

**STUDENT HANDBOOK
2024-2025**



ESPERERO CANYON MIDDLE SCHOOL

**5801 North Sabino Canyon Road
Tucson, Arizona 85750
Telephone (520) 209-8100
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**Administration:
Mary Setliff, Principal
Sally Conboy, Assistant Principal**

Office Hours: 7:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

ECMS Website: ecms.cfsd16.org

MISSION

Esperero Canyon Middle School, our learning community focused on the transitional needs of adolescents, inspires and empowers all students to achieve their academic and personal best through enriching, dynamic programs which develop character, responsible citizenship, and a desire for lifelong learning.

INTRODUCTION

Esperero Canyon Middle School has a dedicated staff committed to the intellectual, academic, emotional, social, and physical development of our students. Our school climate fosters and supports positive habits of mind and personal responsibility.

A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS

Esperero Canyon Middle School is a community of learners in which students are expected to take responsibility for their behavior and academic achievement. A positive school environment is the result of parents, faculty, and administration articulating and consistently reinforcing high standards of student behavior.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

Catalina Foothills School District has developed policies and procedures that govern student behavior. These policies and procedures are listed in the document *Student Conduct* located on the ECMS website. Parents are responsible for reviewing this document with their students. Students are responsible for following the policies. The Esperero staff has developed guidelines for conduct on our campus. We use PBIS (“The Eagle Way”), which consists of routines and procedures that teach respect, responsibility, and academic engagement. This plan will be reviewed during orientation activities in classes, and as needed throughout the year.

CALENDAR

Parents and students will find information about activities in the Eagle Express newsletter.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

FIRST SEMESTER

First Day of School	Aug 5
Back to School Night	Aug 22
Labor Day Holiday	Sep 2
Fall Break	Oct 7-11
Parent/Teacher Conferences	Oct 23-24
Veterans Day Holiday	Nov 11
Thanksgiving Break	Nov 27-29
Winter Break	Dec 23-Jan 3

SECOND SEMESTER

First Day, Spring Semester	Jan 6
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday	Jan 20
Rodeo Break	Feb 20-21
Parent/Teacher Conferences	Mar 13-14
Spring Break	Mar 24-28
Last Day of School	May 21

NO LATE START WEDNESDAYS and HALF-DAYS (EARLY DISMISSAL, 11:00 am)					
FALL 2024			SPRING 2025		
Date	No Late Start	Half-Day	Date	No Late Start	Half-Day
Sep 4	√		Jan 18	√	
Oct 2	√	√	Feb 19	√	
Oct 23	√	√	Mar 5	√	√
Oct 24		√	Mar 12	√	
Nov 13	√		Mar 13,14		√
Dec 18	√	√	May 21	√	√

EAGLE PRIDE

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

At Esperero, two general school wide expectations guide behavior:

- respect yourself and others
- respect property and all living things

Be Respectful

At ECMS, because we value RESPECT, I will...

- be open-minded about others' differences
- honor others' ideas and accomplishments
- be sensitive to others' feelings (show compassion)
- honor the personal space and property of other

Be Responsible

At ECMS, because we value RESPONSIBILITY, I will...

- make good choices
- follow and support classroom rules
- support a safe and bully-free environment

Be Academically Engaged

At ECMS, because we value ACADEMICS, I will...

- be in charge of my own behavior and learning
- practice effective effort

GENERAL SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

ABSENCES

Parents must call 520-209-8190 prior to 7:30 a.m. to report student absences for the day. When a student is absent and a call has not been received, the school will make reasonable efforts to contact parents to verify that the absence is legitimate. A note or email from parents is required if there has been no phone communication.

Parents and teachers are reminded that the CFSD Governing Board Policy JKD requires that students must be in attendance at least 90% of all class sessions (a maximum of nine absences per semester) or the students may be retained.

EXTENDED ABSENCES

Teachers are not required to put together makeup work for students who have extended absences. When students must be absent for an extended period of time, they may refer to the teacher's Google Classroom/website in order to make up assignments.

ACADEMICS

CFSD has implemented standards-referenced report cards at the elementary and middle school levels. In standards-referenced grading and reporting systems, grades/scores reflect what students know and can do relative to the Catalina Foothills School District curriculum. The purpose of the district's standards-referenced grading system is to measure a student's performance and product against defined grade-level expectations. Proficient (3.0) means that a student has demonstrated that he or she has learned the required skills and concepts.



The report card lists the essential categories/domains for each subject area. We call them measurement topics. Students receive indicators of progress based on a four-point rubric to show how well they are performing in those areas. At middle school, students will also receive an overall score for each subject. Standards-referenced grade/scores help teachers plan their instruction so they can challenge and support all students. They help parents know the academic areas in which a student meets or exceeds the standard, needs challenge, or needs support. For each marking period, the teacher will indicate how well a student is progressing using the following scale:

Rubric Score	Descriptor
4.0	Highly Proficient (Exceeds Expectations)
3.0	Proficient (Meets Expectations)
2.0	Partially Proficient (Approaching Expectations)
1.0	Minimally Proficient (Below Expectations)

The standards-referenced grading system separately assesses the influence of positive and consistent work habits, effort, and participation. Students will receive a grade/score for development and growth in Personal Responsibility (Work completion/Effort, Class Participation, and Behavior/Conduct), CFSD's Deep Learning Proficiencies (Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Citizenship, Creativity and Innovation, Communication, Collaboration, Systems Thinking), and the CFSD Technology Standards.

Scores on the report card can provide useful information because they indicate where the student is performing at a particular point in time and what needs to be done to improve or advance to the next level of the rubric continuum. It is important to remember that grades/scores are the result of a number of factors (tests, assignments, presentations, discussions, observations, simulations, projects, etc.), and some knowledge and skills may not be attained until at or near the end of a school year. The goal is to identify, for every student, the next appropriate "stretch" to move students toward higher levels of learning.

Students and parents can use ParentVUE / StudentVUE, a password-protected portal in Synergy, to review grades/scores. Parents are encouraged to talk to their child's teacher about specific questions concerning grades/scores.

REPORTING KEY

4.0	Highly Proficient: Student takes initiative to exceed expectations; consistently produces outstanding work and demonstrates an advanced level of understanding, and applying and transferring advanced skills and complex thinking into new contexts. Student is independent and self-regulated in extending the learning process and usually exceeds assignment requirements.
3.0	Proficient: Student produces work that meets expectations; frequently produces work of high quality, successfully demonstrating mastery of the content (skills/concepts) in the district curriculum standards. Student regularly applies thinking skills and learning strategies, and meets assignment expectations.
2.0	Partially Proficient: Student demonstrates a basic working knowledge of the content (skills/concepts) in the district curriculum standards; produces satisfactory work and usually applies skills/concepts correctly. Progress is evident in applying thinking skills and learning strategies. Student meets minimal assignment expectations.
1.0	Minimally Proficient: Student is performing below expectations in the district curriculum standards. With help, the student demonstrates partial understanding of the basic skills/concepts. There is limited progress in applying thinking skills and learning strategies. Student usually does not meet assignment expectations and seldom produces work of satisfactory quality.

Key

- **Deep Learning Proficiencies (DLPs):** Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Communication, Creativity and Innovation, Citizenship, Collaboration, Systems Thinking
- **Personal Responsibility (PR):** Work Completion/Effort, Class Participation, Behavior/Conduct, Self-regulation
- **Educational Technology (TECH):** Creativity and Innovation, Communication and Collaboration, Research and Information Literacy, Critical Thinking/Problem Solving/Decision Making, Digital Citizenship, Operations and Concepts

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students who attend ECMS are expected to support a community of honor and integrity by demonstrating academic honesty at all times. Students who do not demonstrate this trait will be referred to administration for disciplinary consequences. Examples of academic dishonesty or cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: attempting to give or receive assistance during tests or quizzes; attempting to use unauthorized aids (e.g., cheat sheets, calculators, phones, etc.) for self or another's benefit; copying or allowing others to copy homework; and fabrication/lying/misrepresentation.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is one type of academic dishonesty. A brief definition of plagiarism is "literary theft." "Plagiarism, from a Latin word meaning 'kidnapper', ranges from inept paraphrasing to outright theft." ([Shaw, Dictionary of Literacy Terms](#)). At Esperero Canyon Middle School, you may not use the ideas, words or work of others without stating that the material was derived from a source other than yourself and citing the source of the ideas, words, or work of others.

Some examples of plagiarism that occur in student work include, but are not limited to:

- Direct copying of another's material or ideas without acknowledging that source
- Using another person's original material or idea without crediting the source of the material or idea
- Inadvertent or unknowing plagiarism caused by "sloppy" research or writing technique

ATHLETICS

All students attending Esperero Canyon Middle School have the opportunity to share a variety of experiences provided through extra-curricular activities coordinated by Community Schools.

ECMS offers a wide variety of after-school athletics during the year. A physical examination and proof of insurance are required in order to participate in after-school athletics. One physical examination is sufficient per year for athletic participation.

Students are issued a sports uniform free of charge and are expected to return the uniform in good condition. If a uniform is not returned or is returned damaged, the student will be charged for replacement of the uniform. Students may not receive a replacement uniform until the lost item is returned or replaced.

Students may NOT stay after school to wait on athletic contests or other school events to begin, unless enrolled in and are actively participating in the Community Schools athletic contest or school event. Students may ONLY attend athletic events when accompanied by a parent or guardian or are enrolled in that athletic program.

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES AT ATHLETIC EVENTS

Spectators at all sporting events, including practices, are expected to exhibit appropriate conduct and language that would be supportive of students, coaches, and the school's expectations. Any spectators do not exhibit appropriate conduct and language may be asked to leave and may be prohibited from attending future athletic events.

Students are expected to adhere to all student conduct policies, including bus rules, while participating in athletics. Students and parents recognize that participation in athletics is a privilege that may be suspended or revoked for disruptive or inappropriate behavior.

BACKPACKS

The on-campus use of backpacks or other large bags to carry books and school materials at school will be limited to carrying such bags to and from school. Once at school, all such bags shall be kept in student lockers. In classrooms, in the Commons, and in the MPR during class and assemblies, backpacks and large book bags are prohibited. This policy includes, but is not limited to, backpacks, large duffel bags, briefcases, and large purses, and tote bags. Small purses and pencil cases smaller than a notebook are allowed.

BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, AND IN-LINE SKATES

Riding bicycles to school is a privilege. Please walk your bicycle while on our campus. A bicycle safety helmet must be worn by students who ride their bicycles to school. Students are expected to park and lock bicycles in the racks located on campus. The possession and/or use of skateboards, inline skates, and hoverboards are prohibited on the ECMS campus.

BULLYING/HARASSMENT (POLICY JICK)

Esperero Canyon Middle School is committed to providing a work environment where students, staff, and parents can work together comfortably and productively, free from harassment. Harassing behavior is illegal under both state and federal law and will not be tolerated. Harassment negatively affects morale, motivation, and the ability to learn. It is inappropriate, offensive, and illegal, and it will not be permitted at ECMS or during the time students wait for buses at bus stops, and while traveling to and from school or at events. Students and parents should carefully review the sections on harassment that are contained in the *CFSD Student Violence/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying* document located at the end of this handbook and on the ECMS website.

Students who are the victims of harassment should contact an administrator. Harassment will be dealt with according to the Discipline Matrix. Any individual bringing a harassment complaint or assisting in investigating such a complaint will not be adversely affected or discriminated against. A complaint of such retaliation will be promptly investigated, and offenders will be dealt with according to the Discipline Matrix. Any person who purposely fabricates a harassment complaint or who unjustly accuses another for the purpose of teasing or joking will be dealt with according to the Discipline Matrix. Harassment is a serious matter and should be reported immediately to an administrator.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to, verbal abuse that insults or humiliates others. This also includes name-calling and sexual innuendos as most people find such behavior offensive and inappropriate. Using various forms of technology to cyber-bully, intimidate or demean someone is also harassment. This includes intentionally cruel or lewd messages or pictures spread via social media, text messaging, email, and/or collaborative file sharing. Specific examples of inappropriate or illegal behavior include:

- negative or offensive comments, jokes, or suggestions or innuendoes
- slang, names, or labels that others find offensive
- talking about or calling attention to physical or sexual characteristics in a negative or embarrassing way

BUS PRIVILEGES

Students being transported by school bus are under the authority of the school bus driver and the Catalina Foothills School District. It is the student's responsibility to carry his/her school bus pass (student ID card) whenever riding the school bus. Riding a school bus is a privilege and should be treated as such. These rules are for the safety of all those who ride the bus. Students who refuse to obey these stated rules shall forfeit their bus privileges. **Any student who endangers the safety or well-being of others will be removed from the bus immediately and denied transportation.** Referrals from the driver for misbehavior will be handled on an individual basis by the Dean of Students.

Students shall:

- Be at their bus stop and be ready for pick up **AT LEAST FIVE MINUTES** before the bus is due.
- Bus Passes (student ID cards) are required at all times. If a student loses, misplaces, or forgets the bus pass, the student **WILL NEED** a written pass **FROM THE FRONT OFFICE** in order to board the bus in the PM. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
 - Students who do not have their bus pass after three consecutive days will need to purchase a new bus pass (student ID card) through the front office at a cost of \$5.
- Stand a safe distance back from the curb or road and line up single file, facing the street, when the bus approaches.
- Keep cell phones stowed in backpacks and in the “OFF” position.
- Wait for the driver to motion them across the street when it is safe to cross and walk in front of the bus by at least TEN feet.
- Pay attention to what the bus driver says and obey the driver’s instructions.
- Always use steps and handrails, and never crowd or push when getting on or off the bus.
- Take their seats quietly and quickly.
- Always sit facing forward.
- Always wear their seat belts and remain seated at all times while on the bus.
- Keep the aisle clear of legs, feet, and backpacks.
- No food or drink other than water while on the bus.
- Never stand, except to exit the bus at the stop, and remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop.
- Never throw anything on the bus or out the bus window, or extend hands, arms, head, or objects outside the bus window.
- Have written permission, approved by the school, to ride another bus or get off at a stop other than their own. Alternate arrangements for bus transportation must be made prior to 2:00 p.m.
- Talk in normal tones; screaming and yelling are prohibited.
- Never use vulgar or abusive language.
- Treat the bus driver and fellow passengers with respect.
- Once the bus starts to move, the driver **WILL NOT** stop to board a student **FOR ANY REASON!**
- No physical displays of affection are permitted on the bus.

REFERRALS FROM THE BUS DRIVER: Students engaging in misbehavior on the bus may receive a referral from the bus driver. This will be dealt with in accordance with the Discipline Matrix. Bus ridership is a privilege and it is important to keep in mind that recurrent incidents on the bus can result in suspension or loss of bus ridership.

CAFETERIA USE AND MEAL TIME BEHAVIOR

Students have the option of bringing their lunch or choosing the lunch served at the school. Students who bring lunches may store them in the refrigerators located in our classrooms. Lunch bags should be marked with the student’s name for easy identification.

Both breakfast and lunch are served daily in the cafeteria (\$2.50 for breakfast and \$3.50 for lunch) served daily in the cafeteria. Breakfast is available each morning from 7:00-7:25 am (and 9:00-9:25 am on Late Start Wednesdays). Per ADE regulations, if a student goes to the cash register and the meal components they have selected do not include the required components, the student will be asked to choose a fruit or vegetable option to make the meal complete. If the student does not want the fruit or vegetable, then the items on the tray will be charged a la carte pricing per ADE regulations. Please see *School Breakfast and Lunch Program 2024-25* for more information.

Students who wish to purchase a la carte items may do so using funds loaded on their ID card through InTouch. To keep the lines moving efficiently and as a safety precaution, students may not exchange cash at the registers.

Funds may be deposited in a student’s lunch account online with InTouch or by making a payment at the school via cash, check, or credit card. For reasons of security, students may only use their own ID card and are prohibited from lending their ID card to other students.

The following behaviors are expected of students in the cafeteria at all times:

- Students are expected to clean up their own tables and to remove trays, utensils, etc. to the trash cans. Students who fail to do so may have clean up duty assigned, removal of cafeteria privileges, or other disciplinary consequences.
- Eating in the Commons is a privilege. Failure to dispose of litter in an appropriate manner could result in the loss of this privilege.

- Outside food deliveries are not allowed on campus during the school day.

Food from outside vendors

Food from outside vendors is not allowed to be brought on our campuses during school hours. CFSD and Southwest Foodservice Excellence, LLC must comply with the guidelines and requirements of the National School Lunch Program. For lunch, ONLY parents are permitted to bring in food from an outside vendor and *only for their child*. (For example, a parent may not bring pizza or cupcakes to be shared with other students.) **Use of a delivery service is NOT ALLOWED.**

CELL PHONES AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DEVICES

(“OFF AND AWAY”)

A student may bring a cell phone to school provided that the device is “OFF and AWAY” between the hours of 7:30am and 2:30 pm.

AWAY means the cell phone is out of sight for the duration of the school day. It is expected cell phones are to be turned off and put in the student’s backpack. Backpacks need to be put in the locker until the end of the day. Phones can come out of the backpacks at the end of the day.

Cell phones are NOT to be used at any time for personal calls/messages during the day. Students will not be dismissed from classes to make or answer telephone calls. Students may use the phone located in the Front Office to make necessary calls. Students may not take pictures/video of other students or staff members, as it is a violation of the privacy rights of individuals.

Headphones of any kind – earbuds or stereo style are not allowed. The teacher may ask the student to put the headphones in their locker or confiscate them and take them to the office. Headphones of any size can be Bluetooth accessible and connect to any device, namely the phone in their pocket. Please keep track of your electronic devices and accessories. We advise students to leave costly items at home.

BYOD: BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE

Esperero Canyon Middle School, in alignment with CFSD policies (Policy JK-RA), encourages students to bring their own devices to school as part of a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) movement.

For purposes of BYOD, “technology” means privately owned wireless and/or portable electronic hand held equipment such as a laptop, netbook, tablet, smart phone, mp3 player, or eReader, that can be used for word processing wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording, and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc. Students must connect to the CFSD-BYOD network and may not use 3G/4G service to circumvent the safety measures CFSD has put in place to protect our students and faculty members. Students and parents must understand that ECMS faculty and staff are not responsible for loss, theft, damage; BYOD at your own risk. Additionally, ECMS faculty and staff are not responsible for troubleshooting, repairing, or installing software on any privately owned devices. Students may not charge their own devices at school. Students must follow and abide by the technology user agreement and the discipline code; failure to do so will result in disciplinary action and loss of BYOD privilege. Students must follow the guidelines that the classroom teachers implement in their classrooms in regards to BYOD. BYOD is not intended to replace our current bountiful technology options for students at ECMS, and any students unable to bring their own devices will not incur any academic penalties.

CONSEQUENCES FOR THE MISUSE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Students will face the following consequences if the electronic device being used is a disruption to the educational environment:

- 1st Offense: Confiscation for the day and returned to the student
- 2nd and Later Offenses: Confiscation for the day; parent must pick up the device
- Repeated Offenses: Students will not be allowed to bring the phone on campus.

COMPUTER/INTERNET SERVICES

Students are encouraged to utilize the excellent computer/internet services that are available at Esperero Canyon Middle School.

ECMS offers access to computers and the internet, encouraging students to become responsible and ethical users of these tools. When registering to attend ECMS, students and their parents must sign an *Internet Acceptable Use Agreement*, which describes Catalina Foothills School District's policy for utilizing campus computers. Acceptable uses of the network are activities that support teaching and learning. Misuse of the internet is viewed as unethical or illegal solicitation or activities; any messages sent or received that indicate or suggest pornography and obscenity; any violation of another user's right to privacy; or the use of racist, sexist, or inappropriate language. The privilege of using campus computers may be revoked if misuse occurs. Deliberate attempts to interrupt or harm network performance will be viewed as criminal activity under applicable state and federal law.

Student email and Web-Based Applications

Students are issued Google accounts; parents may choose to allow or disallow access to Google email services (Gmail). When using Google applications (Docs, Blogger, etc.) and all other web-based applications (Khan Academy, GIZMOS, etc.) associated with their Google account, students must act in a mature and responsible manner. Please note that student Google accounts are monitored and are the property of the School District. Students who use their Google accounts in an inappropriate or offensive manner, or in a way that disrupts the school network will be subject to administrative action, potentially including removal of Google account access and/or computer privileges at school.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Our staff is here to support the social and emotional well being of students. Two counselors are available to assist and support our students. Students who need to see a counselor should make an appointment and obtain a pass from their teacher to miss class. To make an appointment a student needs to complete the *Request to Visit with the School Counselor* digital form available in each teacher's Google Classroom. In cases of emergency, students should report directly to a counselor or an administrator. We work with teachers on strategies to provide support for students in need of social and emotional support. Please call our main number at 520-209-8100 and ask to be connected with our counseling department, if you need assistance. Ms. Griffith is at 520-209-8112. Mr. Wilton is at 520-209-8105. (email bgriffith@cfsd16.org and gwilton@cfsd16.org)

DRESS CODE (School Attire)

Our focus is on academic learning. We expect you to wear clothing that is safe and appropriate for an academic setting. Our dress code is neutral with respect to gender: the same rules apply to all clothing and all students.

Clothing must be safe:

You need to be able to safely participate in all academic activities, and be able to move safely about campus. Any clothing that poses a safety risk must be changed.

Clothing must be appropriate for a middle-school setting:

Your base layer of clothing must cover you in the full range of postures that may be required in a classroom – sitting cross-legged or on the floor, kneeling, bending over, reaching out, raising hands, etc.

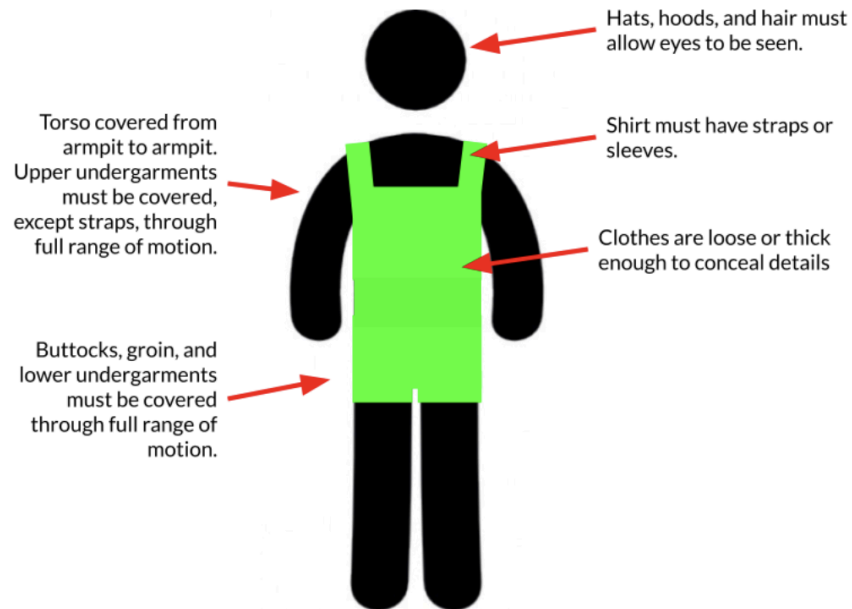
Your buttocks and groin must be covered.

Your chest must be covered from armpit to armpit.

Your base layer of clothing should fully cover upper and lower undergarments. Bra straps are the only undergarment that may be visible at any time.

You must be able to make eye contact with teachers and peers. Hats, hoods, head coverings, or hair should not block or conceal your eyes. Sunglasses may be worn outdoors.

Base Layer of Clothing



Apparel considered inappropriate includes, but is not limited to:

Clothing that displays vulgar or offensive pictures/language, tobacco or alcohol products, or references to illegal substances.

Clothing that is see-through or revealing of areas in green (above).

Apparel, jewelry, accessory, or manner of dress or grooming that by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol, or any other attribute that indicates or implies membership of a gang, promotes illegal activities, or is disrespectful or discriminatory.

Hats & Hoods:

Hats, hoods, and hair must allow eyes to be seen.

Hats and head coverings may be worn at any time if they are being worn as part of religious observance or as a medical necessity.

Belts & Accessories:

Must not present a safety risk - items which are dangling, or that could be snagged or tangled (like wallet chains or dangling necklaces) are not safe.

Sunglasses must be removed and stored while indoors unless a medical condition necessitates sunglasses being worn indoors.

Footwear:

Shoes are required to be worn while on the school campus.

Wheels in the soles ("wheelies") are not safe, and therefore are not permitted.

Laces must be tied or tucked, not loose and dragging.

Clothing for Physical Education Class:

Students are NOT required to change clothes for PE. If a student wishes to change, they may use a restroom stall. We are not using PE locker rooms or lockers. Closed-toe shoes with rubber soles (athletic shoes) are required. *Crocs are not permitted for participation in PE classes.*

Ink on Skin:

Students who write on their skin while on campus will be asked to wash it off. If the writing is offensive or deemed to be concerning, the student will be referred to the counseling staff.

Note: Clothing that must be adjusted, stretched, or repositioned to remain in dress code is in violation of the dress code. Students who must pull up pants or necklines, roll down shorts, or slide sleeves over shoulders, for example, are out of dress code.

We will always try to avoid disrupting your learning to handle dress code infractions. For minor infractions, we will email you and your parents so you can make an adjustment on future days. For dress code violations that require an immediate change of clothing (inappropriate language / images, clothes that reveal groin / buttocks), you may be required to change clothes, for example, into a clean “loaner” shirt.. Repeated dress code violators will be assigned other consequences.

DRUG-FREE/WEAPONS-FREE SCHOOL ZONE

ECMS is a drug-free/weapon-free school zone. Students in possession of drugs, drug paraphernalia, knives, guns, martial arts devices, clubs, explosive devices, or any other objects which could be construed as detrimental to self or others are in violation of school rules, district policy, and civil law. ECMS will not tolerate drugs, drug paraphernalia, or weapons on campus. Students who are in possession of such objects will be recommended for a long-term suspension/expulsion hearing and the sheriff’s office will be notified.

FAMILY FACULTY ORGANIZATION (FFO)

Online and in person, whole group parent meetings will be held monthly with administration and selected staff members in order to communicate with families in a virtual format. This is an effort to maximize the number of families we are reaching. The FFO will communicate via ParentSquare.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES ON CAMPUS

Food and beverages are not allowed in science labs or in any area where computers are being used. Students will be financially responsible for any costs associated with damaged property as a result of food spillage. Drinking fountains will be available for bottle refills. Students and staff are encouraged to bring their own water bottles.

Food from outside vendors

Food from outside vendors is not allowed to be brought on our campuses during school hours. CFSD and Southwest Foodservice Excellence, LLC must comply with the guidelines and requirements of the National School Lunch Program. For lunch, **ONLY** parents are permitted to bring in food from an outside vendor and **only for their child**. (For example, a parent may not bring pizza or cupcakes to be shared with other students.) **Use of a delivery service is NOT ALLOWED.**

FUNDRAISING SALES

CFSD does not permit individual students to sell items at school whether for personal profit or to be donated to a non-profit organization. All fundraising must be approved by the ECMS administration and follow CFSD official guidelines.

GUM

Gum is very difficult to remove from certain surfaces, damages property and may spread germs.. Gum chewing is prohibited on buses and on campus.

HEALTH SERVICES

Esperero Canyon Middle School has a full-time registered nurse on site during school hours. The nurse is responsible for administration of all medication through the school Health Office, in accordance with state and district policies. A consent form is necessary for any medications a student is required to take during the school day. Forms are available under [Health Services](#) on the CFSD website. Please contact our school nurse, Ms. Vivien Petersen, vpetersen@cfsd16.org, for assistance. Students may not carry prescription or over-the-counter medications with them, as per district policy.

School Nurse

The school nurse provides students, parents, and staff with preventative health information. In addition, the nurse will serve as a communication liaison between staff, parents, and students for identification and remedy of student health problems. In the event of school related injuries/illnesses, the nurse will provide first aid and make appropriate student referral.

All students who are ill and need to go home must be excused from school through the school nurse/health office. Students who are ill may not call parents to pick them up without first visiting the health office.

Parents should report contagious conditions to the School Nurse; these include but are not limited to: strep throat, whooping cough, “mono” (mononucleosis), “pink eye” (conjunctivitis), “flu”, and lice. Also, if your student has a new/change in diagnoses such as: asthma, diabetes, migraine headaches, allergy (especially to food or medication), it is important to report this to the School Nurse so the students’ health file is updated and the student is provided appropriate health care at school. Students returning to school following a serious illness or injury surgery or concussion must have a note from their physician clearing them to attend school and to participate in P.E.

Immunizations required for school attendance are in accordance with Arizona State Health Services Guidelines. Please refer to the Esperero Canyon Middle School website for current information regarding immunizations and waivers.

HOMEWORK

Communication is vital in the homework process. It should include teacher-student, teacher-parent and parent-student ongoing feedback. Teachers will give clear directions for each assignment and provide feedback to students. Teachers will keep parents informed by returning student work on a regular basis and by contacting individual parents as necessary. In addition, for long-term projects, parents and students will be notified of project requirements, grading criteria, and due dates. Parents can consult ParentVUE, the teacher’s Google classroom or communicate via ParentSquare, or school email.

IDENTIFICATION CARDS (IDs)

In order to support campus safety and security, ECMS students will be issued ID cards which must be displayed at all times during the school day on a lanyard around the neck. At any time during the day, students without IDs displayed will be assigned to lunch detention. Students will use these ID cards to ride CFSD buses to and from school, and they may also use these cards to access food services, library services, and for identification at activities.

Lost, stolen, or damaged IDs must be replaced by purchasing a new one through the Front Office at a cost of \$5.

IN-SCHOOL SUPERVISION and SUPPORT (ISS)

Students who are assigned to In-school Supervision and Support (ISS) are advised that there are rules that must be followed or students may be sent home. Students may be assigned or directed by administration to report to ISS for disruptive behavior in accordance with the CFSD Discipline Matrix. Administration will contact parents after any incident that results in a student being sent to ISS. We value the school-home partnership in helping students to make good choices.

LIBRARY AND MEDIA SERVICES

The Library exists to serve the students, faculty, and staff by providing resources and services that are needed for a successful learning experience. Any student may use the Library during open hours (7:00 am – 2:30 pm, except late-start Wednesdays when the Library opens at 9:00 am).

Students are encouraged to borrow materials, returning them on the first Monday of each month. Fines are not assessed for overdue materials, but students must pay a replacement fee for lost or damaged items. Any student who still retains overdue library items on Friday is warned that library borrowing privileges will be lost if (s)he neglects to settle library obligations prior to Friday’s lunch period three months out of the current school year. Computer printers and a photocopy machine are available for student use in the library.

THESE RULES MUST BE OBSERVED IN THE LIBRARY:

- Students are responsible for paying fees associated with losing or damaging materials and textbooks.
- Students may not bring food or drink into the library.
- Students, please respect the library as a quiet workspace.
- Students, please respect the books and equipment; misuse/abuse may result in disciplinary action.

LIBRARY BOOKS AND MATERIALS

Students shall be charged fines for damaged or lost library books or other library materials. A student who has received a notice of impending fine for lost or damaged library books or other library materials may have his or her library borrowing privileges suspended until the fine is paid or otherwise resolved. Students can bring proof of payment to the library to have their library privileges restored.

NOTICE AND PAYMENT OF FINES

Fines for lost or damaged school or district property, including textbooks and other instructional materials, library books, or other library materials, musical instruments, technology, etc., are due and payable seven (7) calendar days after a written notice of impending fine for lost or damaged school or District property is sent by means of email, USPS, or hand delivery to the student and his or her parent/guardian.

The School District recommends that fines be paid through the School District's online payment system – InTouch. Payment of a fine may also be made at the Front Office. (Checks should be made payable to CFSD.) If a fine is paid at the Front Office, the student will be issued a receipt evidencing payment of the fine.

Instructional items such as textbooks and library books may not be replaced with the same or similar items purchased by a parent/guardian from a third-party vendor.

REFUNDING FINES

If a fine has been paid because of a lost item and the item is later found and returned to the school or District, the student or his or her parent/guardian can obtain a refund of the fine that was paid if and only if:

- The lost item is returned in an undamaged condition, normal wear and tear excepted, on or before the end of the school year or no later than thirty (30) calendar days after the fine was paid, whichever is later; and
- The fine that had been paid was ten dollars (\$10) or greater.

If a student who qualifies to receive repayment of a fine has other unpaid fines for lost or damaged school or District property, the refund shall first be applied to reduce or eliminate the unpaid fines, with the balance after all such fines have been paid, if any, being refunded.

APPEALING A FINE

If a student or his or her parent/guardian believes that a fine has 1) been incorrectly imposed and is not owed by the student, or 2) would impose a significant economic hardship on the student and his or her family, the student and his or her parent/guardian may appeal the fine by asking for a meeting with the applicable site administrator. Within three (3) work days after such a meeting, the site administrator will affirm, rescind, or modify the fine and shall provide written notice to the person who brought the appeal of the decision being rendered. If the student or his or her parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the decision of the site administrator, the site administrator's decision may be appealed to the Superintendent or designee. Any such appeal must be brought within three (3) work days of receipt of the site administrator's decision. The appeal shall be in writing, explaining why the student or parent/guardian believes the fine to be in violation of one (1) or both of the two (2) standards set out above. The Superintendent or designee shall review the matter as and to the extent deemed appropriate and shall, within five (5) work days, render a decision. The decision of the Superintendent or designee shall be final.

LOCKS and LOCKERS

Locker and lock assignments are made randomly at the beginning of the year. Outside lockers, gym, band and orchestra lockers will be assigned during class.

- A school lock will be issued to each student. A replacement fee will be assessed for locks not returned at the end of the school year.
- Locks and lockers are school property and are subject to inspection and searches at the discretion of school officials.

- Students are responsible for seeing that no one else obtains the lock/locker combination.
- Students are responsible for the appearance and condition of the locker. Fines may be assigned for damage done to the outside as well as the inside of the locker, or to the lock itself. No decorations, stickers, etc. may be placed on the outside of lockers.
- Lockers are unsafe for purses, money, or other valuables. Students should keep valuables in their possession at all times or leave them at home. If this is not possible, valuable items should be brought to the Front Office. The school is not responsible nor does it have insurance to cover students' lost or stolen property. All thefts should be reported to the Administration.
- Report all problems with locks or lockers to the ISS coordinator at 520-209-1111.
- Students are not authorized to change lockers. All locker changes must be requested from ISS.
- Students may not use personal combination locks to secure lockers.
- Unlocked lockers will be zip tied and students will need to go to ISS to get their locks unlocked.
- Students may not "share" a locker with another student.

LOST AND FOUND

The school is NOT responsible for lost or stolen property. All lost or stolen items should be reported to the administration. The student will be asked to provide information regarding items lost or stolen. Found items are located in the Commons and the Front Office. Parents will be notified periodically to visit lost and found items that will be on display at the front of the school. Any unclaimed items will be donated.

PBIS

PBIS - Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Program

PBIS: The Eagle Way

We want to acknowledge the positive contributions that our students make every day and provide support in demonstrating expected behaviors. Esperero’s Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) outlines what our expectations are from students in a variety of school settings and is referred to as The Eagle Way. Our schoolwide community’s expectations are: to be respectful, responsible, and academically engaged. The Eagle Way also guides how we manage discipline on campus, using a tiered system that promotes the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral competence of all students. The table below shows what The Eagle Way looks like across campus.

- Link to the [CFSD Discipline Matrix](#)
- Link to form [Counselor Appointment](#)
- Link to [CFSD Bullying and Harassment K-E Discipline Matrix Policy](#)

Area of Campus	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Academically Engaged
Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Listen to your teacher or the person speaking · Raise your hand to be called on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Bring supplies to class · Be prepared to do the work you are assigned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Focus on the lesson being taught · Follow teacher’s directions
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Be seated in the correct seat BEFORE the bell rings · Clean up before leaving class · To leave during class (restroom, etc): Please sign out on the clipboard, take the teacher’s pass. Please sign in on the clipboard and return the teacher’s pass. · Be quick! 		

Area of Campus	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Academically Engaged
Commons / Cafeteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Be courteous to the staff monitoring the Commons and follow their directions · Wait in line patiently and be respectful of the personal space of others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Stay seated while eating and clean up after yourself · Remain in the commons at lunch until the bell rings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Eat lunch to fuel your afternoon If you need to visit a teacher or the library during lunch, get a pass in advance
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Clean up your eating area · Do not share food with others due to allergies 		
Buses/Drop Off and Pick Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enter and exit vehicles quickly at drop off/pickup · Safety first --watch out for traffic · Bus ridership is a privilege, please treat it with respect. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Stay on sidewalks and crosswalks · Follow the directions of supervising staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Focus upon your safe arrival to school
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Have ID ready for bus driver · Get bus pass by lunchtime · Enter and exit vehicles on passenger side · Your bus will not wait for you and once it starts moving, the driver cannot stop to let you on 		
Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Use inside voices: the library is a quiet place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Return materials on time to avoid fines · Leave your area clean and tidy 	
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enter through south doors · Push chairs in and return materials before leaving · No food or drink in the library 		
Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Listen attentively to speakers and performers · Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Enter and exit calmly, quickly, and quietly · Do not touch lighting or sound system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Be a positive audience member
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Sit in the designated area for your class · Return directly to classroom via the designated route 		

Area of Campus	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Academically Engaged
Fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Follow agreed-upon game rules · Show kindness and courtesy to fellow students and your teacher · Care for and maintain school equipment · Negotiate conflicts calmly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Walk to and from field · Follow the directions of all adults · Pick up all equipment · Use space, materials, and equipment as intended · Stay in the designated area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Respect others' personal space
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Wash hands · Wait outside for friends 		
Bathroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Be quick, clean, and private 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Use only what you need · Use materials as intended · Report problems to an adult 	
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Wash hands · Wait outside for friends 		
Front Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Wait until a staff member addresses you · Greet and address staff by name · Be courteous at all times; the office is a place of business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Be prepared to ask for what you need · Proceed directly back to class · When you feel ill, ask to go to the nurse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Respect others' privacy
Eagle Habits of Mind	<p>If you are late to school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · If you are tardy to school, go to the front office. Your parent /guardian must call ahead to excuse your tardiness. · Go straight to class after you obtain a tardy pass. <p>Counselor & nurse visits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · If you need to see the counselor, complete an appointment request form. You can find the form in your Advisory Google Classroom and on our website. · If you have an urgent need to see the counselor, your teacher will assist you. · If you need to see the nurse, alert your teacher or a staff member. The teacher or staff member will call the nurse. Wait until the teacher or staff member gives you instructions before you report to the nurse. <p>Bus Pass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · If you forget your ID and need to ride the bus, you can obtain a bus pass at lunch at the outside office table. Passes will not be issued during class or after lunch. · If your parent/guardian sends you with a note to ride a different bus home, you must obtain a bus pass. Passes will not be given during class or anytime after lunch. <p>Lunch Drop-off</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · If your parent/guardian drops off a lunch, you may pick it up at the beginning of your lunch period at the outside office table. · Lunch may only be delivered to ECMS by a parent/family member. We do not accept orders from delivery services like Grub Hub or Door Dash. 		

Area of Campus	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Academically Engaged
Game Area in Cafeteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Be courteous at all times · Take care of our games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Follow the directions of all adults · Sign up on a game on the sign up board · When you are called, you will trade paddles, balls/pucks for your ID and when your game is finished your ID will be returned by our adult volunteers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Engage in friendly competition
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Return paddles, balls and pucks to adult volunteer · Keep all food and drink away from playing tables 		
Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · All online communication should be purposeful and respectful · Do not send or receive inappropriate content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Be mindful of online safety and do not communicate with someone you don't know · Be an upstander by reporting cyberbullying to an adult at home and an adult at school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Internet use at school should be for academic reasons
<p>Please note: engaging in online communications (even on your personal devices) that have a negative impact on the school environment may result in disciplinary consequences in accordance with the CFSD Discipline matrix. Defamation, harassment, intimidation, threats or bullying, use of obscene or vulgar language, or unauthorized use of educational technology tools that cause disruption in the classroom and of the school day may warrant investigation and disciplinary action.</p>			
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Be mindful of online safety at all times. · Be good stewards of technology and use it wisely. · Be an upstander and report all online harassment and bullying to the EC administration 		
PE/ Health Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Follow directions of the teacher · Respect others' space · Demonstrate positivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Bring a water bottle · Bring/wear athletic shoes · Stay within the area of activity or play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Follow the rules of the game or sport you are playing
Eagle Habits of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Teamwork means being able to work with a variety of classmates. <p>Lifelong health and fitness habits are developed over time.</p>		

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE Clothing

Students must wear appropriate athletic footwear to participate in PE class. We do not require students to dress out in PE. Students can wear athletic shoes to school or leave a pair of athletic shoes in their regular locker and get them on the way to PE. Students will not be allowed to participate if wearing inappropriate footwear. Athletic footwear is a requirement and does not include Crocs. Students who for any reason are unable to participate in PE must bring a note from their parents. Any request for exemption of more than three days will require a doctor's note stating the duration of time the student is to be excused.

PHONE CALLS AND MESSAGES

School phones are off-limits to students, except for the one located in the front Office. Students may use the phone in the front office with permission from a staff member before and after school and during lunch. Parents are asked to contact the Front Office to ensure contact of students. **Please note: we cannot guarantee delivery of messages after 2:00 p.m.**

SCHOOL-HOME COMMUNICATIONS

General communication between the school and parents is sent via ParentSquare and email. At other times, a phone call may be necessary. It is vital that parents keep the school informed of current contact information, including postal and email addresses, and phone numbers.

EAGLE EXPRESS

The Eagle Express is a weekly newsletter that will be posted on our website when school is in session, and parents will be notified via ParentSquare.

PARENTSQUARE

CFSD has adopted a new form of school-to-home communication: ParentSquare. It is designed to keep parents informed and facilitate their participation in school. ParentSquare provides a safe and efficient way for the school principal, teachers, staff, and parents/guardians to send and receive school and class information, share pictures and files, see calendar items, sign up to volunteer, and much more.

TEACHER CONTACT

Teachers may be contacted by phone, email, or ParentSquare. Every effort will be made to ensure that phone calls will be returned within twenty-four hours.

SCHOOL HOURS/SUPERVISION

School is in session from 7:30 a.m. (9:30 a.m. on Late Start Wednesdays) until 2:30 p.m. All students are expected to be in their assigned seats in Period 1 no later than 7:30 a.m. (9:30 a.m. on Late Start Wednesdays). Students who arrive late to school **MUST** have a parent either sign them in at the front office, call the attendance line (520-209-8190), or send a note with the student. All late students will be given a late pass to enter class. Students may not be on school grounds prior to 7:00 a.m. (9:00 a.m. on Late Start days) or after 2:45 p.m. unless enrolled in a Community Schools activity or granted special permission. After school dismisses, students must ride the bus home, walk home immediately after school, or be picked up from school.

ECMS Students are not permitted on the Canyon View campus or in the Canyon View and ECMS back parking lot areas between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm, while Canyon View is in session. Students with siblings at Canyon View who are picking up his/her sibling or meeting his/her ride at Canyon View must report to the ECMS library at dismissal and will be supervised until they are released at 2:50 pm.

To make sure your child is supervised on campus after school, any student not picked up by 2:50 p.m. will be sent to Study Hall to wait for his/her ride. Study Hall is a fee-based program operated by Community Schools. It is available to students who pre-register at the beginning of each quarter. In the event your student is not picked up by 2:50 p.m. and is sent to Study Hall, you may be assessed a fee.

Students may NOT stay after school to wait on athletic contests or other school events to begin, unless enrolled in a Community Schools program. When the program concludes, the student must be accompanied by a parent in order to attend athletic contests. Students may ONLY attend athletic events when accompanied by a parent or guardian or enrolled in that athletic program.

SEARCHES

When a reasonable suspicion arises that a student is involved in illegal, illicit, or disruptive behavior, the principal or designee has the authority to conduct a search of the student's locker, personal possessions (e.g. handbag, backpack), or person in accordance with Catalina Foothills School District policy.

SIGN-IN/OUT PROCEDURES

SIGN-IN

If at any time a student arrives to school late, that student MUST have a parent either sign them in at the front office, call the attendance line (520-209-8190), or send a note with the student. This includes when a child comes/returns to school from an appointment or activity.

SIGN-OUT

Our office staff will check out students who are going to be picked up by parents. Please be prepared to present your ID. *Please note: in order to limit class disruption and alleviate wait times for parents, if you are needing to pick up your student earlier than the regular dismissal time, we would appreciate you doing so prior to 2:00 pm.*

TARDY POLICY

Students are expected to report to school on time each morning and to each class on time. Students who arrive at school once the gate is closed at 7:30 a.m. (9:30 a.m. on Late Start days) MUST have a parent either sign them in at the front office, call the attendance line (520-209-8190), or send a note with the student. Students with four or more tardies per quarter will be assigned lunch detention. Students should be in their seats ready to work by the time the bell rings. Students who arrive late to class will be marked tardy to class in Synergy. After four tardies in one quarter (cumulative), students will be assigned consequences. Consequences may include, but are not limited to, detention at lunch or after school. Students who are habitually tardy will be referred to administration for further disciplinary action.

TEXTBOOKS AND SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

Textbooks are loaned to students and distribution is handled through the school library at the beginning of the school year. All textbooks are scanned electronically to ensure accuracy of inventory. Students are responsible for maintaining texts and school materials and returning them in good condition. Students are also responsible for returning texts and school materials at the end of the school year, and are strongly discouraged from leaving assigned textbooks or school equipment in any classroom, as they may be required to pay for them should the texts or equipment become damaged, lost, or stolen. Some textbooks are also accessible online. Please check with your students' teachers.

TUTORING AND ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE

Tutoring and academic assistance are available on campus. Teachers are able to provide assistance to their students before or after school, or at lunch (please check with your child's teacher). **Eagle Forum** takes place one Wednesday per month in the library from 2:45 pm to 4:15 pm and is an intervention to assist students in completing class work. Limited seats are available. To participate in either **Eagle Forum**, please contact the student's counselor. National Junior Honor Society students also provide tutoring. Please contact your student's teacher for assistance (or email mgivens@cfsd16.org or jgrobe@cfsd16.org for details).

VISITORS TO CAMPUS

All visitors to campus must report to the Front Office, provide a photo ID, sign in and receive a visitor's pass. This is a safety requirement. Sign out upon leaving is required along with returning the visitor's item of value. Classrooms may only be visited with prior approval from administration. Student visitors from other schools are not permitted at any time during the school day. All visitors are subject to approval from the ECMS administration.