JAMES E. PLEW ELEMENTARY

Parent and Student Handbook

2026-2027

Tammy Matz, Principal

Heather Phillips, Assistant Principal

220 Pine Avenue
Niceville, Florida 32578

Phone: (850) 833-4100 Fax: (850) 833-4103

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome Letter	3	Lost and Found	13
Accelerated Reader	5	Meal Program	13
Arrival/Dismissal Times	5		
Art	5	Media Center	14
Attendance	5	Performing Arts/Music	15
Birthday/Parties	7	Physical Education	15
Bully and Harassment Policy	7	Pledge of Allegiance	15
Change of Address/Phone Number	8	Pupil Classroom Assignment	15
Checking Students Out	8	Safe Check Services	15
Child Care Program	8	Safety	16
Communication	8	School Bus Rules	16
Counseling	8	School Insurance	16
Dismissal	8	Standardized Tests	17
Change of Transportation	9	Student Welfare	17
		The New World Scholarships	17
Dress Code for Students	9	Tobacco Free Campus	17
Emergency Drills/Procedures	10	Toys/Electronic Devices	18
Equity	10	Visitors	18
Expectations	10	Volunteer Program	18
Field Trip/Chaperones	11	Wireless Communication Devices	19
Grading Policy	12	Withdrawal of Students	
Head Lice	12	OCSD Calendar	19
Health	12	2024-2025 Financial Report	20
Health Screenings	13		
Homework	13		

JAMES E. PLEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
220 Pine Ave., Niceville, FL 32578
850-833-4100
Tammy Matz, Principal

Dear Parents,

The faculty and staff at Plew Elementary School would like to welcome you to the home of the Panthers. This should be an exciting school year for you and your child. Plew continues to succeed at high levels of performance academically, we also strive daily to exhibit our student conduct goals of being **R**esponsible, **O**rganized, **A**chieving goals, and showing **R**espect. Panther's ROAR!

This Student Handbook is intended to answer frequently asked questions about every day school operations and procedures. Please keep it handy throughout the school year for a reference. The information in this handbook will help us have a successful school year.

Please feel free to contact your teacher, our front office, or myself anytime you need assistance during the school year. Together with you and the Niceville community, we will continue to meet all academic and social emotional needs of our students.

Sincerely,

Tammy Matz
Principal

MISSION STATEMENT

James E. Plew Elementary School and OCSD

Our Vision: Preparing today's students for success within and beyond the classroom**.**
Our Mission: Placing students on a pathway to success by providing high quality instruction, a wide array of marketable experiences, and unparalleled extracurricular opportunities while developing relationships that meet both their academic and emotional needs.
PHILOSOPHY: Through the process of education, our children will become lifelong learners with an understanding and a respect for all cultures. Using critical thinking skills, they will become effective decision makers and problem solvers enabling them to adjust to an ever-changing environment.

SHARED VALUES at Plew:
Passionate – At Plew, teachers are enthusiastic and engaged in student growth and development.
Data Based – Through common planning and student goal setting, our instruction is driven through the data we acquire.
Accountability – We hold our students accountable behaviorally through PBIS and academically through the use of "I can…" statements and student-driven goal setting.
Listen – Actionable steps are taken based on needs identified by our community survey. The use of student discourse in the classroom promotes better student learning and understanding.
Learners – Plew teachers are routinely fostering lifelong learning by encouraging student collaboration, providing engaging lessons, and sharing their passion for student growth.
Coach/Development – We focus on balanced, purposeful, relevant professional development and readily share our strengths and expertise with colleagues.
Humility – Through the MTSS process, support is provided for student, families and teachers to meet academic and behavioral needs. The Plew staff is willing to consider or accept new suggestions and ideas. We aim to support a culture of cooperation.
Relationships – Plew builds relationships through PLA, volunteers, Evening of the Arts, Science Night, Fun Runs, parent patio lunches, Thanksgiving lunch, Open House, Heights and Kids Kount tutoring, Media Center, Plew gardens, and student clubs.
We recognize a moment of silence, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and Plew Honor code daily:

I am a panther
Hear me ROAR
I am a panther
I stand for:
R-Responsibility
O-Organization
A-Achieving Goals
R-Respect

Plew is a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) school. PBIS is a proactive approach that schools use to improve school safety and promote positive behavior. The focus of PBIS is prevention, not punishment, although consequences are given for behavior referrals. At its heart, PBIS calls on schools to teach students positive behavior strategies, integrating a positive mindset within academics.

Purple Star School of Distinction
Plew Elementary is a proud Purple Star School of Distinction! The Florida Purple Star School of Distinction Designation was established by the Florida legislature in 2021 and further defined in Rule 6A-1.0999, Florida Administrative Code. The purpose of the Purple Star School of Distinction Designation is to recognize schools that support the unique needs of military families, help military-connected students navigate critical challenges and provide resources for military-connected students when transitioning to a new school environment. Our counselor and our student led team can provide more information about how we support our military families.

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

This handbook provides important information for parents and students at Plew Elementary School. Topics are in "alphabetical order." We hope it will provide answers to some of the questions you may have. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please call the school office at (850) 833-4100.

ACCELERATED READER PROGRAM

All students participate in the Accelerated Reader Program. Each student is given a new library card every year. Students should be reading within their range daily, as monitored by the teacher. All students should read 20 minutes daily outside the normal school day. Students will be placed on their reading level according to Lexile level and teacher assessment results. The teacher will monitor the students' book level and testing scores to determine if target reading level should be raised or lowered. Students should be scoring between 80%-100% on tests consistently.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL TIME FOR STUDENTS

7:50 a.m. **CAR RIDERS CAN BEGIN LINING UP**
8:00 a.m. **SUPERVISION AT THE CROSSWALK**
8:05 a.m. **STUDENTS PERMITTED IN CLASSROOMS**
8:20 a.m. **SCHOOL BEGINS**
2:50 p.m. **DISMISSAL BEGINS**

ART

The art program brings the world's masterpieces into the classroom for study and inspiration, serving as a starting point for some wonderful student creations. The focus on the arts culminates in our annual Evening of the Arts in the spring, featuring delightful classroom galleries which showcase our students' artwork. Students attend art every 6 days for 50 minutes.

ATTENDANCE

Patterns of nonattendance and truancy are identified as early warning signs of academic failure. The continuum of truancy to delinquency typically includes other behaviors that result in suspension, expulsion and drop out. Students with chronic absenteeism are found to have the lowest academic achievement, which puts them at greater risk of dropping out of school.

Reporting an Absence

Students will have five (5) school days, including the day they return, to upload an excuse into Focus or bring in written verification for an excused absence. The absence will be considered unexcused if the school does not receive written verification for the excused absence within that timeframe.

Elementary Attendance

Excused absences resulting from the following:

· Death in the family;
· Any reason up to 9 absences per semester;
· Illness or injury requiring medical or dental attention (physician's statement required);
· Illness, injury, or circumstances not requiring medical attention will require a parent note explaining the absences, up to 9 absences per semester;
· Appointments for medical or dental care (physician's note required);
· Appointments scheduled to receive a therapy service provided by a licensed health care practitioner or behavior analyst for the treatment of autism spectrum disorder, including, but not limited to, applied behavioral analysis, speech therapy, and occupational therapy
· Religious holidays: students are permitted to be absent in observance of established religious holidays, but they must be counted absent on all school records. Absences of a religious nature, preceded by prior parent notice, will not require written notification on the student's return to school. Review School Board Policy for additional information.

Students who place on file with OCSD legal and/or medical documentation or a permanent and total disability as defined by the U.S. Social Security Act are excused from school and eligible to make up any and all work for absences from medical care or medical conditions related to their permanent and total disability.

Unexcused absences are absences resulting from:
· Any absences not designated as excused (e.g., unverified absences)
· Truancy
· Suspension
· Expulsion
· Participation in private lessons, activities, or classes sponsored by outside agencies
Students can makeup any assignment placed in the 60% category in FOCUS. Parent may request daily assignments for practice purposes only. No grade will be assigned for missed or completed daily assignments.

Tardiness
Parents/legal guardians will be notified when a student accumulates five (5) unexcused early checkouts and/or late arrivals within a semester. When the number of early checkouts and/or late arrivals reaches seven (7) within a semester, the parents will be requested in writing to have a conference with the principal or his/her designee.
Truancy Procedures, 984.03 F.S., 1002.41 F.S., 1003.26 F.S.
The Superintendent may file a truancy petition for the following situations:

• Five (5) unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a calendar month, or; After the fifth (5th) unexcused absence in a calendar month, the student's primary teacher shall report to the school principal or his/her designee that the student may be exhibiting a pattern of nonattendance. If appropriate, the school principal shall refer the case to the MTSS committee. If the MTSS committee finds that a pattern of nonattendance is developing, whether the absences are excused or not, a meeting with the parent/legal guardian must be scheduled to identify potential remedies. The school should send out a School Truancy Letter to either inform the parent/legal guardian of the situation or to schedule an MTSS committee meeting with the parent/legal guardian.
• Ten (10) unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a ninety (90) calendar day period, or; o After the ninth (9th) unexcused absence, the student's primary teacher shall report to the school principal or his/her designee that the student may be exhibiting a pattern of nonattendance. If appropriate, the principal shall refer the case to the MTSS committee. If the MTSS committee finds that a pattern of nonattendance is developing, whether the absences are excused or not, a meeting with the parent/legal guardian must be scheduled to identify potential remedies. A letter should either be mailed to the student's home or delivered by an attendance officer, informing the parent/legal guardian of the MTSS committee meeting and their need to attend.
• More than fifteen (15) unexcused absences in ninety (90) calendar day period o After the fifteenth (15th) unexcused absence in a 90-day calendar period, if the MTSS committee determines that remedial recommendations are not working, either a truancy petition may be filed by the Superintendent, or the student may be referred to an appropriate agency.
Learnfare Program and Truancy, 414.1251 F.S. Florida statute requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to reduce the temporary cash assistance for an eligible parent's dependent child or for an eligible teenage participant who is not exempt from school attendance requirements if the eligible child or teen participating has been identified as a habitual truant or dropout. A habitual truant is a student who has accumulated fifteen (15) unexcused absences within ninety (90) calendar days with or without the knowledge or consent of the student's parent/legal guardian. For more information on the Learnfare Program, visit Learnfare Program Rules**.**

BIRTHDAYS/PARTIES

- Because many students have food allergies, please contact your child's teacher in advance to clarify the types of food items that can be brought to the classroom. These items will be shared with the class during a teacher-designated time, outside of lunchtime.
- After coordinating with the child's teacher, parents may drop off individual treats in the front office.
- Invitations to parties will only be distributed if they are being given to each student in the class.
- Siblings are not permitted at classroom parties or activities.

BULLYING AND HARASSMENT POLICY

The Bullying Policy was revised and last reviewed September 13, 2021. To read it in its entirety please see: https://go.boarddocs.com/fl/okaloosa/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C5GPR965D6D3. Featured below is an abridged version of the policy.

Definitions: Bullying means systemically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees. It is further defined as unwanted and repeated written, verbal, or physical behavior, including any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, by a student or adult, that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment; cause discomfort or humiliation; or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school performance or participation; and may involve but is not limited to:

(a) Unwanted Teasing
(b) Social Exclusion
(c) Threat
(d) Intimidation
(e) Stalking
(f) Physical violence
(g) Theft
(h) Sexual, religious, or racial harassment
(i) Public or private humiliation
(j) Destruction of property
(k) Cyber stalking/bullying

Bullying and harassment also encompasses:
(a) Retaliation against a student or school employee by another student or school employee for asserting or alleging an act of bullying or harassment. Reporting an act of bullying or harassment that is not made in good faith is considered retaliation. Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Discrimination (hereinafter referred to as bullying, as defined in Section A, for the purpose of this policy) also encompass, but are not limited to, unwanted harm towards a student or employee in regard to their real or perceived: sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability (physical, mental, or educational), marital status, socio-economic background, ancestry, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, linguistic preference, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or social/family background or being viewed as different in its education programs or admissions to education programs and therefore prohibits bullying of any student or employee by any Board member, district employee, consultant, contractor, agent, visitor, volunteer, student, or other person in the school or outside the school at school-sponsored events, on school buses, and at training facilities or training programs sponsored by the district.
The School District prohibits the bullying of any student or school employee:
(1) During any educational program or activity conducted by Okaloosa County School District;
(2) During any school-related or school-sponsored program or activity or on an Okaloosa County school bus;
(3) Through the use of any electronic device or data while on school grounds or on an Okaloosa County school bus, computer software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, or computer network within the scope of the Okaloosa County School District. Threats of any kind will not be tolerated and are subject to disciplinary action per the Code of Student Conduct.
(4) Consequences and appropriate interventions for students who commit acts of bullying may range from positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension or expulsion, as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct, School Board Policy 4-32 and this policy.
PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING an act of bullying or harassment: Please contact the Assistant Principal or Counselor to begin a Bullying Investigation.
(1) At each school, the principal or the principal's designee is responsible for receiving complaints alleging violations of this policy. All school employees are required to report alleged violations of this policy to the principal or the principal's designee. All other members of the school community, including students, parents/legal guardians, volunteers, and visitors are encouraged to report any act that may be a violation of this policy anonymously or in-person to the principal or principal's designee.
(2) The principal or designee shall promptly report via telephone, personal conference, and/or in writing, the occurrence of any incident of bullying or harassment as defined by policy to the parent or legal guardian of all students involved on the same day that this investigation of the incident(s) has been initiated. Notification must be consistent with the student privacy rights under the applicable provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND/OR TELEPHONE NUMBER

- It is extremely important for emergency and administrative reasons, that the school maintains an up to date address/telephone number for each student who attends Plew Elementary School.
- Please notify the school immediately if you have an address or telephone number change at any time during the school year. You may accomplish this by calling the school office, sending a note with your child, or emailing to jennifer.gesch@okaloosaschools.com or sherri.cadenhead@okaloosaschools.com .

CHECKING STUDENTS OUT

Instructional time is valuable for your child and the students in your child's classroom. Following the steps below will facilitate less interruption during the instructional day.

- Only the parent or authorized person is allowed to check out a student.
- A parent/guardian picture ID is required for student check-outs.
- If you find it necessary to check your student out early, please send a note to school with your child.
- Please help us with your child's safety by letting us know if someone should not sign out your child.
- Because it is critical that classroom instruction and procedures not be interrupted, parents may not go to the classroom to pick up a child or to take them lunch money, supplies, etc. Office personnel send for the child or deliver lunch money, etc.

CHILD CARE PROGRAM

We operate a childcare program before and after school hours. Our daycare coordinator is Cindy Perez. For further information, check our website or call 833-4299.

COMMUNICATION

Plew Elementary School is committed to keeping you informed on the school's programs, activities, and most importantly your child's academic progress. Home/School communication is facilitated through newsletters, the school marquee, phone calls, text messages, parent conferences, Facebook, and the school's webpage https://www2.okaloosaschools.com/o/plew. A valid email address and phone number is very important to have on file.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parents may request conferences with the teacher by phone or in writing at any time.

COUNSELING

School counseling services are available to promote and foster the social, emotional, and academic development of the students at Plew. The school counselor assists the faculty and administration by helping students develop a positive self-concept, responsibility, and self-discipline. The school counselor, who also acts as a resource person, obtains consultants from community agencies, and coordinates related programs within the school. Teachers, parents and students are encouraged to call upon the services of the school counselor, as necessary. With a referral, a Military Counselor and Mental Health Counselor are available.

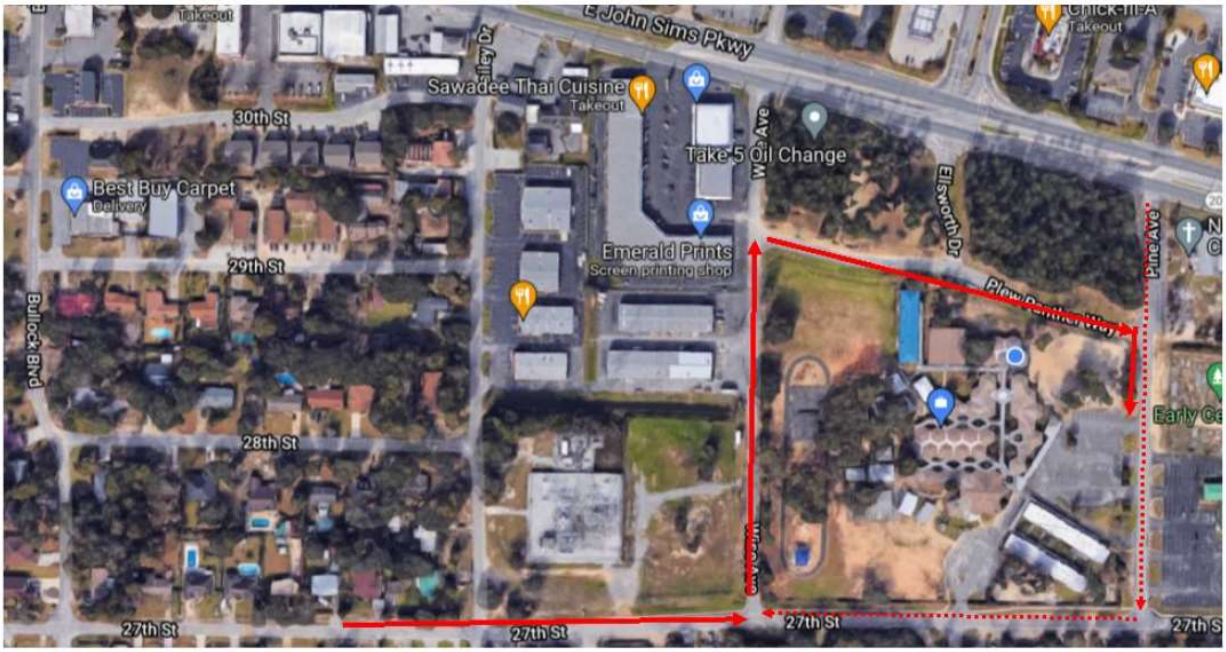
CUSTODY

By law, if parents are legally separated or divorced, each parent has equal rights to the custody of the child/children UNLESS a parent has a court order that indicates which parent has sole custody of the child/children. The school **must have a copy of the court order on file.**

DISMISSAL

- The school day ends at 2:50 p.m.
- **Bus Riders:** Walk to their bus when their "bus color" is called. There will be designated Plew employees making sure students arrive to their bus safely.
- **Car riders**: KG & 1st Gr. – Enter 27th St. on Pine Ave. 2nd – 5th Gr. – Enter Plew Panther Way onto Pine Ave. **Don't line up before 2:30 pm**.
- **Walkers:** ONLY these students will be authorized to cross traffic on 27th St. at the designated crosswalk.

- **Parents please cooperate with our dismissal schedule.**



Reminding parents of Second thru Fifth graders when arriving at Plew for drop-off or pick-up, please line up from 27th Street to Wise Avenue and then Plew Panther Way. This prevents traffic congestion on John Sims Parkway. **Please remember DO NOT block intersections or roadways.** Also, please do not try to use Pine Avenue or Ellsworth Drive during peak times to enter Plew ramps, as parents in line from Plew Panther Way will be given priority. Pine Avenue is for thru traffic and those arriving to enter the school. There are numerous routes to enter the lineup onto Wise Avenue: Palm Blvd can take you straight to 27th Street; Bullock Blvd. and Bailey Drive travels from John Sims Parkway straight to 27th Street as well.

Thank you so much for your continued support and understanding as we try to provide a safe place for your children to learn.

CHANGES IN TRANSPORTATION FROM SCHOOL

In order to ensure the safety of your child we ask that the following guidelines be followed.

- If you need to **change the way your child goes home**, please send a **note to school with your child, e-mail jennifer.gesch@okaloosaschools.com by 1:00 pm. Phone calls will not be accepted for change of transportation, as safety is our number one priority.**
- It is most important that a parent or any person approved by the parent does not take a student from school or off the bus without having first signed the student out through the office.
- There will absolutely be no student check outs after 2:30 p.m.

DRESS CODE FOR STUDENTS

The wearing of garments appropriate for school is expected. Failure of any student to dress appropriately will be brought to the attention of the parent. Extremes in dress, hairstyle, makeup, or jewelry are discouraged. It is important to review the following guidelines so that clothing purchased for school is acceptable.

- Students will wear socks and tennis/athletic shoes. Shoes must be worn at all times, **no slip-on sandals, flip-flops or cleats. These are a safety hazard as well as a health issue with children playing outside at PE and recess.**
- No costumes, such as, ears, tails, masks, unless a dress up day is scheduled by the school.
- No halter tops or spaghetti straps.
- No hats at school.
- No clothing advertising alcohol, tobacco products, or having inappropriate language or messages.
- Shorts and dresses should be at mid-thigh length or longer.
- Clothing must cover the mid-section of the body. No undergarments should be visible.

Students are required to follow the Okaloosa School District Dress Code as adopted by the Okaloosa County School Board. A copy of this policy is available on the district website http://www.okaloosaschools.com

EMERGENCY DRILLS / PROCEDURES

SEVERE WEATHER AND LOCK DOWN PROCEDURES

We will be conducting fire drills, severe weather drills as well as lock down drills at various times during the school year.

- If at any time we are involved in a lock down, fire drill, or shelter in place, we will **not** release any student for any reason. We will also not allow anyone to enter the building. Please be patient with us and know that we are required by law to practice these drills with our students to ensure their safety during a real emergency should one arise.

EQUITY

https://go.boarddocs.com/fl/okaloosa/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C5GPR965D6D3#

ADULTS – (6-28) EQUITY POLICY:

Harassment concerning an individual's race, color, sex, age, religious beliefs, national or ethnic origin, marital status, or disability is a form of misconduct which undermines the integrity of the employment relationship. Sexual harassment by an employee or volunteer or person with whom the district contracts for services toward another individual while under the jurisdiction of the district is strictly prohibited.

STUDENTS – (4-34) EQUITY POLICY:

It is the policy of the School Board of Okaloosa County to offer students the opportunity to participate in appropriate programs, services and activities without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, political beliefs, marital status, parenthood, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, or social and family background.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES:

If an adult needs to report an alleged violation of these policies, an informal Equity Complaint should be made to a principal or department director. If the situation cannot be resolved informally, a Formal Equity Grievance (MIS 5139, Rev. 10/00), in compliance with School Board Policy 6-29, should be directed to the Superintendent's designee listed below. Employees have the option of filing a grievance through appropriate Master Contract procedures in lieu of the Formal Equity Grievance. Students should promptly report complaints pertaining to the Okaloosa School District's Equity Policy to a teacher, the principal, or to the principal's administrative designee in charge of the school's disciplinary office. The District's Equity Coordinator will be immediately notified by the school's administrative staff when a complaint is filed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEES:

Steve Chatman – Equity (Equal Opportunity) (850) 689-7171

THIS POLICY IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL EQUITY ACT OF 1973 AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAW AND RULES

EXPECTATIONS

Plew's school discipline plan has been established to create the best possible safe learning environment for all students at Plew. ***The focus of the plan is to encourage positive behaviors – not to punish students***. Students are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly manner. Following our Plew honor code using the acronym for ROAR, students should be responsible, organized, work towards achieving goals, and respectful. This will foster an environment that creates positive approaches to communicate expectations, teach problem-solving skills, and protect each child's rights. Students are expected to be responsible, safe, and respectful. Parents will be alerted of serious infractions via telephone or notes from your child's teacher or the school administrator. Parents, please help us to reinforce positive behavior at school as this directly impacts instruction and learning of all children.

Expectations are posted in each class and will be orally reviewed frequently with students along with the code of conduct, after long weekends or breaks, and other times as deemed necessary by the teacher and/or administration. Please reinforce these expectations at home.

- Teaching students acceptable behavior is an integral part of the educational process. "Effective schools" research findings tell us that two of the most important characteristics of an effective school are:
  - The school reflects a safe and orderly climate, and

- The school contributes to their students' academic achievement by establishing, communicating, and enforcing fair and consistent discipline policies. The focus of discipline is to change behavior – not to punish students. All faculty members are encouraged to recognize and reward outstanding student behavior.

- Before any child reaches the steps below, the teacher will first:
  - Review school/classroom expectations, procedures, and rules;
  - Teach conflict resolution and problem-solving strategies;
  - Clearly communicate expectations and consequences for behavior to the student and the parents.
- This plan is not to take the place of the teacher's classroom management of discipline.
- To encourage appropriate behavior in the classroom, teachers follow these guidelines:
  - Set clear rules that are posted, visible, and reviewed;
  - Establish immediate classroom consequences for infractions;
  - Praise and reinforce appropriate behaviors.
- If a student engages in inappropriate behaviors, after the teacher has implemented incentives and interventions for sustaining or maintaining a positive learning environment, the result maybe an office behavior referral, Student Training Program, loss of a privilege, out of school suspension, and/or alternate placement.

Classroom Management

Each teacher will develop a classroom management plan reflective of the school-wide expectations that will be sent home and signed by parents at the beginning of the school year and posted in the classroom.

Classroom Teacher/Administrative Guidelines

- Step 1 – Verbal Warning-Teacher conferences with student and discusses future consequences. Teacher begins interventions with student.
- Step 2 – Referral #1- A parent contact (telephone or written if unable to reach them) to alert parent of an incident. Teacher continues with interventions in the classroom.
- Step 3- Referral #2- Parent conference with written record of actions and/or strategies
- Step 4–Referral #3- **After due process, administration will decide on consequences and notify the family.**

Minor Offenses

Inappropriate language	Disruption	Defiance/Disrespect	Inappropriate running
Teasing	Dress code	Lying/cheating	Property misuse
Property damage	Forgery/theft	Physical contact	

Major Offenses

Major incidents should result in automatic office referrals.

(Incidents that cannot be handled by the teacher.)

Aggressive behavior /language Fighting Theft Insubordination Weapon

FIELD TRIP/ CHAPERONES

Grade level field trips, related to the curriculum being studied, are planned throughout the school year. A field trip letter with specific information regarding the field trip and a parent permission form will be sent home prior to the event. Every student must have a permission slip signed by the parent/guardian. **Permission cannot be given over the telephone**. All students are permitted to attend field trips. **If there is a history of behavioral concerns, or if there are major infractions to the student code of conduct the parent will to accompany their child.**

If you are planning to assist your child's teacher as a chaperone on a Field Trip during the year, please attend a Volunteer Orientation that will be held at the beginning of the school year. District policy requires that all volunteers submit an online Volunteer Application form each year.

- **Please do not wait until the day before or day of a field trip to complete the online Volunteer Application form.**
- **It is also imperative that when a field trip permission slip is sent home, it is returned with any money required for the trip by the date listed on the permission form. We must know ahead of time the**

students that are participating in this activity as we are required to notify the place we are going of our numbers.

- **Payment for any cost is also due ahead of the trip so all deadlines must be followed. Your cooperation with this will be greatly appreciated.**
- **Siblings will not be permitted to accompany classes on school related field trips.**

GRADING POLICY

Okaloosa County School District Elementary Grading Policy

Academic grades shall be based solely on scholastic proficiency in meeting the Florida B.E.S.T. Benchmarks applied to the grade in which the student is enrolled. In no case shall a disciplinary penalty be exacted in terms of a diminished academic grade. The evaluation of behavior/conduct shall be recorded separately from all academic grades.

Grades 1-5

The following grading scale is consistent/aligned with Florida's mandated statewide high school grading policy (F.S. 232.2463). Kindergarten uses standards-based grading with a district report card.

Grade	Percent	Definition
A	**90 –100**	**Outstanding Progress**
B	**80 – 89**	**Above Average Progress**
C	**70 – 79**	**Average Progress**
D	**60 – 69**	**Lower Acceptable Progress**
F	**0 – 59**	**Failures**

Focus Parent Portal is our new student information system and will be your resource for your child's attendance, grades, and a method of communication with your child's teachers among other great features! https://okaloosaschools.com/articles/2022/focus/parents https://youtu.be/2Y5tyuN3ovI

HEALTH

A child who was ill the night before, vomited within 24 hours, or has a fever should not attend school. **A current telephone number for parents or authorized person able to pick up child is a must.** If the health information on your child changes during the year, please notify us so that we may make the necessary changes to our records. Please send written instructions if your child is to be excluded from any daily school activity.

ILLNESS OR INJURY

An instructional staff member or principal shall isolate a student who becomes ill at school, whenever practicable, until the student can be removed to his/her home.

A student who has had a serious communicable disease shall present a statement from a physician licensed by the State of Florida before being readmitted to classes. A student not attended by a physician may be readmitted if the principal, in his/her judgment, finds the student has met the criteria for readmission as established by the Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County.

If a student becomes seriously ill during school hours or while participating in a school sponsored activity, the parent / guardian shall be notified. If the parent / guardian cannot be reached, 911 shall be called. When 911 is called by a school district employee, it cannot be cancelled or called off by a school district employee. Only the responding emergency unit and /or parent, in person or in consultation with the emergency responders, will determine if emergency transport is necessary.

MEDICATION

All medications given at school must be U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved. Any unregulated products or substances, including: oils, herbs, food and supplements which are being used as treatments, dietary supplements, or folk remedies must have a physician's order, specific administration instructions and will be permitted only when failure to do so would jeopardize the health of the student or the student would

not be able to attend school without treatment being made available during school hours. Medications that are permitted to be self-carried by the student, such as inhalers, EpiPen's, diabetic supplies and pancreatic enzymes, must be annually updated by parent using MIS 5183 and include an updated medical provider's order to self-carry and administer

HEAD LICE

Procedure: School Board Policy 4-42:
(A) Students in Okaloosa County School District schools may be checked for head lice by the school clinic staff. School officials will take the following steps when a student is identified with head lice:
(1) Parents or Guardians will be called to transport the student home. Students are not permitted to ride the bus when head lice are identified.
(2) School clinic staff will give parents written procedures on the treatment of head lice.
(3) After treatment and upon return to school, parents will bring the student back to the clinic with documentation that the head lice was treated and the clinic staff will check that the student is free of lice and/or live nits.
i) Live nits are defined by the Centers for Disease Control as nits that are located no more than ¼ in. from the base of the hair shaft and/or scalp.
(4) Students will be allowed to return to class once he/she is checked by clinic staff and found to free of lice and live nits.
(5) The school principal or his/her designee shall be notified upon the third incident of lice or live nits in a single semester.

HEALTH SCREENINGS

The Okaloosa County Health Department will be providing health screenings to Kg, 1st and 3rd graders and to those students new to Okaloosa County schools. Florida Statute 402.32 of the School Health Act requires these screenings. Information on this screening will be sent home at a later date.

HOMEWORK

Students should receive homework that reviews and reinforces what has already been taught in school. The student should be capable of independently completing the work.

LOST AND FOUND

All articles found are to be placed on the hanging rack. **Students' possessions and coats should be labeled to help in identification.**

MEAL PROGRAM

We ask parents to encourage their child to eat in the lunchroom and try a variety of foods. Our school maintains an excellent lunchroom under the supervision of trained personnel. Breakfast is served between 8:05 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. Extra milk can be purchased for 75¢ per carton. Reduced and free lunches are provided for those who apply and qualify. Applications are available in the office or on www.okaloosaschools.com select "Departments" from the menu at the bottom, then select "Food Services" from the menu on the right.

2026-2027 School Year Meal Prices
Student Breakfast-$2.00
Student Lunch $3.00



Parents, it is important that you discuss buying extra food at lunch with your child. Some children are charging extra food without parental consent. Please let the cafeteria manager know if you do not want your child to charge any

lunches or to purchase extra at lunch. This will help us and you to know where your child is spending his/her lunch money. Please feel free to call our cafeteria manager at 833-4100 with questions or concerns you may have concerning our lunch system.

Breakfast/Lunch Payments

The lunchroom maintains an account for each student. You may put as much money as you would like in their account at any time. We encourage parents to pay for lunches with a check or on-line, however, cash is acceptable.

Student PIN Numbers

Each student has an individual PIN number for their breakfast/lunch account. This system links your student to their account balance and other important information such as food allergies or special instructions you have provided about your child. Your child will be given their PIN number on the first day of school or at the time of enrollment.

Pay Online

Lunches and breakfast may be paid on line by following these directions:

1. Go to https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/getmain?requestAction=home
2. You will be able to set up your online account, manage your child account balance, see what your child is eating, and receive account balance alerts.
3. Sign up today!!



Breakfast/Lunch Charges

Florida Statute does not allow students to charge lunch. However, Okaloosa County School Board does allow some latitude for elementary students. The lunch charge must be paid back to the school on the next day.

Free/Reduced Meal Application Process

It is imperative that you fill out the appropriate paperwork for free/reduced lunch. You have 30 days in which your child will remain on the status he/she was on from the previous year. If your child qualified for the free/reduced program in the past, and you do not fill out and turn in the free/reduced form for the new school year, you will be charged the full price for lunch. Please turn that form in immediately so as to not incur unnecessary charges. If you do not qualify for the free/reduced program please insure that there is money in your child's account at all times so that you do not accrue any charges.

Please note the following insert from the district Food Service Department explaining the process used in Okaloosa County.

The School District's Food Service operations are governed by the USDA. The primary purpose of the program is to provide the students with a nutritious meal in a self-sufficient manner. In order to comply with these regulations it is imperative that each student pays their respective balance due in a timely manner.

Every effort will be made, via notification to the student, phone calls to the home and letters; to notify each of you when your child's account is in arrears. However, there will be occasions when the notification process will not be successful. If any parent should have a question regarding their child's account, we encourage them to contact the school's cafeteria manager.

If the School District is unable to make arrangements for the balance in arrears to be cleared; then it reserves the right to address the situation in accordance with USDA regulations, including but not limited to limiting the choices offered to the student.

The prior school year eligibility (free/reduced) status is valid for 30 days in the new school year. If a new free/reduced application has not been approved prior to the expiration of the 30 day period, the student's eligibility is automatically changed to full pay. Any charges incurred as a result of this change in benefits is the sole responsibility of the applicable student. At the beginning of each school year each student is provided with a free/reduced application. We encourage **all** of our families to complete the application in order to ensure that they receive all of the benefits for which they are entitled to. Approval of this application can provide the school with additional educational funds.

MEDIA CENTER

The Plew Elementary School Media Center is designed to serve the needs of students, teachers, and the community. Its resources are available for research or loan to students and parents. The same general circulation policies apply to all

borrowers. Books are circulated for a one-week period. The parents/ guardians of a student must pay for any book that is lost or damaged.

PERFORMING ARTS- MUSIC

Plew is fortunate to have a full-time teacher to provide music education for all our KG-5th grade students. The class provides students with experiences in music that are aligned with the State Standards for Music in the areas of movement, pitch, rhythm, knowledge of instruments, genre, music literacy, performance, etc. to promote enjoyment and interest in music. Musical selections are introduced in an age-appropriate sequence as well as linked to core academics: reading, science, math, and social studies. Throughout the school year, students will have the opportunity to perform at grade level and school wide events on campus and in the community.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Physical education is required of all students. The Legislature is requiring 150 minutes of physical education per week be provided each child in elementary school. If a child is unable to participate in the day's activities, please send a note of explanation to the teacher at the beginning of the school day. The teacher will communicate with the P.E. teacher. Students are required to wear proper footwear to PE. Appropriate footwear includes shoes that fit snug, covers the heel/toes/sides and top of the foot and have a rubber sole. Shoes that are **not permitted** and are **not safe** for PE are sandals, flip flops, Crocs (original Croc with large holes and only have strap across back of heel), boots, and high heels.

Exemption from Regular Physical Education Program

A student who is unable to participate in the more vigorous forms of activity in physical education will be assigned to modified activity until the attending physician notifies us that the student may return to regular physical education.

Excused in Physical Education

A student returning to school from absence due to severe illness or injury will be admitted as a convalescent and should stay in the modified program until the physician who attended the patient states that the student is ready to participate in the regular program. A note from the parent will excuse the child temporarily from physical education after absence due to brief illness.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ MOMENT OF SILENCE

FS (1003.44) – The pledge of allegiance to the flag shall be recited at the beginning of the day, after a moment of silence. Upon written request by a student's parent, the student may be excused from reciting the pledge.

PUPIL CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENT

Consideration of all educational factors, academic and social are the primary determinates in placement decisions. If parents have special considerations for class placement, please complete the information form in office. The final decision on all student placements rests with the principal after due consideration of staff recommendations, contracts, and particular unique factors.

CHECK SERVICES

Envision Payment Solutions is pleased to have been selected by the *School District of Okaloosa County, FL.* as its check service provider. Please be aware that if your check is returned, it may be re-presented electronically. Also, in presenting a check for payment, you authorize service charges and processing fees to be debited from the same account should the check be dishonored. These fees, as permitted by state law, may be debited as a paper draft or an electronic funds transfer, at our option. Each dishonored item is subject to the applicable state returned check fees. Specifically, per *Florida Statute § 68.065*, the service fee for returned checks is as follows: *$25, if the face value does not exceed $50; $30, if the face value exceeds $50 but does not exceed $300; $40, if the face value exceeds $300 or 5% of the face amount of the check, whichever is greater.* (Note that the fee structure will change according to any amendments made to FL law during a school year.)

SAFETY

Information is included in this section to promote safety for all of our students.

- Items such as knives, sharp pointed objects, slingshots, and any type of explosives are forbidden on school buses and school premises.
- Students who walk to school where sidewalks are not provided should walk on the left side of the street facing traffic, and not in the street.
- Students who ride a school bus are expected to board the bus at their assigned stops and in an orderly manner, be seated and remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop. Please see "SCHOOL BUS RULES" section of this handbook and go over the rules with your child. These rules are very important to ensure safety of all students on the buses.
- Students are not permitted to ride or bring skateboards to school or wear tennis shoes with rollers attached to bottom.

Safety in the Parking Lot

When transporting students by automobile, please exercise extreme caution. Never leave your car unattended if it is in a line of traffic or if your car is blocking traffic flow. We also request that you remain in your car. Please caution your child not to run across the parking lot. School personnel will assist the children to and from their cars. **Vehicles are never to be left parked in the driveways.**

SCHOOL BUS RULES

It is a privilege to ride the school bus to and from school. In order to provide safe transportation for every child each day it is imperative that students follow the rules at the bus stop and on the bus.

Each student is expected to follow these school bus rules:

1. Stand off the road when you are waiting for the bus.
2. Be on time; the bus will not wait for you if you are late.
3. You may only get on your bus and off your bus at your regular bus stop location. If you must cross the street, wait for the driver to signal before you do so. Also, walk in front of the bus so that you can see the driver and he can also see you!
4. Sit in your assigned seat, if the driver has assigned one.
5. Remember that the bus driver is in charge. Students must obey the bus driver to remain safe.
6. Stay in your seat at all times.
7. Keep your arms and head inside the bus. Don't throw anything from the bus.
8. School Rules apply to the school bus, too!
9. No fighting, pushing, or tripping while boarding, riding, and leaving the bus.
10. You may not use abusive or profane language to other students or the bus driver.
11. You may not eat or drink on the bus.
12. It is important not to talk to the bus driver when the bus is moving.
13. No animals (dead or alive), glass containers, sharp objects, or baseball bats will be allowed on the bus without prior permission of the bus driver.

- **Riding the bus is a privilege.** The severity of the infraction will determine the consequences and may result in suspension form the bus.
- A student being disruptive on the bus shall be dealt with in the following manner:
  - First Minor Offense: Conference with student
  - Second Minor Offense: Conference with student and Parent Contact
  - Third Minor Offense: Conference with student, Parent Contact, and possible suspension from the bus

SCHOOL ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Offers very affordable student school accident and catastrophic coverage in the state of Florida. Enroll any time of the year with the option to cover your child during school hours only or up to 24 hours a day coverage.
https://www2.okaloosaschools.com/o/ocsd/page/student-accident-insurance

STANDARDIZED TESTS

The FAST assessment will take place 3 times a school year. Tests 1 and 2 are used as a progress monitoring tool and Test 3 will be used to monitor growth and determine promotion. It is an adaptive, computer-based test with results ready in 1-2 days.

STUDENT WELFARE

We are pleased to have parents visit our school during the time students are present for classroom visits. Arrangements for such visitations should be made at least one day in advance with the teacher or administration. All visitors **must** check in at the office to obtain a Visitor's Pass.

- Student visitors and siblings are not permitted to attend classes with a student.
- Students are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly and respectful manner. Parents will be asked to come to the school for a conference if their child has a persistent discipline problem.
- If a student is not to ride the bus home in the afternoon, he is required to have a signed note from parents or the parents must email the school office before 1:00 P.M. **The child will be dismissed the traditional way unless the school is notified as stated above.**
- School buses are loaded to capacity. Please do not request that your child ride a bus that he or she is not regularly assigned except in emergency situations.
- If parents come to eat lunch with their child on Thursdays, please sit at the table in our courtyard provided for parents. Do not bring their friends to the patio.
- However, visitors are not permitted to join a child for lunch until after Labor Day.
- Do not bring food items to share with children other than your own child.

"The New World Scholarship Accounts"

The Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) has developed a program called "The New World Scholarship Accounts." The focus of this program is to provide scholarships to students that have a substantial deficiency in math and/or reading, who exhibit characteristics of dyscalculia or dyslexia, or who score below a level 3 on the FAST test.

TOBACCO/VAPE FREE CAMPUS

11-20 TOBACCO PRODUCTS, SMOKING AND VAPING ON SCHOOL BOARD PROPERTY

(A) The Board recognizes that the use of tobacco, tobacco products, and vapor-generating electronic devices presents a health hazard which can have serious consequences both for the user and the nonuser and is, therefore, of concern to the District. This policy implements the requirements of the Florida Clean Air Act.

(B) For the purposes of this policy, "tobacco" is defined to include products that include or are derived from tobacco and are intended or expected for human use or consumption, including but not limited to, any lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, bidi cigarette, clove cigarette, and any other smoking product, any electronic delivery device or "vape", and spit tobacco, also known as smokeless, dip, chew and snuff, in any form.

(C) In order to ensure compliance with the Florida Clean Air Act, to set a positive example for students, and to promote good health for students and employees, the Board prohibits the smoking or use of tobacco and vapor-generating electronic devices of any type by any District employee, student, or other person in any facilities or on any real or personal property owned by or under the control of the Okaloosa County School Board. No person shall be permitted to use tobacco products vapor-generating electronic devices while at a school-sponsored event or on a school trip. Additionally, smoking and vaping is prohibited in all Okaloosa County School District elevators, school buses, and other vehicles transporting students and personnel. For the purposes of this policy, "smoking" and "vapor-generating electronic devices" are defined under the provisions of the Florida Clean Air Act.

(D) The use of all tobacco, tobacco products, and vapor generating electronic devices falls under the guidelines of this policy.

(E) The Superintendent shall cause signs to be posted in or on all District owned facilities that smoking or use of tobacco products vapor-generating electronic devices is prohibited in the facility or on the property.

(F) A violation of this policy by any District student or employee shall constitute grounds for appropriate disciplinary action.

TOYS, ELECTRONIC GAMES, AND OTHER VALUABLES

- Students are reminded to leave all toys and electronic games at home.
- We also suggest that valuable jewelry items stay at home. There is no way to secure these or other valuable items against loss or damage. If these items are brought to school, they will be collected by the teacher and sent to the office for a parent to pick up.

VISITORS

We encourage you to participate in your child's education through participation in school day events, however; please assist us by adhering to the following guidelines:

- All visitors, including parents, **must** report in at the **OFFICE ENTRANCE** to check in. A valid driver's license is required for scanning.
- A **VISITOR'S PASS** must be worn at all times during the time you visit our campus.
- Visitors may only go in areas of the building designated at their sign-in/**Visitor's Pass.**
- ALL visitors must check out when leaving campus.
- Please honor the instructional day by refraining from "dropping by" a classroom to visit while you are here on other business. If you need to speak with a teacher, please schedule a time or leave a message for the teacher to call you with the front office staff.
- We welcome parents wishing to observe in their child's classroom. Requests must be made at least 24 hours in advance and the Classroom Visit Request Form must be complete and returned to front office.

VOLUNTEER and MENTOR PROGRAM

- ALL volunteers are required to complete an online Volunteer Application form each year.
- **We ask that you keep in mind young children/siblings may not accompany a parent volunteer to the classroom or on field trips. This rule is a district policy by which we must abide.**
- Please feel free to contact the Volunteer Coordinators, Jennifer Gesch and Rebekah Heye, at 833-4100 if you have questions concerning our Volunteer Program. Consider being a part of this worthwhile program at Plew.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES- including Cell Phones & Tablets

**Updates to Wireless Communications Devices

(A)In accordance with the provisions of Florida law, a student may be in possession of wireless communications devices while he or she is on school property or in attendance at a school function. For the purposes of this policy, wireless communications devices include beepers, electronic telephone pagers, cellular telephones, electronic tablets, e-readers or other similar wireless communications devices.

(B) Any student possessing a wireless communications device while he or she is on school property or in attendance at a school function must ensure that the device must not be visible and **must be turned off** during school hours except as expressly authorized by this policy.

(C) The acceptable use of wireless communications devices by students will be determined by the school principal. If a student obtains prior approval from the school principal or his/her designee, the requirement that wireless communication devices must be powered completely off will not apply when the student is using the wireless communications devices for an educational or instructional purpose with the teacher's permission and supervision.

(D) Students are prohibited from using wireless communications devices to capture, record or transmit the words (i.e. audio) and/or images (i.e., pictures/video) of any student, staff member or other person in the school or while attending a school related activity during the school day, without express prior notice and explicit consent from the school principal or his/her designee for the capture, recording or transmission of such words or images. Using a wireless communications device to take or transmit audio and/or pictures/video of an individual without his/her consent is considered an invasion of privacy and is not permitted.

(E) Students are prohibited from using wireless communications devices in any way that might reasonably create in the mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed or intimidated.

(F) Students are prohibited from using wireless communications devices to capture and/or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using wireless communications devices to receive such information.
(G) No expectation of confidentiality will exist in the use of wireless communications devices on school district property or in attendance at school function.
(H) Any violation of the conditions and requirements of this policy will result in confiscation of the wireless communications device by school officials and may result in other disciplinary actions depending upon severity of the violation and whether or not the violation is of a repeated nature by the same student. The confiscated wireless communications device will be returned to the student at the end of the regular school day after a first violation and in the event of subsequent violations by the same student, the wireless communications device will be returned to the student's parents/guardian only.
(I) Any student who chooses to bring a wireless communications device to school shall do so at his or her own risk. Neither the School Board nor school officials shall be responsible for the loss, damage or theft of wireless communications devices brought onto school property or to school functions.
Statutory Authority: Section 1001.41, Florida Statutes Laws Implemented: Section 1006.07, Florida Statutes Adopted: August 9, 2004 Revised: June 13, 2011

WITHDRAWAL of STUDENTS

If it becomes necessary to withdraw a student from school, the parent is requested to notify the school via a note or a telephone call. **Please notify the office at least one (1) week before the student's withdrawal.** Your child's complete record will be prepared and in most case you will be able to hand carry the student's records. The school will do transfer of records to another school in the county.

OCSD School Calendar

OKALOOSA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Okaloosa County, Florida
2026-2027 School Year Calendar

Pre-School Planning	**Friday - Tuesday**	**August 5 – Aug. 10, 2026**
Professional Development Day	Friday	August 7, 2026
First Day of School for Students	**Tuesday**	**August 11, 2026**
Labor Day Holiday	Monday	September 7, 2026
End: 1st Grading Period	**Friday**	**October 9, 2026**
Teacher Work Day/ Student Holiday	Monday	October 12, 2026
Veterans Day Holiday	**Wednesday**	**November 11, 2026**
Thanksgiving Holidays	Monday-Friday	November 23 - 27, 2026
End of First Semester	**Friday**	**December 18, 2026**
Winter Break Holidays	Monday - Wednesday	December 21 – January 4, 2027
Teacher Work Day/ Student Holiday	**Tuesday**	**January 5, 2027**
Professional Development Day/Student Holiday	Wednesday	January 6, 2027
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday	**Monday**	**January 18, 2027**
President's Day Holiday	Monday	February 15, 2027
End: 3rd Grading Period	**Friday**	**March 12, 2027**
Spring Break Holiday	Monday - Friday	March 15 – 19, 2027
Teacher Work Day/Student Holiday	**Monday**	**March 22, 2027**
End of Semester/Last Day for Students	Thursday	May 27, 2027
Memorial Day Holiday	**Monday**	**May 31, 2027**
Last Day for Teachers	Tuesday	June 1, 2027

2024-2025 Financial Report

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OKALOOSA COUNTY

2024-2025 SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT **PLEW ELEMENTARY (#0571)**

REVENUES	School[1]	%	Okaloosa County School District	%	K-12 Education State of Florida	%
Federal	$ 652,470	9.29%	$ 38,480,579	11.31%	$ 5,215,084,332	14.89%
State/Local (excludes Lottery)	6,255,066	89.09%	301,450,700	88.58%	29,774,485,597	85.02%
Lottery	113,362	1.62%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Private	-	0.00%	378,798	0.11%	29,468,091	0.08%
Total	$ 7,020,898	100.00%	$ 340,310,077	100.00%	$ 35,019,038,020	100.00%

[1]Total school revenues should agree with the total school costs in the subsequent section.

K-12 OPERATING COSTS[2]	Per Full-Time Equivalent Student SCHOOL AVERAGE	DISTRICT AVERAGE[3]	STATE AVERAGE[3]	TOTAL COSTS
Teachers/Teacher Assistants (Salaries/Benefits)	$ 5,379	$ 5,847	$ 6,199	$ 4,110,779
Substitute Teachers (Salaries/Benefits)[4]				
Other Instructional Personnel[5]	630	858	1,531	481,834
Contracted Instructional Services	377	516	484	287,743
School Administration	664	799	785	507,486
Materials/Supplies/Operating Capital Outlay	248	326	349	189,887
Food Service	642	534	752	490,698
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	924	1,109	1,442	706,134
Other School-Level Support Services	322	342	350	246,337
TOTAL SCHOOL COSTS[2]	$ 9,186	$ 10,331	$ 11,892	$ 7,020,898

[2]Capital expenditures for new schools are not included.

[3]Amounts reported for district and state reflect total school costs (direct and school-level indirect costs) for all levels of students, not costs by school type. District-level costs, such as costs for transportation and administration for the School District of Okaloosa County, totaled $12,424,732 or $441 per FTE.

[4]The cost of substitute teachers included in teachers' salaries and benefits and/or school-level support services as below $ 86 $ 110 $ 65,350

[5]Includes some non-personal costs, such as costs for teacher training materials.

K-12 ADDITIONAL DETAILED INFORMATION Teachers/Teachers Aides (Salaries/Benefits):	Per Full-Time Equivalent Student SCHOOL AVERAGE	DISTRICT AVERAGE	STATE AVERAGE	TOTAL COSTS[6]
Basic Programs	$ 4,851	$ 4,853	$ 5,017	$ 2,830,251
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	$ 8,512	$ 9,310	$ 9,916	$ 116,695
Exceptional Programs	$ 6,967	$ 6,655	$ 6,101	$ 1,163,833
Career Education Programs	$ -	$ 4,762	$ 5,085	$ -
Adult Programs[7]	Not FEFP Funded	Not FEFP Funded	Not FEFP Funded	Not FEFP Funded
Materials, Supplies, Operating Capital Outlay[8]:				
Textbooks	$ 91	$ 105	Not Available from State Data Base	$ 69,789
Computer Hardware & Software	$ 94	$ 55	Not Available from State Data Base	$ 71,787
Other Instructional Materials	$ 59	$ 135	Not Available from State Data Base	$ 44,775
Other Materials and Supplies	$ 5	$ 43	Not Available from State Data Base	$ 3,536
Library Media Materials	$ 5	$ 3	Not Available from State Data Base	$ 3,785

[6]The total cost of teachers/teacher assistants by program should agree to teachers/teacher assistants reported in the previous section.

[7]FTE is unavailalbe.

[8]The total cost of materials, supplies, and operating capital outlay should agree to materials, supplies and operating capital outlay reported in the previous section.

Note: This information became available on April 17, 2026, from the Florida Department of Education.