REPUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Student & Parent Handbook

2026–2027 School Year



30306 E. Highway 20
Republic, WA 99166

Main Office: (509) 775-3173
Fax: (509) 775-3712

Website: https://www.republic309.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Welcome
2. Mission, Vision, and Core Values
3. School Information
4. Enrollment
5. Attendance
6. School Hours
7. Arrival and Dismissal Procedures
8. Transportation & Bus Expectations
9. Parent Communication
10. Student Conduct & GRIP Expectations
11. Dress Code
12. Recess and Outdoor Expectations
13. Personal Property and Toys
14. Cell Phones & Electronic Devices
15. Fines and Fees
16. Health Services
17. Food Services
18. Visitors and Volunteers
19. Student Messages and Deliveries
20. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying
21. Student Safety
22. Searches
23. Student Records & Privacy
24. Nondiscrimination Statement
25. Handbook Acknowledgement

WELCOME

Welcome to Republic Elementary School:

We are excited to partner with families to provide a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment where every student can grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

At Republic Elementary, we believe every child can learn and succeed. Our staff is committed to helping students become responsible, respectful, and productive citizens while developing a lifelong love of learning.

We look forward to a successful school year together!

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

Mission

Prepare. Inspire. Educate.

Vision

All Students WILL Succeed.

ALL REPUBLIC TIGERS GET A GRIP

Gratitude

We appreciate opportunities, show kindness, and demonstrate thankfulness.

Respect

We treat others, ourselves, and our school with care and consideration.

Integrity

We do the right thing, even when no one is watching.

Presence

We are prepared, engaged, and ready to learn each day.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Administration

Superintendent: Paul Clark

Principal: Loren Finley

Assistant Principal: Theresa Finley

School Office

Phone: (509) 775-3173

Office Hours: 7:30 - 4:30 Monday - Thursday

Republic School District operates on a four-day school week. Elementary students attend school Monday through Thursday.

Fridays are designated for professional learning, staff collaboration, planning, training, meetings, and other district responsibilities. Students do not attend school on Fridays unless participating in a district-approved activity or program.

Staff schedules on Fridays may vary depending on assigned responsibilities and district needs. Office availability may be limited; however, families may call the main office at (509) 775-3173

and leave a voicemail message. Messages will be returned as soon as possible by the appropriate staff member.

ENROLLMENT

New Students

Parents or guardians enrolling a student for the first time must complete a paper enrollment packet and provide all required documentation.

Returning Students

Families of returning students will complete annual online registration and update student information through the district's student information system.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is essential to student success.

Attendance Reporting

Parents or guardians should notify the school office whenever a student:

- Is absent
- Will be arriving late
- Needs to leave school early

Attendance Phone Number

(509) 775-3173

Excused Absences

Examples of excused absences may include:

- Illness or medical appointments
- Family emergencies
- Religious observances
- Court appearances
- Pre-approved educational activities
- Other circumstances approved by the school

Parents or guardians should contact the school as soon as possible to report an absence and provide the reason for the student's absence.

Unexcused Absences

An absence may be considered unexcused if:

- The school is not notified of the absence.
- The reason for the absence does not meet district or state guidelines for an excused absence.
- Required documentation is not provided when requested.

Administrative Determination

While parent or guardian communication is an important part of the attendance process, the building principal or designee has the final authority to determine whether an absence or tardy will be classified as excused or unexcused in accordance with district policy and Washington State law.

Excessive absences, whether excused or unexcused, may result in parent conferences, attendance interventions, or other actions required by Washington State attendance laws.

The district follows all Washington State attendance laws and procedures regarding attendance, truancy, and compulsory education.

SCHOOL HOURS

School Day

Start Time: 8:00am

End Time: 3:50pm

School Calendar

Republic Elementary School operates on a Monday–Thursday student schedule. Families are encouraged to review the district calendar for holidays, early release days, conferences, and other schedule changes throughout the school year.

2026-2027

Republic School District

School is Monday through Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.

August 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

School Days
No School
Staff Training
Orientation/Conference Days

End of Quarter

Aug 17-19	Staff Orientation
Aug 20	Student Orientation - **ATTENDANCE REQUIRED**
Aug 26	First Day of School
Sep 2-3	Ferry County Fair - NO SCHOOL
Sep 7	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
Nov 11	Veterans Day - NO SCHOOL
Nov 6	Conferences - NO SCHOOL
Nov 13	Conferences - NO SCHOOL
Nov 25-26	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 21-31	Winter Break
Jan 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL
Feb 15	Presidents' Day - NO SCHOOL
Apr 5-8	Spring Break
Apr 16	Conferences - NO SCHOOL
Apr 23	Conferences - NO SCHOOL
May 31	Memorial Day - NO SCHOOL
Jun 10	Last Day of School - Early Dismissal

Calendar Templates by Vertex42.com https://www.vertex42.com/calendars/school-calendar.html

Breakfast

Breakfast is served prior to the start of school: 7:30am to 7:55am.

Breakfast is available to all students before school and during Breakfast After the Bell.

Students are expected to demonstrate good manners and follow cafeteria expectations while eating meals at school.

Breakfast After the Bell

Breakfast is also available for students from 8:05am to 8:15am

Lunch Schedule

Kindergarten: 11:25am to 12:00pm
1st Grade: 11:30am to 12:05pm
2nd Grade: 11:35am to 12:10pm
3rd Grade: 11:40am to 12:15pm
4th Grade: 11:45am to 12:20pm
5th Grade: 11:50am to 12:25pm

Early Release Days

Breakfast and breakfast after the bell are both served. Lunch is not provided.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Morning Arrival

Students should not arrive before: 7:30am unless they are participating in an approved school activity.

End-of-Day Dismissal

Students will be dismissed at 3:50pm.

Early Checkout

Students leaving before the end of the school day must be checked out through the office by a parent or authorized adult.

TRANSPORTATION

Bus Expectations

Students riding district transportation are expected to:

- Follow driver directions
- Remain seated
- Use appropriate language
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to themselves
- Help keep the bus clean
- Respect others

Bus transportation is a privilege.

Failure to follow bus expectations may result in disciplinary action or suspension of riding privileges.

Bus Changes

To ensure student safety:

All bus or transportation changes must be communicated to the elementary office no later than 1:30 p.m.

Last-minute changes may not be accommodated.

PARENT COMMUNICATION

Republic Elementary values strong home-school communication. Parents are encouraged to keep phone numbers, email addresses, mailing addresses, and emergency contacts updated with the school office throughout the school year.

Communication may occur through:

- ThrillShare
- Email
- Phone calls
- Classroom newsletters
- ClassDojo
- Parent-teacher conferences
- District website

Report Cards

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter.

Conferences

Conference dates:

November 6th and 13th
April 16th and 23rd

STUDENT CONDUCT

Students are expected to:

- Follow adult directions
- Show kindness and respect
- Use appropriate language
- Keep hands and feet to themselves
- Take care of school property
- Demonstrate honesty
- Come prepared to learn

Behavior expectations apply in:

- Classrooms
- Hallways
- Cafeteria
- Playground
- Bus
- Assemblies
- School events

Students are expected to follow school rules and demonstrate the GRIP values of Gratitude, Respect, Integrity, and Presence. When behavior concerns arise, school staff will work with students to teach appropriate behaviors and restore relationships. Repeated or serious misconduct may result in disciplinary consequences in accordance with district policy and state law.

DRESS CODE

Students should dress in a manner that is:

- Safe
- Comfortable
- Appropriate for learning
- Suitable for weather conditions
- Appropriately covers midriff, beneath the underarm, and chest

- Shorts, skirts, and skorts should be of an appropriate length that provides adequate coverage during normal school activities.
- Shirts must have shoulder straps and provide appropriate coverage of the chest, back, underarm and undergarments.
- Costumes, sunglasses, and other accessories are allowed during Spirit Week only.
- Footwear must be worn at all times.

Students may not wear clothing that:

- Displays alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or weapons
- Contains inappropriate language or images
- Creates a disruption to the learning environment
- Creates a safety concern

Clothing should provide appropriate coverage and allow students to safely participate in all school activities, including recess and physical education.

RECESS AND OUTDOOR EXPECTATIONS

Outdoor play is an important part of a student's school day. Students are expected to participate in outdoor recess unless a medical note from a healthcare provider is on file indicating otherwise.

Outdoor Temperature Guidelines

Students will generally go outside for recess unless temperatures or wind chill fall below: **18°F**

Winter Clothing

During cold and snowy weather, students should come prepared with:

- Winter coat
- Gloves or mittens
- Hat
- Snow pants
- Appropriate winter boots

Students who do not have appropriate winter clothing may need to have their outdoor activities modified for safety reasons.

PERSONAL PROPERTY AND TOYS

To minimize distractions and maintain a safe learning environment, students should leave personal items at home unless specifically requested by a teacher for a classroom activity.

Personal items may include, but are not limited to:

- Toys
- Trading cards
- Collectibles
- Electronic games or devices
- Sports equipment such as bats, balls, gloves, skateboards, scooters, or similar items
- Other items not required for educational purposes

Items that create a disruption to the learning environment, pose a safety concern, or are used inappropriately may be confiscated and held in the office until they can be returned to a parent or guardian.

Republic Elementary School and Republic School District are not responsible for personal items that are lost, stolen, damaged, or misplaced while on school property, on school transportation, or during school-sponsored activities.

Students bring personal belongings to school at their own risk. Families are encouraged to clearly label all personal items brought to school, including coats, backpacks, lunch boxes, and water bottles.

CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Elementary students may bring cell phones to school.

However:

Cell phones must:

- Remain powered OFF during the school day
- Remain inside backpacks or bags
- Not be used during school hours without staff permission

The district is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged devices.

Cell phones that are used during the school day without staff permission may be confiscated and returned according to school procedures.

Chromebooks

District technology is provided to support student learning. Students are expected to use Chromebooks, internet access, and other technology resources responsibly and for educational purposes. Inappropriate use may result in loss of privileges and/or disciplinary action in accordance with district policy.

FINES AND FEES

Republic Elementary School strives to minimize student fines and fees. Elementary students are generally not assessed fines except in cases involving damage to or loss of school-issued technology.

Chromebook Fines

Students are responsible for the care and proper use of district-issued Chromebooks and related equipment. Fines may be assessed for damaged, lost, stolen, or intentionally misused Chromebooks, chargers, or other assigned technology devices.

A complete list of Chromebook fines, fees, and replacement costs is provided annually in the Republic School District Enrollment Packet. Families are encouraged to review this information each school year.

Questions regarding Chromebook fines or technology responsibilities may be directed to the school office.

HEALTH SERVICES

Illness at School

Students who have a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or other symptoms of illness should remain home until they are symptom-free according to district health guidelines.

Students who become ill during the school day should notify their teacher and report to the office.

Medications

All medications, including over-the-counter medications, require proper authorization forms.

Medication must be delivered through the school office.

Immunizations

Students must meet Washington State immunization requirements or have approved exemptions on file.

FOOD SERVICES

Classroom Celebrations

Please contact your child's teacher prior to sending treats or snacks.

All food items brought for classroom celebrations must comply with district guidelines and allergy considerations.

VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

To maintain a safe learning environment:

- All visitors must check in at the office.
- Visitors must wear a visitor badge while on campus.
- Classroom visits should be scheduled in advance.

Building Access During the School Day:

For the safety of students and staff, all exterior doors remain secured during the school day. Parents, guardians, and visitors should enter through the main entrance and press the visitor access button for assistance. Office staff will communicate with visitors and remotely unlock the entrance when appropriate.

All visitors must report directly to the office upon entering the building, sign in, and obtain a visitor badge before proceeding to any other area of the school.

Students will only be released to individuals listed as authorized contacts unless prior arrangements have been made with the school office.

Volunteer procedures:

All volunteers must be cleared through the District Office. A form will be provided which requires a signature for the district to run a background check.

STUDENT MESSAGES AND DELIVERIES

To minimize classroom disruptions, messages for students should be communicated through the school office. Deliveries of drinks, food, flowers, balloons, gifts, or other personal items for students are discouraged and may be held in the office until the end of the school day.

Parents are encouraged to communicate end-of-day transportation changes through the office no later than 1:30 p.m.

HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING

Republic School District is committed to providing a safe and respectful learning environment.

Harassment, intimidation, and bullying will not be tolerated.

Students should immediately report concerns to:

- A teacher
- The principal
- The assistant principal
- Any trusted school employee
- Anonymously through the school website

Reports will be investigated promptly. The processes and procedures can be found on the school website: https://www.republic309.org/page/student-parent-resources

STUDENT SAFETY

Emergency Drills

Every month students will participate in one of the following:

- Fire drills
- Lockdown drills
- Evacuation drills
- Shelter-in-place drills

Weapons

Weapons, look-alike weapons, firearms, or dangerous objects are prohibited on school property.

School Security

The district utilizes safety procedures and security measures such as cameras to maintain a safe learning environment.

Students should immediately report unsafe conditions, threats, or safety concerns to a staff member.

SEARCHES

School administrators may conduct searches of student property, including desks, backpacks, Chromebooks, and other belongings, when there is reasonable suspicion that a school rule,

district policy, or law has been violated. Searches will be conducted in accordance with district policy and applicable state and federal laws.

STUDENT RECORDS & PRIVACY

Student records are maintained in accordance with federal and state law.

Parents have the right to review educational records and request corrections when appropriate.

Questions regarding student records should be directed to the school office.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Republic School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, creed, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, or gender identity.

The complete nondiscrimination policy is available on the district website and at the district office.

Civil Rights Coordinator

Paul Clark

Superintendent

30306 East Highway 20

Republic, WA 99166

pclark@republicsd.org

509-775-3173

Title IX Coordinator

Loren Finley

K-12 Principal

30306 East Highway 20

Republic, WA 99166

lfinley@republicsd.org

509-775-3173

For more information, please contact the district office.

(509) 775-3173

Republic Elementary School values the partnership between home and school. By working together, we can create a positive learning environment where every student feels safe, supported, and prepared for success.

HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Republic Elementary School

Student & Parent Handbook

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

We acknowledge that we have received, read, and discussed the Republic Elementary School Student & Parent Handbook.

We understand the expectations and procedures outlined within the handbook and agree to support our student's success throughout the school year.

Student Signature:

_____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature:

_____

Date: _____

_____

REPUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Preparing, Inspiring, and Educating Every Student, Every Day