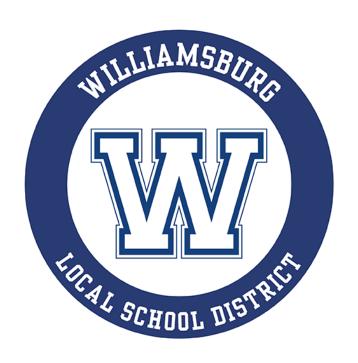
WILLIAMSBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



STUDENT HANDBOOK 2024-2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Williamsburg Elementary School Family,

On behalf of our entire team at Williamsburg Elementary School, I welcome you to our school community and wish you the best this school year. We're excited that you've chosen to be a part of the Williamsburg Elementary School community and look forward to working alongside you to ensure that your student thrives and experiences personal success this school year.

It's our hope that all of our students realize their full potential and recognize the many talents they possess. In order for us to collectively meet this goal, it's important that each student develop routines and habits that promote personal and academic growth. Healthy routines and habits provide students with the foundation necessary to learn and grow. It's important that our students believe in themselves and come to understand that through hard work, anything is possible!

I also want to thank you for your continued support. The Williamsburg community is always generous in sharing time and knowledge in efforts supporting our students and district. As a result, our students are provided with many enriching opportunities as well as the support necessary to achieve and reach their full potential.

Feel free to contact me at any time using the information included below or simply stop in during office and/or school hours if you have ideas, concerns, or questions. I encourage you to visit our website, www.burgschools.org for important information as well as news about our students and district. Also, be sure to follow us on social media.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/WilliamsburgElem

Instagram: @williamsburgelem

Twitter: @1burgschools

Best Wishes and Wildcat Pride!

Kevin Dunn
Principal
Williamsburg Elementary School
724-2241 x 9231
Dunn_k@burgschools.org
www.burgschools.org

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SECTION I: WILLIAMSBURG LOCAL SCHOOLS

District Vision Statement

Our vision is a continuously improving, high performing school district, achieving academic excellence for all students.

District Mission Statement

Our mission is high academic performance for all students through quality instructional practices in a safe and nurturing environment in partnership with the community.

The Wildcat Way:

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe

Beliefs

- 1. All children have the ability to learn more and we have the responsibility to meet the diverse needs of all students.
- 2. Students learn best when actively engaged in the learning process.
- 3. High expectations ensure higher student achievement.
- 4. We have an obligation to provide a learning environment that will foster the self-esteem of each student.
- 5. To be successful all students must be prepared for careers and lifelong learning.
- 6. Collaboration with staff, parents, business, and the community is an essential element of successful schools.
- 7. Education is fundamental to the successful continuation of a democratic society.
- 8. The Board of Education, administration and all district staff are entrusted with the responsibility of utilizing public funds in a cost-effective manner that supports the mission of the school district.
- 9. We will use student assessment and program evaluation data to continuously improve curriculum, instruction, school climate, organization and management to advance student learning.

Foreword

This Student/Parent Handbook is based in significant part on policies adopted by the Board of Education and Administrative Guidelines developed by the Superintendent. Those Board Policies and Administrative Guidelines are incorporated by reference into the provisions of this Handbook. The Policies and Administrative Guidelines are periodically updated in response to changes in the law and other circumstances. Therefore, there may have been changes to the documents reviewed in this Handbook since it was printed. If you have questions or would like more information about a specific issue or document, contact your school principal or

access the document on the District's website; <u>www.burgschools.org</u> by clicking on "Board Policies" and finding the specific policy or administrative guideline in the Table of Contents for that section.

This Handbook replaces all prior handbooks and other prior written material provided on the same subjects. This Handbook does not equate to an irrevocable contractual commitment to the student, but only reflects the current status of the Board's policies and the school's rules. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein are revised, the language in the most current policy or administrative guideline prevails.

Stakeholders' Rights, Responsibilities and Student Well-Being

Student safety is the responsibility of both students and staff. Staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as evacuation procedures, fire and tornado drills, safety drills in the event of a terrorist or other violent attack, and accident reporting procedures. If a student is aware of any dangerous situation or accident, s/he must notify a staff person immediately.

State law requires that all students have an emergency medical authorization completed and signed by a parent or guardian on file.

Students with specific health care needs should deliver written notice about such needs in their FinalForms account and provide pertinent physician documentation to the school office/district nurse.

School staff, parents and students are responsible for reading this document in its entirety and understanding the contents of this document. If any school staff, student or parent has questions or requires clarification regarding the contents of this document, please direct further inquiry to the building administrator.

The Williamsburg Local School District Board of Education is dedicated to the development of each student's potential for learning and providing a positive school environment. Essential to the achievement of these goals is reasonable and necessary order within the educational institution itself, its buildings and grounds, and at events and activities held on or off school grounds. The schools of the Williamsburg Local School District shall be free from disruption that interferes with teaching and learning activities and the positive school environment we establish. School staff, students, and parents must individually and collectively assume a responsible role in promoting behavior that encourages learning and the development of individual potential.

Each member of the school staff is expected to make every effort to supervise, maintain and regulate student conduct in accordance with this document. Each staff member shall refer students to the building administrator who shall then be responsible for determining the necessity for and the nature of informal or formal disciplinary action in accordance with this document.

To achieve a positive school environment for all students at Williamsburg Elementary School, the Student Code of Conduct and other applicable rules of student conduct shall apply whenever the interests of the Williamsburg Local School District are involved, on or off school grounds, in conjunction with or independent of classes or school-sponsored activities.

Student Responsibilities

- Attend school daily.
- 2. Respect all persons and property.
- 3. Abide by all rules and regulations of Williamsburg Elementary School.
- 4. Abide by all rules and regulations established by the classroom teacher or other school staff.
- 5. Adhere to the acceptable use of school-owned technology, property requirements, the Chromebook agreement, and the school network (refer to Internet Acceptable Use Policy).

Parent Responsibilities

- Maintain regular and/or necessary contact with school staff concerning their child(ren)'s progress and conduct.
- 2. Ensure that their child(ren) maintains daily attendance and promptly reports absence/tardies.
- 3. Provide proper immunizations required by law.
- 4. Respect all persons and property.
- 5. Refrain from abusive, inflammatory conduct at school, on school property and at any school or school-sponsored event or activity.
- 6. Communicate with school staff regarding any problem or condition that affects their child(ren)'s ability to function in school.
- 7. Check ProgressBook weekly, check email frequently for messages from school, and maintain updated contact information in FinalForms.

In order to keep parents informed of their child's progress in school, parents will be provided information on a regular basis and/or when concerns arise. In some cases, it will be the responsibility of the student to deliver the information. Parents are encouraged to build a two-way link with their child's teachers and support staff by informing the staff of suggestions or concerns that may help their child better accomplish his/her educational goals.

WILLIAMSBURG LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

President: Mr. Jeff Cummins
Vice-President: Mr. Brandon Lindsey
Members: Mr. Charlie Maklem

Mr. Daniel Knapke Mr. Josh Clifton

ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent: Mr. Matthew Earley 724-2211 <u>earley_m@burgschools.org</u>

Treasurer: Mr. Greg Wells 724-2211 <u>wells g@burgschools.org</u>

Elementary Principal: Mr. Kevin Dunn 724-2241 <u>dunn k@burgschools.org</u>

Director of Student Services: Tina Reichert 724-2241 reichert t@burgschools.org

Transportation Director: Judy Arnold 724-2211 <u>arnold j2@burgschools.org</u>

WILLIAMSBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STAFF

Principal: Kevin Dunn <u>dunn_k@burgschools.org</u>

Administrative Assistant: Jenny Kritzwiser kritzwiser j@burgschools.org

District Psychologist: Dr. Shelby Wright <u>wright_s@burgschools.org</u>

Guidance Counselor: Amanda Ervin <u>ervin a@burgschools.org</u>

District Nurse: Stephanie Sutton <u>sutton s@burgschools.org</u>

Director of Technology: Amy Attinger a@burgschools.org

Buildings & Facilities Director: Randy Jermer <u>jermer_r@burgschools.org</u>

Kindergarten Teachers

Christi Bach bach_ch@burgschools.org
 Kristi Jones jones_k@burgschools.org
 Kim Troxell two burgschools.org

1st Grade Teachers

Rae Frost frost_r@burgschools.org
 Cindy Herren herren_c@burgschools.org
 Aubrey McCalla mccalla a@burgschools.org

2nd Grade Teachers

Kim Carver
 Alisha Stephens
 Kristina Waterfield
 Carver_k@burgschools.org
 stephens a@burgschools.org
 waterfield k@burgschools.org

3rd Grade Teachers

Jennifer Hunseder hunseder j@burgschools.org
 Jessi Johnson j@burgschools.org
 Carly Keeton c@burgschools.org

4th Grade Teachers

Monica Carter
 Jody Guenther
 Chasity Hardyman
 Carter m@burgschools.org
 guenther jo@burgschools.org
 hardyman c@burgschools.org

5th Grade Teachers

Sarah Kelch
 Rebekah Royer
 Gabrielle Cooper
 Kelch s@burgschools.org
 royer r@burgschools.org
 cooper g@burgschools.org

Intervention Specialists

Crystal Meyer <u>meyer_c@burgschools.org</u>
 Tara Nutt <u>nutt_t@burgschools.org</u>
 Tammy Stephens <u>stephens_t@burgschools.org</u>
 Lindsey Stith <u>stith_l@burgschools.org</u>

Interventionist

Pam Taylor <u>taylor_p@burgschools.org</u>

Speech and Language Pathologists

Jennifer McCalla <u>mccalla j@burgschools.org</u>
 Katie Stephenson <u>stephenson k@burgschools.org</u>

Reading Specialist/Interventionist

• Teresa Maham <u>maham t@burgschools.org</u>

Art Teacher

• Christine Hatfield hatfield_c@burgschools.org

Music Teacher

• Karen Greene <u>greene_k@burgschools.org</u>

Physical Education Teacher

Hayley Blue <u>blue_h@burgschools.org</u>

Technology Education, Gifted & STEM Teacher

Tara Dean dean ta@burgschools.org

Preschool Staff (Child Focus, Inc.)

Full-Day Teacher: Sammy RobbinsFull-Day Assistant Teacher: April Badgley

Half-Day AM 1 & PM Teacher: Kacey Smith
 Half-Day AM 1 Assistant Teacher: Ashley Ellis
 Half-Day AM 1 Assistant Teacher: Jessica Kemplin

Half-Day AM 2 Teacher: Monica Moore
 Half-Day AM 2 Assistant Teacher: Ana Tavarez

*Please note half-day staff lead & teach both our half-day morning and afternoon sessions.

Custodians

- Paul Dalton
- Derrick Jody
- Rhonda Justice

Instructional Aides

- Ali Arnett
- Brittany Canter
- Tabitha Chirco
- Jill Holden
- Erika Klein
- Kim Lodwick
- Emily Nutt
- Kacie Schunk
- Tammy Winn

SECTION II: School Hours, Schedules & Important Dates

Instructional Day:

• 8:55am-3:20pm

Kindergarten – 5th Grade:

- Drop-off no later than: 8:55am
- Car-rider dismissal: Cars must be in place by 3:15pm

Half-Day Preschool Programs (Students attend Monday-Thursday):

- Morning Preschool: 8:55am 12:30pm
- Afternoon Preschool: 1:00pm 4:30pm
- Full-Day Preschool Program (Students attend Monday-Friday): 8:55am 3:20pm

Delay Schedules:

Grades K-5 (1-Hour Delay): 9:55am - 3:20pm
 Grades K-5 (2-Hour Delay): 10:55am - 3:20pm

Morning Preschool: Canceled when there is <u>any</u> delay
 Afternoon Preschool Typical schedule when there is a delay

Full-Day Preschool (1-Hour Delay): 9:55am - 3:20pm
 Full-Day Preschool (2-Hour Delay): 10:55 A.M. - 3:30pm

Any changes to the above schedules will be shared using the district's communications systems.

WILLIAMSBURG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Important Dates: 2024-2025

August:

13 Open House (Grades K-5)

15 First Day for Students in Grades 1-5

15, 16 & 19 Kindergarten Students: KRA Assessments & Supply Drop-Off

by Appointment

September:

2 Labor Day: No School Students & Staff

10 Grandparents Breakfast 1 (students' last name A-K)
11 Grandparents Breakfast 2 (students' last name L-Z)

12 Fall Picture Day

13 Annual W.E.S. Fundraiser Kick-Off (Concludes on 9/27)

16-20 HealthSource Mobile Vision at W.E.S.

October:

7 No School for Students: Staff In-Service 11-14 Fall Break: No School Students & Staff

17 Picture Retake Day

18 <u>Last Day of the 1st Quarter</u>

23-24 Annual Fifth-Grade Overnight Trip to YMCA Camp Campbell Gard

25 Remote-Learning Day for Fifth-Grade Students 25 Report Cards Posted for 1st Academic Quarter

November:

5 No School for Students: Staff In-Service

7 Parent-Teacher Conference 1 from 4:30-7:30pm

11 Community Veterans Event

14 Parent-Teacher Conference 2 from 4:30-7:30pm

27-29 Thanksgiving Break: No School

December:

20 Early Dismissal (Student Dismissal Begins at 1:15pm)

Last Day of the 2nd Academic Quarter

Winter Break: No School Beginning December 21, 2024 - January 5, 2025

January:

6 School Reopens

10 Report Cards Posted for 2nd Academic Quarter

20 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School Students & Staff)

February:

13 Parent-Teacher Conference 3 from 4:30-7:30pm

No School for Students: Staff In-Service
 Presidents' Day: No School Students & Staff
 Parent-Teacher Conference 4 from 4:30-7:30pm

March:

6 Spring Picture Day

7 Last Day of the 3rd Academic Quarter

8 Annual Mother/VIP-Son Dance9 Annual Father/VIP-Daughter Dance

14 Report Cards Posted for 3rd Academic Quarter

20 Spring Picture Day

Spring Break: March 24-28, 2025

April:

21 Parent-Teacher Comp Day (No School Students & Staff)

May:

22 Early Dismissal (Student Dismissal Begins at 1:00pm)

Last Day for Students

30 Report Cards Posted for the 2023-2024 Academic Year

The district calendar for this year can be found at: <u>www.burgschools.org</u>.

Please note that vacations for students will NOT be excused during state testing windows, which are October 21-November 1, 2024 and March 31 - May 9, 2025.

Please schedule vacations during times when school is not in-session for students.

Section III: Educational Opportunity

Enrollment

According to the *Ohio Revised Code* (section 3313.7.2) and the *Ohio Department of Health*, the items of documentation described below are required <u>prior</u> to enrollment in Williamsburg Local Schools.

- Enrollment form
- Photo ID of the parent/guardian
- Original birth certificate
- Health/immunization record
- Custody papers, if applicable
- Proof of residency
- Emergency medical authorization form

For more information regarding enrollment, visit: www.burgschools.org

Kindergarten Age Requirements

A child must be five years old on or before August 1 to be eligible for the current school year.

Changes in Students/Parent Information

Parents are required to notify the office when there is a change of address, phone number, or place of employment or other necessary information in order for school records to be kept up-to-date. It is critical and necessary that our families maintain current contact information with our office. Parents can update this personal information at: www.williamsburg-oh.finalforms.com

All changes must be made in Final Forms, even if you have notified the office verbally.

Equal Educational Opportunity

The Williamsburg Local Board of Education supports equal educational opportunity for students free from limitations based upon race, religion, age, sex, presence of a disability, national origin or ancestry. The Williamsburg Local Board of Education has appointed the superintendent to coordinate compliance efforts pertaining to students and to investigate and hear compliance efforts pertaining to students and to investigate and hear compliance of this policy. The Superintendent can be reached at 513-724-3077.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial

assistance. Section 504 defines a person with a disability as anyone who . . .

Has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, sleeping, standing, lifting, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, helping, eating, bending, or operation of a bodily function. (This is not an exhaustive list of major life activities, which means even if an activity or function is not listed it can, nonetheless, be a major life activity.) The school district has the responsibility to provide accommodations and services to eligible individuals with disabilities. The district acknowledges its responsibility under Section 504 to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability shall knowingly be permitted in any program or practice in the school.

Search For Children With A Disability

School Districts throughout Ohio are participating in an effort to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with a disability from birth through age twenty-one. By a disability, we mean conditions such as multiple disabilities, hearing impaired, visually impaired, orthopedically and/or health impaired, severe emotionally disturbed, cognitively disabled, specific learning disabled and speech or language impaired. Many children with a disability are not visible because they do not function in the mainstream of the community. Also, many unidentified children with disabilities are preschoolers. Parents may not be aware that programs and services are available.

If you know of a child with a disability within the Williamsburg Local School District, please contact the Director of Student Services at 513-724-2211 or the child's school principal.

Annual Notification to Parents Regarding Student Records

The Williamsburg Board of Education adopted a policy regarding the disclosure of educational records and the rights of parents and students to access educational records. Copies of the policy and related guidelines are located in all school buildings and individual copies are available from the District's Records Officer (Guidance Counselor).

The School District follows the guidelines of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regarding all student records. Parents who do not want directory information for their child released to colleges, universities, military recruiters, or other parties, should contact the school counseling office to complete the necessary forms.

Review of Instructional Materials

Parents and guardians may review instructional materials used at Williamsburg Middle/High School. If you wish to review these materials, please complete form 9130 F2 (Request for review of materials or course content) which is available at the school office or the board office. The completed form should be submitted to the building principal.

Section IV: Information Regarding Student Health, Wellness, Medication, and Regulations

Health of Students:

Children should come to school each day well-rested. Children should have a nourishing breakfast at home or plan to participate in our breakfast program at W.E.S.

Children who show the following symptoms should NOT come to school:

- Severe headache
- Watery and inflamed eyes and/or nose
- Persistent cough
- Fever: students must-be fever-free, without medication for 24 hours prior to returning to school.
- Skin eruptions
- Vomiting or diarrhea (24 hours without symptoms)
- Sore throat

State law requires that all students have an emergency medical authorization completed and signed by a parent or guardian on file.

Students with specific health care needs should deliver written notice about such needs, along with physician documentation, to the School office. Mutual understanding regarding health problems can help us better care for your child.

Dress for Physical Education Class

Weather permitting, children are outdoors for recess each day. On occasion and more frequently during periods of good weather, students will also go outside for P.E. class. Students should be dressed according to weather predictions. If health conditions dictate that a child is unable to participate in outdoor activities/recess/P.E. class, a doctor's excuse, stating the reason, will be required so that your child can stay indoors.

Head Lice

Williamsburg Local School District has a "No-Nit" policy. If a student has been found to have lice or nits (eggs) he/she will be sent home. Enforcing a no-nit policy is key to preventing outbreaks and infestations. **Upon returning to school, students will be re-checked. Therefore, the parent/guardian must bring their child to school upon return.** The responsibility for nit removal rests with the parent/guardian. The school district and the Clermont County Health Department are available to answer questions concerning the eradication of lice infestations and provide support to our families.

Administering Medicine

The policy for the administration of prescription drugs adopted by the Williamsburg Board of Education states that the guidelines listed below must be followed if your child needs to take prescription drugs during school hours:

- The prescription medicine shall be brought in the original doctor or pharmacy labeled container. The label must include the name of the patient, dates, dosages, and the time interval for dosage. Parents should only bring the amount of medication to be taken.
- Medications must be brought to and from school by an adult. Children are not permitted to transport medications.

The medication shall be brought to the school nurse along with:

- a. Written instructions from the doctor.
- b. Written permission from the parent/guardian of the student receiving the medication.
- c. The telephone number where the parent may be reached at the time(s) the medication is to be taken.
- The student receiving the medication is to report to the school nurse at the time(s) medication is required or be permitted to take the medication at the time approved.
- Medication shall not be kept by the student under any circumstances.

The following staff members are designated as being authorized to administer medication to students: school nurse, principal and administrative assistants.

- Students shall be permitted to carry and use, as necessary, an asthma inhaler, provided the student has prior written permission from his/her parent and physician and has submitted Form 5330 F3, Authorization for the Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers, to the principal and any other designee.
- We have the Parental Authorization and Release Form on file in the office that you will need to fill out and sign before we can administer prescription or non-prescribed drugs to your child at school.
- Parents must pick-up any remaining medication for their student at the conclusion of the school year. Any medication that is left at school after the last day school is in session will be destroyed.
- Please call or come to the school if you have any questions or wish to obtain a release form.

Immunizations

The State of Ohio currently requires the following, which must be in compliance within the first 14 days of school: DPT – 4 or 5 doses, Oral Polio – 3 or 4 doses, MMR – 2 doses, Hepatitis B – 3 doses, Varicella Vaccine – 2 doses

If the required immunization is not met within this specific time period, state law mandates us to exclude any child not meeting these requirements for enrollment.

Emergency Medical Care

Prior to your child's first day of school, parents/guardians are required to complete emergency medical information in FinalForms. This will allow school officials to contact the necessary persons in the event of an accident or emergency. Minor first aid is given to a child unless parental instructions do not permit it. Parents are notified in case of a serious accident or injury.

Injury and Illness

All injuries must be reported to a teacher or the office. If the injuries are minor, the student will be treated and may return to class. If medical attention is required, the office will follow the school's emergency procedures and attempt to make contact with the student's parents.

Special Note: One of our most serious challenges in the area of student health is trying to judge the different skin irritations children sometimes get. Our concerns are:

- 1.) How uncomfortable is the skin condition for the child?
- 2.) Is this skin condition being treated by a doctor?
- 3.) Is this condition contagious to other children in our school?

Because of these concerns, we might feel it is necessary to withhold a student from school until a note from a doctor is provided by the parent/guardian that states that the skin condition in question is not contagious.

Snacks/Food Products

It is our duty to ensure every child remains safe from known food allergens during times where food is provided for students. Because of this, please note the following:

- Any potential <u>shared</u> food items brought into the school for classroom celebrations <u>must be commercially prepared</u>. This allows us to clearly identify allergens that are mandated on food labels. Individually wrapped foods are strongly preferred.
- When sending "snack" food items to school, please include healthy snack alternatives (fruit, vegetables, and other healthy choices).
- Pop is not permitted.
- Students are not permitted to share food with each other and should refrain from touching another student's food/drink.

Section V: Attendance

Attendance/Tardy Policy

Ohio law states that every parent, guardian, or other person having charge of any child of compulsory school age (6-18) must send such child to school for the full time the school attended is in session.

The following procedure must be followed for notification when your child is absent from school:

- You must report daily by phone that your child will be absent from school.
- Notification must occur as early as possible the same day that your child is absent from school.
 We ask that you notify our school by 9:15am on the day of any absence at 513-724-2241. If we have not been notified by 9:15am that your child is/will be absent, we will attempt to contact you by phone and/mail.
- Parents/guardians must report absences daily.

The educational program offered by this district is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in our school during the days and hours that school is in session. An absence that is not judged as excused is a serious offense. Truancy is considered an unexcused absence. Since truancy is a violation of Ohio State Law, it may be punished by referral to Juvenile Court (per Student Code of Conduct.)

In accordance with statute, the Superintendent shall require, from the parent of each student of compulsory school age or from an adult student who has been absent from school or from class for any reason, a written statement of the cause for such absence. The Board of Education reserves the right to verify such statements and to investigate the cause of each single absence or prolonged absence.

In order for an absence to be marked as excused, a parent and/or doctor's note must be turned in to the homeroom teacher or office when he/she returns to school. The note must include the student's name, the dates of absence, the reason for the absence and the parent's signature.

Absences are either EXCUSED, UNEXCUSED or MEDICALLY EXCUSED. Excused absences must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- 1. Personal illness (a written physician's statement verifying the illness may be required).
- 2. Illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child.
- 3. Quarantine of the home.
- 4. Death in the family.
- 5. Necessary work at home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s)/guardian(s).
- 6. Observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday.
- 7. Out-of-state travel (up to a maximum of four (4) days per school year) to participate in a district-approved enrichment or extracurricular activity. Any classroom assignment missed due to the absence shall be completed by the student.

- 8. Such good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent.
- 9. Medically necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751.
- 10. Service as a precinct officer at a primary, special or general election in accordance with the program set forth in Policy 5725.

Written documentation/note is required for <u>all</u> absences. Please see Policy 5200 for further information regarding attendance.

Unexcused absences are any absences that fail to meet the above criteria.

All absences that do not meet the criteria for an excused absence will be unexcused. Types of absences which are unexcused include but are not limited to: oversleeping, missing the bus, shopping, haircuts, babysitting, suspension, or expulsion. All schoolwork missed as a result of an unexcused absence must be made up.

Students who arrive late to school must sign-in (with the adult bringing them to school) at our school office before reporting to class. Any student who does not provide a valid excuse for his/her absence must still obtain an absence slip for that day. If a valid excuse is presented on the following day, the absence will be changed to excused.

An absence that is not judged as excused is a serious offense. Truancy is considered an unexcused absence. Since truancy is a violation of Ohio State Law, it may be punished by referral to juvenile court (per Student Code of Conduct.) A student who receives an unexcused absence slip will receive an incomplete in the grade book until the work has been completed to the satisfaction of the teacher involved. The amount of time given to make up work will be equal to the length of time missed.

Once a student has missed 72 hours (not excused with a medical note from a medical professional or legal authority) of school during the school year, all absences will be unexcused unless there is a note from a medical professional or legal authority. Parents have the capability to write notes excusing up to 72 hours of absences, or 12 parent notes total, per school year, whichever comes first.

- Tardies will be documented by time missed (hours) and count toward students' absence record.
- If a student is absent due to a suspension, that absence will be marked as unexcused.

Make-Up Work

Students will receive an "Incomplete" in the grade book until the work that was missed during an absence has been completed to the satisfaction of the teacher involved. The amount of time given to make-up work will be equal to the length of time missed.

Tardy Guidelines

Tardies will be marked either excused or unexcused and will follow the same guidelines as those under the absence guidelines. When a child arrives at school after 8:55am or leaves prior to 3:20pm, their time missed will be logged in their cumulative absence record.

Any child who is tardy due to late buses or weather conditions will not be marked as tardy.

Parents of tardy students <u>must</u> accompany their children to the school office to be signed into school.

Vacations

The school discourages students from being absent during the school year anymore than absolutely necessary. Family vacations should be scheduled during the summer months. However, if a vacation has to be scheduled during the school year, prior approval must be given by the principal at least two weeks in advance of the request. Furthermore, vacation absences will not be excused during state-wide testing windows. Please note that student work may not be available prior to students leaving on vacation during the school year. Students are required to complete all work missed and will be given no more than one week to complete missed work.

Truancy

A student will be deemed Habitually Truant if the student is absent unexcused for:

- 1. 30 consecutive hours of instruction or
- 2. 42 hours of instruction during one calendar month or
- 3. 72 hours of instruction during one school year.

The parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) of a student who is deemed *Habitually Truant* will be required to comply with school adopted policies and procedures to address the student's truancy. In each case, reasonable and meaningful attempts will be made by the school to notify and engage the student and parents in resolving the truant behavior.

If a student is habitually truant and the student's parent/legal guardian failed to cause the student to resume attendance, the Superintendent or his/her designee will file a complaint with the Juvenile Court and/or take other appropriate intervention actions as set forth in Board policy.

Excessive Absenteeism is defined as a student of compulsory school age who is absent from school with or without legitimate excuse for thirty-eight (38) or more hours in one school month, or sixty-five (65) or more hours in a school year. Excessive Absenteeism includes Excused and Unexcused Absences.

The parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) of a student who is deemed *Excessively Absent* will be required to comply with school adopted policies and procedures to address the student's truancy. In each case, reasonable and meaningful attempts will be made by the school to notify and engage the student and parents in resolving the truant behavior.

School or Class Truancy: Credit for missed assignments may be given to a student who is deemed habitually truant at the discretion of the administration.

Suggestions for Parents

Demand prompt and regular attendance on your child's part; send in a written explanation for absences or tardiness to the office and your child's teacher.

- Provide a structured routine at home during the school year that includes consistent bed and homework/study time.
- Give personal attention to your child's cleanliness and appropriate dress.
- Send your child to school well-rested, with a good breakfast, and secure in your love.
- Be interested and informed about your child's progress in school. Unpack their book bag with them each evening and talk about completed work that is sent home.
- Recognize your child's achievements and limitations and give encouragement at all times.
- Help your child with personal problems they encounter.
- Take part in conferences with your child's teacher.
- Discuss with your child his/her progress/growth in school.
- Share information which will help the school with its work with your child.
- Attend school functions.

Taking Your Child Out of School During School Hours

- Permission to release a child will be made on the basis of a written note or phone call from the parent or legal guardian.
- Parents or some other authorized person wishing to take their child from school during regular hours <u>must</u> provide valid identification and come to the office and sign the dismissal sheet showing that the student is leaving early. This procedure is designed to protect your child against illegal pick-ups. Also, as a safeguard, all outside doors will be locked during the regular school day hours. All visitors must check in the office as per School Board Policy.
- If at all possible, doctor, dental, and other appointments should be scheduled outside of regular school hours.

Section VI: Expectations for Conduct, School Safety and Discipline

SAFE@BurgSchools.org

Students who have been bullied or have witnessed bullying should immediately report such incidents to the classroom teacher, school principal, or any other trusted staff member. If students do not feel comfortable talking to an adult, they are encouraged to use Williamsburg's safe@burgschools.org or call 513-279-BURG (2847). This email address and helpline is for members of our school community to use to report any information that could have a negative impact on students, staff, or school property. Examples include, but are not limited to, violence, sexual harassment, weapons, threats, thefts, property damage, and drug/alcohol abuse.

Implementation of School-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

The purpose of the PBIS program is to maintain an effective school environment that helps every student realize their potential and foster behavioral competence. This competence is gained as a result of our school team and families working together to provide a continuum of support for all learners. Several key elements of our PBIS include:

- A common purpose and a positive approach to discipline
- A clear set of positive expectations and behaviors
- Procedures for teaching and encouraging expected behaviors
- Procedures for discouraging inappropriate behaviors
- Data used to guide decision-making and planning
- Emphasis on prevention of inappropriate behaviors

When disciplinary action is warranted, Williamsburg Elementary School may institute <u>any</u> of the following disciplinary measures when misconduct occurs on the part of any of our students:

- 1. Verbal or written warning
- 2. Parental notification
- 3. AM or PM Detention
- 4. Removal of bus and other privileges
- 5. Exclusion from recess, extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities
- 6. Parental conference
- 7. Restitution of damages
- 8. Confiscation of items related to and/or resulting from student misconduct
- 9. Behavioral contracts
- 10. Disciplinary removal
- 11. Emergency removal
- 12. Friday School
- 13. In-School Restriction
- 14. Out of School Suspension
- 15. Referral to law enforcement
- 16. Expulsion
- 17. Mediation
- 18. Loss of Privilege

Definitions

- 1. Verbal or Written Warning: A verbal or written warning to a student that his/her conduct is in violation of school rules. It may be issued by any authorized school officials including teaching or non-teaching personnel.
- 2. Parental notification: Direct contact with a parent or legal guardian of a student to inform him/her of the child's misconduct.
- 3. Loss of Privilege: The removal of a student privilege for a period of time dependent on the seriousness of the misconduct.
- 4. Detention: There are three types of detentions: lunch, morning and after school detentions. Teacher detentions are usually given for an infraction of a teacher rule in the classroom. Any refusal to serve a teacher detention will result in further disciplinary action.
- 5. Removal of bus and other privileges: The denial of bus and other transportation privileges due to misconduct.
- 6. Exclusion from extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities: The exclusion from recess, extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities due to misconduct.
- 7. Parental conference: A meeting with a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to discuss violations of school rules and the impending action school officials may take.
- 8. Restitution of damages: A sum of money paid in compensation for loss or injury.
- Confiscation of items related to and/or resulting from student misconduct: Impound; take temporary possession of items related to and/or resulting from student misconduct as an act of security or by legal authority.
- 10. Behavioral contracts: A written document completed by the student, parents, and school administrator governing among other things the disciplinary consequences for current and future acts of student misconduct.
- 11. Disciplinary removal: The removal of a student from a class or from participation in co-curricular activity for less than twenty-four hours. During the disciplinary removal period a student will not be permitted to take part in any school function or activity.
- 12. Emergency removal: The removal of a student whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the curricular or co-curricular school activities. The period of emergency removal shall not be less than twenty-four (24) hours but shall not exceed seventy-two (72) hours. During the period of emergency removal, a student will not be permitted to take part in any school function or activity. In addition, it is the sole decision of the administration as to whether or not a student may or may not receive credit for class work missed during this period of emergency removal.
- 13. Friday School: Friday School is an extension on Friday for disciplinary or attendance issues. Friday School can only be assigned by an administrator and lasts from 3:30-5:30pm. Additional infractions may result in suspension.
- 14. In-School Restriction: In school restriction is the reassignment of a student from the student's regular class schedule to a designated supervised area in the school where the student may study and/or do other assigned tasks associated with their education. A student will receive full credit for class work completed in ISR.
- 15. Out of School Suspension: The removal of a student from the school environment for at least one (1) but not more than ten (10) days per incident. During the period of suspension, a student will not be permitted to attend any school function or activity, home or away. If a suspended student is observed

- on school property during the suspension period or at an away contest or school related event, that particular day of suspension will be deemed invalid and an additional day will be assigned.
- 16. Expulsion: The removal of a student from school for a period not to exceed the greater of 80 school days or the number of school days remaining in the semester or term in which the incident that gives rise to the removal takes place. This consequence may extend beyond a semester. During the period of expulsion a student will not be permitted to take part in any school function or activity. In addition, a student will not receive credit for class work during the period of expulsion.
- 17. Mediation: The use of facilitation and other forms of assisted negotiation as an alternative to formal disciplinary action.
- 18. Option of outside counseling or assessment: The use of outside counseling or assessment as an alternative or in addition to formal disciplinary action.
- 19. Loss of Privilege: Students may lose privileges for a specified time period dependent upon the severity of the infractions. Privileges include, but are not limited to: senior project, senior lunch, parking.

In the event a calamity day is declared on a day a student is assigned a disciplinary measure (examples include, but are not limited to: a loss of privilege such as recess, assignment of a detention, ISR or suspension from school), the student will fulfill the disciplinary measure when school reopens; calamity day(s) shall not count as part of a student's disciplinary measure.

School Discipline Plan

Williamsburg Elementary will enforce the Code of Regulations for Conduct of Pupils as per policy adopted by the Board of Education.

- A systematic plan of consequences appropriate to the needs of Williamsburg Elementary students will be implemented.
- Procedures for implementing consequences of misbehavior:
 - When the teacher has exhausted all the alternatives inherent in his/her classroom behavior plan or the infraction is considered "severe," a discipline referral will be filled out by the teacher and shared with an administrator.
 - The administrator and teacher will discuss the infraction with the child, resulting in, but not limited to, the following:
 - Parents will be notified by the teacher or principal.
 - A conference (phone or in-person) with the parent and/or parent and student may be requested.
 - Parents may be called to immediately remove their child.
 - Consequence(s) provided (outlined under disciplinary measures for misconduct)
 - Suspension (out of school)

W.E.S. Expectations for Conduct

Be Respectful, Responsible and Safe - That's The Wildcat Way!

- Always give your best effort!
- Respect all members of our school community and our learning tools/school property.
- Stay safe by following directions.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- Walk and move quietly throughout the building to limit disruptions.

Anti-Hazing Policy

It is the policy of the Williamsburg Local Board of Education and School District that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times. No administrator, faculty member, or other employee of the school district shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate any hazing activities. No student, including leaders of student organizations, shall plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing.

Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk of an individual subjected to hazing does <u>not</u> lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

Administrators, faculty members, and all other employees of the school district shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances or events that might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, involved students shall be informed by the discovering school employee of the prohibition contained in this policy and shall be required to end all hazing activities immediately. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the Superintendent.

Administrators, faculty members, students, and all other employees who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with Ohio law.

Anti-Bullying

Williamsburg Elementary School is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The school encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties, is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse and violence within a dating relationship. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, on a school bus, or while in route to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any

school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

Harassment, intimidation, or Bullying Means:

Any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or violence within a dating relationship.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means cyber bullying through electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, personal digital assistance (PDA), or wireless hand-held device) that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).

Any student or student's parent/guardian who believes he or she has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the building principal or the superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator. All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated by the appropriate person.

If a student or other individual believes there has been aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, he or she should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

Deliberately making false reports about harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or other aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Deliberately making false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

If after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by a specific student are verified, the building principal or appropriate administrator shall notify the parent/guardian of the perpetrator of that finding and inform the parent/guardian about any disciplinary consequences that will be imposed against such student.

Bullying & Character Education at Williamsburg Elementary School

In an effort to proactively teach kindness, acceptance, and good citizenship, Williamsburg Elementary School implements a Character Education program that teaches students specific character traits. Williamsburg Elementary School has also adopted the *Olweus Bullying Prevention Program* to improve the school climate for all students. This program is modeled after the research of Dr. Dan Olweus, a leading expert on reducing bullying in schools. The program goals are:

- 1. To reduce and eliminate bullying behavior and violence in schools.
- 2. To prevent new occurrences of bullying and violent behavior.
- To create a respectful, trusting, supportive environment that fosters learning.

As a school, we will be working with students to realize the following commitments:

- We will not bully others.
- We will include students who are easily left out.
- We will try to help students who are bullied.
- When we know somebody is being bullied, we will report it to an adult at school and an adult at home.

Williamsburg Elementary School has adopted the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program's definition of bullying, which is: **Bullying is when someone repeatedly and on purpose says mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending him or herself.**

What can students do to **STOP** bullying if it is happening to you or someone else?

- **S** Say something. Tell the person to STOP and walk to a safe place.
- **T** Tell an adult at school and at home.
- **O** Options should be discussed at home and school to plan what to do if it happens again.
- **P** Practice your plan so that you will be prepared.

This program involves important classroom and school-wide components. It is critical and necessary that students and/or their parents inform teachers and the school administration about potential bullying behaviors.

Sexual Harrassment

Sexual harassment has no place in the Williamsburg Local School District, whether between the supervisor and the supervised, between co-workers, between employees and students, between students, or between any student or employee and a member of the public visiting the schools. Complaints or information regarding sexual harassment shall be directed to the appropriate building principal who shall have a duty and the authority to conduct an independent investigation of the matter.

Chromebooks/Computer Use

Students will use Chromebooks and other computers in their classrooms. Students are to handle all devices with care. In the event a Chromebook/computer is abused or damaged, students (their parent/guardian) will be held responsible for reimbursement.

Cell Phones/ Use of Electronic Devices

Unless authorized by supervising or instructional staff, students are not permitted to use electronic communication devices (e.g., cell phones, iPods, smart watches, game systems, etc.) while school is in session or while utilizing school transportation services. No electronic devices may be used by students to capture photographs, video, or audio unless authorized by a supervising staff member. If it is deemed necessary for your child to bring a cell phone to school, then it must be turned off and kept in the student's locker.

Use and possession of personal communication devices (cell phones, tablets, watches except to tell time, etc.) is strictly prohibited during school hours.

Students will follow these guidelines for their personal communication devices:

Upon arrival at school, students will place their personal communication devices in their backpacks, which will be stored in his/her locker. The school takes no responsibility for the safety and/or storing of devices.

Violations of the Use of Personal Communication Devices will result in disciplinary actions:

- 1st Offense Device confiscated. Parent must come to school to get the device.
- 2nd Offense Device confiscated. Parent must come to school to get the device. One (1) 1-hour after school detention.
- 3rd Offense Device confiscated. Parent must come to school to get the device. Administrative discretion up to and including OSS.

Surveillance Cameras

Students are duly informed their behavior on school property, school buses and/or adjacent property may be monitored by security cameras. This can be used for disciplinary proceedings. The administration provides prior notice to staff, students and parents/guardians that electronic surveillance may occur on school property or in school vehicles. In addition, appropriate signs are posted in building entrances and at other locations deemed appropriate by the administration to inform visitors that electronic surveillance may occur on district property.

Dress Code & Appearance

The students at Williamsburg Elementary School are expected to dress in an acceptable manner. Any student dress/appearance that detracts from the normal pattern of the educational process will not be permitted. The dress/appearance guidelines include, but are not limited to, the following:

^{**}Students refusal to hand over a device to a teacher will result in an office referral with additional consequences

- No student shall wear or exhibit shirts, buttons, pins, etc., with obscene/objectionable language
 or language promoting the use of alcohol, drugs, or violence, or serves as a potential
 distraction.
- Some clothing or accessories can serve as a distraction or be disruptive. It will be the judgment
 of the administration in determining if corrective measures are warranted.
- Blouses, dresses or shirts which expose areas of the stomach, side, or back are not permitted. Shirts must reach the waist and have, at minimum, a shoulder strap.
- Body piercings that potentially serve as a safety/health concern or potential distraction are prohibited.
- No flip-flop or high-heel shoes are permitted. These types of shoes serve as safety concerns, particularly with younger children during active times in school such as recess and Physical Education class.
- Children will be permitted to wear shorts during the first academic quarter and can resume wearing shorts when school reopens after spring break. Exceptions are the sole discretion of the principal.
- Shorts, skirts and dresses must be appropriate in length (discretion of the administration).
- No face or body painting will be permitted.
- Due to safety concerns, students are required to wear appropriate shoes on days they are scheduled to participate in Physical Education class.

Guidelines for Corrective Action

The teacher/school official who has a student whose appearance is in question shall inform the student privately. The student shall be told that the article should not be worn again. If there are extreme cases that may disrupt school, an attempt to notify parents will be made. In this event, parents will be asked to make arrangements for a change of clothing to be brought to school during the day.

Due Process Rights

Before a student is suspended, expelled, or permanently excluded from school, there are specific procedures that must be followed. As long as the in-school discipline is served entirely in the school setting, it will not require any notice or meeting, or be subject to appeal.

Student Code of Conduct

Ohio Revised Code 3313.66 requires that students be provided with a written notice of intent to suspend prior to being suspended. The statute also requires that students and parents are provided with a written notice of intent to expel. The notices shall include: (1) a statement of intent to discipline; (2) description of the acts which were in violation of the Student Code of Conduct; (3) specific rules of the Student Code of Conduct

which were violated; (4) and the dates of the suspension or expulsion. Students may be represented by legal counsel at expulsion hearings should the family choose to obtain counsel.

The written notice of intent to suspend or placement at the Alternative School shall be given to the student at an informal hearing and sent to the parents.

Students will receive an unexcused absence for each school day missed as a result of a suspension and/or expulsion.

A student or his/her parents may appeal any decision of the Williamsburg Local School District Administration to suspend a student from school to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee. A student or his/her parents may appeal an expulsion from school to the Board of Education or its designee. A student or parent must request an appeal in writing within 10 days after the discipline measure takes effect. The student and his/her parent may be represented in all appeal hearings. Pursuant to Ohio law, a student or parent may further appeal an expulsion, suspension or denial of extracurricular activities to the Clermont County Court of Common Pleas.

It is the policy of Williamsburg Local School District Board of Education that students shall not be permitted to return to school pending any appeal process with the administration or the court. The School District will make every effort to promptly hear all appeals to minimize a student's absence from school. Should the Board of Education, the Superintendent, or their designees, reverse or modify a discipline decision and permit a student to return to school, such student shall be permitted 5 school days upon returning from suspension to makeup all assignments and work missed as a result of his or her absence/suspension.

This Code of Regulations is adopted by the Board of Education of the Williamsburg Local School District pursuant to Sections 3313.661 and 3313.662, Ohio Revised Code.

Any student engaging in the following types of conduct either specifically or generally like the kinds of conduct listed below is subject to expulsion, suspension, emergency suspension, removal or permanent exclusion from curricular activities pursuant to The Ohio Revised Code. This Code of Regulations applies while a student is in the custody or control of the school, on school grounds or closely proximate thereto, while at a school-sponsored function or activity or on school-owned or provided transportation vehicles.

The types of conduct **prohibited** by this Code of Regulations are as follows:

- 1. Damage or destruction of school property on or off of school premises.
- 2. Damage or destruction of private property on school premises or in areas controlled by the school.
- 3. Damage or destruction of property belonging to a school employee or anyone connected with the school district, whether on or off school premises.
- 4. Assault on a school employee, student or other person.
- 5. Harassment of school personnel during school and/or non-school hours.
- 6. Fighting.
- 7. Hazing/bullying (to persecute or harass or humiliate another student and/or employee).
- 8. Chronic misbehavior, which disrupts or interferes with any school activity
- 9. Disrespect to a teacher or other school authority.

- 10. Disregard of reasonable directions or commands by school authorities including school administrators and teachers. This includes failure to turn over electronic devices when student was not given explicit permission to use them.
- 11. Abuse of another. No student shall use or direct to, or about a school employee, or student, words, phrases, or actions, which are considered to be slanderous or degrading in nature, and/or words or phrases which are obscene or profane as defined by the majority of our society. Name-calling and negative, uncomplimentary and offensive remarks related to physical handicaps or defects, mental handicaps, race, religion, nationality, appearance or other reason is prohibited.
- 12. Refusing to take detention or other properly administered discipline.
- 13. Skipping detention.
- 14. Falsifying of information given to school authorities in the legitimate pursuit of their jobs.
- 15. Forgery of school or school related documents.
- 16. Cheating or plagiarizing.
- 17. Gambling.
- 18. Extortion of a student or school personnel.
- 19. Theft or possession of stolen goods.
- 20. Arson or other improper use of fire.
- 21. Possession of matches or lighters, or other similar devices.
- 22. Possession or use of dangerous weapons or ordinance or objects which look like weapons or ordinance, including, but not limited to, guns, firearms, ammunition, knives, grenades, sling shots, bows, arrows, machetes, brass knuckles, chains, studs, etc., or possession of, use of objects which may render physical harm to another if improperly used, including, but not limited to, axes, hatchets, hammers, saws, ice picks, screwdrivers, knives, etc.
- 23.Buying, selling, transferring, using or possessing any substance containing tobacco, derivative of tobacco, or imitation of tobacco including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, a pipe, a clove cigarette, chewing tobacco, snuff, dip, electronic cigarettes, electronic hookahs, or using tobacco in any other form. Smoking of electronic cigarettes, vapor devices, and other substitute forms of cigarettes whether they contain nicotine or not, are also prohibited.
- 24. Buying, selling, transferring, using or possessing or being under the influence of any controlled substance (drugs, narcotics, marijuana, etc.) or inhalants, or buying, selling, using, possessing or being under the influence of any counterfeit controlled substance (any substance that is made to look like a controlled substance, or is represented to be a controlled substance, or that is believed to be a controlled substance) on school premises or at a school related function.
- 25. Buying, selling, transferring, using, possessing or being under the influence of any drug, medication, inhalant or other controlled substance which can be taken internally where the students involved cannot show a legitimate health or other reason for the use of such substances.
- 26.Buying, selling, transferring, using, or possessing any drug or alcoholic paraphernalia in include instruments, objects, papers, pipes, containers, vapor devices, vapor liquids, etc.

- 27. Buying, selling, transferring, using, possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind.
- 28. Cursing.
- 29. Use of indecent or obscene language in oral or written form.
- 30. Publication of obscene, pornographic or libelous materials.
- 31. Placing of signs and slogans on school property without the permission of the proper authority.
- 32. Distribution on school premises of pamphlets, leaflets, buttons, insignia, etc., without the permission of the proper school authority.
- 33. Demonstrations by individuals or groups causing disruption to the school program.
- 34. Truancy.
- 35. Tardiness.
- 36. Leaving school during school hours without permission of the proper school authority.
- 37. Upon initial arrival, leaving school property without permission.
- 38. Presence in areas during school hours or outside school hours where a student has no legitimate business without permission of the proper school authority.
- 39. Failure to abide by reasonable dress and appearance codes set forth in student handbooks or established by administration or the Board of Education. This includes the prohibition of all clothing, jewelry, signs, etc. which at the discretion of the administration is reasonably related to or represents gang or gang like activity.
- 40. Improper or suggestive dress.
- 41. Indecent exposure.
- 42. Engaging in sexual acts, displaying excessive affection or other inappropriate behavior with a person of the same or opposite sex.
- 43. Turning in false fire, tornado, bomb, disaster or other alarms.
- 44. Presence on school property with a communicable disease
- 45. Failure to abide by the rules and regulations set forth by administration for student parking.
- 46. Disobedience of driving regulations while on school premises.
- 47. Convey, attempt to convey or knowingly possess a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance onto any property owned or controlled by or to any activity held under the auspices of the Board of Education.
- 48. Any disruption or interference with school activities.
- 49. Willfully aiding another person to violate school regulations.
- 50. Commission of any act on school premises or at a school activity in violation of the Ohio Criminal Code, Ohio Traffic Code, or the Ohio Juvenile Code.
- 51. Any other activity by a pupil which the pupil knows or should know will disrupt the academic process or a curricular or extracurricular activity.
- 52. Any type of prohibited activity listed herein engaged in by a student shall be reason for expulsion, suspension, removal or permanent exclusion from school.

- 53. Certain situations may dictate an exception to this policy based upon a principal's decision.
- 54. Failure to abide by rules and regulations of the Technology Agreement.
- 55. Threatening /Harassing other students, staff, or adults.
- 56. Any speech which is reasonably likely to cause substantial disruption or material interference with school activities or is an invasion of the rights of others is prohibited.
- 57. No student may, at any time, use a portable communication device in a manner that is profane, indecent, or obscene, or constitutes an invasion of privacy. Examples of this include, but are not limited to, photographs or text messages.
- 58. Audio/Video Recording (Unauthorized): Recording or attempting to record without authorization from a school staff member any image or other record (audio or video) of a student or staff member.

Because it is not possible to list every misbehavior that occurs, misbehaviors not listed above will be responded to as necessary by staff.

In the event a calamity day is declared on a day a student is assigned a disciplinary measure (examples include, but are not limited to: a loss of privilege such as recess, assignment of a detention, ISR or suspension from school), the student will fulfill the disciplinary measure when school reopens; calamity day(s) shall not count as part of a student's disciplinary measure.

Suspension

- 1. The length of suspension for the above offenses will depend upon the number of previous suspensions and/or the judgment of the principal.
- 2. Students suspended or expelled will be considered absent (unexcused). It is the student's responsibility to ask the teacher for make-up work. This can be done via email to teachers during suspension or upon a student's return to school following suspension. Students have five school days after their return to school to complete any missing work.
- 3. Students who are suspended from school are not permitted on school property during the period of suspension. In addition, suspended students are not permitted to participate in or attend extra-curricular activities during the suspension period.
- 4.In the event a calamity day occurs during a suspension, the suspension day will not count and the suspension will be extended commensurate with the number of calamity day(s).

Mandatory Expulsion For Weapons

Federal law mandates that public school districts receiving federal funds require expulsion for a minimum of one year, subject to reduction by the Superintendent on a case-by-case basis, of any student who brings a firearm to school.

Williamsburg Local School District has accepted and will continue to accept federal funds both directly and indirectly.

Therefore, the following provision shall be effective immediately:

Any student who is determined to have brought to school a firearm as defined in Section 921 or Title 18, United States Code, shall be expelled for not less than one year, subject to reduction of this term by the Superintendent on a case-by-case basis, shall consider all of the relevant facts and circumstances, including applicable Ohio Law.

Search and Seizure

Administrators may search a student or his/her property (including vehicles, purses, knapsacks, gym bags, etc.) with or without the student's consent, whenever they reasonably suspect that a search will lead to the discovery of evidence of a violation of law or school rules. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction and the student's age. General housekeeping inspection of school property may be conducted with reasonable notice. Student lockers are the property of the District and students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in their contents or in the contents of any other District property including desks or other containers. School authorities may conduct random searches of the lockers and their contents at any time without announcement. Unannounced and random canine searches may also be conducted.

Additionally, students have NO reasonable expectation of privacy in their actions in public areas including but not limited to, common areas, hallways, cafeterias, classrooms and gymnasiums. The District may use video cameras in such areas and on all school vehicles transporting students to and from regular and extracurricular activities. Anything that is found in the course of a search may be used as evidence of a violation of school rules or the law, and may be taken, held or turned over to the police. The School reserves the right not to return items that have been confiscated.

Miscellaneous

- Gum chewing is not allowed at any time in the building or on the playground.
- Toys, electronic games/devices, etc. shall not be brought to school or on the school bus.
- Students are not permitted to trade or sell small toys, trading cards or any other items in the building, playground or school bus.
- No students are allowed in the teacher workrooms/unapproved areas unless it involves a special project designed by the teacher and approved by the principal.
- Students are not permitted to use the vending machines during school hours.
- Shoes with wheels are not permitted.
- Students are never permitted to leave the school building or our campus without permission from a teacher or the principal.

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Policy Statement

The Williamsburg Local Board of Education shall not permit any student to transmit, possess, conceal, consume, show evidence of having consumed, used or offer for sale any alcoholic beverages illegal drugs, non-prescribed drugs, look-alike drugs or any mind-altering substance while on school grounds or facilities; at school sponsored events; in other situations under the authority of the District or in controlled vehicles. Included in this prohibition are any substances represented as a controlled substance, non-alcoholic beers, steroids, tobacco and tobacco products and drug paraphernalia. Students found in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action as described within the student code of conduct up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution. A reduction in penalty may be granted if the student receives professional assistance. Professional assistance may include but not be limited to an alcohol/drug education program; assessment with follow-through based on the assessment findings, counseling, outpatient treatment or inpatient treatment. Students who need to take prescription or nonprescription medications must adhere to the policies described within the student handbook.

Smoke-Free Schools (and Property)

Federal law mandates public school districts receiving federal funds to maintain a smoke-free environment. Additionally, we ask that you respect our desire to make our campus completely smoke-free.

Section VII: Arrival and Dismissal

In order to provide a safe learning environment for all children, we ask that you follow the security/safety guidelines listed below:

- Upon exiting the buses, children need to proceed directly to their classroom.
 Parents/guardians are not permitted to escort children to their classroom. We appreciate your understanding with this matter as W.E.S. takes every precaution to maintain a safe environment for our students.
- If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please leave a message in the front office or email the teacher. Teachers will respond promptly.
- Any adult/non-WLSD student must possess a valid ID to enter Williamsburg Elementary School.
- We require each visitor to wear a Visitor's Badge obtained in the school office.

Student Drop-Off Prior to School

If you will be dropping your child/children off at school instead of using bus service, please note the following:

To help ensure the safety of our children, students in grades K-5 are not permitted to be dropped-off at the back of our school. All students in grades K-5 that are brought to school must be dropped-off in the front of the school using the side parking lot, which is accessed using South High Street (preschool families: read further for detailed instructions). This location is the safest and most secure location for students to be dropped-off by their parents, guardians and caregivers. WES staff will be at the designated crosswalk beginning at 8:40am each day school is in session to receive students that are dropped-off at school. WES staff will remain at the crosswalk until 8:55am. If you enter the drop location after 8:55am, you must park and bring your child to the office and sign them into school.

To help provide the safest environment possible for morning drop-offs, we ask that you:

- Have your child/children ready to exit the vehicle when you pull into the drop location. This will reduce
 wait time and help ease potential traffic congestion.
- Have students exit the vehicle on the passenger-side. This allows students to enter the designated crosswalk/safe area without having to walk between, or in front of other vehicles, further reducing the risk of an accident.
- <u>Do not use cell phones when entering the parking lot and drop location. One moment of distraction can</u> result in an accident.
- Students who are dropped-off prior to school are to enter the gymnasium and remain seated.

Students can be dropped-off as early as 8:40am. Students who are dropped-off early to school will be supervised in the gymnasium, providing a safe environment away from weather conditions and vehicle traffic. If you drop your child off without a staff member being outside at the drop location, you must bring your child to the office so they can be received by a W.E.S. staff member.

Students that walk to school and live on either Wilmar Avenue or Willow Street will be permitted to enter the school grounds via our primary playground entry and walk directly to the front of the school to the safe zone where student drop-offs take place. These students will then access the sidewalk and enter the school.

Parents that choose to drop their preschool student off at school must:

• Park in our back parking lot (Willow Street) in the marked area and <u>remain in your vehicle</u> with your child until a receiving preschool staff member comes to your vehicle between.

We greatly appreciate your understanding and support with this matter. Nothing is more important than the safety of our students. Your assistance will help us further strengthen the safety of students at Williamsburg Elementary School.

Student Pick-ups at Dismissal

Please note that any person coming to our school for any purpose must have a valid ID.

Required Forms/Documentation for Car Riders at Dismissal:

Parents are encouraged to utilize our bus service and have their children ride the bus home from school.

If your child will be picked-up from school frequently (at least one day per week), your family <u>must</u> complete the W.E.S. student car dismissal parent/guardian form and utilize our car/book bag tag system.

If your child isn't frequently picked-up from school, but circumstances require you to pick them up periodically (doctor appointment, family emergency, etc.), a note must be sent to school on the day your child is being picked-up. This note must be given to your child's home room teacher and include who is picking your child up from school. Pick-up notifications must be received by 11:00am. Any notification received after 11:00am will result in the student(s) having to be signed-out through our main office at 3:35pm, after all buses have left campus (parent/guardian must come into the school with a valid ID to sign their student(s) out).

Student Dismissal at Williamsburg Elementary School:

<u>Parents picking their child up from school must arrive no later than 3:15pm</u>. Parents will enter the safe pick-up zone by:

- Driving to the end of Willow Street, turning right into the parking lot and then proceeding, with caution, into one of the car pick-up lanes. Cones will clearly mark the pick-up lanes.
- <u>Parents/guardians are to wait in their cars.</u> A staff member will bring students to each car. When students are present, cars must be placed in park and turned-off (idle-free zone).
- All drop-off and pick-up zones are smoke-free. Smoking, vaping, etc. is not permitted anywhere on school property.

Car Rider Dismissal Procedure:

- Families who pick their child/children up from school will be required to have and display in their vehicle a numbered, WLSD rear-view mirror tag. Rear-view mirror tags will be issued to families who request them. The first tag will be issued free of charge. Additional tags may be purchased for \$2.00 each.
- Tags will be issued at the Williamsburg Elementary School office. <u>Please come to the office to get</u>
 rear-view mirror tags before the start of school. Tags will also be available beginning August 1st. Open

House is also a convenient time for tags to be picked-up. Call our office if you need help getting your pick-up tags. Tags will be available throughout the year in our office should your end-of-day plans change.

- A single number will be assigned to a family. Children will be provided a tag with a matching number that must be displayed on the child's book bag-no exceptions.
- Child care providers may include children in their care on their assigned number. If a child goes home some days and to the child care provider other days, multiple numbers will need to be assigned and displayed accordingly.
- <u>Drivers and passengers will stay in their vehicles.</u> Staff members will match the number displayed in the car with the number displayed on the student's book bag and bring the student to the car.
- WES staff members will begin bringing students to cars at approximately 3:20pm. <u>Car lines will not be</u> released until:
 - All children are in their respective cars.
 - A W.E.S. staff member removes the barrier cones and signals for cars to exit the safe area.

WES Dismissal Procedures for Students Walking Home

-Students walking home to Willow St. or Wilmar Ave:

Please note that any person coming to our school for any purpose must have a valid ID.

 Walkers must be accompanied by an approved adult in this area due to the amount of traffic present on Willow Street during the time walkers are dismissed.

When walkers are released, the W.E.S. staff member supervising walkers will bring students who live on Willow St. or Wilmar Ave. to the back entryway of our school where car riders are dismissed.

Any parents who are receiving their walkers from this location may approach the back door as car-riders are dismissed (approximately 3:20pm) and receive their children.

-Students walking home to Spring Street or a road off Spring Street:

Please note that any person coming to our school for any purpose must have a valid ID.

 Any walker in grades pk-3 must be met by an approved adult on our campus unless the parent/guardian states otherwise in the writing to the school's administrative assistant.

Bicycles, Skateboards and Scooters

Students are not permitted to ride their bicycles, skateboards, or scooters to school and thus are prohibited from the school premises during school hours.

Transportation Procedures

If you need to make any changes to your student's transportation, a variance form is required. This includes any student that will be picked-up or dropped-off someplace other than their home bus-stop on a daily basis. This includes students that are open-enrolled and need transportation from a sitter or daycare within the Williamsburg School District. The form is not to be used for one-time or occasional occurrences.

Variance Guidelines:

- 1. Variances for riding regular routes may be granted for childcare/babysitting purposes only. New routes will not be created nor existing routes modified to accommodate a variance. Variances may be denied or revoked if ridership exceeds bus capacity.
- 2. The student's requested pick-up and/or drop off location(s) must follow an established, consistent schedule. Preferably the same location(s) all 5 days each week.
- 3. Requests will be approved/denied within two (2) school days of receipt at the Transportation Office.
- 4. A new variance request must be submitted if another change in bus assignment is requested.
- 5. Questions concerning transportation issues should be directed to the Transportation Office, at 513-724-2241 (Transportation Director Judy Arnold).

NOTE: The driver is responsible for discipline on the bus and is under instructions from the superintendent to report to the principal cases of misconduct. Consequences of a student receiving a bus conduct slip may include the following:

- Written warning
- Loss of school privileges
- Any consequence previously mentioned regarding student misconduct
- Suspension from the bus
- Permanent removal from the bus
- Suspension from school

Section VIII: General Information for Students and Their Families

Homework Policy

Elementary students need time for independent practice of skills/lessons taught during the day. Homework should be directly related to the adopted curriculum and should serve to advance students' learning. Students can expect to have homework. Teachers are encouraged to coordinate assignments so that children are not given excessive assignments. Parents are encouraged to assist students where appropriate. Generally, homework should not require more than an hour to complete. Occasionally, longer projects may require some home study over several evenings.

Lost and Found

Please mark all belongings with your child's name for identification. Unclaimed lost and found items will be prepared for donation at the conclusion of each academic quarter.

Lunch

For the 2024-2025 school year:

Breakfast and Lunch Prices can be found on the menu by following this link: <u>Breakfast/Lunch Prices</u>

Menus can be accessed here:

- http://www.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/index.php?sid=1542312485675&page=menus
- Please contact the school nurse and update FinalForms if your child has any food allergies.
- Students are required to either receive a lunch from the school cafeteria or pack a lunch from home. Students are not permitted to have food from restaurants brought to school during our lunch periods. Also, students are not permitted to pack pop or energy drinks in their lunches.

Celebrations

Classroom celebrations are provided for the children during the year at Christmas and Valentine's Day (and possibly other times as approved by the principal). Students will be permitted to have <u>one</u> snack/treat as part of their classroom celebration. We ask that you please follow the directions of your student's classroom teacher for class celebrations. Due to the health and wellness concerns of our students, please note that all food items brought into the school for distribution at classroom parties must be commercially prepared with ingredients clearly visible and allergens declared. Any parent/guardian who volunteers or attends a classroom party/function must have a current background check on file with our board of education office.

Birthday Celebrations

Every student's birthday is celebrated (even summer birthdays) by:

- Announcing the student's birthday to the school during morning announcements
- Students visit the "birthday cart" when it's their birthday to choose a gift
- In our primary grades, teachers often sing and provide a birthday hat to students to wear if they choose to do so

To ensure the safety of all students and to stay within the guidelines of our wellness program, we do not distribute birthday treats in classrooms.

Pictures

Pictures will be taken on September 12, 2024. Pictures are taken for the yearbook and school records. There is absolutely no obligation on the part of parents to purchase pictures. Pictures are offered to parents as a convenient and inexpensive means to obtain high-quality pictures of children during their school years. We will also offer Spring pictures at our school. Again, there is no obligation for parents to participate. Our photographer is Lifetouch. School pictures scheduled for this year are as follows:

Fall picture day: 9/12/2024Spring picture day: 3/6/2025

Field Trips

Field trips are academic activities that are held off school grounds. There are also other trips that are part of the school's co-curricular and extracurricular program. No minor student may participate in any school-sponsored trip without parental consent and a current emergency medical form on file. Medications normally administered at school will be administered while on field trips. The Student Code of Conduct applies to all field trips.

Attendance rules apply to all field trips. While the district encourages students to participate in field trips, alternative assignments will be provided for any student whose parent does not give permission for the student to attend. Students who violate school rules may lose the privilege to go on field trips.

Recess

Since it is imperative for our students to be supervised at all times (we don't want to diminish the number of staff available to supervise outdoor recess), children are required to go outside for recess (weather permitting). If the weather is questionable, please dress your student(s) in layers so they will be prepared for a change in the weather. If the temperature or wind-chill factor is unsafe, recess will be held inside.

Reporting to Parents

Report cards are issued each at the conclusion of each academic quarter via ProgressBook. Parents/guardians are expected to maintain an active ProgressBook account for their student(s).

If you would like to discuss concerns about your child at other times during the year, email your child's teacher or call our office (513-724-2241) to make an appointment with the teacher(s).

Retention/Promotion Policy

Our retention/promotion policy dictates we consider the following factors when considering a child for retention or promotion: state mandated competency assessment and testing results, classroom grades, social development, attendance, teacher, principal, and parent/guardian input.

Third Grade Reading Guarantee

Ohio Revised Code 3313.608 requires the Williamsburg Local School District to assess the reading skills of every student enrolled in kindergarten through third grade by September 30 of each school year in order to identify students who are reading below grade level.

The 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee was created to ensure all Ohio students are reading at grade level by the end of third grade. Students who receive a score on our district's English Language Arts Assessment at the end of the school year that is below the level prescribed by the State Board of Education will be retained in third grade pursuant to Ohio law unless he/she is otherwise exempt. The English Language Arts Assessment is not the sole determinant of promotion, and additional evaluations and assessments will be available to assist you and our district in determining when a student is reading at or above grade level and ready for promotion.

If you are interested in knowing more about the 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee, please visit the Ohio Department of Education website or contact the principal.

Review of Instructional Materials

Parents and guardians may review instructional materials used at Williamsburg Elementary School. If you wish to review these materials, please complete form 9130 D3 (Request for review of materials or course content) which is available at the school offices or the board office. The completed form should be submitted to the building principal.

Search for Children with a Disability

School Districts throughout Ohio are participating in an effort to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with a disability from birth through age twenty-one. By a disability, we mean conditions such as multiple

disabilities, hearing impaired, visually impaired, orthopedically and/or health impaired, severe emotionally disturbed, cognitively disabled, specific learning disabled and speech or language impaired.

Many children with a disability are not visible because they do not function in the mainstream of the community. Also, many unidentified children with disabilities are preschoolers. Parents may not be aware that programs and services are available.

If you know of a child with a disability within the Williamsburg Local School District, please contact the Director of Student Services at 513-724-2211 or the child's school principal.

Student Fees

Each student, kindergarten through fifth grade, will be assessed a school fee of \$40.00, which can be paid through FinalForms. If you pay by check, please make it payable to Williamsburg Schools. Student fees must be paid in order for your child to receive his or her report cards. Payment plans can be arranged to help spread the cost of school fees over the course of the school year. Contact the office to make such arrangements. Families can complete the free-reduced lunch form linked on our website (www.burgschools.org) to seek student fee waiver.

Grading Policy

The school year is made up of four quarters. For grade-levels that do not have a standards-based report cards, the following scale will be used:

Grading Scale

$$A = 90 - 100$$
 $D = 60 - 69$
 $B = 80 - 89$ $F = 0 - 59$
 $C = 70 - 79$

Annual Notification Regarding Student records

The Williamsburg Board of Education adopted a policy regarding the disclosure of educational records and the rights of parents and students to access educational records. Copies of the policy and related guidelines are located in all school buildings and individual copies are available from the District's Records Officer (Guidance Counselor).

Asbestos Notification

The staff should be aware that federal law "Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act" (AHERA) requires that all schools be inspected for asbestos containing building materials; subsequently, developing management plans. The Management Plan includes re-inspections, response action plans and post-response actions. This plan is available for public inspection during regular working hours. To make an appointment for review of our plan, call our Asbestos Planning Manager at 724-3077.

Use of pesticides

Pesticides are used on school property at different times throughout the year. If you wish to receive notification on the application of the pesticides, please contact our Pesticides Manager at 724-3077.

Textbooks and School Property

Students are responsible for the books issued to them.

It will be the responsibility of the student to pay for lost or damaged books and/or Chromebooks. Any other school property which a student damages must be repaired by the student to the satisfaction of the administration or else the cost of repair will be paid by the student doing the damage.

Volunteer Guidelines

Our school and community continue to benefit from the generosity of volunteers. We are fortunate to have wonderful volunteers who offer their time and talents to our school district and students. Numerous volunteer opportunities are available. While we value and encourage support from volunteers, our primary concern is the safety and welfare of our students. To this end, we require all volunteers to receive a background check. A BCI check is required if you have lived in the state of Ohio for three consecutive years. If you have not lived in the state of Ohio for three consecutive years, a BCI and FBI background check will be required. Both background checks are good for five years.

Where: Clermont County Educational Service Center

2400 Clermont Center Drive, Batavia, Ohio

Procedure: Schedule an appointment with their receptionist, at 513-735-8300.

- If you will be volunteering for your child's teacher, arrangements will need to be made with your child's teacher in advance. The teacher will then provide the office with this schedule. If your name is not on this schedule and submitted to the office, you will not be permitted to proceed to the classroom.
- Parents and other visitors are required to report to the school office before going to a classroom. This regulation is mandated by Ohio Revised Code Section 22917.211.

Weather Dismissals

At times it might be necessary to cancel school or dismiss early when road or weather conditions so warrant. In case of school cancellations, school delays, and/or early dismissal, parents will be notified through the School-Messenger system. Additionally, bulletins will be posted on social media and shared with local TV stations.

Clermont County Youth Contacts

Boy Scouts of America	961-2336
Child Focus	752-1555
Clermont County Community Services	732-2277
(Medical, Dental, Youth Services)	
Clermont County Children's Health	732-7499
Clermont County Jobs and Family Services	732-7111
Children's Protective Services	732-7173
Girl Scouts of America	489-1025
Legal Aid Society of Clermont County	732-2422
Salvation Army	732-6328
Y.M.C.A.	724-9622