is necessary that all students demonstrate appropriate cooperation and respect toward teachers, substitutes, and staff members. **Classroom misbehavior is not acceptable.** Students must show respect towards others at all times. It is expected that language directed towards teachers and fellow students will be polite and appropriate. Disrespect for those in authority will be a reason for severe action.
- ❖ Staff members of the school are responsible for the supervision of all students. Students must obey and respect every member of the staff regardless if they are under their direct supervision. Directions by teachers, substitutes, and other members of the school staff must be followed. The Anderson District Three Discipline Code will be enforced.

Field Trips

- ❖ Starr Elementary teachers plan trips away from school which support curricular objectives.
- ❖ A permission slip must be signed by a parent or guardian before a student is allowed to go on a trip.
- ❖ A limited number of parent chaperones may be asked to accompany the class on the trip. **All chaperones must complete information and grant permission for a SLED check required by the district.**
 - Parents are responsible for paying for the SLED check. Only parents passing a SLED check are authorized to accompany students on field trips.
 - Chaperones should follow school rules, dress codes, and accept the responsibility of following procedures set by the teachers.
 - Tobacco use is prohibited on field trips.
 - Students are expected to exhibit excellent behavior as they represent Starr Elementary School.
 - Refunds are not given for any field trip; all money paid is non-refundable.

Dress Code

- ❖ Student appearance is in direct relationship to good work habits and behavior. Student appearance should not be disruptive to the educational process.
- ❖ Boys and girls may wear shorts to school as long as they are just above the top of the knee; this includes gym shorts.
- ❖ Girls' skirts/dresses are not to be shorter than above the top of the knee. Sundresses are permissible if worn with a sweater or jacket. Leggings may be worn by girls only if the shirt or dress is no shorter than above the top of the knee.
- ❖ Tank tops, spaghetti straps, and bike shorts are not permissible. Crop tops or shirts revealing the midriff are also not permissible.
- ❖ Jeans or pants must fit around the waste properly. Designed holes, slashes, or frays should not be worn if they are above the knee.
- ❖ Caps and sunglasses are not to be worn in the building.
- ❖ Garments may not have advertising or suggestive wording promoting alcohol, drugs, sex, or frightening pictures.

- ❖ *If a parent or student is unsure whether something would be allowed, the safest course of action would be not to wear it. Parents will be called to bring acceptable clothing if necessary. We respectfully request that parents and guests abide by our dress code when visiting our school for lunch, going on field trips, Field Day, and any type of award presentations.*

Personal Items

- ❖ Students shall not bring toys, stuffed animals, trading cards of any kind, athletic items, distractive jewelry, electronic equipment, cell phones, money or any nonessential personal items onto school property unless authorized by a staff member.
 - Items that are played with and distract instruction will be taken away. Parents may pick these up in the office at their convenience.
- ❖ Students bringing knives or other threatening objects will be subject to suspension.
- ❖ Starr Elementary is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

Lost and Found Items

- ❖ All found items will be placed in our lost and found designated area. The school cannot assume responsibility for students' losses. Proper marking of personal property can reduce these losses. Please mark all items such as coats, jackets, sweaters, lunch boxes, etc. All items not claimed in a reasonable amount of time will be donated to local charities.

School Property

- ❖ Students are expected to be responsible for all textbooks, library books, iPads, Chromebooks, and/or furnishings considered part of school property. This also includes restroom facilities. Parents are expected to pay for property which is lost or damaged in a malicious manner.

Safety

- ❖ Safety is a prime concern at Starr Elementary School. Because of this, parents must send a note with their child if there is a change in car or bus transportation. **If the child does not have a note signed by a parent they will be expected to go home in the normal manner.** This also includes if a student is to ride home with a friend. **Please make sure your child knows how they are to get home each day from school.** The school secretaries are not responsible for relaying messages to your child on how they will be going home each day.
- ❖ All outside doors at school will be locked during regular school hours. Parents and guests must come to the front door and press the outside button to be admitted. **Parents with students attending Head Start are not to prop doors open when walking students to their classrooms. Parents should be escorted to the doors when leaving by a Head Start instructor.** Staff and students are not allowed to open doors.

Drills

- ❖ Emergency drills are conducted periodically according to state regulations. Such drills also include A.L.I.C.E. (Alert Lockdown Inform Counter Evacuate) procedures, fire drills, tornado drills, and other emergency procedures. Teachers will review designated

safety routes and procedures with students. The guidance counselor and resource officer will be

eLearning Days

- ❖ In the event of inclement weather and any other emergency, it is highly possible that our district or school will implement an eLearning day. Our district works hard to inform our parents of any changes in schedules as soon as possible. You will be notified in multiple ways, such as: phone call, text message, Anderson SD 3App, school website and social media.
- ❖ Your child's teacher will provide more information on your child's responsibilities, expectations and eLearning work at the beginning of the school year.
- ❖ Please look over the information provided by Stewart Lee, A3 Director of Instructional Innovation and eLearning (<https://sites.google.com/acsd3.org/elearningday>).

Inclement Weather Conditions

- ❖ Due to weather conditions, there may be days when school may start later, close earlier, or be scheduled as an eLearning Day. When severe weather occurs, we suggest that parents listen to television channels 4 (WYFF-Greenville) or 7 (WSPA-Spartanburg).
- ❖ We will also use our phone school messenger, our website, district app and social media to inform parents. If no announcement is made, school will operate on a regular schedule.
- ❖ Please do not call the stations or Starr Elementary. It is very important that parents inform the office if their telephone numbers change during the school year. If school is canceled due to inclement weather, students will complete eLearning assignments and the day will not be made up.

Telephone Use

- ❖ Our school phone is a business phone. Please try to handle all pick-up or other arrangements with your child before he/she comes to school. Please do not call the school office and ask for a message to be relayed to a student unless it is an emergency. Our administrative assistants work very hard each day handling many different job responsibilities. Parents calling with complaints or issues are expected to treat these individuals and teachers with respect and in a courteous manner. Our school police officer will intervene if necessary to enforce a pleasant school environment.

Cafeteria (Breakfast and Lunch)

- ❖ **Starr Elementary will not be charging for breakfast or lunch this school year. All students will eat free.** Parents who opt to pack a lunch for their child are cautioned to pack only those foods that do not spoil easily. Teachers do not have time to microwave foods brought from home. Students may not bring soft drinks or any beverage in a breakable bottle.
- ❖ Students are expected to follow standards of good behavior and manners during meals and obey all directions from school staff.
- ❖ Parents and guests may eat lunch with students at the designated table located in the lunchroom. Parents are encouraged not to take students home after eating lunch with them. They will be missing instruction.

Media Center

- ❖ The Starr Elementary Media Center is open to students during school hours. Students in grades K-2 are allowed to check out one book each week, while students in grades 3-5 are allowed to check out two books. The fee for a lost or damaged book is \$20.00.

Extra-Curricular Instruction

- ❖ Students at Starr Elementary will receive extra curricular instruction for forty-five minutes each day. On designated days they will go to music, art, physical education, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), and the media center.
- ❖ These classes are taught by certified and highly qualified teachers. Students are expected to participate and follow established rules.
- ❖ Please help your child to remember to wear athletic shoes/socks on the day they go to physical education. You will receive a schedule from your child's teacher as to what day they go where.
- ❖ Extra-Curricular instructors include the following:
 - Art: Kyle Rivers
 - Media Center: Dawn Moore
 - Music: Dylan Dukes
 - Physical Education: Cade Gray
 - STREAM: Delisa McCall

Starr Team: Administrators, Teachers and Support Staff

- ❖ Starr Elementary School is fortunate to have many different highly qualified faculty members to support administration, teachers, parents, and students. These faculty members include the following:

STARR Team for the 2021-2022 School Year	
Administrative Team	Melissa Davis, Principal Ariel Davis, Assistant Principal Terri Ivester, Reading Specialist MTSS Interventionist, Stephanie McClellan Guidance Counselor, Tonya Barbare
Support Staff	Randy Phillips (School Resource Officer) Susan Bryant (Bookkeeper) Christy Baldwin (Administrative Assistant) Heather Smith (ELL Teacher) Iris Suber (Speech Pathologist) Jody Fullbright (School Nurse)
Cafeteria	Janice Compton Donna McMahan

Staff	Debbie Simpson Gwendolyn Mapes	
Custodial Staff	Rodney Hannah Homer Butler Calvid Carey	
Activity Teachers	Dylan Dukes, Music Cade Gray, PE Kyle Rivers, Art Delisa McCall, STEAM Dawn Moore, Library/Technology	
SPED Teachers	Brandi McAlister April Hays Rhonda Smith Charlene Wewers	(Resource Teacher) (Preschool Teacher) (Assistant) (Interpreter)
K4 Teachers / Assistants	Sharon Harbin Susan Mapp	Sherri McAdams Theresa Shaw
Kindergarten Teachers / Assistants	Sherri Taylor Jessica White Brandon Watt Rhonda Carnes	Angel Lewis Charlene Vaughn Christine Norris Angie Sutherland
First Grade Teachers	Boylee Parker Julie Brewster Jessica Eaton Kayla Jordan Jamie Davis	
Second Grade Teachers	Mary Elizabeth Mitchell Lauren Sanders Carlee Burriss Audrey Caldwell Kalee Urban	
Third Grade Teachers	Johnnie Dickerson Lilly Schweickhardt Stephanie Eubanks Michelle Sonefelt	
Fourth Grade Teachers	Carmen Knight (Science/ SS) Natalie Huitt (ELA) Rebekah Johnson (ELA) Angie Sykes (Math)	
Fifth Grade Teachers	Stephanie Bridges (ELA) Tonya Fowler (Science/Math) Donna Bratcher (Writing/SS)	

Please read the following pages carefully! Sign and return the indicated pages no later than the second day of school.

Legal Residency

By signing this statement, I declare that I am a legal resident of Anderson School District Three and my child is eligible to attend Starr Elementary School by living in the Starr School attendance zone. Students who do not reside in Anderson School District Three must pay out-of-district tuition or qualify by some other reason. Forms are available in the office for these purposes. Out-of- district tuition may be charged retroactively if the above statement is discovered to be false. Students who reside in Anderson School District, but do not reside in the Starr School attendance zone must have permission to attend Starr School. Forms are available in the office for that purpose. This permission must be granted each school year even if the student attended Starr Elementary in the past.

Student's Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

South Carolina Attendance Laws

Section: 59-65-10: All parents shall cause their children or wards to attend regularly a public or private school or kindergarten of this State which has been approved by the State Board of Education or a member school of the South Carolina Independent School Association or some similar organization, or parochial, denominational, or church related school, or other programs which have been approved by the State Board of Education from the school year in which the child or ward is five years of age before September first until the child or ward attains his/her seventeenth birthday or graduated from high school.

Section: 59-65-20: Any parent or guardian who neglects to enroll his child or ward or refuses to make such child or ward attend school shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than fifty dollars or be imprisoned not more than thirty days; each day's absence shall constitute a separate offense; provided, the court may in its discretion suspend the sentence of anyone convicted of the provisions of this article.

Section 59-65-70: If the court determines that the reported absence occurred without the knowledge, consent or connivance of the responsible parent or guardian or that a bona fide attempt has been made to control and keep the child in school, the court may declare such a child to be a delinquent and subject to the provisions of the law in such case.

In accordance with the above laws, I/we certify that the regulations pertaining to the **South Carolina School Attendance Laws** have been explained and that I/we have received a copy. I understand my responsibilities and will comply with the **Laws**.

Parent/Guardian: _____

Student: _____ **Date:** _____

School Official and Title: Mrs. Melissa Davis, Principal

Media Form

Parents/Guardians must sign either giving permission or not giving permission.

Student's Homeroom Teacher: _____

As a parent/guardian of _____, a student at Starr Elementary School, **I hereby give permission** for my child's name, recognizable picture and/or school work to be used by Anderson School District Three in the following manners.

- In school-sponsored publications, including but not limited to newspapers/newsletters.
- Picture and name to be included in the school yearbook.
- On the school/district website concerning school-related activities.
- In other media, including but not limited to newspaper and television, in articles or news stories pertaining to the school/district including recognition for student awards and achievements.

I understand that by providing my permission for my child's name, recognizable picture and/or school work to be used as noted above, I am not giving permission for the District to release any information regarding my child's discipline record or any special education records pertaining to my child. I agree to hold harmless and indemnify Anderson School District Three, its Board of Trustees, employees, and agents should any claim arise regarding the use of my child's name, photographic image and/or school work as noted above.

Parent/Guardian: _____ **Date:** _____

As the parent/guardian of _____, a student at Starr Elementary School, **I do not** give my permission for my child's name, recognizable picture and/or school work to be used by Anderson School District Three, **I do not** wish for my child to be identified or photographed for publications and/or display with regard to any school related activity. **I realize my child's picture will not be included in the school yearbook.**

Parent/Guardian: _____ **Date:** _____

Corporal Punishment

From time to time, staff members at the school may employ different forms of discipline. Corporal punishment is one option which may be employed. The wishes of parents will be followed in the use of corporal punishment. Please indicate below your desires concerning the use of corporal punishment with your child.

Student's Name: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

_____ Corporal punishment may be used with my child at school when deemed appropriate by school officials in accordance with School District Three Policy. Parents will be notified.

_____ Corporal punishment may be used with my child at school. I wish to be notified before corporal punishment is administered. If I can't be reached, I may need to accompany my child to school the next day.

_____ Corporal punishment may not be used with my child at school. Other forms of discipline may be used, including but not limited to, required parent conferences or suspension.

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Parent Communication

Communication between home and school is an important part of your child's educational process. If you have an e-mail address at home or at work, please share that with us so that we may have an alternative means of communication.

Student's Name: _____

Home E-mail: _____

Father's Work E-Mail: _____

Mother's Work E-Mail: _____

Early Dismissal Notification

In the event school should be dismissed early due to inclement weather or other reasons, please indicate how you would like your child to be dismissed.

_____ My child should be dismissed in the same manner as a regular day.

_____ My child will be a car rider. The following people may be called to get my child if the school is unable to reach parents/guardians.

Names: _____ Phone(s): _____

_____ Phone(s): _____

_____ Phone(s): _____

I understand the importance of notifying the school office if I have a change of address and/or telephone numbers.

Custody Information

Student's Name: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____ Grade: _____

Please check only one line.

_____ My child does not have any custody issues that need to be addressed.

_____ My child has custody papers on file at school.

_____ My child has custody issues, but does not have papers on file at school. I am aware that without papers on file, legally my child may be released to either biological parent.

Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

Due to custody issues, my child **may** be released to the following people:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Due to custody issues, my child **may not** be released to the following people:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Car Rider Information

The safety of our students and staff is extremely important at Starr Elementary School. For this reason, all parents/guardians are required to read and sign our rules concerning car riders. All car riders must be dropped off at the back of the school. Do not drop students off at the front. Do not cut through the orange cones when entering school grounds. These are to help the flow of traffic go smoothly. Be mindful of posted speed limits at all times.

Morning Drop Off

- Students must remain in the car until the door opens next to the sidewalk at 7:15am.
- Do not tell your child to get out if their car door opens to the area where grass is growing.
- Drivers must pull all the way to the end of the sidewalk and stay with the flow of traffic.
- All students must exist on the right side of vehicles. If car seats of younger siblings are an issue, then you must pull into the parking lot and assist your child to the marked crosswalk.
- No passing other cars or cutting through the parking lot.
- Put your vehicle in park while your child is getting out and make sure they are on the sidewalk before driving away.
- Be mindful of parents or students using the crosswalk.
- Try to avoid prolonged farewells, since this can hinder the flow of traffic.
- Students that are old enough to open their car doors and close them safely should not wait for assistance.
- If your child is consistently slow to exit the car please consider parking in the lot.
- Parents are not to get out of their car to assist students with bookbags, projects, etc. You must pull into the parking lot.
- Please refrain from talking on a cell phone while your car is in motion.
- Tobacco use and vaping is strictly prohibited on school grounds.
- Please do not discard cigarettes or litter from your vehicle.
- Do not blow your horn or yell out the window to students. This distracts them from looking where they are walking.
- Only vehicles with handicap decals should park in the handicap parking spaces.
- If the parking lot is full, you may park on the left side of the road after passing the sidewalk.
- After the second week of school, parents are asked to refrain from walking students to their rooms.
- Once the tardy sign is placed in the drop off area, parents must take students to the front office. No Exceptions!

Afternoon Pick Up

- Follow the same morning rules that are applicable.
- Early arrivers should pull forward until reaching the yellow solid line at the end of the sidewalk.
- All vehicles are required to have a school-issued car tag hanging from the rearview mirror in the afternoons.**

If you do not have one you will be directed to turn around and go to the office. No exceptions!

- Keep name tags visible even after your child's name has been called. This helps teachers assist students to correct vehicles. Do not take car tags down until leaving school grounds.

- Please be considerate of others waiting in line by not playing loud music. Many parents like to read/relax while waiting.
- Keep your car in park until motioned to exit. Do not move forward until directed even if you are first in line.
- Please be patient as teachers strive to assist younger students with procedures, especially the first few weeks of school.

Helpful Suggestions

- To avoid long wait lines and tardy issues, drop your child off between 7:15 and 7:30.
- Be on time to get your child in the afternoons.
- Please share these rules with relatives or friends transporting your child.
- Purchase extra car tags from the office for any relatives or friends that might be getting your child in the afternoons.
- Don't assume since the teachers may know you, that having a car tag is not necessary every day.
- If you have any issues, do not argue with teachers assisting car riders. They are simply enforcing rules that will keep all car riders safe. Address any issues to Mrs. Davis or Resource Officer.
- All vehicles must turn right when leaving the parking lot in the mornings and afternoons. The Resource Officer will issue violations to any offenders.**

I have read and understand the car rider procedures and rules of Starr Elementary School. I will share this important information with friends or family members that might provide transportation for my child. I realize a school-issued car tag must be visible each day for my child to be picked up in the afternoon. If I don't have one for any reason, I must report to the office to get my child.

Parent/Guardian: _____

Student's Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

STARR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - PARENT COMPACT

Starr Elementary School and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during the school year 2023-24.

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

Starr Elementary School will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:

- Hire and retain highly qualified, early childhood and elementary school certified teachers.
- Use innovative strategies and utilize best practices to teach the curriculum.
- Hire and retain highly qualified, content certified staff to support the academic areas through Art, Music, Physical Education, and Technology for all children.
- Provide resources, textbooks, and materials to support a high-quality curriculum and instruction for all children.
- Maintain a safe, orderly school environment daily that is conducive to learning.
- Maximize instruction time with an instructional day free from unnecessary interruptions.

2. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress, school programs and state mandates. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:

- Interim report cards (progress reports)
- Quarterly report cards
- PowerSchool Parent Portal
- IEP meetings
- Weekly/monthly communications (weekly reports, phone calls, emails)
- Parent-teacher conferences
- Dissemination of SC Ready and PASS/state testing information and a letter offering an explanation
- Dissemination of MAP reports and other data points for parents

3. Hold parent-teacher conferences during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement. Specifically, those conferences will be held:

- Before, during, and after school as needed.
- Open Houses
- Conferences held on Staff Development Days in Fall (October/November) and Spring (March/April) scheduled as needed.
- Parent Meetings as planned throughout the year.

4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:

- Before, during, and after school and at designated times as needed.
- During teacher's individual or team planning times according to master schedule
- Conference/Staff Development days as noted on School Calendar

5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:

- Daily during school hours, 7:40 a.m.-2:35 p.m.
- Parent Workshops
- Events such as PTO, Grandparent's Day, Field Days, Spring Fling, Grade Level Programs, STEAM Night, Awards' Day, Music Programs, etc.
- After School Programs such as partnerships with YMCA, etc.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- See that my child attends school regularly and on time.
- Provide a home environment that encourages my child to learn.
- Insist that all homework assignments are completed.
- Communicate regularly with my child's teacher via telephone messages, email, etc.
- Support the school in developing positive behaviors.
- Talk with my child about his/her school activities.
- Encourage my child to read at home, read with my child, and monitor his/her TV viewing.
- Volunteer time at my child's school.
- Show respect and support for my child, the teacher, and the school.
- Contact the school for additional information, assistance, or guidance as needed.
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education.
- Attend Open Houses, school events, parent meetings, and other events as much as possible.
- Communicate and share concerns, ideas and/or questions for the total school environment with the principal.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards. Specifically, I will:

- Believe that I can learn and will learn.
- Always try to do my best in my work and behavior.
- Work cooperatively with my classmates.
- Show respect for myself, my school, and other people.
- Obey the individual class, school, and bus rules.
- Take pride in my school.
- Come to school prepared with my homework and my supplies.
- Complete my class work and homework every day and ask for help when I need to.
- Participate in school daily activities and extracurricular activities in a positive, respectful manner.
- Take and return required papers, notices, and school communications received by me from my school every day to parents/guardians or the adults that are responsible for my welfare.

Principal's Signature: *Melissa M. Davis*

Date: *August 2, 2023*

Parent's/Guardian's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Student's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Homeroom Teacher Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

STARR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Parent Involvement Policy 2023-24

I. POLICY INVOLVEMENT

The Anderson School District Three Parent Involvement Policy is jointly developed with, agreed upon, and distributed to, all of the parents of participating children. We will, to the extent possible, provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a language that the parent can understand. Furthermore, we will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities at the school level with other federal, state, and district programs. The Parent Policy will be presented for discussion and approval with parents and the community during the initial open house meeting. The Policy will be updated as needed and reviewed annually by a team of people – including parents, community members, school and district administrators, and school faculty and staff members – in order to continuously meet the changing needs of our parents, students, and the school.

II. SHARED RESPONSIBILITY: PARENT – SCHOOL COMPACT

The School-Parent Compact, jointly developed with, agreed upon, and distributed to all parents, will describe how parents, students, and the entire school staff, will share in the responsibility for high student achievement. A team of people – including parents, community members, school and district administrators, and school faculty and staff – will annually review the School Compact.

III. BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INVOLVEMENT

To ensure effective involvement of parents, and to support a partnership among the parents, community and school to improve student achievement, we will:

1. assist parents in understanding South Carolina's academic and achievement standards by disseminating pamphlets and hand-outs and hosting parent-teacher conferences, parent workshops, and open houses.
2. communicate and monitor a child's progress by interim report cards, quarterly report cards, IEP meetings, weekly/monthly telephone calls, parent-teacher conferences,

dissemination of SC Ready and PASS information and a letter offering an explanation, meetings scheduled at parent request, and academic plans.

3. assist parents in helping them to improve the achievement of their children through parenting meetings held in conjunction with other school functions, adult education, newsletters that provide activities and suggestions, students' folders, technology training and orientation.

4. educate teachers and other staff members, with the assistance of parents, in reaching out to, communicating with, and working with parents, conferences, workshops, and staff development.

5. send information related to school and parent programs, meetings and other activities to parents in a format and language they can understand through teacher generated newsletters, meetings, school improvement council, school calendar, parent/student handbook, and student planner.

6. provide opportunities for parents to communicate with the school through open door policy, suggestion opportunities, designated time to meet with principal and/or teachers, and parenting workshops.

7. provide other activities to promote parental involvement through School-to-Career Week, Literacy Week, National Lunch Week, Field Day, Teacher Appreciation Week, field trips, STREAM Night, parenting meetings, and Volunteer and Mentoring programs.

ADDENDUM TO THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

The Parent Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with parents. Additional activities are needed to ensure parents' full participation in the Title I programs of each school. These activities include:

- Convening an annual meeting at a convenient time to inform parents of the school's participation in the Title I program, the requirements of the Title I law and their right to be involved. Schools may use their Open House Night, Meet the Teacher, or other beginning of the year gatherings as an opportunity to provide this information to parents.
- Offering a flexible number of meetings and parent training at convenient times for parents to participate, give suggestions and take part in decisions regarding the instructional program of the school. This is ongoing. School Improvement Council and scheduled activities give schools the flexibility needed to offer meetings at convenient times for parents to give their input on Title I Programs.
- Parents are involved in an "organized, ongoing, and timely way" in the planning, review, and improvement of the Parent Involvement Policy and Title Programs. Parents will receive timely information about Title I programs. The Parent Involvement Policy will be reviewed throughout the year during Title I and other parent group meetings.

Changes to the program, new information, as well as a review and evaluation of the policy and programs will be included as an agenda item for these meetings.

- Giving opportunity for parents to submit comments on the plan and the school-wide programs if it is not satisfactory to participating parents. Schools use meetings and surveys to provide opportunity for parent comments.
- Sharing jointly in the development of the home-school compact. Parents share in the development of the compact during a series of meetings. Agendas and sign-in sheets are maintained as records of all meetings.
- Supporting a partnership among the school, community, and parents to improve student academic achievement. Schools engage business partners, the faith community, county and city governments, local media, etc. to support the academic program.
- Providing assistance to parents in understanding such topics as the state's academic standards, assessments, monitoring student progress and working with their children. This is ongoing. Schools provide extensive assistance to parents in a variety of ways including workshops and trainings, at home activities, Family Nights, etc.
- Coordinating and integrating parent involvement programs with Head Start, public preschool, Adult Education, and other programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children. Parents are encouraged to participate in activities.
- Ensuring that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents in a format and, to the extent practical, in a language the parents understand.
- Providing full opportunity for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children in a format and, to the extent practical, in a language the parents understand. Every effort is made to afford all parents the opportunity to participate in school activities.
- Providing reasonable support for parental involvement activities as parents may request.
- Schools make every attempt to meet the needs of parents who make special requests.

Each school receiving Title I funds reviews and revises its school-parent compact and parent-school involvement policy on an annual basis. Please review the school-parent compact, provide any comments or suggestions and return this form to school. Thank you for your input.

School Parent Compact

The purpose of the school-parent compact is to explain how the entire school community will share the responsibility for improving academic achievement and the way they will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high academic standards.

I think the school-parent compact is:

_____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor

I would like to make the following suggestions:

Parent Involvement Policy

The purpose of the parent involvement policy is to explain how the school plans will work with parents to review and strengthen parent programs and to describe how parents can participate in planning these programs.

I think the school's parent involvement policy is:

_____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor

I would like to make the following suggestions:

ANDERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT THREE
335 WEST FRONT STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 118
IVA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29655
Telephone 864-348-6196 Fax 864-348-6198

Annual Notification to Parents
Parents' Right to Know
Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015

Dear Parents:

On December 10, 2015, President Obama signed an act called the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) into law. ESSA brings increased federal involvement in public education at the state and local levels and increased accountability for states, school districts and individual schools.

The Every Student Succeeds Act was adopted, in part, to ensure that schools and school districts across the country employ properly certified teachers and staff in schools that receive federal funds. As part of this legislation, you may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s), including at a minimum, the following:

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

Currently, all of our teachers and paraprofessionals are properly certified for the positions held. If at any time your child will be taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher not properly certified, the school will notify you.

If you would like to receive information regarding the qualifications of your child's teachers, please notify the principal at your school, and this information will be provided. As always, if you ever have questions regarding your child's education, feel free to contact your child's principal or teacher to discuss the matter.

Sincerely,

David Nixon
Deputy Superintendent
nixond@anderson3.k12.sc.us
864-348-6196

DATE: 7-1-2019

TO: All Employees, Staff and Parents
Anderson School District #3

FROM: David Nixon, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: Annual Asbestos Notification

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires each school system to notify annually in writing, each employee, building occupant, occupant guardian, and Parent Teacher organization of all asbestos related activities undertaken in each school building.

There are asbestos-containing materials present in the District Office, Crescent High School, Iva Elementary School, Starr Elementary School, and Starr-Iva Middle School. During the 2018-2019 school year, there were no asbestos maintenance activities undertaken other than standard floor cleaning, which took place over summer break, and limited flooring abatement which was performed at Iva Elementary School by a SC-DHEC Licensed Asbestos Abatement Contractor.

The EPA requires visual inspections of the asbestos-containing materials every six months to ensure that asbestos-containing materials are maintained in good condition. Copies of the reports are included in the Asbestos Management Plan, which is available for review in the main office of each school, and at the District Office. If you have any questions concerning the asbestos program, please contact Kay H. Horton at (864) 541-8736.