

Sandown North Student Handbook



2018 - 2019

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

We have made some changes to specialists' and classroom spaces, but all have moved into their spaces and are ready for the new school year. We have a fourth third grade, allowing for optimal class size. All of our classes fall within district class size policy.

This Parent and Student Handbook is designed to keep you informed about school rules, procedures and policies. It includes our school calendar, staff list, and other important information.

One of your on-line materials is a form acknowledging that you have read the the Handbook. Please take the time to do this! Feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions.

The Timberlane Regional School District Rights and Responsibilities information, formerly called the Code of Discipline is also on-line. Please note that there is important information in BOTH handbooks. Parents are valued members of our educational team. We urge you to become involved in your child's education.

We welcome your communication and input. Our working together will ensure the best possible education for your child. Best wishes for a great year!

Best Regards,
Nancy Stafford



Sandown North School

Student and Parent
Handbook

2018 – 2019

Sandown North Elementary School
23 Stagecoach Drive
Sandown, NH 03873

Sandown North Staff

Principal	Nancy Stafford
Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator	Christine Desrochers
Administrative Secretary	Deborah Magliozzi
Secretary	Erin Hallisey
School Counselor	Samantha Houlihan
Nurse	Maureen Healy
Literacy Specialist	Diane Chauvette
Title I Educator	Laura Howell
Para-educators	Kortney Bundzinski Michelle Carey Heidi Chaput Virginia Foley Marjorie Giangregorio Elayne Gleason Sandra Gurczak Jean Hanley Karen Iacozzi Sue LaFleur Antonia Larsen Erica Olsen Jo-Ann Pinard-Evans Ellen Powers Lucinda Quinney Barbara Robinson Patti Sheridan Anne Sotirokopoulis Chrissy White
Librarian/Media Specialist	Laura Ross
Library Assistant	Michele Parker

Technology	Justin Bentley-Melle
Enrichment	Katie Bruce
General Music/Strings	Alison Yankowskas
Band	John Mainella
Art	Allison Lenihan
Physical Education/Health	Kim DeCristofaro
Special Educators	Brigette Chauvette Lauren Flynn Jennifer Harrison Sandy McKeen Carol White
FLES Teacher	Kim Buchwald
Psychologist	Kristen Seymour
Behaviorist	Cynthia Kenney
Speech/Language Pathologist	Taryn Stowell
Speech Assistant	Terry Sable
Occupational Therapist	Kristin Houston
Occupational Therapist Assistant	Lyndsey Walters
Physical Therapist	Kim White
Custodial Staff	Zigmund Paszko, Head Custodian Paul Lanouette Kevin Buckley
Food Service Staff	Deborah Rose, Manager Jennifer Dube Josephine Ellis Jolene Gillins
Technology Coordinator	Gary Dickerman

Grade One

Kami Douglas
Jennifer McDonough
Cali O'Sullivan
Jennifer Robinson

Grade Two

Sherry Bollhorst
Melissa DiBenedetto
Amy Difeo
Jessica Warwick

Grade Three

Linda Janvrin
Lisa Paladino
Denise St.Hilaire
Rebecca Worthen

Grade Four

Liz Conte
Jan Gilman
Andrea Castano

Grade Five

Terry Bolduc
Nancy Magee
Paula Polito

Timberlane Regional School Board

Representatives are elected from each of the participating towns to serve on the Regional Board, which sets policy for the District.

Current Members are:

Brian Boyle	Vice Chairperson	Atkinson
Jennifer Silva		Atkinson
Kim Farah		Danville
Shawn O'Neil		Danville
Sarah Machemer		Plaistow
Kristin Savage		Plaistow
Susan Sherman	Chairperson	Plaistow
Lee Dube		Sandown
Sheila Lowes		Sandown

School Board Policies available on-line at www.timberlane.net

Supervisory Union 55 Administration

Dr. Earl Metzler	Superintendent
Dr. Roxanne Wilson	Assistant Superintendent
Geoffrey Dowd	Business Administrator/CTO
Susan Rasicot	Director of Pupil Personnel Services/Special Education
Christi Michaud	Executive Director of Data, Assessment and Accountability
Sandra Allaire	Director of Curriculum and Professional Learning

GENERAL PROCEDURES

Alerts

The district utilizes a rapid telephone notification system as one method to communicate with both student families and staff. The system is utilized primarily to notify families and/or staff when a quick mass message needs to be made. The commercial name of the system is School Messenger.

Student information is obtained from the student management system (PowerSchool) which is maintained by the schools based on information provided by parents. The notification system is updated nightly with the student's name, school, classroom, morning bus number, home phone number, mother's work and cell phone numbers and father's work and cell phone numbers, if provided by the parents. This provides for flexibility to target phone calls as needed.

It is important that the district is informed of phone number changes to insure good communication.

Art

The Sandown North art program encourages imaginative and skillful creativity by introducing students to a variety of artistic philosophies, media and techniques. Students are scheduled to attend a 45-minute art period each week. During art, students will engage in projects that introduce them to a variety of artists, materials, and techniques. Since materials used in art class can damage or stain clothing, students are requested to dress accordingly on the day they have art class.

Parents are encouraged to participate in the art program. Parents who wish to motivate student creativity or share their artistic skills with a class are encouraged to contact the volunteer coordinator or Allison Lenihan.

Attendance

Regular daily attendance and punctuality are essential for the continuous progress of your child in school. Parents are expected to send children regularly unless their child is ill. The school day begins at 8:40 and ends at 3:10. ***Please call the school at 887-8503 and press 1 to report that your child is going to be absent or enter the information into the PickUp Patrol online application.***

Students are expected to participate in the entire school program, including physical education and recess, except by doctor's written direction. Students who miss school should not participate in after-school or evening extra-curricular events that day. Absences of more than five consecutive days require a note from a licensed medical professional.

It is the policy of the Timberlane School District to ask parents to refrain from taking students out of school for family vacations. Sufficient non-school weeks are provided during the year so that this ought not to be a serious problem. Frequent absences negatively impact a child's ability to access the curriculum and will be noted on the Timberlane report card.

Blizzard Bags

The NH Department of Education has granted districts the flexibility to offer online instruction on days designated by the Superintendent as "Online Learning/Blizzard Bag" days versus regular snow (or emergency school closure) days. An "Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day" will be determined by the Superintendent and families will be notified through the automated phone announcement system when school is cancelled. The phone call will notify you of the cancellation of the day AND that it is an "Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day." The notification will also be posted on the district and school websites. The notification will not be advertised on TV or radio. Remember, there is much to consider when cancelling schools, and not every cancellation will be designated as an "Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day."

Your children will be expected to complete their assignments using about four hours of time during the day; Each school has posted the hours when teachers are available online or through email on these days. Typical hours will be from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Students are expected to submit their completed work online or return to school the following day with the completed assignments in hand. If a Blizzard Bag day is called and the student fails to complete the work, the student will be marked as absent for the day.

Bullying/Harassment

Students are expected to treat each other and all staff members with dignity and respect and are entitled to freedom from any kind of harassment. It should be clear that **no form of hazing/bullying/harassment will be tolerated.**

Hazing/bullying/harassment is defined as unwelcome, harmful behavior towards another person.

This behavior includes being annoying, bothersome, and/or physically or emotionally injurious. Hazing/bullying/harassment can take the form of, **but is not limited to** verbal and/or written remarks, gestures, innuendoes, gossip, symbols, or physical contact. A person who feels he/she is a victim of harassment **should bring the matter to the attention of a teacher or an administrator.**

Bus Travel

We encourage our children to ride our school buses. Safe, respectful bus behaviors are taught by school staff, as well as by the bus drivers. Children are taught to use partner voices, keep backpacks on their laps, sit facing forward, and remain seated at all times. No eating or drinking is permitted on the bus except for medical reasons approved through administration. Electronics, including cell phones must stay in backpacks. Children's safety is of paramount importance. The school board has authorized the use of a video recording of the interior of the school bus while students are being transported, as stated in RSA 570-A:2,II. If you have a concern or question, do **not** approach the bus driver. Sandy Hodgkins is the Transportation Coordinator and can be reached at 603.382.6119 ext. 2229.

Directory Information

Sandown North defines directory information as student name, date of birth, parent names, phone number, participation in officially recognized activities, dates of attendance, as well as honors and awards.

At times this information may be made available to select groups or individuals deemed by the administration to have legitimate educational interest in this information.

Parents may refuse release of any directory information by submitting a written request to the principal by September 15, 2018.

Dismissal Procedures

1. All students will be dismissed at 3:10 pm. If you are picking your child up, follow the sign for parent pick-up and drop off. Continue to the door near the nurse's office. Please turn off your engine while waiting. School buses will be boarded at the front of the building as the buses arrive.
2. It is assumed that most students will ride the bus. If your child is not going to ride the bus, or if s/he will be riding a different bus at any time, PickUp Patrol online notification or a note must be sent to the school office before we will allow your student to make a change.

You will be sent an online invitation to register for the PickUp Patrol Program. Forms for written notes are given to all students at the beginning of the school year. Extra forms are available at the school office. Please send these notes in with your child and not by email or fax, as an important message may be missed.

A written note of authorization or PickUp Patrol notification from a parent or guardian must be presented before a student is dismissed from school during the regular school day. A telephone request will be honored if we can properly associate the caller with the child. **Please refrain from faxing or emailing requests as during the hectic school day, a fax or email can easily be missed.**

At the actual time of early dismissal, students will not be allowed to leave the school on their own. The person who is coming to pick the child up must stop at the office in order to be properly identified and to sign out his/her student(s). Please do not go directly to the classroom to pick up students.

Dress

Student dress should be neat, tasteful, and appropriate. Hats and bandanas should be removed when entering the building. Shoes should be firmly attached to the foot. Flip-flops and backless shoes are discouraged for safety reasons. Sneakers are required for Physical Education class. Offensive dress or adornment is not permitted. In the event that clothing is deemed inappropriate, you will be phoned to bring a change of clothing.

Students should also dress for the weather conditions. In the winter, boots, hats, coats, gloves or mittens are necessary when playing in the snow. In warm weather, students may wear shorts of appropriate length for school. Please label removable clothing to avoid confusion and loss.

Electronic Equipment

Timberlane strives to set high educational standards, challenging learning experiences and opportunities for all students. For this reason, the use of personal electronic devices is limited by classroom teacher and administrative directives during the school day which includes the bus ride to and from school. Students are not allowed to use cell phones during the school day. The school acknowledges that often students need to bring cell phones for afternoon daycare arrangements; however, they must remain off and in student bags during the school day. The bus is an extension of the school day. The main office must have a note on file stating that a child's phone is needed for after school care.

Emergency Dismissal

In the event of severe weather or failure of a school operating system, students may be dismissed early. Students will not be dismissed without notification. Radio and television stations will announce emergency dismissals. The School Messenger system will send a voice message to the phone numbers provided for that purpose.

Emergency Information INFOSNAP

In times of emergency it is extremely important that the school office and health office have correct and updated information that will enable us to contact parents immediately. Therefore, parents/guardians will be contacted by email and invited to review/revise their information on **INFOSNAP** prior to the beginning of the new school year. ***Please notify the school of any change in this information during the school year.***

Emergency Response Plan

An emergency response plan is in place for all schools in the Timberlane Regional School District. Copies of this plan have been distributed to each town's police, fire and civil defense department. This plan is comprehensive, concise and specific and has been coordinated to cover anticipated emergencies for all district schools.

Within our school building, site-specific emergency plans have been created. Fire/evacuation drills are conducted at various times throughout the school year. During these drills, staff and students will follow the prearranged procedure for evacuation. This procedure includes classroom clearance, exiting the building via the closest exit and accounting for all staff and students at the predetermined location. There is a procedure in place if off-site evacuation is necessary.

Other emergency procedures include lockdown, reverse evacuation, and shelter in place. These procedures are practiced periodically throughout the school year. In addition, a significant number of staff members have been trained in crisis intervention techniques. A safe and secure educational setting is the foundation required for effective instruction and learning. We take this responsibility seriously.

Enrichment

The Sandown North Enrichment program is designed to promote curiosity, depth of knowledge and connections between curriculum content and real life applications. The Enrichment program endeavors to enhance learning by promoting whole school initiatives, working collaboratively with classroom teachers, and working with small groups of students.

School initiatives include residencies, speakers, assemblies, and displays. These initiatives are intended to provide students with unique experiences and teach relevant content. School wide and classroom programs offer important opportunities for volunteer involvement. Parents and community members are encouraged to share their skills, knowledge and experience with students through the enrichment program. Please contact Mrs. Bruce to discuss ways in which you can contribute to children's learning experiences.

Enrichment collaboration within the classroom provides support for more involved projects and

lessons for larger groups of students. Whole class collaborative Enrichment lessons are designed to promote student interest and curiosity while building essential skills. They are ideally generated as a response to student enthusiasm for a particular subject.

Small group Enrichment work provides students the opportunity to focus on their interests and build skills at their own pace. Students in a small group often work as a team, solving problems and making decisions through discussion and trial. The Enrichment teacher provides specific materials and guidance to promote the groups objectives.

Extra-curricular Activities

We are pleased that many of our students participate in privately run extra-curricular activities. We hope that parents will make recommendations for advancement in classes such as karate or dance using information that they know about their child's school performance. Parents are invited to share report cards and progress reports with the private instructors if they choose to do so. Teachers will not fill out forms for progress recommendations regarding private lessons that are not school based extra-curricular activities.

Field Trips

We recognize the importance of field trips as a means of helping students learn as much as possible about the world in which they live. The school staff also recognizes the added responsibility of ensuring the safety of students outside the school environment.

Permission slips for field trips will be sent home to parents before each trip out of district. Parents are asked to read the information about the trip, sign and return the slip immediately. All students need to have signed permission slips at school before they are allowed to go on a trip. At least one Sandown North staff member on the trip will be CPR and First Aid certified. Teacher and parent chaperones will be assigned to each trip to provide adequate supervision.

Students are required to follow school rules during field trips. Students choosing not to follow school rules may be denied participation on future field trips, or may be required to be directly supervised by a parent.

FLES

FLES is an acronym for Foreign Language in Elementary School. It is an approach to learning that allows students to develop basic communicative skills in a language while reinforcing and enriching content in other disciplines. The language the TRSD will teach is Spanish. FLES is delivered in an encouraging learning environment where the language directly relates to the students, reflecting their needs, interests and everyday life. FLES teaching and learning occurs in Grades 1 – 4.

Fund Raising

All fund raising projects are approved by the principal. Students are discouraged from going door to door and should sell only to family and friends to ensure their safety. Monies earned go directly back to the children to support activities such as authors' visits, and Artists in Residence.

School Counselor

School Counseling Mission Statement

The mission of the Sandown North school counseling program is to provide a developmental counseling program that recognizes and celebrates the individual differences of all students. Here at Sandown North, we are all on a journey of academic, self and social development. The school counseling program acts to further enhance this process by serving as a resource to parents and staff and most importantly advocating for all Sandown North students.

The School Counselor at Sandown North is a certified educator. She strives to meet the needs of all children through prevention, early identification and intervention. As the School Counselor, she provides consultation with teachers, administrators, the school psychologist, parents and outside social service agencies concerning the welfare of the students. She provides services to all children.

The program includes a developmental classroom guidance component. Throughout the year the counselor spends time in all of the classrooms, working with the children around issues such as friendship, bullying, respect for differences, self-regulation and any specific area a classroom teacher would like addressed.

In addition to classroom guidance and serving as a resource to parents and the school community, the counselor also works with children in smaller settings such as individual and group counseling. Children are referred to counseling by parents and teachers. Parental permission is obtained before a child participates in a group or ongoing individual counseling. During the school year, your child may talk about going to "lunch bunch". Lunch Bunches provide students the opportunity to eat lunch in the Guidance Office with the school counselor and a small group of friends. Any child may request a lunch bunch.

Elementary school years set the tone for developing the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for our children to become healthy, productive adults. With a comprehensive developmental counseling program, the counselor works within a team with school staff, parents and community to create a caring atmosphere where all children's needs are met.

Health Services

One registered nurse provides preventative health services, assesses and treats ill students, provides emergency response and treatment and also administers medications based on doctor's orders. The nurse provides the assessment, teaching, consultation and referrals for a variety of medical issues. She also works with families to develop medical plans for students with severe medical conditions. The primary responsibility for the overall health of the school child lies with the

parents. The school is not legally authorized to diagnose conditions or prescribe medication. This is the function of the Primary Care Physician or other licensed individuals or programs. Mrs. Healy is always just a phone call away and works closely with parents to ensure health and safety.

District Health Services Website

All contact information, immunizations, facts and bulletins and forms are available on the Sandown North website by going to the School Nurse section-then district nurses website.

Medication administration

If a student must take medication during school hours, the health office must receive an order from a physician and a signed permission form from a parent or guardian. The medication must be delivered by a parent to be kept in the Health Office. The medication must be in its original container and properly labeled. This applies to any prescription or over the counter medications. Students with asthma or life threatening allergies who have an order for an inhaler or Epi-pen may carry their medication on their person with the appropriate documentation. This requires a doctor's order that specifies that the student is authorized to self carry; self administer and is educated on the use of his/her inhaler and/ or Epi-pen.

Guidelines for keeping your student home from school

A sick student of any age should not attend school. Your child will benefit from extra rest and will recover more quickly while minimizing the spread of illness at school. In accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services, please adhere to the following guidelines:

Fever- any fever over 100 degrees during the night or morning before school. Students should be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications such as Tylenol or Motrin before returning to school. For fevers over 101 a call to the doctor may be necessary.

Vomiting and/or Diarrhea- Students should be kept home for any episodes of vomiting or diarrhea occurring within 24 hours of the school day.

Strep throat-students with strep throat may return to school after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment and be free of fever.

Conjunctivitis- (pink eye) students with crusty, itchy, red eyes with thick yellow drainage should be excluded from school. Once a diagnosis of conjunctivitis is made, the student may return to school after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment.

Rashes-any student with an unusual rash, or rash with fever should be evaluated by physician prior to returning to school.

Staph Infections-all infections should be reported to nurse and all open wounds must be covered while at school/ school activities.

All absences should be called into the attendance line. Please include symptoms of illness.

In addition please report any contagious illnesses, hospitalizations including surgery or injuries to the school nurse. Doctor's notes are required for these students to return to school. The doctor's note must indicate any activity restrictions related to illness, injury, or surgery for physical education, wellness, recess or school related activities.

For illness/injury that occurs during the day at school, students should see the school nurse who will then assess the student and arrange dismissal, when appropriate. Students should not contact parents/guardians to arrange dismissal without going to the nurse. Absences of five or more days due to illness may require a note from a health care provider when the student returns to school.

Emergency Information Sheets

These forms must be returned to the Health Office completely filled out and signed by the parent or guardian at the very beginning of each school year. These are necessary so that we have current medical information on the student and current parent contact information.

Please notify the school of any changes in medical and or contact information. Please contact the main office with any changes to contact information. Any medical changes should be provided to the nurse.

Health Screenings

Each year, first grade and new students will report to the Health Office for health screenings. The screenings will consist of a vision and hearing test, as well as periodic head checks for all students. There may be times that the district receives assistance from volunteers or contracted services to assist in screenings. All information is confidential. Screening results outside the normal will be communicated to parents/guardians.

ACADEMIC PROTOCOL FOR CONCUSSED STUDENTS

A student who has been determined to present with symptoms of a concussion will fall under the guidance of the academic protocol for concussed students. Concussions vary in degrees of severity, so it is best to address each student's needs on a case by case basis. We will always follow the academic procedures as outlined in the Timberlane Protocol for Concussed Students.

Homework

Meaningful homework assignments, to be accomplished outside of the regular classroom, are an integral part of the teaching and learning process. This is a time to practice, maintain, complete, make-up, or enrich classroom activities. It is also meant to help develop independent study habits and appreciation for the value of learning. If homework time becomes a stressful time, notify your child's teacher so adjustments can be made.

Insurance

Student accident insurance policies will be sent home at the beginning of each school year. Coverage can be purchased for accidents occurring during school hours or for an extended 24-hour day. Please give this your consideration.

Internet Safety

The Timberlane Regional School District provides Internet access to its students and staff through computers located in classrooms, a computer lab, and the library media center. We stress the importance of using it as one of many educational resources available to students as a

learning tool. Internet use at Sandown North is closely monitored, and students do not to use the Internet without supervision. The Internet Use policy and procedures may be found in the TRSD Rights and Responsibilities handbook. Please read it carefully with your student. The school web page is www.sandownnorth.com. We recommend that students become familiar with the Elementary Library Page. The site contains resources that correlate with our school curriculum and has links to many child appropriate web sites. Refer to School Board Policy EGA for more information. If you do not want your child to have internet access at school, please put your request in writing to the school principal.

Invitations

Please do not have party or other invitations distributed in school unless the entire class is invited. If you are inviting just some of the children, invitations should be distributed outside of school.

Legal, Custody, and Restraining Issues

Unless we have appropriate legal documentation on file, we are obligated to give full parental rights to all parents. If there are custody documents or restraining orders that affect your child, please provide the school with a copy. Notify the school in writing if you would like reports sent to a non-custodial parent.

Library Media Center

The Library Media Center is central to our life at Sandown North. The library is designed to meet the needs of all children and staff. Materials are selected to complement and enhance the school curriculum. In addition, there are a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction books, periodicals and books on tape. The library subscribes to a flexible schedule model, so services are available to all students all day. Classroom teachers are free to bring their students for whole class instruction or to send groups of children for individual assistance.

Books are checked out by students for one week. Children are encouraged to use good sense in keeping books in a safe place. However, occasionally a book is lost or damaged. Parents are notified with the price of replacing the book.

Literacy Specialist

The Literacy Specialist monitors the reading and writing program in the school as well as students' growth toward meeting academic goals. She consults with teachers and administrators regarding research supporting current practices. When best practices are determined, she consults and teams with teachers to provide appropriate educational experiences for children in classrooms, small groups and individually. Together, they can analyze data to celebrate successes and note trends. Individual's strengths and challenges are noted. She also serves as a resource to parents and teachers.

Lost and Found

We have a Lost and Found area. Jewelry and money are brought to the office. Please make sure that all of your child's belongings are labeled. Children can check the Lost and Found when they are missing an item. Feel free to check the Lost and Found when you are in the building or after school. Be aware that during vacations, unclaimed items in the Lost and Found area will be cleared out and donated to local charities, so be sure to check for items prior to these times.

Lunch Program

A nutritionally balanced hot lunch and milk are served daily for those children who do not bring a lunch from home. Breakfast is available to students in the morning the cost of this is \$1.50 a day. This year's lunches, which include milk, will be \$2.50 for children. Milk will cost \$.50 a day. Payments for meals are made online using the free www.myschoolbucks.com website. A link is available from the lunch website. Sending a check in is also allowed, but not the preferred method. The Free and Reduced Price Meals application is also available online on the lunch website, if needed. If you have questions regarding your child's account, phone the Food Service Manager, Deb Rose, at 887.8505, ext. 7526.

Students who meet income guidelines established by the federal government are eligible to participate in either a free or reduced cost lunch program. Application forms are available in the school health and guidance offices. All information is kept confidential.

If you would like to join your child for lunch, please call the school, or send a note the day before your visit to inform us. Please note that glass bottles and soda are not allowed in the cafeteria. The cost of an adult lunch is \$4.00.

Morning Arrival Procedures

For safety reasons, students should not arrive before 8:25. Supervision begins at 8:25. Follow the signs around to the back of the building and to the drop-off area.

Students being dropped off by car should be left at the rear door. An adult will greet your child. Students arriving in their classrooms after 8:40 will be considered tardy and will need to sign in at the office. Please make every effort to ensure that your student arrives at school by 8:35. Arriving late negatively impacts the learning of your child, as well as interrupts the learning of others. If you arrive after 8:40, please come to the office with your child. You must sign him/her in and then your child will be given a pass to go to his/her classroom.

Music

The Timberlane Regional School District offers an extensive music education to all students from grades one through high school. At Sandown North, music classes for students in grades one to three meet once per week for 45 minutes. Students gain a foundation in music theory. They participate in singing and music appreciation. They learn about various instruments and

performance skills. In grade three, students learn how to play the recorder and perform for parents and community at our annual Sandown North Fine Arts Fair in May. Band instruments are introduced in grade 4 and students in grades 4 and 5 may participate in band or chorus.

Physical Education

PE classes for all grades meet once per week for 45 minutes. Students learn and practice skills for traditional games such as soccer, basketball, volleyball, flag football and floor hockey by participating in a variety of enjoyable lead-up games. Gymnastics, tumbling and vaulting skills will also be taught to students along with many fitness focused activities. Teamwork, cooperation, and sportsmanship are stressed throughout the entire school year. The goal is to motivate students to participate in a variety of enjoyable physical activities which encourage the pursuit of positive lifelong health and fitness attitudes.

Each student is expected to come to class dressed in sneakers and comfortable clothes that will allow the child to move safely through any activity. Loose jewelry is not safe, nor are open backed sneakers, clogs of any type, hiking boots or sandals.

It is expected that, while adhering to game rules, children will treat others with respect, and give their best effort during each class.

PTA

The Sandown **P**arent **T**eacher **A**ssociation helps to join parents, teachers and school administration in a partnership. Together they work to enhance the well-being and education of the children in our schools. The Sandown PTA plays a vital role in the life of the schools, providing the organization and funding for a variety of educational programs, parent education, scholarships, family & school events and field trips.

Sandown PTA is proud of its affiliation with the New Hampshire PTA and the National PTA, the oldest and largest volunteer association advocating exclusively on behalf of the children and youth. All parents and community members are encouraged to join and be part of this wonderful association. It is a rewarding experience and one of the best ways to get involved in our children's education.

The Sandown PTA Welcomes You!

President: Pamella Pitman
Vice President: Kristen McCartney
Secretary: Michelle Kontos
Treasurer: Jess O'Brien
Assistant Treasurer: Krystin Friling

Recess

Sandown North students generally have at least one outdoor recess during the school day. Students who are in school are expected to go outside at recess times. Special circumstances should be communicated to the teacher and/or nurse in writing. If it is necessary for a student to be kept indoors, a note from the doctor must be sent to the nurse.

Report Cards/Progress Reports

There are three twelve week reporting periods in the school year. Report cards can be viewed on your child's PowerSchool account at the end of each of these periods. Progress Report cards can be viewed at the midpoint of each of these periods to show that the teacher has concerns for a student's progress or that work has substantially improved. If you wish to have more frequent reports on your student's progress, please let the teacher or school counselor know.

Sandown Express and Newsletter

As much information as possible is included in the Express, which is a large envelope sent home on Thursdays and returned to school on Fridays. It is used for two-way communication. Once a month the school publishes a newsletter with important, relevant information. We hope you will look forward to this information and will take the time to discuss the items with your child.

Screenings

Each year, health, dental, and academic screenings are conducted. Screenings allow staff to be pro-active in supporting our children so they can be successful in their learning and in their relationships with others. Based on our screenings, we may make minor adjustments to our instruction on a temporary basis to assist students. In other cases, we may decide to offer significant supports to assist your child. At that time, we will certainly be in touch with you. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the screenings, feel free to contact Mrs. Stafford.

School Cancellation

Schools will be open during inclement weather unless it is determined that it is too dangerous for pupils to come to school. If weather conditions are bad at 6:00 A.M. but expected to improve by midmorning, a delayed school opening will be announced on local radio and television stations. In the event of a major weather event, schools are generally closed. You will also receive a District School Messenger message in the event of weather, road or other emergencies.

School Property

Students are responsible for paying for lost or damaged school property.

Smoking

Sandown North and all public buildings in New Hampshire are non-smoking areas. Smoking is

not allowed anywhere on school grounds.

Snacks

There is a time allowed during the day for students to have a snack. Student snacks are intended to supplement a child's energy and appease hunger. Despite commercial advertisements, snacks such as soda, candy, snack desserts, chips, etc. do not provide lasting energy. These foods may affect children negatively in their ability to attend to learning and to make good choices. We encourage you to make a better choice such as fruit, fruit juices, veggies, cheese and crackers, peanut butter sandwich, raisins, nuts, sugar-free dry cereal, etc. Please help your children to plan and make a good choice for a snack.

Star Quest

Through Star Quest, our mission is to create a safe, respectful environment where all members of the community are successful and feel valued. All staff members teach, model, and reinforce positive behavior. We strive to be **Safe, Trustworthy, Always Respectful, and Responsible – STARS!**

- To maximize the potential of all by focusing on **positive** practices.
- To meet the learning needs of each student.
- To ensure success for each child.

In order to achieve the best possible outcomes, students, families, school staff, and the wider community must develop partnerships to share beliefs and support one another.

When consequences for an action are determined to be needed, protocols and procedures in Rights and Responsibilities are followed.

Stringed Instruments

All third grade students are welcome to sign up in the fall for a stringed instrument class lesson on violin, viola, or cello. This class lesson takes place once a week for 35 minutes. Children begin by learning songs by rote, and then gradually begin reading notes from the music staff. Students perform in both a winter and a spring concert for parents, as well as in-school assemblies. If your child is playing during a Monday Morning Meeting, you will be notified. Making music a life-long skill can bring a lot of joy to our lives.

Student Records

Sandown North complies with the Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Parents have the right to inspect and review student records. Please notify the school if you wish to do so.

Target Team

A group of educators work together as the Target Team to determine how to best challenge and /or support a child's learning needs. Children's strengths and interests are of paramount importance in determining next steps.

Telephones

Students do not use the school telephones and are not permitted to use cell phones during the school day. If parents have a concern, they should call the office staff to inform them of what may need to be communicated to a child. Staff members who can be of assistance will be informed. The bus is an extension of the school day.

Title One Reading and Math Programs

Title One is the largest federal aid program to provide appropriate services to help students achieve by supplementing classroom instruction. Research-based specialized reading instruction is provided through the cooperation of the classroom teacher and the Title One Reading teacher. In order to be eligible to receive Title One services, students can be identified in several ways: classroom performance, observations, and informal reading assessments. The Title I grant is reviewed each year, so targeted population may change, based on funding.

The federal legislation, No Child Left Behind, requires that all parents in any school receiving Title I funds be notified that they may request information regarding whether or not their child's teacher is highly qualified to teach the subject and grade level that s/he is teaching. Our school does receive Title I funds. To be considered a highly qualified teacher, the state and federal government require that a teacher be certified by the state in which s/he works. All of our classroom teachers meet the federal and state guidelines for being considered highly qualified teachers.

Use of Building

We extend a welcome to use our school building to community groups who have provided the appropriate forms and insurance. Any school event would take precedence in case of scheduling conflict. Facilities Use Forms can be picked up and returned to the office. They must be signed by the principal. Any time school is not in session due to vacation, inclement weather or other emergency, all after school and evening events are automatically cancelled.

Groups using the school must keep all children under direct supervision at all times, must remain in the area of the building that they are assigned to, must leave the space they use clean and tidy, and must treat all school property with respect. If these guidelines are not followed, the permission to use the building will be rescinded.

A Building Administrator will meet with the individual who plans to use the building to ensure that expectations are understood.

Visitors to the School

We welcome visitors to our school, but balance hospitality with a need to protect the safety of our children and a need to respect the importance of instructional time in the classroom. All visitors are asked to sign in and wear an identifying nametag before entering any other part of the school. If a visitor needs to speak with a teacher, an appointment can be made for a meeting during non-instructional time. Every teacher has voice mail and messages may be left by telephone.

Lunches, books, musical instruments, permission slips, party treats and other items to be delivered to your child should be given to the school secretary. Please write your child's name, grade, and teacher clearly on the package. The secretary will see that the item is delivered for you.

Volunteers

If your schedule allows, we would like to invite you to volunteer your time in our school. We will be sending home additional information on the various opportunities for volunteers. Please become involved! Kristen Gondolfo is our Volunteer Coordinator and is happy to speak with you.

Weapons/Dangerous Objects

It is the responsibility of the school administration to protect every student and staff member from any possible injury. The possession of any type of knife, razor, or other dangerous object or weapon in school greatly increases the risk of accidental injury to both the student carrying the object and to others.

Therefore, weapons and/or dangerous objects of any kind are not allowed in the building, lockers, or anywhere else on school property. A weapon shall be defined as either of the following:

- a. A firearm as defined in Section 921 of Title XVIII of the United States Code
- b. Any device, object, or artifact that has been determined by the Superintendent of Schools to be dangerous to any student or faculty member

Non-Discrimination or Equal Opportunity Employment

The School Board in accordance with the requirements of the federal and state laws, and the regulations which implement those laws, hereby declares formally that it is the policy of the Board, in its actions and those of its employees, that there shall be no discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, age or disability for employment in participation in admission or access to, or operation and administration of any educational program or activity in the school district.

Inquiries, complaints, and other communications relative to this policy and to the applicable laws and regulations concerned with non-discrimination shall be received by the superintendent or his/her designee.

This policy of non-discrimination is applicable to all persons employed or served by the district. Any complaints or alleged infractions of the policy, law or applicable regulations will be processed through the grievance procedure. This policy implements PL 94-142, Section 504 or the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the American with Disabilities Act, Title VI or VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the laws of New Hampshire pertaining to non-discrimination.