WAKEFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK

Wakefield is a learning place where

Every student is prepared for

Success in the 21st Century

Cynthia Keech, Principal

Jack Zellmer, Assistant Principal

Tel: 919-562-3555

Fax: 919-562-3553

http://wakefieldes.wcpss.net

Dear Wakefield Family,

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! We have an exciting year ahead of us. This past year, we completed and achieved many firsts. Among these, we:

- Painted the school interior
- Installed a new gym floor and front office floor
- Repainted our parking lot and traffic lines
- Trimmed trees and shrubs
- Beautified school grounds by cutting back trees and shrubs and began playground repairs by filling in holes and reseeding the lawn
- Reintroduced new systems and procedures for arrival and dismissal
- Applied for PBIS state recognition
- Added additional afterschool programs including Y Learning with the YMCA
- Began partnerships with Wakefield High School in science and theatre
- Increased tutoring program on campus
- Implemented a schedule change which protects core instruction for all students
- Partnered with PTA to order new playground equipment
- Installed SMART boards/flat panel monitoring systems in each regular classroom
- Implemented a weekly all-call message process

In this 2016-2017, school year, we are planning additional programs and changes. My dream is for every child attending Wakefield Elementary to succeed academically and continue to love learning. In order to achieve this dream, more work around the district's strategic plan will need to be completed. By fully implementing the WCPSS' Vision that "All Wake County Public School System students will be prepared to reach their full potential and lead productive lives in a complex and changing world", our students will succeed.

We must also keep in mind the district mission: "Wake County Public School System will provide a relevant and engaging education and will graduate students who are collaborative, creative, effective communicators and critical thinkers:" We will do our part to insure the WCPSS goal: "By 2020, WCPSS will annually graduate at least 95% of its students ready for productive citizenship as well as higher education or a career". I know we can reach all of our goals with the help of our families and community.

You can support your child and our school by reviewing and becoming familiar with the policies at the beginning of this handbook. We also highly encourage you to join our PTA and participate in our many activities throughout the year. Our PTA programs are an important part of our school environment. Please visit the PTA website at www.wespta.org for updated news and volunteer opportunities.

Let's work hard this year and proclaim to the world: "I AM PROUD TO BE A WAKEFIELD EAGLE!"

Sincerely,

Cindy Keech, Principal

WCPSS DRESS CODE POLICY

Principals and teachers shall exercise appropriate discretion in implementing this policy, including making reasonable accommodations on the basis of students' religious beliefs or medical conditions. Students are expected to adhere to standards of dress and appearance that are compatible with an effective learning environment. Presenting a bodily appearance of wearing clothing which is disruptive, provocative, revealing, profane, vulgar, offensive or obscene, or which endangers the health and safety of the student or others is prohibited. Examples of prohibited dress or appearance include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Exposed undergarments
- 2. Sagging pants
- 3. Excessively short or tight garments,
- 4. Bare midriff shirts, strapless shirts, halter tops, sleeveless straps, (must be 2 inches wide)
- 5. Attire with messages or illustrations that are lewd, indecent, or vulgar or that advertise any product or service not permitted by law to minors,
- 6. Head covering of any kind,
- 7. See-through clothing attire that exposes cleavage,
- 8. Any adornment such as chains or spikes that reasonably could be perceived as or used as a weapon,
- 9. Any symbols, styles or attire frequently associated with intimidation, violence or violent groups about which students at particular schools have been notified,
- 10. Proper shoe attire should be worn for physical education classes and playground.

Individual schools are free to specify additional examples of dress or appearance that are prohibited at that school under terms of this policy. If a student's dress or appearance is such that it constitutes a threat to the health or safety of

themselves or others, distracts the attention of other students or staff from their work or otherwise violates this dress code, the principal or the principal's designee may require the student to change his or her dress or appearance. A second or repeated violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action.

EARLY ARRIVAL

Wakefield has an Early Arrival program from 7:00 AM to 8:45 AM. The fee for this program is \$96.25 per month per child. There is also a \$15.00 non-refundable registration fee for each child. Payment is due according to the payment schedule given to parents. The registration form is available from the Early Arrival Coordinator or in the school's front office.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE

The school day begins at 9:15 AM. Your child should be in their seat and ready for the day by 9:15 AM. If your student arrives at school after that time, he/she will be considered tardy and <u>must be accompanied by an adult</u> to the office for check-in on the computer. Students may be dropped off anytime after 8:45 AM. Students arriving prior to 8:45 AM MUST be enrolled in the Early Arrival Program. Students may not be dropped off early to wait without adult supervision for school to open nor will they be permitted to enter the building. No parking is allowed in the carpool lane during loading/unloading periods. From 7:00 AM to 8:45 AM students attending Early Arrival will enter through the cafeteria and an adult will need to sign them in.

In the afternoon, the bus riders are dismissed from the classrooms to the cafeteria and then they board the buses as each bus arrives on campus. Car riders and sidewalk walkers are dismissed no earlier than 3:45 PM to the paved area by the carpool lane. Path walkers are dismissed through the back gate. Parents meeting walkers should wait outside in the designated area located behind the white lines. As you arrive in the carpool lane, a staff member will look for your child's identification card in the vehicle window. It is our expectation

that parents pick up their children between 3:45 and 4:00. All car riders must be picked up in the carpool line. Students will not be allowed to meet their rides in the parking lot. Children should not be dropped off to walk through the bus loop or in the back parking lot. Display your carpool number each day. Cars without numbers will be asked to park and come in to show identification and check the child/children out using the computer check out system in the office. We encourage students to ride our school buses if you live in an eligible area, or you might want to organize a carpool in your neighborhood to reduce the number of cars in our line. Also, picking up students prior to dismissal to avoid waiting in the carpool line is unacceptable.

Request for early dismissal should be submitted, in writing, to your child's teacher if you need to change the way your child/children go home at the end of the day. We will call the classroom when you arrive. If an emergency arises and you can't send a note, please call the front office by 3PM. Do **NOT** leave messages on the office phone about a child's dismissal. Please keep calling until you reach a person. **No dismissal of students after 3:00 pm.**

Your cooperation ensures a safe arrival and dismissal for all of our students.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Please listen to the local radio and television stations for announcements. Any change in school hours will also be posted on the Wake County website (www.wcpss.net). In the event of a 2 hour delay, students may arrive at school no earlier than 10:45. Dismissal remains at 3:45. Bus schedules are also delayed by 2 hours. If you are enrolled in our Before School Care, those hours are also delayed by 2 hours.

School closings will also be announced on radio/television/website. For year-round calendar schools, any closings will be made up on Saturdays at a later date that will be announced. Only tracks that are in at the time of the school closings will make up that day. On Saturday, the school day is from 8:45-12:30. No breakfast, no lunch, no recess, no specials on these make-up days. Additional information will be sent if necessary.

ATTENDANCE

Daily attendance is essential for student success. Attendance is recorded each morning. A student who is absent from school or leaves school before 12:30PM must bring a note or send an email to the teacher specifying the reason for the absence. The teacher must record an unexcused absence if parents fail to do so.

Vacations and family gatherings are **NOT** excused absences. The principal may approve trips planned for educational purposes and should be submitted **two** weeks in advance. **Forms for this are provided in the school office.** It is recommended that vacations and family gatherings be planned during school breaks.

Children arriving after 9:15 AM must check into the office with their parents and will be counted as tardy.

Children dropped off after 12:30 or picked up before 12:30 will be counted absent. Parents must sign the child out in the office for early dismissal. We will call the student to the office at that time. Please pay close attention to the "time" on the sign in/out computer as this is the clock used to determine attendance accuracy. Children must be present for a combined 3 hours 15 minutes to be counted as a day.

Contact your child's teacher regarding procedures for making up missed work.

MEDICATION

Young children frequently are exposed to viruses at school. You must keep your child home if he/she has a fever or has vomited within 24 hours or has an undiagnosed rash. When students become sick during the day or are hurt in an accident, parents will be notified. It is necessary for us to have accurate directory information so we can reach you in the event of an illness or an

emergency. Please keep your child's teacher <u>and</u> the school office informed of any changes that occur in address, home or work phone numbers, or emergency contacts.

Wakefield has a school nurse assigned part-time from the Wake County Health Department. To contact the school nurse, call the school's main number 919-562-3555 and leave a message. She will return your call as soon as possible.

School officials may administer medication to students if the **Parent Request and Physician Order for Medication Form (1702) is** on file with school officials. **Students may not transport medication. Parents must bring the medication to the school.**

No medication can be given unless it is in a container dispensed by a pharmacy. The label should be marked with the student's name, name of medication, the date the prescription was filled and directions clearly marked. Short-term medication, such as antibiotics, may be administered at school during the last days of an acute illness and the pharmacist's label serves as the physician's order. Personnel may not administer over the counter medication without a physicians' request and a 1702 form. In addition, students are not allowed to self-medicate with over the counter medication (i.e. cough drops, Tylenol).

PARENT/TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

The Wakefield Elementary PTA is a strong and active organization that influences many different areas of the school. All parents are urged to join the PTA and participate with any programs the PTA provides. These services and events are designed to enrich the instructional programs for the children and to enhance the school's community spirit. Whether you work full-time, have younger/older children, or other time commitments, there are always ways in which you can become involved with a PTA program. Please refer to the PTA's website www.wespta.org or quarterly newsletters for a list of programs, current Board contacts, and any other information.

PARENT VISITS

We welcome your participation in your child's school life. Parents are encouraged to attend PTA meetings and functions, classroom activities, lunch, and to volunteer as frequently as possible. These activities indicate to your child your interest in his/her education. Please see your child's teacher and/or the school's Guidance Counselor for volunteer opportunities. Instructional time is protected from impromptu conferences and visits. If you need to conference with the teacher, please call and schedule a time outside of the instructional day. If you walk your child in, please do not conference with the teacher at that time.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Each school year, parents and guardians must register or reactivate their status to volunteer in the school. It is a quick and easy application completed online here at the school. Please make sure to select Wakefield Elementary School as a school you would like to volunteer in, so that the school receives the approved notice. Please make it a priority to get this registration done early in the school year, because sometimes it can take a while to process. Even if you may want to go on a field trip, help out with a classroom activity, or help with field trip – you MUST register. This helps protect and keep our students safe. Thanks to all our volunteers for all they do each day here at Wakefield.

CAFETERIA

Wakefield operates a food service program that offers breakfast and lunch. Meals may be purchased daily, however to simplify the process, we recommend prepayment of lunches through the use of a lunch account. Money can be designated for the "lunch only" or "snack" account. Money placed in the snack account can be used for the purchase of lunch and/or snacks. Students will be allowed to purchase no more than two snacks daily. Money placed in the lunch account can only be used for the purchase of lunch. Students will use their NCWISE identification numbers to access their accounts.

Elementary School Prices

Breakfast

Student Full Price: \$1.25

Student Reduced Price: Free

Adult Price: A la Carte

Lunch

Student Full Price: \$2.25

Student Reduced Price: .40

Adult Price: A la Carte

Milk only: .50

Prepayments can be accepted anytime but are encouraged to be brought to the cafeteria between 7:00AM and 10:00AM. Low balance letters will be printed every Monday to keep parents informed of balance status.

Children who qualify are served meals at reduced rates or free of charge. Applications for this program are mailed prior to the opening of school, go home in Monday folders at the beginning of the new year or may be picked up in the school office.

Parents are welcome to eat lunch with their children. Parents are encouraged to purchase lunch from our cafeteria or bring a bag lunch from home. Please sign in at the front office prior to meeting your child in the cafeteria. This is a very congested area, please be mindful of classes in session nearby. Parents may choose to leave the cafeteria to eat with their child (no others) at the picnic tables

outside. Please refrain from playing with the playground equipment. Also, please do not give food to children other than your own.

BUS INFORMATION

Please discuss the importance of good behavior on the school bus. In addition to the Wake County School Board policies for conduct on a school vehicle, which are located in the System's Student/Parent Handbook, we emphasize a few very simple rules to safeguard our students.

- 1. Keep hands and feet inside the windows, out of the aisle, and to yourself
- 2. No food or drinks are allowed on the bus.
- 3. Stay seated
- 4. Use your inside voices

The bus driver is the acting authority on the bus and all directions are to be followed. The Wake County Public Schools Transportation Department works extremely hard and diligently to provide safe, efficient transportation for your children. Unfortunately there are sometimes unavoidable delays due to traffic, weather, driver shortages, etc. When there are significant delays that the WCPSS Transportation Department is aware of, they will provide a voicemail message explaining the delay.

BUS DISCIPLINE

The bus driver will report inappropriate student conduct to the principal or the assistant principal. Parents will be notified and action compliant with laws, policies, and regulations will be followed. Students can be excluded from riding the bus. Parents shall provide transportation to and from school during this time. Absences during this period will be unexcused.

Parents may not change their child's regular means of transportation. Often, parents request that their child ride the bus home with another student. We can no longer approve this request. Bus drivers will not allow students on the bus if they have not been assigned to the bus by transportation.

If your home address has changed, please notify us immediately with your new address and provide appropriate paperwork of proof of residence. This will enable us to work with WCPSS Transportation to make new transportation arrangements. It is also important for us to have accurate contact information in case of emergencies, either here at the school or on the bus.

CARPOOL PROCEDURES

The children's safety is our primary concern. Our carpool system is designed to offer safe and efficient dismissal of students who are picked up daily in private vehicles. Carpool registration and information may be picked up in the school office. We ask parents who drive to school to participate in the carpool system. Due to traffic backups, we ask that you respect the following guidelines to make carpool safe and efficient for all:

Students Are Not Allowed To Be Dropped Off or Picked Up In The Back Parking Lot.

- 2. Display carpool tag from the rear mirror of your vehicle. If the carpool tag is not displayed in the window of the vehicle, you will be asked to proceed to the parking lot and go into the office to sign out the child/children. Please bring a picture ID.
- 3. NO CELL PHONE USE DURING CARPOOL.
- 4. Students may be dropped off between 8:45am 9:15am in the carpool lane.
- 5. To avoid carpool delay, arrive between 3:50pm and 3:55pm in the afternoon.
- 6. PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY.
- 7. Carpool tags may be picked up in the main office.

All parents are asked to consistently follow the school's carpool and dismissal procedures. Consistent procedures allow for orderly, efficient and safe entry and dismissal of all students. Parents choosing to disregard these procedures will receive a letter from the school and the Wake County School's Security Department.

HOME TO SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Please feel free to contact the school at any time to schedule conferences with faculty or administrators. You may contact any staff member by calling the front office at 919-562-3555, sending a message to school with your child and using email. Teachers are willing to return phone messages and emails as soon as possible.

We ask parents not to arrive at school unannounced and expect impromptu conferences with teachers. Our teachers are providing instruction, planning and supervising children. Conferences must be scheduled in advance with the teacher.

If you need to get a message to your child during the school day, please call in the morning, if possible, so the message can be delivered during the lunch hour. Late afternoon calls are difficult to deliver because of the volume of activity in the front office prior to dismissal each day.

SCHOOL TO HOME COMMUNICATION

Our educational team is committed to maintaining a strong communication network to keep parents informed of student progress, curriculum issues, and school activities. To give parents a closer look at what is happening in our classrooms a weekly folder will be sent home each Monday. If students are not in school on Monday, the folder will be sent home on Tuesday. The Monday Folder may contain: work samples, information from PTA or the principal, and information that the teacher may want to share about classroom activities, student academic progress, and/or comments on student behavior. Please take time each week to review this information with your child.

In addition to receiving Monday folders, teachers will phone or write notes to parents when necessary. Classroom teachers will also schedule parent-teacher conferences twice during the year. Parents may initiate additional conferences at any time where there is a need. These are excellent times to discuss strategies for working together for the benefit of your child.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE POLICY

Our school uses the Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) program to establish common expectations for students across all school settings. Guidelines for student responsibility have been developed to protect the learning environment for all students. A description of classroom and school expectations is included in the back of the handbook. Respect for others and safety guide the development of these expectations. Parents should discuss behavioral expectations with their children. No student will be allowed to disrupt the school climate. If a student is disruptive, the teacher will follow our school plan. If disruptions continue, the students will conference with an administrator.

The student, teacher, parent and administrator will devise a plan to solve the problem, which may lead to temporary removal from the classroom. If a student creates an unsafe situation for himself/herself or others, he/she may be removed from the class or school. Please review the board policy in the Wake County Student/Parent Handbook. Parent support of the school's policies is essential to ensure a positive educational climate.

All students are responsible for complying with and are expected to be familiar with the WCPSS Code of Student Conduct and school board policies governing student behavior and conduct. All Code of Student conduct policies are contained in the WCPSS Student/Parent Handbook, which is distributed to all students and parents at the beginning of each school year or upon enrolment in the WCPSS. If there is a conflict between the rules expressed in this handbook/agenda/planner and the Code of Student Conduct policies, the WCPSS Code of Student Conduct policies shall take precedence.

POLITICAS DE DISCIPLINA DE LA ESCYEKA

Todos los estudiantes son responsables de cumplir y familiarizarse con el Codigo de Conducta estundiantil del WCPSS y las Politicas de la Junta de Educacion que gobiernan el comportamiento y la conducta de los estudiantes. Hoy estas ploiticas del Condigo de Conducta Estudiantil se encuentran en el manual del WCPSS de Estudiantes/Padres, elcual se distribuye a todos los padres y estuiantes al ingresar a la escuela. Las reglas expresadas en este manual deben tener prioridad en su cumplimiento.

DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Wakefield Elementary School supports the North Carolina State Board of Education Policy on Healthy Active Children.

Students at Wakefield Elementary will receive a minimum of thirty minutes of daily physical activity. This may be through physical education class, structured activity with the classroom teacher or recess activities. This activity time will not be taken away as punishment.

EARLY RELEASE DAYS

WCPSS and Wakefield Elementary are committed to providing the best education possible for every student. This requires adequate time for teachers to collaborate and be trained in a variety of teaching methods that will reach all learners. Below is the list of Early Release Days for this year. We release the children at 1:15pm.

September 9, 2016 December 2, 2016

September 30, 2016 January 20, 2017

October 21, 2016 February 10, 2017

REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION

We will not have the report card and interim dates available before this handbook goes to press. We will send out those dates at the beginning of the school year.

THE LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

The Library Media Center offers open circulation to all students from 8:45am to 3:30pm. Kindergarten – 2^{nd} grade classes also visit the Library Media Center on a rotating schedule for information skills lessons. Third – fifth grade classes utilize a flexible schedule to work on large and small group projects, as well as informational skills lessons.

Students may check out books/magazines for a three-week loan period. If more time is needed, a student may bring the book to the Library Media Center to be renewed. Kindergarten students check out 1 book each visit; first and second graders, 2 books; and third through fifth graders, 3 books. Students are encouraged to be responsible stewards of the Library Media Center books and magazines as they use and enjoy these materials. If books are damaged or lost, students are asked to pay for replacement copy.

Other scheduled activities for the school year include: an annual book fair sponsored by our PTA; storytelling/read aloud activities; the NC Children's Book Awards Contest, small group research, and various promotional reading activities. For more information, visit the Library Media Center's link on our school website.

At Wakefield Elementary your CHARACTER COUNTS!

All school year long, teachers will be highlighting character traits in their classrooms. Student will earn blue tickets and classes will earn feathers for displaying the monthly character traits

Each month, students will participate in a classroom lesson and activity based on the character traits below.

August

Respect: Treating people in ways that show you value them

September

Responsibility: Doing what needs to be done, when it needs to be done

October

<u>Integrity</u>: Having the strength to be truthful, trustworthy, and honest at all times

November/December/January

<u>Kindness</u>: Treating others as you would like to be treated

February

<u>Appreciating Differences</u>: Learning and celebrating from the ways we are not alike

March

Perseverance: Believing in yourself and your abilities: Not giving up!

Join us at home by starting conversations about each trait and encouraging these traits daily!

Here are some great ideas for practicing these traits at home:

<u>Respect</u>- Listening to adults and following directions the first time they are given

Responsibility- Completing homework and reading log every night

Integrity- Having the strength to tell the truth, even when a bad choice is made

<u>Kindness</u>- Going above and beyond to help around the house

<u>Appreciating Differences</u>- Celebrating the differences in family members and neighbors

Perseverance- Even when frustrated with a task, keep trying and don't give up

At Wakefield Elementary, we as Wakefield Eagles.....
S how Kindness O perate Safely A ct Responsibly R espect ourselves and Others

With Pride

		Hallway	Bathroom	Cafeteria	Play Ground
Show	•	Acknowledge friends	Wait your turn	Accept and keep your	 Let everyone play
Kindness		silently (i.e. finger	 Acknowledge friends 	place in line	 Use kind words and
		wave, wink, smile)	silently	 Speak kindly to others 	actions
	•	Stop to let others pass		 Help each other 	 Share and take turns
	•	Accept your place in		Clean up after yourself	on the equipment and
		line			in games
Operate	•	Walk slowly on the	Wash hands with soap	Walk	• Walk in a line, to and
Safely		right	 Turn off the water 	 Sit facing your table 	from playground
r i	•	Be alert	when finished	 Stay seated 	 Keep your hands and
	•	Face forward	 Put the paper in the 	 Finish all food & drink 	feet to your self
			trash can	in the cafeteria	 Wear proper shoes
			 Use walking feet 		 Use equipment as intended
Act	•	Keep hands to yourself	Return promptly from	Raise your hand for	Follow directions
Reconcibly	•	Be at the right place at	the bathroom	assistance	Stop and listen when
fragmodes		the right time	Aim carefully and	 Talk quietly at your 	you hear a teacher's
		-	flush	table	signal
			 Keep hands and feet to 	 Have lunch money 	 Line up when teacher
			yourself	ready	signals
			 Use only three pulls 	 Assign lunch helpers 	 Bring equipment and
			from the paper towel	 Stack trays neatly 	personal materials
			dispenser		inside
Respect	•	Take care of all	 Allow privacy 	 Take pride in your 	 Use appropriate
Ourselves		property	• Follow directions	area	language
and Others	•	Move quietly at all	given by any staff	 Use good manners 	Show good
and Others		times	member	 Eat healthy 	sportsmanship
				 Eat only your food 	 Use words to solve
-				Maintain personal	problems
				space	 Respect environment
				 Respond quickly to 	(trees, bushes,
				adult directions	eduipment)

WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

2016-2017 TRADITIONAL CALENDAR



LEGEND / LEYENDA

First and last days Primer y último días de clase

- H Hollday Dia Festivo
- W Teacher Workday Dia de trabajo del maestro
- V Vacation Day Dia de Vacaciones
- ER Early Release Day Dia de Salida Temprana
- Q End of Nine Weeks El Final de Nueve Semanas
- R Report Card Boleta de calificaciones

Days available for weather make-up in order of utilization / Dies disposibles pare recuperation de clases por orden de utilización

9/30 & 10/21- Early Release (Salida temprana) 10/31

10/29- Saturday, full day (sábado, dia completo)

11/23 12/2 and 1/20 - Early Rolease (Salida temprana)

12/22

1/27 2/20

3/31 5/12

Banked Hours (up to 3 days) (hores ecumulades - hesta 3 dies)

6/12 4/1 - Saturday, full day (sébedo, día completo)

6/14

6/15

MORE INFORMATION / MÁS INFORMACIÓN