LAFRANCIS HARDIMAN ANNEX/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Parent & Scholar Handbook 2023-2024



Theme: LFH/Annex...

Where the Foundation is set and the Building Begins!!



MISSION STATEMENT

To provide a positive safe learning environment that empowers scholars to develop into World Class Leaders by meeting and exceeding State Standards.

VISION

Where the Foundation is set and the Building begins.

Dr. Darlene White, Principal Mr. Darryl Tue, LFH Annex Assistant Principal Ms. Dianna Rivera, LFH/Annex Assistant Principal

LFH

792 Mount Ave. Wyandanch, NY 11798 Main Office: (631) 870-0555 Fax (631) 491-8573

LFH ANNEX

30 Deforest Rd, Dix Hills, NY 11746 Main Office: (631) 870-0505 Fax (631) 462-2309

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The School Board

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Vice President

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Mr. James Crawford
Trustee

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Ms. Latesha Walker Trustee

Ms. Jessica Reed
District Clerk

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

2023-2024

Welcome back new and returning families to Lafrancis Hardiman/Annex Elementary School! On behalf of the entire LFH/Annex community, I want to welcome you and your family to our school. The 2023-2024 school year promises to be one filled with excitement! I have no doubt that you will fall in love with LFH/Annex Elementary School. Our love for scholars serves as the foundation for educating, with creativity and fortitude. We are rising and will continue to succeed. I am encouraging you to do the same, just stand and join us. To ensure that your voices are heard. We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. I believe it is everyone's responsibility to empower children with the creative, intellectual, and decision-making skills necessary for them to become academically, socially, physically, and emotionally successful and responsible. I look forward to our continued partnership as we prevail in developing World Class Leaders. At the heart of our work are our scholars. Each day we have the pleasure of witnessing our scholars demonstrate a desire to do their very best. Visit our website at

http://wyandanchunionfreeschooldistrict and Parent Square to learn more about our school. Please check frequently during the summer to remain informed of key activities. Our school culture is focused on educating and empowering our scholars to become world-class leaders. Our goals will be accomplished through a strong partnership between the school and parent community. As a team, we will continue to pursue excellence in everything we do. We look forward to working collaboratively with you to further develop our scholars during the 2022-23 school year! Thank you for the honor of my continuing to serve your families as the LFH/Annex Principal! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 631-870-0580 or dwhite@wufsd.net.

Here are a few important dates:

- Pre- kindergarten Open House: September 8, 2023 (9:30) Location: 30 Deforest Road
- First Day of School for Pre-Kindergarten scholars September 12, 2023 (Full Day)
- LFH Annex (Grades Pre-K-Kindergarten) Arrival Time: 9:00 Dismissal: 3:30 Walkers/Pick Up 3:00 in cafeteria
- First Day of School for scholars grades Kindergarten -2nd Grade: September 6, 2023 (Full

Day) (Grades 1-2) Arrival Time: 8:10 Dismissal: 2:45 Walkers/Pick-up: 2:30 in cafeteria

Fondly yours, De Dale Ml

Dr. Darlene White, Principal

WHAT WE BELIEVE

All scholars shall learn in a conducive and nurturing learning environment. A collaborative educational environment promotes combined success for all stakeholders. Scholars are agents of change who have the ability to think creatively and make great contributions to society. Student centered, differentiated instruction allows scholars to demonstrate their personal best.

WHAT WE VALUE

We have highly involved staff who ensure our quality instructional program is taught effectively. We instruct with research-based best practices, data and New York State Next Generation Learning Standards. We aim to make sure every scholar who comes in our door receives enriching learning experiences and challenging instruction and assignments to develop critical thinking skills as well as become productive citizens of good character. We work together to support our scholars to meet high expectations.

OUR GOALS

To create a safe, respectful learning environment.

To provide a strong foundation of rigorous reading, writing, and math skills.

LFH Nurse's Office (631) 870-0586 LFH Annex Nurse's Office (631) 870-0506 Psychologist Office (631) 870-0570 Transportation (631) 870-0595

Arrival and Dismissal at LFH

Morning Arrival

Grades 1-2

Scholars' arrival: 8:15 a.m. 1st Period begins: 8:25 a.m. 8th Period ends: 2:46 p.m.

Dismissal: Pick-ups 2:20 pm Buses- 2:40pm

Morning Drop Off

LFH scholars are to report to school at 8:15 a.m. There is no adult supervision to watch them, and they will not be allowed into the building prior to 8:15 a.m.

If you drop your child(ren) off at the school in the morning, please remember to follow the drop off Procedures: In an effort to increase the safety of scholars entering the building all parents/guardians who drop off their scholars are to park in the parking lot and escort their child to the main entrance of LFH. Please make sure to walk through the far end of the parking lot as buses will be entering the bus circle. **DO NOT WALK IN FRONT OR IN BETWEEN BUSES.** Your cooperation in the matter is imperative and expected. Your child's safety is most important to us.

Morning Bus Pick Up

As per parent notification from the transportation, department buses will begin picking up children at their designated bus stop and designated time. All bus information is located in Parent Portal.

Lateness

Scholars who arrive to school after 8:45 a.m. will be marked late/tardy.

*It is vital for children to arrive to school on time. When scholars come into the classroom late, it interrupts the flow of the day.

School Dismissal

Lafrancis Hardiman Elementary School begins the dismissal process at 2:40.

*Classroom release time:

Picked up Scholars – 2:20 p.m. Scholars will be remain in their classrooms and will be called down upon parent/guardian arrival.

Pick-ups will be released at 2:20

Scholars will be escorted to their buses by the classroom teacher. Teachers will ensure scholars are placed on their correct bus.

Early Dismissal

Parent/Guardians are to report to the LFH Main entrance door for Early Dismissal. There, parent/guardians will provide the security guard with scholar information (first/last name, classroom teacher) the scholar will be called down. For your child's safety, children will only be released to the legal guardian. Parental authorization must be on file before a child will be allowed to leave the school grounds with person(s) other than a parent/guardian. In addition, any one picking up a child must present a photo I.D. If you do not have a photo ID we will not release any children.

Please be advised that children will not be called down for early dismissal after 2:00 pm. Notify the office prior to 2:00 pm for early dismissal.

*For walkers and bused scholars: if you decide to pick up your child before the end of the school day please call the office as soon as possible or send a note with the scholar stating the time of pick up. Your child will be sent down to the office at the designated time.

**Please Note:

- Please check your child's route number. There may be changes in routes from the previous year.
- Please be at stop at least ten minutes before the assigned time until the routes and schedules have been permanently established.
- First and Second grade students will be brought back to school if a parent/guardian is not at the bus stop.
- After your child has been brought back to the building 2 times, your child's transportation privileges will be revoked.

Arrival and Dismissal at LFH Annex

Morning Arrival

Kindergarten

Scholars' arrival: 9:00 a.m. 1st Period begins: 9:25 a.m. 8th Period ends: 3:25 p.m. Walker Pick Up: 2:50-3:10 p.m.

Bus Dismissal: 3:25pm

Morning Drop Off (Annex)

*LFH Annex scholars are to report to school at 9:00 a.m., with 9:00 a.m. being the earliest hours scholars will be permitted into the building. There is no adult supervision to watch them, and they will not be allowed into the building prior to 9:00 a.m.

If you dropping your child off at the Annex in the morning, you will pull into the front of the building. A staff member will meet you at the car. Parents/guardians will not get out of car. The scholar will then be asked to exit the car and escorted into the building.

<u>Morning Bus Pick Up <mark>(Annex</mark>)</u>

Scholars will be mailed a bus pass to ride the bus. Please be at the bus stop at the designated times from the Transportation Company. Bus information can also be accessed in Parent Portal.

Lateness

Scholars who arrive to school after 9:45 a.m. will be marked late/tardy.

*It is vital for children to arrive to school on time. When scholars come into the classroom late, it interrupts the flow of the day.

School Dismissal

Scholars in grades Pre-k and Kindergarten who will be daily pick-ups (walkers) will be escorted to the front of the building to meet their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians are asked to drive up to the front of the building and stay in your car, a staff member will come to the car to have you sign out your child and look at I.D. Scholars will then be escorted to car. Parents/guardians must present ID when picking up, and only those adults in the computer system of Emergency Contact form, will be permitted to pick up scholars.



LAFRANCIS HARDIMAN/ANNEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Dr. Darlene White, Principal

Ms. Dianna Rivera, Assistant Principal

Dr. Kevin Branch, Assistant Principal

September 2023

Scholar Pick Up form 2023- 2024 school year

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

If your child (ren) are to be picked up from school every day, we are requesting that you fill out the information below and return it to the school ASAP. Students who will be picked-up daily will be dismissed from the Annex at 2:50 p.m. and must be picked up no later than 3:10 p.m. every day. You will sign your child (ren) out every day. When the children are being picked up ID must be shown, if you do not have ID the child (ren) will not be released. If someone is not on the pick-up list, they will not be allowed to take the child (ren).

My child (ren)		
		will be
picked up every day from school.		
Adults authorized to pick-up my chil	d (ren):	
NAME NAME	PHONE NUMBER	
	<u> </u>	
Parent Signature:		
Phone Number:		_
Thank you.		

Tips for Walking to School

Children Who Walk to School

Develop a buddy system for walking to and from school. Students should never walk alone. Always walk in groups with at least two or three other students. If possible, parents should walk their children to school.

Avoid Shortcuts

Students never take shortcuts or cut through alleys or across vacant lots.

Avoid Abandoned Houses

Students should try to avoid walking near abandoned houses. Never enter or play near abandoned houses.

Be Alert

Students should report anyone suspicious to school personnel or the police.

Turn on Porch Lights

Parents and neighbors should turn on porch lights and other outdoor lights before dawn and at dusk.

Be on Time

Students should be on time, everyday.

Safe Houses

Talk to neighbors and local businesses on your child's route to school and ask them if it is okay for your child to stay there in case of an emergency.

Important Phone Numbers

Be sure your children know their home phone number and address, your work and pager number and the number of another trusted adult. Put a cared with this information in their backpack and/or shoe. Make sure each child has change for a phone call or carries a telephone calling card.

After School Phone Call

If you work late, have your children call you as soon as they arrive at home after school.

Visitors' Etiquette

Visitors TO THE BUILDING:

Upon arriving to the Annex or LFH School buildings ALL visitors must follow the confirmed protocol to gain entrance into the building.

No one is to come to the Annex or LFH without an appointment, between 9:00am and 3:45pm (Annex) or 8:00 am and 3:00 pm (LFH). Those who are not in compliance will be asked to make an appointment (if they are not approved at that time). All visitors will remain in the "Safety Trap" as Security confirms appointment.

Any one entering the building must provide a photo ID prior to being granted access to enter the buildings.

Upon entering the building all people all visitors will be provided with a visitor's badge that must be worn during the duration of time in the building. The visitor is then to report to the main office to wait for the person they are meeting with.

In order to have a safe environment for our scholars and faculty, the following should take place when visiting the building: In order to have a safe environment for our scholars and faculty, the following should take place when visiting the building:

Park only in the parking area, not along the bus lane. Enter only through the main entrance during school hours.

- 1. No parents/guardians will be permitted in the building without prior approval, therefore parents/guardians to request an appointment.
- 2. No visitors will be permitted to enter the building without photo ID.

Trespassing:

LFH Elementary School and the Annex maintains a closed campus for the safety and security of all scholars and staff. Anyone coming on campus that the administration deems to have no legitimate business may be subject to trespassing charges and will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

Scholars' Protocol

Telephone:

The office telephone is a business phone and is not to be used by scholars except in an emergency. Scholars are not allowed to use the phone to make personal arrangements such as requesting permission to go to another child's home after school.

Valuables:

Administrators, faculty and staff are not and will not be responsible for valuables which scholars bring to school. It is highly recommended that scholars leave all valuables at home.

Lost And Found:

All clothing found on the campus, regardless of its value, is placed in the lost and found located in the cafeteria (LFH) and main office (Annex). Money, jewelry, or any other articles of value are turned into the office. Scholars may claim them after proper identification.

Items from Home

Children are discouraged from coming to school with toys, radios, walkmans, game boys, etc. There are times when items are lost, broken, left unattended or stolen. The school cannot be held accountable for any items that your children might bring to school. Please make sure your children leave these items at home.

Gum / Candv

Scholars are not permitted to chew gum at any time during the school day. Please make sure they do not come to school with any type of gum or candy. These items also should not be put in as a snack for lunchtime.

Scholar Dress Code

The school administrators and staff will continue to encourage all scholars to dress appropriate for a school day. Scholars generally conduct themselves in a manner similar to the way in which they dress and groom. Any type of dress or grooming which is disruptive will not be permitted.

Scholars are prohibited from wearing the following:

• Leggings, tights, stretch pants, short skirts and dresses (can be 2 inches above the knees with proper attire underneath such as leggings)

- boys or girls
- Shirts that are see-through, halter tops, tank tops, sleeveless, "Sports Jerseys" (T-shirt must be worn underneath) and with inappropriate slogans or advertising
- Sleepwear, loungewear and/or slippers, flip flops, open-toe shoes and/or footwear that is a safety hazard
- Headgear such as, but not limited to: hats, hoods, stocking caps, head scarf, bandanas, du-rags, ski mask, curlers or other hair grooming aids, ski/safety goggles, sunglasses (unless a medical permit is on file) or any other items which may obscure identification except for medical or religious purpose
- Silly Bands, jewelry such as neck chains, large rings, belt chains, and other items that may become a health or safety hazard

Scholars who violate the Scholar dress code shall be required to modify their appearance. Any Scholar who refuse or repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further disciplinary actions.

Scholars involved in gang-related activities, wearing gang-related apparel, and/or flashing gang-related signs will be suspended out of school and could result in a Superintendent's Hearing.

Unauthorized Articles

Common sense and consideration is the best guide in determining whether or not to bring personal possessions to school. In general, scholars should not bring toys or unusual items to school unless they are intended for a specific purpose in the classroom.

Scholars are not to bring fireworks, matches, lighters, knives, razors, slingshots, guns, laser pens, or toy weapons (i.e. toy guns, toy knives) or any resemblance of what might be construed as a weapon that can inflict bodily harm or cause injury to oneself or another individual. In addition, scholars should under no circumstances, bring to school pornography materials or write pornography in school (walls, floor, etc.)

Cell Phones

Cell phones are allowed with restrictions (approval must be granted by administration). Scholars are not allowed to bring any Electronic Devices to school such as MP3/CD/DVD Players, iPods, walkman, beepers, cameras, video games, laser pens and/or other devices belonging at home. These items will be confiscated and turned in to an administrator. Items will only be given back to a parent/guardian.

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Our school and school equipment is public property. Willfully damaging or destroying this property is cause for immediate suspension and possible expulsion. If a Scholar accidentally causes damage he/she should report it to school personnel immediately so that the damage is not misconstrued as vandalism.

<u>Smokina</u>

Smoking is strictly forbidden at school. Scholars are neither to carry nor use tobacco products of any kind. Any Scholar caught with tobacco products will be suspended from school, and could face a Superintendent's hearing.

Alcohol and Drugs

The possession, sale, or use of alcohol, drugs, or any other controlled substance on the school campus or busses is strictly forbidden. Violation of this rule will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and will result in Out-of-School Suspension with the possibility of a Superintendent's Hearing.

Cheating

Cheating is a serious compromise of a Scholar's integrity and will not be tolerated. If cheating is discovered, the Scholar's work will be confiscated, a failing grade will automatically be recorded for the work and parent/guardian will be notified. A second offense will result in disciplinary actions.

Homework

Homework is important. It is an extension of the learning that takes place in school. Homework provides practice and reinforces classroom learning which provides opportunities for independent study, research, and creative thinking. All homework assigned by the teacher must be completed. Scholars that do not complete their homework will be required to complete the missed assignment after they eat lunch during their scheduled lunch period or after school.

Scholars' Celebrations/Parties

The Wyandanch School District follows the mandates of the United States Department of Agriculture's Local School Wellness Policy Implementation, which is under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. In as much said, the WUFSD Wellness Policies on Physical Activity and Nutrition Policy #7590 will be used as a guide for parties and "celebrations". The district encourages healthy snacks at parties. Due to food allergies and sanitation issues, it is recommended that parents, teachers and students do not bring home made food into school for other students unless there is a school district-wide cultural learning event involving food. Classroom parties maybe held throughout the year. Food items should be limited to one per child. Treats should be healthy. Suggested food items are fruits/vegetables/yogurt: fresh, frozen and canned fruits with no added ingredients except water; fruits packed in 100% fruit juice or extra light, or light syrup; fresh, frozen and canned vegetables with no added ingredients except water; canned vegetables that contain

per 8 ounces. Salad dressing, cheese, butter, jelly, muffins, bagels are also encourages. Plain water and 100% fruit and vegetable juice are encouraged. Classroom parties should be limited to holidays, birthdays and special events/theme which coincide with a lesson. Parents may request that their child not participate in a party if it conflicts with beliefs at home. Such a request should be sent to the child's teacher. The teacher will make other arrangements for the child by consulting with the school principal and the parent. These arrangements will not penalize the child in any way. Do not send private party invitations to be distributed at school.

Parent Teacher Association

The PTA offers parents/guardians the opportunity to be involved in enhancing their children's educational experience. The PTA is a national volunteer organization dedicated to establishing a united home-school relationship.

District-wide standing committees

Arts in Education: Bringing are and cultural events to school throughout the school year.

Board of Education: Attend the Board of Education meetings and serve as a liaison.

Community Awareness: Serve as liaison between community and school district; learn about issues that affect our community; help to network pertinent information.

Education: Discussions focus on various educational issues and policies affecting all school levels; including curriculum and social issues affecting scholars.

PARP & Reflections: PARP: Parents as Reading Partners-Coordinate PARP activities with the

school librarian. Plan calendar for March kickoff and schedule reading events.

WUFSD SCHOOL SONG

We live here, we play here, we love it here, and it's true
We're Wyandanch Warriors, we're proud of what we do.
Sticking together stronger than glue,
With great role models to look up to.

We will rise, we will succeed.

We will be the best that we can be.

Helping each other along the way,

We're Wyandanch Warriors each and every day.

The warriors will always prevail you'll see

Moving forward it's our destiny.

Green and White we'll earn our degree

Educated, respected, the way it should be.

We will rise, we will succeed.

We will be the best that we can be.

Helping each other along the way,

We're Wyandanch Warriors each and every day.

SPIRIT WEEK

LFH/MLK Elementary School will have our spirit week, during the week of September 18 – September 22, 2023. Our school theme this week and for the school year is "Where the Foundation is set and the Building Begins!"

This theme represents on of our major goals to ensure y building strong foundational skills that will prepare scholars to meet and exceed all of their academic goals. Preparing them for Destination Graduation.

This theme also helps all scholars being respectful of all the cultures and people that they'll interact with in this world, through building a culture of learning from one another rather than a culture of passing judgment on differences in values and beliefs.

During this week we will be discussing our school wide **P**ositive **B**ehavior Interventions **S**upports "*PBIS*" behavior plan, which includes anti-bullying, lunch, playground, hallway and bus behavior. We need the help of all parents/guardians in order to make this a successful school year.

Spirit Week Activities:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9/18/2023	9/19/2023	9/20/2023	9/21/2023	9/22/2023
School Colors	Tie Dye Day	Pajama	Superhero Day	Team Spirit Day:
day- Wear green		Day		Favorite Team Tee
and white				Shirt or Jersey

Scholar's Health Services

Scholar Health Services

A scholar will only be admitted into the nurse's office with a pass from the classroom teacher. If a Scholar does not feel well before leaving for school, he/she should be kept home. If a Scholar is to be excused from school because of illness or injury, the nurse will contact the parent/guardian. Any injury on the school bus or school grounds or in the school building must be reported to the nurse as soon as possible. First aid will be administered as needed. Follow-up treatments of such injuries are the responsibility of the parents. Home injuries are not the responsibility of the school.

Physical Examinations

Scholars in Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Grades 2 need up to date physicals this school year. All scholars need to be up to date on their immunizations in order to start school. If you have any questions or concerns, the school nurse can be reached For LFH (631) 870-0566 or 0586 and the Annex 631-870-0506

Medication

Scholars may not self-administer any type of medication in school. If it is absolutely necessary for scholars to receive medication during school hours, the following procedures must be followed:

- 1. The parent/guardian must send in a written, dated request for medication to be given.
- 2. A written doctor's order must be received with specific instructions as to the type of medication, effect of medication, duration of order and any side effects.
- 3. Medication must be in the original prescription bottle and brought to the school nurse by the parent/guardian. Please do not send the medication to school with your child.
- 4. All long-term medication must be renewed annually.
- 5. Parents/guardians must report any change in the course of treatment or medication immediately to the school nurse.

Attendance

Attendance

The Wyandanch School District shares everyone's concern and awareness of the ever-increasing incidents of "missing children." When a child is absent, parents are expected to call the attendance office (631-870-0565) any time prior to 9:30 AM. Please state your child's name, teacher, and the reason for the absence. If your child does not arrive at school by 9:30 AM the attendance office will call you at home.

- *Scholars are required by Educational Law to attend school every weekday that schools are in session.
- *It is important for children to attend school everyday. When a child is absent from school, they miss important lessons that are taught. When they return to school, they have to try to make up all the work that they missed, plus complete the work that is currently being assigned.
- *If your child is absent from school, they must return to school with a written note from the parent/guardian and signed explaining why they were absent.
- *A parent/guardian should notify the school at (631) 870-0565 (Attendance Office) stating the reason for the absence.
- *A scholar who is absent is required to make up all the work that was missed. Should the absence be lengthy, the parent/guardian may call the main office to request assignments from the classroom teacher.

Sample Absence Note

Date	
Dear (<u>Teacher's Name</u>),	
, ,	name), was absent on for a (full day / half day on (<u>day</u>), He/she was absent because he/she had a (<u>reason for</u>
	Sincerely,
•	Parent's/Guardian's Signature (required) hospital discharge papers, funeral program, court one to document your child's absence.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

APPROVED BY WYANDANCH BOARD OF EDUCATION JUNE 22, 2005 #5100

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The Wyandanch Board of Education recognizes that regular school attendance is a major component of academic success. Through the implementation of this policy, the Board expects to reduce the current level of unexcused absences, tardiness, and the rate of students who drop out before receiving a high school diploma or its equivalent; i.e. GED, etc. Through the implementation of this policy, the Board further expects to encourage full attendance by all students, maintain an adequate attendance record keeping system, identify patterns of unexcused absences, tardiness and rate of dropouts and develop effective intervention strategies to improve school attendance.

In the State of New York school attendance is both a right and a responsibility. Students have the right to attend school between the ages of five and twenty-one. Children are mandated to attend school between the ages of six and sixteen. Parents are ultimately responsible in ensuring that their children attend school on a regular basis.

The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to establish procedures and regulations to maintain and enhance Student attendance.

NOTICE

To be successful in the implementation of the above, it is imperative that all members of the school community are aware of this policy, its purpose, procedures and the consequences of non-compliance. To ensure that scholars, parents, teachers and administrators are notified and understand this policy, the following procedures shall be implemented.

- > The attendance policy and specific building attendance procedures will be included in Student and staff handbooks and will be reviewed with Students and staff at the start of the school year and periodically throughout the school year.
- ➤ The attendance policy will be included either in the yearly school calendar or in a mailing to the community.
- ➤ Parents shall be provided with a plain language copy of the policy each year in the primary language spoken in their home.

- All teachers shall be provided a copy of the policy as soon as practicable after initial adoption or amendment of the policy.
- ➤ All staff members will receive a copy of the attendance policy and specific building procedures at formal orientation activities at the beginning of the school year. All staff will receive periodic staff development with regard to proper implementation of the policy during the school year.
- Parents of Pre-K and newly registered Students will receive a plain language summary of this policy at the time that all registration requirements have been met. Parents will be asked to read the policy as a final act of registration and sign, indicating that they have read, had the opportunity to ask questions and do understand the policy.
- When a Student is absent, tardy or leaves class or school without excuse, designated staff members will notify the Student's parent(s)/guardian(s) by appropriate means of communication established by the district; inclusive of but not exclusive to mail, telephone calls and home visits. Such communication will remind parents/guardians of the attendance policy.
- During the "meet the teachers" or "back to school night" at the beginning of each school year, the building administrator or a designee, and staff, will explain this policy and stress to the parent(s)/guardian(s) their responsibility for ensuring their child/ren's attendance.
- ➤ District as well as specific school newsletters and publications will include periodic reminders of the components of this policy.
- ➤ Copies of this policy will be sent to community based institutions and agencies and will be made available to community residents upon written request to the Office of the Superintendent.
- The district shall convene a committee to review the policies and procedures, evaluate attendance data and revise policies on an "as needed" basis.

ATTENDANCE/GRADE POLICY

The Board of Education further recognizes the important relationship between class attendance and student performance. Consequently, each marking period a Student's final grade is subject to classroom participation as well as Student's performance on homework, tests, papers, projects, etc.

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. Consistent with the importance of classroom participation, any missing class work not made up, shall result in the loss of points from the Student's class participation grade for the marking period.

Any Student absent in excess of 18 unexcused school days in a year (9 unexcused school days for a half year course) or 27 total days will not receive credit for that course.

To ensure that parents and students are aware of the implications of this minimum attendance requirement, appropriate school personnel will inform the Student, and contact the parent upon each absence and remind the parent(s) that a written excuse has to be provided upon the Student's return to school. School personnel will maintain appropriate documentation of attempts to contact parents (i.e. phone logs, copies of mailings). If no written excuse is provided before the Student's third day of returning from an absence, the absence will be deemed an unexcused absence.

Any Student who misses a class is expected upon his or her return to consult with his or her teacher regarding missed work. If the absence is excused, the Student may earn his or her classroom participation grade by arranging an assignment with the teacher to cover the work missed and completing the assignment within the time frame designated by the teacher.

Only those students with excused absences will be given the opportunity to make up a test and/or turn in a late assignment for inclusion in the calculation of the performance portion of their final grade. Make up opportunities must be completed by a date specified by the Student's teacher for the class in question.

In implementing this policy, students who are unable to attend a class on a given day/period due to their participation in a school sponsored activity (i.e. music lessons, field trips, etc.), must arrange with their teachers to make up any work missed. This also applies to any Student who is absent from school due to illness who either receives home instruction from the district or makes arrangements with the teacher to make up the missed work.

Any Student exceeding the threshold of unexcused absences or total absences (18 full year, 9 half year) will not receive credit for the course. The Student is, however, expected to maintain an acceptable attendance the remaining days of the year that the course is in session. The Student will be required to be in attendance 95% of the remaining days the course is to be in session. Failure to maintain an acceptable attendance pattern for the duration of the course will make the Student ineligible to attend a summer school program at district expense.

A Student who loses credit as a result of exceeding the district's threshold of absences will be denied the following privileges for the remaining of the academic year.

- 1. Participation in any school event inclusive of dances, proms, and class social trips.
- 2. Participation in school clubs, interscholastic sports teams, or extra curricular activities
- 3. Eligibility to enroll in a BOCES vocational program in the ensuing semester or school year

Credit for these academic courses may be earned by repeating the course the following year (semester) or by attendance at a Summer school program, if the course or its equivalent is available.

DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES

Numerous absences from class can dramatically impact a Student's ability to achieve. Unexcused absence or lateness can be interpreted as a form of insubordination that may endanger a Student's health safety and welfare.

Unexcused absences/lateness will result in disciplinary action consistent with the district's code of conduct. Those penalties may include the following:

- Parental contact
- Parent Conferences
- In School Suspension
- Out of School suspension
- Suspension from sports and or extra curricular activities

Building/District Administration retain the right to refer cases of non-compliance to Child's Protective Services, Family Court, or to the Superintendent for a #3214 Hearing.

RIGHT OF APPEAL

Appeals concerning this policy may be made to the Building Level Attendance Committee. The committee will be comprised of a building administrator, a classroom teacher, a Guidance Counselor, and the child's parent/guardian.

Requests for an appeal must be made in writing and within five (5) school days of the date of the notice advising the Student and person in parental authority of the loss of class credit. If a hearing is not requested, the Student will loss credit and will be subject to any/all other consequences.

Building administration will schedule a hearing within five (5) school days of the request the parent(s) or guardian will be required to accompany the Student to the hearing. After hearing the appeal, the committee will recommend an action to the Building Administrator. Building Administration will render a final decision to the parents within forty eight (48) hours of the hearing.

#5160

STUDENT EXCUSED AND UNEXCUSED LATENESS & ABSENCE

The Board of Education shall require that students enrolled in the schools of the district attend regularly in accordance with state law.

Excused absences may include but are not exclusive to the following: personal illness, visits to a personal physician or health clinic, quarantine, death in the family, religious observances, required court attendance, court mandated parental visitations, approved college visitations, approved cooperative work programs, military obligations, Principal

suspensions, documented immediate family emergencies, or other such reasons that may be approved upon review by the Superintendent of Schools or a designee. The district

reserves the right to limit the number of days excused for a particular circumstance if the district deems the number of days absent to be excessive.

Educationally related experiences such as field trips, guidance appointments, counseling sessions or testing, etc., will not count as absences pursuant to this attendance policy. Staff taking a Field Trip will inform building administration of students attending the activity. Class teachers will be informed prior to the impending activity of any child attending the activity. Students will be required to make up any work for absences related to educational experiences.

Any and all other absences (i.e., class cuts, undocumented absences, tardiness, unapproved early departures, etc) are considered unexcused absences. Time spent as a result of "In School Suspension" will not count toward the Attendance Policy.

LATENESS

<u>TRUANCY</u> is defined as the unlawful, unexcused absence of a Student during a regularly scheduled school day, whether in part or all.

Any Student in Grades K-5 who arrives to school more than 2 hours after the start of classes but prior 11:30 A.M. will be marked as absent for the morning session. Students arriving later than 1:30 P.M. will be marked absent for the entire day.

All absences must be accounted for. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify the school on the day of the absence or tardiness and to provide a written excuse upon the Student's return to school. The written excuse must contain the signature of the parent/guardian or physician, the length of time and reason for the absence.

Repeated infractions of the Board of Education policy requiring regular attendance will be handled as described herein and may result in disciplinary action against the Student.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

The parent/guardian will be notified after each Student absence in a course by designated school personnel.

- 4th Unexcused Absence- The parent/guardian will receive a formal warning letter.
- 8th Unexcused Absence- The parent/guardian will be required to meet with a building administrator or Guidance staff to set up contract with the Student and to review the district attendance policy.
- 12th Unexcused Absence- The parent will be required to meet with Building Administration.
- 16th Unexcused Absence- The parent/guardian will receive a final formal warning. 19th Unexcused Absence- The parent/guardian will receive notification of the loss of credit for the effected course.

Notifications for half year courses will occur at the 3rd, 5th and 8th occurrences. Parents will be notified of loss of credit after the 10th occurrence of unexcused absence.

ALL ABSENCES

Students absent more than 27 days for a full year course (13 for half year) will not receive credit for the course. Similar to Unexcused absences, parents will be notified in writing after the 4th, 8th, 12th, 16th absences. Final warnings will occur after the 20th absence and 24th absence. After the 28th absence parents will be notified of the loss of credit.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

A) HOMELESS STUDENTS

Any Student in transient housing and meeting the federal definition of homelessness will be exempt from this attendance policy until transportation and other obstacles are removed.

B) CHRONIC ILLNESS/TEMPORARY CONDITIONS

Students who suffer from a chronic illness or conditions which preclude their attendance will produce a note from the child's physician describing the condition, the anticipated absence and modifications necessary. If necessary, school officials will arrange for Home Tutoring services.

C) HOME INSTRUCTION

Students placed on Home Instruction, and who attend tutoring sessions regularly will not be held liable for absences pursuant to this policy.

APPROVED BY WYANDANCH BOARD OF EDUCATION JUNE 22, 2005

#5170-R

STUDENT ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING-REGULATIONS

Attendance must be recorded at least once daily for students in Grades K-5 classrooms.

- At the designated time or at the conclusion of each school day, all attendance information must be provided to the designated staff member responsible for the attendance function. Staff members not reporting accurate attendance information on a daily basis will be reported to building administration.
- All attendance reports must contain specific codes with the complete explanation of each code listed on the report.
- Attendance reports must be made available to and checked by the Building Principal or designee in an expeditious manner.
- Attendance data will be analyzed periodically to identify patterns or trends for individual students or groups.

LAFRANCIS HARDIMAN/ANNEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



792 Mount Avenue, Wyandanch, NY 11798 LFH:631870-0580 • LFH Fax: (631) 491-8572

30 Deforest Road, Dix Hills, NY 11746 LFH Annex: 631 870-0505 ● LFH Annex Fax: 631-462-2309

Dr. Darlene White, Principal

Ms. Dianna Rivera, Assistant Principal

Dr. Kevin Branch, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to make you aware The Dignity Act which signed into law on September 13, 2010 and took effect on July 1, 2012. It's important that you become familiar with this act in order for us to work together for the benefit of our scholars. New York State's Dignity for All Scholars Act (The Dignity Act) seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school scholars with a safe and supportive environment.

No Scholar shall be subjected to harassment by employees or scholars on school property or at a school function; nor shall any Scholar be subjected to discrimination based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity or expression), or sex by school employees or scholars on school property or at a school function.

We are focusing on positive Scholar behavior and safe and supportive school climate.

Please keep abreast of all information sent home and dates for our PTA Meetings.

Sincerely, LFH/Annex Social Worker Dignity Act Coordinator

INFRACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

The following chart summarizes the Code of Conduct and the student's rights and responsibilities. You are encouraged to read it carefully. Each student has a right to free education without disruption from his/her peers. The disrupter needs to know the rules and the consequences of breaking those rules.

INFRACTION	CONSEQUENCE
LEVEL I	3 MAXIMUM each of which may result in:
Disorderly Conduct	student- teacher conference,
Disruptive Behavior	administrative conference,
Class Tardiness	counseling,
Possession of walkman, radios, cellular phones, games,	community service,
portable TVs and/or beepers.	suspension
Cutting Class	
Cheating	
Wearing hats or headgear indoors (males and females)	
Invalid absences	
Littering	
Possession and/or use of obscene literature or materials.	
LEVEL II	2 MAXIMUM, each of which may result in any
Bullying	combination of Level I consequences and:
Insubordination	parent escort for 1-3 days.
Inappropriate language	A third offense moves the consequences
Graffiti	to Level IV.
Smoking cigarettes	
Vandalism	
Frequent tardiness to class	
Being in unauthorized areas.	
Causing or participating in disorderly behavior in classes,	
assemblies, corridors, cafeterias, on school grounds or in	
school buses.	
Sexual Harassment (verbal)	

LEVEL III	2 MAXIMUM- each of which will result in:
Fighting. Theft	1 -5 day's suspension in and out-of-school,
Extortion	and any combination of consequences above.
	A third offense moves the consequence to Level IV
Inappropriate language! Vulgar to staff	
Inciting a riot	
Damaging or endangering the property of others or the school.	
Trespassing	
Smoking on school property (Tobacco) Continued and willful disobedience to teachers or other	
persons in authority.	
Endangering the safety of anyone on school property	
Forging the signature of a parent/guardian or	
staff member	
Gambling or tag playing on school premises.	
Indecent exposure	
Hazing	
Sale, possession, or use of fireworks	
LEVEL IV	1 MAXIMUM- will result in:
Pulling Fire Alarm	5 days suspension out-of-school and a superintendent's
False alarms	hearing.
Sexual Harassment	Administration will request that any repeat offender in
Vandalism	this category not be returned to the school.
Possession/use of weapon or explosive	
Possession/use/sale of illegal substance	
Assault and battery on y Person	
Sale, consumption, possession, use or distribution of narcotics	
or drugs.	
Bomb scares	
Breaking and entering	
Inciting riots	
Intimidation of students or teachers	
Larceny	
Theft/Robbery	
Malicious mischief e.g. setting of smoke or stink bombs or	
fireworks.	
Extortion	
False alarms	
Vandalism	
Possession of knives, slingshots, guns, laser pens, or other	
weapons	
Sexual Harassment (Physical)	
Repetition of offenses listed in section C.	

All consequences follow a thorough investigation by administration and will give due process to students alleged to have committed the infraction. In all cases, parents/guardians will be contacted by phone where possible, and a letter will follow.

ALL RULES WILL BE ENFORCED EQUALLY ON ALL STUDENTS

BEHAVIOR DURING EXAMS -

*Proper conduct is expected of all students while taking exams. Students who fail to follow directions of proctors, or who engage in any action that could indicate an attempt to give or receive information, will be removed from the exam, and will receive failing grades for that exam. No student will be permitted to make up the test following a violation of test integrity and standards.

*Students are expected to be present for all scheduled standardized tests and Regents exams. Parents of students will be notified by the school as to dates and times of examinations.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Wyandanch School District prohibits any form of sexual harassment of students or staff members. Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- 1. Verbal harassment or abuse.
- 2. Subtle pressure for sexual activity.
- 3. Inappropriate or unwelcome touching, patting, Or pinching.
- 4. Display of sexual materials, books, pictures, etc.

Individuals who sexually harass either a Student or staff member may be subject to civil or criminal litigation, and/or disciplinary actions by the school district. Any incidence of sexual harassment must be reported immediately to any School or District authority.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

** Will be posted on Parent Square and the Wyandanch School District Website

If school is going to be closed, the announcement will be broadcasted, beginning 6:30 a.m., on the following stations:

TV Channel 12 740 AM-WGSM 880 AM-WCBS 1100 AM-WHLI 94.3 FM-WCTO-Iluntington 98.3 FM-WKJY-Hempstead 102.3 FM-WABB 710-AM-WOR 106.1 FM-WBLI-Medford 97.5 FM-WALK 880AM-WCBS 98.7-KISS 94.3 FM-WCTO-Huntington

HEALTH OFFICE

The Health Office takes care of the following functions:

Scheduling and performing physicals for mandated grades, BOCES and sports; screening and testing for vision, hearing and scoliosis; First Aid for injuries sustained on site; verification of early dismissal for medical reasons; and requesting special transportation or home tutoring for students who need them for medical reasons.

All new students, in all grades, and all students participating in a sports activity are required to have physicals. The tenth (10th) grade physicals are due by October 15.

STUDENT RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR RIDING THE BUS

Students eligible for bus transportation to and from school. All students riding school buses are expected to maintain good conduct while traveling.

Waiting for the bus

Be on time for the bus. Arrive at the stop at least five minutes, but not more than ten minutes, before the bus is schedule to stop.

Do not allow pets or younger children who are not yet attending school to accompany you to school or accompany you to the bus stop.

Observe all safety precautions while waiting for the bus.

- -Do not play in the roads
- -If possible, avoid crossing streets
- -Whenever you cross a street, look both ways and cross only if you are sure that no moving vehicles are approaching from either direction.

Bus Behavior

Students are expected to follow the bus rules at all times and display appropriate behavior. The following is a list of appropriate behavior expected:

- 1. Listen to and follow the directions of the bus driver and/or monitor.
- 2. Stay in your seat at all times.
- 3. Keep the bus clean and aisles clear.
- 4. Keep your hands, feet and head inside the bus.
- 5. No eating or drinking on the bus.
- 6. Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- 7. Talk softy you should not be yelling.

Parents/guardians must be at the bus stop to meet the children.

Suspension off the Bus

Students, who do not display the appropriate behavior on the bus, will be written up. After the third bus misconduct report, the child will be suspended off the bus.

Students who are returned to the school will receive a warning the first time, then will be suspended off the bus the second time they are returned for 5 days, third time 10 days, fourth time 15 days and after the 5th time your child will lose bus privileges for the remainder of the school year.

Home - School Connection

The Home-School Connection

Parent Guide to School

Children benefit tremendously when you help them bridge their two most important worlds. By Polly Greenberg

As a parent, you are the major provider of your child's education from birth through adolescence. You guide the development of her character and mental health and help form the foundation from which she'll develop lifelong attitudes and interests. And because your home is the primary environment in which your child's potential and personality will take shape, it's important to make sure that you create a positive, open atmosphere that will not only support what goes on in the classroom, but will also instill the desire to learn. It is through your love and encouragement that your kids will become motivated — first to please you, and then to please themselves. This leads to self-confidence, curiosity, the enjoyment of mastering new tasks, and other healthy attitudes, all of which contribute to successful learning.

But unless you are home-schooling, you will not be the one teaching your child science or geography. And while it's true that all of the facts, skills, and concepts your children learn at school are influenced by what you do at home, your child's education is equally impacted by the relationships you form with her teachers. **Building an effective relationship with the teacher is a critical task,** and, like you, every teacher wants to achieve this goal. As with any relationship, mutual respect, the ability to listen, and lots of communication form the foundation.

When parents and teachers work well together, everyone benefits. Parents and teachers can provide each other with unique insight and different perspectives about the same child, culminating in a more complete understanding of that child, her abilities, strengths, and challenges. The teacher will know much more about the curriculum and the school culture, while you know more about your child's personality, tendencies, and family life. A successful parent-teacher partnership also shows a child that an entire team of adults is on her side.

Why What You Do at Home Is So Important at School

A positive relationship with your child is more important to her school career than your constant presence in the classroom. Because young children identify strongly with you, your attitudes, values, and innermost feelings are contagious. They become embedded in your child's mind at the deepest levels.

If your own experience with school was miserable, you might feel anxious about your child's school experiences. Your child will sense this, and it could hamper her ability to throw herself wholeheartedly into learning. She may feel disloyal if she allows herself to like school and work hard, even if your words are telling her to do so.

For your child's sake you'll need to put the past behind you and "start over," assuming that your child's teachers, school, and overall experience will be good and happy. Even if you didn't like school, the best way to help your child is to endorse her experience: Get involved, be positive, and trust her teachers. She will get the message: "School is important; I want you to engage fully."

Make Quality Time for Your Child

It might sound obvious, but today, parents' schedules are full to overflowing. The good news is that there are easy ways to enjoy time with your child that also support learning. You can be available during play dates, snuggle on the sofa while watching a good video together, take a nature walk in the park, make appreciative comments from time to time as your child plays, cook something yummy together, or just hang out and chat. All these things support your child's deep belief that you know her, care about her, and would never expect her to do something that isn't possible — such as learn in school.

Become an Active Partner in Learning

Most educators believe in parent participation in children's education, but "participation" means different things to different teachers. To some, it might mean helping children with homework, returning notes and sending things in on time, and coming to a conference when notified to do so. But it should mean much more. Work with the teacher to find out some ways you can contribute to the classroom, but always be sure to do it within the guidelines she'll provide for you. By the same token, you have valuable insight about your child — no one knows her better than you — so it's important to take initiative and communicate that knowledge to the teacher throughout the school year.

First, be sure to **provide details about your child's home life** to your teacher. The most effective teachers have a fairly complete understanding of each child in their class. You can help by telling her about your child's family life, including any recent changes (divorce, a death in the family, or illness, for example), important traditions or rituals, languages spoken at home, and other significant details unique to your child.

Ask about ways to **share your culture** — food, music, photos, and traditions — with the class. Not only will this help strengthen your child's self-esteem, it will also enrich the learning experience for the entire class and foster an appreciation of diversity. Between the ages of 3 and 8, kids are beginning to deal with a world bigger than the family, and they become keenly aware of every difference between themselves and their peers.

Plan to have a family discussion each week. Try to pick a topic that emerges from your child's experiences at school. The more you familiarize yourself with the daily routines and activities at preschool, the more you'll be able to encourage this type of conversation. You can even extend the idea into an art project or create a family "book club" where everyone reads something relating to this theme.

Get the entire family involved. As often as possible, try to participate in field trips and classroom events such as potlucks, story parties, art shows, and class celebrations. Include grandparents, siblings, caregivers, and family friends. Your child will be delighted.

For parents and teachers alike, the goal is to play active roles in your child's life and to work towards forming a real bond. The child's best interest is always served when she has lots of people rooting for her and all the pieces of her life fit together. A strong home-school connection will set the stage for a child who will grow up with a love for learning.

About the Author

Polly Greenberg has been a child/parent/staff development specialist for almost 50 years. She has worked for the U.S. Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services, the War on Poverty, and the NAEYC.

From: Parent & Child

Parent & Child magazine reaches 7 million parents of young children and provides the learning link between home and school.

http://content.scholastics.com/browse/article.jsp?id=1393&printable=true

Home/School Connect

The Wyandanch School District will be using Parent Square to help with communications with families. Check Parent Square regularly for notices and messages from your child's teacher as well as from the district.



LFH/ANNEX SCHOOL DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY RESPONSIBILITY AGREEMENT

Digital Citizenship While digital citizenship — learning how to make responsible choices online — is something that is both modeled and taught in our classrooms, we need the shared responsibility of the broader community to help our scholars become helpful, caring, thoughtful, wise, and responsible in all aspects of their lives, both digital and otherwise. We want all scholars to be responsible, caring digital citizens. Just like while they are at school, scholars are responsible for making good choices and behaving appropriately while using district technology. The district does recognize that the digital environment has unique complexities that requires intentional, structured learning experiences for those who are learning to become digital citizens. If you would like to learn more about being a responsible digital citizen or modeling good digital citizenship, we would recommend Common Sense Media as a resources for your consideration: Common Sense Media has numerous resources for parent(s)/guardian(s) who want to learn more about how to help their child navigate the digital world.

Responsible Use Expectations -Those who use district technology shall use good judgment and take responsibility for their own use of District computers and computer systems, using them in a responsible, ethical, and legal manner. Here are the key expectations and considerations:

- District technology is intended primarily for educational purposes
- District users shall have no expectation of privacy when using District technology, and the district reserves the right to monitor all usage of District technology.
- District technology may not be used for unlawful purposes, communications that promote violence, viewing or sending obscene materials or pictures, harassment or bullying, intimidation, or hatred against another person or group of persons with regard to race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, age, marital status, or disability.
- Do not modify technology equipment (hardware or software) without permission. Please note: this includes not adding stickers to devices. *Violations of district technology policies may result in the loss of the privilege to use these tools, as well as disciplinary action appropriate to the type of District user.*

Taking Care of District Technology Beyond the board policy specifically related to the social media other expectations also are applicable to the times when scholars are using district technology. The Vandalism/ Malicious Mischief/Theft policy (ECAB and the ECAB-AR) states that there are consequences for any willful destruction of district property, which includes district technology. Users may be held personally and financially responsible for intentional damage done to district technology. The district expects scholars to do all that they can to minimize unintentional damage. While some damage happens unintentionally in the normal use of technology, we expect scholars to treat devices with care and take reasonable precautions. Unintentional, accidental damage that happens during normal, careful usage of district technology will not result in consequences for the scholar, but intentional damage or an ongoing pattern of damage to district technology may lead to the consequences outlined in the ECAB and ECAB-AR board policies.

Digital Resources

WUFSD provides our scholars and teachers with numerous digital tools and systems to facilitate teaching and learning. These digital tools and systems include Google Apps for Education, a free, web-based program for word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation tools (to learn more about our use of Google Apps, please visit the district website). For these digital resources, the district makes every effort to ensure that these tools and systems — and any other digital tools and systems adopted at the district level — are compliant with all applicable laws and regulations, including the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). By signing this form, you acknowledge that you will support the responsible use of these tools and resources.

Please Read and Review the expectations, rules and regulations set in the Lafrancis Hardiman Parent/Scholar Handbook as the parent/guardian and with your child for their understanding.

Please return the agreement below by Friday September 22, 2023.

We have read, reviewed, and understood the Lafrancis Hardiman/Annex Elementary School Parent/Scholar Handbook. I, the student, will abide by the expectations, rules and regulations set in the handbook and I, the parent will help my child abide by the expectations, rules and regulations set in the handbook.

Student's name		
Student's signature		
Parent's name		
Parent's signature		
Parent's cell phone number		
Parent's personal email		