
VIKING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Pelican Rapids ISD #548
Viking Elementary School
1 Viking Drive, PO Box 642
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

Phone: 218-863-5910 Fax: 218-863-5915
www.pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us



STUDENT HANDBOOK

2022-2023

Welcome to VES



A NOTE FROM PRINCIPAL DERRICK NELSON:

Welcome to Viking Elementary School. We are glad to have you here! The Viking Elementary School is very excited to have students back in the building for learning, seeing friends, making new friends and growing into future leaders in our community and world. The staff at Viking Elementary School is eager and capable to assist you. You are the reason we are here.

This handbook provides information to support student success. Please read this handbook together at home and become familiar with the expectations and the programs at our school. If you have any questions, please call or come in for a visit.

As a parent, you are your child's first teacher. We are honored that you entrust us to support the growth, development and learning of your child. I look forward to a wonderful year as we partner with you to become the BEST elementary school in Minnesota!

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Please Note: School administration may see the need to make changes to rules and expectations that are laid out in the next few pages. Students and parents will be notified if changes are implemented.



Mission and Philosophy

VIKING ELEMENTARY MISSION STATEMENT:

"To create a community of learners dedicated to improving our world."

WE ARE A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS:

We are very proud of the behavior of our student body. Visitors to our building often comment about the positive climate at Viking Elementary and the courtesy extended to them by students and staff. We will spare no effort to maintain that positive learning environment. We hope that students will spend a few minutes with their families discussing the information in this handbook.

BEING A MEMBER OF THE VIKING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEANS THESE THINGS:

- Being involved and productive
- Attending school regularly
- Arriving to classes on time
- Completing all assignments
- Respecting building and school property, including helping to keep the building clean
- Being physically and mentally prepared to participate in classes and activities
- Being courteous to all students and staff members and respectful of their property
- Valuing the ethnic, religious, and economic diversity of the Pelican Rapids community
- Learning the *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* and embracing the idea that we all can be a leader.

VES Staff

Updated 08/09/2022

SCHOOL BOARD

Jon Karger - Chair
Anne Peterson - Vice Chair
Brittany Dokken - Treasurer
Brenda Olson - Clerk
Greg Larson
Molly Welch

ADMINISTRATION

Brian Korf - Superintendent
Laura Januszewski - PRHS Principal
Doug Bruggeman - PRHS Dean of Students
Derrick Nelson - VES Principal / Activities Director

OFFICE STAFF

Gwen Lass
Cherie Lynnes
Shari VerDom

SCHOOL READINESS / ECFE

Terra Fitzsimmons
Megan King
Amanda Belz

KINDERGARTEN

Denise Borgen
Marie Cupkie
Marni Neubauer
Dana Syverson

GRADE 1

Madison Abarr
Pam Eiden
Jessica Sjostrom
Angie Westby

GRADE 2

Heidi Henkes
Dacia Johnson
Madison Oswald

David Rund

GRADE 3

Chris Coleman
Connie Mackner
Ryan Syverson

GRADE 4

Chris Hacker
Heidi Isaman
Kim Nelson

GRADE 5

Tonya Johnson
Sherri Larson
Charla Seter

GRADE 6

Kim Gottenborg
Jon Moe

TECHNOLOGY

Ubelio Fernandez Tabet
Bill Simmons

LIBRARY / MEDIA CENTER

Judy Johnson
Jana Steeves

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Sheri Meester

ART

Kate Martinez

BAND & MUSIC

Zane Biles (5-6 Music)
Sean Fitzsimmons (Band Lessons)
Makayla Moen (5-6 Band & K-4 Music)

ESL

Sheryl Anderson
Rachel Haugrud

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Whitney Gravalin (EBD)
Karl Kirkwood (DCD / LD)
Heidi Moe (LD / EBD)

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Todd Huseby

SCHOOL BASED MENTAL HEALTH

Lindsey Ness
Jessica Lemer

ADDS INTERVENTION TEACHERS

Pam Bruhn
Kim Haugrud
Tess Hubbard
Norma Martin
Florence Schmitz
Mary Storrusten

TITLE 1 TEACHERS

Jessica Brown
Gabrielle Fredrickson
Nancy Huseby

TBD

MN READING CORPS

Elisabeth Grady
Suzanne Howe

HEAD START TEACHERS / PARAPROFESSIONALS

Kristi Batson
Carrie Harthun
Deb Lontz
Veronica Martinez
Miriam Sanchez
Komanrat (Pupae) Sillerud

COOKS

Trudy Gorton
Cindy Lyden
Lisa Waller

TBD

CUSTODIANS

Gary Kowalski

Jenna Nava

RaeNell Buss Erickson

PARAPROFESSIONALS

Ariana Arntson
Kara Bunkowski
Rebecca Castillo
Deb Courneya
Lynette Gray
Amy Haiby
Tami Hanson
Cindy Hart
Kyle Haugrud
Tonya Honrud
Cassie Klovstad
Rachel Lynnes
Montserrat Moreno Sanchez
Maricela Murillo
Ashlee Olson
Gimena Pantoja
Mindy Peterson
Adriana Robles
Claudia Rodriguez
Felicha Rojas
Sheri Rundle
Alisa Rustand
Magdalena Salazar
Cynthia Zavala

School Day Hours

Viking Elementary School day: 8:15AM - 3:05PM

Students who are in the school building before 8:00am or after 3:05pm must be enrolled in Club Vikes (See Club Vikes info on page 19) or participating in an after school activity. Parents who have work schedules which conflict with reasonable drop-off and pick-times should make arrangements for the care of their child before and after school. Students arriving at school (8:00am or after), will go directly to their classrooms.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION



- **VIKING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1 VIKING DRIVE

218-863-5910 * Option 2

PRINCIPAL Derrick Nelson
Extension: 5220
Email: dnelson@vikes.us

VES ATTENDANCE REPORTING:

Contact ON or BEFORE absence
Phone: 218-863-5910 * Option 2
Email: glass@vikes.us

- **PELICAN RAPIDS HIGH SCHOOL**

310 S. BROADWAY

218-863-5910 * Option 1

PRINCIPAL Laura Januszewski
Extension: 4201
Email: ljanuszewski@vikes.us

PRHS ATTENDANCE REPORTING:

Contact ON or BEFORE absence
Phone: 218-863-5910 * Option 1
Email: mrobles@vikes.us



- **PELICAN RAPIDS DISTRICT 548 OFFICES**

Physical Address: 310 S. Broadway, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 642, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

SUPERINTENDENT

Brian Korf
Extension: 4435
Email: bkorf@vikes.us

STAY CONNECTED



www.pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us

PHONE: 218-863-5910

FAX: 218-863-5915



Pelican Rapids Public Schools



@VicTheVike



ask@vikes.us

- **CHRISTIANSON BUS SERVICE**



Questions regarding routes and pick-up times?
Phone: 218-863-7000

Calendars

Note to Parents: Please refer to the complete calendar on the next page or on our district website to assist your planning of appointments and family trips. Make every attempt to use non-school days/times, school vacations, summer time, and holidays for scheduling vacations and routine appointments. Extended vacations and excessive appointments *during school time* may be considered “unexcused” absences, if not approved in advance by the principal in consultation with the teachers.

VES Quick Reference Calendar	
1 Staff Flex Day	August
New Staff Workshop	August 23-25
Staff Workshop	August 29-September 1
Labor Day (No School)	September 5
First Day of School	September 6
Homecoming Week	September 26-30
Teacher Workshop (No School)	September 26
Student Pictures	September 28
Picture Retakes	October 18
MEA (No School)	October 20-21
Teacher Workshop (No School)	November 7
Parent / Teacher Conferences (12-6PM)	November 14
Fall Break (No School)	November 24-25
Winter Break (No School)	December 23-January 2
End of Semester 1	January 13
Teacher Workshop (No School)	January 16
No School	February 17
Parent / Teacher Conferences (12-6PM)	February 20
Teacher Workshop (No School)	March 20
Spring Break (No School)	April 6-10
Last Student Day of School	May 25
Teacher Workday / Graduation (No School)	May 26
The first 5 snow days will be E-Learning Days	
<i>First 3 Snow days will be built in</i>	
<i>Days 4-8 will be E-learning</i>	

This calendar can be found on the school website: www.pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us under the "Calendars" tab

Pelican Rapids School District 548 Master Calendar 2022-2023										(5 Day Week)		UPDATED 1.28.22		
	July 2022					January 2023					20			
	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	13: VES/HS End of Quarter 2/Semester 1			
					1	2	3	4	5	6	16: MLK Day/ Teacher workshop-No School			
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								
1 Certified Staff Flex Days	August 2022					February 2023					18			
23-25: New staff workshop	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	10: HS Midquarter 3			
29-31: Staff workshop	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	17: No School			
	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	20: HS Parent/Teacher Conf. No School (1-7)			
	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	Elementary PT Conf (12-6)			
	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24				
	29	30	31			27	28							
1: Staff workshop	September 2022					March 2023					22			
5: Labor Day - No School	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	17: HS End of Qtr 3			
6: First Day of School				1	2			1	2	3	20: District Workshop - No School			
26: Teacher Workshop Day-No School	5	6	7	8	9	6	7	8	9	10				
	12	13	14	15	16	13	14	15	16	17				
	19	20	21	22	23	20	21	22	23	24				
	26	27	28	29	30	27	28	29	30	31				
7: HS Mid-Quarter 1	October 2022					April 2023					17			
20-21: MEA - No School	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	6-10: Spring Break - No School			
	3	4	5	6	7						21: HS Mid-Quarter 4			
	10	11	12	13	14	3	4	5	6	7				
	17	18	19	20	21	10	11	12	13	14				
	24	25	26	27	28	17	18	19	20	21				
	31					24	25	26	27	28				
4: HS End of Quarter 1	November 2022					May 2023					19			
7: HS/Elem Teacher Wrkshp-No School	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	25: VES/ HS End of Quarter 4/Sem 2			
14: HS PT Conf. No School (1-7)		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	26: Teacher Workday - No School			
Elem PT Conf.(12-6)	7	8	9	10	11	8	9	10	11	12	Graduation 7:00pm			
24-25: Fall Break - No School	14	15	16	17	18	15	16	17	18	19				
	21	22	23	24	25	22	23	24	25	26	Month	STUDENTS	HS staff	ELEM staff
	28	29	30			29	30	31			August	0	4	4
9: HS Midquarter 2	December 2022					June 2023								
22- 1/2 student day AM /1/2 Staff workshop PM	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	September	18	20	20
23-Jan 2: Winter Break - No School				1	2				1	2	October	19	19	19
	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	November	18	20	20
	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	December	16	16	16
Snow Make-Up Days:	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	January	20	21	21
First 3 Snow days will be built in	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	February	18	19	19
Days 4-8 will be E-learning	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Total	HS Qtr/Semester End					March	22	23	23
	42	39	41	45	167	Parent Teacher Conf					April	17	17	17
						Non-School Day					May	19	20	20
											June	0	0	0
											Totals	167	179	179

School Closing Information

Bad weather may require that school is:

- Dismissed early
- Canceled for the full day
- Start **2** hours late (**10:15AM**) No morning classes for ½ day AM Head Start, or ½ day PreSchool.

If school starts 3 hours late, the buses will pick up students 3 hours later than their normal pick-up time.

The school website, school facebook page, and Skylert system will carry emergency messages. ALL storm announcements will be given on: KFGO, KVLV/KWJB (Valley News Live), WDAY, KDLM/KBOT, AM1340/104.1FM, KBRF/KJJK, KVRR (Fox News), KLTA, KMSP (Fox 9), WCCO, KARE, KSTP

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Buses arrive from **8:00-8:10am**, and they line up at **3:00pm** on Viking Drive, the bus lane, directly in front of our school. The drive in front of the school is reserved for bus parking only, and it is a "no parking" area. Drop off your child or park at Chauncey Martin Field. Plan with your child to establish a routine, so they will always know where to meet you.



Attendance

Pelican Rapids School District follows the Otter Tail County-Wide School Attendance Procedure

The School Engagement Work Group of the Otter Tail Family Services Collaborative developed this attendance procedure to be incorporated into the procedures of ALL Otter Tail County schools. This team has worked together to develop this procedure because we believe it is necessary to be academically engaged in order to be successful in school.

This procedure only addresses unexcused absences. Unexcused absences are defined by Minnesota Law and specifically within each school district's individual attendance procedure.

Otter Tail County Attendance Procedure

1. Attendance will be taken every half-day in elementary schools and every class period in secondary schools.
2. For purposes of this procedure, unexcused absences are cumulative throughout the school year. Records regarding attendance will transfer with students who transfer between schools within Otter Tail County.
3. Every time a student is absent for any period of time, the school will notify the parents on the day the absence occurs, if the parent has not called or sent a note.
4. After three periods of unexcused absences, a letter will be sent to parents at the discretion of the building principal. The purpose of the letter will be to document the students' unexcused absences.
5. After seven unexcused absences, school will notify the County Attorney's office and the County Attorney's office will schedule a meeting between school personnel, parents, student, Human Services and County Attorney at the Otter Tail County Courthouse. Parents are required to attend a face-to-face meeting with school administrators to develop a Truancy Plan of Action, as a final attempt to compel the student to attend school. A contract will be established with the child, who is then placed under supervision to attend school.
6. If the truancy Plan developed is not followed and the child continues to have seven unexcused absences, the matter will be referred to Human Services for review by the County Attorney's Office for determination for what action should occur.
7. Judges have the authority to administer a variety of consequences, which can include the following:
 - a. A child may lose their driving privileges until he / she is 18 years old.
 - b. The court can order that any necessary evaluation, treatment, and counseling service be completed by the child or family.
 - c. A child can be removed from their home and placed in a shelter or foster care or a short-term facility.

ATTENDANCE IS THE LAW

The compulsory attendance provisions cited in M.S. 120A.22 must be enforced through keeping daily attendance records. Minnesota State Statute requires that children attend school. For students under the age of 17, it is presumed that it is a parental responsibility to ensure the child's attendance. Federal "No Child Left Behind" legislation states that our school must have a minimum of 90% attendance rate, in order to achieve "Adequate Yearly Progress". Parents, students, and the staff of Viking Elementary need to work together to be sure students arrive on time and attend school regularly.

ACADEMICALLY SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL REGULARLY

There is a direct link between regular attendance and academic success. At Viking Elementary School, we believe that attendance habits begin the first year of a school, and these habits become behavior patterns by the time students reach high school.

Parent Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the parent / guardian to CALL OR EMAIL THE OFFICE on the day of the absence or prior to the absence explaining the absence reason. Call 218-863-5910 option 2 for VES. Emails can be sent to glass@vikes.us. Chronic absences may require a medical excuse to be acquired by the parent / guardian. If parents do not contact the school, the absence will be "unexcused" until further information is received.

Absences

EXCUSED ABSENCES: The school will consider the following to be "*Excused Absences*"

- Illness
 - Short-term
 - Chronic illness - Doctor notes may be required
- Medical, Dental, Orthodontic, or Counseling Appointments
 - It is encouraged to schedule these appointment on "non-school Mondays"
 - Students are required to provide a confirmation to to school from all appointments
- Illness or death in the extended family
- Court appearances occasioned by family or personal action
- Unsafe weather or condition beyond the student's control
- Physical emergency conditions such as fire, flood, storm, etc.
- Official religious holidays

The principal may designate other absences "acceptable" as situations arise.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES: The school will consider the following to be "*Unexcused Absences*"

- Missing the bus
- Oversleeping
- Shopping
- Haircuts / Beauty Appointments
- Hunting and fishing
- Family Vacation - Unless pre approved by the school office.
- Any absence without parental permission

*Students may **NOT** participate in extracurricular activities if he / she has an unexcused absence during the day.*

The principal may designate other absences "*unacceptable or unexcused*" as situations arise. Leaving the school without permission at ANY time during the school day will be considered truancy.

Parent Strategies to Encourage Student Attendance

- Let your child know you value education. Insist they attend school every day.
- Talk with your child about school. Is your child struggling with schoolwork or classmates? Ask how you can help.
- Talk with your child's teachers.
- Does your child need a tutor or assessment for special services?
- Get to know your child's friends and their families.



Illness

Parents / guardians will be called if students become ill during the school day. Please notify the office of any changes in address, phone number, work numbers as they happen, so that we may contact you in emergencies.

- In emergency situations, such as serious prolonged illness or hospitalization, the school will arrange a tutor when necessary.
- In the case of excessive absence caused by illness, medical documentation may be required.

When NOT to send your child to school:

- Temp of 100.0 or greater
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Pink eye or strep throat

Your child may return to school from illness when advised by a physician, or:

- Free of symptoms for 24 hours
- Temp remains normal for 24 hours without use of medication
- On an antibiotic for 24 hours

Lice:

- If your child has live lice they will be sent home for the first treatment. Your child must report to the Health Office upon return to school.



Student Medications

If your child will require medications (either prescription or over-the-counter) during the school day, please stop in the office and fill out appropriate forms. These forms must be signed by your parent and/or healthcare provider and returned to the school before your child can receive medication at school.

Behavior & Discipline

Viking Elementary School

A Community of learners dedicated to improving our world.



We are learning to
RESPECT

SELF ~ OTHERS ~ PROPERTY

We work to be sure that:

Optimum learning takes place in
a positive, safe and secure
environment

Students, parents/guardians, teachers,
administrators, and all school staff
share in the responsibility to create a
positive climate for learning

Discipline is used in a progressive
manner, to promote learning of
positive restorative behaviors

General Expectations

Hallway Rules:

1. Walk quietly through the hallways. Our school is a place of learning.
2. Keep to the right, so other people can pass.

Assemblies:

1. Wait quietly for the program to begin.
2. Applaud by clapping your hands only at appropriate times.
3. Remain seated until given instructions.

Cafeteria:

1. Walk and enter the lunchroom quietly.
2. Eat and speak politely and quietly, using table manners.
3. When dismissed, take care of your table, garbage and trays.
4. All students will eat their meals in the cafeteria.
5. Pop is not allowed in the lunchroom at any time.
6. Food may not be taken out of the cafeteria.

Playground:

1. Play in assigned areas and stay on school property.
2. Use the equipment properly.
3. Games requiring physical contact, "rough-housing", or potential bodily harm are not allowed (Dodgeball, tackle games, "king of the hill", snowball fights).
4. Profanity, harassment, or bullying behavior is not allowed.
5. Follow the directions of the adult playground supervisors in a respectful manner.
6. Always wear appropriate outdoor gear as students have outside recess every day unless it is raining or a temperature or wind chill of -10 degrees Fahrenheit.

Consequences

At Viking Elementary, the principal will work with students, parents, and staff to facilitate learning and maintenance of a positive school and classroom climate. Consequences are given to students based on the individual circumstances of each disciplinary situation. Consequences generally follow a progression, but they may be combined or skipped. They can include, but are not limited to the following:

- Verbal Warning / Time out / Teacher intervention
- Parent communication
- Principal Intervention
- Restitution
- Detention
- In School Suspension
- Legal Authorities called / Suspension
- Expulsion

Students must cooperate in all disciplinary or information instances.

The school office maintains a list of disciplinary incidents and consequences which serve as a guideline to teachers and administration.

Unacceptable Behavior

- **Abuse of Property:** Vandalism; defacing or damaging property
- **Bullying / Harassment:** All forms of sexual, racial and religious harassment covered in the district policy, as well as mean spirited conduct, such as teasing or coercion
- **Dishonesty:** Cheating on school assignments or tests, or copying the work of others and calling it your own (plagiarism), forgery, refusing to give proper identification, or giving false information to a staff member
- **Disruptive Behavior:** Any behavior which disrupts or threatens to disrupt the educational process, including disturbing others, tardiness, disobedience, and defiance of authority
- **Disrespect:** The use of words or actions which are obscene, threatening, intimidating, or degrading to other students or adults
- **Fighting:** Any form of conflict where physical blows are exchanged
- **Stealing:** Taking possession of property that belongs to someone else
- **Unsafe or Inappropriate Behavior:** Behavior in the halls lunchroom, playground, bathroom, bus, or common areas, which disrupts the educational climate of the school or endangers people or property
- **Possession of Dangerous Objects:** Possession or use of any alcohol, tobacco, narcotic, controlled substance or drug paraphernalia; possession or use of explosives, fireworks, bullets, ammunition; possession or use of weapons or look alike weapons (any device or instrument which, through its use is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm)

Dress & Grooming

Students should use good judgment and wear appropriate clothing. Parents should use good judgment to help their students determine appropriate clothing attire.

- No profanity, suggestive language, chemical-related, sexual or unhealthy lifestyle words or graphics allowed
- Shorts of appropriate length are allowed. No "short shorts", short skirts or clothing which reveals midriff or shoulder areas
- Shoes must be worn at all times in school for health and safety reasons. No "heelies" or roller shoes in school. Students must have gym shoes in school every day, which need to be worn on the playground and in the gym
- Students may not wear hats or caps in the building, except for specially designated events
- During the winter months, all students must wear hats, gloves, boots and warm winter coats or snowsuits to and from school and on the playground

Bus Conduct

Riding the bus is a privilege. School rules apply to students while on the bus to and from school and during transportation for school events.

RULES

- Follow current CDC/MDH health guidelines
- Immediately follow the directions of the driver
- Sit in your seat, facing forward
- Speak quietly, using appropriate language
- Keep all parts of your body inside the bus
- No fighting, harassment, intimidation or horseplay
- No weapons or dangerous objects on the bus
- Treat the bus with respect. Do not damage it. Keep clean.
- Follow driver guidelines concerning food / drink on the bus
- No alcohol, tobacco or drugs on the bus

CONSEQUENCES

1. Written warning to Parents / Principal
2. 3 day riding suspension
3. 5 day riding suspension
4. 10 day riding suspension and parent / guardian meeting



Bus Service Phone:
218-863-7000

it

Technology Use

The use of the Pelican Rapids School District's technology is a privilege, not a right. If a person violates any of the terms and conditions, privileges may be terminated. This extends to access to all school district technology, internet, and other media. Failure to follow these rules could result in disciplinary action possibly involving law enforcement.

All Viking Elementary students have the opportunity to utilize a school owned device for the school year. This provides a simple and portable way to manage information and allows students constant access to learning opportunities. The individual use of a device is a way for students to prepare for high school, college, trade school and the job force. Students will be allowed to use the district provided internet and are responsible for their on-line behavior.

DISTRIBUTION

- Devices will be distributed each fall to all students who would like one.
- Devices will be returned in May. If a student terminates enrollment for any reason, their device must be returned to the school immediately. Failure to return the device results in fines and / or a report with the Pelican Rapids Police Department.
- Devices will be labeled and identified by the serial number and school label.

CARE

- Students are responsible for the general care of their issued device. Broken or faulty devices should be returned immediately to the technology department
- Devices should not be left unsupervised.
- The device should be stored in a protective case that is provided. Papers, folders and books should not be placed in the case.
- The device screen can be cleaned with a soft dry cloth or an anti-static cloth.
- Students are responsible for any and all damage. Fines will be assessed according to damage; the student is responsible to pay these fines. Fines will be assessed due to broken screens, cracked plastic, inoperability, sleeves, cases and cables/chargers. Should the cost to repair exceed the cost of purchasing a new device, the student will pay the full replacement value

USE

- Devices should come to school each day in working condition and with a full charge.
- Inappropriate media, presence of guns, weapons, pornographic materials, inappropriate language, alcohol, drugs, gang related symbols or pictures are not allowed as screensavers or background photos.
- Internet games are not allowed on the devices.
- All software is district provided and data storage will be cloud based.(device/ server location).
- Printing is available with the device.
- Students are allowed to set up wireless networks on their devices for use at home. It is recommended that documents are saved in one of the following ways: emailed to themselves, use of a flash drive, district server, Microsoft OneDrive, or Google Drive. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that work is saved. Device malfunctions are not an acceptable excuse for not submitting work.
- The Pelican Rapids School District makes no guarantee that the network will be up and running; therefore, they are not responsible for lost or missing data.

SOFTWARE

- The software and apps installed by Pelican Rapids Schools must remain on the device. The tech staff may add software for use in a particular course. Periodic checks may be made to ensure that students are not removing required apps.
- Students are not allowed to load extra software or apps on their devices.
- If illegal software has been added, the device will be reimaged. The school is not responsible for lost information or documents due to reformatting the device.
- Students may be selected at random to provide their device for inspection.

Acceptable Use Policy (School Board Policy 524)

Pelican Rapids School District on district-provided access to electronic information, services and networks. Our goal in providing internet service to teachers and students is to promote educational excellence in the Pelican Rapids School District by facilitating resource sharing, collaborations, innovation, and communication. The District expects that faculty will blend thoughtful use of the internet throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in its use. The expectation of the district is that staff and students will use internet access and devices in an appropriate educational manner.

RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students and Parents/Guardians must follow the acceptable use policy
- Should you want your child to forgo the use of a school device, please let the school know in writing. A student's device must be synced to the school district's computers to ensure the district required applications and safety precautions are installed.
- The school will provide internet and e-mail to all students. They will also block inappropriate material as able.
- The school will provide guidance to help students research and complete projects which are in compliance with the acceptable use agreement.
- Students should monitor all activity on their account and report any problems to an administrator. ISD 548 denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services by negligence or errors on the student's part. If a student receives an email containing inappropriate or abusive language, or questionable subject matter he/she is asked to print a copy and turn it into the office.
- If a student is unsure of trademark, copyright laws, or license agreements, the student should ask a teacher, principal or technical staff.

THESE USES OF DISTRICT PROVIDED INTERNET ACCESS ARE NOT PERMITTED

- violating any local, state, or federal statute.
- accessing, sending, receiving or distributing pornographic, obscene, sexually explicit, abusive, harassing, racist, or threatening material.
- vandalizing, damaging, or disabling the property of this school district or any other individual or organization.
- accessing another individual's materials, information, or files without permission.
- violating copyright or otherwise using the intellectual property of another individual or organization without permission.
- accessing or participating in any chat system, playing games or using game software not licensed by the district.
- subscribing to non educational list serves, bulletin boards, or on-line services
- sending or accessing email without direct supervision of a teacher
- unauthorized commercial use, use for financial gain
- administrators and faculty may review files and messages to maintain system integrity and insure that users are acting responsibly

The District will not be responsible for personal property used to access District computers or networks or for District provided internet access. Ultimately, parents and guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. This policy and all its provisions are subordinate to local, state, and federal statutes.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS DUE TO VIOLATIONS

- 1st Offense – Student will check-in/check-out the device from the help desk daily for three weeks
- 2nd Offense – Students will be suspended from all device/internet privileges for three weeks. Students are still responsible for all required work.
- 3rd Offense – Students will lose device/internet privileges. Students are still responsible for all required work. Seniors will also lose their senior privileges for that year.

General Information

Visitors

The information parents have given the school regarding who is authorized to pick up your child is kept in the office. For that reason, the following rules apply to ALL visitors during school hours:

1. The front entrance is locked during the school day. ALL parents, guardians, and guests must use the buzzer system to enter the school and then sign in at the office during every visit, no matter how short in duration. A “guest” badge will be given to all visitors in the building during school hours.
2. Students will be released to parents or authorized adults **from the office area** during school hours. Secretaries will contact the child’s classroom, and the student will be released to their parent / guardian.
3. Student visitors are not encouraged; please make arrangements with the office.
4. Parent volunteers are welcome, but the district requires every adult to get a background check BEFORE he / she may work with students. The principal and / or teacher will determine times that are appropriate for your child. This also applies to field trip chaperones.

Pets

Viking Elementary School requires that, before an animal is brought into the school setting, the following requirements must be met, to reduce the risk of allergic reactions and disease:

1. The principal must receive documentation of current inoculations, before animals will be allowed in the presence of students.
2. The presence of a pet must be temporary, and directly related to the curriculum of the class.

An adult family member will bring the pet, and follow guidelines set by the principal.

Announcements

Each morning, we recite the Pledge of Allegiance and daily announcements are made over the public address system. Important announcements will be sent home in student backpacks (check your child’s backpack daily) and posted on our facebook page: Pelican Rapids Public Schools.

Student Activity Tickets

Student activity tickets can be purchased in the office for \$35. They admit students to school sponsored events. Section play-offs, class plays, class sponsored events, and musical events are not included. If an activity ticket is lost, a replacement ticket may be purchased for \$5. **FREE Student Activity tickets will be given to enrolled K-12 students of families who have completed a food service application for the 2022-2023 school year.**

Textbooks and Supplies

All necessary books and workbooks are provided to students. Our library also contains a wide variety of books to check out. It is the responsibility of all students to take good care of their books and supplies. Students will be fined for lost or damaged school materials.

Physical Education

All students, grades K-6 will participate in Physical Education classes. Students should have a good pair of gym shoes (tennis shoes) to wear to class. Clothing suitable for bending and stretching is recommended. Girls should bring a pair of shorts or sweatpants to wear under skirts or dresses, when necessary. A student will be excused from participation in physical activities when a signed, dated note from parents is received, with a written explanation. A telephone call or email is also acceptable.

Messages / Telephone Calls

The office phone is not available for student use, except in an emergency, or with permission of the office staff. Urgent messages from parents will be taken during the day in the office and relayed to students by office staff; **please DO NOT call classrooms during the school day. Messages left after 2:30PM may not make it to the student by the end of day.**

Personal Electronic Devices

Cell phones, personal iPods/iPads, Nooks, Kindles, or any other personal electronic devices are not to be seen or heard in the building, unless otherwise directed by the teacher. We strongly recommend these items be left at home during the school day. If devices are brought to school, they need to remain in the student's locker throughout the school day. If students use their device during the school day, it will be turned into the office.

Emergency Drills

Periodic fire drills, lockdowns, and other emergency scenarios will be practiced throughout the year, in accordance with state law. A school emergency plan has been developed, and teachers will discuss with students the proper procedures, which would need to be in place in case of emergency. Students will direct their attention to their teacher during drills, and the expectation is that all drills will be taken seriously.

School Parties

Students and teachers plan class parties cooperatively, at special times throughout the year. Students may bring a treat for the class on their birthday. Please communicate with the teacher

beforehand. Treats should be purchased rather than homemade.

To avoid hard feelings for classmates left out, please organize after-school parties and distribute any party invitations outside of school.

Field Trips

Students may have the opportunity to represent the school district and community on school district sponsored trips. Students will be under the supervision of staff or community teachers / chaperones and need to be on their best behavior. The staff member directly in charge of the trip will determine eligibility in conjunction with the building principal. All class trips must be cleared and planned through the principal. You will be notified and asked to give your permission for your child to go with the group; however, there may be some walking field trips in town for which you sign a walking field trip permission slip at registration. In some cases, students will be asked to bring money to cover the cost of the trip. Please talk to your teacher if this is a hardship, and arrangements will be made to cover the cost. **Field trips are a privilege and the school reserves the right to disallow student participation in a field trip, after notifying parents.**

Report Cards

Report cards will be mailed at the end of each semester.

School Lockers

Student lockers are the property of the school district. Students are responsible for the cleanliness and contents of the locker assigned to them. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. Large amounts of money or valuables should be left at home during the school day. The principal can conduct inspection of the inside of lockers at any time without student consent.

Cafeteria / School Meals

Each student has a lunch account, and money may be added daily. Lunch money should be brought to the office in an envelope with the student's name, teacher's name and the amount printed on the envelope.

Meal Pricing

VES MEAL PRICING	PRHS MEAL PRICING	ADULT MEAL PRICING
BREAKFAST (7:30AM-7:55AM): FREE for ALL Students	BREAKFAST (7:30AM-7:55AM): Full Pay Pricing: \$1.30 Reduced / Free Pricing: FREE	BREAKFAST (7:30AM-7:55AM): Adult Pricing: \$2.00
LUNCH (10:45AM - 12:30PM): Full Pay Pricing: \$2.00 Reduced / Free Pricing: FREE	LUNCH (10:45AM - 12:30PM): Full Pay Pricing: \$2.05 Reduced / Free Pricing: FREE Second Entree' Pricing: \$1.65	LUNCH (10:45AM - 12:30PM): Adult Pricing: \$3.95

LUNCH PROGRAM RULES

- School lunch is to be eaten in the cafeteria. **No food is allowed to leave the cafeteria.**
- Students must have money in their account before they will be permitted to eat. **There will be NO CHARGING of lunch.**
- Money may be added to lunch accounts every morning before school begins or on the school website using SchoolPay.
- No pop, shakes, energy drinks during lunch.

FOOD ALLERGIES

Please notify us of any food allergies. *We are a Peanut Aware School.*

Lactose intolerance: Upon written request from a parent, we will provide:

Lactose reduced milk or milk fortified with lactose, or milk with lactobacillus acidophilus

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture Policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Student Activities

STUDENT LIGHTHOUSE is a student-led leadership team of students in grades 4-6. Members of the group have demonstrated good leadership and express a desire to take part in the group. Together they work on volunteer projects, help plan homecoming events and other events throughout the school year.

THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC (band) program consists of: 5th & 6th grade band. The bands represent the school during the year at concerts. This prepares students for continuation at the high school level where there is opportunity for solo, ensemble, pit band (for plays/musicals), and pep band at sporting events.

THE MUSIC program builds a foundation of musical and rhythmic knowledge throughout each grade level. Students have the opportunity to perform during the school year.

AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS are held throughout the school year. Offering varies from year to year.

OTHER ACTIVITIES: Math Contest, 4-H, Running Club, Just for Kix, Pin 'Em Club, Youth Football, Youth Soccer and other various activities.

Club Vikes

Club Vikes is a certified school aged child care program. Care is available before & after school, non-school weekdays, and during the summer months. For more information, contact Tonya Honrud, Club Vikes Coordinator, at Clubvikes@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us or 218-863-5910 ext 5022.

Student Support Services

Viking Elementary provides a number of support services, to help students academically, emotionally, socially and developmentally. Our support team meets weekly to discuss the needs of students as they arise during the school year. During these meetings, plans are made to help students succeed with the help of specific programs or professionals, including:

SPECIAL EDUCATION EVALUATION AND/OR SERVICES

Students qualifying for special education services have special accommodations and programming during their school day as determined by their Individual Education Plan (IEP) and under the direction of specially trained teachers

TITLE 1 SERVICES

Title 1 is a federally funded program designed to help students who need assistance with reading and math. Any student in our school can take advantage of the many kinds of assistance the Title 1 teachers and paraprofessionals can provide.

VIKING SCHOOL SUCCESS (VSS): After School / Summer Programming

Students may be referred for after school programming by their teacher for additional help with reading and math, social or other school-related skills.

MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONER AND / OR MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

are provided by a district mental health practitioner and mental health professional. These services are provided by a collaborative of Lutheran Social Services of Fergus Falls, Otter Tail County and PR School District. These services are billable to the family's health service with their permission.

Throughout the year, students may meet with these professionals up to three times without parental permission; in cases where more time is needed, parents will be contacted.

Student Disability-Nondiscrimination

Disabled students are protected from discrimination on the basis of disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Learners who need special services, accommodations, or programs in order to receive a free and appropriate education may be served under a 504 plan. (School Board Policy 521)

STUDENTS PROTECTED UNDER A 504 PLAN:

Have a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, including learning; have a record of such impairment; are regarded as having such an impairment. Learners may be eligible for services under a 504 plan, even though they may not qualify for Special Education services. Persons who have questions, comments, or complaints regarding disability issues may contact Derrick Nelson or Lauren Siebels, the district's ADA/504 coordinators at 863-5910.

District 548 Policies

Nondiscriminatory Policy Notice (School Board Policy 522)

The Pelican Rapids Public Schools are committed to providing equal education and employment opportunities to all persons and do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, with regard to public assistance, or any other group or class against which discrimination is prohibited by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 363, U.S. Department of Agriculture Policy and other applicable state or federal laws. Inquiries regarding compliance should be referred to Mr. Derrick Nelson at (218) 863-5910.

Background Checks (School Board Policy 404)

The school district will seek a criminal background check for applicants who receive an offer of employment, or choose to volunteer with the school district.

Alcohol, Tobacco & Drugs

All buildings and grounds of District #548 are tobacco free (School Board Policy 573). The use or possession of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, vaping products, other illegal chemicals, or look-alike products are prohibited in the school, on the school grounds, on surrounding property visible from school grounds, or before, during and after school-sponsored activities / trips.

District 548 Harassment Policy

Everyone at District 548 has the right to feel respected and safe. Consequently, we want you to know about our policy to prevent religious racial or sexual harassment and violence of any kind.

HARASSMENT: A harasser may be a student or an adult. Harassment may include the following: when related to religion, race, sex, or gender; name calling, jokes or rumors; pulling on clothing; graffiti; notes or cartoons; unwelcome touching of a person or clothing; offensive or graphic posters or book covers; any words that make you feel uncomfortable, embarrass you, hurt your feelings, or make you feel bad.

REPORTING: If any words or actions make you feel uncomfortable or fearful you need to tell a teacher, counselor, the principal or human rights officer. You may also make a written report. It should be given to a teacher, counselor, the principal or the human rights officer.

PRIVACY: Your right to privacy will be respected as much as possible. We take seriously all reports of religious, racial or sexual harassment or violence and will take all appropriate actions based on your report.

RETALIATION: The School District will also take action if anyone tries to intimidate you or take action to harm you because you have reported.

This is a summary of the School District policy against religious, racial and sexual harassment and violence. Complete policies are available in the superintendent's office upon request.

CONTACT: MR. BRIAN KORF, HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICER, PELICAN RAPIDS SCHOOL DISTRICT
PHONE: (218) 863-5910.

Hazing (School Board Policy 571)

Hazing means committing an act against a student, or coercing a student into committing an act, that creates a substantial risk of harm to a person or student, in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization, or for any other purpose. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the school district and are prohibited at all times. No student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor or other employee of the school district shall plan, direct, encourage, aid or engage in hazing. Apparent permission or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy. This policy applies to behavior that occurs on or off school property and during and after school hours. A person who engages in an act that violates school policy or law in order to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization shall be subject to discipline for that act. The school district will act to investigate all complaints of hazing and will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor or other employees of the school district who is found to have violated this policy. The term hazing includes, but is not limited to:

REPORTING: Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of hazing or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute hazing shall report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official (i.e. building principal or Superintendent).

SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTION: Upon receipt of a complaint, the school district shall undertake or authorize an investigation. The school district may take immediate steps, at its discretion, to protect the complainant, reporter, students, or others pending completion of an investigation. Upon completion of the investigation, the school district will take appropriate action. Action may include, but is not limited to, warning, suspension, exclusion, expulsion, transfer, remediation, termination or discharge.

REPRISAL: The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor or other employee of the school district who retaliates against any person who makes a good faith report of alleged hazing or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation or hearing. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

DISSEMINATION OF POLICY: This policy shall appear in each school's student handbook and in each school's building and staff handbooks.

Directory Information

The School Board has designated the following as directory information relating to a student: the student's name; address; telephone number; electronic mail address; photograph; date and place of birth; major field of study; dates of attendance; grade level; enrollment status; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; degrees, honors and awards received; the most recent educational agency or institution attended by the student; and other similar information. Directory information also includes the name, address and telephone number of the student's parents. Directory information does not include identifying information on a student's religion, race, color, social position or nationality.

Directory information is used at Viking Elementary school, with discretion, in publications which would not be intentionally harmful or an invasion of privacy for your child. Examples of these might be:

- a program showing your child's role in a school-sponsored event
- the annual yearbook
- recognition and/or photo in newspapers, website, or newsletters

Directory information can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's consent, in rare cases. Examples of this might be:

- state or federal authorities auditing, evaluating programs or enforcing state laws
- release of transcripts to other schools
- court order or subpoena

FERPA Annual Notice

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive federal funds.

FERPA requires the school district, within certain exceptions, to obtain your written permission prior to disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's educational records. However, the school may disclose some student information without written consent when the information is designated "directory information", unless you have informed the school in writing.

Discrimination, Harassment & Violence

Religious, racial, sexual and gender discrimination, harassment and violence are against the law.

- **Harassment** may include the following when related to religion, race, sex, or gender; name-calling, jokes or rumors, graffiti, notes, cartoons, unwelcome touching of a person or clothing, offensive or graphic posters or book covers, or any words that make a person feel uncomfortable, embarrassed, have hurt feelings or make them feel bad. Harassment may also include any and all of the above actions that occur on the internet. A harasser may be a student or an adult.
- Persons being harassed need to **report the harassment**. If any words or action make a person feel uncomfortable or fearful, they need to tell a teacher, counselor, the principal or the Human Rights Officer and/or make a written report which should then be given to a teacher, counselor, the principal or the Human Rights Officer.
- A person's right to **privacy** will be respected as much as possible. All reports of religious, racial, sexual and gender discrimination, harassment or violence will be taken seriously and appropriate action will be taken.
- **The accused person may not retaliate**. The School District will take appropriate action if anyone tries to intimidate a person or take action to harm a person because they have reported. This is a summary of the School District policy against religious, racial, sexual and gender discrimination, harassment, and violence. Complete policies are available in the superintendent's office upon request.

CONTACT: MR. BRIAN KORF, HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICER, PELICAN RAPIDS SCHOOL DISTRICT PHONE: (218) 863-5910.

Title IX

The Title IX coordinator for the Pelican Rapids (PR) School District is the Activities Director (AD) Derrick Nelson. The Section 504 coordinator for the PR School District is the building principals. Contact at Box 642, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 or phone (218) 863-5910.

Independent School District #548 Discrimination Form is located on the next page

Independent School District #548 Discrimination Form

Independent School District No. 548 maintains a policy prohibiting all forms of unlawful discrimination. All students are to be treated with respect and dignity. Unlawful discrimination by any teacher, administrator or other school personnel will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Complainant: _____

Home

Address: _____

Work

Address: _____

Home

Phone: _____

Work

Phone: _____

Date of Alleged

Incident(s): _____

Name of person you believe unlawfully discriminated toward you or a student:

If the alleged unlawful discrimination was toward another person, identify that person:

Describe the incident(s) as clearly as possible, including such things as what force, if any, was used; any verbal statements (i.e. threats, requests, demands, etc.); what, if any, physical contact was involved; etc. (Attach additional pages if necessary):

Where and when did the incident(s) occur:

List any witnesses that were present:

This complaint is filed based on my honest belief that _____ has unlawfully discriminated against me or a student. I hereby certify that the information I have provided in this complaint is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Complainant Signature: _____ (Date) _____

Received by: _____