



**Grandwood Education Center  
Woodward-Granger CSD  
Student & Parent/Guardian  
Handbook**

**2024-2025**

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to Grandwood Education Center for the 2024-2025 school year. We are very excited about the upcoming year and are happy that you have joined us.

Please review this handbook to help familiarize yourself with the information and procedures which will support our efforts in creating and maintaining a first-rate learning environment.

Our staff at Grandwood are dedicated to helping students achieve success on multiple levels. Our students and families are our highest priority and the focal point of all learning.

We have high expectations for ourselves and ask the same of all students. We are confident our students will attain their personal goals through a combination of lifelong learning through fun and hard work.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to serving you in 2024-2025.

Sincerely,  
Jadyn Crnkovich  
Grandwood Principal  
jadyncrnkovichs@wghawks.school

### **Grandwood Education Center Mission Statement**

Grandwood will provide functional and transitional learning experiences in a positive and structured environment while advancing student independence.

### **Grandwood's Vision is to...**

- Have an environment for all learners to grow through diversified learning experiences.
- Have a safe, positive, and nurturing learning environment that fosters pride and independence.
- Have active communications between students, parents, staff, and resident districts.
- Have small classes, as well as, current and appropriate facilities, instructional materials, and technology.
- Provide skills and experiences to prepare students for a successful transition from school to post-secondary life.
- Provide a challenging and relevant curriculum, while maintaining high expectations.

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## **General Information**

### ***Equal Educational Opportunity***

The school district does not discriminate in its education programs or educational activities on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, national origin, marital status or disability. Students are educated in programs, which foster knowledge of, and respect and appreciation for, the historical and contemporary contributions of diverse cultural groups, as well as men and women, to society. Students who feel they have been discriminated against are encouraged to report it to the school district Affirmative Action Coordinator. Inquiries may also be directed in writing to the Director of the Region VII Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 310 West Wisconsin Avenue, Ste. 800, Milwaukee, WI, 53203-2292, 414-291-1111, or the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA, 50319, 515-281-5294.

### ***Jurisdictional Statement***

This handbook is an extension of Board policy and is a reflection of the goals and objectives of the Board. The Board, administration and employees expect students to conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with respect and consideration for the rights of others. Students are expected to treat teachers, other employees, students, visitors and guests with respect and courtesy. Students may not use abusive language, profanity, obscene gestures or language.

This handbook and school district policies, rules and regulations are in effect while students are on school grounds, school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned and/or school-operated buses or vehicles or chartered buses; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district or involves students or staff. School district policies, rules and regulations are in effect 12 months a year. A violation of a school district policy, rule or regulation may result in disciplinary action and may affect a student's eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities whether the violation occurred while school was in session or while school is not in session.

Students are expected to comply with and abide by the school district's policies, rules and regulations. Students who fail to abide by the school district's policies, rules and regulations may be disciplined for conduct which disrupts or interferes with the education program; conduct which disrupts the orderly and efficient operation of the school district or school activity; conduct which disrupts the rights of other students to obtain their education or to participate in school activities; or conduct which interrupts the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere. Disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to, removal from the classroom, suspension, probation and expulsion. The discipline imposed is based upon the facts and circumstances surrounding the incident and the student's record.

The school reserves and retains the right to modify, eliminate or establish school district policies, rules and regulations as circumstances warrant, including those contained in the handbook. Students are expected to know the contents of the handbook and comply with it. Students or parents with questions or concerns may contact the office for information about the current enforcement of the policies, rules or regulations of the school district.

### ***Information Forms***

At the beginning of each school year, parents must complete registration online providing the emergency telephone numbers of the parents/guardians as well as alternate persons to contact in the event the school is unable to locate the parents. Parents must notify the office if the information on the form changes during the school year.

### ***Non-Discrimination Policies***

It is the policy of the District that no person may be illegally discriminated against in employment by reason of their race, color, age, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, socioeconomic status, disability, religion, creed, military service/membership in the National Guard, state defense force or any other reserve component of the military forces of Iowa or the United States, political affiliation, or any other factor prohibited by state or federal law.

Reasonable accommodations shall be made for qualified individuals with a disability, unless such accommodations would impose an undue hardship on the District. A reasonable accommodation is a change or adjustment to job duties or work environment that permits a qualified applicant or employee with a disability to perform the essential functions of a position or enjoy the benefits and privileges of employment compared to those enjoyed by employees without disabilities.

Requests for accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or under the Iowa Fair Employment Act from current employees must be made in writing to the Equity Coordinator.

### ***Student Attendance***

#### ***Attendance Philosophy:***

The administration will use the following procedures in relation to school attendance. All students should be in school with the exception of illness or accident requiring a doctor's care.

It is the responsibility of students and parents/guardians to promote good student attendance. Only through attendance and class participation do students achieve the benefits of the education program. Participating in-class discussion, developing an appreciation for the views and abilities of other students, and forming the habits of regular attendance are legitimate class objectives. Learning lost due to an absence can never be replaced. Regular attendance and being well prepared for class helps students in school as well as prepares students for adulthood.

#### ***Student Attendance***

When your student will be absent please call the school prior to school hours; leave a message. Students arriving late must report to the office and sign in. Students leaving early must have a parent/guardian or appropriately designated individual report to the office and sign out the student. This allows the office to correct the attendance report.

#### ***School Day***

Student hours are from 8:30 am - 3:15 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesday dismissal time is 2:10.

#### ***School Cancellation***

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall have the authority to close schools because of extreme weather or other emergency conditions for the length of time the emergency exists. Public announcements of such closings will be made by the media as soon as possible after the decision to close.

Occasionally we have to dismiss early because of adverse weather conditions. Due to the transportation of many off-campus students, the school will make every effort to contact the parent/guardian as well as the student driver to notify them of any school closure. Please notify the office regarding emergency plans for your child while keeping these emergency plans up to date throughout the year.

In the case of a school closing or early dismissal staff, students, and/or districts will be notified via the Infinite Campus System, therefore keeping the office informed of any phone number changes is important.

### ***Visitors***

We ask that all visitors to the school (including parents) sign in and out upon your visit to the school. A visitor badge will be given to all visitors and must be returned to the building secretary.

## **Student Discipline & Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)**

### ***Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)***

PBIS is embedded throughout Grandwood programming.

School-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports is a set of student behavior support strategies designed to be paired with quality academic instructional programming in order to ensure gains for all students.

Grandwood's values are: Be Safe, Be Kind, and Be Responsible. Behavioral expectations are regularly taught, monitored, and acknowledged. Ongoing training will be provided throughout the year in areas such as discipline referrals, time out protocol and documentation, school-wide incentives, strategies, etc.

The goal of PBIS is to increase positive student behaviors and decrease negative behaviors through staff consistency and teaching our students values and expectations. Grandwood believes in being proactive rather than reactive in our approach to working with students who have challenging behaviors.

### **Student Behavior Plans**

External consequences based on behavior outside of Grandwood...

### **Student Health And Safety**

While most illnesses do not require exclusion, there are times when the student should be sent home. If the illness: prevents the student from participating comfortably in activities, results in needed care greater than school personnel can provide considering the health and safety of other students, and/or poses a risk of spread of harmful diseases to others, an acute change in behavior: lethargy, lack of responsiveness, irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, or a quickly spreading rash or a fever with behavior change or other signs and symptoms in a child (e.g., sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea).

The student may not return to school until they have been free from fever, vomiting, and/or diarrhea for 24 hours. Students must be fever free for 24 hours without the aid of fever reducing medications (i.e. Tylenol, Acetaminophen, Motrin, Advil, Ibuprofen).

1. School medications are administered following these guidelines:
  - a. Parent authorization to administer the medication annually either electronically or verbally, which includes student's name, the name of the medication, dose, dates, and time to be given.
  - b. Medication must be in the original container with the prescription label or manufacturer's label clearly visible. Student name must be on the medication bottle.
  - c. Parents must supply medication for use at school, both prescription and over-the-counter.
  - d. Medications that are not FDA approved will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and will require documentation from a physician. This includes herbal, natural, essential oils, supplements and other complementary medications.
  - e. Parents must pick up unused medication at the end of the school year or it will be destroyed.

2. All head injuries shall be reported to a parent and/or guardian.
3. The school district and its health service will comply with the law on immunization requirements. Only medical and religious exemptions are permitted and must be in writing from the family physician or religious leader.
4. Vision screenings are required for all students in grades kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, as well as, any referrals by a parent/guardian or teacher. Parents/guardians must provide proof of a vision screen (Certificate of Vision Screening and Student Vision Card) to the school nurse. If not provided, a vision screen may be performed by the school nurse or outside agency of the school nurse's choosing.
5. Hearing screenings will be completed by the Heartland AEA in both the Fall and Spring for students in grades 4-year-old preschool through 5th grade, as well as requested, by a parent/guardian or teacher.
6. Iowa law requires that any child who is entering kindergarten or ninth grade must provide the school with proof of a dental checkup (Certificate of Dental Screening). If not provided, a dental screening may be performed by the school nurse or outside agency of the school nurse's choosing.
7. Iowa law requires that all children be tested for lead prior to entering kindergarten. The school nurse will provide the Iowa Department of Public Health with a list of all kindergarten students. Parent/guardian will be notified if a result could not be found for the student by the Department of Public Health.

***Sexual Abuse And Harassment Of Students By Employees: full description of the policy wghawks.school***

Physical abuse is a non-accidental physical injury that leaves a mark at least 24 hours after the incident. While employees cannot use physical force to discipline a student, there are times when the use of physical force is appropriate. The times when physical force is appropriate include, but are not limited to, times when it is necessary to stop a physical disturbance between students, to obtain a weapon or other dangerous object, for purposes of self-defense or to protect the safety of others, to remove a disruptive student, to protect others from harm, for the protection of property, or to protect a student from self-inflicted harm.

***Student Abuse by District Personnel: Policy Found on the District website: wghawks.school***

***Statement Regarding the Homeless***

The Board of Directors of the Woodward-Granger Community Schools is responsible for locating and identifying homeless children and youth who are "found" within the district. A "homeless child or youth of school age" is defined as one between the ages of 5 and 21 who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and includes a child or youth living on the street, in a car, tent or abandoned building or some other form of shelter not designed as a permanent home; living in a community shelter facility; or living with non-nuclear family members or friends who may not have legal guardianship over the child or youth of school age. The district shall make available to the homeless child or youth all services and assistance including, but not limited to, compensatory education, special education, English as a second language, vocational courses or programs, programs for gifted and talented, health services, and food and nutrition programs, on the same basis as those services and assistance as provided to resident pupils.

If you need further assistance/information, please contact Matt Brummond, Elementary Principal/District Homeless Liaison or the District Superintendent for more information.

### ***Weapons Prohibition***

The Woodward-Granger Community Schools will not permit or tolerate the possession, display, or use of weapons by any person on school premises or vehicles, while the person is participating in or attending District events and activities, or while the person is away from school grounds if such conduct directly affects the good order and management of the District. Students who violate this policy may be subject to expulsion and/or other disciplinary action. Weapons shall be taken from students and others who bring them onto school premises, vehicles, or school activities. When appropriate, violations of this policy will be reported to law enforcement agencies. Weapons under the control of law enforcement officials shall be exempt from this policy.

**Definition:** Any object which is used to injure another person and which has no school-related purpose will be considered a weapon. An object which has a school-related purpose but which is used to threaten or inflict injury will also be considered a weapon. Weapons include, but are not limited to, knives of all types, guns, firearms, metal pipes, chains, nunchucks, throwing stars, metal knuckles, blackjacks, fireworks, explosives or other chemicals, look-a-likes, and simulated weapons, including toys.

**Firearms:** Any student who is determined to have brought a firearm to school will be expelled from school for a period of not less than one calendar year. The Superintendent shall have the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for a student on a case-to-case basis. For the purposes of this policy, the term “firearm” includes any weapon which is designed or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler, or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary device, or poisonous gas.

### **Student Activities**

#### ***Lunch***

Lunch will be served daily at school. Students will have a designated lunch period. Prices are published at the beginning of the school year and are subject to change throughout the year based on product costs.

#### ***Free and Reduced Price Meals (State Policy)***

To apply for free or reduced price meals, please fill out an application form as soon as possible, sign it, and return it to the school. Please answer all of the questions on the form. The school cannot use an application which does not contain complete information on household members and income. If information is missing, your child may be denied benefits. Call the school if you have questions or concerns regarding the form. For an application to be complete, you must provide: the total household income by the amount and type of income received by each household member; your food stamp number if your household receives food stamps; the names and social security numbers of all household members 21 years of age and older. The school or other officials may check the information on the application at any time during the school year.

### **Electronic Devices**

The District and its employees shall not be held responsible for personal items brought onto school property, or for replacing, repairing, or recovering such property.

### **Community Learning Experiences (CLE outings)**

Community Learning Experiences are a critical component of Grandwood’s educational programming for students. Information and all other details pertaining to the scheduled trip will be communicated from the school. Student conduct is expected to be exemplary before and while on trips. When safety issues arise, careful consideration will be taken to determine the student’s participation in that CLE or any additional trip(s).

Community Learning Experiences will occur on Wednesday and Friday each week; your child's participation is contingent on exhibiting appropriate behavior.

## **Student Records**

***Educational Records (Policy No. 506.1) Found on the District website: [wghawks.school](http://wghawks.school)***

## **School Pictures**

Pictures of every student are taken in the fall of each school year. Information will be sent home with your child at the beginning of the school year regarding dates and times.

## **Video/Pictures**

From time to time, our students are featured in newspaper articles, district bulletins, school web page and/or social media, etc., celebrating special events in our schools. Photographs or likenesses may be released without written consent unless parents or guardians object during online registration or in writing at a later date to the building secretary and building principal. Objections to releasing information or photographs should be addressed with the building principal. This information will be provided to all patrons of the district during student registration. During registration, the parent/guardian or designee completing the registration is able to consent or decline this option for your child.

## **Student Release**

For your student's safety, the parent/guardian must call the office or send a note to authorize another adult to pick up their student. *We ask all adults to follow district-wide procedures for checking their child in/out of school.*

Any changes in student's after school plans require a phone call to our building secretary or in writing to our building secretary or classroom teacher. Without one of the previously mentioned procedures occurring, the student's regular routine will be followed. The school requests a signed copy of a court order for the following: no-contact orders, restraining orders, or any visitation orders.

## **Legal Status of Student**

If a student's legal status (i.e. the student's name or the student's custodial arrangement) should change during the school year, the parent or guardian must notify the school district and provide court documentation of this official change. Non-legal name accommodations may be requested to the building principal by the parent.

## **Parent Communication**

All records and communication from school (i.e. report cards, behavior reports, newsletters) will be sent to the custodial parent of the student. If copies of this information need to be sent to another parent or agency, the request needs to be made in writing to the building secretary and principal.

## **Telephone Use**

Grandwood has telephones in all classrooms in which all teachers have access to voicemail. To provide an environment conducive to quality learning the building secretary will take messages for classroom teachers. Messages will be sent via note or directed to the teacher's voicemail where the parent will have the option to leave a message for the teacher. Teachers will then check the voicemail periodically throughout the day.

## **Student Scholastic Achievement**

***Reporting Student Progress (Board Policy No. 505.1) Found on the District website: [wghawks.school](http://wghawks.school)***

## **Student Rights And Responsibilities**

### ***Student Responsibilities Statement***

It is the responsibility of students to know and follow all school rules and policies at school and at school activities.

As a student, I must strive to:

1. Ascribe to the universal standards of honesty, integrity, tolerance, self-discipline, family, value of life, respect for the common good, need for law, and a love of knowledge.
2. Respect and be polite to all people.
3. Respect myself by taking advantage of education and striving to be the best person possible.
4. Respect other people's property.

### ***Activity Conduct***

School policies are in effect and enforced for all students at any school-sponsored activity.

### ***Care Of School & Personal Property/Vandalism***

Students are expected to treat school property and the property of others around them with care and respect. Students found to have deliberately damaged or destroyed school property will be required to reimburse the school district, as well as being subject to additional discipline. At the discretion of the administration, such students may be turned over to local law enforcement officers.

### ***Personal Property***

Personal items from home are not allowed at school except for classroom sharing (these arrangements must be made through the classroom teacher). This includes items from home that may include but are not limited to toys, food, decor, etc. Further, this prohibits all handheld games, IPODs, MP3 players and the like. Phones/watches will not be allowed to be with a student and will be kept on transportation or turned into the office/teacher upon arrival. Do not allow your child to bring items of sentimental value or items of great monetary value to the school. Items of this nature are temptations to other students and may become a distraction in the learning environment. *The school is not responsible for the loss, theft, or damage to personal property.* If you allow your child to bring personal items to school, please label them.

### ***Dress Code***

Students are expected to adhere to reasonable levels of cleanliness and modesty. Students are expected to wear clothing that is appropriate to their age level and that does not disrupt the school or educational environment.

Students are prohibited from wearing clothing advertising or promoting items illegal for use by minors including, but not limited to, alcohol or tobacco; from wearing shoes with cleats, wheels, or steel toe; and from wearing clothing displaying obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, racial or sexual remarks, making reference to prohibited conduct or similar displays. If any clothing or items become a safety concern, the building principal has the discretion to no longer allow the student to wear or have these items.

Other items may be deemed inappropriate due to safety concerns. These concerns will be addressed directly with parents, guardians, and residential facilities—the building principal may require these items no longer be worn or brought to school.

***Technology Acceptable Use Policy Found on the District website: [wghawks.school](http://wghawks.school)***

## **Building, Grounds, & Transportation**

### ***Grandwood Office Hours***

Grandwood school office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday. Voicemail is available and we will do our best to respond in a timely manner.

### ***Transportation Expectations***

The Resident District is charged with the responsibility to provide transportation for each student entitled to transportation. Resident District policies and procedures regarding transportation will be in place for students being transported to and from Grandwood as the responsibility lies on the Resident District.

Transportation during the school day is the responsibility of Grandwood Education Center, per Woodward-Granger CSD policies and procedures. The privilege of riding on a school bus is discretionary with the Board of Directors. Students can be deprived of this privilege when their continued presence on the bus would be injurious or endanger the health or lives of the other students. Any student who continually misbehaves may be denied the opportunity to ride a school bus under certain circumstances. The bus driver is responsible for managing student behavior on the bus. All school rules of conduct will be enforced on the bus. Discipline procedures used in the school building will also be followed for bus situations. School transportation may be provided to and from school-sponsored activities. A student may ride home from a school-sponsored activity with the student's parent by presenting a note to the school personnel in charge of the activity explaining who will be responsible for the student. The "person responsible" must contact the supervisor before, during, or after the event. Video cameras may be placed on school buses to monitor student behavior. The film may be used as evidence in a student disciplinary proceeding.

## **Special Services**

### ***Area Education Agency (A.E.A.)***

Our school is served by the Heartland A.E.A. 11, which has offices in Adel and Johnston. They provide a variety of services to the school including, but not limited to, special education, hearing screenings and consultation services. There are also divisions that handle media services, in-service training and a variety of teacher training programs. If you have a concern about a child and/or would like more information about A.E.A. services please call the school.

### ***Physical Education***

All Grandwood students participate in Physical Education classes two times a week throughout the school year. The key elements of the program are sportsmanship, fitness, and skill development. Some examples of our programming include team building through cooperative activities and problem-solving, large group games to develop basic strategies and skills, movement activities, and lead activities in a team and individual sports are all part of the program.

Grandwood Health/Wellness education is looked upon as being critical to the overall development of student. Health is taught through a variety of formats and classes embedded within the regular curriculum (i.e. Science, P.E., etc.). Each class assigns specific topics of health for the year that are both engaging and developmentally appropriate.

***Inspection of Educational Materials***

Parents and other members of the school district community may view the instructional materials used by the students.

The instructional materials must be viewed on school district premises during normal school hours (7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.). Copies may be obtained according to Board policy.

***If you have any questions regarding this handbook and/or any further concerns please feel free to contact the Grandwood Office.***