# CENTENNIAL Parent & Student Handbook 2022 - 2023

ACT 212 Academics, Character, Tradition

# Welcome to Centennial Kindergarten through Sixth Grade

Dear Parents, Students and Community members:

It is our honor to welcome you to Centennial Elementary. The Centennial staff is committed to educating, inspiring, and challenging your child or children to become responsible citizens within a safe, positive, and respectful environment. Our staff is dedicated to promote and encourage learning through high expectations and shared goals among our parents, students and community. In order to reach this objective, communication is imperative between the staff and home. We know that everyone contributes to making this goal obtainable, and look forward to building a strong partnership to accomplish our mission.

This handbook was created to serve as a guide to help all members of our Centennial Community learn about the school. Within its pages you will find information regarding school routines, general policies, office hours, and general information. An additional publication; the Higley Student Code of Conduct, clearly defines expectations for student behavior and will be provided to all families on our district and school websites. Your understanding and support of these policies and procedures helps us to establish a school environment that is respectful, conducive to learning, and ensures the safety and welfare of all our students. Further information about our school may also be found on Centennial's school website.

Our school encourages parent involvement and thrives from the relationships built amongst our families and community members. Research shows that children whose parents are involved in their child's education perform better in school in many ways. As a result, we would like to extend an invitation to each of you to become an active partner in your child's learning. There are many ways one can become involved, such as volunteering in your child's classroom, becoming a member of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), attending after school athletic and performing arts events, as well as participating in school wide family events sponsored by the teaching staff. We hope to see many of you around our campus and appreciate your time and effort in making this school a place for everyone to learn and feel a part of.

As a school within the Higley Unified School District we will follow our core values of Grow, Learn, and Lead, in addition to Centennial's philosophy of ACT 212: "Where we always go the extra degree!", promotes Academics, Character, and Tradition. Together we look to make this school both a rewarding and successful place for our students, staff, parents, and community.

Thank you for joining us in our partnership toward excellence.

Rachel Broadley, Principal

Matthew Verville, Assistant Principal

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# **School Day**

Office hours are from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Centennial's main phone number is (480) 279-8200. The school day starts at 8:10 AM for all students. Students are dismissed at 3:05 PM.

Students are <u>not</u> to <u>arrive</u> at school <u>before 7:45 AM</u> as supervision is not provided until that time. Exceptions will made for those students who participate in before school clubs, as supervision will be present upon their arrival.

# **School Health Services**

School is a healthy environment.

The Health Office promotes a positive wellness environment to give each student the best possible opportunity to learn and reach their potential. The health aide is a consultant for students, parents and educational staff members concerning health issues and problems. He or she may recommend further medical follow up when a health problem is suspected.

#### **Health Office**

The Health office provides first aide and medical care primarily for illness or injuries that occur during the school day. It is not a primary care facility like a doctor's office. The health aide is, however, qualified to collaborate with you and your child's physician to provide an educational environment in which your child can learn and thrive. While the health aide does not make a medical diagnosis or prescribe medication or treatment, medication and treatment prescribed by a physician may be given in the health office.

#### **Disease Prevention/Immunizations**

Written proof of compliance with immunization requirements is a part of the registration process in Arizona Schools. State and Federal Law mandates that school-age children be immunized to prevent certain diseases. If you are unsure of the requirements for Immunization, see your doctor, visit the School Health Office or call the Maricopa County Health Dept. at (602)-506-6767 or (602)-263-8856 for locations of clinics and hours of operation.

# Parent and Emergency Contacts/Health History

Parents are required to complete an Emergency and Health History Form for each of their children every year. These forms contain vital information should your child become ill or injured at school. These forms need to be updated as changes occur during the school year. Students will be released to ONLY those persons indicated on the form. Photo ID is required to pick up any child during the day at school.

#### Student Illness

If a student feels ill during the school day, they should report their complaint to the classroom teacher for referral to the health office. Students are not to contact their parents directly via cell phone regarding illness unless prior arrangements have been made with the health aide. Please keep your child home if they have fever, diarrhea, vomiting, deep cough, or a potentially communicable disease. Students who have a fever of over 100 degrees, or signs and symptoms of a contagious condition must be picked up by a guardian or someone listed on the Emergency Contact list. Children with a fever of 100 degrees or more must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications before returning to school. If your child has been diagnosed with contagious illness, please contact the Health Office so parents of other students in the class may be notified. Please call your child's doctor for advice on an ill child. Do not send ill students to school to be evaluated by the health aide.

# **Medication**

Acetaminophen will be the only over-the-counter medication available in the Health office. This medication will be given at the discretion of the health aide **and** only if pre-authorization has been given by the parent/guardian (as indicated on medical yellow card). This medication will not be dispensed during the first and last hours of the school day.

Prescription medications, daily and PRN (as needed), <u>must</u> be in an original prescription container labeled for the student with a current date. The label must state directions that coincide with the request being made by the parent. The parent/guardian must check-in the medication to the health office.

Over-the-counter medications that are not stocked in the Health office and are needed by students during the school day must be checked in to the Health office by a parent/guardian. Requests for medications must be in agreement with the manufacturer's directions or have a superseding physician's order. Herbal preparations must have a doctor's order. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to pick up any unused or discontinued medications promptly from the health office. At the end of the school year, any medication remaining in the Health office will be discarded if not picked up.

#### **PE Excuses**

Students requesting excuse from P.E. must bring a note signed by their parent to the health aide. The health aide will then write an "excused from P.E." pass for the student to take to P.E. Any request for an excuse for three or more PE classes must be accompanied by a Physician's written order. The PE department will determine an alternate manner in earning class participation during the excusal. All injuries requiring any type of orthopedic support or devise on campus must be reported with a medical excuse and cleared through the Health office.

# **Chronic Health Conditions**

For chronic health conditions, please see the health office to obtain forms and provide required documentation for approval.

#### **Homebound Program**

Students who must be absent from school because of physical disabilities or extended illness may qualify for homebound instruction. A doctor's written statement that the student will be absent 90 or more school days will be required. Forms are available from either Office or the Health office.

#### Academics

Curriculum and Instruction.

The instructional and academic program used at Centennial Elementary School, and within the Higley Unified district follows state and district wide standards. Curriculum has been adopted for the entire district that instructs the subjects of Language Arts, Reading, Phonics, Spelling, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. Programs in Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Leadership Gifted and Talented Education, Special Education, Technology and Physical Education are also provided to students at all individual grade levels.

#### **Textbooks**

Current textbooks from the adopted curriculum as well as other instructional materials are used in the basic subject areas. Instructional materials are used and necessary to effectively prepare students for state mandated assessments and district adopted assessments. Curriculum from the textbooks and assessments are used to promote continuous improvement throughout the school community. Students are responsible for lost/damaged curriculum resources and will be responsible to pay for the replacement of the item(s).

#### **Promotion and Retention**

Students who satisfactorily meet the requirements at their grade level will be promoted to the next grade. Parents and teachers work closely together during the school year to ensure students are progressing. The school administration will support the teacher and the parent in making decisions that are in the best interest of the student.

If a student is not progressing satisfactorily, the teacher will contact the parent or guardian as soon as possible to discuss the concerns. Teachers will notify parents of a possible retention well in advance of the end of the school year and follow the process for retention within Higley.

#### **Student Placement Procedure**

Student classroom placement process begins in early April for the upcoming year, and involves a variety factors to determine placement. Teachers place students based on their academic, social and emotional needs. The placement process works to balance classes with a range of ability levels in order to broaden the educational experience for all learners. Parent input and participation in this process is valued. In the spring prior to the upcoming school year, parents have the option of obtaining an environmental request form from the front office and completing information regarding preferred teaching style and classroom environment. This information is reviewed during the placement process and taken into consideration as assignments are made for the following school year. Final notification regarding student placement is communicated prior to the beginning of the school year.

#### Homework

The following guidelines will be used for homework:

- Kinder-3<sup>rd</sup> grade homework will consist of reading 15 minutes nightly
- 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade homework will consist of reading 20 minutes nightly, weekly math and/or ELA practice, and quarterly projects
- Students may also be assigned unfinished classwork to complete as homework. Your child's teacher will attempt to communicate when this occurs.
- Homework should be relevant to the material taught in the classroom.
- Homework will not be graded unless the assigned homework is unfinished classwork.
- Individual grade levels will create and utilize incentives to promote positive behavior and homework completion.

If your child is having difficulty completing the assigned homework grades 4th –6th or must spend extensive time each evening to complete the homework, please contact the classroom teacher to discuss your child's situation.

#### **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

School and home must work together in order to achieve student success in school. Consistent email and website communication between home and school is beneficial and insightful. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher to address concerns as soon as possible. Please check your child's teacher webpage for the most up to date information.

There will be designated parent-teacher conferences at the end of the first and third quarter grading periods. If your child is doing unsatisfactory, teachers will notify you in a timely manner and a conference should be scheduled to plan a strategy for assisting your child in the areas of concern. Teachers are available for conferences both before and after school, during school days only. During district wide scheduled Parent-Teacher Conference days, teachers will communicate how to sign up for available times and make reasonable accommodations to ensure that all have an opportunity to meet.

# Report Cards and Progress Reports

Report cards are issued to students at the conclusion of each grading period, four times throughout the year. A schedule of the grading periods and parent-teacher conferences is listed on the school calendar, and can be found on the school and district websites. Progress reports are sent home mid-quarter. Please us the ParentVUE website to check your child's grades and progress in class. ParentVUE can be accessed on our school and district websites and provides a variety of resources and information for your student. For ParentVUE login information please contact the Centennial front office.

#### <u>Attendance</u>

Teachers in grades K-6 will take attendance each morning between 8:10 and 8:25 AM. Afternoon attendance will be taken after lunch.

If a student is going to be absent, parents must notify the school by phone, written note, or in person regarding the nature of the absence (illness or personal). On the morning of the absence, parents are to call the school attendance line before 8:10 a.m. to report an excused absence. Any absence not verified by the attendance office during the school day will be classified as unexcused. Unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action. The attendance line can be reached by calling 480-279-8200, pressing 2 and following the recorded prompts. Contact the school in advance when possible, or as soon as possible on the day of the absence and each subsequent absence, but no later than 8:10 AM. If no contact is made staff members may contact the home and/or work place to determine why the student is not in school.

# Pursuant to School Board Policy J-1550 Student Absences & Excuses:

The regular school attendance is required by state law. Regular school attendance is essential for success in school; therefore, absences shall be excused only for necessary and important reasons. Such reasons include illness, bereavement, other family emergencies, and observance of major religious holidays of the family's faith.

In the event of a necessary absence known in advance, the parent is expected to inform the school. If the absence is caused by emergency, such as illness, the parent is expected to telephone the school office. When a student returns to school following any absence, a note of explanation for the parent is required.

#### Leaving Early

When a student is going to be dismissed early from school, the parent must come to the office and sign out the student, stating the date, time, student's name, the name of person taking the student, and the reason for the dismissal. If the student returns the same day, parents must sign the student back in. The student will receive an admission slip before returning to class.

Anyone checking out a student early MUST have a photo identification and be listed on the emergency contact card. For the safety of our students there will be NO EXCEPTIONS. Students will not be called from class until the parent has arrived on campus. This policy minimizes loss of instructional time.

# **Tardiness**

Excessive Tardies and/or Absences may result in a referral to the CUTS program. This may result in a meeting with a representative of the Arizona Superior Court. If children are late to school they must report to the office before going to the classroom. Parents must come into the office (when dropping students off) or call prior to the child arriving at school to report the tardy student in order for it to be excused.

#### **Make-up Work for Excused Absences**

When students have an excused absence, they will be allowed one day of make-up time for each day missed. A deadline may be extended if there is reasonable need, by contacting the child's teacher. There will be no grade penalty if the "made-up" assignment is turned in within the allotted time. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain the missed assignments.

#### **DISCIPLINE**

#### Behavior Management Plan

All members of the Centennial's school staff care about students' rights and safety. However, we also want to provide an engaging and healthy environment in which to learn. It is our goal to teach and help students learn appropriate behavior in classrooms, in hallways, on the playground, in the lunchroom, on the bus, and during performances and presentations.

# **Discipline Guidelines**

The Higley Unified School District "Student Code of Conduct" provides detailed information regarding student discipline and consequences. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with this document.

# **Bus Transportation**

Riding a bus is a privilege. Arizona law does not require school districts to transport students. Riding a bus is not a right. This privilege can be revoked if behavior is inappropriate and/or endangers the safety of others. Parents are responsible for transporting students to school if they lose bus privileges.

# **Bus Stop**

School rules apply at the bus stop. Additional bus stop rules are as follows:

Be on time for the bus before and after school

Stand a safe distance back from the curb or street

Always listen to the bus driver for instructions

# Messages from Parents to Students

We will make every effort to ensure that messages are given to students during school hours. Please try to refrain from calling in messages the last 15 minutes at the end of the day, as it becomes difficult to ensure your student receives the message due to dismissal procedures and routines at the end of the day.

This is especially important as it relates to change of transportation messages.

#### **Campus Rules**

At our school, every child is expected to maintain a community standards of expected behavior. Rules and procedures must stay consistent throughout all grade levels and in all areas of the school. The following are the expectations all student are to follow throughout the school day and when on campus. Consequences for behavior that does follow these rules will range from an informal conference, to inside lunch assignment, or suspension from school; in accordance with our student code of conduct.

Centennial Behavior Expectations

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Show Integrity

#### **Playground**

Student safety is the number one rule on our playground. Consequences for unsafe behavior will range from an informal conference to inside lunch assignment or suspension from school.

Playground rules are as followed:

I freeze when the whistle is blown once; I line up when the whistle blows twice

- I pick up equipment and trash
- I play with equipment appropriately
- I stay visible and ask for permission to leave the playground
- I respect the personal space of others

# **Toys and Valuables**

Students are discouraged from bringing toys, valuables items to school. If students choose to bring such items to school they will assume all responsibility. If the item is lost, stolen or damaged there will be no investigation by school administration or teachers. Teachers have ultimate authority to determine if such items will be permitted into their classrooms and/or how they may be used.

#### Cell Phones, Pagers, and Electronic Devices

To keep the learning environment free from distraction, cell phones, wrist phones, and pagers are not permitted during the school day. All electronic devices should be left at home. **Cell phones must be turned off and not visible.** If they are used, visible, ring and/or vibrate a HUSD Staff member will confiscate them and the following consequences will incur:

- 1st: Warning and may pick phone up at the end of the day.
- 2nd: Parent will be notified and must pick up phone at the end of the day.
- 3rd: 1 day ISS, parent must pick up phone
- 4th: 1 day OSS, parent must pick up
- OSS will escalate with more occurrences.

Camera use on phones are never allowed and violate student privacy rules and laws.

It is the district policy to temporarily confiscate cell phones and/or other electronic equipment. If the student's possession or use of the item is causing a disruption to the educational environment and/or the student has failed to comply with verbal direction from an adult to cease the disruption. Generally, the item will be returned to the student or the parent at the conclusion of the school day.

Students who need to contact a parent or guardian during the day, may do so by using the school's front office phones with instructor's permission, or they may use phones located in the classrooms. Parents can also leave messages for students during the school day, by calling the school's front office.

# **Student Transportation**

Students should always lock their bicycles and non-motorized scooters in the bike rack. Heelys (shoes with wheels) are prohibited on campus.

If a student's bicycle or scooter is stolen or vandalized it is the parent's responsibility to notify the police and file a report. The school is not liable for stolen property or restitution of lost or stolen items.

#### **Lost and Found**

Please be sure that your child's clothing and other items brought to school are clearly marked with his/her name. Items that are not claimed will be donated to a local charitable organization at the end of each grading period. The school cannot be responsible for personal belongings brought to school by students.

#### **SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

# **Special Education Services**

Centennial Elementary School has special education programs designed to help those students who may have learning disabilities. When a teacher or parent has a concern regarding a child's

ability to learn, a conference will be scheduled to discuss the child's progress. If it appears that the child may have a learning disability, the special education resource teacher will be consulted. If the student's teacher, parent, special education teacher, and administrator agree that the child may have a learning disability, parental permission to refer the child for academic testing and/or a psychological evaluation will be requested.

# Gifted Program

The Gifted program is designed to meet the needs of students who are academically advanced in mathematics and language arts, in grades 2nd through 5th. For information on the referral process and testing, please speak to your child's teacher. Blanket testing for all second grade students is provided in the Spring and to all new HUSD students.

# **Food Service Program**

The Higley Unified School District provides a balanced and nutritious lunch for its students. Eligible students may qualify for the free or reduced price lunch program. Students may purchase milk or juice if they bring their own lunch.

Forms for the Free/Reduced Lunch Program will be available online at www.husd.org sent home with every child at the beginning of the year for parents to complete in the event they are eligible for free or reduced priced lunches. Applications are also available after July 1st by calling the District Office Business Department at 480-279-7063.

Students buying lunches and/or milk will be asked to deposit money into their accounts. Deposits can be made on-line at (www. Mymealtime.com) or in the cafeteria. Please place your payment in a sealed envelope clearly marked with your child's name, student ID number, teacher, and room number. Deposits of \$10 or more each time are suggested. The cost for breakfast is \$2.00, and the cost for lunch is \$2.90 per day. Deposits may be made between the hours of 7:45 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

The cost of each day's lunch or milk will be deducted from his/her account. You are strongly encouraged to keep a balance in your child's account. Contact the cafeteria manager with any questions 480-279-7820 or use the website <a href="https://www.mymealtime.com/">https://www.mymealtime.com/</a> to check balances and make deposits.

#### **Student Insurance**

School insurance is available to all students. The policies available are for medical, dental, and life. A brochure is available in the office.do not purchase school insurance will be asked to furnish proof of family medical coverage for their child.

#### **Instrumental Music Programs**

Band and Strings are programs offered that include extra-curricular performance requirements offered at our school. Although participation in these programs is optional, it is expected that students who join Band or Strings will commit to their chosen ensemble for at least one full school year. The removal of a student from these programs will be done through the consultation of the band/strings instructor, administration and parents. Students will also be required to purchase and obtain the class method book, a musical instrument and supplies to use for the class.

Although Centennial does own a few instruments which can be rented based on need, instrument rental programs offered through several different music stores in the surrounding area are a good way to take care of this requirement. Please contact the school for more information about these programs.

#### STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARDS

Each quarter our students are eligible for the following recognitions: K-3rd perfect attendance and ACT 212 award; 4th-6th Honor Roll and Principal's List.

#### **Attendance Awards**

Students will be acknowledged fro perfect attendance and/or no tardies at the end of each quarter and or/and for the entire year during a school assembly.

# Honor Roll (Grades 4-6)

A student who receives 3's and 4's in all core subject areas for grades 4 through 5, or who receives all A's and B's in core subject areas for grade 6 will be provided acknowledgement by the classroom teachers quarterly.

# Principal's List (Grade 4-6)

A student who receives all 4's in core subject areas for grades 4 through 5, or who receives all A's in core subject areas for grade 6 will be provided acknowledgement during a school assembly.

# Student of the Month -Town of Gilbert (K-6)

Each month two students will be nominated by their teachers for good citizenship and making a difference in their school or community. The Mayor's committee selects one student each month to represent the school. The student, parents, and teacher are recognized the town of Gilbert's monthly council meeting.

# **ACT 212 Award (K-6)**

Students will be nominated throughout each quarter for ACTing 212.

# OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### **Birthday and Other Celebrations**

The District discourages the delivery of gifts to students during the school day. Balloon deliveries are strictly prohibited and will not be delivered to classrooms under any circumstance. If such a gift is delivered for a student, it shall be kept in the office during the school day and available for pick up by the student at the conclusion of the school day. Exceptions to this Policy may be made in the discretion of the Principal for certain holidays or in special circumstances. The school does not assume responsibility for damage to or loss of such items. Food items may be brought with prior permission from the student's teacher and must be store bought, packaged, and provide ingredients of the items brought in. No homemade food items may be brought or distributed to students at school.

# <u>Pets</u>

For the safety of all students and due to fear or allergies relating to pets, they are not allowed on campus at any time, this is in accordance to Arizona state law (AR 6163.1).

#### Talking to Strangers

Any problems with strangers are to be immediately reported. Students are not to get into an automobile or any form of transportation with a stranger. They are not to accept gifts, food, or anything else from a stranger. Students are not to follow a stranger anywhere, no matter what he or she says or what sort of treat or incentive is promised. Students are not to talk to strangers.

# **Dress Code**

Please refer to the Code of Conduct, (regulation JICA) for these guidelines. Students who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary action.

A partial list is included below. All students in grades K-6 are expected to follow the dress code. Students who violate this policy are subject to disciplinary action.

The District encourages students to take pride in their attire as it relates to the school setting. Students should dress in a manner that, in addition to the following guidelines, takes into

consideration the educational environment, safety, health, and welfare of self and others. To that end, students are expected to adhere to the following dress standards:

Clothing that immodestly exposes the chest, abdomen, midriff, genital area or buttocks is not permitted. Shirts and tops may not expose the bare midriff while standing or sitting, nor be deeply/narrowly cut in the front, back, or under the arms. Shirts and tops must not be halter-tops or have spaghetti straps. Shirt and top straps must be at least 1.5 inches wide. Bra straps must not be showing. Clothing may not be made of see-through fabric. Clothing must cover the entire buttocks and a modest area of the legs. Shorts and skirts must be fingertip length when hands are held straight down at their sides. Clothing that exposes underwear will not be tolerated. Pajamas are not considered appropriate clothing to wear to school.

Clothing items may not create an atmosphere of threat, intimidation or undue pressure.

Safe footwear must be worn at all times. Safety requirements for specific classes such as industrial technology, life management, physical education and chemistry must be followed.

Jewelry shall not be worn if it presents a safety hazard to self and/or others. Chains, spiked collars, spiked wristbands, body pierced jewelry and other similar accessories may fall into

Clothing may not display or suggests obscene, sexual, or violent language or symbols. Clothing may not display or advertise alcohol, drugs, tobacco or any illegal or controlled substance or item.

The only acceptable headwear allowed that may be worn at school are hats and visors in their original unaltered condition. Students shall remove their headwear when in a building or when requested to do so by faculty or staff. Bandannas, hairnets, knit stocking caps and so forth, are not to be worn at school.

Students who are dress coded will not be allowed to call home and wait for a change of clothes so that there is minimal disruption to the instructional time and will need to change into appropriate clothing given by the nurse. Student's will be given back their confiscated item upon returning the item that was given to them. Any clothing held for more than 30 days might be donated to a non-profit organization.

The Principal may pre-approve student dress exceptions for special activities or health considerations.

Students who volunteer for extra-curricular activities, such as athletics, band, chorus, etc. are subject to additional standards of dress as defined by the sponsors of such activities.

The Board, the Superintendent and/or school administrators may revise student dress standards as is necessary to minimize disruption and increase student safety. School administrators will make the final decision regarding the appropriateness of a student's appearance while the student is at school.

#### **Emergency Drills**

Fire and other emergency drills are held on a periodic basis to teach students the safest and quickest route out from the school buildings. All students, volunteers, and guests must follow the emergency procedures.

Follow teacher directions

this category.

- Leave all work and line up immediately.
- Know the emergency exit route from each room. Routes will be posted.
- Without talking, walk in a line until reaching designated areas.
- Remain in line facing the building and wait until the teacher directs the students to return to class.

Visitors who arrive at the school during an emergency drill will be asked to wait in the parking lot until the drill is concluded.

# **Governing Board Meetings**

The Higley Unified School District #60 Governing Board has two scheduled meetings a month. Public notices are posted at each school site and the district office at least twenty-four hours before the meeting is scheduled to occur. The notice will state the date, time, and location of the meeting, as well as a meeting agenda.

#### **Tax Credit Contributions**

Arizona law (ARS 43-1089.01) allows taxpayers a tax credit for contributions paid during the taxable year to a public school for the support of extracurricular activities or character education programs.

This tax credit is 100% deductible from your taxes, and is available to Arizona individual taxpayers. There is no requirement that the taxpayer have a child enrolled in a public school in order to get the credit.

Contributions made by single or head of household taxpayers cannot exceed **\$200**. For married taxpayers that file a joint return, the credit cannot exceed **\$400**. The amount of the tax credit does not have to be for the total allowable amount, any amount can make a difference.

You may indicate where you would like your contribution to go. Contributions may be split between schools and/or between different activities. Contributions can be made to music, for field trips, character education, athletics (you may specify the sport or activity), sports participation fees, and clubs. If no preference is made, the schools will use the contribution where it is needed the most. Contributions can be made at any time during the calendar year but must be made in the calendar year that you wish to claim the deduction. Contributions can also be accepted at any of the schools or can be mailed to the district office.

#### **Volunteers**

Parents who volunteer their time and services to the school are truly appreciated. Help is needed in the classrooms, office, school programs and school grounds. Volunteers must sign in at the school office and get a visitor's pass. As a courtesy to others, and for protection of younger children or siblings, they cannot accompany volunteers to school. For more information, click here.

#### **Questions, Concerns**

We are here to serve our community, and will do our best to meet your needs. However, if issues do arise, parents are encouraged to keep the school notified of their concerns and questions. The usual line of communication in a school is to first contact the teacher, then the principal if necessary. Joint efforts between parents, teachers, and the principal or assistant principal will frequently solve most problems and answer most questions.

#### **Answers to Frequently Asked Questions**

- Messages for teachers or students should be left on the teacher's voice mail or e-mail. Please contact the office if you have an emergency.
- Please call **279-7800 option #2** to report absences.
- Gift balloons or flowers delivered to the school will be held in the front office until the end of the day.
- Please do not hesitate to call the school office at 279-7800 if you have any other questions.

Here at Centennial, we are committed to engaging and inspiring our students in learning, while we create relationships that foster growth, achievement and success. We look forward to a great year and continuing our tradition towards excellence.