



**Vail Blended Learning
Student Handbook
2024-2025**

Dear Students and Parents:

Welcome to another school year. Vail Blended Learning is a small school that is committed to guiding their students with a combination of digital learning and classroom interaction. We will develop high academic achievement within each student by:

- Utilizing community members and resources.
- Providing cutting edge digital learning.
- Offering challenging interactive field trips and electives.
- Guiding students to be respectful and trustworthy.
- Developing caring, responsible students.
- Readyng students to use critical thinking skills.
- Developing students to become active members in our community.

We are looking forward to a successful school year with your cooperation, assistance, and involvement.

Included in this handbook, you will find the general school information that will help you, your child, and the school as we work together as partners. Please review the material in this handbook and discuss it with your child. Keep it in a convenient place for future reference.

The staff at Vail Blended Learning is pleased to open the doors for this school year. We want to welcome you to call or stop in at school anytime. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

Respectfully,

Mikel Greene
Principal

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School Information

Vail Blended Learning

10775 E. Mary Ann Cleveland Way

Tucson, Arizona 85747

Front Office: (520) 879-1300

School Hours

Our school day begins at 9:00 A.M. and ends at 3:30 P.M.

The school office is open each day from 8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Please feel free to call or come by the office if you have any questions or concerns.

Students should not arrive at school before 8:45 A.M. and are expected to leave campus at 3:30

P.M. Supervision on the campus begins at 8:45 A.M. and ends at 3:30 P.M.

Tutoring hours will be from 7:40 - 8:40. All students attending tutoring must report to their tutoring classroom immediately upon arrival. If your child arrives by means other than district transportation before 8:45 A.M. they will not be supervised.

Internet Information

[School Website](#)

[Facebook Updates](#)

Instagram
@vail39

[PowerSchool Parent Connection](#)

[Edmentum Login](#)

[Schoology](#)

Phone Numbers

ADMINISTRATION

Mikel Greene, VBL Coordinator
(520) 879-1304

greenem@vailschooldistrict.org

OFFICE STAFF

Meghan Hulsey, Secretary
(520) 879-1302

hulseym@vailschooldistrict.org

Elaine Murphy, Site technology Coordinator
(520) 879-3949

murphye@vailschooldistrict.org

Angela Bustamante, Student Achievement Teacher
(520) 879-1308

bustamantea@vailschooldistrict.org

Carrie Wrona, Counselor
(520) 879-1306

wronac@vailschooldistrict.org

SPECIAL EDUCATION STAFF

Kaitlin Husfelt, Special Education Teacher
(520) 879-1310

husfeltk@vailschooldistrict.org

Angie Brown, Special Education Parapro
(520) 879-1320

browna@vailschooldistrict.org

TEACHERS

Megan Lotti, Language Arts/Social Studies
(520) 879-1317

lottim@vailschooldistrict.org

Brandon Sherwood, Science
(520) 879-1309

sherwoodb@vailschooldistrict.org

Melissa Little, Math
(520) 879-1318

littlem@vailschooldistrict.org

District Office

879-2000

Transportation

879-2745

Vail Innovation Center

879-1300

**WHERE
EDUCATION
ISA
COMMUNITY
EFFORT**



**IT IS THE
MISSION OF THE
VAIL SCHOOL
DISTRICT TO
PROVIDE
PARENTS WITH
SAFE AND
NURTURING
SCHOOL
COMMUNITIES
WHERE THEIR
CHILDREN CAN
OBTAIN A
QUALITY
EDUCATION.**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

WE RESPECT PARENTS.

We operate on behalf of parents and assist them in educating their children.
We deeply value parental choice and involvement.

WE CARE ABOUT EVERY STUDENT.

We believe every student must be included, respected, and provided a physically and emotionally safe environment.

WE VALUE OUR EMPLOYEES.

Our staff is carefully selected on the basis of their ability to carry out the mission and guiding principles. We hire the best and respect their expertise and opinions.

OUR SCHOOLS ARE COMMUNITIES OF LEARNERS.

A community is a place where each individual is important and has something valuable to contribute. Learning is a lifelong activity. We are all learners.
We expect staff, volunteers, and parents to model this belief for students.

WE DO THE HARD WORK OF GETTING ALONG.

We believe that the quality of our adult relationships greatly influences the character and accomplishments of our students.

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE TO BOTH OUR LOCAL AND EXTENDED COMMUNITY.

We actively seek community involvement and respond to the needs of our local community. We seek to be a role model of excellence and to provide assistance to other school systems.

WE BELIEVE LEARNING EXTENDS WELL BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.

Our educational program is enriched with opportunities such as activities, athletics, clubs, internships, and senior exit projects.

WE PREFER SMALL CLASS SIZES.

Working with students in smaller groups increases opportunities for learning, personal attention, a sense of belonging, and the development of a supportive classroom community.

WE UPHOLD TRADITIONAL VALUES SUCH AS RESPECT, PERSONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, HONESTY, AND HARD WORK.

We model socially responsible behavior, expect it from each student, and include it in our curriculum.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY.

We use public resources to provide a quality education for our students. Priorities are developed based on student needs, legal responsibilities, and cost-effective methods.

WE ARE CONTINUALLY IMPROVING.

We are never content with the status quo. We live in a changing world and respond to those changes. We are constantly looking for better and more efficient ways to accomplish our mission.

VAIL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 20
"Where Education is a Community Effort"

RAISING EXPECTATIONS

The following policies were enacted to focus attention on the value of academic achievement and to increase accountability.

GRADES 3 THROUGH 8

REWARDS

1. Students who are "Proficient" on each section of the AzMERIT will receive a ribbon.
2. Students who are "Proficient" on all sections of the AzMERIT and "Highly Proficient" on one or more sections will receive a plaque.
3. Students who are "Highly Proficient" on all sections of the AzMERIT will receive a trophy.

REQUIRED INTERVENTIONS

1. A District Assessment will be given to all students for math and reading prior to the end of the first three quarters.
 - Any 3rd - 5th grade student who does not meet the district assessment standard will be required to complete 12 hours of remediation for each deficient area.
 - Any 6th - 8th grade student who falls far below the district assessment standard will be required to complete 12 hours of remediation for each deficient area.
2. If at the end of the 1st, 2nd, or the 3rd grading period a student has an F in a core course (math, language arts, reading, science or social studies), the student will be required to successfully complete a minimum of 12 hours of remediation for each failing grade.
3. If at the end of the 4th grading period a student has an F in a core course, the student will be required to successfully complete 12 hours of remediation for each failing grade during the summer break. Eighth grade students who fail a core course in the 4th quarter will not be permitted to participate in promotion ceremonies.

Remediation may include one or more of the following:

1. Tutoring
2. Intersession courses
3. Summer school
4. Saturday school
5. Additional academic courses in lieu of Specials or Electives
6. Private or Commercial Tutoring pre-approved by the principal

EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

Regular school attendance promotes learning and achievement; therefore, students who have nine or more days of excused or unexcused absences in a semester will be required to complete 12 hours of remediation.

CONSEQUENCES

Students who fail to successfully complete required remediation will be retained.

NOTES

- Individual schools may choose to implement complementary positive and negative consequences for all testing programs.
- Special Education students requiring interventions will be referred to the IEP team.
- Students will be treated as individuals and principals will have the authority to make exceptions.
- Any retention decision may be appealed to the Governing Board, as per board policy.

Vail Blended Learning Mascot:



School Colors:
Green and Gold

Daily Schedule Monday – Thursday

Students in advanced math will be attending the grade level class for which they are qualified or receiving small group lessons during the Learning Lab time.

When students are not assigned to a class, they will have Learning Lab time and are expected to be working independently on their online lessons.

VBL	24-25 Schedule	MATH	ELA	STEM/Science	Learning Lab
P1	9:00 - 10:10	Algebra	6	learning lab	8&7
P2	10:10 - 11:10	7	honors english	learning lab	6& 8
P3	11:10 -12:10	6	8	7	honor eng 8
LUNCH	12:10 - 12:40	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
VBL Time	12:40 - 1:00	8th DMS	6th DMS	7th DMS	
P5	1:00 - 2:00	8	learning lab	6	7
P6	2:00 - 3:00	learning lab	7	8	6
P7	3:00 - 3:30	re-teach	re-teach	re-teach	re-teach

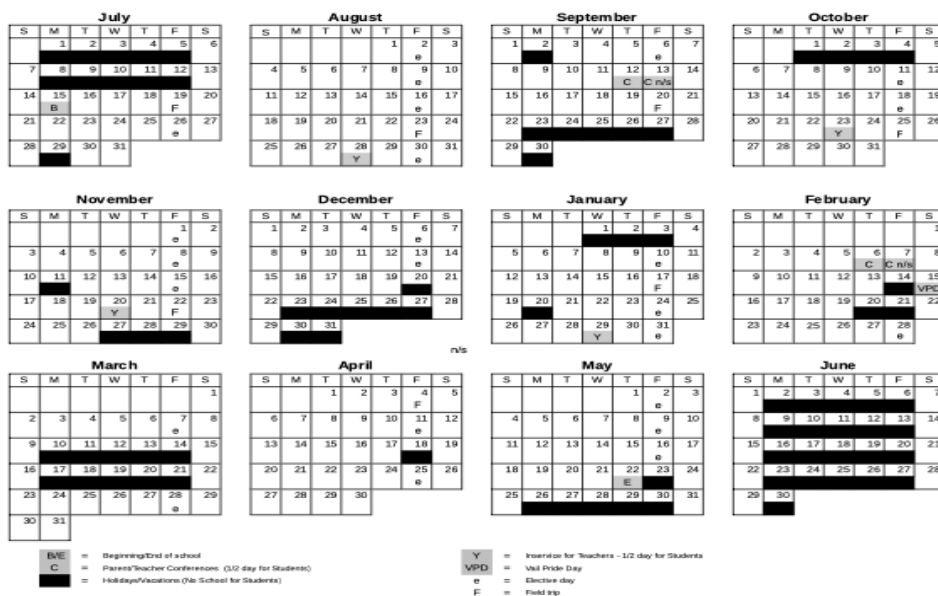
[Link to 2024-2025 VBL Student Calendar](#)

* Depending on transportation needs there may be half days added at a later date.

- 12-20-2024 there will be no school/no electives

Vail School District No. 20

VAIL BLENDED LEARNING STUDENT CALENDAR 2024-2025



Vail Blended Learning's Attendance Policy

Regular attendance for each child is necessary for maximum growth and essential for success in school. Therefore, parents and the school assume the responsibility for regular attendance. In addition, state law requires regular school attendance of a child of school age. State law mandates that the school record a reason for all student absences.

When a student is absent, it will be necessary for the parent to call the school on or before the day of the absence in order to advise the school as to the reason for the absence. Please notify the school office, 879-1302, before 9:00 A.M. any day that your child will not be in attendance, and by 8:45 A.M. if your child will be late. A message may be left on the office voice mail at any time. If you notify the school by phone, a note is not required upon the child's return. For absences greater than one (1) day in length, the school should be notified each day of the absence. All absences not verified by parental or administrative authorization will remain unexcused.

Vail Blended Learning and the Vail School District participates in the Pima County Attorney's Office ACT Now (Abolish Chronic Truancy Now) Truancy Program. This program is designed to monitor those students who have chronic unexcused absences or tardiness. In the event of an unexcused absence, the parents must contact the school within 24 hours to inform school personnel of the reason for the absence. The school determines if the excuse for an absence is valid and acceptable. The school may require further documentation to substantiate the reason for absences. We will require a doctor's note for any student that is called in sick for more than five (5) consecutive days.

Students and parents must understand that school attendance is not a matter of choice, but a legal requirement.

I. Excused Absences: Schools know that there are times when a student won't be able to attend classes. They allow students to miss class for reasons such as:

- ➡ Illness or contagious conditions
- ➡ Death of a family member.
- ➡ Medical appointments that cannot be scheduled after regular school hours.
- ➡ Religious Holidays
- ➡ Family Emergency

II. Call the school the day of the absence and report the reason for the absence. Mark down whom you spoke with and what time. If you leave a message, we suggest calling back later to ensure that the school received the message.

III. Call the school each day if there are multiple days in a row that your child is absent.

IV. If your child is out for more than three days sick, you **MUST** provide a Doctor's note.

- ➡ If your child has a chronic illness, please ask the school for a chronic illness form. This can be provided by the school office or by the Truancy Center. A new chronic illness form must be filled out for each school year.

V. Appointments for doctors, dentists, etc., should be made for times other than school hours. If it is unavoidable, please make the appointment for the earliest or latest appointments available so that your child will only miss a minimal amount of school time.

- ➡ Inform the school prior to the absence.
- ➡ Get a note from the doctor or nurse before you leave the clinic so that you can provide it to the school when your child returns.

VI. Unexcused Absences: When children miss school for other reasons, the absence is unexcused. Schools define unexcused absences in different ways. At Vail Blended Learning, unexcused absences include, but are not limited to:

- ➡ Staying home to take care of siblings.
- ➡ Waking up late.
- ➡ Refusing to go to school.
- ➡ Missing the school bus.
- ➡ Birthdays
- ➡ Attending medical appointments of siblings and parents
- ➡ Family vacations

VII. Please Remember:

- ➡ If your child is absent they are still responsible for logging 2 hours for their online work.
- ➡ Please make sure to call the morning of the absence to ensure that it is recorded.
- ➡ Please make sure your child's immunizations are up to date and do not wait until the last minute to get them done. To attend school, children need to have proper and up to date immunizations.

Tardy Policy

Students are expected to be present at school during school hours. School hours are from 9:00 am -3:30 pm each day. If you know your child will be tardy, please notify the office before 8:45 am.

Unexcused tardies include, but are not limited to:

- ➡ Staying home to take care of siblings.
- ➡ Waking up late.
- ➡ Refusing to go to school.
- ➡ Missing the school bus.
- ➡ Birthdays
- ➡ Attending medical appointments of siblings and parents

School Dress Code

The Vail School 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.

- Students may not wear vulgar, sexual, racist, discriminatory and/or violent messages or pictures, gang-oriented insignias, or satanic/negative symbols, depictions/words of illegal substances, beer, alcohol, cigarettes, vapes or other inappropriate designs.
- Underwear/undergarments must not be visible.
- Chokers or collars on the neck or any jewelry that can be deemed harmful should not be worn.
- Pajamas may not be worn with the exception of spirit days.
- Student attire should not present health or safety concerns and should not disrupt the educational environment.
- We rely upon parents' good judgment and discretion for what students wear to school.
- Vail Blended Learning faculty and administration reserve the right to make the final decision on the suitability of any attire and to decide when attire violates the school dress code. Vail Blended Learning administration may provide substitute clothing to be worn for the day or parents may be called during the school day to bring alternative clothing for the student to wear or student may be sent home for the day after parent contact.

Bottoms:

- Must be anchored or fitted at the waist, and hemmed or tailored.
- No excessive rips, tears, excessive bagging or sagging (must be size appropriate).
- Must measure 4 inches at the inseam.
- Must be visible and not completely covered by a shirt/jacket.

Tops:

- Must be no longer than fingertip length and must be long enough to tuck into pants/shorts/skirts. Dresses must cover undergarments and buttocks, and size should not hinder the ability to move easily and safely.
- No midriffs/half shirts, transparent/see-through/fishnets, strapless, muscle (undershirt) shirts, or other bare, skimpy and distracting clothing.
- Sleeveless tops must have straps that are at least two inches wide.
- See-through jerseys can be worn with a t-shirt underneath.
- Hoodie hoods must not be worn over the head while on campus.

Accessories:

- Hats and sunglasses may not be worn indoors.
- Belts must be entirely looped (no part of the belt may dangle).
- No wallet chains.
- Tattoos, temporary or permanent, are not allowed.
- Chains and pet collars may not be worn as jewelry.
- Earbuds and headphones use should be appropriate and never during instruction time.

Lost & Found

Vail Blended Learning's lost and found is located in the staff break area. We go through all items in the lost and found at least once a month. Any items not claimed by students are donated to Goodwill.

Snacks

Students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks for their atrium time. Snacks are not to be shared. Students should bring a water bottle to keep hydrated throughout the day. Water only is allowed on the premises. There will be milk served with school lunch.

Lunch Program

Students may order a hot lunch or bring their lunch from home. Water or milk only.

A Free and Reduced lunch can application can be picked up at the front office and should be filled out and returned to the office. It usually takes ten days to process.

Students need to keep a positive balance in their accounts. Payment Information:

To view your child's account via the internet go to www.MyMealtime.com, create a user account and use your child's first name and their six-digit student number.

Payments may be made via the MyMealtime website, cashier's check or personal check. When paying by check, make payable to Sodexo and please reference your child's name and student number to ensure proper credit.

School Meal Account Information

- Prices for school meals are set by the Vail School District in accordance with federal and state regulations.
- Families may obtain information about the district's school lunch and breakfast program and apply for free or reduced price meals at www.vailschooldistrict.org or by contacting the student's school or the district's school food service office at vailfoodservice@vailschooldistrict.org or call or Linda Millman at 520-879-2072
- It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to ensure the student has money in his or her student meal account. A student meal account is delinquent if the account balance has a negative balance.
- Because the district cares about the well-being of our students, students in grades K-8 will not be refused a meal, even if their student meal account has a negative balance. K-8 students with a negative balance student meal account will receive an alternate healthy meal. The alternative healthy meal will be charged to the student's meal account that will affect the negative balance.

- Students in high school will not be permitted to charge a meal if the student meal account has a negative balance.
- Families may apply for free or reduced price meals at any time during the school year. Families are responsible for student meal account charges made before the free or reduced price meal application is approved – the approval is not retroactive to the beginning of the school year.

Reimbursable Meals and Other Meal Purchases

For students with free lunch status

- A qualifying student will receive one free school lunch every day that meets the USDA Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA) guidelines.
- Second meals, a la carte and snack bar items are available to be purchased only if the student's meal account has a positive account balance.
- Families are responsible for student meal account balance and charges that were incurred prior to approval of free school meal status.

For students with reduced price lunch status

- A qualifying student, with a positive student meal account balance, will receive one reduced price lunch every day that meets the USDA HHFKA guidelines.
- If a K-8 student's meal account has a negative balance, they will receive an alternate reimbursable meal and the student's meal account will be charged.
- A high school student will only receive a meal if their meal account has a positive balance or if the student pays with cash.
- Second meals, a la carte and snack bar items are available to be purchased only if the student's meal account has a positive account balance.
- Families are responsible for student meal account balances and charges that were incurred prior to approval of reduced price meal status.

For students with full price lunch status

- If a K-8 student's meal account has a negative balance, they will receive an alternate reimbursable meal and the student meal account will be charged.
- A high school student will only receive a meal if their student meal account has a positive balance or if they pay with cash.
- Second meals, a la carte and snack bar items are available to be purchased only if the student's meal account has a positive account balance.

Student Meal Account Payments

- We encourage families to make payments for school meals through MealTime Online or at the school with cash or check. There is a nominal fee for using the MealTime Online payment option. This fee is a processing fee and does not benefit the District. Payments through MealTime Online may take 1-2 business days to reflect the credit.
- By using MealTime Online, you can review the student's purchase history and school meal account balance and make payments. You can also apply for free or reduced price meal status.
- The District will send out low balance and negative account balance reminders using an automated telephone call through School Messenger and by email.
- Parents/guardians can request a restriction on the student's meal account by emailing Vailfoodservice@vailschooldistrict.org. You can restrict or deny the purchase of a la carte items, limit the daily transactions, or set a dollar cap on the student's daily school meal purchases.
- Payments for elementary and middle school students will be accepted at school. Payments for high school students will be accepted either by the kitchen manager or at the point of sale. Payments should clearly indicate the account to which the funds should be credited, e.g., if a parent/guardian has multiple children at one school the payment must indicate which student's account should be credited and the amount to be credited to that student's account.
- The school will credit meal payments to student's accounts before the meal period. Schools will apply payments to the purchase of the current day's meal first, and payment to the negative or delinquent account balance second.
- Personal checks will not be accepted from parents/guardians who have previously provided a check that was returned from their bank for any reason, including insufficient funds. If the parent/guardian with a returned check does not provide reimbursement in cash or by money order within seven (7) business days from the date of notice, the matter will be referred to District Administration.
- The district's school meal program is subject to federally mandated cost principles which state that bad debts, including losses arising from uncollectible accounts and related collection and legal costs are unallowed, meaning the school district is prohibited from extending a line of credit for a negative student meal account.
- Accordingly, the district must use all reasonable collection efforts, including the use of a collection agency, in order to ensure that parents/guardians pay for their students' school meals.

Identification and Notification of Delinquent Student Meal Accounts

- Schools will identify student meal accounts that do not have adequate balances to pay for student meals. Before the end of each school day, the school's kitchen manager will run a negative account balance report and provide a copy to the school principal.

- Parents/guardians will be notified with the District's in-house email notification system, School Messenger, when their students' meal account has a low balance and/or when the student meal account has a negative balance.
- The district will also personally call the parent(s) or guardian(s) and/or send letters when the student's meal account becomes delinquent (has a negative balance), the parent/guardian must respond to the phone call and/or letter within seven (7) business days.
- Accounts that are delinquent by \$35.00 or more and/or the parent(s) or guardian(s) have not responded to the district's phone calls and/or letters, will be sent a final written notice to bring the student's meal account current. The final notice will inform the parent/guardian that if the student's meal account balance is not brought current, the account will be sent to a collection agency.
- If the student's meal account is sent to a collection agency, the parent(s) or guardian(s) will be responsible for the collection costs, including but not limited to, the delinquent student's meal account amount, collection agency fees, attorney fees, and court costs.
- If an account is delinquent at the end of the school year the delinquent amount will be rolled over to the next school year. The district may withhold a student's grade or report card, at the principal's discretion, until a negative student meal account balance is brought current.
- If a student repeatedly does not have money in his or her student meal account, and no meals are sent from home for the student, school administration will consider circumstances in the home and may contact the district's student services staff and/or the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS).
- For any questions concerning negative balances, delinquent student meal accounts, or for assistance with the free or reduced price meal application please contact Vail School District Food Services at Vailfoodservice@vailschooldistrict.org or call Patricia or Michelle at 520-879-2015.

School Procedures for Students with Insufficient or Negative Account Balances

- Kitchen staff and school employees will exercise sensitivity and confidentiality in serving students who have low or negative balance student meal accounts. No district employee will subject a student to embarrassment or humiliation based on the balance of his or her student meal account.
- If a student's meal account balance is inadequate to pay for the entire meal, the school will provide K-8 students with a healthy alternative to the menu school lunch and the meal account will be charged. High school students will not be permitted to charge any part of a student meal if the charge will result in a negative balance.

●

Requesting a Refund

- If a student has withdrawn from school, parents/guardians may submit a written request to the district's food service department for a refund of any money remaining in their child's meal account. Please email [Vail foodservice@vailschooldistrict.org](mailto:Vailfoodservice@vailschooldistrict.org).

- If a student is graduating or leaving the district, parents/guardians may contact the district's food service department for meal account balances, and to request a refund. Any unused balance can also be transferred to a sibling's meal account upon request.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

- No person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, disability, sex, religion, reprisal, or income, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any child nutrition program or activity.
- There will be no physical segregation of, nor any discrimination against, any student because of his or her inability to pay the full price of the student meal, or due to his or her eligibility for free or reduced price meals.
- The names of students eligible to receive free or reduced price meals shall not be published, posted, or announced in any manner, and there shall be no overt identification of any such students by any means.
- No district employee may deny a meal benefit to any child as a disciplinary action.

Bus Rules

To ensure safe and orderly transportation for all students these rules must be consistently followed:

Students will comply with directions from the driver or any adult assisting the driver.

Students will conduct themselves in a manner, which will not distract the driver's concentration or endanger the safety of anyone riding the bus.



VAIL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Is Pleased to Announce the Arrival of



Spot knows where your bus is. You should too!

WHAT is SpotMyBus?

SpotMyBus is the mobile app that shows you *where* your school bus is and lets you track it as it makes its way to your bus stop. It is simple to use. It is free. And it is available for download now.

START using SpotMyBus and ...

- **STOP** rushing to the bus stop, worried you might miss the bus.
- **STOP** endless waiting at the bus stop because the bus is late.
- **STOP** waiting for the bus in the heat or wind.
- **STOP** all those calls to school asking, "Where's my bus?"

HOW do I get started? (4 simple steps and you'll be ready to use SpotMyBus)

1. On your smartphone, go to: spotmybus.com
2. Click the '**DOWNLOAD**' button for either the Android or iPhone app
3. The first time you start the app you will see this screen:
4. Click '**YES**' and you will see this screen:

Bus Route	
Before SpotMyBus can track a bus you must specify a bus route.	
Would you like to specify a route now?	
No	Yes

Bus Group	
492-591-837	Enter this 9-digit number for ' BUS GROUP '
Routes to Track:	
Bus Route	Enter your BUS ROUTE here
Bus Route	Enter ANOTHER BUS ROUTE if your kids ride different buses

WHAT happens NEXT?

- When the bus is running your route, you will see it moving on the map on your phone.
- Soon the system will learn your route and then you will see all bus stops on your route.
- At that time, you will be able to select your bus stop and see it on the map.

For questions or help with the app, please contact: questions@spotmybus.com

Items & Behavior Prohibited on the Bus

Prohibited Items

- Large or glass objects
- Knives, sharp objects or any weapon
- Animals (dead or alive)
- Rubber bands/ paper clips
- Fireworks or explosives
- Drugs, alcohol, tobacco products

Prohibited Behavior

- Obscene language and gestures
- Loud talking/yelling
- Switching seats
- Gum chewing
- Hitting/fighting
- Eating

Should you have any concerns regarding transportation, please call the Transportation Department at 879-2475.

Behavior and Discipline Guidelines

The staff at Vail Blended Learning believes that our primary objective is to educate children. We believe that in order for your child to meet the challenges that he or she will face in our society, the development of self-discipline and individual responsibility is essential. Our intention is to have a successful philosophy that supports the right of each student to be educated in a calm, safe, and secure environment.

It is important that parents, school staff and students work together to maintain a positive educational atmosphere. The rules and discipline procedures at Vail Blended Learning have been established for the protection of our students. Students are expected to respect these rules as well as the people responsible for carrying them out. Because you, as parents, are the most important people in your child's life, the staff needs your support in promoting acceptable behavior. Our goal is for each student to learn to be responsible for his or her own actions.

During the first week of school, classroom teachers introduce, define and discuss individual classroom rules with their students. From one classroom to another, rules may vary somewhat depending on the individual teachers, but the basic rules are the same from room to room. School expectations are displayed in areas of our campus.

Vail Blended Learning, we are KIND:

- KEEP everyone's feelings in mind
 - INCLUDE everyone
- NEVER put anyone down
- DO stand up for others

TRAILBLAZER WAY

Are Respectful and Trustworthy

Speak softly

Listen carefully and follow directions

Be on time and prepared

Take pride in our work

Care about Each Other

Make the effort to be our best every day

Be kind

Say please and thank you

Take Responsibility

Show Trailblazer Pride

Do our best

Use laptops wisely



Prohibited Items

- Toys
- Electronic games and cell phones- can be used only before and after school
- Cell Phones need to be turned off and put away from the moment students walk in the door until they leave
- Any drinks except Water
- Sunflower Seeds
- Gum

Prohibited Items:

First offense - Warning and return the item to the student at the end of the school day.

Second offense - Parent(s) notified and item returned to parents returned to parents at the end of the school day.

Third offense - The student must make a plan approved by parents and administration before the item is returned to the parent(s).

Bullying Policy

Definition of Bullying: Bullying is repetitive, intentional and hurtful behavior.

Bullying will not be tolerated at school or school sponsored events.

Bullying takes place over time and in many forms, and can include, but is not limited to:

- Physical intimidation, threats, and attacks
- Verbal taunts, name-calling and put-downs
- Gender, race and/or ethnic comments
- Gossip and rumor spreading
- Extortion or stealing money and possessions
- Exclusion from the peer group

When it is deemed necessary for a student to leave school early because of a severe violation, parents will be notified. It is expected that the parent will come and get their child for the remainder of the day. A conference with the parent, student, teacher, and principal will occur before the child is allowed to return to school. Any of the above severe violations will be dealt with directly by the principal, her designee, or the student services coordinator. Severe violations may result in suspension or expulsion from school.

Student Conduct

Gang Activity or Association

For the well-being and safety of everyone at Vail Blended Learning, it is the District's position that groups which initiate, advocate, or promote activities that threaten people or property, or disrupt the school environment will not be permitted. Further, the use of hand signals or graffiti, or the presence of any apparel, jewelry, accessory, or manner of dress or grooming that indicates or implies membership or affiliation with a gang is also prohibited. The District's Gang Policy is detailed in the current Vail School District Governing Board Policy Manual.

Drug Warning

Student non-medical use, possession, distribution or sale of chemical substances (alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, or drugs) is prohibited in the building of Vail Blended Learning, on school grounds, at school sanctioned activities or when students are being transported in vehicles dispatched by the district.

It is unlawful:

For a person to intentionally be present within 300 feet of a school or its accompanying grounds, or to be present on any public property within 1,000 feet of a school or its accompanying grounds or a school bus stop, to possess, use, or sell marijuana.

For a person to intentionally be present within 300 feet of a school or its accompanying grounds or to be present on any public property within 1,000 feet of a school or its accompanying grounds, or a school bus stop, to possess, use, or sell a dangerous drug or narcotic drug.

Trailblazer Code of Conduct

Level I: 1 point

Minimum Consequences At Administrative Discretion

Dress code infractions

Detention

Excessive tardiness

1 day of in-school suspension (ACE)

Inappropriate behavior

Using profane or vulgar language (1st offense)

Inappropriate use of technology/electronics (1st offense)

Excessive PDA- Public Display of Affection

Ditching – 1st offense

Possession of matches/lighter

Unsafe driving

Unauthorized fundraising

Leaving class without permission

Level II: 2 points

3 days of ACE

Disrupting the educational environment

False reporting (1st offense)

Inappropriate use of technology/electronics (Documented/Repeated)

Possessing obscene materials

Gambling

Intimidation toward students

Bullying

Vandalism

Defiance/uncooperative behavior

Offensive language with reference to race or religion (1st offense)

Ditching - repeated

Level III: 3 points

5 days of ACE

Cheating/plagiarism/dishonesty

False Reporting (Documented/Repeated)

Leaving school without permission

Sexual harassment (1st offense)

Shaming

Inappropriate or vulgar language directed at a staff member

Creating a physically hazardous condition

Destruction of property

Level IV: 4 points***5 days out-of-school suspension*****Cyber Bullying and Computer Misuse*****Law Enforcement may be notified*****Criminal Intent****Stealing****Gang activity/Gang affiliation (Gang unit may be notified)****Hazing/Initiation****Bullying (Documented /Repeated)****Sexual harassment (Documented/Repeated)****Sexual Misconduct****Fighting or provoking a fight****Selling, using, possessing or distributing tobacco or nicotine****(e-cigarettes, hookah, patches, smoking or chewing of any kind)****and any mimicking substitutions****Offensive language with reference to race or religion (documented and repeated)****Sexting (Inappropriate words or pictures sent electronically)****Level V: 5 points*****10 day out-of-school suspension******Law Enforcement will be notified*****Selling, using, possessing, or distributing alcohol, drugs,*****pending long-term hearing*****prescription drugs, other controlled substances or any mimicking****substitutions or paraphernalia****Threats/Intimidation toward staff members****Selling, using, or possessing weapons, simulated weapons, fireworks, or other dangerous instruments****Committing a crime****Creating a danger to the educational environment**

Each infraction will result in a point value based upon the category. If a student accumulates more than a total of 6 points during any one school year the student may be suspended for 10 days pending a hearing, the administration may recommend a long-term suspension.

Digital Curriculum

Our digital curriculum allows our students to learn and master the foundational skills in math, language arts, science and social studies. The digital curriculum is designed to introduce and mirror the concepts that are being taught to mastery concurrently in our Math, Science and Language Arts/Social Studies classes. Students will be introduced to concepts via the digital curriculum and will then deepen their understanding and apply their knowledge in their Math, Science and Language Arts/Social Studies.

Teachers will assign lessons that need to be completed in each subject area for the week. Students are responsible for completing the work assigned in each of the four subject areas each week. Therefore, students are required to complete on average 90 minutes of homework each night, Monday through Thursday. Students who do not maintain a minimum level of progress with VBL's Blended Learning model may be asked to leave VBL.

There will be a mandatory curriculum night for all students and parents at the beginning of each school year and a refresher course offered in the fall. Parents and students must attend at least one curriculum night.

Electives/ Field Trips

Elective choices will be provided to students during the first week of school. Students who are interested in participating in elective classes must submit their signed form and pay any fees associated with the elective classes they wish to attend. Students must commit to attending their elective classes each Friday that they are offered. At the end of each semester, students will have the opportunity to sign up for new electives classes. Elective choices can be paid using tax credits, designated to Vail Innovation Center. <https://az-vail-lite.intouchrecepting.com/>

Field Trips will take place approximately twice a quarter. Permission forms will be sent out ahead of time and students must submit the form before being allowed to attend the field trip. Each field trip will cost a minimum of \$5. This covers transportation fees. If the field trip requires admission fees, this amount will be added to the \$5 fee. Students must meet the academic and behavior requirements in order to participate in the field trip.

All students are encouraged and eligible to participate in the elective classes offered at VBL. Students must meet the academic and behavior requirements to be eligible to participate in the field trips.

Home and School Communications

Conferences

While parents and teachers are encouraged to initiate a conference at any time there appears to be a need, formal conferences are scheduled twice a year.

Parent-Teacher conferences are the time for parents to discuss with the teacher their child's performance and special needs. Vail Blended Learning hopes that each parent or guardian will take the opportunity to attend these conferences. Conferences are the time to build mutual understanding of the child and to further the home/school partnership.

For specific dates for Parent-Teacher conferences, please refer to the student calendar.

Report Cards

Report Cards are issued four times a year at the end of a 9-week grading period. In addition, midterm progress reports are issued halfway between the beginning and the end of each grading period. All report cards will be emailed with the exception of the final report card; Progress reports will be available on PowerSchool (<https://ps.vail.k12.az.us/public/>) at any time.

Wellness Policy

Vail Blended Learning participates in the Vail District's Wellness Policy. We continually work to promote a healthy lifestyle and environment for your child. We are requesting that parents eliminate cookies, cake, candy, cupcakes, brownies, and other unhealthy food choices from their child's menu at school.

We do encourage healthy snacking during Learning Lab time. Please feel free to send healthy snacks to school with your child. We do not allow students to share food with each other, as there may be allergies or dietary restrictions that other students are not aware of.

If you choose to bring in a food item to share for a celebration it must be store bought and NOT homemade. In addition, please make sure that food items are healthy. Suggested celebration foods include: fruit trays, vegetables, cheese, crackers, yogurt, etc. Non-food items are also a wonderful way to celebrate a birthday or success. These could include games, sports, reading favorite books, extra playground time, stickers, pencils, erasers, bookmarks, art activities, etc. Please make arrangements with the classroom teacher prior to bringing to school any item in for a celebration.

Thank you for your support and cooperation in maintaining a healthy lifestyle for our students. The complete Wellness Policy can be viewed on the district website at, <http://www.vail.k12.az.us/schools/wellness.htm>.

Volunteers

For anyone wanting to volunteer in a Vail School:

All persons wishing to volunteer in a Vail School District school must complete the following required documents:

- **Volunteer Application** - click [here](#) to apply to Vail Blended Learning
- **Parents/legal guardians** volunteering on a school campus or field trip must submit the online application and affidavit prior to volunteering.
- **Non-legal guardians** must submit the online application, affidavit (electronically) and fingerprints to Human Resources at least ***ten weeks*** prior to volunteering.

Fingerprint requirements:

- **Parents or Legal Guardians**: No need to fingerprint if they are a parent or legal guardian of a child at the school for which they wish to volunteer.
- **All other community members or family members**: Must submit fingerprints for approval prior to volunteering at a school site. It generally takes 6-8 weeks to receive results.

Maintaining Volunteer Eligibility:

- Volunteers must update information each year.

Visitors

Vail Blended Learning encourages visitation by parents and other adults. Vail Blended Learning does not allow children to bring friends or relatives to spend the day as a classroom participant. In all cases, visitors should contact the teachers to make advance arrangements for classroom visitation.

School Advisory Council

The school advisory council serves in an advisory capacity to the principal at Vail Blended Learning. The school advisory council provides parents and community members the opportunity to provide input into the decision-making process. In addition, school employees are given representation on the school advisory council. Vail Blended Learning's school advisory council is comprised of two parents, two community members and one staff member. Meetings are conducted once a month.

Parent Teacher Student Organization

The PTSO council serves in fundraiser and parent/student/teacher support to Vail Blended Learning. The PTSO provides parents and community members the opportunity to provide support and rewards as well as events that build community. Vail Blended Learning's PTSO meetings are conducted once a month.

Please join [here](#)!