

GRUNDY CO. R-V **ELEMENTARY**

2026-2027

Mrs. Tiffany Otto, Superintendent
Mrs. Jennifer Dyer, Principal

HANDBOOK



GRUNDY R-V MISSION STATEMENT

Grundy R-V is dedicated to preparing all students to be productive members of society, empowered with life-long learning skills.

GRUNDY R-V VISION STATEMENT

The vision of Grundy County R-V is to prepare well rounded motivated leaders who are capable of reaching high standards to become independent members of society.

GRUNDY R-V BELIEFS

- Grundy County R-V believes in preparing students for life beyond high school.
- Grundy County R-V believes in differentiating teaching styles that ensure students are successful.
- Grundy County R-V believes in meeting students where they are and moving them forward.
- Grundy County R-V believes in producing functioning members of society with good work ethic.
- Grundy County R-V believes in creating independent thinkers and problem solvers.
- Grundy County R-V believes in creating a positive learning environment where students, staff, and parents feel safe and welcomed.
- Grundy County R-V believes in building lasting relationships among students and staff.
- Grundy County R-V believes in producing students who are motivated, responsible, and persevering.
- Grundy County R-V believes in students who have effective oral and communication skills.

GRUNDY CO. R-V ELEMENTARY STAFF

Superintendent	Mrs. Tiffany Otto
Principal	Mrs. Jennifer Dyer
Pre-School	Mrs. Tiffany Carver
Kindergarten	Ms. Rianna Patridge
First Grade	Mrs. Bailey Kasinger
Second Grade	Mrs. Emily Daugherty
Third Grade	Mrs. Lindsay Rhoades
Fourth Grade	Mrs. Haley Hanes
Fifth Grade	Mrs. Maggie Roeder
Art	Mrs. Kristi Burkeybile
Counselor	Mrs. Lydia Shiflett
Library	Mrs. Karla Lowrey
Social Worker	Mrs. Stacey Russell
Music	Mrs. Kristi Burkeybile
Special Education	Mrs. Jeni Moore
Speech	Mrs. Nicole Head
Title I/ Reading Recovery	Mrs. Angie McAtee
P.E.	Mr. Ethan Bunnell
Bookkeeper	Ms. Shelly Searcy
Bus Drivers	Mr. Josiah Holloway
	Mr. Bob Shipley
	Mr. Jerry Kiger
	Mr. Eric Moore
Cook	Ms. Cassie Allnutt
	Mrs. Caitlin White
Custodian	Mr. Jared Phillips
Nurse	Mrs. Angela Huffman
Para	Ms. Sarah Schroeder
Para	Mrs. Julie Peto
Secretary	Mrs. Ashley Phillips
Elementary School	660.673.6314 or 660.673.6312
Fax	660.673.6346

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

WELCOME TO THE GRUNDY COUNTY R-V ELEMENTARY!

This handbook has been prepared to help answer questions and to provide students and parents with a better understanding of the rules and procedures of the Grundy County R-V Elementary.

A Title I Parent/School compact will continue this year to ensure our commitment and support between school and home. Please complete the attached form and return to the office.

Please read and discuss this handbook with your child. Please return the last page signed indicating you have seen and discussed this handbook with your child.

We invite all parents to come and visit or call our school anytime. We want to answer your questions and to hear your comments about your child's education. We are working together as a team to ensure learning for all.

We look forward to working with you to make the 2026-2027 school year an enjoyable and educationally profitable one for you and your child. It is my promise to work diligently with all stakeholders to promote a positive learning environment.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Jennifer Dyer
Elementary Principal

"I have learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

- - Maya Angelou

"When purpose and passion line up, you have unbelievable power."

- -Dwight Bain

ALTERNATE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION (AMI)

The Grundy R-V School District has developed an Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Plan approved by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The AMI Plan allows instruction to continue during emergency school closures, such as inclement weather, utility outages, or other circumstances that prevent in-person attendance. The purpose of AMI is to provide continuity of learning while maintaining the safety of students and staff.

Notification of an AMI Day

When an AMI day is implemented, families will be notified through one or more of the district's communication systems, which may include:

- District phone calls or text messages
- Email
- District website
- School social media accounts
- Local media outlets
- Parent communication platforms

The notification will indicate that students should follow the district's AMI procedures rather than report to school.

Student Expectations

On AMI days, students are expected to:

- Participate in learning activities assigned by their teachers.
- Complete and submit assignments by the deadlines established by the teacher or district.
- Participate in virtual instruction or other instructional activities when required.
- Communicate with teachers if assistance is needed.
- Follow all district technology and acceptable use expectations while participating in online learning.

Teacher Responsibilities

During AMI days, teachers will:

- Provide meaningful instructional activities aligned with Missouri Learning Standards.
- Be available during designated hours to answer questions and provide instructional support.
- Communicate assignment expectations and due dates.

- Monitor student participation and provide feedback as appropriate.

Attendance

Attendance on AMI days will be determined in accordance with the district's DESE-approved AMI Plan. Students must actively engage in assigned instructional activities to be counted present. Participation may be documented through completed assignments, electronic submissions, participation in online learning activities, or other methods identified in the district's approved AMI Plan.

Students Receiving Special Services

Students receiving services through an Individualized Education Program (IEP), Section 504 Plan, English Learner services, or other specialized programs will continue to receive services to the extent required by law and consistent with each student's educational plan.

Technology and Learning Materials

The district will make reasonable efforts to provide students with access to instructional materials needed for AMI. Depending on grade level and instructional needs, learning may be provided through:

- District-issued devices
- Online learning platforms
- Printed instructional packets
- Textbooks
- Teacher-created materials
- Other instructional resources

Families experiencing technology or connectivity difficulties should contact the school office as soon as possible so assistance can be provided.

Parent/Guardian Support

Parents and guardians are encouraged to:

- Help establish a quiet learning environment at home.
- Encourage students to complete assignments each AMI day.
- Communicate with teachers regarding questions or concerns.
- Notify the school if circumstances prevent a student from participating in AMI activities.

Additional information regarding the district's complete Alternative Methods of Instruction Plan is available from the school office and on the district website.

ATTENDANCE:

We cannot stress too greatly the importance of your child being in school every day in order to be a successful student. Each day's absence makes it more difficult for the child upon returning to school. The earliest students may arrive to school is 7:35 am. School begins at 7:55 am and ends at 3:38 pm. Buses are loaded by 3:25. If parents desire to pick up their child they may do so after the buses are loaded.

When a student has been absent 7 days in any semester, the principal will report absences to the juvenile authorities (an exception can be made by an administrator in cases of extended illness, a written doctor's excuse, or other unusual circumstances beyond the parent or student's control).

Missouri requires that attendance be recorded by the hour. If your child is tardy or must leave early, you need to stop by the office so that we can record the time of arrival or departure. If a child is being picked up after school they will be released after the buses depart from campus.

Children who ride the bus will not be counted tardy if the bus arrives late.

A student will be allowed 1 day to complete make-up work for each 1 day of absence. If a student knows in advance that she/he will have a test on the day of absence, the teacher may administer the test the day the student returns (the principal in cases of extended illness or hospitalization can make exceptions). Written excuses are required when the child returns to school. Absences will be marked unexcused if the office doesn't receive a phone call or note from parents/guardians.

AUDIO/VISUAL

It is Grundy Co. R-V's policy that movies may be approved for student viewing for educational purposes, used as a culminating activity, or as an incentive. Movies showed in the classroom will be rated "G" or "PG".

BREAKFAST/LUNCH

NO STUDENT MAY CHARGE MORE THAN \$20.

All breakfasts, lunches, and milk are to be paid in advance. When you send money, please send it in a sealed envelope with your child's name and grade on the outside. If you send money for more than one child or more than one meal program, please indicate the amount each child is to receive and to which program it is to be credited-breakfast, lunch or milk.

Applications for free and reduced meals are sent home the first day of school and will be available upon request at the elementary office. To become eligible for free or reduced breakfast/lunch, the applications must be filled out completely and returned to the school office for approval or disapproval. You will receive notification if your application is denied.

Students are not allowed to bring carbonated beverages in their lunches. Drink pouches/boxes containing juice are satisfactory. Students will not be allowed to use the refrigerator or microwave at school for their lunch.

NO FOOD is allowed to be brought to students by parents, friends or relatives from outside restaurants, etc. during lunch time.

Family members may only eat breakfast/lunch with a student if they call the office and prearrange it. When prearranged, the family member and student will eat in a separate, designated area in the office or a classroom.

LUNCH PRICES:

Full Price:	Breakfast \$1.55	Lunch \$3.00
Reduced Price:	Breakfast .30	Lunch .40
Extra Milk:	.50 per carton	

Adult Lunch \$3.20

Adult Breakfast \$1.85

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Caleb Cagle, Brenda Allnutt, Brooke May, Zachariah Kasinger, Mary Lentz, Kaleb Shiflett, Opie Peterson (president)

BUILDING

The Grundy Co. R-V Elementary has classrooms for Pre-school through Fifth Grade. Specialized teachers teach Art, Music, Library, Counseling, and Physical Education. We offer Special Education, Speech Therapy, Language Development, Early Childhood Special Education (through Pleasant View R-VI KEYS program), Parents as Teachers, Title I Communication Arts, and Reading Recovery.

K-3rd grade are self-contained classrooms.

BULLYING

District Commitment

The Grundy R-V School District is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and supportive learning environment where all students are treated with dignity and respect. Bullying, intimidation, hazing, harassment, and retaliation are prohibited on school property, at school-sponsored activities, on district transportation, and through the use of electronic communication when it substantially disrupts the educational environment.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is intentional, unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived imbalance of power and is repeated or has the potential to be repeated. Bullying may be:

- Physical (hitting, kicking, pushing, damaging property)
- Verbal (name-calling, teasing, threats, insults)
- Social or relational (spreading rumors, exclusion, humiliation)
- Electronic (cyberbullying through text messages, email, social media, websites, or other electronic communication)

Reporting Bullying

Students, parents/guardians, employees, volunteers, and community members are encouraged to report suspected bullying as soon as possible.

Reports may be made:

- To a classroom teacher.
- To the school counselor.
- To the building principal or assistant principal.
- To any trusted school employee.
- Through any district reporting procedure established by the school.

Reports may be made verbally or in writing. Anonymous reports will be accepted; however, disciplinary action may not be based solely on an anonymous report.

Students are encouraged to report bullying involving themselves or others, even if they are uncertain whether the behavior meets the definition of bullying.

Bullying can be reported through the online bullying report (located on the school website), through Courage2Report, or in person to school staff.

BUS REGULATIONS

The safety of students during their transportation to and from school and school activities is the responsibility of the parent/guardian, bus driver, and school officials. Students are responsible for all rules of conduct while waiting at a bus stop or riding a school bus, and must board and leave the bus as directed by the driver.

1. All passengers should remain seated and turned around while the bus is in motion.
2. Students should be respectful of the driver and other riders.
3. Nothing should be placed outside the bus windows.
4. Students must refrain from hitting, using profanity, tormenting, teasing and refrain from using inappropriate body gestures.
5. Students are expected to be cooperative and follow directions given by the driver.
6. Students should be on time to meet the bus, as the bus driver must maintain a schedule (no more than a 2 minute wait time is allowed).
7. Students and parents must report bus concerns to the bus driver first when possible.

8. Administration may revoke riding privileges of students who fail to obey rules.
9. Students must comply with the “Safe School’s Act” and all school policies and regulations concerning student conduct.
10. All elementary students will have assigned seats.
11. Students should board and leave the bus as directed by the driver.

CELL PHONES

Student cell phones, digital cameras and similar electronic devices will be banned during the instructional day; they must be off and placed in a back pack. They are not allowed in dressing areas during extracurricular activities. Violation of this policy will result in the following:

1. 1st offense: the item will be confiscated and returned at the end of the school day.
2. 2nd offense: item confiscated and parents will be required to pick the item up in the principal’s office.
3. 3rd offense and subsequent offenses: item confiscated, parent must pick up the item and student will serve one day of in-school suspension. Additional disciplinary measures may be taken if persistent violation of this policy occurs.

****NOTE:** Refer to School Board Policy 2656 for hardship and special exceptions for cell phone use.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

Grundy Co. R-V Elementary will teach Respect and Responsibility Skills to all students PreK-5 to develop good citizenship and social skills. Students and staff will be recognized for emulating these skills.

CHEATING

Cheating is not tolerated. Any student caught cheating on a test and or assignment and any individual assisting a student will receive a zero for that test or assignment. Repeated cheating may result in further discipline including detention and ISS.

CHILD CUSTODY

In most cases when parents are divorced, both parents continue to have equal rights concerning their child(ren). If you have a court order that limits the rights of one parent in matters such as custody or visitation, please bring a copy to the office. Unless your court order is on file with us, we must provide equal rights to both parents. Updated legal documentation must be submitted to the office upon any changes.

DISCIPLINE

The Grundy Elementary discipline program is organized at two levels; the classroom level and the building level. The classroom teacher is expected to maintain classroom discipline, but the assistance of the principal will be utilized when needed.

The following are standards of conduct that all students are expected to adhere to as guidelines for school appropriate behavior:

- Be respectful at all times
- Put forth your best effort on all tasks
- Come to school/class prepared to learn

The following will result in immediate principal intervention:

Fighting, violence of any kind, harassment, extreme disrespect of staff, stealing, destruction of school property, possession of dangerous objects/weapons, vulgar language, possession of tobacco, drugs, or alcohol, or any behavior with malicious intent.

Discipline of students with disabilities - The obligation and the responsibility to attend school regularly and to comply with the district's discipline policies applies to all students. When appropriate, the district may discipline a student with a disability who has not complied with the district's discipline policies in a manner that is consistent with the district's policies and applicable law. Special education services will be provided to a disabled student if the student has been removed for more than 10 school days. If a student with a disability is removed for less than 10 cumulative

days, educational services will be provided only if such services are provided to students without disabilities who have been similarly removed.

Lunch Detention- Students may lose the privilege of eating lunch with their peers if they are having behavior issues in the classroom or in the lunchroom. During lunch detention students will sit quietly (no talking) at the desks in the cafeteria that are seated away from their peers.

Lunch and Learn- Students may lose the privilege of eating lunch with their peers if they do not use instructional time or work time wisely. During lunch and learn, students will sit at the desks either in the cafeteria or by the principal's office to complete any work that was left incomplete because of poor choices.

School Detention - A detention will be held when necessary. Prior to a student's detention the parents will be notified so that the parent can make transportation arrangements. The following rules govern the period:

1. Student is to report to the assigned detention area as designated.
2. NO sleeping.
3. Students will be supervised by an assigned faculty member.
4. Any student who is assigned detention will have two opportunities to fulfill the obligation after which a suspension will be enforced.
5. Student involvement with extra-curricular activities will not be given special consideration.

In School Solutions (ISS)- Students may lose the privilege of the regular school day. Students serving time will be assigned to a specific location within the building (usually in the room next to the principal's office). Leaving this area without permission will result in an out of school suspension. Behavior while serving ISS will be the same as expected for class time. During a portion of ISS students will have a conversation with the principal or guidance counselor about possible alternatives for their undesirable behavior(s). Students are expected to complete their classwork

during this time. If they refuse to complete classwork assigned, it may result in either an extension of their ISS time or OSS.

Out Of School Suspension - Students receiving OSS will receive full credit on all academic work so long as the work is completed upon their day of return.

Comprehensive Discipline Policy - As a result of the Safe Schools Act each school district in the state of Missouri has a board adopted comprehensive discipline policy. These procedures are in place for discipline problems that exceed typical classroom discipline issues. It is the purpose of this code to list certain offenses that will result in the imposition of a specific penalty. **See “SAFE SCHOOL ACT”.

DRESS CODE

Applies to classrooms and all school activities.

1. The district encourages appropriate hygiene for student health and safety. School staff may contact parents/guardians when hygiene concerns significantly interfere with the learning environment or student well-being.
2. Garments
 - Clothing must cover at least $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the thigh or reach the tip of the student’s middle finger when his/her arms are placed to their side.
 - Clothing shall have no holes in them above the approved length on shorts.
 - No excessively baggy or oversized clothing.
3. No tight or revealing apparel.
 - No low-cut front, back, or cut-in sleeves, or spaghetti straps.
 - No short, midriff tops or midriff cutout shirts.
 - No clothing that has visibility of undergarments.
4. No Alcohol, drugs, tobacco, vulgar language, nor sexual innuendos on garments.
5. No Hats and sunglasses are to be worn in the building.
6. High heels, platform shoes, and clogs are not allowed due to safety precautions, (except at programs, picture day, etc.).

7. No Pajamas or slippers (except on special dress up days).

If student dress violates the above dress code they will be asked to change into an alternate outfit (if they or the office has one available). If there is not other outfit at school, the parents/guardians will be contacted to bring a change of clothes to school.

DRUGS OR ALCOHOL

Students are forbidden to attend school or any school activity under the influence of alcohol or other controlled substances. Should a student be found under the influence of a drug or alcohol, the following consequences will be initiated:

1st Offense: Following an informal hearing with the student, an out-of school suspension will be issued if warranted, for a period of at least 3 school days.

2nd Offense: Following an informal hearing with the student, an out of school suspension of at least 10 days will be issued if warranted, followed by an informal hearing with the Board of Education, to recommend terms of possible exclusion from school.

The use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful. Local Law Officials will be contacted.

Should a student be found in possession of alcohol, drugs, or drug paraphernalia, the following consequences will be initiated:

1st Offense:

- a. Attempts to notify parents will be made.
- b. An informal hearing with student will be held and if warranted, at least a 3 day out-of-school suspension will be issued.
- c. Local law enforcement officials may be contacted to report the incident and to turn over any confiscated alcohol or drugs.

2nd Offense:

- a. An informal hearing with student will be held and if warranted, at least a 10 day out-of-school suspension will be issued.

- b. Local law enforcement officials may be contacted to report the incident and to turn over any confiscated alcohol or drugs.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Radio station KTTN (92.3 FM), the Grundy R-app, School Facebook page, and School text, will carry news of the closing of Grundy Co. R-V schools in the event of severe weather conditions. If your elementary child must go somewhere other than home or the babysitter when school is dismissed early, please notify us by sending a note or calling the Elementary at 673.6314 or 673.6312.

EMERGENCIES/ILLNESS

Please keep the elementary office staff informed of any changes in telephone numbers or changes regarding the person we should contact in case of an emergency.

If for some reason your child is not able to go with a certain person, please send us a letter stating the name of the person that may not pick up your child.

FIELD TRIPS

If a student owes money for meals, books, or other fees, they will not be allowed to go on any field trip until the account is paid in full. Students are expected to ride the bus to and from a field trip with the exception of special circumstances, which must have prior approval from the elementary principal. Electronic devices are prohibited unless notified by teacher of new directions.

Field Trip Attendance Eligibility

Field trips are considered an extension of the educational program and are a privilege earned through responsible attendance, behavior, and academic participation.

To be eligible to participate in school-sponsored field trips, students must maintain a minimum attendance rate of 90% at the time eligibility is determined.

Students whose attendance falls below 90% will not be eligible to participate in school field trips.

Attendance Appeals

The District recognizes that some absences are beyond a family's control. A parent/guardian may submit a written appeal to the building principal if the student's attendance falls below 90% due to extenuating circumstances, including but not limited to:

- * Documented long-term illness or hospitalization
- * Verified medical appointments or ongoing medical treatment
- * Other extraordinary circumstances approved by the administration

Supporting documentation, such as physician's notes or other appropriate records, must be submitted with the appeal. The building principal or designee will review each appeal on an individual basis and determine whether an exception will be granted. The principal's decision is final.

Meeting the attendance requirement does not guarantee participation in a field trip. Students must also meet all other eligibility requirements established by the school, including behavior, academic expectations, and any additional requirements communicated for a specific field trip.

GRADING SCALE

A: 95-100	A-: 90-94	B+: 87-89	B: 83-86
B-: 80-82	C+: 77-79	C: 73-76	C-: 70-72
D+:67-69	D: 63-66	D-: 60-62	F: 59 and below

Regular progress reports will be sent home by the classroom teacher. Students in Special Education be will graded commensurate with their Individual Education Plan (IEP) as recommended by the Special Education Department.

GUIDANCE PROGRAM

Grundy Co. R-V students in grades PreK-5 are provided access to individual, small group, and large group counseling and assistance. This is done through our school counselor and school social worker.

GYM/PLAYGROUND RULES

1. Students will not play on the bleachers or stage.
2. Students will not jump off the stage or bleachers. Students will use the stairs.
3. Students will not hang or swing from the basketball goals, or metal railings.
4. Students will not kick other people, the walls, or ceiling.
5. Only one student is to retrieve a ball from the stage or bleachers.
6. Ropes are to be used for jumping only. Students will not wrap or tie them around anyone.
7. The playground balls belong to the school and must be shared.
8. Students are not allowed to go behind the gym mats.
9. Students will line up quickly, quietly, and orderly when recess is over.
10. Students are not to attempt to do somersaults or cartwheels, without permission.
11. Students will not go out into the road, into the parking lot, or up on the roof. If a ball or toy goes into one of these areas, the students are to tell the teacher on duty.
12. Students will not leave the playground without permission from the staff member on duty.
13. Students will not play tackle football, engage in horseplay, or wrestle.
14. Students will not throw rock, snowballs, sticks, dirt, grass, etc.
15. Students will sit down and face forward on slides and swings.
16. Students will not climb the poles of the slides, swings, or basketball goals.
17. Students will not stand or play near the swings or at the bottom of the slides.

18. Students will not sit or play on top of the ladders.
19. The students will tell the staff member on duty immediately if someone is hurt.

All play activities are meant to be safe and cooperative. The teacher on duty will handle all discipline and decide if an offense warrants referral to the office/principal. The severity of the rule(s) violation will determine whether minor or severe consequences will apply.

GENERAL EXCLUSION GUIDELINES FOR ILL CHILDREN

Certain symptoms in children may suggest the presence of a communicable disease. Excluding an ill child may decrease the spread of the disease to others in the childcare and school settings. Recommended exclusion varies by the disease or infectious agent. Children with the symptoms listed below should be excluded from school setting until symptoms improve or a healthcare provider has determined that the child can return or children can participate in routine activities without more staff supervision than can be provided.

Exclude children with any of the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Illness | Unable to participate in routine activities or needs more care than can be provided by the childcare/school staff. |
| Fever | 100.0* or more, may return when they have been <u>fever free for 24 hours</u> without the use of any fever reliever. |
| Signs/Symptoms of Possible Severe Illness | Until a healthcare provider has done an evaluation to rule out severe illness when the child is unusually tired, has uncontrolled coughing, unexplained irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, wheezing, or other unusual signs for the child. |
| Diarrhea | Until the child has been <u>free of diarrhea for at least 24 hours</u> or until a medical exam indicates that it is not due to a communicable disease. Diarrhea is defined as an increased number of stools compared with a child's normal pattern, along with decreased stool form and/or stools that are watery, bloody, or contain mucus. |

Vomiting Vomiting in the previous 24 hours, unless determined to be caused by a non-communicable condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration. The child must be **24 hours free of vomiting** to return to school.

Mouth Sores with Drooling

Until a medical exam indicates the child may return or until sores have healed.

Rash with Fever or Behavior Change

Until a medical exam indicates these symptoms are not those of a communicable disease that requires exclusion.

Eye Drainage

When purulent (pus) drainage and/or fever or eye pain is present or a medical exam indicates that a child may return.

For more information, call Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS) at 573.751.6113 or 866.628.9891 (8-5 Monday thru Friday) or call your local health department.

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN DEALING WITH HEAD LICE-

- Symptomatic students will be checked.
- Routine head checks of healthy students are not conducted.
- Students will not be excluded from school when nits are present.
- Students with live lice: Parents will be notified that day and will be sent home for treatment.
- Students are to be treated at home before returning to school.
- Students with head lice will be handled on case by case basis. Mrs. Huffman will work directly with the parent to provide education on how to treat and eliminate head lice.

HARRASSMENT

A person commits the crime of harassment if he or she:

1. Knowingly communicates a threat to commit any felony to another person and in so doing frightens, intimidates, or causes emotional distress to such other person; or

2. When communicating with another person, knowingly uses coarse language offensive to one of average sensibility and thereby puts such person in reasonable apprehension of offensive physical contact or harm; or
3. Knowingly frightens, intimidates, or causes emotional distress to another person by anonymously making a telephone call or any electronic communication; or
4. Knowingly communicates with another person who is, or who purports to be, seventeen years of age or younger and in so doing and without good cause recklessly frightens, intimidates, or causes emotional distress to such other person; or
5. Knowingly makes repeated unwanted communication to another person; or
6. Without good cause engages in any other act with the purpose to frighten, intimidate, or cause emotional distress to another person, cause such person to be frightened, intimidated, or emotionally distressed, and such person's response to the act is one of a person of average sensibilities considering the age of such person.

Harassment is a Class A misdemeanor unless:

1. Committed by a person twenty-one years of age or older against a person seventeen years of age or younger; or
2. The person has previously pleaded guilty to or been found guilty of a violation of this section, or of any offense committed in violation of any county or municipal ordinance in any state, any state law, any federal law, or any military law which, if committed in this state, would be chargeable or indictable as a violation of any offense listed in this subsection.

In such cases, harassment shall be a class D felony.

3. This section shall not apply to activities of federal, state, county, or municipal law enforcement officers conducting investigations of violation of federal, state, county, or municipal law.

HEALTH

If your child has a special health problem such as asthma, allergies, vision, hearing, etc., please let us know.

Basic Health screenings (height, weight, blood pressure, dental, visual acuity and hearing) will be conducted annually. If you do not want your

child to participate in these screenings, please notify the school nurse before school starts. If a screening indicates further evaluation is needed, a letter of referral will be mailed to you indicating that further evaluation is recommended (such as an optometrist consult, etc.). If questions or concerns arise during the year regarding your child's health please don't hesitate to contact the school to speak with the nurse.

MEDICATION AUTHORIZATION PROCEDURES

The Grundy R-V School District recognizes that some students may require medication during the school day in order to attend school and participate fully in educational programs. The district will administer medications in accordance with Missouri law, Board policy, and established health services procedures.

General Requirements:

Whenever possible, medication should be administered at home. When medication must be given during school hours, the following requirements apply:

- A completed district Medication Authorization Form must be submitted before medication will be administered.
- Prescription medications require written authorization from the student's licensed health care provider and written permission from the parent or guardian.
- Over-the-counter (nonprescription) medications must be accompanied by written parent or guardian authorization and any additional documentation required by district policy.
- Medication must be delivered to the school by a parent, guardian, or another responsible adult designated by the parent or guardian unless otherwise permitted by law.

Medication Containers:

All medications must be provided in the original container.

- Prescription medications must be in the original pharmacy-labeled container showing:
 - Student's name
 - Medication name

- Dosage
 - Directions for administration
 - Prescribing health care provider
 - Pharmacy name and prescription number
- Over-the-counter medications must be in the original manufacturer's container with the label intact.

The district reserves the right to refuse medication that is improperly labeled, expired, damaged, or does not meet district requirements.

Administration of Medication:

Medication will be administered by the school nurse or by trained school personnel delegated and supervised in accordance with Missouri law and district procedures.

A written record will be maintained documenting each medication administered during the school day.

HEALTH WELLNESS POLICY

The Grundy Co. R-V School District has a Board approved Health and Wellness Policy established for our students and staff which thoroughly outlines health and wellness activities and guidelines. Due to our Health & Wellness Policy no out of school candy sales will be permitted to take place in school.

HOMEWORK

Each child is responsible for completing and returning homework assignments, including make-up work from absences. Notes are sent home and procedures are explained at the beginning of the year for homework due dates and credits in various grades. Teachers want to work with parents to assure that all children complete their assignments in a timely manner. Points will be deducted for late work per each class's guidelines. Students who are continually behind or need supplemental instruction will utilize additional study times provided by the classroom teacher.

HONOR ROLL

The following requirements must be met to be eligible for Honor Roll:

1. Grades in Reading, Mathematics, English, Science, Spelling, and Social Studies must be a C or better.
2. These grades must average at least 3.00, no C-.
3. 3.00-3.66 for the Honor Roll and 3.67-4.00 for the Principal's Honor Roll. Citizenship awards may be earned for grades K, 1, and 2.

Honor Roll: Grades must be a "C" or better in all core classes per quarter. Grades must average at least a 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale system) for honor roll; and a 3.67 or better for an "A" honor roll. No C-'s are permitted. The following method will be used in determining honor roll:

A: 4.00	A-: 3.67	B+: 3.33	B: 3.00
B-: 2.67	C+: 2.33	C: 2.00	C-: 1.67
D+: 1.33	D: 1.00	D-: .67	F: .00

Computations will be rounded off for Honor Roll to the hundredth place.

4th-5th GRADE SPORTS ELIGIBILITY

Students must have no failing grades in any class to be eligible for spring basketball and cheerleading. Students must have a current physical and proof of insurance on file with the school to be eligible to participate. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner.

INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY

The Grundy R-V School District provides students with access to technology resources, including computers, tablets, software, networks, email, Internet access, and other digital learning tools, to enhance teaching, learning, communication, creativity, and research. Use of district technology is a privilege, not a right, and all users are expected to use these resources responsibly, safely, legally, and ethically.

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to:

- Use technology for educational purposes as directed by school staff.
- Follow all teacher and staff instructions regarding technology use.
- Use respectful and appropriate language in all digital communications.
- Protect usernames, passwords, and other login credentials.
- Report damaged equipment, security concerns, or inappropriate online content to a staff member immediately.
- Care for district-owned devices and return them in good condition.

Prohibited Uses

Students shall not:

- Access, create, view, transmit, or possess inappropriate, obscene, or offensive material.
- Use district technology to bully, harass, intimidate, threaten, or discriminate against others.
- Access another person's account or use another person's password.
- Download or install software, applications, browser extensions, or files without district authorization.
- Attempt to bypass Internet filters, firewalls, or other security measures.
- Damage, vandalize, or intentionally misuse district technology equipment.
- Engage in hacking, spreading malware, or attempting to disrupt district computer systems or networks.
- Use district technology for commercial purposes, political campaigning, gambling, or illegal activities.
- Record, photograph, or distribute images, videos, or audio of others without permission when prohibited by school rules.

Internet Safety

The district uses Internet filtering and monitoring systems designed to protect students from inappropriate online content in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). While the district makes every reasonable effort to provide a safe online environment, no filtering system can block all inappropriate material. Students are expected to use good judgment and immediately report any inappropriate content they encounter.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Students may use district-approved artificial intelligence (AI) tools only when permitted by the teacher and only for educational purposes. AI may be

used to support learning but may not be used to complete assignments dishonestly or to represent AI-generated work as the student's own. Teachers may establish additional classroom expectations regarding AI use.

Privacy

Students should have no expectation of privacy when using district-owned devices, district accounts, district networks, or district Internet services. The district reserves the right to monitor, inspect, access, and review files, communications, browsing history, and other electronic records created, stored, or transmitted using district technology as permitted by law and district policy.

Care of District Devices

Students are responsible for exercising reasonable care when using district-owned technology. Students should:

- Keep devices clean and free from food and liquids.
- Transport devices carefully.
- Charge devices as instructed.
- Report lost, stolen, or damaged devices immediately.

Families may be responsible for costs associated with intentional damage, vandalism, loss due to negligence, or failure to return district property, as permitted by district policy.

Personal Devices

The use of personally owned electronic devices at school is subject to district policy and school rules. Students may use personal devices only with staff permission and only for educational purposes unless otherwise authorized by the building principal.

Consequences for Misuse

Violations of this policy may result in one or more of the following:

- Temporary or permanent loss of technology privileges.
- Classroom or school disciplinary action.
- Restitution for damaged or lost equipment.
- Parent/guardian notification.
- Suspension or expulsion when warranted by district policy.
- Referral to law enforcement when required by law.

Parent/Guardian Support

Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss responsible digital citizenship, Internet safety, cyberbullying prevention, appropriate social media use, and online privacy with their children. The district values a partnership with families to promote safe and responsible technology use. Use of district technology indicates the student's agreement to comply with this policy and all applicable Board policies, administrative procedures, and school rules governing technology use.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled after 1st quarter. Parents are urged to come in and conference with teachers regarding their child's progress in class. Conferences may be scheduled at other times at the request of parents, teachers, or administrators. Grade cards may be held a week following the scheduled day of conferences in order to allow time to reschedule missed appointments.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

We realize the valuable role that parents and grandparents play in their child's intellectual, emotional, physical, and social growth. We will offer many opportunities for involvement throughout the year and welcome volunteer assistance from patrons from the district who have met with and reviewed our Volunteer Guidelines with district administration.

READING SUCCESS PLANS

All students will be screened for their reading skills in 5 areas: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Students will be screened using the i-Ready assessment. Based on this assessment students will be identified as "at-risk". Students that are identified as "at-risk" will be given a Reading Success Plan.

A Reading Success plan will focus on improving reading skills in the 5 areas listed above. Students will be given targeted instruction in reading. The plan will consist of 3 specific reading goals that will be progress monitored

throughout the year. Parents will receive a copy of the Reading Success Plan as well as progress reports throughout the year.

RECESS

Recess is an important part of the school day. Students need fresh air whenever possible. It is important that students come prepared for the weather. Recess will be conducted outside as long as temperatures are above 32 degrees and the “feels like” temperature is above 25 degrees. Please make sure to send your child with an appropriate coat and hat/gloves if necessary.

RETENTION

The Grundy Co. R-V Board of Education, Administration, and Faculty subscribe to the philosophy that promotions from grade level within the primary grades shall be based upon consideration given to fulfilling the educational needs of each individual child to the highest possible degree. By placing the child in the best educational environment to fulfill these needs, the Board of Education, Administration, and Faculty are promoting optimum intellectual, emotional, physical, and social growth. Parental input concerning retention will be given full consideration by the committee, however, should the child fail to progress at a rate he/she can achieve the K-5th grade level skills at 70% efficiency, that child will be recommended for retention. The final decision will be made by the teacher and administration to best meet the needs of the individual child. Parents will be involved and contacted according.

“Via Board Policy and regulations. In addition, mandatory retention due to a child’s reading level for grades third and fourth will follow the District’s Policy.” Refer to Grundy Co. R-V’s Student Academic Achievement for Promotion & Retention (Policy and Regulation 2520).

SAFE SCHOOL ACT SUMMARY

The Safe Schools Act is now law. Following is a summary of the act, provided to help students and parents understand the main features of the

law now in place and the possible consequences should these laws be violated.

1. Weapons are forbidden on school grounds. One year suspension or expulsion required by this law. Weapons include all guns including BB guns or pellet guns, sling shots or knives. With blades 4 inches or longer and a list of others to items considered to be weapons. Weapons in vehicles violate this law whether loaded or unloaded parked on school grounds.
2. Administrators must report acts of violence to staff directly involved with the students committing the violent act.
3. Administrators must report felonies to the local law enforcement officials. These felonies include; murder, kidnapping, assault in any degree, rape, sodomy, burglary, robbery, distribution of drugs, arson, manslaughter, sexual assault, restraint, property damage in the first degree, and possession of a weapon. Please note that third degree assault is included in this reporting. Third degree assault in any unwanted contact a person may have with another. Threats that cause fear is considered a third degree assault offense.
4. School officials face class D misdemeanor charges for failing to report these incidents.
5. Schools must make serious offenses part of a student's permanent record.
6. Students who represent a harm to themselves or other students according to findings and records of the principal may be immediately removed from the school.
7. Parents moving into a new district will be required to prove their residency in the district.
8. Students transferring into a district may not be admitted if in the opinion of the administration, according to records, the student is a danger to themselves or other students.
9. Waivers may be requested by parents moving into a district to prove residency.
10. Alternative schools may be set up by districts to house and educate disruptive students.

SAFETY MEASURES

Our building has two safety mirrors to provide visual access of those entering the building. A door bell and camera are located at the east entrance. In order to gain entrance into the building, visitors must press the

buzzer at the east entrance, and authorization to enter will be determined by administrative or office personnel.

All doors are locked to ensure student and staff safety. All parents/guardians are to enter the building by using the east door. Students are to be dropped off and picked up at the east door (except preschool), except on tutoring and sports activities nights where they are signed out and picked up at the west door.

Emergency drills are practiced routinely in preparation in case an actual crisis would ever occur. If an evacuation is warranted then students and staff will report to an alternative site and wait for further instructions.

Students are never to allow anyone in the building other than employees. We need all parents/guardians support and ask that everyone speak with their child(ren) about following this safety procedure.

SCHOOL FIGHT SONG

Fight for the fame of Grundy R-V, now and forever; don't let her die. To our spirits we are bright; fight for the colors, black and white. Teamwork's the password to every game. Fight fair and square; honor its name. Grundy R-V depends on you so onward to victory. Rah! Rah! Rah!

Mascot- -Panther

Colors- -Black and White

SCHOOL PROPERTY

Parents will be expected to pay for the replacement or repair of lost/damaged books or school property. The replacement cost will be based upon current catalog prices plus shipping and labor when applicable.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The Grundy R-V School District is committed to maintaining a safe, orderly, and secure learning environment. To help protect the health, safety, and welfare of students and staff, school officials may conduct searches of

students and school property in accordance with federal and state law and Board policy.

Student Searches

School administrators or their designees may search a student's person, personal belongings, or property assigned to the student when there is reasonable suspicion that the search will reveal evidence of a violation of school rules, Board policy, or the law.

Searches will:

- Be based on reasonable suspicion.
- Be reasonable in scope and related to the purpose of the search.
- Be conducted in a manner that is appropriate for the student's age, gender, and the nature of the suspected violation.
- Be conducted with respect for the student's privacy and dignity whenever possible.

Whenever practical, searches of a student's person will be conducted by a school administrator of the same sex as the student and in the presence of another adult employee.

School Property

Lockers, desks, textbooks, technology devices, and other school property assigned to students remain the property of the district. Students should not expect privacy in school-owned property.

The district reserves the right to inspect or search school property at any time, with or without prior notice, to protect the safety and security of the school or to investigate violations of school rules or the law.

Vehicles

Vehicles parked on school property may be subject to search when school officials have reasonable suspicion that the vehicle contains evidence of a violation of school rules, Board policy, or the law.

Use of Detection Dogs

The district may utilize trained detection dogs to inspect school property, lockers, vehicles, and other areas under district control for the presence of illegal drugs, weapons, explosives, or other prohibited items, in accordance with Board policy and applicable law.

Confiscation of Prohibited Items

School officials may confiscate items that are illegal, dangerous, disruptive to the educational environment, or otherwise prohibited by Board policy or the Student Handbook. Confiscated items may be turned over to law enforcement when appropriate.

Law Enforcement

School officials may request the assistance of law enforcement when necessary to protect students, staff, or school property or when required by law. Law enforcement officers conducting searches on school property will do so in accordance with applicable law.

Prohibited Searches

The district prohibits unreasonable or excessively intrusive searches. Strip searches shall not be conducted by school personnel except as authorized by law and under extraordinary circumstances involving law enforcement. Questions regarding student searches or seizures may be directed to the building principal or superintendent. A copy of the district's complete Search and Seizure Board Policy is available in the district administrative office and on the district's website.

SMOKE FREE CAMPUS

Grundy Co. R-V is a smoke free campus.

TITLE I SERVICES

The Grundy R-V Elementary School is a Title I school. We provide Title I services in CA as needed for all students in the building. This is done through push-in or pull-out (small group or one on one).

TOYS/OUTSIDE ITEMS

In the interest of safety and good study habits, children are not to bring knives, toy guns, bullets, water guns, radios, CD/MP3 players, toys, cell phones, electronic devices, or related products to school.

Students will be allowed to bring an outside water bottle to keep in the classroom during the day. The water bottle must be CLEAR and can only have water in it. Students will be responsible for taking it home to clean periodically.

Any item turned into the principal will not be returned unless the parent/guardian comes by the office or asks in writing for their return.

Each student is responsible for his/her own possessions.

TUITION

Out of the district tuition is set at the SAT (State Adequacy Target) or \$6,760.00.

VISITORS

GRUNDY CO. R-V PRACTICES A NON-VISITATION POLICY.

Students are not allowed to invite visitors to the school during the school day with the exception of parents, guardians, or grandparents. Parents desiring to observe or be with their child in a classroom need to call and make arrangements with the principal ahead of time. Frequency and lengths of visits will be at the principal's discretion in order to keep distractions and interruptions at a minimal.

Walk-in visitors must report to the office upon arrival. Walk-in visitors will not be permitted to interrupt students or teachers during class time.

WEAPONS

Any weapons on school grounds are prohibited and/or accessories.

ADDITIONAL DISTRICT POLICIES

Non-discrimination Statement

Grundy County R-V School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, nation origin, ancestry, disability, age, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law in its programs, activities, or employment practices.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Jennifer Dyer TitleIX/Section 504 Coordinator

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

The Grundy R-V School District is committed to ensuring that all children and youth experiencing homelessness have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to all students. In accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, students experiencing homelessness have the right to enroll in school immediately, even if they are unable to provide records normally required for enrollment, such as proof of residency, immunization records, birth certificates, school records, or other documentation.

A student may qualify for services under the McKinney-Vento Act if they lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This may include children and youth who:

- Live in shelters or transitional housing.
- Live in motels, hotels, campgrounds, or other temporary accommodations due to the lack of adequate housing.
- Share the housing of others because of loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.
- Live in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, or other places not designed for regular sleeping accommodations.
- Are migratory children living in any of the circumstances described above.

Eligible students have the right to:

- Immediate enrollment in school, even if required enrollment documents are unavailable.
- Attend either their school of origin or the local attendance-area school, whichever is determined to be in the student's best interest.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, when appropriate.
- Participate fully in all academic programs, extracurricular activities, and school services for which they are eligible.
- Receive free school meals if eligible under federal guidelines.
- Receive assistance with resolving enrollment disputes.

Parents, guardians, or unaccompanied youth who believe they may qualify for services under the McKinney-Vento Act are encouraged to contact the district's McKinney-Vento Liaison for assistance.

District McKinney-Vento Liaison:

Name: Lydia Shiflett

Title: School Counselor

Phone: 660-673-6511

Additional information regarding the educational rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness is available through the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the U.S. Department of Education.

Students in Foster Care (Every Student Succeeds Act – ESSA)

The Grundy R-V School District is committed to providing educational stability and support for students placed in foster care in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and applicable Missouri law.

Students in foster care have the right to remain in their school of origin when it is determined to be in their best educational interest. The district will collaborate with the Missouri Children's Division, foster parents, biological parents or legal guardians (when appropriate), and other child welfare agencies to make school placement decisions that prioritize the student's educational stability and success.

The district will:

- Work with child welfare agencies to ensure timely enrollment and educational stability for students entering foster care or changing foster care placements.

- Enroll students immediately when a change in school placement is determined to be in the student's best interest, even if educational records are not immediately available.
- Assist with the prompt transfer of educational records when students change schools.
- Collaborate with the Children's Division to arrange transportation to the school of origin when required.
- Ensure students in foster care have equal access to academic programs, special education services, gifted education, extracurricular activities, career and technical education, school nutrition programs, counseling services, and all other educational opportunities available to other students.
- Protect the privacy and confidentiality of student records as required by law.

The district has designated a Foster Care Point of Contact to coordinate services for students in foster care and to work with child welfare agencies to support educational stability.

District Foster Care Point of Contact:

Name: Lydia Shiflett

Title: School Counselor

Phone: 660-673-6511

Questions regarding the educational rights of students in foster care may also be directed to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) or the Missouri Children's Division.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records and provides parents and eligible students with certain rights regarding those records. An "eligible student" is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a postsecondary institution.

Parents and eligible students have the right to:

- Inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of submitting a written request to the school district.

- Request the amendment of education records they believe are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights.
- Provide written consent before the district discloses personally identifiable information from a student's education records, except as authorized by law.
- File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning an alleged failure by the district to comply with FERPA requirements.

The district may disclose education records without prior written consent when permitted by FERPA, including, but not limited to:

- To school officials with legitimate educational interests.
- To another school or school district where the student seeks or intends to enroll or transfer.
- As required by law or court order.
- In connection with health or safety emergencies.
- To authorized governmental agencies as permitted by federal or state law.

The district also designates certain information as **directory information**, which may be released without prior written consent unless a parent or eligible student notifies the district in writing that such information should not be disclosed. Directory information may include:

- Student name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Grade level
- Dates of attendance
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of athletic team members
- Honors, awards, and degrees received
- The most recent school previously attended

Parents or eligible students who do not want directory information released must submit a written request to the Superintendent's Office within **10 school days of enrollment or the beginning of each school year**. Requests remain in effect until revoked in writing or as otherwise provided by district policy.

Requests to inspect or amend education records should be directed to: Tiffany Otto, Superintendent or Jennifer Dyer, Elementary Principal.

Additional information regarding FERPA is available from the U.S. Department of Education and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Restraint and Seclusion

The Grundy R-V School District is committed to maintaining a safe and supportive learning environment for all students. The district emphasizes the use of positive behavioral supports, de-escalation techniques, conflict resolution, and other preventative interventions to address student behavior whenever possible.

In accordance with Missouri law and Board policy, physical restraint or seclusion may be used **only as a last resort** in an emergency situation when a student's behavior poses an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and less restrictive interventions have been determined to be ineffective or are not feasible.

The district will not use restraint or seclusion:

- As a form of discipline or punishment.
- For staff convenience.
- As retaliation or coercion.
- As a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral supports.

When restraint or seclusion is necessary:

- The intervention will end immediately when the emergency no longer exists.
- The student's health, safety, and well-being will be continuously monitored.
- Only personnel who have received the required training may implement restraint or seclusion, except in unforeseen emergency situations where immediate action is necessary to protect individuals from harm.
- Parents or guardians will be notified as soon as practical following the incident in accordance with Missouri law and district procedures.
- A written incident report will be completed and provided to the parent or guardian within the timeframe required by law.
- The district will maintain required documentation and report incidents to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) as required by law.

The district prohibits restraint techniques that interfere with a student's breathing, obstruct the airway or vision, intentionally inflict pain, or

otherwise create an unreasonable risk of injury. Chemical restraint and other prohibited restraint techniques shall not be used except as authorized by law. Questions regarding the district's restraint and seclusion procedures may be directed to the building principal or superintendent. A copy of the district's complete Board policy and administrative procedures regarding restraint and seclusion is available upon request and on the district's website.

Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

The safety and well-being of every student is a priority of the Grundy R-V School District. Missouri law requires all school employees and certain other professionals to report suspected child abuse or neglect when they have reasonable cause to believe that a child may be a victim of abuse or neglect. School employees are **mandated reporters** and are required by law to make reports directly to the Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline. Reports are made in accordance with Missouri law and district policy. School employees are not required to obtain permission from a parent, guardian, or supervisor before making a report.

Students who believe they are being abused or neglected, or who are concerned that another child may be experiencing abuse or neglect, are encouraged to immediately tell a trusted adult, such as:

- A teacher
- A school counselor
- The school nurse
- The building principal or assistant principal
- Any other school employee

The district will cooperate with law enforcement, the Missouri Children's Division, and other authorized agencies during investigations as required by law.

The district respects the privacy of students and families. Information related to child abuse or neglect reports will be treated as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline

Reports of suspected child abuse or neglect may also be made directly to the Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline:

Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline

1-800-392-3738

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may use the Relay Missouri service by dialing **711**.

Additional information about reporting child abuse or neglect is available through the Missouri Department of Social Services, Children's Division. Questions regarding this policy may be directed to the building principal or superintendent.

Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Trauma-Informed Schools District Commitment

The Grundy R-V School District is committed to supporting the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral well-being of every student. The district recognizes that mental health is an important component of student success and is committed to providing a safe, caring, and supportive learning environment.

The district implements suicide awareness and prevention practices and utilizes trauma-informed approaches to help identify and respond to students who may be experiencing emotional distress, trauma, or other mental health concerns.

Suicide Awareness and Prevention

In accordance with Missouri law, the district provides age-appropriate suicide awareness and prevention education for students and training for staff as required by law.

Students are encouraged to seek help immediately if they are:

- Feeling hopeless, overwhelmed, or thinking about harming themselves.
- Concerned that a friend or classmate may be at risk of self-harm or suicide.
- Experiencing a mental health crisis or emotional distress.

Students should immediately notify a trusted adult, such as:

- A parent or guardian
- A teacher
- A school counselor
- The school nurse
- The building principal
- Any school employee

All reports of students who may be at risk for suicide will be taken seriously. The district will respond promptly, notify parents or guardians when appropriate, and connect students with available resources while following applicable laws regarding confidentiality and student privacy.

Trauma-Informed Schools

The district recognizes that some students may have experienced adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), trauma, loss, abuse, neglect, violence, or other significant life events that may affect learning, behavior, and relationships.

District staff utilize trauma-informed practices designed to:

- Foster safe, welcoming, and supportive learning environments.
- Build positive relationships with students and families.
- Promote social-emotional learning and resilience.
- Respond to student behavior with appropriate interventions whenever possible.
- Connect students and families with school and community resources when additional support is needed.

The district encourages parents and guardians to communicate with school personnel regarding significant life events or circumstances that may affect a student's educational experience so appropriate support may be provided.

Mental Health Resources

Students and families needing immediate assistance should contact the school counselor, principal, or another trusted school employee.

If a student is experiencing a mental health emergency or is at immediate risk of self-harm, call **911** or contact the **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** by calling or texting **988**, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Additional information regarding suicide prevention and youth mental health is available through the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the Missouri Department of Mental Health, and local mental health providers.

Questions regarding the district's suicide prevention or trauma-informed practices may be directed to the building principal or superintendent.

School Safety and Threat Reporting (Courage2Report Missouri) **District Commitment to School Safety**

The Grundy R-V School District is committed to providing a safe, secure, and supportive learning environment for all students, staff, and visitors. School safety is a shared responsibility, and students, families, employees, and community members are encouraged to report any safety concern that may threaten the well-being of others.

Students are encouraged to "**See Something, Say Something.**" Reporting concerns early allows the district to provide assistance, prevent potential harm, and maintain a safe school environment.

What Should Be Reported

Students, parents/guardians, and community members should report concerns including, but not limited to:

- Threats of violence or harm toward oneself or others.
- Possession of weapons or dangerous items at school.
- Bullying, harassment, intimidation, or cyberbullying.
- Suspected child abuse or neglect.
- Suicidal statements or behaviors.
- Self-harm concerns.
- Drug or alcohol activity on school property.
- Vandalism or other criminal activity.
- Any behavior that causes concern for the safety of students, staff, or the school community.

How to Report Concerns

Safety concerns may be reported immediately to:

- A teacher or other school employee.
- The school counselor.
- The building principal or assistant principal.
- The superintendent.
- A School Resource Officer (if applicable).
- Local law enforcement in an emergency.

Individuals may also report concerns through **Courage2Report Missouri**, the state's anonymous school safety reporting program.

Courage2Report Missouri

- Website: www.courage2reportmo.com
- Mobile App: **Courage2ReportMO**
- Telephone Hotline: **866-748-7047**

Reports may be made anonymously. While anonymous reports are accepted, providing contact information may assist investigators if additional information is needed.

District Response

Every reported safety concern will be reviewed promptly. Depending on the nature of the report, the district may:

- Conduct a safety assessment or investigation.
- Notify parents or guardians, when appropriate.
- Involve school counselors, mental health professionals, or support staff.
- Coordinate with local law enforcement or emergency responders when necessary.
- Implement appropriate safety measures and disciplinary action consistent with district policy and applicable law.

The district will make every reasonable effort to protect the confidentiality of individuals making reports, consistent with applicable laws and the need to conduct a thorough investigation.

Prohibition Against False Reports

Knowingly making a false report of a safety concern is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action consistent with the Student Code of Conduct and applicable law.

Retaliation Prohibited

The district prohibits retaliation against any student or individual who, in good faith, reports a safety concern or participates in an investigation. Reports made in good faith will be taken seriously and handled as confidentially as possible.

Working together, students, families, staff, and community members help create a safe learning environment where every student can learn, grow, and succeed.

Handbook Disclaimer

The purpose of this Student and Parent Handbook is to provide students and families with general information regarding the policies, procedures, programs, and expectations of the Grundy R-V School District. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this handbook is accurate at the time of publication.

This handbook is intended as a guide and does not create a contract or confer any contractual rights between the district and any student, parent, guardian, or employee. The Board of Education reserves the right to modify, revise, suspend, or eliminate any provision of this handbook at any time when it determines such action to be in the best interest of the district or to comply with changes in federal or state law, regulations, or Board policy.

The Board of Education adopts and maintains official Board policies and administrative procedures that govern the operation of the district. In the event of any conflict between this handbook and an official Board policy, administrative procedure, or applicable federal or state law, the Board policy, administrative procedure, or law shall control.

The district reserves the right to interpret and apply the provisions of this handbook in a manner consistent with Board policy and applicable law. Changes made after publication will be communicated to students and parents through appropriate district communication methods, including the district website, written notices, electronic communications, or other official means.

Parents and students are encouraged to review this handbook carefully and to contact the building principal if they have questions regarding any policy or procedure contained herein.

Complaint Resolution Procedure For Every Student Succeeds Act

This guide explains how to file a complaint about any of the programs that are administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)².

1. What is a complaint?

For these purposes, a complaint is a written allegation that a local education agency (LEA) or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) has violated a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA.

2. Who may file a complaint?

Any individual or organization may file a complaint.

3. How can a complaint be filed?

Complaints can be filed with the LEA or with the Department.

4. How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated?

Complaints filed with the LEA are to be investigated and attempted to be resolved according to the locally developed and adopted procedures.

5. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?

A complaint not resolved at the local level may be appealed to the Department.

6. How can a complaint be filed with the Department?

A complaint filed with the Department must be a written, signed statement that includes:

1. A statement that a requirement that applies to an ESSA program has been violated by the LEA or the Department, and
2. The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated.

7. How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated?

The investigation and complaint resolution proceedings will be completed within a time limit of forty-five calendar days. That time limit can be extended by the agreement of all parties. The following activities will occur in the investigation:

1. Record. A written record of the investigation will be kept.
2. Notification of LEA. The LEA will be notified of the complaint within five days of the complaint being filed.
3. Resolution at LEA. The LEA will then initiate its local complaint procedures in an effort to first resolve the complaint at the local level.
4. Report by LEA. Within thirty-five days of the complaint being filed, the LEA will submit a written summary of the LEA investigation and complaint resolution. This report is considered public record and may be made available to parents, teachers, and other members of the general public.
5. Verification. Within five days of receiving the written summary of a complaint resolution, the Department will verify the resolution of the complaint through an on-site visit, letter, or telephone call(s).
6. Appeal. The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the U.S. Department of Education.

8. How are complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?

In addition to the procedures listed in number 7 above, complaints related to equitable services will also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, and they will receive all information related to the investigation and resolution of the complaint. Also, appeals to the United States Department of Education must be filed no longer than thirty days following the Department's resolution of the complaint (or its failure to resolve the complaint).

9. How will appeals to the Department be investigated?

The Department will initiate an investigation within ten days, which will be concluded within thirty days from the day of the appeal. This investigation may be continued beyond the thirty day limit at the discretion of the Department. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Department will communicate the decision and reasons for the decision to the complainant and the LEA. Recommendations and details of the decision are to be implemented within fifteen days of the decision being delivered to the LEA.

10. What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?

The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the United States Department of Education.

Public Notice- -Grundy County School District

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate, and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, children who live outside the district but are attending a private school within the district, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, and children who are wards of the state, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade.

The Grundy County R-V School District assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, mental retardation/intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness and a young child with a developmental delay.

The Grundy County R-V School District assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program.

The Grundy County R-V School District assures that personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The Grundy County R-V School District has developed a Local Compliance Plan for the implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies

and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to the third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the General Education Provision Act (GEPA). This plan may be reviewed with the Grundy County R-V School District. This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

PLEASE SIGN THIS FORM TO CONFIRM YOU HAVE
RECEIVED THE 2026-2027 STUDENT HANDBOOK
AND HAVE REVIEWED ITS CONTENTS

Parent/Guardian Signature

Child(ren)'s Name & Grade
