



**NEWPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## ***Elementary School Handbook 2010-2011***

Please sign and detach this form and  
return to Underwood  
with the following 4 sheets completed:

- Emergency Contact Form
- Permissions Sheet
- School & Parent Compact
- Sign Up Sheet for Principal's Listserve

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*By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read the 2010-2011  
Elementary School Parent Handbook and understand the expectations  
and procedures at my child's school.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature



Newport Public Schools  
15 Wickham Rd, Newport, RI 02840-4232  
Phone: (401) 847-2100

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

*The following information must be updated annually for each child attending the Newport Public Schools.  
Your cooperation in the prompt return of this form is appreciated.*

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Student Social Security# \_\_\_\_\_ Bus # AM \_\_\_\_\_ PM \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Lives With \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please state relationship(s): both parents/mother/father/guardian) Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Primary Language Spoken at Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE CHECK THE BOX NEXT TO THE PRIMARY GUARDIAN 'S ROLE BELOW.**

	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Home Phone</i>	<i>Cell Phone</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	_____	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Father	_____	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Stepparent	_____	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Guardian	_____	_____	_____	_____

Primary Guardian's Email Address (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_

Are parent/guardians **ACTIVE** Military? – If so, please note branch of service: \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any special custody issues of which the school should be aware? \_\_\_\_\_

**► EMERGENCY INFORMATION ◀**

In the event of illness, emergency, or unexpected early dismissal, the following two people should be called if a parent/guardian listed above cannot be located. Both names listed should be local relatives/friends who have agreed to be on call and to come to school to pick up the child. For the safety of all students, children will only be released to parents/guardians, and these emergency contacts:

#1: \_\_\_\_\_  

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Relationship</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____

#2: \_\_\_\_\_  

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Relationship</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____

**► PERMISSIONS ◀**

► **Photography:** Your child's school activities may be filmed or photographed for use in school/district brochures, programs sponsored by the State of Rhode Island and Federal Government, and local newspaper/ radio/television publicity.

YES, I give permission for my child to be photographed.  NO, I do not give my permission.

► **Communication with Physician:** In certain situations, the school nurse may feel it is important to contact my child's physician, dentist or other care providers, should it become medically necessary in their professional judgment.

YES, I give the nurse permission to contact my child's medical providers.  NO, I do not give my permission.

► **Access to Internet:** Please review, sign, and return the attached Internet Access Permission Form.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Rev: 03/2010



NEWPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NEWPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Student Name _____ (Please print)	Grade/Teacher _____
Daytime Telephone _____	Emerg. Telephone(s) _____

**INTERNET ACCESS PERMISSION** - Each student and a parent/guardian must read and sign this form prior to access of the Internet. I understand and will abide by the terms and conditions for Internet access. Any violation of the regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. If I commit any violation, my access privileges may be suspended or revoked and disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

**The following will apply to Internet use within the Newport Public Schools.**

1. All users of the Internet within the Newport Public Schools are responsible for appropriate behavior on the Internet just as they are when involved in any school activity. General District and school rules and policies (see student handbook/agenda) apply to all Internet activity and communication.
2. The purpose and use of the Internet at school is to support research and education goals.
3. Unless explicit permission is granted, games and chat lines may not be used.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

As a parent/guardian of this student, I have read and understand the terms and conditions for Internet access. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes and that the Newport Public schools will take reasonable precautions to restrict access to controversial material. I also recognize that it is impossible to restrict access to all controversial material, and I will not hold the Newport Public Schools responsible for materials acquired on the internet. I hereby give permission to provide Internet access to my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

**Parent/Guardian's Name (please print):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**WALKING FIELD TRIPS** - To take full advantage of the rich resources of Newport, it sometimes is possible to take students out of the building. Opportunities arise to take students to local parks, libraries, museums, mansions, waterfront areas and various other places. Students will be under the supervision of their teachers and will return to the building before regular dismissal time of 2:45 p.m.

\_\_\_\_ Yes My child may participate.

\_\_\_\_ No My child may not participate.

**PHOTO/VIDEO MEDIA** - During the school year, people from the print and video media often visit the school to write articles and take pictures for the purposes of reporting to local newspapers and television. Also, video cameras are sometimes set up in classes to tape lessons for use as teaching tools to staff. Photographs of all students are taken for school picture day and our yearbook. Honor roll students are listed in the Newport Daily News.

\_\_\_\_ Yes My child's picture can be taken.

\_\_\_\_ No I do not want my child's picture taken.

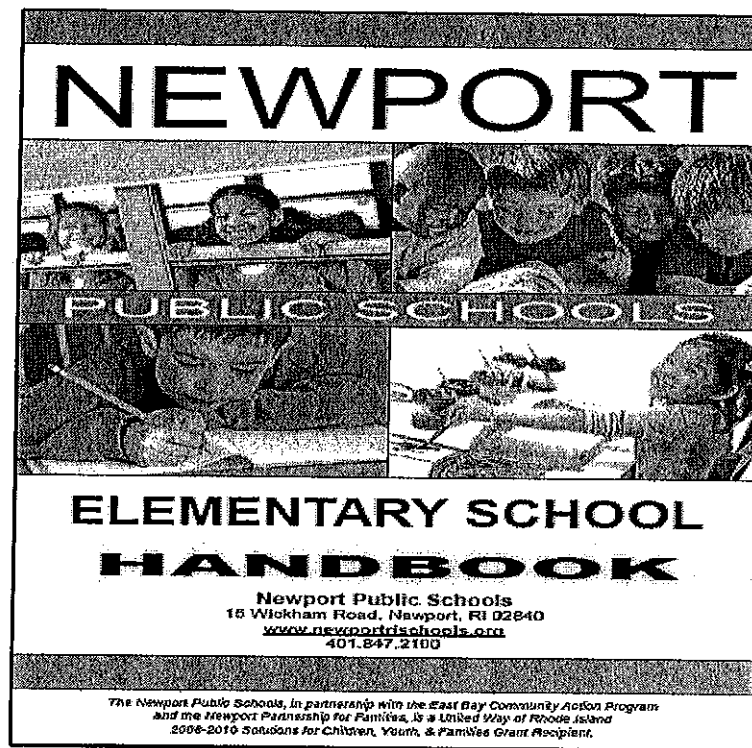
**Parent/Guardian Name (please print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_





**Underwood  
Elementary School**



**90 Harrison Avenue, Newport RI 02840  
SCHOOL PHONE (401) 847-2785  
SCHOOL FAX (401) 845-8558**

**Dr. Kimberly Townsend, Principal**

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*We are pleased to offer this resource to parents, as a United Way of Rhode Island 2008-2010 Solutions for Children, Youth and Families Grant Recipient, the Newport Public Schools (NPS), in partnership with the East Bay Community Action Program and the Newport Partnership for Families, and the Newport S.C.O.R.E.S. initiative.*

*We welcome any feedback you care to share. Please direct your comments to Newport S.C.O.R.E.S. Facilitator Sharon K. Carter at [SharonCarter@newportrischools.org](mailto:SharonCarter@newportrischools.org) or 401-847-2100 ext. 222. Thank you.*



NEWPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to the Newport Public Schools and its Elementary School Handbook.

Newport Public Schools offer many great programs to help your child learn and develop into a responsible, contributing citizen. We believe that every student should be challenged and supported throughout their educational career. Principals, teachers, and staff are dedicated to making a positive difference in your child's life. It is important that you know that we believe we are partners with you in this process, and we welcome your active involvement in your son's or daughter's education.

It is important that you encourage your child to take advantage of all of the wonderful programs that we have here in Newport. Encourage your child to do well in school, reinforce that homework is important, and let them know that you care about their good behavior and academic achievements.

The most important thing that you can do to help us to have your child succeed is to develop open lines of communication. If there are issues, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, guidance counselor, or Principal. Honest and open communication with staff is the best way your child can succeed. The district has policies on parent involvement and promotion/retention with which you should be familiar. If you have any questions regarding these policies, it is important that you ask about them as soon as possible. I believe that the educational offerings that we provide all of our students in the Newport Public Schools are outstanding and appreciate the fact that you have entrusted your children to us.

I wish you and your child a positive experience and thank you for your cooperation in our joint endeavor.

Sincerely,

*John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D.*  
Superintendent of Schools

**--Underwood Elementary School**

90 Harrison Avenue  
Newport RI 02840  
Phone: 401-847-2785  
Fax: 401-845-8558

Dr. Kimberly Townsend  
Principal

Catherine Ratcliff  
Clerk

September 2, 2010

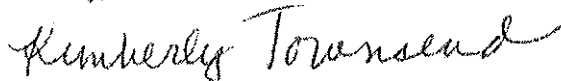
Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to a new school year at Underwood Elementary School. The faculty and staff believe that your children is unique and important. Therefore, we will strive to provide them with an educational experience that will be both positive and meaningful. However, to ensure that each child is successful, we need your assistance as you play an active role in your child's education. Your commitment and involvement in our school's program will help our staff provide your children with a well-rounded education. We want to encourage you to feel free to visit the school, to ask the teachers and other staff members for assistance, and to feel free to discuss any educational concerns with me.

We want to make this your best school year ever! Therefore, this handbook has been developed to help clarify and provide useful information regarding the operation of our school. Please read over the handbook carefully and sign the verification form located at the end of the handbook.

Please keep in mind that a strong connection between school and home can be helpful to all involved, especially our children. In closing, I would like to welcome you to Underwood School and to a new exciting school year.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Townsend, Principal

Faculty and Staff

**Quality Education for all Students**



# Underwood Elementary School



## Faculty

2010-2011

Kimberly Townsend, Principal  
Catherine Ratcliff, Clerk  
Kevin Michael, Custodian  
Andrew McCarthy, Custodian

<b>Kindergarten:</b>	Deb Berdy
<b>Kindergarten Assistant:</b>	Diane Latham
<b>Kindergarten:</b>	Dale Blaess
<b>Kindergarten Assistant:</b>	Amy Minick
<b>First Grade:</b>	Holly Minuto Aaron Sherman
<b>Second Grade:</b>	Sybil Grayko Kathy McKeon Steven Taylor
<b>Third Grade:</b>	Audrey Boisvert Jennifer Hole
<b>Fourth Grade:</b>	Kevin Bolano Susan Moore
<b>Art:</b>	Beth Brugnoli/Steve Schreiner
<b>Librarian:</b>	Stacey Lyon/Jane Perry
<b>Music:</b>	Scott McEneaney
<b>Physical Education:</b>	Jim Psaras
<b>Special Education:</b>	Michelle Kosegarten
<b>Speech/Language:</b>	Katherine "Kit" Hirst
<b>Reading:</b>	Jeannie Walsh
<b>ESL:</b>	Patricia Chalmers
<b>Nurse:</b>	Colleen Raposa
<b>Occupational Therapy:</b>	Erin Sullivan
<b>Physical Therapist:</b>	Kathy Olsen
<b>Psychologist:</b>	Christine Pinto
<b>Social Worker:</b>	Mary Sheehan
<b>General Assistants:</b>	Marge Fitzgerald Eileen Rearick
<b>Family Service Coordinator:</b>	Lori Russell
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Program:</b>	Nicole Silva Meredith Holden



## *Underwood Drop-Off/Pick-Up and Parking Information*



Classes begin at 8:30 a.m. For those students who walk or ride with parents, we ask that they arrive at school no earlier than 8:15 a.m. Until that time, students are not permitted to enter the building. No child should be unsupervised in the schoolyard at Underwood School. If you drop your children off in the morning, please remember *not to block the lanes of traffic or the crosswalk in front of the school. Please do not park in the bus circle in front of Building C. Students need to be dropped off at the first parking lot located by A Building.*

Dear Families of Underwood,

The Underwood School PTO would like to welcome you to the 2010/2011 school year...and what a great year it's going to be!

We as the PTO, are an organization of parents, teachers and caregivers who all have one goal in common; to help foster a caring and nurturing environment for our children. But for the PTO to fully reach that goal, we need involvement from as many parents and caregivers as possible. We also invite grandparents, aunts and uncles to get involved. The more ideas and volunteers, the better! We are flexible toward your schedule as there are countless ways you can help with no set amount of time...whether you help 15 minutes or 2 hours a week, every bit is appreciated. Remember, as a volunteer, you will not only benefit the children and teachers but you will also enjoy meeting other parents, have fun, and be proud of your time helping!

A sampling of some of the fun we had last year were fundraisers and events such as the Tennis Tournament, Harrison Hike, Flower Bulb Catalogue, Gift Catalogue, Clothing Sale, Spirit Wear, and Book Fair, just to name a few. With these fundraisers, we were able to put on some great events such as the 21<sup>st</sup> Century After School Programs, Muffins with Mom, Pancakes with Pop, Chef Series, Turkey and Spaghetti Feasts, Field Trips, Pumpkin Carving, and Field Day! We look forward to providing these fundraisers and events again along with some new ones for this school year!

So please join us, the PTO, in helping the students and teachers of Underwood Elementary! We'll keep you posted as to the date and time of our first meeting! Until then, if you have any questions, please email us at [underwoodpto@yahoo.com](mailto:underwoodpto@yahoo.com)

Sincerely,  
Your Underwood PTO

William J. Underwood Elementary School  
90 Harrison Avenue  
Newport RI 20840

Hello Families,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of you and introduce myself to the new families here at Underwood School. My name is Lori Russell and I am the Family Service coordinator (FSC).

As a Family Service Coordinator, my role involves being one of the many connections and/or communication lines in the schools to promote positive family school/partnerships. The FSC is available to assist the principal, teachers and supporting staff in keeping families engaged in their child's school career. At Underwood school you may find me doing:

**Home Visits:** for required signatures, basic human needs, service coordination and/or referrals, school personnel concerns, transportation to school meetings, and transitioning new families to school and/or community.

**Family Involvement/Literacy:** In collaboration with principal, staff and PTO, coordinating different events for our school community to enrich family involvement. Also, after school programs that are enjoyable for the students and that enhance literacy.

**CARES** The position of the FSC is funded by many different grant sources. One of these is the McKinney-Vento grant called Newport CARES. FSC's track and assist families who have children attending Newport Public Schools. We assist these families with referrals to caseworkers, tutoring, and providing school supplies that support the academic need.

Before becoming a Family Service Coordinator at Underwood in February of 2008, I worked as a substitute teacher in the Newport Public Schools since March 2001. Both of my children attended Underwood school. I look forward to meeting you and your family this school year.

*Lori Russell*

Lori Russell  
Family Service Coordinator  
Underwood School  
(401) 846-9590

Walsh Field

**C Building**

Principal's Office /Main Office  
(Townsend & Ratcliff)  
School Nurse (Raposa)  
Physical Education (Psaras)  
Cafeteria  
C  
Kindergarten (Berdy & Blaess)  
Grade 1 (Minuto)  
Resource (Kosegarten)  
Family Service Coardin (Russell)  
Custodian (Michaels & Dougherty)  
21<sup>st</sup> Century Program (Silvia/Holden)

**D Building**

Grade 1 (Sherman)  
Grade 2 (Grayko)  
Grade 3 Boisvert  
D  
Reading (Walsh)

Trees and  
Rocks

Flag

**A Building**

Grade 2 (McKeon & Taylor)  
Grade 3 (Hole)  
A  
Speech (Hirst)  
OT/PT (Sullivan/Olsen)

**B Building**

Grade 4 (Moore)  
Grade 4 (Bolano)  
B  
Library (Lyan/Perry)  
Art (Brugnoli/Schreiner)  
Music (McEneaney)  
ESL (Chalmers)

Visitor & Staff Parking  
Drop Off and Pick Up

Bus Loop  
Staff Parking

Staff Parking



Harrison Avenue

# At A Glance

## K-4 SCHOOL HOURS

8:30 am to 2:45 pm

- The school opens at 8:15 a.m.
- Kindergarten–Grades 2 gather in the east schoolyard (blacktop).
- Grades 3–4 gather in the west (small) schoolyard (playground).
- At 8:27 a.m. all students line up to enter the building.
- At 8:30 a.m. teachers escort their students into the building.
- Students arriving after 8:30 a.m. must check in at the office for a tardy slip before reporting to their classroom.

Please call to notify us if your child will be absent or late. If we do not receive a call, we will assume your child is absent without your knowledge or approval, and contact you according. Late students receiving hot lunch will not have a choice of menu options. Out of fairness to other students, lunch orders cannot be called in.

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Your child's safety is our first priority. In order that we may reach you or your trusted, authorized emergency contacts, it is important for you to keep your home/work addresses and telephone numbers (including cellular) current in our files. The importance of maintaining updated information cannot be overemphasized. Please notify our *School Principal* or *School Secretary* in writing of any changes.

**Parents are urged not to request early dismissal of children from school unless there is an emergency.**

**EARLY DISMISSAL**  
**DELAYED OPENING**

In the event of weather conditions or other unexpected developments, it may become advisable to cancel or delay school. Notice will be given as much in advance as possible. Usually such a decision will be made prior to 7 a.m. on any given school day. You will get an automated phone call explaining that school is closed for the school day. If, for student safety, it is necessary to close school early, our Superintendent will issue a telephone broadcast announcement to your home phone number as well as have the announcement made by the local media. You and your child should have an "after school plan" for those days that school may close early. Please keep your contact information updated.

Notice of school closing are also broadcast by:

**Radio Station** WADK (1540 AM)

## **Television Stations**

WLNE-Ch 6 ~WJAR-Ch 10 ~WPRI-Ch 12

## **MEALS**

The price of hot lunch is \$1.65 per day. Your child may qualify for a reduced price of \$.40 per day. Children bringing a bag lunch may purchase milk at \$.45 per day. Breakfast may be purchased for \$.75 per day, and some students qualify for a reduced price of \$.30 per day. If you have questions about how to qualify for reduced, or free meals, please contact our *Family Service Coordinator*.

We encourage you to pre-pay for your child's lunch by making a deposit. Your child's account will then be debited each time her/she goes through the lunch line. Menus are distributed monthly and available at

[www.newportrischools.org/FoodService/index.html](http://www.newportrischools.org/FoodService/index.html)

## Newport Elementary School Information, A-Z

### *Absences*

All children are expected to be in attendance each day unless they are ill or a family emergency arises. Please remember that a written note explaining the absence is required after a student has been absent. Should your child be absent from school during the school year, please call the school office before 9:00 a.m. to notify us of the reason for the absence and how long your child will be absent from school. When your child returns to school, it is expected that he/she can fully participate in the daily school routine. If your child is unable to participate in physical education, recess, or other school activities due to injury or illness, a note from your physician must be presented.

When the student's absence has been due to a contagious disease, a doctor's statement is required. Pupils who have been excluded from school due to pediculosis (head lice) must have a doctor's note and/or be checked by the school nurse in order to return to school.

### *After School Programs*

After school enrichment activities are offered at many of our schools through the YMCA, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center, the Family Service Coordinator, and the Music Department throughout the year. Please look for announcements from the school and flyers that are sent home throughout the year.

### *Arrival*

Classes will begin at 8:30 a.m. If you bring your child to school, please do not drop him or her earlier than 8:15 a.m. Your child should not be unsupervised in the schoolyard or school, and we do not open until 8:15AM. Until that time, students are not permitted to enter the building.

If you drop your children off in the morning, please remember our anti-idling ordinances and policies, which help keep the schoolyard pollution free. Do not to block traffic in front of the school. Students should only be dropped off in the designated areas. Please adhere to these rules, so we can keep every child safe.

### *Attendance*

Good habits of attendance and punctuality have a direct impact on a child's academic achievement. We place a great deal of emphasis on regular school attendance and its strong relationship to student success in school. We appreciate your support and efforts in this area. Parents are legally responsible for their child's attendance in school. Please make every effort to support your child's program by having him/her in school on time, for the full day.

### *Behavioral Expectations*

We work very hard to foster positive social and academic behaviors in all students. Your child's best conduct is expected in the halls, in the cafeteria, on the playground, in the classroom, and when leaving school grounds. Please expect our school staff to remind students of the school's expectations for behavior, and to help them learn more appropriate ways of interacting at school. Our neighbors and owners of property adjacent to the school and adjoining streets have a right not to expect trespassing on their property. Homeowners are encouraged to report any action of students that is harmful to their property. Please teach your child to respect other people's property, as you would wish all to respect your property. Please teach your child to consider the rights and feelings of others. Together, we will support your child to become a productive, valued, and trusted member of society.

### *Communicating with Your Child's Teacher*

Communication is an essential part of the educational program. We feel that it is very important for you to keep in close contact with your child's teacher regarding school progress, school behavior, and any other concerns you may have. All teachers can be reached via email by typing their first name, last name, and the district web address. For Example: Mrs. Betsy Smith's email would be [betsysmith@newportrischools.org](mailto:betsysmith@newportrischools.org).

Parent/Teacher Conference days occur twice a year. School is closed so that teachers can be available to meet with you in person about your child's progress. This year, they are scheduled to be held:

Tuesday, November 30, 2010 & Tuesday, February 8, 2011

You will be asked to come to school on both these days to meet for fifteen minutes with your child's teacher. Additional conferences with your child's teacher may be scheduled at a mutually convenient time for both you and the teacher. Conferences with the principal may be scheduled as well, at your request.

### *Dismissal*

At the end of the school day, students who ride buses will be dismissed as buses arrive. Students who either walk or are being picked up by you will be dismissed at 2:45 p.m. If you are picking your child up, please remember to stay in the designated areas while waiting for your child, and follow all traffic rules. It is imperative to be careful to keep all children safe at this busy time of day.

Since early dismissals interfere with instruction and learning, they are discouraged. We value instruction time and ask that you schedule your child's doctor and dental appointments outside of school hours. If this is not possible, please send your child with a note stating the exact time that you will come to the main office of the school to sign your child out. The school principal must authorize all early dismissals.

For safety and security reasons, your child are dismissed from school early only in the presence of you as parent/guardian. If you would like to allow another responsible adult other than yourself to pick up your child from school, it is absolutely essential that you submit their name and contact information on the student information form.

### *Emergency Contacts*

Enclosed in this packet is an emergency information form for you to complete. Since the safety of your child is our first priority, it is imperative that you fully complete and return this information promptly to our school. A record of this information is kept in the school office in case you need to be contacted. Please make sure all telephone numbers and addresses are accurate and clearly written. Please remember to put the name and telephone number of at least one other person who can be contacted in case you cannot be reached. Notify the school if your address or telephone numbers change during the year. It is very important that our records are kept up-to-date. This information is invaluable in the event of an emergency.

### *Emergency Drills*

Fire drills, lockdown drills and emergency evacuation drills are necessary for the safety of the students, staff, and faculty. All students are shown specific directions for reaching a point of safety. Specific information for drills is posted in each classroom.

### *Family Service Coordinator*

Our Family Service Coordinator serves as your liaison to the elementary school, and works to support you as you foster your child's success in school.

The Family Service Coordinator is available to:

- Support your child's transition from pre-school to school, and grade-to-grade each year
- Promote and enhance a support system for you and your child in school and at home.
- Provide services that recognize and value family strengths.
- Offer a wide range of activities that focus on increasing family literacy.
- Promote positive family/school/community relationships.
- Plan and create appropriate activities for positive family and school interaction.

If you have general questions about how a school process works, who to ask for what, how to access a service in the community, or how to work with our school, please feel free to call upon our *Family Service Coordinator* to help you.

### *Field Trips*

As part of this handbook, you have received a request for permission to take walking field trips in and around the school neighborhood. If you elect to provide permission, your child's teacher may seek the principal's permission for excursions to nearby parks or other places in town. With the principal's approval, students whose parents have given permission may be taken on these walking field trips occasionally, throughout the year.

Most students will go on two larger, traditional field trips in each grade. Field trips are an opportunity for students to participate in cultural and community activities that link to what they are learning in school. All field trips are an extension of the classroom lessons. Your written permission is required so that your child can participate in each field trip. Students who do not bring in permission slips prior to these large field trips will not participate, and will remain at school instead on the day of the trip.

### *Hall Passes*

We expect that your child will focus on learning while at school. During class time, your child may not be in the hall or other common areas without permission of the teacher in charge of the student during that time. This will include trips to the restroom, library or office, as well as any other place than the room to which the student has been assigned. Passage shall be by the shortest and quickest route practical, without stopovers at other points and without interrupting other students.

### *Health Care at School*

If your child has a medical condition, please be sure to tell the *School Nurse* or *School Principal*. You are responsible for notifying us of any medications, limitations, or allergies that your child may have. Unless we are aware of these conditions, we may not be able to support your child's needs in routine situations or emergencies. If your child requires significant care, we may seek more information from your doctor to develop a school health care plan.

Our school nurse or designee administers first aid, as necessary. Our school nurse also ensures that we screen your child in such areas as vision and hearing, and teaches health lessons in your child's classroom. All programs follow the guidelines provided by the Rhode Island Department of Education. Please do not hesitate to contact the school nurse if you have any concerns about your child's health and safety while at school

### *Homework*

Homework offers an opportunity for parents to take a direct role in their children's schooling. If possible, we encourage you to set a regular and routine time and place for how your child completes homework. Be present with your child to help with directions, review responses, and check for accuracy. Help your child stay organized by establishing a routine for getting completed homework into the backpack so it can be returned to the teacher successfully. Homework provides opportunities for your child to practice and reinforce classroom learning and develop good organizational habits.

Children are expected to read each day as part of their homework. Often, you will be asked to sign a reading log or homework folder to verify that the work was completed and reviewed at home. Please check your child's backpack or folders daily/regularly for papers that must be returned.

### *Lost and Found*

Please label all of your child's items to help alleviate the problem of lost articles. Lost articles will be held by the school, and can be claimed by proper identification. Please check the lost and found on a periodic basis, as there are often items that are labeled, but sometimes students are too embarrassed to claim their own items. Small articles of value will be held in office.

### *Medication at School*

Please contact our *School Nurse* about all prescriptions your child has. Do not send your child to school with any medicines. Under no circumstances will a student be allowed to carry medication in school.

Students who need to take prescribed medication during the school day must have the appropriate forms signed by the physician and parent/guardian before any medication can be brought to school. Medication must be brought to school in person by you, the parent, in a container properly labeled by the pharmacy/physician with the child's name, name of medication, dosage, and the time to be given.

The medication and form must be left in the office, and then reviewed and approved by our *School Nurse*. In the case of a non-chronic condition, temporary medication can only be administered by the parent. School staff may not administer non-prescription drugs. This includes lotions, salves, and aspirin. Again, if you have questions or concerns, please contact our *School Nurse*.

### *Photographs*

School photographs will be taken twice during the school year. You will receive a photo package, from which you may choose to purchase pictures. If the package is to be purchased, the order form should be returned to the school office with the proper payment.

### *Personal Literacy Plans (PLPs)*

Newport teachers review student progress frequently, and are flexible about changing their instruction to target the needs of each student in the class. All children get the support they need to make progress. Reading is so important, that if your child's teacher finds your child to be one year or more below grade level, the teacher will develop a Personal Literacy Plan, or PLP, which targets a specific goal to increase your child's literacy. If your child has a PLP, please expect the teacher to review it with you.

### *Recess*

Recess is an important part of the school day. All grades have recess each day. Our elementary students are encouraged to go outdoors for recess as often as weather permits. Please help your child to dress appropriately for the weather. Indoor recess is held on days when it is raining, snowing or especially cold.

### *Report Cards*

All students will be issued a progress report from their teacher to report individual pupil achievement. These reports are issued to students in all grades at the end of each quarter, and you should feel free to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns.

### *School Property and Materials*

Students are responsible for all textbooks and library books issued to them during the school year. The school must be reimbursed for any lost or damaged books. If a lost book is found, money will be refunded. If school property or materials are damaged or destroyed by your child, you are expected to pay the cost of repairing or replacing the items involved.

### *Special Education*

If you suspect that your child has an educational disability you should make a referral to the special education evaluation team. This team will then meet with you, to review any information you provide as well as your child's progress in school. Students who are referred may or may not be assessed further, based on the team's review of the data. Students who are found to have disabilities that adversely impact their learning may be found in need of special education if special education will improve the child's learning. Since Newport's elementary schools have so many supports available to all children, through general education, our educators are often able to support the unique needs of learners through differentiated instruction and personalized supports. More information is available at [www.ripin.org](http://www.ripin.org). Please call the district Coordinator of Special Education at our Administrative Center or talk with your School Principal if you have questions or concerns.

### *Tardiness*

A student is considered tardy if he/she is not in the classroom by 8:30 a.m. When a student is late repeatedly, he or she does not benefit from full participation in morning routines, directions and announcements. Therefore, your child may be confused and less successful. We realize that there may be times when your child is tardy, but please ask that you please do everything to avoid these situations. A note should accompany your child to explain the reason for his/her tardiness. If your child will be tardy, please call the school before school starts.

### *Telephone Use*

Students are generally not allowed to school phones. To keep classroom disruptions to a minimum, only urgent messages will be delivered to a student during instructional time.

If your child has a cell phone, please remind them that cell phone use not allowed in school. Help him or her designate a safe and secure place to keep the phone in the backpack, turned off and out of sight. Any cell phones in use during the school day will be confiscated and held in the office for you to pick up in person.

## *Transportation*

### *Bicycle Riders*

Bicycles brought to school must be secured with a lock. The school is not responsible for the protection of any bicycles. In addition, parents should review proper bicycle safety with their children.

### *Walkers*

Children who walk to and from school should develop a route that will minimize exposure to traffic. It is recommended that you walk and explain the proper route and crosswalks. Please remind your child to exercise caution when crossing streets and to use the safest route to and from school. Although teachers often remind students of these safety rules, consistent reminders from you will be greatly appreciated.

### *Bus Riders*

In order to ensure a safe bus ride for all our students, please review and reinforce the following rules for conduct with your child:

When walking to the bus stop on roadways without sidewalks, walk facing traffic.

Be on time at the designated pick-up point. While waiting for the school bus, stay safe.

Do not leave the designated location.

Approach the bus only when it has stopped.

Proceed to assigned seat and stay there until the bus arrives at the drop-off point.

Keep books and equipment out of the aisles.

Always stay seated in your seat on the bus; standing is not permitted.

Keep hands, arms, etc. in the bus.

Eating is not permitted on the school bus.

Cooperate with the bus driver. It is not safe to talk to the bus driver while the bus is in motion; however, any emergency should be immediately reported to the driver.

Leave the bus at the designated stop.

Behave on the school bus as you would in the classroom.

Respect and be courteous to your bus driver. He/she has a very important job.

First Student Transportation provides busing to/from schools. Their local telephone number is 847-7549. Bus schedules are printed in *The Newport Daily News* and posted on the district website: [www.newportrischools.org](http://www.newportrischools.org).

Riding the school bus is a privilege. This privilege may be temporarily denied if the misconduct of a student jeopardizes the safe operation of the school bus or the safety of the children riding the bus. Bus drivers will issue referrals to students who misbehave on the bus, and Principal will determine any consequences and contact you as the parent. Please help us to keep children safe by monitoring and supervising the bus stops where your child waits to board the bus. Children who ride the school bus must board the bus in the afternoon unless the child's teacher has a written request from the parent indicating some other means of transportation to return home. School buses are provided for transportation to and from students' homes only. Bus transportation to homes of friends or to other destinations is not permitted.

Unless we receive a request in writing, your child will be dismissed to go home as they usually do. We do not permit the bus riders to walk or take a different bus or vehicle; nor do we permit walkers to follow a different procedure without a written directive from you as the parent. This is for your child's protection.

### *Valuables*

The school cannot be responsible for valuables which students may bring to school. It is recommended that students leave valuables at home, unless they are intended for a specific purpose in the classroom. Toy guns/weapons, cell phones, electronic games and trading cards are not allowed in school at any time and will be confiscated with further action taken, if required. Anything that becomes a distraction to instruction and learning may also be confiscated.

### *Visitors*

All visitors to the building must report to the main office and be issued a visitor's pass and sign the visitor's log book. Anyone without a visitor's pass will be stopped by school staff and asked to report to the office before continuing through the building. Visitors will not be permitted to see teachers or students during class time. If you drop off items for your child, the item(s) must be left in the office and will be forwarded to the child when there is a break in his/her instruction.

### *Volunteers*

If you are interested in becoming a school volunteer, we would love to have you! Your interest and involvement is always appreciated. Please contact the school office to let us know your schedule, find about what our needs are, and how you can be trained as a volunteer.

### *Withdrawal*

If you are moving and/or withdrawing your child from the Newport Public Schools, please let us know in writing, or come to the school in person a few days prior to the withdrawal date. This will provide ample time to complete the necessary paperwork and be sure that your child's next school experience starts off successfully. Your cooperation is always greatly appreciated.

# What you can do to help your child succeed

## ***Good Health and Physical Well-being:***

Be sure your child:

- Gets plenty of rest and eats healthy foods.
- Sees his/her pediatrician at least once each year.
- Receives regular medical and dental care.
- Stays up to date with all recommended immunizations.
- Exercises at least ½ hour daily through active play & sports.

## ***Attendance:***

Be sure your child is on time for school.

Keep school absences at a minimum. Attendance is important.

## ***Learning:***

Make Reading a *daily* priority:

Encourage Your Child to Read every day

Read to your Child every day

Have Conversations with your Child, and Listen

Establish & Support a Solid Routine for Homework

Monitor TV Viewing and Video Game Playing... *less is best*

Encourage Your Child to Use the Library

Help Your Child Learn to Use the Internet Safely

Encourage Your Child to Be Responsible and Independent

Check your child's backpack daily for school communications

Join school listserves to get up-to-date information in your email box

## ***Involvement:***

Be a partner in your child's education:

***You are your child's first and best teacher***

Reach out to your school professionals for help.

Together, we can ensure your child's success as a lifelong learner.

***Supportive Parents + Good Schools***

***= Academic Success***

## What students will learn in....

### Kindergarten

Each family receives a Grade Handbook detailing the Standards-Based Student Achievement Report, mailed along with the first performance reports of the school year. The following are examples of the concepts taught this year:

Reading: Students begin to learn reading strategies to decode simple patterned text. Students will be able to retell stories and respond to questions about books read to them.

Writing: Students will be learning to write using 'Kidwriting' and will work on improving their writing in the four main areas of writing: personal narratives, functional, and response to literature.

Math: Students will learn to identify numerals, represent them, create patterns, sort objects, describe attributes about shapes, and know the name and value of a penny, nickel, and a dime.

Science: Students will use a science notebook to understand these big ideas: How objects move and animals have unique features that help them survive in their habitats.

Social Studies: Students will learn about themselves, holidays, community helpers, and their neighborhood.

# What students will learn in....

## First Grade

Each family receives a Grade Handbook detailing the Standards-Based Student Achievement Report, mailed along with the first performance reports of the school year. The following are examples of the concepts taught this year:

Reading: Students will learn to accurately read about 60 words per minute while using reading strategies that include blending, segmenting and manipulating sounds in words to decode words. They will be able to retell stories and respond to questions of books that they have read independently.

Writing: Students will understand the conventions of writing and will work on improving their writing skills in the four main areas of writing: narrative, functional, informational, and response to literature.

Math: Students will build number sense through counting & comparing quantities, & through composing and decomposing numbers. Students explore linear measurement using standard and non-standard units.

Science: Students will use a science notebook to understand these big ideas: All organisms have basic needs. Organisms grow, change and die over time. Humans are similar to other organisms. Humans have basic needs, and also grow, change and die.

Social Studies: Students will study the Geography of Newport and Japan as well a History Unit on Landmarks and Symbols.

# What students will learn in....

## Second Grade

Each family receives a Grade Handbook detailing the Standards-Based Student Achievement Report, mailed along with the first performance reports of the school year. The following are examples of the concepts taught this year:

Reading: Students will learn to accurately read 80-100 words per minute, reading most of the words automatically or decoding with word solving strategies. They should read much like they would tell a story or talk, sounding smooth with appropriate phrasing, tone and expression, while monitoring for comprehension as they read.

Writing: They will work on narrative writing containing story elements: character(s), setting, and plot with conflict or change. The story may or may not be true; either way, the story unfolds in continuous events and the reader enters into the world of the story, experiencing it as it happens.

Math: Students will collect data, represent it, describe it and interpret/analyze it in an organized and meaningful way. Students will learn many things are measured using many different measurement tools and how to accurately measure them.

Science: Students will use a science notebook to understand these big ideas: All living organisms have identifiable structures and characteristics that allow for survival and groups of organisms show evidence of change over time.

Social Studies: Students will create a study of "Aquidneck Island – Then and Now", focusing on jobs, schools and government.

# What students will learn in....

## Third Grade

Each family receives a Grade Handbook detailing the Standards-Based Student Achievement Report, mailed along with the first performance reports of the school year. The following are examples of the concepts taught this year:

Reading: Students are expected to be able to read many different genres and types of text, at an accuracy rate of 90 – 120 words per minute. All comprehension strategies will be addressed daily in “read-alouds” and guided reading groups.

Writing: Students will work on different types of writing genres: personal narratives, procedural writings, narrative writing, informational and response to literature.

Math: Students will study regrouping with addition and subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, probability, time and elapsed time, money and counting change, geometry, data and statistics, etc.

Science: Students will use a science notebook to understand these big ideas: Water has identifiable characteristics and the characteristics can be altered and changed in various ways. Organisms have observable properties which allow us to group them into categories. Organisms have structures that function in growth and survival.

Social Studies: Students will learn about the state of Rhode Island: history, geography, economy, government, symbols, etc. A final brochure project will be completed at the end of the unit. Students will also demonstrate an understanding of historical explorers by researching and creating a project “Explorer in a Bag.”

# What students will learn in....

## Fourth Grade

Each family receives a Grade Handbook detailing the Standards-Based Student Achievement Report, mailed along with the first performance reports of the school year. The following are examples of the concepts taught this year:

Reading: Students will continue to increase their reading fluency and comprehension, with an accuracy goal of 115 – 140 words per minute. They will go deeper into the meaning of texts by using the reading strategies of inferring, visualizing, making connections, asking questions and synthesizing.

Writing: Students will continue to explore the writing process. This allows them to examine their ideas for topics, try writing techniques and strategies, and use favorite books and/or authors as models. The writing process involves: gathering ideas, drafting their ideas and topics, revising, editing and publishing. Students will write feature articles, memoirs, reports, poems and respond to literature.

Math: Students will learn to solve multi-digit multiplication and division equations using arrays and clusters, read and represent fractions and mixed numbers and write simple algebraic expressions using a letter or symbol to represent unknown quantities and classify angles as acute, right or obtuse. Students will learn and refine many problem solving techniques.

Science: Students will use a science notebook to understand these big ideas: Energy is necessary for change to occur in matter, and can be stored, transferred and transformed, but cannot be destroyed. Earth materials are classified by their properties. Organisms are linked to each other and to their environment in a web of relationships.

Social Studies: Students will learn the characteristics of a region by studying New England. Students will begin to understand the important factors that took place before, during and after the American Revolution by creating a picture book. They will learn about the factors that cause our nation to expand as well as the ramifications of this expansion.



*Office of Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development*

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Our district receives federal funds for Title I, Part A programs. Throughout the school year, we will be providing you with important information about this law and your child's education. This letter lets you know about your right to request information about the qualifications of the classroom staff working with your child. You have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teachers(s). If you request this information, the district or school will provide you with answers to the following questions as soon as possible:

1. Has your child's teacher met state licensing requirements for the grade level and subject in which the teacher is providing instruction?
2. What are the college degree majors and the fields of discipline for any graduate degrees or certificates the teacher holds?
3. If teaching under emergency status: which state licensing requirements have been waived?

You also have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of the paraprofessional(s) assisting your child's teacher(s). If you request this information, the district or school will provide you with answers to the following questions as soon as possible.

1. Is your child is receiving Title I, Part A services from a paraprofessional?

*If yes,*

2. Has she/he completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education?
3. Has she/he completed an associate's (or higher) degree?
4. Has she/he met a rigorous standard of quality by meeting our state's certification

procedure for determining the quality of paraprofessional staff?

5. Does she/he have the (a) knowledge of, and ability to assist in instructing, reading, writing, and mathematics or (b) knowledge of, and the ability to assist in learning activities such as homework, reading readiness, learning or reach, writing, mathematics, and other support as appropriate?

If at any time your student has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher(s) that is not highly qualified, you will be notified by the district of this information.

Should you have any other questions regarding your child's education, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Jacqueline Naspo, Ed.D.*

Director

*Providing Quality Education That Makes A Difference In Each Student's Life*



**NEWPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF STUDENT SERVICES**

Dear Parent or Guardian:

My office supports the needs of students district-wide who are learning English as a second language, students who have significant medical needs, students with disabilities, as well as families experiencing homelessness and other stressors. If you have any concerns or questions about these issues, please contact my office.

At registration, if you noted that you speak another language than English in your home, my office called to interview you and may have conducted a screening of your child's proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing the English language.

Our school-based team meets to consider the results of this screen and other assessments, recent classroom performance, information from the report card, supplemental quarterly progress reports, and other relevant data. Through this team process, students are identified as English Language Learners. If a school based team determines that your child requires an English language instructional program, you will be notified. As the parent, you may request that your child be withdrawn from this supplemental instructional program, or request another method of English instruction.

In Newport, our methods of supplemental instruction are:  
English as a Second Language (ESL) programming  
Collaborative ESL and General Education

These models enable our students to have access to content instruction that is based on grade level expectations while also receiving supplemental instruction in the English language. Students make progress toward standards for English language proficiency in social and instructional language as well as academic content proficiencies. Through these research-based approaches to learning, we work hard to help our identified students attain proficiency in the English language.

Newport's programming for English Language Learners is provided at two of our four elementary schools. Supplemental services for identified students are provided at Sullivan and at Underwood. If you are interested in learning more, I recommend [www.ride.ri.gov](http://www.ride.ri.gov) or [www.wida.us](http://www.wida.us) as two resources.

Should you have any other questions regarding your child's education, please don't hesitate to call me at my contact numbers or email listed above.

Sincerely,

***Amy Donnelly Roche***

Director

*Providing Quality Education That Makes A Difference In Each Student's Life*

Newport Local Advisory  
Committee (NLAC)  
on Special Education  
c/o Newport Public Schools  
Office of Student Services  
15 Wickham Road,  
Newport, RI 02840



**NLAC**  
*(Newport Local  
Advisory Committee)*  
**Meetings for 2010-2011**

The Newport Local Advisory Committee (NLAC)  
is a group of concerned parents coming together to assist the  
Newport Public Schools with issues that concern  
families of children who need special education.

- October 18, 2010 4:00-6:00PM @ Head Start Building  
8 John H. Chaffee Blvd, Newport **Welcome & Planning Meeting**
- November 3, 2010, 6:00-8:00 PM @ Thompson Middle School  
55 Broadway, Newport *Co-Sponsored Event w Aquidneck Collaborative for Education:*  
**Keeping Your Child Safe**
- December 3, 2010, 8:00AM-4:00 PM @ Radisson Hotel  
Route One, Warwick *RIPIN Sponsored Parent Conference*  
**Transitions from School to Supports and Services for Adults with Disabilities**
- January 24, 2011 4:00-6:00PM @ Head Start Building  
8 John H. Chaffee Blvd, Newport **Self-Directed Student-Centered  
Life Planning for Students with Disabilities**
- March 7, 2011 7:00-9:00pm, @ Portsmouth High School  
Education Lane, Portsmouth **Regional Transition to Adulthood Fair**
- May 23, 2011, 6:00-8:00pm, DeStefano Lecture Hall, Antone Center on Lawrence Ave,  
Salve Regina University **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Patricia Beede Memorial Awards for Advocacy**

If you are a parent of a child being evaluated for or receiving special education services  
in Newport, we would like to hear from you. Your support and participation is needed.

The Committee meetings are accessible and open to the public.

\*\*\* *On-site child care can be provided if you let us know in advance.* \*\*\*

If you have any questions please E-mail us at: [NLAC@newportrischools.org](mailto:NLAC@newportrischools.org).



For more information about special education, please call or visit the website of our district's Office of  
Student Services. You can also more obtain information at our [www.nichcy.org](http://www.nichcy.org) or [www.ripin.org](http://www.ripin.org).



# interpretar

To access a free, impartial interpreter for Newport Public School events, please contact your child's school or the Office of Student Services at 847-2100.

**Para tener acceso a un intérprete libre e imparcial para los acontecimientos de la escuela de su niño, entre en contacto con por favor la escuela o la Office of Student Services at 847-2100.**

Para começar um intérprete livre e imparcial para eventos da escola da sua criança, contate por favor a escola ou o Office of Student Services em 847-2100.

**Pour obtenir un interprète libre et impartial pour les événements de l'école de votre enfant, entrez en contact avec svp l'école ou le Office of Student Services at 847-2100. des services d'étudiant à 847-2100.**

해석하십시오

# Interprete

INTERPRET

解釈しなさい

# deuten



## SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICIES

*As a parent, you may wish to familiarize yourself with all the policies established by the Newport School Committee. The Newport Public Schools Policy Manual can be found in full online at:*

*[http://newportrischools.org/npsfiles/reports\\_docs\\_files/NPS-PolicyManual-2010-2011pdf](http://newportrischools.org/npsfiles/reports_docs_files/NPS-PolicyManual-2010-2011pdf)*

*The Newport Public Schools has many policies. Enclosed here are the policies families most often ask about:*

### Anti-bullying

#### **Source: 5.4.6. Anti Harassment, Anti-Intimidation and Anti-Bullying**

Harassment, intimidation, bullying, dating violence and sexual violence are prohibited and will not be tolerated in the Public Schools of Newport, Rhode Island. The prevention of harassment, intimidation, bullying, dating violence and sexual violence is part of the Newport Public School's Strategic Plan and school safety plan.

### Zero tolerance

#### **Source: 5.4.12. Weapons and Violence in Schools**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure a school environment that is conducive to learning. The underlying belief of this policy is that all children have the right to be educated in a safe and nurturing environment. Therefore, each school shall enforce a policy of zero tolerance for weapons and violence in school.

### Internet Policies

#### **Source: 4.3.4 Computer Use and Access to the Internet**

The Newport Public Schools is committed to actively pursue making advanced technology and increased learning opportunities available to our students, staff, and community. The District believes that Internet access offers our educational community valuable resources for learning and communication with others. At the same time, we are aware that material in the Internet is uncensored and we can make no guarantees that information found on the Internet will be valuable, reliable, or inoffensive. However, we firmly believe that, with proper supervision, electronic controls, and compliance with State and Federal statutes, the vast amount of information available and the interaction with other people made possible via the Internet are valuable resources to enhance student learning. To the degree possible, instruction on and access to the Newport Public Schools Internet will be designed in a manner which points to those resources that have been reviewed and evaluated prior to student use.

Access to the Internet with the Newport Public Schools is viewed as a privilege, not a right. That access entails responsibility. We expect all users of Newport Public Schools' Internet access will do so in a responsible manner and will be considerate of all other users.

Students utilizing District-provided Internet access must have the permission of and must be supervised by the Newport Public Schools professional staff.

## Dress Code

### **Source: 5.4.4 Dress and Grooming Code**

The following dress and grooming code is not meant to be restrictive, but is intended to guide students and their parents/ guardians in choosing clothing that is safe and appropriate to wear in school.

Students are expected to observe basic standards of cleanliness, modesty, and good grooming.

The following articles of clothing shall not be worn in school:

Hats.

Articles of clothing with designs or wording that are obscene, vulgar, lewd, or lascivious.

Articles of clothing with designs or wording referring to alcohol or drugs, including tobacco products.

Articles of clothing that depict, in any form, acts of violence.

Tank tops, strapless dresses, midriff blouses/shirts, halter tops, tube tops, see-through clothing, low cut blouses/shirts.

Shorts other than three-quarter length shorts, which may be worn during the first and fourth quarters of school only.

## Attendance

### **Source: 5.1.6. Attendance**

It is the responsibility of each student to attend school regularly and to remain in school for the full day. A written excuse for any absence signed by a parent or guardian shall be presented to all classroom teachers. The excuse must be handed in within two days of the absence or the absence will be regarded as unexcused. A telephone number where the parent or guardian may be reached shall also appear on the excuse. Absence from school or class that is not justified by an acceptable written excuse shall be considered an unauthorized absence.

## Dismissal from School to persons other than parents

### **Source: 5.1.9. Releasing Students to the Custody of Persons Other Than Their Parents or Legal Guardians**

The decision to release a child to other than a custodial parent or guardian shall be made by a Principal or Assistant Principal. Custodial parents and/or guardians may provide the school with a list of individuals empowered to pick up their children. No student shall be released to the custody of any individual whose name does not appear on this list.

Persons so listed who seek to pick up a student from school shall, unless personally known to the Principal, Assistant Principal or relevant teacher, provide valid identification. Any attempt to pick up a student by an unauthorized person shall be reported to the student's parents or guardians.

Nothing in this policy shall prevent students from traveling alone, to and from school, unless the student's parents or guardians have specifically alerted the school principal that they or a person designated by them will pick up the student.

Homework & Grading *\*THIS POLICY IS UNDER REVISION BY THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE*

**Source: 4.4 Academic Achievement**

**Homework**

Homework offers an opportunity for parents to take a direct role in their children's schooling. Making certain that homework is completed, discussing the specifics of the assignments and papers, explaining the assignments, checking for accuracy, and actively helping children complete assignments have all been found to be related to increased academic performance. Homework is a necessary part of the learning experience. It provides opportunities for your child to practice and reinforce classroom learning and develop good study habits.

**Grading**

A written report shall be provided for all parents/guardians four (4) times each school year, with supplementary reports as needed.

Health and Wellness

**Sources: 5.1.10 Free and Reduced Price Meals and/or Free Milk and  
5.1.16 District Wellness**

**Student Nutrition & Physical Activity**

The Newport Public Schools School Department promotes healthy schools, by supporting wellness, good nutrition, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning environment. The Department supports a healthy environment where children learn and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices. Schools contribute to the basic health status of children by facilitating learning through the support and promotion of good nutrition and physical activity. Improved health optimizes student performance potential and ensures that no child is left behind.

The Newport Public Schools will:

- Provide a comprehensive learning environment for developing and practicing lifelong wellness behaviors.
- Support and promote proper dietary habits contributing to students' health status and academic performance
- Provide more opportunities for students to engage in physical activity.
- Remain committed to improve academic performance in high-risk groups so that no child is left behind.

## **TRANSITIONS:**

### ***Moving up to Thompson Middle School***

In Newport , elementary school culminates with fourth grade. Fifth graders attend Thompson Middle School. The transition from the elementary school to the middle school is an exciting and challenging time for your student. Please be assured that our teachers spend time sharing important information about your child's learning strengths and needs with Thompson Middle School guidance counselors and teachers. Each year, Thompson Middle School hosts an orientation to welcome new students and their parents. If you are the parent of a fourth grader finishing elementary school, look for information about the middle school in your mailbox.

Thompson Middle School, in partnership with the Newport Community School, offers an after-school Academic Center to support your child's individual academic needs. After the Academic Center, the Newport Community School offers a wealth of enrichment programs. From yoga to robotics, there's something fun for everyone.

***Questions about the transition to Thompson?***

*Contact your School Principal*

# Newport Public Schools

PROVIDING QUALITY EDUCATION THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN EACH STUDENT'S LIFE

*We believe that every child should be challenged and supported throughout their educational career.*

## NPS Central Office Administration Center

15 Wickham Road, Newport, RI 02840-4232  
Telephone: 401-847-2100 Fax: 401-849-0170  
Business Office Fax: 401-849-1226  
[www.newportriscschools.org](http://www.newportriscschools.org)

- Superintendent John H. Ambrogi, Ed.D.: (ext. 212)  
[johnambrogi@newportriscschools.org](mailto:johnambrogi@newportriscschools.org)
- Director of Student Services Amy Donnelly Roche: (ext. 239)  
Special Education, English Language Learners,  
School Nurses, and School Registrar:  
[amydonnellyroche@newportriscschools.org](mailto:amydonnellyroche@newportriscschools.org)
- Director of Teaching, Learning and Professional Development Jacqueline Naspo, Ed.D.: (ext. 254)  
Professional & Curriculum Development and State Assessments:  
[jacquelinenaspo@newportriscschools.org](mailto:jacquelinenaspo@newportriscschools.org)
- Business Manager Michael Saunders: (ext. 250)  
Transportation and Food Services:  
[michaelsaunders@newportriscschools.org](mailto:michaelsaunders@newportriscschools.org)



## OUR SCHOOLS

- John Coggeshall Elementary School
- Cranston-Calvert Elementary School
- Dr. Michael H. Sullivan Elementary School
- William J. Underwood Elementary School
- Frank E. Thompson Middle School
- William S. Rogers High School and the  
Newport Area Career & Technical Center



## OUR PROGRAMS

- All Day Kindergarten
- After-school care available
- Comprehensive after-school and summer learning opportunities through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Rogers High School offers eight AP classes
- An outstanding range of inter-scholastic sports for male and female students (lacrosse, swimming, hockey, etc.)
- A rich co-curricula arts/theater/orchestra program in partnership with many community organizations
- Teacher quality is enhanced through collaborative relationships and professional development classes with local universities



NEWPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS OFFER  
MANY GREAT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

*Helping your child learn and develop into a responsible, contributing citizen.*

[www.newportriscschools.org](http://www.newportriscschools.org)



**United Way of Rhode Island**  
50 Valley Street, Providence, RI 02909  
401-444-0600 / 401-444-0635 (Fax)  
[www.uwri.org](http://www.uwri.org)

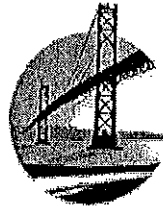


**NEWPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Newport Public Schools**  
15 Wickham Road, Newport, RI 02840  
401-847-2100 / 401-849-1226 (Fax)  
[www.newportrischools.org](http://www.newportrischools.org)

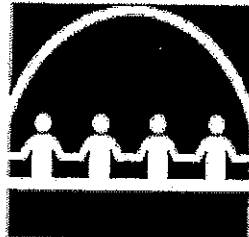
**east bay community action program**

THE BRIDGE TO SELF-RELIANCE



**East Bay Community Action Program**

19 Broadway, Newport, RI 02840  
401-848-6697 / 401-847-6220 (Fax)  
[www.ebcap.org](http://www.ebcap.org)



**Newport Partnership for Families**

**Newport S.C.O.R.E.S.**

15 Wickham Road, Newport, RI 02840  
401-847-2100 ext. 222 / 401-849-1226 (Fax)  
Email: [SharonCarter@newportrischools.org](mailto:SharonCarter@newportrischools.org)

