



GOLD Family Handbook (Updated 8/12/2024)



The Stanley County GOLD Community Learning Center is a project of Three Rivers Special Services Cooperative with Community & Youth Involved, Inc. & the Stanley County School District.

Funding is provided by Community & Youth Involved, Inc. and a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant from the SD Department of Education.



Community & Youth Involved, Inc. is proud to be a United Way Partner Agency.

For kids - The Stanley County GOLD (Greater Opportunities for Learning & Development) Program provides a safe and supervised setting that will offer many fun and creative learning opportunities for children in kindergarten through 5th grade. Individual and group activities are designed to improve school performance, utilize technology, promote good character, encourage healthy behavior, and increase exposure to arts and culture.

Applications: Enrollment applications are accepted online at <https://sites.google.com/k12.sd.us/scgoldcommunitylearningcenter/home>. This is found on the Stanley County School website under the Community & Alumni section.

Who can be a GOLDKid? In order to be admitted, children must be enrolled in Stanley County School or live in Stanley County. Enrollment is limited based upon funding and the number of staff available.

When can my child start? Children can apply for enrollment in GOLD when they start kindergarten. You will receive an email notification when your child(ren) is/are accepted into the program. Your acceptance email will note the date your child(ren) may start attending.

2024 - 2025 School-Year GOLD Afterschool programming follows the Stanley County School calendar.

Start/End: Our first day is Monday, August 19th and our last day is Friday, May 23th.

Open Hours on School Days: 3:30 – 5:30pm. K-8 GOLDKids will check in with GOLDstaff on the elementary playground beginning at 3:30pm.

Open Hours Non-School Day Fridays: GOLD is open from 7:30am to 5:30pm on Fridays. Parents must check their children in at the Pat Duffy Community Center.

School Holidays & In-service Days: GOLD is closed.

If Stanley County school closes due to weather, illness, or other emergency, GOLD will be closed as well.

2024 Summer Program Calendar – GOLD is funded for 8 weeks of summer programming. Tentative summer dates are: In session - Monday, June 9 through Friday, June 30, 2025 and Monday, July 9 through Friday, August 8. Closed Monday, July 2 through Friday, July 4, 2025.

Hours: 7:30am – 5:30pm. Required attendance: M-Th 9am – 2:45pm.

GOLD Fees: Thanks to SD Dept. of Education 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant awarded to Three Rivers Special Services Cooperative there is *no charge* for this educational & childcare service.

These are the “charges” for this service:

- 1) Have your child(ren) attend regularly so that your GOLDKids can make progress toward program goals.
- 2) Inform GOLDstaff of any educational, physical or behavioral accommodations, needs, systems or plans for your child so that we can be a partner with you and the school in helping your child achieve his/her potential. Please invite our director to IEP meetings so that we can be up-to-speed with this plan.

- 3) Take the Common Sense Parenting Class offered by Growing Up Together. Dates and opportunities to enroll will be communicated by the GOLD director. GOLD will provide childcare during these classes if at least three families participate.
- 4) Attend as many family events as possible each year.
- 5) Teach your children to behave with good character. Expect your children to behave with good character. GOLDstaff will do our best to teach and model it. Parents/guardians, please do your best as well.

CYI Donations are encouraged. Community & Youth Involved, Inc. (CYI) provides our facility, janitorial services, office machines, many supplies, snacks for GOLDkids. As a thank you, please consider making a monthly donation to CYI so they can continue to do this good work for your family and others in our community.

Snacks: A snack will be provided after school. A morning and afternoon snack will be provided on Fridays. We thank CYI for providing most of GOLD's snack.

Lunch: GOLDkids must bring a lunch on Fridays and daily during the summer. It is best that the lunch does not need to be heated as some days we may not have time to heat them or access to a microwave. (field trips, picnics, etc)

The GOLD menu is posted at this link:

<https://sites.google.com/k12.sd.us/scgoldcommunitylearningcenter/gold-calendar>.

CYI does offer pizza slices and glasses of soda for \$1 each from 3:30 to 5:15pm daily. GOLDfamilies may send money with their child(ren) or pay ahead to the counter staff.

Facilities & Community Activities. GOLD is based in the Pat Duffy Community Center section of CYI located at 19 E. Main, Fort Pierre, SD.

At GOLD, we believe that kids have the greatest opportunities to learn and develop through hands-on activities, being outdoors, trying new and challenging endeavors, working on long-term projects and being involved in the community. Daily GOLDkids will enjoy recess time and Brain Gain (homework help & math/reading games).

Staffing limitations require that GOLDkids participate with their assigned group in that group's assigned activity at all times. If your child requires accommodations to be able to participate in an activity, please advise the site coordinator as much in advance as possible. If your child doesn't want to or isn't allowed to participate in the assigned activity, he/she should not attend GOLD during that time.

Special activities, field trips, events, parent trainings, days off, etc are posted on the GOLD Calendar at this link: <https://sites.google.com/k12.sd.us/scgoldcommunitylearningcenter/gold-calendar>.

GOLD & 4-H. SC GOLD programming is based in part on the 4-H Youth Development Model. All GOLDkids are 4-H members. SC GOLD is an official 4-H Club. Inside GOLD and out, GOLDfamilies

are welcome to participate in all things 4-H. Hughes/Stanley County Achievement Days are an annual SC GOLD family event.

GOLDkids can do hard things! At GOLD we are looking to build kids' confidence, character, work ethic, and leadership skills. We want kids to grow to feel independent, capable and proud of themselves. For this reason, we plan for them to do activities such as ice skating and biking, creating challenging 4-H projects, playing games by the "real" rules and more. If your child comes home requesting not to participate or frustrated, please be encouraging and help talk them through their frustration. Let him/her know that you are proud they are trying, that hard work and persistence pays off and celebrate the small and large successes that are achieved through the process. If you have questions about the safety or appropriateness of an activity for your child, please call the site coordinator to learn more.

Behavior Expectations and Supports. GOLDkids are expected to behave with good character. Ample opportunities for participants to learn and practice good character will be provided.

If your child has specific goals, programs or plans in place to help him/her learn and maintain positive behavior, please notify the site coordinator. We want to maintain continuity of these systems with school and home to increase opportunities for growth and successful participation for each child.

GOLDkids are expected to participate positively in all daily activities. In cases where a child doesn't modify negative, disruptive, harmful or otherwise inappropriate behaviors in response to staff interventions, a parent will be called to remove the child from the program for the day, or if severe, for a period of suspension. Ultimately, a child may be discontinued from the program if inappropriate behavior persists.

Our GOLDstaff want every child to enjoy GOLD and be able to grow socially, emotionally, academically and physically from the experience. However, please understand that GOLD is not a school-funded program. We do not have staff with the same training, resources or facilities to serve children that have extreme difficulty functioning within our system. Given this and the fact that we have a very stimulating environment (There are many times when all kids are in the same location doing various activities at the same time), we transition fairly often and we move around the community quite a bit, a different situation might be better for your child. Please consider this when you enroll. You are very welcome to discuss your concerns with staff before you enroll or at any time.

Sign-in/Sign-out Procedures & Permissions. GOLD uses the ProCare Connect app to communicate with parents, staff, and to track the children in our program. ***All parents/guardians must download the app to be able to check in and receive communications.***

Do Not Share Your ProCare PIN: This is key to the safety of your child. Each person authorized to check out your child will get his/her own pin number. Others do not need your number. Do not give your child his/her PIN number. We do not want your child to check out without authorization from you or staff. If you see your child has not been checked in after school or you see he/she is checked out at a time you did not expect or do not approve of, call GOLD right away. 494-0439

School day check-in– GOLDkids will go to the elementary playground upon dismissal. He/she should immediately check in with GOLD staff there. The child does not need a pin number.

Summer, Friday & Parent Drop offs check-in/outs – *Parents must come into the GOLDSite to check-in and check-out GOLDkids.* Please check-in/out with your phone or ProCare pin number.

GOLDkids will only be allowed to leave with parent/guardian permission. Parents can provide permission by sending the site coordinator a message through the ProCare Connect app. The permission must include the date(s) and time(s) the parent/guardian wishes for the child to leave.

GOLDkids will only be released to persons that parents have authorized and have been entered into the ProCare system. You can contact the site coordinator to add an authorized contact as needed or you can do it through your ProCare App.

Attendance/Prompt Pick-up -

1. If a GOLDfamily is late picking up their child on more than three occasions, then, any subsequent late pick-ups will result in a \$15 charge per 15 minutes after 5:30pm. Excessive late pick-ups may result in suspension of the family from GOLD.
2. GOLD is a 21st Century Community Learning Center with goals for participant educational growth. For this reason, GOLDkids are expected to attend at least 8 hours per week during the school year. If a GOLDkid or GOLDfamily consistently fails to meet this required average attendance goal it may result in the child(ren) being dismissed from the program so that another child(ren) may benefit from program participation.
3. **SUMMER ATTENDANCE:** Child must attend GOLD M-Th, 9am – 2:45pm. The GOLD program is an academic enrichment program. To achieve academic benefits GOLDkids must attend regularly. It also allows our community to get the most value for dollars spent on GOLD programming.

Illness, Emergencies, and Medications

1. Through application to GOLD, parents & guardians have agreed that they will not bring a child to attend GOLD if that child has COVID-19, has a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19, or has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
2. If a child becomes ill at GOLD, parents will be notified and expected to make arrangements to pick up their child within 1 hour.
3. In case of an emergency, as determined by the program staff, every effort will be made to contact the parents. If parents are unavailable, emergency personnel will be called upon.
4. Only physician-prescribed medication, in the original container will be administered at GOLD. The container must be labeled by a pharmacist and include the child's name, the date, dosage, doctor, name of the medication, and method of administration. **Any medications must be brought into GOLD by an adult and given to the GOLD director only.**
5. A special consent form for the administration of medication must be filled out by the parent and kept on file at GOLD. This form is required by the SD Dept. of Social Services rules.
6. Parents are responsible for any and all medical costs incurred by their child in the case of an accident. GOLD is not responsible for any medical payments.

Immunization Records. Our program services only children enrolled in the Stanley County School District, therefore the student immunization records are kept current through their school districts. Please be sure you keep your child's immunization records up to date with the school district.

Emergency Preparedness Policy. A copy of the GOLD Disaster and Emergency Preparedness Plan is available at all times in the site coordinator's office and at the sign-in/sign-out area. If a program, school or community emergency occurs, GOLD will do our best to communicate with GOLDfamilies via our ProCare system.

In an incident of inclement weather, natural disaster, GOLD may notify parents of an emergency closing. Parents should arrange for their children to be picked up immediately. If the school closes early for inclement weather, GOLD will be closed.

Items from Home:

1. Toys, phones, electronics, games, make-up, money, etc from home are not allowed. If items are brought from home, the staff cannot be responsible for their safe return. Children will be instructed to put them in their backpacks. If they do not, the items will be confiscated and returned only to a parent.
2. Please clearly label **everything** your child brings to GOLD including hats, backpacks, coats, extra clothes, water bottles, etc. GOLD will not be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Follow GOLD on Facebook: Keep up with GOLD by following **Stanley County GOLD Program**.

Contact Information:

SC GOLD: 605-494-0439 (current families are also encouraged to use the ProCare App)

GOLD Site Director: Boys & Girls Club of the Capitol Area Executive Director, Steve Steele, 605-224-8699.

GOLD Assistant Director: Position Open

Three Rivers Special Services Cooperative, Executive Director: Dr. Julie Mathiesen,
jmathiesen@trssc.org