

Goodsell Early Learning Center Handbook

185 West Center
Shelley, ID 83274
208-357-5625
Fax 208-357-3040
www.shelleyschools.org

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Bus Barn: 357-7582

We welcome you to the Early Learning Center and hope you and your child have a positive experience. We enjoy parental involvement and hope you will join us in making your child's first year of school a success.

Teacher Assignment/Registration

You will receive a letter from your child's teacher at the beginning of August. This letter will have the date of a Kindergarten registration at the school. You will need to bring your child to meet his/her teacher. Your child will also need to bring their school supplies and a kindergarten fee. (for milk and materials that directly benefit the children)

Transportation

Bussing to and from kindergarten is provided. Bus information and arrangements for your child will also be made at registration.

Your child's safety is our first concern. Supervision is unavailable before 7:50 a.m. or 11:35 a.m (Mondays 11:00 a.m.) Please do not drop off your child before that time. They should be dropped off at the west entrance to the building.

Please do not park in bus slots or behind buses on Emerson. It is dangerous when children run into the street between the buses. Please park on West Center or West Maple street.

If your child gets picked up or walks home he/she will exit by the office doors. Please meet him/her there. Bus riders exit at the west entrance. Your child **must** have a note if there is a change to their routine. If they do not have one they will ride the bus to their usual stop.

Kindergarten Times

AM Kindergarten

Monday	8:00 am - 10:25 am
Tuesday through Friday	8:00 am - 11:00 am

PM Kindergarten

Monday	11:10 am - 1:35 pm
Tuesday through Friday	11:45 am - 2:45 pm

On days where there is only half a day of school, there will be no kindergarten in the AM or PM.

Kindergarten Supply List

(Also available at www.shelleyschools.org)

1 – 4 oz. School glue (Elmer’s black label)

4 large glue sticks (1.27 oz. Elmer’s or Avery– small glue sticks don’t last)

5 - #2 pencils, sharpened

1 Prang watercolors (brush is large and paints will last a long time), write child’s name on the box

1 pocket folder, write child’s name on front

2 large boxes of tissues

1 75-count container sanitizing wipes for cleaning tables

1 low odor dry erase marker

4 – 8-count Crayola crayons, regular size (if you buy a 24 count, please pull out and send only the 8 basic colors in a Ziploc bag/total of 32)

1 – 16-count Crayola crayons, regular size

Backpack big enough for school papers, write child’s name on inside (please, no rolling backpacks)

Please do not write names on anything except paints, folder and backpack.

Attendance

Regular school attendance and being on time in Kindergarten is very important. Student attitudes and learning patterns are established that last throughout their educational experience. Concepts missed are difficult to make up and start a trend of poor achievement in school.

If a child is ill or has a fever, they should stay home until the fever is gone and they are judged by the parent to be well enough to return to school. For your child's safety – Please call the school the day your child is absent and notify the secretary at 357-5625.

We assume your child comes to school every day. After we check our phone log, we start our emergency procedures to locate your child. It is our way of creating a safe school environment for students in our school. The gate is locked when the bell rings. Please make sure your child enters the building at the front office if they are not on the playground when the bell rings.

If there are any changes in the place your child is supposed to go after school, you must send a note. We do not allow a child to go with another person or on a different bus without a note.

Please call if you pick your child up after school and you are going to be late. If your child comes late or needs to leave early, you must check in at the office.

Excessive absences will be dealt with according to Shelley School District 60 Policy 501.10 no. E 2, which states: 2. *“For students in grades K-8, a student may be denied promotion if the student was not in attendance at least 90% of the time the class and/or subject was being taught.”* (This means that a child is allowed to miss only 9 days per semester.)

Withdrawing Students

If you withdraw your child, please notify the office in advance. This will allow time to complete the checkout procedure and ensure a smooth transition. Please take care to see that all school property is returned.

Medication

If your child needs to take medication at school you will need to obtain a request form from the office. It will need to be filled out completely and requires a doctor's signature. The medication should be sent to school in the original container. It is the responsibility of the student to come to the office when it is time to take the medication as per his/her teacher's direction.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Conferences are held in November and March. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's teacher and discuss how your child is doing in school. Each conference is set for 15 minutes. Please be on time and respectful of those scheduled after you. Conferences are for the parent and teacher.

Cold Weather Policy

All children are expected to go outside for recess, unless they are recovering from an illness and bring a note. Recess is an important part of your child's day and gives them a break in the fresh air. Please dress your child for the weather. If it is raining or too cold to be outside, there will be an inside activity for them.

School Closure

District Administration determines whether to close or delay school due to severe weather conditions. A decision will be made by 6:00 a.m. and the media will be notified. Please listen to the radio or TV or check the school's website on days when you wonder whether there will be school or not.

School Safety

All of our building outside doors, except at the front office, will be locked after school starts each day. This district policy helps ensure a safe environment for our students. Please enter the school by the office doors, check in with the secretary, and pick up a visitor pass while you are helping in the school. **Everyone who comes into the building needs to wear a visitor pass while they are in the school.**

During the year we practice fire, earthquake, tornado, and intruder drills. As you hear about these drills, please assure your children that they are safe at school.

Wheellie shoes and flip flops are not appropriate for school

Homework

Parent involvement is a very important part of your child's education. Along with the work done at school, your child may bring home practice pages to do at home. Your child will be given a homework folder to carry papers back and forth. Please check it each night and remove those papers that stay at home. If they have homework that needs to be returned to school, please send it back in the folder. The folder needs to be brought to school every day.

Children will be bringing home their take-home stories. Please read these with your child and sign the homework sheet. The take-home stories are theirs to keep. Please keep them all together so your child can reread them throughout the year.

As part of your daily routine, please set aside time to read with your child for at least 10-15 minutes. Beginning in October, you will be asked to keep track of the minutes read for the Book-It program. With this program, your child can earn a free pizza from Pizza Hut. It ends in March.

Homework is not graded but it is important for extra practice. We hope that it will be an enjoyable time for you to spend with your child.

Back to School Night

A "Back to School Night" will be scheduled at the beginning of the year. A flyer will be sent home with date and time information. This is for parents only and only one parent needs to attend. Since this takes place in your child's classroom, there is limited seating. At this meeting, your child's teacher will explain how things are done in her classroom and answer any questions you may have. This is a great time to sign up to be a volunteer in your child's classroom.

Birthday Policies

Please do not send or bring "birthday balloon bouquets" to your child at school. If you would like to send or bring a treat on or near your child's birthday, please call your child's teacher to arrange it. District school policy says treats should NOT be homemade.

Do not send birthday party invitations to school unless there is one for every child in the room. Teachers are not allowed to give out phone numbers or addresses. (Privacy Act)

Book Orders

Book orders will usually be sent home at the beginning of each month. The teacher will let you know when it is due. The books are usually received 2 weeks after the teacher sends in the book order.

This is an inexpensive way to build your home library. Free books are earned for the classroom with points earned from your book orders. You may send cash or a check made out to the company. Return the order with the money in a sealed envelope with "Book Order" and child's name written on the outside.

Halloween

Students do not wear costumes to school on Halloween. Children are invited to wear crazy hair or a hat. There will be games in the gym for all the Kindergarten children after recess on Halloween.

Show and Tell

"Show and Tell" is held on Fridays. Children may bring one thing to show and tell about. This helps children develop language skills as they share and listen. At the beginning of the year they will probably be asked to bring something that begins with a letter they are learning.

Do not send anything fragile or valuable. Pets or babies will need to be arranged with the teacher and brought in by the parent.

It is against school district policy to bring guns, knives or any type of weapon on school grounds. Items that look like weapons are prohibited.

These are not acceptable items for show and tell.

Money and Supplies for the School

There are many opportunities for parents to financially help the school. These are simple things that can make a big difference if we all work together. Some of them are:

Box Tops for Education - These can be found on numerous General Mills, Betty Crocker and Pillsbury products. Look for the small white and pink rectangle located on the outside of the box (often at the top). Clip these out and send them in. Each "Box Top" collected is worth 10 cents to the school. Also look for Bonus Box Top opportunities at many grocery stores for additional earnings.

Campbell's Soup Labels – The labels from Campbell's soup, Prego and Spaghetti-O's can be turned in to the schools and used to get school supplies and equipment for the playgrounds. A small label is also located on Pepperidge Farm products like Goldfish crackers. Many grocery stores also offer additional opportunities to earn bonus labels with purchase.

Tyson Chicken Labels – Look for the label on the side of any boxed Tyson chicken item or at the top of the bag on larger Tyson products. These labels are worth 24 cents each to our school.

Cream O' Weber Caps - Save the caps from Cream O' Weber products. Each of these is worth 5 cents to our schools.

Shelley Education Foundation- Monetary donations. You may specify which school and/or program you would like to contribute to.

Smith's Food Earn and Learn Program – Simply take your Fresh Values Card to the Customer Service booth and pick your school. They will scan your card and the school selected. Then, with every purchase made on your Fresh Values Card, you will be earning money for your school.

Target – Target offers a credit card that gives a portion of all charges to the school of your choice.

Volunteering

Teachers depend on volunteers for many different programs at the school including P.E., science, reading and math, fieldtrips, etc. Please contact your child's teacher for more information.

The PTA is a great place to get involved! They plan several different activities for students throughout the year. You can contact the school office for the name and phone number of the Goodsell PTA vice-president if you would like to volunteer.

Curriculum

Kindergarten Reading is very intensive and fast paced with a lot of activities. At the first of the year the majority of the focus will be on the letters and their sounds. Within the first few weeks of school the children will begin to bring home little books to read. Please have them read the books to you at least three times. Keep the books to make a home library so they can review them during the year.

We also use the Waterford program on the computers. Your child will have a couple of turns a week for about 15 minutes. They will listen to rhymes, make up stories and learn about letters. Along with this program there is a set of books and videos that you will check out for the year. The homework practice at the beginning of the year is from the alphabet poems in these books. Midyear you will be asked to return these books and tapes so that we can continue this program the following year. We will send a note home when it is time to return them.

Math – We use the Saxon Math program. A parent volunteer usually teaches these lessons in small groups during stations. We will learn to count by 1's, 5's, and 10's. We will learn to sort, graph, name coins, shapes and colors, make patterns, and solve story problems.

Social Studies – In Kindergarten we learn about the world of work. Parents are asked to come in and show-and-tell what they do for their work. This is usually on Fridays for about 25 minutes. Information and a sign-up sheet will be sent home after Harvest vacation.

Science – Science is a hands-on activity once a week for 20 minutes. We learn about senses, seasons and weather, magnets, seed and plants, space, dinosaurs, insects, and water. Parent volunteers are needed to help with these activities.

Positive Action - Rotates with the science schedule. Children learn good behavior techniques.

Music – We have a music teacher who teaches the children songs once a week. There will be a program for parents in April.

Library – Children will go to the library once a week. They listen to stories at the beginning of the year. When children start checking out books, they will need to return that book the next week before they can check out a new one. Charges will be assessed for lost books.

PE –Children have PE once a week. They work on large-motor skills.

Immunizations

State law requires proof of immunizations upon enrollment and prior to school attendance. The school must maintain records for each student. The state requires a report from each school on the status of each student in regard to minimum immunizations. Please keep your child's record current by notifying the school when new shots are received.