

Syracuse City



School District

Huntington PK-8 School

**Home of the
*Huntington Panthers***



***2017 - 2018
Parent/Student Handbook***

Name _____

HUNTINGTON PK-8 SCHOOL

**Our Huntington PreK-8 School community promotes instructional excellence
and academic and personal achievement every day
so that all students are fully and actively engaged in learning
and prepared for high school, post-secondary education, and career.**

Main/Administrative Offices	435-4565
Guidance	435-4420
Nurse	435-6517
Cafeteria	435-4068
Pool	435-6508
Transportation Department	435-4260
First Student Bus Co.-West	448-1820
First Student Bus Co.-East	425-5385

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Joanne Harlow, Principal
Mr. Daniel Evans, Vice-Principal
Ms. Leanna Kirch, Vice-Principal
Dr. Jerome Watts, Vice-Principal
Mr. Kevin Casavant, Administrative Intern

SUPPORT STAFF

Mr. Andrew Leonardo - Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Patty Johnston - Elementary School Social Worker
Mrs. Amanda Richter - Middle School Social Worker
Mrs. Brie Dubiel - Elementary School Psychologist
Ms. Carrie Yaus - Middle School Psychologist
Ms. Tammy Lowe - Nurse
Mrs. Christine DelVecchio - Health Attendant
Ms. Janet Schuster - Library Media Specialist
Mrs. Maggi Wilensky - Lead Secretary
Mrs. Michelle Brunozzi - Typist 1
Ms. Aimee Reudiger - Typist 1
Mrs. Nancy Turley - Information Aid

Syracuse City



School District

Syracuse City School District

Mission Statement

To build, support, and sustain school communities that provide all students with a high-quality education that prepares them to graduate as responsible, active citizens ready for success in college and careers and prepared to compete in a global economy.

Vision

To become the most improved urban school district in America.

Ultimate Goal

An educational community that graduates every student as a responsible, active citizen prepared for success in college, careers, and the global economy.

SCSD Administrative Team

Jaime Alicea, Superintendent
Patricia Clark, Chief Ombuds/Student Support Services Officer
Dean DeSantis, Chief Operations Officer
Christopher Miller, Ed.D., Chief Human Resources Officer
Timothy Moon, Chief Accountability Officer
Linda Mulvey, Chief Academic Officer
Suzanne Slack, Chief Financial Officer
Monique Wright-Williams, Chief of Staff
Margaret Wilson, Assistant Superintendent

Board of Education Officers

PRESIDENT:	Derrick Dorsey
VICE PRESIDENT:	Patricia Body
COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION:	David Cecile Mark D. Muhammad Rita Paniagua Dan Romeo Katie Sojewicz

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Syracuse City School District hereby advises students, parents, employees and the general public that it is committed to providing equal access to all categories of employment, programs and educational opportunities, including career and technical education opportunities, regardless of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, Native American ancestry/ethnicity, creed or religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity or expression, disability or any other legally protected category under federal, state or local law.

Inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies should be directed to:

Civil Rights Compliance Officer
Syracuse City School District
725 Harrison Street • Syracuse, NY 13210
(315) 435-4131
Email: CivilRightsCompliance@scsd.us

Huntington PK-8 School-Mission Statement

Our Huntington PK-8 School community promotes instructional excellence and academic and personal achievement every day so that all students are actively engaged in learning and better prepared for high school, post-secondary education, and career.

Attendance- EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY!

Students are expected to attend school each day, and attendance is tracked very closely for every student. Robo calls are automatically made when a student is absent. Parents should make every effort to make sure students attend school and be on time each day. Please try and make appointments after school. If a student must be excused, parents need to send in a note in the morning. **BEFORE LEAVING SCHOOL, THE STUDENT MUST SIGN OUT IN THE MAIN OFFICE.** When a student is absent, an excuse should be sent in the next day and brought to the office.

Tardiness

If a student is late to school, he/she must sign-in at the either the elementary or middle school office and receive a pass to class. Students who are late to school without a legal absence will receive a robo call home, and may be subject to additional action.

Arrival/Dismissal

During morning arrival, all middle school students report to the cafeteria for breakfast, no later than **8:00 a.m.** Elementary school students who ride the bus enter through the cafeteria, and elementary walkers enter through the front main entrance, no later than **8:45 a.m.** All students, PK-8, are dismissed at **2:45 p.m.** Bussers report to the cafeteria to wait to load, and walkers are dismissed through the front entrances. **Parents who are picking up their child at dismissal are encouraged to wait out front on the sidewalk for their child.** If a child is being picked up early from school, a written note or phone call is requested.

Visitors

Visitors to the building are required to enter through the west main entrance, sign in, **provide photo ID** and visibly display the visitor's pass provided by our Security staff. Visitors are then directed to the appropriate office or personnel. Teachers are not available for conferences during the school day unless prior arrangements have been made.

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found is located in the cafe. Items will be discarded after a designated amount of time.

Telephones

There is no pay phone in the building. Students may use the phone in the main office for **emergency** purposes

only. Parents are not to call during the school day to request to speak with their child unless there is an emergency at home. **Students must have a pass to enter the main office.**

Cell Phones & Electronics

Cell phones, headphones, ear buds, or any other electronic media which is not designated for classroom use are NOT PERMITTED in the classroom, hallways, cafeteria, playground, or restrooms. All electronic devices MUST remain out of sight (in backpacks, lockers, etc.) and turned off. Students will be asked to hand over their device, and if necessary, will be kept in the main office until a parent comes to retrieve it. If the student has repeated infractions against the school cell phone policy, the school will assign appropriate consequences as per the SCSD Code of Conduct. (The school does not take responsibility for lost or stolen cell phones.)

Hall Passes

Students must have a pass if they are in the hallways or other parts of the building during scheduled periods. Passes from class will not be given during the first and last ten minutes of each period.

Nurse

The Nurse's Office is located next to the main office. The Nurse communicates with families about all required records, immunizations, etc., as well as injuries or illnesses. Parents must contact the Nurse's Office regarding medications, allergies, illnesses, or any other health-related issue.

Fire Drills/Emergency Evacuations

Fire alarms and other evacuation procedures are regularly practiced. When possible, directions and information are clearly communicated to staff and students, and students are to follow the directions explicitly. Fire Drills and all emergency evacuation drills are a serious matter. Should a real emergency of any kind occur, parents will be notified immediately.

Student Services

Huntington School offers a wide range of student support services. These include social workers, a middle school guidance counselor, a full-time elementary school psychologist and a part-time middle school psychologist. Also on staff are behavior specialists and a mental health therapist. Call the main office or Guidance for more information. The Guidance Office is located across from the Main Office.

Guidance Services are provided for grades 6-8. These services include working with individuals and groups of students. Counselors discuss educational and occupational information with students. Counselors also assist students in dealing with problems and concerns.

Students may see their counselor during the school day by obtaining a pass from his/her teacher.

Homework

Homework is an integral part of education. Homework is assigned on a regular basis and students are expected to complete all assignments on time. Any student who expects to be out of school for more than (2) days should request classwork. Contact the Main Office at 435-4565 and assigned work can be picked up in the main office.

Clubs and Activities

Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities. Some of these activities may include:

BASKETBALL	SOFTBALL
BAND	ORCHESTRA
CROSS COUNTRY	SOCCER
CHORUS	LACROSSE
TRACK	VOLLEYBALL
SOFTBALL	SKI CLUB
ROCKET CLUB	KARATE
BALANCING THE BOOKS	BRIDGE BUILDING
NATIONAL JR. HONOR SOCIETY	

Student Behavior

In order for teaching and learning to take place in a classroom, good order must be maintained. Students are reminded that they must adhere to the **SCSD Code of Conduct, Character, and Support**. The Syracuse Code of Conduct, Character and Support (click on hyperlink) serves as a guide to good citizenship and provides the tools for helping students to understand and appreciate the norms of behavior within the school.

The Code addresses both the development of student character and conduct. The development of good character is essential to healthy development and responsible behavior, academic success in school, and future success in college, career, and life. Some reminders and expectations:

- 1. Weapons or other items**, which may be hazardous to the safety of anyone in the building or may interfere in some way with school operations, will be impounded.
- 2. Unlawful acts** taking place on school grounds or buses not only make the student subject to penalties which the courts may prescribe, but can result in suspension from school.
- 3. Possession of drugs and/or alcohol and their use** on school property or at school-sponsored events are prohibited. Anyone found possessing, selling, purchasing, or using drugs on school property or at a school-sponsored event will be referred to the police and the Superintendent of Schools for a disciplinary hearing.
- 4. Students are expected to behave appropriately while being transported to and from school** via school bus or Centro. Students not behaving appropriately are subject to disciplinary action.

5. Fighting-arguing, fighting, or threatening to fight are not permitted. Students should seek the assistance of an adult, if necessary, to resolve a problem with another student.

Intimidation, Bullying and Sexual Harassment

New York State's Dignity for All Students Act (The Dignity Act-DASA) seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function. At Huntington, demeaning, bullying, or any other form of intimidation will be addressed and consequences will be imposed. Further, any forms of unwelcome sexual advances, verbal or nonverbal, is unacceptable and are dealt with as required by the SCSD Code of Conduct and New York State's Dignity for All Students Act.

Dress

Students are expected to wear suitable, appropriate clothing to school. Students may not wear clothing that might pose a problem, nor may they wear clothing that disrupts normal school routine. Hats and bandanas are not permitted and should be left in students' lockers during the school day.

Lockers

Each student will be assigned a locker. Students should keep their combinations private. Lockers should be free of magic marker and other permanent marks. Posters and pictures inside the locker are acceptable decorations. Lockers belong to the school district and may be opened at any time by school district officials. **You must return a completed emergency card to obtain your locker.**

Breakfast and Lunch

Hot breakfasts and lunches are served daily. Lunch menus are sent home on a monthly basis and are available on the district website. Breakfast and lunch is provided free to every student. **Please inform the school if your child has any food allergies.**

Parent/Teacher Organization

Our PTO meets monthly in the school cafeteria, and all parents/guardians are invited/encouraged to attend. Childcare is provided. The PTO and the school communicates often and in various ways to families about meetings, events, student data, curriculum, assessments, and other school news, via newsletters, websites, Twitter, and robo calls. Parents are encouraged to participate in school events, help make decisions, and contribute ideas, strategies, and suggestions about the school as well as their child's education. At Huntington, parents are our partners in ensuring students' success.

Communication

The school communicates often and regularly with families about student achievement, major events, news, etc. **Teachers** are also expected to communicate regularly with parents about their child's academic progress, assessment data, curriculum, homework, behavior issues, etc. Elementary teachers use such tools as Class DOJO, weekly newsletters, phone calls, and texts. Middle school teachers use Parent Portal (on the SCSD website) to inform parents about their child's assignments and grades. Parents are encouraged to e-mail, call, or text teachers, or call the main office to set up a conference. Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled in November, but parents can always request to schedule a parent/teacher meeting.

Academic Intervention Services and Tutorial

Extra support in math and reading is provided to students in grades K-2 on an as-needed basis. Services are administered daily in small groups, either in the classroom or as a pull-out. Parents receive written notification when this service is provided. Most middle school students are registered for AIS/Tutorial as part of their scheduled classes, and receive extra instruction in ELA and math during this time.

Special Education

All students diagnosed with a disability receive specialized services per their IEP (Individual Education Plan). Our school psychologist is available to answer questions or to help schedule a meeting to discuss and/or update programming and services.

Personalized Learning

Personalized learning is the tailoring of education and learning environments in order to try meet the different learning needs of students. Technology is used to facilitate personalized learning environments. At Huntington, teachers individualize lessons and activities for students, using technology and small group instruction, and students take ownership of their learning, set goals, and monitor their progress. It is student-centered and addresses the diverse learning needs, interests, and cultural backgrounds of students.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

Huntington offers AVID to all students in grades 6-8. AVID teaches students strategies to help them prepare for success in high school, college, and a career, by developing critical thinking, literacy, writing, math, and organizational skills across all content areas. **AVID** teaches skills and behaviors for academic success, provides intensive support with tutorials and strong

student/teacher relationships, creates a positive peer group for students, and develops a sense of hope for personal achievement gained through hard work and determination

Positivity Project and PBIS

Huntington staff are trained in Positivity Project and PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports), and both programs aim to teach responsibility, self-discipline, and character.

21st Century After-School Program (Boys' & Girls' Club)

Huntington offers an after-school program for all students who wish to enroll. We partner with the Boys' & Girls' Club, and offer a full instructional program (Project-Based Learning) as well as enrichment opportunities. The program runs Monday-Thursday from October through May.

Language Translations

When possible, written and verbal communication will be translated so that all families are as informed as possible. Huntington aims to be proactive and responsive to the needs of all families.

Confirmation

Confirmation of having read this assignment/pass book makes for an educated and informed student and parent.

Parent/Student Signature

We have read and discussed this important information.

Student Signature:

Parent Signature:

Date: _____

IMPORTANT DATES

September

Sept. 5 Back to School BBQ & Open House
Sept. 6 1st day of School

October

Oct. 9 Columbus Day – No School
Oct. 10 After-School Program Begins
Oct. 12 PTO Meeting @ 6:30 pm (Title I
Parent Involvement Meeting)
Oct. 12 School Pictures (Grades Prek-5)
Oct. 13 School Pictures (Grades 6-8)

November

Nov. 3 Family Dance
Nov. 7 Election Day
Nov. 7 Superintendent's Conf. Day - No
School for students
Nov. 9 PTO Meeting @ 6:30pm
Nov. 10 Veteran's Day - No School
Nov. 14 Half-Day for students;
Parent/Teacher Conferences
Nov. 22-24 Thanksgiving Recess
Nov. 29 MS Science Fair

December

Dec. 8 Half-Day of School
Dec. 25-Jan. 1 Holiday Recess

January

Jan. 2 School Reopens
Jan. 5 Winter Ball
Jan. 11 PTO Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Jan. 12 Winter Ball (Snow date)
Jan. 15 Dr. Martin Luther King Day –
No School
Jan. 26 Superintendent's Conf. Day –
No School for students

February

Feb. 8 Superintendent's Conf. Day - ½ Day
of School for students
Feb. 8 PTO Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Feb. 19-23 Winter Break
Feb. 26 School Reopens

March

Mar 8 PTO Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Mar. 9 Family Dance
Mar. 28-30 NYS ELA Assessments
Mar. 30 Good Friday – No School

April

Apr. 6 Bingo
Apr. 11-13 NYS ELA Assessments
Apr. 12 PTO Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Apr. 23-27 Spring Break
Apr. 30 School Reopens

May

May 1-3 NYS Math Assessments
May 7-18 NYSESLAT Assessments
May 10 PTO Meeting @ 6:30 pm
May 23 NYS Science Tests (Lab) Gr. 4 & 8
May 24 Contingency Day
May 25 Contingency Day
May 28 Memorial Day - No School
May 29 Contingency Day

June

June 1 Semi-Formal Dance
June 4 NYS Science Tests (Written) Gr. 4&8
Jun. 21 Last Day for Students
June 22 Superintendent's Conf. Day - No
School for students



Positivity Project Family Information

“I can sum up positive psychology in just three words—Other People Matter. Period. Anything that builds relationships between and among people is going to make you happy.” -Dr. Chris Peterson

What is The Positivity Project?

The Positivity Project is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to helping **America’s youth build stronger relationships by recognizing the character strengths in themselves and others**. Their vision is to create citizens and leaders who will enhance our communities and country by internalizing the belief that “Other People Matter.” Positive psychology’s scientifically validated 24 character strengths serve as its foundation. Positive psychology teaches that people have all 24 strengths within them – and that character is not just skills or behaviors, but rather an intrinsic part of each of us.

The Positivity Project is not a program with strict guidelines. Instead, it educates teachers on the character strengths and relies on them to teach in a way that best meets their students’ needs. It is a school-wide endeavor, grounded in the consistency of daily classroom instruction. Their model is holistic; it incorporates students, educators, and parents through regular interaction with character strengths vocabulary and concepts.

The project will help educators instill vocabulary and the meaning of the strengths through explicit teaching of each strength for 10 minutes per day. Schools will dedicate 1-2 weeks to each strength to help students understand them through definition, examples, discussions, and exercises. Schools and educators are encouraged to tailor the materials for their own best use, as they know their students and curriculum better than anyone else.

What are the benefits of implementing The Positivity Project?

The Positivity Project ideals evolve throughout a student’s whole school career. The **24 character strengths** develop and gain more meaning for students as they grow. Once students learn the meaning of each strength and what it looks like, they can then be embedded into the curriculum in every subject area. The character strengths become a part of a common language and they will see them in everything that they do.

The Project teaches children by acknowledging that the 24 character strengths are already a part of who they are as people. It helps them to realize that each and every one of them have these strengths. There is no system in place to reward students who demonstrate “Good Character”. Rewards are fun to earn but they are finite because they are external. We want children to internalize the traits that society honors. Acknowledgement to oneself and realizing that you have the power to effect others in a positive way is much more meaningful and rewarding.

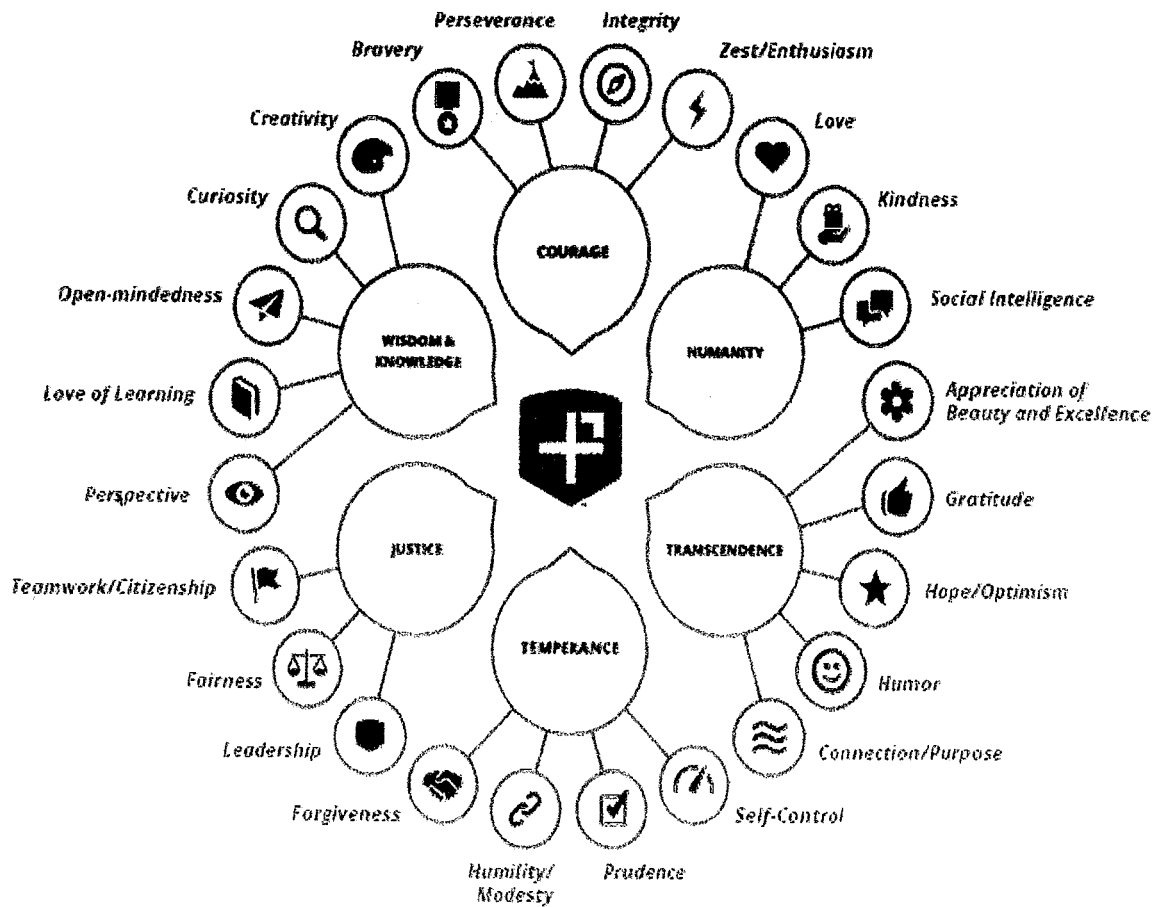
Positive character strengths can and should be acknowledged in the classroom, as it gives students a richer understanding of what the character strength looks like in their peer group. Students understand that they have their own “Super Power” and they will be acknowledged and valued for their own character strengths.

How can you help?

We would love for parents to take an active role in their child’s character strength education. By using the character strengths vocabulary and having discussions about the concepts, parents help their child understand the character in themselves and others in a different light. Parents can follow social media handles and get more information by visiting www.posproject.org.

POSITIVITY PROJECT

CHARACTER STRENGTHS AND VIRTUES



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POSITIVITY PROJECT CHARACTER STRENGTHS DEFINITIONS



You notice and value the world's beauty and people's skills. You don't take things for granted.



You act with mental, moral, or physical strength even when you know things are difficult or scary.



You have beliefs about the meaning of life and your life's purpose. You seek to be part of something greater than yourself.



You come up new and original ways to think about and do things.



You like exploration and discovery. You ask lots of questions because you want to learn more about anything and everything.



You believe that all people have value. You approach situations with an unbiased mindset and treat everyone with respect.



You forgive those who have done wrong. You accept that people make mistakes.



You are aware of and thankful for good things that happen.



You expect the best from the future and work to achieve it.



You do not seek the spotlight. You let your actions speak for themselves.



You like to laugh and bring smiles to other people.



You are honest and speak the truth. You present yourself genuinely and sincerely.



You are generous to others and you are never too busy to help out. You enjoy doing good deeds for other people.



You value each member of your group and inspire people to do their best.



You value close relationships with others and being close to people.



You master new skills and topics on your own or in school.



You like to consider new ideas and try new things. You examine things from all sides and don't jump to conclusions.



You appreciate that people see things in different ways. You have the ability to understand the world from multiple points of view.



You complete what you start despite obstacles. You never give up.



You plan for the future and achieve your goals by making careful everyday choices.



You have the ability to control your emotions and behaviors. You think before you act.



You are aware of other people's thoughts and feelings. You understand why they do things.



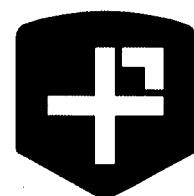
You work well as a member of a group or team. You are loyal and sacrifice your individual desires for the greater good.

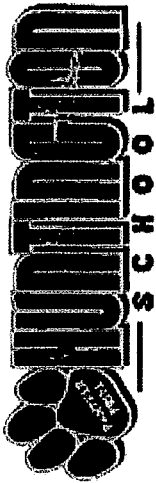


You approach life with excitement and energy. You energize people around you.



Believe it.....Achieve it!





PANTHER PRIDE! BELIEVE IT.....ACHIEVE IT!

	Hallway	Classroom	Bathrooms	Cafeteria	Bus	Playground and Fields
	Voice Level 0	Voice Level 1	Voice Level 0	Voice Level 2	Voice Level 2	Voice Level 3
P Positive Attitude	*Go directly to your destination.	*Use active listening and participation.	*Return to class immediately. *Keep walks free of walking.	*Use appropriate table manners. *Clean up after yourself.	*Clean up after yourself.	*Immediately line up when requested to do so. *Show good sportsmanship.
R Respect	*Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. *Keep hands off of others' belongings (displayed work, lockers, backpacks, etc.)	*Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. *Follow all adult directions.	*Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. *Give others privacy.	*Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. *Follow all adult directions.	*Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. *Follow all adult directions.	*Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. *Follow all adult directions.
I Integrity	*Put trash in the trash cans. *Ask permission and get a pass.	*Follow the SCSD dress code. *Remain in assigned seat. *Do your own work.	*Put all paper towels in the trash can. *Keep all water in the sink.	*Touch only your own food. *If assigned lunch detention, you must be accompanied by an adult.	*Remain seated. *Tell adults about concerns.	*Take turns using equipment safely.
D Determination	*Walk safely on the right hand side.	*Complete assigned tasks to the best of your ability. *Arrive on time and prepared.	*Wash hands with soap and water. *Three pulls, two pumps and turn off water.	*Remain seated unless given permission to get up. *You must have permission or a pass to leave the café.	*Walk when getting on and off of the bus. *Keep aisles clear.	*Stay in designated areas.
E Empathy	*Use kind words towards peers and adults.	*Use kind words towards peers and adults. *Work cooperatively and help peers.	*Flush toilet after use. *Tell adults about any concerns.	*Use kind words towards peers and adults. *Include everyone.	*Use kind words towards peers and adults. *Share seats to make sure there are seats for everyone.	*Use kind words towards peers and adults. *Include everyone in your play.