

# Parent & Student Handbook

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#### **EES Vision**

Ellenboro Elementary students will flourish in a global, technology-rich environment while becoming career and college ready.

#### **EES Mission**

Ellenboro Elementary School will prepare all students for lifelong learning in a global community by partnering with families and communities, providing rigorous academic and career preparation experiences, and promoting a safe and nurturing school environment.

#### **EES Beliefs**

We believe...

- all students can and will learn.
- students are in a safe, caring environment
- students will use technology to be globally competitive
- the relationship between parents and the school impacts the success of the student
- we should nurture our community as they support our school
- our Tigers will ROAR!

## School Improvement Goals

Overall student proficiency on the NC End-of-Grade Test of Reading will increase to at least 60% during the 2021-2022 school year and to at least 70% during the 2022-2023 school year.

Overall student proficiency on the NC End-of-Grade Test of Math will increase to at least 60% during the 2021-2022 school year and to at least 70% during the 2022-2023 school year.

Overall student proficiency on the NC End-of-Grade Test of Science will increase to at least 75% during the 2021-2022 school year and to at least 80% during the 2022-2023 school year.

The Total Facilitated Assessment of MTSS - School Level (FAM-S) score in the Communication and Collaboration Critical Component will increase to at least 80% during the 2021-2022 school year and at least 85% during the 2022-2023 school year.

#### School Hours

Our school doors open at 7:35 AM. All students are served breakfast from 7:35 AM to 8:15 AM. Instruction begins promptly at 8:25 AM for grades K-5. Please do your very best to have your child to school on time. Students who arrive after 8:25 AM have already missed instruction. Afternoon dismissal begins at 3:15 PM.

Students may not be dropped off before 7:35 AM, as there is no student supervision available at that time. All students who have not been picked up by 3:45 p.m. will wait in the office and parents must come in. Please do not call and ask us to send them out. The safety of your child is our main concern.

#### Communication

We desire constant communication between school and our families. Below are just a few of the tools we use to communicate.

- EdLio This system will notify you by phone of important information, events, and in the case of inclement weather delays or cancellations. If your phone number changes or if you are not receiving alerts from our school and/our county, please let the front office know.
- School website <a href="http://ees.rcsnc.org">http://ees.rcsnc.org</a>
- Facebook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EllenboroElementarySchool/">https://www.facebook.com/EllenboroElementarySchool/</a>
- Student communication folders
- Canvas, Class Dojo, & Remind

## Information Changes

Please notify the office and your child's teacher immediately if you have information changes such as address, phone numbers or emergency information. Please help us keep your child's records as up to date as possible.

## **Attendance Policies**

#### Absences

Ellenboro Elementary School is governed by the State of North Carolina Public School Law and the Rutherford County Board of Education. Compulsory Attendance Law requires students to be in attendance. Academic achievement is highly important at EES; therefore, students must make up all work required by the teacher when absent. It is currently Rutherford County School's policy that attendance be a deciding factor when considering retention or promotion. Please make sure your child is absent only when necessary.

The Rutherford County School Compulsory Attendance Policy stipulates the following:

- Upon returning to school, a student must turn in a written excuse from the parent, guardian, or doctor.
- After 3 unexcused absences, a letter noting the student's absences is sent home with them in their Communication Folder.
- After 6 unexcused absences, a letter noting the student's absences is mailed.
- After 7 unexcused absences, an Attendance Intervention Contract is developed with the parent, teacher, student, administrator, and school counselor.

• After 10 accumulated absences, the school's social worker makes contact with the family and another letter noting the student's absences will be mailed.

Please note that parents may write notes for up to 10 absences. These will be considered excused. After 10 absences only doctor's notes will be excused.

• Notes should include - student's first and last names, teacher's name, grade, date, and specific reason student was absent

## Absences play a significant factor in retention and promotion.

Please refer to the <u>Rutherford County Schools K-5 Policies Handbook</u> for complete attendance laws.

#### **Tardies**

Arriving late to school or leaving early is considered tardy. Instruction at all grades K-5 begins promptly at 8:25 AM and ends at 3:15 PM. It is imperative that your child is in the classroom, settled, and ready to learn at 8:25 AM and remains until 3:15 PM. Excessive tardies are considered for retention or promotion.

Any student arriving late to school must be walked into the building and signed in by an adult. This is for student safety.

#### Early Check-Out

If you need to pick up your child early, please send a note to the child's teacher stating this so they can arrange accordingly. We will call your child to the office when you arrive. This will minimize time lost in the classroom. You must report to the office to sign your child out for early dismissal. Early dismissals should not occur after 2:55pm. This is for student safety during our dismissal process.

Our Student Information Sheet includes a list of people who may pick up your child. No one else will be allowed to pick up your child without written consent (include your phone number on the written consent, so that we can call you to verify, if we feel it is necessary). A picture ID may be required. We will not allow any student to be picked up by anyone other than parents or legal guardians or people listed on the form, without written consent by you.

We ask that you do not come into the office to check your child out at the end of the day. Again, this is for student safety during dismissal. All staff need to be focused on students during this time. Please use our car rider line.

# **Traffic Safety**

Our school has a long driveway. However, we have many parents who drop off and pick up their children. Our main driveway has three (3) lanes; two lanes in, one lane out.

#### Bus Riders AM and PM

All bus riders will enter and exit the school building through the bus doors located near the cafeteria.

#### Car Riders AM

Morning car riders will be dropped off in the car rider line located in the circle in front of the school. All vehicles should use the right lane all the way to the circle. A staff member will be present to welcome your child. Please try to make sure your child exits the vehicle on the building side for their safety. Do not pull around vehicles located in front of you during the car rider line. This is unsafe for students, staff and drivers of other vehicles.

#### Car Riders PM

Afternoon car riders will be dismissed from the gym. Please use the two lanes on the right to double stack the line. This means you may exit Piney Mountain Church Road onto either of these lanes. As you approach the traffic circle, you will merge into one lane. Please follow the signs and be courteous to other drivers. You will be directed to stop your car in the circle to pick up your child. Your child will come to your car from the cafeteria. This is the only designated drop off and pick up point. You may not park and leave your car during arrival or dismissal time. It is our goal to load all students in their vehicle on the building side of the car rider line for safety.

#### Car Rider Dash Cards

You must display an official Ellenboro School Dash Card to be allowed to pick your child up. Vehicles without dash cards may be asked to park for further verification. Please follow all car rider guidelines so that all students will be safe.

For the safety of our students, our bus parking lot is restricted to buses only. Please do not drop off students or park in this area during the school day.

# <u>Transportation Changes</u>

A written request must be provided:

- If a student is going to ride a different bus
- If a student is going to ride the same bus but get off at a different location
- If a student is going to be a car rider instead of a bus rider or a bus rider instead of a car rider
- If a student is going to ride home in a different car
- If a student is going home with a friend

All information should be listed on the transportation request with your signature and phone number. We expect written permission for your child to change his/her way of going home except in emergency situations.

A student will not be allowed to make a transportation change.

Please understand that phone calls during the day to change transportation are stressful for your child, are not conducive to child safety, and also take away from the school day and should not be made except in an emergency.

## **Bus Transportation**

The purpose of the school bus is to transport students from home to school, from

school to home, and return safely. To accomplish this purpose, a discipline plan is used on the buses. The plan includes rules and consequences that each student is taught during the first week of school.

Riding the bus is a privilege for students. Students are expected to follow the same behavioral standards while riding the bus that are expected on school property or at school activities or events. All school rules are in full effect while a student is riding the bus or waiting at a bus stop.

#### Bus Rules

- 1. Remain in your seat.
- 2. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- 3. Do not extend your hands or arms out of the window.
- 4. Loud talking that disturbs drivers or others is not allowed.
- 5. Do not bring toys or prohibited items on the bus.
- 6. Disrespect to the bus driver will not be tolerated.

#### Bus Consequences

- <u>First</u> reported incident by bus driver office visit and bus discipline letter to be signed by parents.
- <u>Second</u> parent contact and office visit.
- Third One day off bus and parent contact.
- <u>Fourth</u> Two days off bus and parent contact.
- Fifth Five days off bus and parent contact.
- Sixth 10 days off the bus.

Any bus incident reported beyond six will lead to permanent dismissal off the school bus. Any severe act or misconduct is an immediate suspension.

# School Closings

The decision to close school due to bad weather is made by the superintendent. Every effort is made to make this decision as early as possible. You may learn of this decision by listening to local radio, television or look at RCS website and Facebook or EES's website or Facebook pages for school closings. Please do not call the school. Calling the school ties up our lines and takes our attention away from students. Many times local radio gets the information before we do. Also, the Edlio system will be used to notify you of changes in the school day.

The following are sources that may provide information regarding school closings, delays or dismissals.

- RCS Webpage <a href="https://www.rcsnc.org/">https://www.rcsnc.org/</a>
- EES Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/EllenboroElementarySchool/
- EES School Webpage https://ees.rcsnc.org/
- WAGY 1320 AM (Forest City)
- WGMA 1520 AM (Spindale)
- WCAB 590 AM (Rutherfordton)
- WWOL 780 AM (Forest City)
- Northland Cable Channel 5
- WLOS Channel 13 (Asheville)

- WBTV Channel 3 (Charlotte)
- WSPA Channel 7 (Spartanburg)

If school should be dismissed early due to inclement weather, please make sure your child's teacher knows IN ADVANCE how he/she will be getting home. PLEASE KEEP YOUR PHONE NUMBER UPDATED WITH US AT ALL TIMES OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!

#### Visitors and Volunteers

Always report to the office when you enter the school. Please use our front doors. Do not come through our bus or gym doors. Upon entering our front doors, check into our LobbyGuard system. This system requires you to have your driver's license EVERY TIME you enter our building. Visitors are asked to check in and check out. Our visitor pass procedure has been implemented to help keep all students safe. Wearing a visitor's pass is required at all times while on campus.

All volunteers will be required to register at the county office. A background check will be necessary <u>each</u> year for volunteers. You will need to fill out a Volunteer Background Check form giving the Board of Education permission to run a background check before being able to volunteer. Once approved, volunteers must wear a visitor's pass while on school grounds.

To preserve students' instructional time, parents and visitors will not be permitted to go into classrooms to speak with teachers unless pre-arranged between the teacher and visitor.

## Guidelines For Student Behavior

Our goal is designed to provide a happy, safe environment based on mutual respect and to foster the development of lifetime learners. This atmosphere will also allow children the maximum opportunity to learn.

In an effort to accomplish this goal, we use Positive Behavior Intervention and Support strategies school-wide. The program is fair, firm and consistent. Our goal at Ellenboro School is to provide a learning environment that is free from disruptions due to unacceptable behavior. Effective discipline programs work best when the parents and school work together. Your support is of great importance. Each child is held responsible for their own behavior.

The entire faculty and staff at Ellenboro School have the total child in mind. Children at Ellenboro School are expected to follow directions of any staff member when they are in their presence

## Dress Code

The following standards apply to all elementary schools. Principals may make additions to these standards.

- Street shoes or sandals will be worn. Lace-up shoes must be tied. Bedroom shoes are not permitted. No shoes with wheels. Flip-flops are strongly discouraged due to student safety.
- Tennis shoes MUST be worn to PE.

- All shirts and/or blouses must meet the top of the lower garment. No bare midriff shirts or blouses will be permitted.
- No tank tops with less than two inch wide straps, spaghetti strap tops, or halter-tops will be permitted.
- Hats, sunglasses, hair curlers, skullies, picks, do-rags, hoods, toboggan, or head sweatbands may not be worn inside the school.
- No clothing or jewelry will be permitted that displays or promotes profanity, alcohol, tobacco, drugs or anything of a sexual nature.
- Clothing or jewelry commonly recognized as being related to a group or gang that causes others to act violently or be intimidated shall not be worn.
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses may not be shorter than mid-thigh.
- Clothing is not to be sheer, mesh, have holes above mid-thigh, or expose underclothing.
- Sagging trousers and baggy clothing are not permitted.
- Clothing may not drag the floor.
- Extraneous articles hanging from clothing, such as chains or other articles are considered dangerous, and will not be permitted.
- There shall be no jewelry affixed to a student's nose, tongue, lip, chin, cheek, or eyebrow.

# Sick or Injured at School

If your child becomes sick or injured while at school, we will make every effort to take care of them and contact you in a timely fashion. The Student Information Sheet is very important under these circumstances because it provides us with contact numbers. It is imperative that you notify us when your number(s) change. If the situation demands immediate attention and we cannot make contact with anyone, we will call 911 for Rutherford County E.M.S.

## Medication

The school staff cannot administer medication to students unless the parents have turned in a Student Medication Form (available in the office). The Student Medication Form must be completed and signed by both the parent and the physician. No medication of any kind will be given without this form completed.

Any over-the-counter medication must be in the original box or bottle. Parents must also complete a medical form for over-the-counter drugs.

Please do not send medication to school with your child. All medications should be brought to the school office by an adult.

## Lice/No Nit Policy

The Rutherford County Board of Education has adopted a no nit policy for students with head lice. There is no shame in having head lice. Lice can be completely eliminated in the home by following proper removal procedures. Please contact our school nurse if your child has a consistent problem with head lice. Children will be sent home for lice and/or nits. Upon returning, the child must be brought to school by car and walked into the front office to be checked by a staff member.

#### School Insurance

Accident insurance is available for purchase. Your child will bring insurance information home at the first of the school year. If you do not receive this information, please contact the front office and we will be glad to send information home to you.

## Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support (MTSS)

Ellenboro Elementary School is implementing a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) in all K-5 classrooms. MTSS is a framework for providing instruction to students on the level they need in order to be successful, both academically and behaviorally.

All students participate in Tiger Time, where they receive 30 minutes of reading interventions and 30 minutes of math interventions each day, and on the level most appropriate for them. For struggling students, Tiger Time allows for early intervention using strategies and processes that are research-based. For all other students, Tiger Time provides time for extension and enrichment of the core curriculum. Parents are an important part of Tiger Time. Regardless of the student's level of need, parents are invited to talk with their children's teachers about the progress they are making in the classroom and in Tiger Time. In addition, it is very important that students be present during Tiger Time so that they do not miss valuable intervention time.

Positive Behavior Intervention and Support is a process that focuses on prevention and instruction of behavior using a positive approach. Several years ago we began Team Tiger and will continue this again to improve attendance. Students will be recognized for perfect attendance with no tardies or early checkouts every six weeks. Those who achieve this goal every six weeks will be recognized at the end of the school year.

In addition to Team Tiger, we have focused on improving behavior in the cafeteria, bathrooms, and we have rules for the classrooms, hallway, buses, and playground. The last page of this handbook provides the rules matrix that our school implemented. It is expected that all students, faculty and staff of Ellenboro Elementary follow this <u>matrix</u>. Students observed showing ROAR in any part of the school may be given a Pride Paw.

	School-Wide	Classrooms	Restrooms	Hallways	Cafeteria	Bus	Playground
R	Listen to all adults	Follow directions the first time given Use a silent voice Listen to others when they speak	Use a silent voice  Respect the privacy of yourself and others  Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself	Use a silent voice Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself Enjoy bulletin boards and displays with only your eyes	Use a quiet voice Show good manners Keep your lunch items in your area	Respect other people's property Use a quiet voice Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself	Enter and exit the building in an orderly fashion  Leave things outside where they belong  Follow directions from any teacher
O Organization	Have materials ready at school	Have materials you need for class Keep your work area clean	Walt quietly for your turn Line up in assigned area Dispose of bathroom materials correctly	Walk with a steady place Stay in a straight line and keep up with your class	Get everything you need when you go through the line  Have food and paper separated  Leave the table, seat and floor clean	Keep all items in your book bag Watch for your stop	Pay attention and line u when signaled by teach Wait patiently for your turn
<b>A</b>	Come in ready to learn	Help and encourage others Use positive words Share	Be considerate of others by not leaving a mess Wait patiently for others to finish Use a quiet voice	Smile and be courteous to people you meet in the hall Follow all directions in line	Wait patiently in line and while emptying your tray Be polite by saying "please" and "thank you" Talk quietly to neighbors at your table	Use polite and appropriate language Obey bus driver's instructions	Be nice to all students Play safely and include a students Display good sportsmanship
R	Follow the school dress code	Keep up with materials you need for class Stay on task	Flush and wash your hands Use only what you need Report problems to an adult	Be responsible for yourself, not others Keep hallways clean Be a good example for others	When you're finished with your food and drink, leave it alone Have everything you need for lunch Stay seated until dismissed	Put trash in the trash can Be at your stop on time Remain seated, facing forward	Report problems and injuries to the nearest adult  Use equipment properly Stay in areas designate by your teacher

## **End Of Grade Testing And Accountability**

In elementary school, we have some standardized testing. Our students are assessed in the following ways -

- Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) This is a nationally-aligned computerized assessment program that provides educators with the information they need to improve teaching and learning. Educators use the growth and achievement data from MAP to develop targeted instructional strategies and to plan school improvement. With the ability to test students up to three times a year, MAP test results help educators make student-focused, data-driven decisions.
- <u>MClass</u> -This is a computer-based reading assessment for grades K-3, the assessment is used to inform instruction.
- <u>NC Check Ins</u> These are formative assessments that provide individual and classroom level data to inform the teacher's instruction (given to students in Grade 3 Math, Grade 4 Math and Reading, Grade 5 Math, Reading, and Science).
- <u>End of Grade Assessments (EOGs)</u> These are achievement tests in the areas of Reading and Math in grades 3-8 and Science in grade 5. Students complete EOG assessments during the last ten days of the school year.

The key component to student learning and achievement in class is the accountability that school officials, teachers, parents, and students share. Neither segment alone can improve student performance. It takes teachers, parents, and students working together to improve performance. For this reason, your child's teacher will be arranging a time for you to come to school and discuss, then sign an accountability contract. This is usually done on "Meet Your Teacher Day."

# Report Cards

Report cards will be issued each nine weeks, in accordance with the Rutherford County Schools Board of Education schedule. Grades can be accessed using Canvas for grades 3-5. Please ask your child's teacher for help logging into the parent portal. Students in grades 3-5 will receive Progress Reports halfway through each nine week period. We encourage you to schedule a conference with your child's teacher at any time if you have a question concerning grades. Keep in mind, grades are not given, they are earned. The State Board approved a standard 10-point scale to begin with the 2015-16 school year. The following grading scale will be used for report cards:

Scale for Report Card				
A	5			
90-100	Superior Command			
B	4			
80-89	Solid Command			
C	3			
70-79	Sufficient Command			
D	2			
60-69	Partial Command			
F	1			
0-59	Limited Command			
BLANK	BLANK			
NOT ASSESSED	NOT ASSESSED			

## Administrative Discipline Procedures

When a student reaches a certain point on a teacher's classroom discipline plan or is sent to the office for a severe disruption, the principal or assistant principal will assist the teacher with discipline. When sent to the office, the following consequences occur:

- First Office Visit Conference with principal and/or assistant principal
- <u>Second Office Visit</u> Conference with principal and/or assistant principal and parent notification
- <u>Third Office Visit</u> Conference with principal and/or assistant principal, out of school suspension, or an individual plan designed by the principal and/or assistant principal, teacher and parents

#### Homework

No one reaches his/her potential without practicing their skills. Just as the people in professional sports have to constantly practice, students have to practice to acquire the academic skills necessary to lead a rewarding life. For students, this practice is called homework. With all the demands of the state, homework is increasingly important. Please allow time in your child's day for homework. Milk and cookies are important, after that comes a time for homework. If your child has over 45 minutes of homework, it probably means they left something undone the day before. Please call your child's teacher and schedule a conference in this situation. It is also recommended that your child read or be read to for at least 30 minutes each day.

### School Pictures

We will be using <u>Carolina Photography</u>, <u>Inc</u>. to do our school pictures in the fall and spring. We will be using a prepay program, meaning that you will need to pay for photo packages on picture day. All students will have their pictures taken in the fall for the yearbook. Information will be sent home when dates are set.

## **Nutrition Services**

Breakfast and lunch are served daily. Breakfast starts at 7:45 a.m. and ends at 8:25 a.m. Lunch is served from 10:55 a.m. – 1:05 p.m.

All students will receive free breakfast and lunch. Please consider making sure your child gets to school in time to eat breakfast. It's free and a great way to start the day! Adult lunches are charged per item.

# Bringing Food Into The School For Parties

The State of North Carolina has issued guidelines against bringing home baked goods into the school due to problems associated with E-coli bacteria and food allergies. If you wish to bring food items into the classroom for birthday parties, and other special occasions, we ask that you purchase all food items from a commercial kitchen such as a grocery store, bakery, or deli. The nutrition information and ingredients are also posted on commercially prepared food. Students may not consume party foods, etc., before the cafeteria finishes serving, at 1:05 p.m.

## Selling Or Trading At School

Selling at school is prohibited by state law, unless the sale is sanctioned by the school or P.T.O. "I'll trade you my cell phone for your iPod." This kind of arrangement is sure to cause a squabble, if not between the students, between the parents of those students. Trading things is prohibited at school.

## Bringing Things From Home

Unless in response to an assignment by the student's teacher, students are discouraged from bringing things from home. In the past, some students have brought valuable merchandise or family keepsakes to school. If we learn of this, school officials will call you to make sure you are aware of the situation. Shoes with wheels are not allowed at school.

#### Phone Use

In the event of an emergency, a teacher will call home for the student. Students should leave cell phones at home. We cannot be responsible for lost or stolen phones. If a student has a cell phone out, the teacher will bring the phone to the office and an adult will be called to pick up the phone.

## **Physical Education**

To ensure student safety, all students MUST wear tennis shoes on PE days. Students who do not wear tennis shoes on their PE days will be assigned a designated area to walk in the gym.

Best practice is also for students to wear tennis shoes during their classroom recess time. We work hard to make sure our playgrounds are free of ant hills and trash; however, sometimes these things go unnoticed. Tennis shoes also provide ankle support which helps lessen the risks of ankle injuries.

Thank you for helping us make sure all of our students are safe.

# Ellenboro Elementary School Parent & Family Engagement Policy

Ellenboro Elementary School (EES) recognizes the critical role of parents in the education of their children. Our parents are encouraged to learn about the goals and objectives of our school, in addition to their child's progress. We also encourage parents to participate in activities that involve them, such as parent conferences, in order to encourage effective communication.

A copy of this policy is included in the parent/student handbook and is part of the student's enrollment package. Each student is given a copy of the handbook at the beginning of each school year to take home.

#### **Annual Public Meetings**

Ellenboro Elementary School's annual Title 1 meeting is held in October of each year. During this meeting, the principal (or designee) will present the School Improvement Plan as well as the Parent Involvement Plan. Comments and feedback will be welcomed at this time.

#### **Involving Parents**

Aside from our annual Title 1 meeting, we will have opportunities for parents to participate in various parent involvement events. Event dates are distributed through flyers, SchoolMessenger notifications, and are posted on our school website.

We are always willing to meet with any parent who expresses an interest, concern, or suggestion. EES feels that parents and teachers are partners in the education of all students. EES wants parents to feel welcome and involved throughout the school year.

#### **Timely Information**

The most significant way to enhance the quality of school life beyond a strong academic program is through communication. To keep parents informed of their child's progress, teachers send information and students work home through the green Communicator Folder, utilized by all grade levels.

A calendar and newsletter is distributed to parents in report cards each six weeks. Tiger Tales includes information parents need about policies, events at school and general school information

## Regular Meetings

Parents are encouraged to play an active role in their child's academic progress. Each teacher or administrator schedules parent/student conferences whenever deemed necessary or when requested by parents. These conferences are scheduled before, during or after school hours.

Parents are invited to attend and give input when a child is referred for specialized services. Also, parents are involved in developing their child's Individual Education Plan (IEP), 504 Accommodation Plan and Personalized Education Plan (PEP).

#### Parent Compacts

Compacts (contracts) involving parents, students, and teachers will be distributed at the beginning of the school year and as new students enroll in order to obtain commitment from all parties involved. Compacts will be signed during Meet Your Teacher Day, held in August 2015.

#### Parent Assistance

A Parent Resource Room has been established at EES and is located in the Media Center. This will be available for all parents to use to gain resource materials that can assist them and provide extra opportunities for children to learn and achieve at home and at school.

#### Materials and Training

Parents of upcoming Kindergarten students will be invited to an informational Kindergarten Orientation, offered during the Kindergarten registration period. This session includes strategies and ideas that parents can use to assist their children prior to Kindergarten to ensure a successful start. Students are introduced to the classroom and school environment.

#### **Education of School Personnel**

EES has a tradition of collaboration and teamwork with all staff and parents to assume responsibility for student achievement. A high level of trust and support exists along with high expectations and a desire for excellence. Parents, teachers, administrators and student support services work closely together to achieve goals. With the combination of increased time for instruction, consistency with instructional practices, focused interventions and professional development, we will produce significant gains and achievement and provide continued success on our journey to excellence.

#### Coordinating and Integrating

Ellenboro Elementary School will continue to collaborate and coordinate with community agencies and organizations, as needed, to provide the maximum educational opportunities available, including the Department of Social Services, Family Preservation Services and Hospice of Rutherford County.

#### Parent Communication and Conferences

Parents will be notified of scheduled activities through flyers, newsletters (Tiger Tales), invitations, EES webpage, EES marquee, social media (Facebook) and SchoolMessenger.

Every effort will be made to communicate with parents in a format and language that is free of educational jargon and easily understandable by all. Parents and community members are always welcome at Ellenboro Elementary School.

Ellenboro Elementary School
Kyla Bumgarner, Principal
Matt Hopper, Assistant Principal

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

At Ellenboro Elementary School we are very proud of our teachers and feel they are ready for the coming school year and are prepared to give your child a high-quality education. As a Title I school, we must meet federal guidelines related to teacher qualifications as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Assistance Act of 1965 (ESEA). These rules allow you to learn more about your child's teachers' training and credentials. Upon request, we are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge and critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school and beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers and paraprofessionals are highly skilled.

If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact me at 828-453-8185.

Sincerely,

Kyla Bumgarner