WHITE PASS ELEMENTARY HANDBOOK

2026 - 2027 SCHOOL YEAR

WHITE PASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
127 Kindle Road, Randle, Washington 98377

TABLE OF CONTENT

Message from the Dean of Students	**3**
Important Telephone Number	**4**
District Statements	**4**
Student Rights and Responsibilities	**5**
Staff Names and Email	**6**
The School Day	**7**
ECEAP Preschool	**8**
Books and Materials	**9**
School Visitors	**10**
Communication Information	**10**
Classroom Information	**11**
Personal Items	**12**
Transportation	**12**
Health and Wellness	**13**
Dress Code	**14**
School-Wide Positive Behavior Expectations	**15**
Board Policies of White Pass School District	**21**
Notification of Rights under FERPA	**25**
Homeless Education Plan	**26**
Law Enforcement & Child Protective Services	**27**
Parental Rights	**27**
State Assessments	**27**

A Message from the Dean

"Quality Education for All"

August 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year at White Pass Elementary!

This handbook is designed to spark your familiarity with our school routines and support you through the upcoming year. For a continuous stream of ideas, updates, and district stories, please visit our website at www.whitepass.k12.wa.us.

I invite you to read through these pages with your child as we prep our minds for the days ahead.

The first days of school fill me with immense hope. I love the thrill of learning something completely new, and my dream is to ignite that same fire in your student—teaching them to embrace tough concepts with confidence and joy. To our new families: welcome to a community that loves to learn! We want you deeply embedded in this experience, so look forward to regular updates and open invitations to see your child's hard work come to life. Our greatest breakthroughs happen when school and home unite. We hope you feel completely at home here, eager to participate and learn alongside us.

I am genuinely thrilled to work with the wonderful students, families, and stakeholders of White Pass Elementary. Let's make this an unforgettable masterclass in growing together!

Panther Cubs are World-Changers!

Stephanie Langner,
Dean of Students
White Pass Elementary School

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

White Pass Elementary School	**(360) 497-7300, main office – ext. 2000**
White Pass High School	**(360) 497-5816, main office – ext. 3000**
White Pass School District Office	**(360) 497-3791, main office – ext. 4000**
White Pass School District Bus Garage	**(360) 497-2298**
National Suicide Prevention Hotline	**1-800-273-8255**

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the White Pass School District, in conjunction with our greater rural community, is to provide a quality education for all in a safe and challenging environment.

DISTRICT BELIEF STATEMENTS

We believe **Educators** provide quality instruction, while modeling and expecting excellence, cooperation and respect from each other and their students.

We believe **Families** are essential partners in our children's education.

We believe **Students** are curious and valuable individuals who, with guidance and self-discipline, are responsibly involved in their education and community.

We believe **Education** is a life-long productive process that prepares people to be creative, participating, and contributing citizens.

We believe **Schools** are safe and challenging centers for learning.

We believe the **Community** and schools are reflected in each other with mutual support and participation.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The White Pass School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Mark Westley, P.O. Box 188, Randle, WA 98377; (360) 497-3791 (Title IX/Section 504/ADA Coordinator/Compliance Coordinator for 28A.640 and 28A.642).

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Student Rights: Students, as citizens, have certain constitutional rights that cannot be denied by the school or the district. The school or the district may, however, set reasonable limits on those rights in order to meet the district's obligation to educate.

Student Responsibilities: The White Pass School District's goals are to provide students the opportunity to learn skills, acquire knowledge, and develop attitudes that will allow them to function as responsible and contributing citizens.

As a student, I will be respectful, responsible, and safe by agreeing to:

- Attend all classes every day on time, ready to work, and with the necessary learning materials.
- Respect the rights of others and exercise self-discipline.
- Behave in a manner that will not disrupt their education or disrupt or deprive others of their education.
- Know and obey the rules of the district, schools, and co-curricular activities.
- Accept appropriate consequences for breaking school rules.
- Identify myself by name if asked to by any district staff member.
- Dress appropriately for school and school activities.
- Respect the property of others, of the school, and the district.

Students may be disciplined if they fail to fulfill any of these responsibilities while at school, on the school grounds, on district-sponsored transportation, at any school-sponsored event, or in any other setting having a real and substantial relationship to the operation of the district.

STAFF NAMES AND EMAILS

Administration Superintendent	Mark Westley	mwestley@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Dean of Students	Stephanie Langner	slangner@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Office Staff Office Secretary	Tamara Christian	tchristian@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Skyward Coordinator	Heather Muir	hmuir@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Nurse	Kim Inocencio	kinocencio@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Counselor	Tracy Chapple	tchapple@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Staff Preschool	Kristi Smith Joanne Tuttle Kaylen Collette	ksmith@whitepass.k12.wa.us jtuttle@whitepass.k12.wa.us kcollette@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Kindergarten	Lindsay McMahan	lmcmahan@whitepass.k12.wa.us
First	Lily Smith	lsmith@whitepass.k12.wa.us
First/Second	Mariah Harvey	mharvey@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Second	Mykal Hull	mhull@whitepas.k12.wa.us
Third	Preslie Coleman	pcoleman@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Third	Clara Wisse	cwisse@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Fourth	Ella Scott	escott@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Fifth	Tara Kenniston	tkeniston@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Sixth	Aubrey Kendall	akendall@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Special Education	Ana Cristina Stipek	astipek@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Physical Education	Camille Buffington	cbuffington@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Title/Lap Teacher McKinney Vento / Homelessness Liason	Pretrina Mullins	pmullins@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Library – para-professional	Dorinda Guy	dguy@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Psychologist	Dr. Homero Flores	hflores@esd113.org
Speech Language Pathologist	Jennifer McMillion	jmcmillion@esd113.org
SLP Assistant		@esd113.org
Occupational Therapist	Debbie Wesson	dwesson@esd113.org

Paraprofessionals: Denna Hahn, Kristi Davis, Peggy Hirte-Uhlorn, Senta Bolger, Elizabeth Chick, Erin Olwine, Samantha Short
IT Director: Teri Anslow tanslow@whitepass.k12.wa.us
Food Service Director: Meredith Arseneau, marseneau@esd113.org
Maintenance/Custodial Director: Andrew Kirner, akirner@whitepas.k12.wa.us

THE SCHOOL DAY

Arriving and Departing from School: The office will be open at 7:30 a.m. There will be no student supervision prior to 7:40 a.m. The cafeteria will be serving breakfast from 7:45 a.m. to 8:05 a.m. Buses will arrive at school at 7:40 and release students to the multipurpose room for breakfast. Teachers pick up classes at 8 a.m. School will begin at 8:05 a.m. Students who arrive at school late should check in at the office to receive a tardy slip to be admitted to class. When a student is going to be late for school, please make every effort to call us prior to 9:00 a.m. to help us have lunch prepared for them.

Parents picking up their students at the end of the day are to pick them up from the Elementary Gym by a parent/guardian or an adult listed on the child's emergency contact list. If a student needs to be picked up early from school, the student must be checked out in the office by the parent/guardian. An older sibling may pick up a child with written consent given to the office. The parent must make visual contact with the teacher for the student to be released.

Sometimes, how a child gets home will change from the normal routine. Children who have alternate plans for leaving school (riding a different bus home) must have a note delivered to the office that day. For extended changes, please contact the school office. Students will not be permitted to use the school phone to make after school plans.

Early Dismissal
Students will be released at 1:30 p.m. on Fridays during the school year. Teachers will use the extra time to work together to plan for improvement of student learning. Students will also be released early during: Fall and Spring conferences, the day before Winter break, the day before Spring break, and the last day of school. See the school district calendar for details.

Evening Activities: Students attending a school event in the evening must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Appointments: Because classroom attendance is important, parents/guardians are encouraged to make appointments outside of the school day. If students must leave school for a legitimate reason, (see attendance policy) bring a note from parent/guardian indicating the date, time and reason.

Daily Schedule	Doors open	7:40 a.m.
	First bell – halls open	8:00 a.m.
	Second bell	8:05 a.m.
	Dismissal – Monday through Thursday	2:50 p.m.
	Dismissal – Fridays and early release days	1:30 p.m.

E

ECEAP PRESCHOOL

Our ECEAP comprehensive preschool program is available for three or four-year-old children. We provide FREE preschool for families who qualify through ECEAP's income guidelines or have other qualifying factors as space is available. Eligibility for those students who have delay in areas of speech, language, motor, cognitive, and/or social skills will be determined after testing. Our ECEAP program is subcontracted through Centralia College Early Learning Programs, and follows all DCYF ECEAP Performance Standards. ***Families enrolled in these classes will receive a supplemental handbook.***

The White Pass ECEAP preschool program is held four days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) in both rooms are full school day classes. There is NO preschool on Fridays. Peer models are accepted on a limited basis.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Our state attendance laws say that students should regularly attend school. RCW 28A.225 states that any enrolled student between the ages of 8-18 years of age must attend school on a regular basis. If a parent enrolls a child ages six or seven, the parent has the responsibility to ensure the child attends for the full time school is in session. It is the district's responsibility to comply with the statutes and file petitions with the court system if excessive absences are causing a serious adverse effect upon a student's performance.

Regular, timely school attendance is critical to a student's long-term success. We expect students to attend school every day, be on time, and be present for the entire school day. On those occasions when a student is absent, please check in with your child's teacher to collect missed work and help your child stay on track. Please notify us, within 5 school days of the absence, that it is an excused absence.

Excused absence: Each excused absence requires a note or phone call from the parent or guardian stating the reason for, and date of, the absence. Valid reasons to excuse an absence include: participation in a school approved activity or program; illness, health condition, or medical appointment; family emergency; religious or cultural purposes; legal proceedings; absence related to homeless status; absence due to disciplinary action; and activity mutually agreed upon in advance by school principal (or designee) and family.

Unexcused absence: No note or phone call received following a child's absence, and/or not a valid reason to excuse the absence.

Excessive absences: The district may initiate procedures, beginning with a parent conference and up to and including a court petition, in cases of excessive absences. Chronic absenteeism is 2 or more in any month during the school year.

Extended illness or health condition: If a student is confined to home or hospital for an extended period, the school shall arrange for the accomplishment of assignments at the place of confinement whenever practical. If the student is unable to do his/her schoolwork, or if there are major requirements of a particular course that cannot be accomplished outside of class, the student may be required to take an incomplete.

Excused absence for chronic health: Students with a chronic health condition that interrupts regular attendance may qualify for placement in a limited attendance and participation program.

The parent or legal guardian shall contact the principal or counselor, and a limited program shall be written following the advice and recommendations of the student's medical advisor. The principal shall approve the recommended limited program. Staff shall be informed of the student's needs, though the confidentiality of medical information shall be respected at the parent's request.

Tardy: Students arriving at school after the official start time but within the first hour will be recorded as tardy.

Students who arrive at school 1 hour after class begins or leave one hour prior to dismissal will be considered absent for ½ day.

Perfect Attendance: Students qualify for perfect attendance if they are present at school 100% of their school day for all days that school is in session. Students with perfect attendance will be recognized with a certificate at the end of the year. Community partners may donate prizes for rewarding perfect attendance. Check with the school office for more information.

Permission to Leave Class: Students are to report to class and get a permission slip from their teacher before going anywhere outside the classroom. **Under no circumstances are students to leave class without teacher permission.**

Truancy: Students are truant when they willingly leave the campus during the school day without permission or do not attend class. Truant students will be disciplined. Law enforcement may be called for the protection of the student.

BECCA Law Information: If students have an unexcused absence the school will notify parents or guardians. If he/she has two unexcused absences in a month, the school will schedule a conference with the student and his/her parents or guardian to determine a plan to stop the unexcused absences. If a student has five unexcused absences in a month or 15 in a year, the school will file a petition with the juvenile court alleging violation of RCW 28A.225.015. The family will be required to attend a Community Truancy Board review and receive a summons to appear in court where a judge determines what actions to take. See BECCA Flow Chart at the end of the handbook.

BOOKS & SCHOOL MATERIALS

Textbooks are furnished by the school. It is the student's responsibility to treat these books with care. Any excessive damage beyond normal wear will result in a fine. As students receive their textbooks, they should report any damage found in the books to their teacher so they are not charged at the end of the trimester or school year for damaging the books. The student will pay for school equipment that has been broken, lost, or in any way defaced by the student. Student fines, book replacement fees, or technology bills that are unpaid may result in final grades and transcripts being withheld, until full payment has been received.

Any Chromebooks, iPads, laptops, or other technology checked out have additional rules and

regulations governing their checkout, handling, and usage. Please refer to the "Acceptable Use" policy for further information.

SCHOOL VISITORS

Campus Visits: Parents or guardians are always welcome to visit school. Volunteers are welcome in the classroom to assist with the academic, social, and emotional growth of the students. Volunteers are under the supervision of the teachers and must follow through with the expectation the teachers outline for each volunteer. Volunteers should arrive and depart on schedule since timing is critical for effective classroom operations. If a visitor would like to visit the classroom for observation purposes, the time shall be arranged after the principal has conferred with the teacher.

Background Checks: If someone wishes to volunteer in the school or chaperone a field trip, an annual background check is required. The required volunteer paperwork is in the school and the District Office.

School Safety: Security and safety demand all visitors report to the office before going anywhere else in the building and again when leaving the school. All visitors must obtain a visitor pass.

The dean of students reserves the right to limit parent/legal guardian visitation at his/her discretion if the educational process and/or safety of the campus is disrupted. Please do not send a visitor to school with your child.

COMMUNICATION INFORMATION

White Pass School District is committed to enhancing communication with parents and guardians. With this in mind, the District will continue to use Skyward Family Access, a web-based program that allows parents/guardians to look up information contained in the District's student information system regarding their child. Guardians will be able to see not only demographic information, but also food service statements, grades, upcoming events, and messages posted by teachers and administrators.

A step-by-step guide is available to assist you with this system. Newly enrolled students will have guardian usernames and passwords created upon enrollment. Please protect your username and password.

A monthly school newsletter will be published for staff, students, and parents. This publication will update you on current school issues, highlight achievements, and notify you of school activities.

We have included an email list for your convenience. Please feel free to email teachers about questions or concerns you may have involving your child's academic progress. This is an efficient way to communicate with your child's teacher. You may include your email information on your personal information card at the office.

Any organization outside of the school that wishes to recognize students must make a written request to the principal. If it is accepted, it will be read in the morning announcements. If there are any accompanying certificates, letters, or trophies, they will be temporarily added to the school's display board.

Conferences: Parent-teacher conferences are held on a scheduled basis in the Fall and Spring. However, additional conferences can be initiated at any time. Parents are encouraged to call the school at 497-7300 x2000 to make an appointment for a conference with the teacher at times when there is a need. Teachers will also contact parents for an appointment when they feel a need for a conference. When teachers and parents work together to share concerns and ideas about the child's educational program, the benefits for the child increase.

Newsletter: The Panther Cub Press is placed on the website, Facebook, Instagram, and/or any other platform the school is using. It contains information pertaining to school events. Parents are welcome to contribute items for publication. Informational items need to be submitted to the office by 15th of the month for the next publication. Please include the name and number of the contact person. Teachers may have classroom newsletters as well.

District Website: Our website includes updated information regarding important links, news, and events throughout the year. http://www.whitepass.k12.wa.us

Messages to Students from Home: While we are happy to deliver critical messages from you to your child during the school day, please be aware that any messages called in or left on our school voice mail may not reach your child before school ends. PLEASE make after-school arrangements with your child before sending them to school in the morning.

Weather Delays: Information about school closures or delays will be posted by 6 AM. No information will be reported if school is operating on a regular schedule. A late start means that all elementary, middle, and high schools will start two hours later than normal. On late start days, buses will run two hours later than normal for all students. Winter bus routes, when used, will be in effect in the morning and announced by noon for the afternoon runs.

CLASSROOM INFORMATION

Classroom Placement: It is the responsibility of the building principal in cooperation with the current teacher to determine which classrooms, and therefore, which teachers the students will be placed with the following year. In the best interest of students, the priority in organizing those classrooms will be guided heavily by student need using the following: iReady benchmark data, classroom-based assessments, and the student's ability to meet state standards.

Other indicators that we consider are equalization of skill levels, gender balance, overall academic success, classroom behavior, and any special needs requirements that may vary from special education support to the clustering of highly capable students. Input from any school staff who may have observed the students is collected and pooled. Parent recommendations will need to blend with these considerations. The placement protocol considers equalizing class balance and consequently, teacher names are not identified in the process.

Field Trips: Parents wishing to be a chaperone on a field trip must complete an annual volunteer background check. Siblings cannot attend grade level field trips. Students are expected to ride the school bus to and from the field trip. Unless needed on the bus, parents are expected to provide their own transportation to the field trip.

Birthday Party Invitations: Invitations to after school or weekend parties are not to be distributed at school. When some students are not invited, this can cause hurt feelings.

Withdrawal from School: If you are withdrawing your student from school, please inform the classroom teacher and the office at least one week before your student's last day. Please let the office of your student's new school know that they need to request a transfer of your student's records. Parents or guardians will come to the office at the end of the last day to pick up your student's withdrawal form, clean out their desk and remove personal items, and return equipment and books. All library books must be returned to the library. Any outstanding fines must be paid. Students who miss school twenty days in a row will be withdrawn from school at the end of that time period, as required by state law. Students will be re-enrolled when they return.

PERSONAL ITEMS

Electronic Usage: Office phones are available as needed. During the school day, students will not be allowed to come to the office to make a phone call without teacher or staff permission.

Cell phones, electronic entertainment devices such as game systems tablets, and iPods are **not** allowed to be out and/or used during school hours. The school is NOT responsible for personal items that are lost, stolen, or damaged.

Label Personal Items: Please label all personal items that your children bring to school, these would include coats, sweatshirts, sweaters, boots, backpacks, lunch boxes, or bags, gloves, etc.

Lost and Found: Every year we accumulate lost jackets, sweaters, and other items. Please mark all such clothing so we may return the items to the proper students. Lost articles may be claimed in the lost and found area located in the elementary school. Those items not claimed will be donated to a local charity at the end of each trimester.

Contraband: Inappropriate items such as magazines, trading cards, toys, and other items that can be a distraction should not come to school. Any item that causes disruption to the education process may be confiscated. Items will be returned to a parent/guardian when he/she comes in for a conference or to the student at the discretion of the school administrator. The school is not responsible for personal items that are lost, stolen or damaged. If it does not belong at school do not bring it to school. If it does not belong at school, do not bring it to school.

TRANSPORTATION

School Bus: School bus transportation is a **privilege**, **not a right**. Students can be removed from the bus for not following the rules set by the bus driver and the school. Students may not switch buses without a parent/guardian note or phone call and their bus changes are listed on the bus list provided each day from the school. School rules apply on the bus *and* at bus stops.

Rules: The rules of the bus are as follows:

- The bus is an extension of the classroom and should be treated as such.
- To avoid choking hazards, no eating or drinking on the bus. This includes gum and candy. No

beverages on the bus.

- □ Treat each other and the space with respect. This includes:
    - Keep language appropriate. No cursing or offensive language. This also includes gestures.
    - Respect others by keeping your hands and feet to yourself. No touching, hitting or kicking of any kind.
    - If there is trash in your immediate area, please pick it up and dispose of it in the trashcan provided.
    - Do not throw anything for any reason.
- □ Noise needs to be kept to a minimum. Communication between students is necessary and welcome but screaming and arguing will not be tolerated. Students need to be able to hear the driver, and drivers need to be able to hear students and emergency sirens.
- □ If you are assigned a seat you must remain in it until your stop. No seat hopping. Once you get on the bus, please go to your seat and prepare for departure. You must sit facing forward and always keep the aisle clear.
- □ Emergency equipment is for use in an emergency only.
    - DO NOT touch any emergency equipment, unless asked to do so
    - DO NOT open emergency doors, unless asked to do so.
    - DO NOT open the overhead emergency hatches, unless asked to do so.

There will be periodic emergency drills. During the drill students will be taught the proper way to evacuate, proper use of emergency equipment including fire extinguishers and triangles. A brief description of the body fluid and first aid kit will be explained and the procedure for opening the overhead hatches will be demonstrated.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Illness, Communicable Diseases, and Parasites: Please notify the school if your child should contract a communicable disease, such as SARS, Influenza, head lice, Fifth's disease, measles, MRSA, COVID, chicken pox, etc.

Illness at School: Students who become ill during the school day are to report to the main office immediately. Parents will be contacted to pick up their children who have a 100.4°F fever, are vomiting, or otherwise cannot stay at school. Students will be allowed to return to school after the temperature has returned to normal for a full 24 hours, without fever reducing medicine.

Health Issues: If a student feels sick, they should tell his/her teacher and get permission to go to the office.

Medicines: The parent and physician must complete medication forms if a child is to take medication of any type, including over the counter, during school hours. All medications (including over the counter) must have completed forms that are turned into the office. Office

staff will supervise the administration of the medication. Copies of the required form may be picked up in the office. **Please do not send your child to school with any medication.** Parents must personally drop off any medication in the office in the original container. Permission to dispense medication must be renewed annually by parent/doctor. Please pick up unused medications at the end of the school year.

Human Growth and Comprehensive Sexual Health Curriculum: The White Pass School District provides age-appropriate instruction regarding human growth and development, disease prevention, and reproductive health in accordance with Washington State Law. Curriculum is available for families to review on our district website. An opt out form is also available on the website. https://www.whitepass.k12.wa.us/page/comprehensive-sexual-education-curriculum/

Insurance: Our school district offers an *optional* student insurance plan. We will send home information on this plan soon after school starts. If you do not have insurance on your child, we urge you to review this policy.

Head Lice: The parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student having lice or visible nits (lice eggs) in hair may be contacted by the school. This decision will be made by the school principal (or designee) in consultation with the nurse or staff member performing the head check.

Printed procedures for effective treatment of lice are available to the family at the time lice are discovered.

Immunizations: By Washington State law, all students must present or have on file documentation of their immunization status on or before the first day of attendance. The certificate of immunization status must show the month and year of all vaccines required.

IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED ARE:

Hepatitis B – Three doses before kindergarten. Last dose on or after 24 weeks of age.
DTaP – *At least* four doses. The last dose received since the child's fourth birthday AND at least 6 months after Dose 3.
IPV – *At least* three doses. The last dose received since the child's fourth birthday.
MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) –The first dose received at or after 12 months of age and a second dose before kindergarten.
Varicella (Chicken Pox) – Two doses given on or after the first birthday **OR** a doctor's documentation of chicken pox for those children entering kindergarten.

Students may be exempt for medical, religious, or philosophical reasons. A physician's signature must accompany a waiver for medical purposes; a parent's signature is necessary to exempt a student for religious or philosophical reasons.

DRESS CODE

How to Dress: In general, students should dress in neat, clean appropriate clothing that does not disrupt the educational process. This specifically includes the following:

1. Pants with frayed hems or holes may not be worn until mended.
2. Clothing must fit properly – "baggies," saggies," "slouchies," or oversized clothing are not to be worn. Pants or shorts are to be worn at the waistline and must be no more than two inches larger than waist size. Shirts longer than the palm of your hand must be

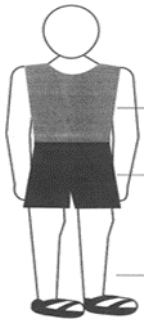
tucked in.

3. Tops and bottoms must be worn at all times.
4. Clothing must be appropriate for the school setting – no bare midriffs. Underwear may not be visible.
5. Shorts and skirts must be at least to your longest fingertip in length.
6. No Tank top with straps less than 2" wide at any point or that allow bra straps to show.
7. Shoes must be worn at all times. No heelies or cleats will be permitted.
8. No hats worn inside the building unless it is a school sponsored event. Hats must be left in the locker, cubby, or backpack until after school.

The principal reserves the right to add more dress code stipulations as fashions change during the year.

If a student's attire is deemed inappropriate, and the situation cannot be remedied by covering up, by turning a shirt inside-out, or by adding a belt, the parent/guardian will be responsible for bringing a change of clothing to the school office where the student will be waiting.

The shaded portion of the following figure represents front and back views. These portions (sitting, standing, bending, and reaching) must be covered while attending school.



Torso: Clothing must cover stomach, back, shoulders, chest and undergarments

Legs: Shorts, skirts and dresses must be longer than mid-thigh. Undergarments must be worn. Shorts or leggings under a dress are encouraged.

Feet: Footwear appropriate to the activity must be worn at all times. Strapless shoes and high heels are discouraged for safety reasons.

SCHOOL-WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

The elementary school staff is dedicated to creating and maintaining a positive, safe, and productive learning environment. Together, parents, students, and staff can help to develop students who are positive, contributing members of society. We aim to foster a sense of understanding and respect for differing points of view. It is essential that students be constructive problem solvers and learn the skills needed to become respectful, self-motivated learners. **To achieve this, our three school-wide expectations are that everyone will be responsible, respectful, and safe.**

Our school-wide behavior expectations help us teach students how to behave respectfully, responsibly, and safely in the classroom and throughout the school. The following matrix explains our school-wide expectations.

Positive Behavior Interventions Supports (PBIS): One of the foremost advances in school-wide discipline is the emphasis on school-wide systems of support that include proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environment. We have implemented PBIS at White Pass Elementary School to create the best educational environment possible.

PBIS Behavior Expectations:

- ❖ Be Respectful
- ❖ Be Responsible
- ❖ Be Safe

Respect and responsibility for SELF means I do my best and make good choices, play and work safely, and take good care of myself.
Respect and responsibility for OTHERS means I choose actions that keep others safe. I treat others with kindness and compassion. It means I accept differences in others and value those differences.
Respect and responsibility for PROPERTY means I take care of our school and our materials. It means I clean up after myself, and help others take care of our home, school and community.

Where School Rules Apply

- □ While on school and district premises;
- □ While on school owned, operated or chartered buses;
- □ While at any school district activity (sports, plays, dances, field trips etc.)
- □ While walking between school and home.

An Important Reminder: In life, natural consequences face us each day, in every decision we make. School is a safe place where children learn which decisions are the most productive: those which produce positive natural consequences. Thus, even play and social situations are vast learning grounds for making good decisions. Therefore, logical 'natural consequences' are used when less positive decisions are made. This could include being "out", receiving a short time-out, a conference with a supervisor, the counselor, teacher, or sometimes the principal. All of these consequences have the same positive goal: to help each child learn to make good decisions.

White Pass Elementary Behavior Expectations

Bathrooms	Keep water in the sink.	Clean up after yourself.	Take nothing in or out with you.
	Use soap and water for washing hands.	Give privacy to others.	Use bathroom equipment correctly.
	Put used towels in garbage.	Use quiet voices.	Flush toilet.
	Walk.		
Playground	Food free zone.	Use conflict resolution system.	Bring in play equipment.
	Follow rules when using equipment.	Line up when whistle blows.	Follow adult directions.

	Rocks stay on the ground.	Be kind to the equipment and balls.	Follow game rules.
	Report dangerous situations.	Include everyone.	Only leave playground with permission.
Classrooms	Teachers define what is safe, respectful and responsible for each classroom. Examples: keep hands and feet to yourself.	Take care of books, desks, and chairs.	Turn in all assignments on time.
Cafeteria	Feet on the floor while seated.	Allow others to sit next to you.	Clean up after yourself.
	Report spills.	Wait patiently in line.	Leave tables and floor clean: food stays in lunchroom.
	Eat your own food.	Use inside voices.	Dump/stack trays nicely.
		Use good manners.	Do not throw food.
Assemblies/Special Events	Sit in assigned area.	Keep feet still.	Focus on the presentation.
	Elementary students sit on floor.	Use appropriate voices.	Leave a good impression on the presenter.
	Walk into the gym in an orderly fashion.	Use audience manners.	
Computer/Chromebook Use Time	Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.	Access only your files.	Drink/food free zone.
	Enter area only when an adult is present.	Quiet voices.	Use equipment and materials correctly.
	Touch only your equipment.	Wait patiently for help.	Do not change computer settings.
	Leave area neat and orderly.	Help others learn.	
Library	Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.	Put books back on shelf.	Drink/food free zone.

	Walk	Quiet voices.	Sit at table or in designated area to read.
	Do not climb on or under shelves.	Wait patiently for check-out	Leave area neat and clean.
			Put returned books inside bin.
Hallways	Walk on right side of hall.	Walk quietly.	Walk directly to your destination.
	Walk with hands at sides.	Yield to younger children and adults.	Leave space between you and other students.
	Walk single file	Hold doors open.	Face forward.
Bus Area	Walk at all times.	Use kind words and actions.	Follow adult directions.
	Wait calmly in line until bus driver directs you to board.	Drop off your bag and get in line to go to morning meeting or breakfast.	Go directly to destination.
	Keep hands and feet to yourself.	Follow bus rules and guidelines.	Manage your behavior on the bus.
	Be on the playground or in commons with staff.		
Pick Up/Drop Off	Wait quietly.	Stand patiently.	Keep hands and feet to yourself.
	Wait with adult until parent arrives.	Watch for your parent or guardian.	

Discipline Guidelines and Procedures: All students will be expected to obey all rules at school. When a student breaks a rule, he/she can expect to be disciplined. The following is a discipline matrix that will be used to guide all decisions on student discipline:

	Behavior	**Minimum Action**	**Maximum Action**
Level 1	Truancy/Tardies Disruption Disrespect Insubordination Substitute Referral Lying Dress Code	Teacher-Student Conference, Parent Communication, Lunch Detentions, In-School Suspension, Community Service	Short or Long-Term Suspension, Emergency Removal, or Alternative Placement

	Electronic Devices/Laser Inappropriate Language/Vulgar Public Display of Affection Technology Violation (Minor) Bus Misconduct Accomplice Cheating/Plagiarism Forgery Horseplay/Unsafe Behavior Other		
Level 2	Aggressive/Unsafe Behavior Defying School Authority Gambling Leaving Campus without permission Pornography Lewd Conduct Substitute Referral Vandalism Malicious Mischief Matches/Lighters Fighting Blackmail/Extortion/Coercion False Alarm Technology Violation (Major) Theft/Possession of Stolen Property Threats Tobacco Other	In-School Suspension, Short-Term Suspension	Short or Long-Term Suspension or Alternative Placement
Level 3	Assault Harassment Intimidation Bullying Arson or Attempted Arson Bomb Threat Possession/Use/Distribution/Sale of Drugs/Alcohol Possession /Use of Weapon (RCW 9.4.280) Explosive Devices Any other action deemed life threatening or actions that could adversely affect the welfare of a student(s) or educational process.	Short-Term Suspension, Emergency Removal, Long-Term Suspension, or Expulsion	Short or Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion

White Pass Elementary's philosophy of discipline centers around the belief that discipline must be firm, fair, and consistent. Our goal in disciplining students is to reduce behaviors that interfere with learning and to help students be self-managers who possess inner control. Above and beyond treating negative behavior as an opportunity to teach the correct replacement behavior based on our school-wide expectations, progressive discipline may be needed. This may include spending time in a buddy room, loss of a privilege, in-school and out of school suspensions, and/or other consequences as needed.

We believe that no student has the right to interfere with the rights of other students to learn. Each teacher has the right to teach and each student must have the right and opportunity to have a productive learning environment. All students need a good understanding of the rules and consequences (positive and negative). Possessing this knowledge will allow the student to make a choice between proper behavior or inappropriate behavior. By knowing these things the student can begin to develop self-discipline and good citizenship.

The Administration reserves the right under certain or special circumstances to circumvent the Discipline Matrix when deemed necessary.

DEFINITION OF DISCIPLINE OPTIONS: The disciplinary actions listed below will be applied in accordance with Chapter 392-400 WAC using the professional judgment of the dean of students and district administration. The district prioritizes supportive, non-exclusionary interventions before imposing any suspension or expulsion. Students subject to any suspension will continue to receive educational services to remain on track with academic progression.

THINK TIME FORM: A brief classroom exclusion providing student reflection in an assigned area for 10 minutes up to the balance of the current class period (WAC 392-400-330).
RESTITUTION: A non-disciplinary corrective action allowing a student to make good or compensate for property loss or damage.
LUNCH DETENTION: A non-exclusionary discipline option served during the student's lunch period. Cafeteria lunch will be provided, or students may bring food from home. Students must report immediately at the beginning of their lunch period.
IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION: A temporary denial of classroom attendance where the student is kept in a supervised school setting to complete academic work. Capped at a maximum of 5 consecutive school days for K-4, 10 consecutive school days for grades 5-6. (WAC 392-400-435).
SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION: The denial of school attendance and removal from school grounds. Capped at a maximum of 5 consecutive school days for K-4, 10 consecutive school days for grades 5-6. (WAC 392-400-435).
LONG-TERM SUSPENSION: The denial of school attendance and removal from school grounds for a period exceeding 10 consecutive school days for eligible upper grades. It can not exceed one academic term and requires a collaborative reengagement plan. (WAC 392-400-450).
EMERGENCY REMOVAL: An immediate temporary removal from school, capped at a maximum of 10 consecutive school days, used only if the student's presence poses immediate, continuing danger or a substantial disruption to the educational environment. The school will provide initial due process and notify parents within 24 hours of the removal. (WAC 392-400-510)
COMMUNITY SERVICE: Voluntary opportunities for staff, students, and parents to help restore and beautify WPES grounds. This is offered exclusively as a supportive, non-disciplinary alternative to traditional discipline.

Drugs and Alcohol: Students under the influence of, possession of, use of, sale of, sharing, or distribution of drugs, alcohol, or any other controlled substance is strictly prohibited on school grounds and at all school sponsored activities. This also includes drug paraphernalia and/or vaping tools/liquids. Any item purported to be alcohol/tobacco/drugs may result in discipline.

Tobacco: Per state and federal law and school board policy, tobacco products are not allowed on campus or within two blocks of campus, on any district property, including district vehicles and athletic fields. Use or possession of tobacco products will result in cumulative disciplinary action. The use of tobacco products is defined as carrying or smoking of any kind of pipe, cigar, cigarette, or the use of smokeless tobacco.

Incident reporting: Students should report any incident they believe affects his or her ability to learn in a safe environment to an adult they trust. Upon receiving the report, the administrators will review the incident and take any necessary actions to remedy the situation. If the incident involves harassment, intimidation, or bullying, a report will be filed with the administrators and immediate action will be taken to protect anyone involved. If a student is not sure of an incident, they should report it anyway.

WPES Anti-Bullying Policy: The **Purpose** of an anti-bullying policy is to provide a safe and orderly environment for all individuals throughout WPES so that the educational process is maintained and not disrupted. The **Policy** is that all staff and students will maintain a ZERO tolerance outlook on bullying.

Leaving School Grounds: A student will not be allowed to leave school grounds during school hours unless they have permission from a custodial parent or legal guardian. This is for their safety. The school will notify the police/Sheriff immediately if a child leaves school grounds without permission. A parent or legal guardian will be notified immediately after the police.

BOARD POLICIES OF WHITE PASS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Facilities Usage: Individuals and groups in the community may use school facilities for non-profit purposes. To use the facilities, a Building Use Application form needs to be completed. The application form can be obtained from the office. A minimal fee may be assessed according to the fee schedule specified by the Board of Directors. A schedule of use is maintained, and school functions are given priority when determining availability.

Pesticide Notification, Posting, and Record Keeping: Upon request, the district will provide notification to staff and parents of the district's pest control policies, methods and its posting and notification requirements.

The Superintendent is directed to develop procedures to assure that the District complies with the requirements of law regarding pesticide notification, posting and record keeping. The District's procedures for notification will include posting of sites of pesticide applications; and record keeping, including an annual summary report of pesticide usage.

Sexual Harassment: This district is committed to a positive and productive education and working environment free from discrimination, including sexual harassment. The district prohibits sexual harassment of students, employees and others involved in school district activities.

Sexual harassment occurs when:

a. Submitting to the harasser's sexual demands is a stated or implied condition of obtaining an education or work opportunity or other benefit;
b. Submission to or rejection of sexual demands is a factor in an academic, work or other school-related decision affecting an individual; or
c. Unwelcome sexual or gender-directed conduct or communication interferes with an individual's performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Sexual harassment can occur adult to student, student to adult, student-to-student, adult-to-adult, male to female, female to male, male-to-male and female-to-female.
The district will take prompt, equitable and remedial action within its authority on reports, complaints and grievances alleging sexual harassment that come to the attention of the district, either formally or informally. Allegations of criminal misconduct will be reported to law enforcement and suspected child abuse will be reported to law enforcement or Child Protective Services. Persons found to have been subjected to sexual harassment will have appropriate school district services made reasonably available to them and adverse consequences of the harassment will be reviewed and remedied, as appropriate.

Engaging in sexual harassment will result in appropriate discipline or other appropriate sanctions against offending students, staff and contractors. Anyone else who engages in sexual harassment on school property or at school activities will have their access to school property and activities restricted, as appropriate.

Retaliation against any person who makes or is a witness in a sexual harassment complaint is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline. The district will take appropriate actions to protect involved persons from retaliation.

It is a violation of this policy to knowingly report false allegations of sexual harassment. Persons found to knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to appropriate discipline.

The superintendent will develop and implement formal and informal procedures for receiving, investigating and resolving complaints or reports of sexual harassment. The procedures will include reasonable and prompt time lines and delineate staff responsibilities under this policy. All staff are responsible for receiving informal complaints and reports of sexual harassment and informing appropriate district personnel of the complaint or report for investigation and resolution. All staff are also responsible for directing complainants to the formal complaint process.

The superintendent will develop procedures to provide age-appropriate information and education to district staff, students, parents and volunteers regarding this policy and the recognition and prevention of sexual harassment. At a minimum sexual harassment recognition and prevention and the elements of this policy will be included in staff, student and regular volunteer orientation. This policy will be posted in each district building in a place available to staff, students, parents, volunteers and visitors. The policy will be reproduced in each student, staff, volunteer and parent handbook.

The superintendent will make an annual report to the board reviewing the use and efficacy of this policy and related procedures. Recommendations for changes to this policy, if applicable, will be included in the report. The superintendent and parents in the review process is encouraged to

involve staff, students, and volunteers

REGULATION OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PREMISES: It is a violation of district policy and state law for any person to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon on school premises, school-provided transportation or areas of other facilities being used exclusively for school activities.

The superintendent is directed to see that all school facilities post "Gun-Free Zone" signs, and that all violations of this policy and RCW 9.41.280 are reported annually to the superintendent of Public Instruction.

The following persons may carry firearms into school buildings, as necessary, although students engaged in these activities are restricted to the possession of rifles on school premises:

A. Persons engaged in military, law enforcement, or school district security activities;
B. Persons involved in a school authorized convention, showing, demonstration, lecture or firearm safety course;
C. Persons competing in school authorized firearm or air gun competitions; and
D. Any federal, state or local law enforcement officer.

School officials shall notify the student's parents or guardians and the appropriate law enforcement agency of known or suspected violations of this policy. Students who violate this policy shall be subject to discipline, including a one-year expulsion for a violation involving a firearm. However, the superintendent may modify the one-year expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

PROHIBITION OF HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING: The district is committed to a safe and civil educational environment for all students, employees, parents/legal guardians, volunteers and patrons that is free from harassment, intimidation or bullying. "Harassment, intimidation or bullying" means any intentionally written message or image — including those that are electronically transmitted — verbal, or physical act, including but not limited to one shown to be motivated by race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, mental or physical disability or other distinguishing characteristics, when an act:

- Physically harms a student or damages the student's property.
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education.
- Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment.
- Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Nothing in this section requires the affected student to actually possess a characteristic that is a basis for harassment, intimidation or bullying.

"Other distinguishing characteristics" can include but are not limited to: physical appearance, clothing or other apparel, socioeconomic status and weight.

"Intentional acts" refers to the individual's choice to engage in the act rather than the ultimate impact of the action(s).

Behaviors/Expressions: Harassment, intimidation or bullying can take many forms including, but not limited to, slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendoes, demeaning comments, drawings, cartoons,

pranks, gestures, physical attacks, threats or other written, oral, physical or electronically transmitted messages or images.

This policy is not intended to prohibit expression of religious, philosophical, or political views, provided that the expression does not substantially disrupt the educational environment. Many behaviors that do not rise to the level of harassment, intimidation or bullying may still be prohibited by other district policies or building, classroom or program rules.

Training: This policy is a component of the district's responsibility to create and maintain a safe, civil, respectful and inclusive learning community and shall be implemented in conjunction with comprehensive training of staff and volunteers

Prevention: The district will provide students with strategies aimed at preventing harassment, intimidation and bullying. In its' efforts to train students, the district will seek partnerships with families, law enforcement and other community agencies.

Interventions: Interventions are designed to remediate the impact on the targeted student(s) and others impacted by the violation, to change the behavior of the perpetrator, and to restore a positive school climate.
The district will consider the frequency of incidents, developmental age of the student, and severity of the conduct in determining intervention strategies. Interventions will range from counseling, correcting behavior and discipline, to law enforcement referrals.

Retaliation/False Allegations: Retaliation is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline. It is a violation of this policy to threaten or harm someone for reporting harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

It is also a violation of district policy to knowingly report false allegations of harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Students or employees will not be disciplined for making a report in good faith. However, persons found to knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to appropriate discipline.

Compliance Officer
The superintendent will appoint a compliance officer as the primary district contact to receive copies of all formal and informal complaints and ensure policy implementation. The name and contact information for the compliance officer will be communicated throughout the district.

The White Pass School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Mark Westley, PO Box 188, Randle, WA 98377; (360) 497-3791 (Title IX/ Section 504/ ADA Coordinator/Compliance Coordinator for 28A.640 and 28A.642).

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA) FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99)

is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights are transferred to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):
    1. School officials with legitimate educational interest;
    2. Other schools to which a student is transferring;
    3. Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
    4. Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
    5. Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
    6. Accrediting organizations;
    7. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
    8. Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
    9. State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

*State Law Qualification: Although FERPA allows 45 days to honor a request, the state policy

records law requires an appropriate response to a "public records" request within five business days. RCW 42.17.320.

HOMELESS EDUCATION PLAN

DEFINITION

Children and youth in transition are children and youth who are otherwise legally entitled to or eligible for a free public education, and who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including:

1. Children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, campgrounds, or trailer parks due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement.
2. Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a private or public place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
3. Children and youth who are living in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, or similar setting.
4. Migratory children and youth who are living in a situation described above.

IDENTIFICATION

In collaboration with school personnel and community organizations, the Homeless Education Liaison will identify children and youth in transition in the district, both in and out of school.

SCHOOL SELECTION

Children and youth in transition will remain at their schools of origin to the extent feasible, unless that is against the parent or youth's wishes.

ENROLLMENT

The school selected for enrollment will immediately enroll children and youth in transition. Enrollment will not be denied or delayed due to the lack of any document normally required for enrollment.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation will be provided to and from the school of origin for a child or youth in transition.

TITLE I

Title I are reserved funds will be used to provide education-related support services to children and youth in transition, both in school and outside of school, and to remove barriers that prevent regular attendance. Children and youth in transition will be assessed, reported on, and included in accountability systems, as required by federal law and U.S. Department of Education regulations and guidance.

SERVICES

Children and youth in transition will be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school selected, including:

1. Transportation.

2. Title I services.
3. Educational services for which the student meets eligibility criteria, including special education and related services and programs for English language learners.
4. Vocational and technical education programs.
5. Gifted and talented programs.
6. School nutrition programs.
7. Before- and after-school programs.
8. Preschool programs.

If you or someone you know in our district needs more information, please contact the Elementary School office at (360) 497-7300 ext 2000.

LAW ENFORCEMENT & CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

By law, law enforcement officers and/or child protective service representatives will be allowed by the building administrator to interview students in school without notifying parents, upon request of the officer or representative. If a student is taken into custody the school will inform the parent, unless requested not to by law enforcement to protect the integrity of an investigation.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

1. You have a right to ask about the professional qualifications of your child's teacher.
2. You have a right to know whether your child is provided services by paraeducators and, if so, their qualifications.
3. You have a right to information on your child's level of achievement on the state assessments.
4. You have a right to receive information in an easily understandable format. Please let us know if we need to make changes in our communication.
5. You have a right to information about the state's procedures for complaints that the state, local school district, educational service district, or other sub-grantee has violated one or more requirements of federal statutes or regulations or state regulations that apply to Title I, Part A.

STATE ASSESSMENTS

Each spring students in grades 3 – 6 the Smarter Balanced Assessment summative assessments are required. They will take place during the last 12 weeks of the school year. These computer-based tests will help schools evaluate how well their students performed by comparing them with students from other schools across the nation. The end-of-year assessments provide families with a clear indication of how well their children are progressing toward mastering the academic knowledge and skills necessary for college and career readiness.

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium is a state-led consortium working collaboratively to develop next generation assessments aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) that measure student progress toward college- and career-readiness. The work of the Consortium is guided by the belief that a high-quality assessment system can provide resources and tools for teachers and schools to improve instruction and help students succeed.