

**Corsicana Independent School District**

**2013-2014**

**Kindergarten  
Parent Handbook**

**Sam Houston Elementary  
1213 West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Corsicana, Texas 7511**

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**Mrs. Stephanie Howell, Principal**

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# **“We come, We Learn, We Grow”**

## **Welcome to Kindergarten at Sam Houston School**

Please keep this handbook to answer any questions that you may have or any that may come up at a later date. As always, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher if there is anything you wish to discuss.

### **Arrival and Dismissal**

Breakfast begins at 7:40am and is over at 7:50am. Your child should be dropped off in the auditorium no earlier than 7:15am. Staff will be on duty to supervise students until their teacher picks them up at 7:40am. Your child is considered tardy after 7:50 am.

Dismissal is at 3:20. If your child has an older sibling, the older sibling/s will be sent with the younger child’s class and will be dismissed from the back of the school.

### **IMPORTANT!**

**Please notify the teacher or school** if there are any changes in the way your child goes home, with **a note** or a phone call from you. If you move within the district or change your home or work telephone number, please let the teacher and office know. **It is important that office records are kept current so parents can be contacted if their child get sick at sick or has an emergency.**

### **Allergies**

**Please let the teacher know of any food allergies your child might have. \*SEE SNACKS**

### **Assessments**

In kindergarten, there will be beginning, middle, and end of the year assessments to measure students’ progress. The teacher will discuss the results at the parent/teacher conferences.

## Attendance

Attendance is critical at the kindergarten level. Being absent unnecessarily from school impairs a student's opportunity; to succeed in studies and also indirectly encourages the development of poor attitudes toward schoolwork and other obligations. Enrolled students fall under the same attendance rules as all those in grades k-2. Parents may be subject to fines and requires to appearing in court if enrolled students have excessive absences and /or tardies.

It will be helpful to schedule appointments for dentist, doctor, etc. after 10am. Students who have doctor or dental appointment during the school day may be counted present if; he/she returns to school the same day, or he/she bring a note from the doctor's office. Students may be excused for: personal illness, sickness or death of a family member, quarantine, weather or road conditions making travel dangerous, and usual causes acceptable by the principal. A dated note stating the reason for the absence and day(s) missed must accompany the student on the day he/she returns to school.

## Backpacks/School Bags

Each child will need some sort of bag to bring home their folder, papers, artworks, notes, etc., each day. Please have your child share the contents of the backpack with you daily. Please empty any excess contents daily.

## Behavior/Folder

-In Kindergarten, a behavior chart will be used daily. Your child will have a behavior sheet placed in his/her **"take-home" folder** and it will needs to be **checked daily, signed and returned to school**. Please help the teacher reinforce your child's class and school rules.

**\*All discipline rules are listed in the CISD Student Code of Conduct Handbook.**

-Also, please look for a blue folder called the **"Wednesday Folder"** every Wednesday. This folder will include papers from the office, PTO, and other school notes. It is to be emptied or returned only with forms that are required to be returned.

-**"Reading Folders"** will be sent out toward the middle to end of September. Your child's teacher will send it on Thursday. Your child will read each night until the following Wednesday when they return the folder back to their teacher. Please make sure you sign the reading log that will be included within the folder.

## Breakfast

All students will eat breakfast free. Breakfast is served at 7:40am in their classroom. We have to set the breakfast bags at our door for pick-up at 7:50.

## Counseling

Our school counselor will provide a comprehensive guidance and counseling program focused on building good character for students. Appropriate individual and group support services for students, parents, and teachers will be made available as needed.

## Dress Code

Students are expected to dress according to the CISD student standardized dress code. A full description of appropriate student standardized dress is outlined in the district Student Code of Conduct and /or CISD Dress Code Pamphlet.

All students failing to dress according to the CISD student standardized dress code; the parents will be call to pick them up from school.

**Please send an extra set of clothing in a zip** locked bag with child name on it to keep at school in case of an emergency. (wet pants, etc.)

**IMPORTANT!!!*Please make sure to put your child's name in/on coats, hats, sweaters, or anything that he/she may take off or leave at school.***

## Field Trips

At various times throughout the year, students will be able to participate in field trips that support classroom curriculum. Parents will be notified by teachers when field trips are planned. Details will be given about date, location and specific about the planned trip. A background check must be completed on any parent that plans to attend a field trip.

## Hands-On Learning

We feel that the best way to help children learn is to make learning fun. One way to do this is with hands-on activities. In kindergarten, we do lots of hands-on activities along with additional seatwork to reinforce what is being taught in the class. The class has learning centers where the children get a chance to socialize with their peers while they learn.

## Kindness

Students in kindergarten are encouraged and expected to treat all members of the class as well as others with kindness, and respect. Hitting, fighting, name-calling, and making fun of others will not be permitted.

## Library

The students will get to go to the library once a week to have a story read to them.

## Lunch

Students will have the opportunity to eat lunch at school. They can pay to eat in the cafeteria or bring their lunch. Students have to pay for their lunch until they are approved for free or reduce lunch. If you want to eat lunch with your child, please stop by the office first.

**Lunch prices: Students \$1.75, reduced \$0.40, Adult Lunch \$3.00**

## Nurse

A student who becomes ill during the school day should, with the teacher's permission, report to the school nurse. In order for the school to handle any emergency, please keep your child's health records current.

All medication taken at school must be administered in the nurse's office by the school nurse. All medications, both prescription and non-prescription, must be in the original container, and written permission form must be on file. Having current information will be of critical importance should an accident or injury occur that requires medical attention.

A registered nurse will be responsible for the nursing responsibilities at Sam Houston. The nurse's schedule will be posted in the office. The nurse conducts hearing, vision, and immunization screenings throughout the year.

Please notify the teacher and nurse in writing of a special health problem or need for your child. This will be attached to his/her health sheet. The nurse may contact you for further information.

**\*Please keep your child at home if he/she has had a temperature of a least 100 degrees or has vomited in the last twenty-four hours.**

## Parent Involvement

Parents, guardian, are encouraged to be a part of Sam Houston. However, in order to ensure the safety of our students, **a background check is required for all volunteers(FORM #11)**.

## Parties

There are two main parties each year. They are Christmas and Easter. All parents will be asked to contribute to these parties. If there any volunteers that would like to help with the parties please inform the room mom.

## Recess

The student will be going outside for recess everyday unless it is raining or extremely hot or cold. Students need to **wear tennis or closed end shoes daily**.

## Snacks

There will be a healthy snack in the afternoon. The students will bring snack for the class(22 children) at the beginning of each month. Some healthy snacks include fruit, cheese, low fat crackers, fruit chews or roll-up, etc. No home-made snacks please.

## Student records

A student's school records are confidential and are protected from unauthorized use. A cumulative record is maintained for each student from the time the student enters the district.

In order to ensure the safety of students, all legal documents concerning joint custody, visitation rights, and restraining orders should be filed in the office.

## Toys

Students are asked **NOT** to bring toys from home. They are very distracting and many are not made for large group use. We cannot be responsible for broken toys or hurt feelings caused by them.

**Transportation** Parents or designated person have to bring and pick up students from school. If there is a change in pick-up please notify your teacher in writing ASAP. Placards are necessary for pick-up. If you are running late, your child will be sent to the front for pick-up.

## **Visitors**

We welcome and encourage parent to visit our school. Good communication and parent involvement is extremely important to us. One other important factor is safety. Security is a top priority; therefore, all visitors must check in at the office and wear a visitor's badge. A driver's license or photo ID is required. Please enter the building at the front entrance only.

## **Web Page**

Corsicana Independent School District has a web page full of information including the lunch menu, the schools schedule, happenings at schools, and sporting events.

We are also offering Remind 101. This is a way to get information to you. We are encouraging you to sign up!

## **Withdrawal from School**

It is recommended that parents notify the school as much in advance as possible of an impending withdrawal from Sam Houston. The following procedures will be observed prior to withdrawing a student: 1) the student will be withdrawn by a parent or guardian; 2) the student must pay any outstanding bill; 3) the parent or guardian will be given a withdrawal slip from the office that will be required by the next school the student attends; 4) and the student will receive his/her report card.

## **ZZZZZZZZZZ**

Make sure that your child gets plenty of rest. Setting and keeping a bedtime is a wonderful gift you can give your child. It will help them to be alert and ready to learn each day.

**\*Anytime you have questions or concerns, please feel free to come by or call at 903-874-6971. Working together we can make this a fun and exciting year for your child.**