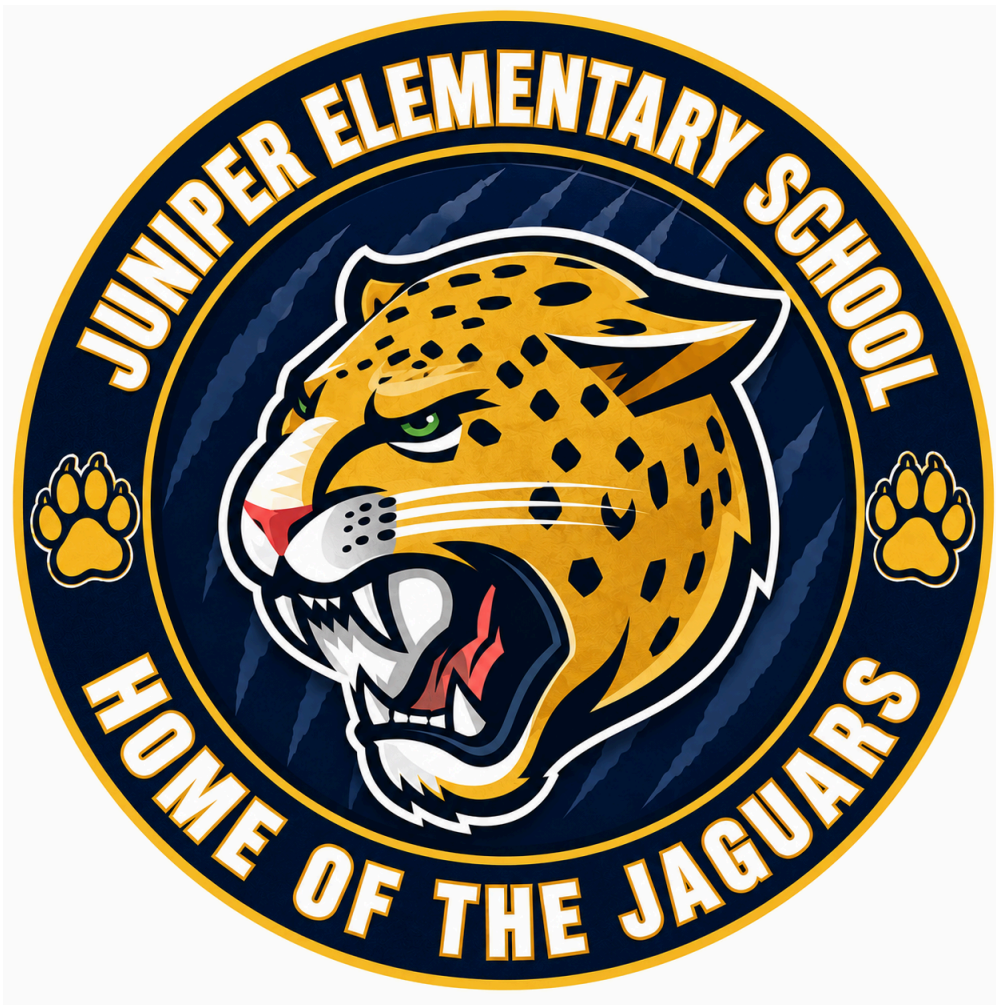




Juniper Elementary School
2026-2027
PARENT/STUDENT
Information Handbook

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Office Information	3
Juniper Expectations & Student Conduct	4–5
Campus Expectations	5–6
Arrival Procedures	6–7
Dismissal Procedures	7
Attendance Information	8
Lost and Found & Forgotten Student Items	9
Visitors and Volunteers	9–10
Parent/Guardian Involvement	10–11
Opportunities for Involvement (SSC, PTC & ELAC)	11
Electronic Device Policy (Cell Phones & Smart Watches)	12
Chromebooks, Textbooks, Library Books & Personal Property	12
Student Information	12–13
Parent Communication	13
Health Office Guidelines	13–15
Discipline Plan	15–16
HUSD Nutrition Services	16
Student Achievement & Recognition	16–18
Assemblies & Field Trips	18
Parties & Birthday Treat Guidelines	18–19
Disaster Preparedness	19
Student Dress Code	19–21
School Accountability Report Card (SARC)	21

Office Hours

M, T, Th, F: 8:30a.m. to 4:00p.m.

Wednesday: 8:30a.m. to 3:30p.m.

Location

Address: 9400 I Ave. Hesperia, CA 92345

Telephone: 760-244-6161

Fax Number: 760-244-1931

School Website: www.juniperelementary.org

Mascot: Jaguar

School Colors: Navy and Gold

Administration

Principal: Ted Portney-Borum

Assistant Principal: Kelly Hamilton

Office Staff

Administrative Secretary: Olivia Dunlop

School Secretary: Brandi Coria

Attendance Secretary: Bridget Fisher

Family Community Liaison: Rocio Coria

LVN/Health Tech: Renee Travis

Student Hours

TK-6th Grade:

M, T, Th, F: 9:10 a.m. to 3:27 p.m.

Wednesdays: 9:10 a.m. to 2:31 p.m.

Juniper Expectations

At Juniper Elementary, every member of our school community is expected to demonstrate **Jaguar Pride** by practicing our **GROWL** expectations each day. Together, we create a safe, respectful, welcoming, and positive learning environment where every student can learn and thrive.

GROWL Expectations

G – Growth Mindset

- Try your best, even when learning is challenging.
- Learn from mistakes and never give up.
- Accept feedback and use it to improve.
- Encourage others to do their best.

R – Respect

- Treat others with kindness, courtesy, and empathy.
- Use appropriate language and speak respectfully.
- Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- Respect school property, materials, and the belongings of others.

O – Ownership

- Take responsibility for your choices and actions.
- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- Come to school on time, prepared, and ready to learn.
- Clean up after yourself and help keep our campus clean and beautiful.

W – Welcoming

- Include others and make everyone feel they belong.
- Be friendly, helpful, and encouraging.
- Appreciate and celebrate the diversity of our school community.
- Help create an environment where everyone feels safe and valued.

L – Leadership

- Set a positive example for others.
- Make safe and responsible choices throughout the school day.
- Use school equipment, materials, and facilities appropriately.
- Stay in assigned areas unless given permission by a staff member to leave.
- Help others make good choices and contribute positively to our school community.

Student Conduct

Students are expected to demonstrate good judgment and conduct themselves in a manner that reflects our **GROWL** expectations. Every student has the right to learn in a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment, and every Jaguar has a responsibility to help create that environment.

Public Displays of Affection

Public displays of affection (PDA) are not appropriate on campus or during school-sponsored activities. Students are expected to maintain appropriate personal boundaries and interact with one another in a respectful manner. Inappropriate displays of affection may result in disciplinary action in accordance with school and district policies.

Campus Expectations

To help maintain a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment, all students are expected to follow these campus expectations:

General Expectations

- Follow all school rules and staff directions at all times.
- Stay in assigned areas unless given permission by a staff member to leave.
- Walk while on campus unless participating in a supervised activity.
- Use school equipment, materials, and facilities appropriately.
- Help keep our campus clean by disposing of trash properly and caring for school property.

Personal Items

- **Balls from home are not permitted.** Students may use school-provided playground equipment and balls during recess and lunch.
- **Personal toys and play items** (including fidgets, squishy toys, stress balls, trading cards, and similar items) are not permitted at school unless they have been approved by the student's teacher for instructional use.
- The school is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen personal items brought from home.

Food & Snacks

- Food and drinks may not be shared with other students due to allergies and health concerns.
- Students should bring individual-sized snacks only. Please save family-size or share-size snacks for home.
- Snacks may only be eaten in designated areas, including the shade house, lunch tables, and benches.
- Soda and chewing gum are not permitted at school.

Prohibited Items

To ensure the safety and well-being of everyone on campus, the following items are prohibited:

- Weapons of any kind.
- Alcohol, tobacco, nicotine products (including vaping devices), and controlled

substances.

- Any item that may disrupt the educational environment or pose a safety risk.

These items are prohibited on campus, at school-sponsored activities, and while traveling to and from school. Students who possess prohibited items or violate school expectations may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with California Education Code and Hesperia Unified School District policies.

Our Commitment

At Juniper Elementary, we believe that every student can succeed when they feel safe, respected, and connected. By living our **GROWL** expectations—**Growth Mindset, Respect, Ownership, Welcoming, and Leadership**—we build a school community where everyone is valued and every Jaguar has the opportunity to learn, grow, and lead.

Thank you for partnering with us to make Juniper Elementary a place where Jaguar Pride shines every day!

Arrival Procedures

- Gates open at 8:50am. Instruction begins at 9:10am.
- Students should only be dropped off in the drive-up lane or at the walk-up gate.

Walk-Up Arrival (Walker Gate)

- Park along Smoke Tree Avenue on the dirt shoulder and safely cross the street with your student. Walker gate is located on the east side of the parent pick up circle near the dumpsters.
- Absolutely no drop offs permitted in the parking lot.
- Students walking from home will walk and enter through the walk-up gate.
- If you choose to use the crosswalk, students should enter through the nearest gate. A crossing guard will be on duty to safely assist students and families

Drive-Up Arrival

- The parent drop off line starts in the parent circle and crosses over Smoke Tree down Mango. Please wait on Mango at the stop sign until the crosswalk attendant allows you to cross over Smoke Tree. **Please do not block any neighbor driveways along Mango at any time.**
- No vehicles will be permitted from east or westbound Smoke Tree.
- Students should be ready to exit the vehicle prior to parents pulling alongside the exit area.
- Once all cars along the sidewalk have come to a stop, all students should exit their cars.
- Students may exit anywhere along the drop-off zone and walk toward the entrance gate.
- Please remain in your vehicle at all times and do not leave it unattended.

- A proctor will be out front supervising students being dropped off please follow their direction.

Bus Arrival

- School buses will enter through the bus lane and drop students off at the bus gate.
- A staff member will be at the gate to monitor and assist students.
- Students must have a bus pass attached to their backpack at all times.

Dismissal Procedures

- Dismissal begins at 3:27 (2:31 on Wednesdays) for all grades.

Drive-up Dismissal

- The parent drop off line starts in the parent circle and crosses over Smoke Tree down Mango. Please wait on Mango at the stop sign until the crosswalk attendant allows you to cross over Smoke Tree. **Please do not block any neighbor driveways along Mango at any time.**
- No vehicles will be permitted from east or westbound Smoke Tree.
- Pull all the way forward in the pick-up line.
- Please display a sign with your child's first and last name written large and clearly on your windshield.
- As you pull forward, staff will call for your child, who will meet you at your vehicle.
- For the safety of all students and families, please remain in your vehicle.
- Right turn only when exiting the parking lot.

Walk-up Dismissal

- Walker gate is located on the east side of the parent pick up circle near the dumpsters.
- Park along the street or in the neighborhood.
- Walk up and wait outside the Walk-Up Gate.
- A staff member will release students to their parent or authorized adult.
- Students who walk home will be released at dismissal.

Bus Dismissal

- Students will wait in designated bus lines according to their bus route.
- Students must have a bus pass attached to their backpack at all times.
- Staff members will be in the bus area to monitor and assist students.

Transportation Changes

- Please do not message teachers regarding transportation changes. Your child's mode of transportation can only be changed by calling the office. The office will then advise your student's teacher.

Attendance Information

Please call the school office at (760) 244-6161, before 11:00 am on the day your child is absent. If unable to call, please send a note signed by the parent/guardian stating the date and reason for the absence on the first day the student returns to school. More than three unexcused absences is considered truant. Notes from doctor and dental appointments are not required, but are strongly encouraged.

Tardies

At Juniper Elementary, **Ownership** is one of our GROWL expectations. Being responsible includes arriving at school on time, being prepared to learn, and making the most of every instructional minute. Students are expected to be in their classroom and ready to learn by **9:10 a.m.** each school day. Students who arrive after the start of the school day must report to the office to check in before going to class.

Repeated tardies, even when they are only a few minutes, can impact a student's ability to learn and may affect eligibility for **perfect attendance recognition**. Consistent attendance and punctuality help students build strong learning habits and support classroom success.

Students who need to leave school early must be signed out through the office by an authorized adult. Frequent tardies, absences, or early check-outs may result in parent/guardian communication and attendance follow-up in accordance with district procedures and California Education Code.

Early Sign Out

All students leaving school during the school day for any reason must be signed out in the office by an adult listed on the emergency card. PLEASE BE READY TO SHOW IDENTIFICATION UPON SIGNING OUT YOUR STUDENT. Students returning to school later the same day must check back in the office before returning to class. If you are planning to sign your student out, you must do so by 3:00 pm. The office will not call students out of class any later than 3:00 p.m. (2:00 p.m. on Wednesdays)

Attendance Incentives

These incentives are developed to encourage student attendance. Monthly incentives will be given to the grade level with the highest attendance percentage. Quarterly incentives will be given to students with perfect attendance during the quarter. Attendance is also considered for club and sport participation.

Independent Study Contracts

On those occasions when a family emergency or vacation occurs during the regular school session, parents should request an Independent Study Contract (ISC) for those days so that attendance credit is earned. Prior notice is necessary. Please contact the

school attendance specialist at least one week before the absence so that the study packet can be prepared for you.

Lost and Found

Students are responsible for the safe and appropriate use of their school materials. Please make sure that your child's name is on his/her jacket and lunch bag. If items are missing, check with your child's teacher. Also, if your child comes home with "new" items, please give us a call to check. Articles found on school property are usually placed in the lost and found area. Labeling personal items can make it easier to return them if misplaced. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Unclaimed articles will be donated to charitable organizations at the end of the school year. Students have access to lost and found throughout the day. Parents may come after school dismissal to assist their students looking for missing items.

Forgotten Student Items

Developing independence is an important part of elementary school. Helping students remember their belongings supports the Ownership component of our GROWL expectations and builds confidence and responsibility. If a student forgets something at home, you may drop it off in the office with the student's name and teacher's name clearly written on the item. In order to avoid unnecessary interruptions to student learning, calls will not be made to the classroom during instruction time. Students may come up at the appropriate time (lunch time, recess, music time, etc) to retrieve their forgotten item. We thank you for your support!

If a **lunch** is forgotten and/or dropped off by a parent, it will be kept in the office where your child can pick it up at their designated lunch time. Please try to avoid this and ensure your student has their lunch when they arrive at school. Remember, lunch is provided at no cost to all students - no child will go hungry. Office staff will not call inside your students' classroom to notify them of lunch in the front office as this is an interruption to student learning.

We thank you for your support in avoiding unnecessary interruptions to classroom instruction and instilling responsible behaviors in our Juniper Jaguars!

Visitors and Volunteers

All visitors and volunteers must show identification and sign in at the office before entering campus. For safety purposes no one may be on campus without a visitor's pass. No parents are allowed on the playground with their child. **Annually**, ALL volunteers must fill-out a volunteer application and be HUSD Board approved along with completing the Annual Online Registration Update for their students before being

allowed to work in classrooms. Volunteering in the classroom will begin during the third week of school. Please be mindful that not all grades utilize parent volunteers in the classroom. There are many ways to assist in your child's educational program. Ask your child's teacher about helping in the classroom or at home. Uninterrupted learning time is valued in our school; therefore, we ask that you leave other children at home when you volunteer.

Parent/Guardian Involvement

It is our belief at Juniper that parent/guardian support and involvement in a child's education is an essential element for improving academic achievement. Studies have shown that adult direction, interest, and participation in the student's educational development affects performance, attitudes and school success. We at Juniper recognize that we can provide many opportunities for learning, but the crucial element that is needed is assistance from the parents/guardians and families. There is no replacement for the support, encouragement, approval, and love that parents/guardians can give their child.

Here are some questions and answers about parental/guardian involvement at Juniper:

Q: What is the process of becoming a parent volunteer?

A: The first step is to complete and submit a Parent Volunteer form. Once that is turned-in, the school awaits the School Board's approval of your name. Additionally, we require the Annual Online Registration Update to be completed for the current school year for their students.

Q: What are the guidelines for parent volunteers?

- ★ Volunteers must be HUSD Board approved.
- ★ Volunteers must dress appropriately and use appropriate language.
- ★ Volunteers must sign in and out in the front office.
- ★ We ask that volunteers leave "non-student" children at home. It can create too many distractions in the classroom.

Q: What are the guidelines for being on campus during the school day?

A: To be on campus, you must bring a photo ID and check-in with the Juniper Office Staff. HUSD schools utilize the Raptor System to sign-in visitors to verify individuals are safe to be on campus. A visitor's pass will be printed and must be visibly worn while on campus. For student safety, no one may be on campus without adhering to this process. Once your visit is finished, you must return your visitor's pass and sign-out with the Juniper Office Staff.

Q: What are the guidelines for helping in my child's classroom?

A: If you would like to help in the classroom, you must be a Board-approved volunteer, and schedule a time with the teacher in advance. This is due to staff meetings,

classroom preparation, and because we value your time as a parent. Scheduling in advance gives the teacher the opportunity to use the time most efficiently and productively. Parents can begin volunteering during the third week of the school year. Volunteers are allowed on campus between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. (M, T, Th, F) or 2:00 p.m. (W).

Q: When can I meet with the teacher?

A: If you would like to meet with your child's teacher, you have a couple of options. You may call the office, and the office can connect you to your child's teacher's voicemail to set-up a meeting. Or, you may email your child's teacher. Each teacher's email address is their firstname.lastname@hesperiausd.org (no spaces, all lowercase). Teachers may not be able to meet with parents before school, due to preparation for the days' lessons, meetings, etc. In order to maximize instruction, teachers will not be able to meet with parents once instructional time begins. Out of courtesy, please schedule any needed conference with the teacher in advance.

Q: What if I need to contact my child (vice versa) during the school day?

A: If you need to contact your child (lunch money, jacket, forgotten homework), all communication needs to go through the office, not through the use of your student's telephone. We ask that messages from home be kept to an absolute minimum and limited to true emergencies. As far as students contacting home, in order to avoid classroom interruptions, students may use the phone only in an emergency. Use of cell phones/ "texting" must follow District guidelines.

Opportunities for Involvement

School Site Council

The Juniper School Site Council is the elected body of parents and staff who oversee the planning, implementing, and monitoring of Juniper's School Based Plan. The SSC meets, with specific dates and times announced early in the school year. All meetings are open to everyone. Your questions can be answered and your suggestions are welcome!

Juniper's P.T.C. (Parent-Teacher Committee)

The Juniper PTC fundraisers support student programs such as assemblies, field trips, awards recognition, and purchase of equipment. The times and dates for the PTC meetings will be posted on the school's website. Typically the first Wednesday of each month.

English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC)

The times and dates of the Juniper ELAC meetings will be posted on the school's website and monthly newsletter. The District ELAC meets on the third Tuesday of every other month at the District Office.

District Electronic Device Policy

At Juniper Elementary, we value face-to-face interactions, student engagement, and uninterrupted learning. Cell phones and smart watches must remain powered off and stored out of sight during the school day unless authorized by school staff. Recording or taking pictures of fellow students is not permitted. The first time a student is caught using a cell phone/smartwatch, the device will be held in the office until the end of the day. On the second offense, the phone will be confiscated and held in the office until a parent can pick it up.

All electronic devices that are powered off may be in possession of students. These devices must remain powered off and stored out of sight while on the bus, or on campus during the school day. If seen by school or bus personnel, the device will be confiscated. Subsequent violations of district or school rules and regulations may be subject to discipline, including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, or transfer to an alternative program in accordance with Board Policy and Administrative regulation.

Permissible uses for cell phones are limited to:

1. In the case of an emergency, or in response to a perceived threat of danger
2. When a teacher or administrator grants permission to the student to possess or use a mobile communication device, subject to any reasonable limitation imposed by that teacher or administrator
3. When a licensed physician or surgeon determines that the possession or use is necessary for the student's health and well-being
4. When the possession or use is required by the student's individualized education program

Chromebooks, Textbooks, Library Books, and Personal Property

The School District and Juniper School are not responsible for stolen or lost items. Personal items, such as toys, sports equipment, trading cards, electronic devices, gaming devices, and cameras are NOT ALLOWED on campus. Students are responsible for textbooks, library books and chromebooks issued to them during the school year. All lost or damaged books/chromebooks must be paid for by the parent/guardian. Please contact Ms. VanZant, our librarian, if you have any questions.

Student Information

Emergency Cards

The Infinite Campus Online Registration Update must be completed annually by parents/guardians to provide the school with current information regarding address,

home, work, and emergency phone numbers. Cell phone numbers are encouraged. The emergency numbers should be relatives or friends nearby who can care for your child in the event that a parent cannot be reached. Persons listed from “down the hill” may not be your best choice in the case of certain emergencies such as natural disasters.

Students will be released ONLY to persons named on the emergency card. In case of an emergency, students will remain at school until an authorized person arrives. Any changes of address, phone number, etc. must be made in the office as soon as possible.

Divorce/Child Custody

If your student has special or unique custody or visitation arrangements, it is most important that you bring this to the attention of the office staff. A copy of the “Order to Show Cause” document of final divorce papers should be given to the office. California State Law allows both natural parents of a child to pick up that child from school unless court documents state otherwise. Please understand that without specific court documents to the contrary, the non-custodial parent MAY sign out and remove the child from school.

Parent Communication

At Juniper, we do our very best to inform the home about schedule changes and calendars. Please look for messages brought home by your child informing you about upcoming school activities, special events, and calendar changes. Most classroom teachers provide weekly updates for parents through Class Dojo and newsletters. Do not hesitate to call whenever you are wondering about a meeting or other activity. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to our monthly calendar & newsletter.

Juniper also utilizes a recorded phone call system to inform families with important school information. To receive these messages, your phone number information must be up-to-date annually in Infinite Campus. Should information change throughout the year please be sure to update phone numbers with the office.

Families are encouraged to regularly check Class Dojo and school communications for important reminders, upcoming events, and schoolwide celebrations throughout the year.

Health Office Guidelines

When your child is ill...

- Your child must be kept home from school if he/she has...
 - Fever: Children must be fever-free (less than 100 degrees) without using medication for 24 hours before returning to school.
 - Nausea and vomiting: Children must be free of vomiting for 24 hours before returning to school.

- Diarrhea: Children must be diarrhea-free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Acute cold with uncontrolled cough, wheezing or difficulty breathing.
- Inability to sleep most of the night because they don't feel well.
- A rash of unknown origin. Children must be examined by a doctor to make sure the rash is not contagious. The physician must provide a note stating that the student is not contagious.
- Conjunctivitis (Pink eye): Students may return to school 24 hours after starting physician prescribed medication, with a physician's note.
- Students returning to school after a serious illness requiring 5 days or more of absences from school, surgical procedure, or overnight hospitalization, must have a physician's note clearing the student to be on campus and/or stating limitations and/or instructions for care while at school.

****If your student arrives at the health office with any of the above, parents will be contacted to pick the student up. Parents may be asked to train physician release for the student to return to school for any suspected contagious illness.****

When your child returns to school after injury...

- For students with a cast, splint, sling, ace wrap, walking boot, etc., a physician's note is required pertaining to activity restrictions.
- For students with crutches, a walker, a wheelchair, a cane, or any other type of durable medical equipment (DME), a physician's note is required pertaining to use of the DME on campus and also pertaining to activity restrictions and necessary accommodations. Students who arrive at school without a doctor's note may be excluded from school until a doctor's note is received.
- Students that arrive at school with ace wraps will not be re-wrapped by the health tech on site.

When your child requires medication at school...

In keeping with the recommendation of the American Medical Association and the State Department of Education, parents are encouraged to administer required medication to their children at home (before or after school). When it becomes necessary for pupils to receive medication during the school day, the following procedure must be followed:

- All prescription and non-prescription medications will be brought to school by a parent or guardian and registered with the school nurse. The medication must be brought to school in the original container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician. If the school nurse has any concern about administering said medication, he/she will contact the student's doctor for advice relative thereto. (NOTE: Students are not permitted to carry prescription or nonprescription medications at school)
- Written authorization is to be provided to the school from the private physician, detailing the diagnosis or type of illness involved, the name of the drug, dosage,

route, time of administration, and the side effects, if any. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to obtain this authorization from the physician.

- In cases where physician orders are incorrect, the parent/guardian is responsible to obtain corrections from the physician.
- For children who must take medication every day for the entire year, the doctor's authorization will be effective for the school year for which it is granted.
- The records of documentation for administering medication to students will be maintained by the school nurse.
- If for any reason, the parents/guardians are unable to comply with the above procedures, they have the option to come to school and administer the medication themselves.

What immunizations are required for school...

- Parents/guardians of students must submit immunization records to the school site for verification. Students must be up-to-date on all immunizations (current and past) before starting school.
- Parents can visit shotsforschools.org for a complete list of required immunizations to attend school in California

Discipline Plan

At Juniper Elementary, we are committed to maintaining a safe, respectful, and positive learning environment where every student has the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed. All staff members support students in demonstrating our GROWL expectations: Growth Mindset, Respect, Ownership, Welcoming, and Leadership.

Students are expected to demonstrate Jaguar Pride by being Safe, Respectful, Responsible, and Ready to Learn throughout the school day. When students make choices that do not align with our schoolwide expectations or classroom rules, staff will provide support, reteach expectations, and assign appropriate consequences.

Juniper Elementary utilizes a progressive discipline plan designed to help students learn from their choices, take ownership of their actions, and make better decisions moving forward.

When a student does not meet school or classroom expectations, one or more of the following interventions or consequences may occur:

- Warning and clarification of expectations
- Reteaching of expectations and problem-solving conversation
- Student conference with a staff member
- Reflection time or designated time-out
- Loss of privileges or preferred activities
- Parent/guardian contact (notes, phone calls, or conferences)
- Referral to the Principal or Assistant Principal

- Suspension Alternative Program
- Suspension
- Recommendation for Expulsion

In situations involving severe behavior, safety concerns, or significant disruption to the learning environment, students may receive an immediate consequence, including Suspension Alternative Program, out-of-school suspension, or possible recommendation for expulsion, without prior progressive steps. Law enforcement may

be contacted when required or appropriate based on the severity and circumstances of an incident. Additional consequences or interventions may be assigned as deemed appropriate by administration and staff to support student growth, accountability, and campus safety.

Our Commitment to Every Jaguar

At Juniper Elementary, we believe every student can learn, grow, and succeed. Mistakes are opportunities for learning, growth, and reflection, and we are committed to working in partnership with families to teach, support, and guide students toward making positive choices. Through positive relationships, restorative practices, and our GROWL expectations—Growth Mindset, Respect, Ownership, Welcoming, and Leadership—we help every Jaguar learn from challenges, develop responsibility, and thrive as a valued member of our school community.

HUSD Nutrition Services

Breakfast Program

Breakfast is available to all students at no cost and served each morning in the cafeteria at 8:50 a.m. to 9:05 a.m. Please make sure students arrive on time so they will have the opportunity to eat breakfast. Only students are allowed in the cafeteria during breakfast.

Lunch Program

Students may bring their lunch from home or get lunch from the cafeteria. Only students are allowed in the cafeteria during lunch. We encourage healthy snacks and lunches. Also, due to unknown allergies/health concerns, food may not be shared between students and we cannot accept dropped off lunches for students from non family members.

Student Achievement

District Promotion Policy

All students must meet State and District proficiency standards each year in order to be promoted to the next grade. Your child's teacher will explain the standards to you and tell you when your child is performing below the expected levels in reading, language,

and math. Together, we will develop a remediation plan to help your child reach the standards. Strategies may include after school tutoring. It is the policy of this District that we honor only 2 graduations; High School and College. We therefore will not have promotion ceremonies. We ask that you celebrate with your family outside of school.

Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Conferences

Report cards are prepared two times per year and sent home with the child unless otherwise specified. If you do not want your child's report card sent home with them, please stop by the school's front office to make arrangements to have them mailed home or picked up. In addition, teachers may meet with parents periodically to discuss student progress. It is our intent to schedule a formal conference with each parent/guardian once a year. These conferences can prove very valuable in helping us work with your child and in providing you with information concerning his/her school progress. Please make every effort to attend these conferences. Due to staff committee meetings and classroom preparation, it is recommended that conferences be scheduled in advance. Teachers are not able to meet with parents/guardians during teaching hours.

Student Recognition

At Juniper Elementary, we believe students should be recognized not only for academic achievement, but also for demonstrating positive character, leadership, and commitment to our school community. Students are encouraged to discover their strengths, celebrate their growth, and use their abilities to make a positive impact on others.

Throughout the year, students are recognized through classroom, schoolwide, and district programs. Recognition may occur both spontaneously and through formal celebrations.

GROWLER of the Day

Each day, one student from a different classroom is selected to be recognized as our GROWLER of the Day. This student is announced over the school speaker system and celebrated by the entire Juniper community. Students are selected because they demonstrate one or more of our GROWL expectations:

- **Growth Mindset** – showing perseverance and a willingness to learn
- **Respect** – treating others with kindness and consideration
- **Ownership** – taking responsibility for choices and actions
- **Welcoming** – including and supporting others
- **Leadership** – being a positive role model for others

GROWL Slips

Students are also recognized through our GROWL Slips program. Throughout the school day, students may be "caught being great" when they demonstrate Growth Mindset, Respect, Ownership, Welcoming, or Leadership.

When students are recognized, they receive a GROWL Slip that is placed into a schoolwide drawing. Each Friday, slips are randomly selected, and students are invited to the office to receive a special prize and celebration for making positive choices and demonstrating Jaguar Pride.

Semester Awards

At the end of each semester, students are recognized through our semester awards celebrations. Students are honored for their accomplishments in academics, citizenship, growth, and demonstrating the values that make Juniper Elementary a special place to learn. Through these recognition programs, we celebrate students who show that being a Juniper Jaguar means making positive choices, supporting others, and demonstrating our GROWL expectations every day.

Assemblies and Field Trips

With the support of the Juniper P.T.C., school-wide fundraisers and selected assemblies will be provided to enhance the learning program. If a field trip is scheduled, your child's teacher will inform you of the destination, day, and approximate time of departure and return. Teachers will contact parent volunteers to assist with the field trip by chaperoning/supervising students on the bus and in small groups during the trip. Not all parents who are volunteers may be chosen to be field trip chaperones.

For safety and insurance reasons, private vehicles and additional children are not allowed to be a part of the field trips for chaperones. All chaperones must have a Board-approved volunteer form on file with the office. If you are a designated chaperone, to increase student safety, you must ride on the bus to and from the field trip. On field trips, students are encouraged to wear their "school spirit" shirts, and jeans/shorts.

Classroom Parties

Classes may observe Christmas, Valentine's Day, and End-of-the-Year with a class party during the last hour of the school day. Teachers will contact volunteers to arrange needed assistance. For student safety, only "store bought" treats are permitted. No homemade treats may be brought to any party, including birthday treats.

Birthday Treats

At Juniper Elementary, we enjoy celebrating our students! To help maintain a safe, healthy, and respectful learning environment, we ask that families follow the guidelines below when sending birthday treats to school:

- Treats must be small in size.
- Individually wrapped candy, drinks, and other store-bought treats are strongly encouraged.
- Cupcakes and other snacks that are not individually packaged will not be accepted.
- If you choose to provide small gift bags, we encourage simple items such as stickers, pencils, erasers, or individually wrapped candy.
- Please notify your child's teacher in advance if birthday treats will be dropped off in the office.
- To avoid interruptions to instructional time, balloons, flowers, presents, and classroom visitors are not permitted during the school day.
- Birthday treats will be distributed at the teacher's discretion and at an appropriate time during the school day.

Thank you for helping us celebrate our Juniper Jaguars in a way that keeps all students safe, healthy, and ready to learn.

Disaster Preparedness

The staff of Juniper School works throughout the year preparing themselves and the students to be ready in the event of an earthquake or other emergency. Fire, earthquake, and lockdown drills are scheduled throughout the year to practice procedures. These practices are required by California Education Code and it is imperative that students and staff take them very seriously. We update water, and first aid supplies periodically. Parents are kept informed of specifics through newsletters and PTC meetings. Please be sure to let the office know whenever there is a change in your home, work, and/or emergency phone numbers. Some suggestions for home safety are:

- Prepare your family for an earthquake or other emergency by talking about what to do, what not to do, who to call, if possible, and where to meet in an emergency situation.
- Prepare an "Earthquake Kit" for your family. The Red Cross can help you obtain more information.

Student Dress Code

When students violate the dress code, a parent will be contacted and may be asked to bring appropriate clothing to school. If we are unable to reach a parent, the student will be loaned a suitable garment or be asked to turn the article of clothing inside out for the day (if appropriate) and the student will take a note of explanation home to the parent. Thank you for your support in following our dress code and for helping us provide a suitable learning environment.

Students should be dressed and groomed in a manner which will not interfere with or detract from the academic process nor create a health or safety risk for any student.

Students must also observe the District's K-12 Dress Code Policy which prohibits the following unacceptable dress:

Dress and Grooming AR 5132 (a) Local law enforcement officials indicate that certain types of dress and colors contribute to gang association and violence. Students wearing gang attire become targets for violence even though they are not gang members. In addition, the baggy, oversized clothing now identified as gang related, presents a safety hazard since it allows students to more readily conceal dangerous objects such as knives, and other weapons or providing hiding places for drugs and drug paraphernalia. Accordingly, the following types of clothing have been identified as unacceptable dress:

- Clothing, jewelry and personal items that a student has including notebooks, folders, book covers, magazines, drawings, pictures, gym bags, water bottles, backpacks, or any other item that disrupts the instructional process
- Hats other than unaltered school approved hats worn properly
- Oversized clothing such as shorts, pants, coats, etc. Pants must fit at the waist
- Items that promote hate, intolerance or violence
- Unsafe jewelry and accessories including wallet chains and belts hanging from the waist
- Visible undergarments
- Clothing with profanity, too tight, revealing or sexually provocative
- Clothing with pictures, insignias or brand names for controlled substances, tobacco or alcohol
- Unsafe footwear including house slippers. Additional footwear requirements may be imposed on students in specific classes such as: physical education, science and shop.
- Raiders and Kings clothing, "LA" and "Skin" labels, and any additional articles of clothing or accessories identified by the HUSD School Police Department as being gang or hate group related will be forbidden on campus or any other school function or activity including sporting events

Legal Reference

Administrative Code, Title 5

302 Pupils to be neat and clean on entering school

Hesperia Unified School District BP 5132 Dress and Grooming

The Governing board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive and safe learning environment. The Board expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students' clothing and possessions must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction, which would interfere with the educational process.

When gangs constitute a danger to students, the Superintendent or designee may restrict student dress and grooming as necessary to comply with Board policy related to

gang activity. The dress policy is applicable to all of Hesperia Unified School District's functions and activities.

Students and parents/guardians shall be informed about the school dress code at the beginning of the year and when revised. A student who violates the dress code shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Legal Reference:

Education Code

35183 School Dress codes; Uniforms

48907 Student Exercise of Free Expression

49066 Grades: Effect of Physical Education Class Apparel

Code of Regulations, Title 5

Pupils to be neat and clean on entering school

Hartzell v. Connell (198) 35 CA: 3D 899

Arcadia Unified School District v. State Department of Education

92 Daily Journal, D.A.R. 3578

The School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

The School Accountability Report Card (SARC) provides parents and the community with important information about each public school including but not limited to: demographics, achievements, progress evaluation, ongoing goal realization, discipline, budget, and facility enhancement. The School Accountability Report Card for Juniper. School can be found on the District's website. A hard copy of the SARC will be made available upon request at the front office.