

SAM VAUGHN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Steve Merchant- Principal
Kristin Lilly Porter - Assistant Principal
Deanne DeGroat - Administrative Assistant

SAM VAUGHN FACULTY

<u>Grade:</u>	<u>Teacher:</u>	<u>Email Address:</u>
Transitional K	Bethany Doty	bdoty@ceres.k12.ca.us
Kindergarten	Sarah MacDannald	smacdannald@ceres.k12.ca.us
Kindergarten	Tricia Marles	tmarles@ceres.k12.ca.us
Kindergarten	Jeanette Ochoa	jochoa@ceres.k12.ca.us
1 st Grade	Christie Chahal	cchahal@ceres.k12.ca.us
1 st Grade	Karen Lozano	klozano@ceres.k12.ca.us
1 st Grade	Monica Wong- Perez	mwong-perez@ceres.k12.ca.us
1 st Grade	Nicole James	njames@ceres.k12.ca.us
2 nd Grade	Toni Neville	tneville@ceres.k12.ca.us
2 nd Grade	Heather Quintanar	hquintanar@ceres.k12.ca.us
2 nd Grade	Kim Martin	kmartin@ceres.k12.ca.us
2 nd Grade	Julie Perry	jperry@ceres.k12.ca.us
3 rd Grade	Kim Chavez	kchavez@ceres.k12.ca.us
3 rd Grade	Crystal Johnson	cjohnson@ceres.k12.ca.us
3 rd Grade	Manpreet Kaur	mkaur@ceres.k12.ca.us
4 th Grade	Sharee Felt	sfelt@ceres.k12.ca.us
4 th Grade	Grant Tiwater	ttiwater@ceres.k12.ca.us
4 th Grade	Claudia Limon	climon@ceres.k12.ca.us
5 th Grade	Tamara Mendonca	tmendonca@ceres.k12.ca.us
5 th Grade	Sharon Sakakihara	ssakakihara@ceres.k12.ca.us
5 th Grade	Lisa Banister	lbanister@ceres.k12.ca.us
6 th Grade	Doug Berbena	dberbena@ceres.k12.ca.us
6 th Grade	Michelle Borges	mborges@ceres.k12.ca.us
6 th Grade	Greg Ratto	gratto@ceres.k12.ca.us
RTI	Tasha Ely	tely@ceres.k12.ca.us
PE	Mike Stucker	mstucker@ceres.k12.ca.us
Music/Band	Jeffery Beckton	jbeckton@ceres.k12.ca.us

SAM VAUGHN SUPPORT STAFF

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>
Steve Merchant	Principal
Kristin Lilly- Porter	Assistant Principal
Deanne DeGroat	Administrative Assistant
Janell Holliday	Office Manager
Alicia Urena	Secretary II
Ana Arroyo	Community Liaison
Maribel Quezada	Office Clerk
Isabel Armendariz	Nurse
Mary Olvera	Health Clerk
Kellie Durazo	ELTA
Robyn Hewitt	Resource Specialist
Sue Montgomery	Psychologist
Rachel Harrocks	Speech Therapist
Blong Thao	Library Media Clerk
Cyndi Ferguson	Para-Professional
Mary Heller	Para-Professional
Chanda Kor	Para-Professional
Xochitl Gutierrez	Para-Professional
Ana Alvarez	Para-Professional
Larry Ferrister	Head Custodian
Juan Garcia	Custodian
Alejandro Ruiz	Custodian
Elizabeth Ravera	Student Supervision Assistant
Alejandra Navarro	Student Supervision Assistant
Andrew Ramirez	Student Supervision Assistant
TBD	Student Supervision Assistant
Jason Lugo	Cafeteria Manager
Laura Hager	Food Service
Sonia Yepez	Food Service
Mary Yu	Food Service

**CERES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. Box 307
Ceres, CA 95307**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Name	Position	Term Expires
Jim Kinard	President	2019
Mike Welsh	Clerk	2022
Betty Davis	Board Member	2022
Valli Wigt	Board Member	2022
Lourdes Perez	Board Member	2022
Teresa Guerro	Board Member	2019
Faye Lane	Board Member	2019

Board of Education meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the first and third Thursday of each month at the Ceres Unified School District Offices located at 2503 Lawrence Street in Ceres. The public is welcome to attend. To access meeting agendas and schedules, visit their website www.ceres.k12.ca.us and click on Board of Trustees.

DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Superintendent	Dr. Scott Siegel
Asst. Supt. of Personnel	Dr. Denise Wickham
Asst. Supt. of Ed. Services	Dr. Amy Peterman
Asst. Supt. of Business Services	Dr. Daniel Pangrazio
Director of Student Support Services	Kristi Britton
Asst. Supt. of Student Support Services	Jay Simmonds
Coordinator, of Child Welfare/Attendance	Jose Beltran
Coordinator, of Tech/Media Services	Chris Higl
Director of Child Nutrition	Rhonda Whitehead
Director of Maintenance	Ken Hines
Director of Transportation	Nancy Krigbaum

DISTRICT OFFICE NUMBERS

Superintendent	556-1500	Ceres Parks & Recreation	538-5628
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Business Office	556-1560	Ceres Youth Baseball	538-8326
Personnel	556-1510	Ceres Youth Football	537-7523
Ed. Services	556-1520	Ceres Youth Soccer	538-4717
Attendance	556-1540	Young Olympians/Karate	538-5782
Student Support	556-1530	Ceres Library	537-8938
Transportation	556-1595	Stanislaus Library	558-7814
Ed. Options	556-1550	Adult Education	556-1557

2019-2020 Bell Schedule

School Hours	8:10-2:25	TK/ Kinder Hours	8:10- 2:15
Minimum Day Hours	8:10-12:25	TK/ Kinder Minimum Hours	8:10- 12:15
Early Release Hours	8:10-1:30	TK/ Kinder Early Release Hours	8:10-1:20
Breakfast	7:30-8:10	Yard Open Before School	7:55- 8:08
Warning Bell	8:08	Tardy Bell	8:10

AM Recess

Grade	Begin	End	NOTES
K	10:00	10:10	Doty/ Marles
K	10:15	10:25	Mac/ Ochoa
1-3	9:45	9:55	Plus 4th Grade on Mondays
4-6	10:00	10:10	Plus 3rd Grade on Wednesdays

Lunch

Grade	Begin	End	NOTES
1	11:00	11:45	Released to Yard at 11:15
2	11:10	11:55	Released to Yard at 11:25
3	11:20	12:05	Released to Yard at 11:35
5	11:30	12:15	Released to Yard at 11:40
Kinder	11:45	12:30	Switch at 12:05
4	11:50	12:35	Released to Yard at 12:00
6	12:05	12:50	Released to Yard at 12:15

Minimum Day Lunch

Grade	Begin	End	NOTES
1-2	10:35	11:20	
TK - K	10:45	11:30	Switch at 11:05
3-4	11:10	11:55	
5-6	11:25	12:10	

Early Release Days:

Follow Regular Lunch Schedule & Early Release PM Recess

PM Recess

Grade	Begin	End	NOTES
K	1:05	1:15	Mac/ Ochoa
K	1:20	1:30	Doty/ Marles
1-3	1:15	1:25	Plus 6th Grade on Wednesday
4-6	1:30	1:40	

Early Release PM Recess

Grade	Begin	End	NOTES
K	12:50	1:00	Mac/ Ochoa
K	1:05	1:15	Doty/ Marles
1-3	12:55	1:05	
4-6	1:10	1:20	

PE Prep

Grade	Monday		Wednesday		Friday	
	Begin	End	Begin	End	Begin	End
Doty/ Marles	12:30	1:20				
Mac/ Ochoa	1:25	2:15				
1			8:20	9:10	*8:30	*9:20
2			10:00	10:50	*10:10	*11:10
3	*8:55	9:45	9:10	10:00		
4	10:00	10:50	11:00	11:50		
5	9:10	10:00	12:30	1:20		
6	8:20	9:10	1:25	2:15		

GETTING TO SCHOOL. . .

Students are NOT allowed on campus before 7:30 a.m. There is no supervision.

Please make sure your student/s does not arrive before 7:30 a.m.

Parents may use both parking lots when dropping off and picking up children. Patience and respect for fellow drivers is the major key for safety. Our goal is to keep students safe, which means all traffic laws must be followed at all times:

- Obey all traffic laws at all times
- Keep fire lanes open and free of any traffic.
- **Do not double or triple park.**
- Do not make U-turns in the middle of the street.
- **Right hand turn ONLY, out of the front parking lot.**
- Do not leave your vehicle unattended in the loading zone.

Children who walk to school must use the following crosswalks: Helen Perry & Boothe Road; Helen Perry & Liquid Amber or Helen Perry & Monterey Pine. These locations will be staffed with crossing guards. It is very important children who live north of the school use the crosswalk with our crossing guards when walking to and from school. Please help us keep your child safe by encouraging them to follow the traffic laws.

PICK UP

Grades 1-6 school are released at 2:25; TK and Kindergarten are released at 2:15 on regular school days. Please make arrangements to have your student picked up on time every day. Students are not allowed to use the school phone to contact parents about after school arrangements, please make sure your student knows what he/she is to do after school. In addition we *cannot* guarantee messages received by office staff in regards to after school arrangements for your student will get to your student if it is late in the day. Students not picked up by 2:40 and are registered with ASES, will be sent to ASES and parents may pick them up in the cafeteria. Students that are walkers will be sent home immediately.

MINIMUM DAYS

Please be sure to note the minimum days throughout the school year. Students in Grades 1-6 will be dismissed at 12:25; T-K and Kinder is dismissed at 12:15. Students not picked up by 12:40 and are registered with ASES will be sent to ASES and may be picked up in the cafeteria.

ASES

The After School Education and Safety Program (ASES) funds the establishment of local after school education and enrichment programs that provide literacy, academic enrichment and safe alternatives for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The ASES program is provided at no cost. The After School Program is offered Monday- Friday, from the time school is dismissed until 6:00pm, coinciding with school calendar. Students must be registered to attend the program. Registration forms are available in the front office.

PARENT CONNECTION

Parents Are Very Important People

Your attitude toward the school is an important ingredient to your child's school success. Children will adjust quickly and happily if they are prepared to enter school with an attitude of anticipation and pleasure. Be interested in your child's reaction to school and encourage him/her to share new experiences with you and the family. You can help your child by:

- Asking about your child's school work & classroom activities.
- Monitoring homework assignments.
- Scheduling a regular time for your child to read or to be-read-to-each day.
- Looking for notices and newsletters coming home from school.
- Making every effort to have your child to school on time.
- Notifying the school of changes in your address and telephone number.
- Volunteering in your child's classroom, and/or chaperoning field trips.
- Becoming a member of the SSC, PTC, ELAC and Coffee with the Principal Meetings.
- Checking the Sam Vaughn website at <http://sv.ceres.k12.ca.us/>
- Explore educational websites
- Observe your students class ***We require an appointment to be made with an administrator.



Tuesday Purple Folders/ Parent Square

Parent involvement is important to Sam Vaughn. Our goal is to get information about upcoming events, special services and meeting information home to families so you may be part of the education of your student. Most parent information will be sent home on Tuesdays in a purple communication folder. Sam Vaughn also utilizes a program called Parent Square. The program includes a robo-dialer, but also has the ability for two-way communication and many other features. The biggest benefit of this program is that it will control all of our various communication needs. Families will receive information every Sunday evening in regards to the upcoming week's events and activities.

Reporting to Parents

Report cards go home three times a year (at the end of every trimester). 2nd trimester report card has no scheduled conference, but parents with questions or concerns are encouraged to call the school and schedule a meeting with your child's teacher. The third report card will go out at the end of the school year. Many teachers, send home periodic computer printouts, which let parents know how their child is doing academically. Teachers often phone home or send notes with good news and during times when parental support is needed to solve a problem. We believe effective schools provide regular and frequent communication with the home. Our goal is to be the most effective school possible.

Jamboree Spirit Days

Every Friday is School Spirit Day. All students are encouraged to wear their Sam Vaughn T-shirts or school colors. Occasionally Student Council will host a "Dress Up Day." We also demonstrate our school spirit Friday mornings during Jamboree. Classes perform, & individual students and classes are recognized. Families are welcome and encouraged to attend Jamboree.

Parent Volunteers

Due to State requirements and to enhance the safety and well-being of Ceres Unified School District (CUSD) students, CUSD requires **all** volunteers to complete and/or meet the following:

Step 1: Obtain the ***School Volunteer Application Form*** at any school site office or the CUSD Community Webpage at <http://www.ceres.k12.ca.us/portal/community.htm>.

Step 2: Submit a completed application to each school at which you plan to volunteer. A valid picture I.D. is required at the time of submission.

Step 3: The District will verify compliance with the following:

- Cleared through the Megan's Law website
- Have a valid TB clearance on file with the District (Education Code 49406) . *Free TB clinics for volunteers are offered at the CUSD District Office - a list of specific dates is available in office.*

PTC (Parent Teacher Club)

PTC is a parent group that hosts various family nights, after school events and fundraisers throughout the school year to provide educational enrichment for our children through field trips and educational programs. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the monthly meetings.

Watch D.O.G.S (Dads of Great Students)

WATCH D.O.G.S. ® is an innovative program being used by schools across America which helps them to be positively impacted by the committed involvement of fathers and father-figures in their student's life. The goal is to have male family members (Dad, Uncle, and Grandfather) spend at least one day this year at the school to be a positive male role model and provide an extra set of eyes and ears.

School Site Council

The School Site Council (SSC) is composed of the principal, teachers, parents and other school staff with voting members equally divided between staff and parents. SSC plans, monitors and evaluates the activities and expenditures for programs operated at the school to improve student achievement. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

English Learner Advisory Committee

The English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) is responsible for advising the principal and staff on programs and services for English learners and the School Site Council on the development of the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA). The ELAC shall assist the school in the development of: the school's needs assessment; The school's annual language census; Ways to make parents aware of the importance of regular school attendance.

STUDENT SECURITY PROCEDURES

The following information is very important for the safety and security of your child:

- Parents **MUST** sign in at the office before entering a classroom or being on campus. Parents without an approved volunteer application will not be allowed to volunteer in class.
- Parents **MUST** check students out through the office. There is a check-out sheet in the office, which parents must sign before a student is released. NO child will be released directly from the classroom. Teachers have been instructed not to allow students to go with any adults without authorization from the office.
- Parents/guardians must have a picture ID with his/her name and must be on the student's registration card in order to be released by the office. If you send someone to pick up your child and his/her name is not on file, the office **WILL NOT** release your child to that person.

CAFETERIA

Included in this letter is information regarding the Universal Meal program offered at all schools within Ceres Unified School District with the exception of Whitmore Charter, along with notification of other information related to the Child Nutrition Department. The information provided will be effective for the 2019-20 school year.

Meal Charges

- Costs and prices
- Lunch Meal Prices: Each student is entitled to one free breakfast and lunch per school day.
- Second Meals: Will be sold at the adult meal price – No charging allowed.
 - Breakfast: \$3.00
 - Lunch: \$5.00
- Ala Carte Milk: \$.50 – No charging allowed.

Application Collection

- The percentage of Free and Reduced Lunch Applications we receive as a district has a significant impact on funding for your child's school. A lower percentage returned negatively impacts the programs provided by school sites. For this reason it is very important for *every family* to turn in a form regardless of whether or not you believe your child(ren) qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch meals based upon income. **Even though one lunch meal per student is now free of charge starting with the 19-20 school year the school district needs your assistance to keep school programs intact as is. The best way to help us with this is to submit the Free and Reduced Lunch form to your child's school!**

Annual Notifications to Parents/Guardians

- Annual mailing: Sent out to households via mass mailing along with application packets.
- Location on website: Currently found on the district website under the Child Nutrition tab.
- Student Handbooks: Policy information will be provided in student handbooks issued by school site at the beginning of the 19-20 school year.

CUSD Student Wellness Policy

Per California Ed. Code 49431, schools may not provide or sell non-nutritious snacks or drinks to students at any time during the school day. When planning a reward/celebration for a student (including birthdays), please bring only pre-packaged snacks from the District Approved Snack List, below are some options (full list available in office upon request). Please contact your student's teacher in regards to specific seasonal parties.

Student Birthdays

In compliance with Ed. Code, parents must make arrangements with the teacher ahead of time and bring a **District approved snack** to celebrate student birthdays. Cupcakes are not on the approved snack list. In addition, balloons, stuffed animals and/ or flowers will not be delivered to the classroom and we ask that families not bring or send these items to school. Please contact the office for the full snack list.

District Approved Snacks:

Apple, Fresh	Giant Goldfish Grahams	Pepperidge Farms, Giant Goldfish Grahams	Dolphins & Friends	Orange, Fresh
Chex Snack Mix- All Flavors	Hot Chocolate, Sugar Free	Pepperidge Farms, Pretzel Goldfish	Elf Grahams	Marshmallow Crispy Squares
Applesauce Rocketz	Ice Cream, Low or Fat Free	Pita Puffs, Baked, Cinnamon	Elfin Magic Bar, Apple	Milk and Cereal Bars
Baked Doritos	Jell-O, Sugar Free	Pita Puffs, Baked, Habanero	Flat Fruit	Mixed Fruit Cup
Baked Lays	Journey Bar, Chocolate	Pita Puffs, Baked, Ranch	Fruit Roll-ups,	MJM Vanilla Bear Grahams
Baked Ruffles	Juice , Light, 50%	Popcorn	Rold Gold Pretzels, Cheddar Twists	Mrs. Good Cookie Jungle Crackers
Baked Tostitos	Juice Bar, Grape	Popsicles	Fruit Shapes, Betty Crocker, Bugs	Munchies Kids Mix
Banana, Small	Juice Bar, Lemon	Pretzel Goldfish	Fruit Shapes, Betty Crocker, Elmo	Nature Valley Chewy Granola Bars
Beef Jerky	Juice Bar, Orange	Pudding, Chocolate	Fruit Shapes, Betty Crocker, Pooh	Nature Valley Cinnamon
Carroteenies	Juice, Vegetable 50%	Quaker Chewy Chocolate Chip	Fruit Shapes, Betty Crocker, Scooby	Nature Valley Crunchy Granola Bar
Peach Cup	Keebler Elfin Magic Bar, Apple Cinnamon	Quaker Chewy Oatmeal Raisin	Fruit Shapes, Betty Crocker, Sunkist	Nature Valley Maple Brown Sugar
Keebler Scooby Snacks	Keebler Ernie's Animal Crackers	Quaker Oatmeal Bars to Go	Fruit, Dried	Nature Valley Oat n Honey
Kettle Corn Crunchies	Keebler Honey Grahams	Quaker Rice Snacks	Gardetto's	Nuts
Pears	Keebler Jungle Crackers	RF Chocolate Chip Cookie	Gatorade	Orange, Fresh
Rold Gold Pretzels, Butter Checkers		Ritz Chips	Cinnamon Applesauce, Mott's	

ATTENDANCE

CUSD uses a computerized attendance system. This enables the district to keep up-to-date,

accurate records. Your assistance is needed if this program is to work efficiently.

What Can You Do?

1. Parents, you are legally required to have your child in school, on time, daily.
2. If your child is absent, please contact the school @ 556-1690, before 9:00 a.m. If you do not have a phone, use Parent Square or send a note with your child when he/ she returns.
3. Notify the school of a change of address and/or telephone number.
4. Update emergency contact numbers when there are changes.

Only those specified as emergency contact on student registration card will be allowed to pick up students. Parents will not be able to call in and have someone off the list pick up their children because of safety concerns.

TARDY POLICY

Class instruction begins at 8:10 a.m. Students are tardy if they are not in class at 8:10 a.m.. Students who enter class after 8:10 disrupt the educational program and establish poor work habits. Since regular attendance is required by law, we will inform you of any problems regarding your child's tardiness. Extended Tardy is when your student is tardy for more than 30 minute period during the day without a valid excuse, extended tardy is considered a truant event.

EXCESSIVE ABSENTEEISM

A student may accrue up to **8** absences in a school year for reasons outlined in Administrative Regulation (AR) 5113. The reasons are, but are not limited to: Personal illness, medical or dental appointments, attendance at a funeral service, participation in a religious exercise, etc.

When absences become excessive, school staff are required to notify parents/guardians in writing of the number of absences a student has accrued. Parents are responsible for working with their child and the school in developing a plan of corrective action as deemed appropriate. Excessive Absence letters are generated through Attention to Attendance (A2A).

Excessive Absence Letters will be distributed as follows:

Excessive Excused Absence (EEA) Letter #1- Parent is advised that their child has accrued five (5) absences for illness and/or any other reasons outlined in AR 5113. The parent is encouraged to contact the school to set up an appointment with the Principal or his/or designee.

Excessive Excused Absence Letter #2- Parent is advised that their child has accrued eight (8) absences for illness and/or any other reasons outlined in AR 5113. All absences from this point forward would need to be cleared by a physician's note or verification by a school nurse/health clerk.

TRUANT EVENTS

A student shall be classified as truant if absent from school without a valid excuse three (3) or more full school days in one school year, or tardy and/or absent for more than any 30 minute period during the day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year.

Truancy Letter 1- Student has accrued **3** unexcused absences or extended tardies (30 minutes or more) throughout the school year. Notice will be mailed home to parent by A2A.

Truancy Letter 2- Student has accrued **6** unexcused absences or extended tardies throughout the school year. Notice will be mailed home to parent by A2A

Truancy Letter 3- Student has accrued **9** unexcused absences or extended tardies throughout the school year. Notice will be mailed home to parents by A2A and a meeting with Administrative Assistant is scheduled. If student should accrue any additional unexcused absences, students will be considered habitually truant and a Pre-SARB meeting will be scheduled.

Calls home are made for students that have missed 10% or more of the school year.

INDEPENDENT STUDY (IS)

When your child must be absent for reasons other than illness, arrangements can be made to continue studies through assigned work. Listed below are guidelines regarding Independent Study Contracts. An Independent Study contract must be signed in order to ensure that your child has an opportunity to receive academic credit for work completed during time absent.

You must notify the office in writing at least three (3) days in advance.

1. Contracts will not be written for less than 5 school days or more than 10 school days.
2. All student work must be completed during the time of the contract (no extensions).
3. Contract dates may not be extended. Retroactive contracts are not allowed.
4. Contracts must be signed in advance by the parent, teacher, student, and Admin.
5. The amount of work averages four hours of work in order to earn full credit.
6. Completed work must be returned the day the student returns to receive full credit.
7. If the student does not return to school within 15 days, he/she will be dropped (this includes IS days). If a student is dropped, student will have to re-register and there is a possibility that the student will be placed at an overflow school.
8. IS may be denied if he/she has a history of not completing previous IS assignments.
9. Only on rare circumstances will two (2) contracts be approved in a school year.

STUDENT TRANSFERS

When a transfer is approved in order to assure continued enrollment at the requested school, the student and Parent/Guardian have agreed to do the following:

1. Attend school regularly on a timely basis. (All absences must be excused).
2. Maintain good citizenship and obey conduct code.
3. Maintain a 2.0 GPA.
4. Parent will provide necessary transportation.

Failure to maintain the requirements will result in the transfer being rescinded and student will be transferred to their home school.

FIELD TRIPS

Students are only allowed to participate in field trips if properly signed permission forms are returned to school within the designated time frame. Siblings are not allowed to accompany parents on field trips. Chaperones must be 18 years or older and must have approved volunteer application on file. Parents who are not volunteer approved will not be allowed around students

on field trips to ensure the safety of all students in an environment outside of school. *Parents may be requested to attend a field trip with their student if there are behavior concerns; this is to ensure the safety of the student and others. Please read below in regard to behaviors that may require a parent accompany/ chaperone a student.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Participation in **non-curriculum based** special activities sponsored by Sam Vaughn School or PTC is a privilege. Therefore, it is limited to students who are well-behaved, follow school rules, and cooperate with one another and their teacher. Students will be excluded from participation in **non-curriculum based** special activity for one or more of the following reasons:

1. Consistent disregard of the school/classroom rules. This includes students who have received an excessive number of citations or students who have been sent to the office for discipline reasons more than two times during the three weeks prior to any **non-curriculum based** special activity.
2. Demonstrate inability to cooperate and respond appropriately during previous special activities.
3. In some cases, students who are under suspension from bus riding privileges may also be ineligible for activities involving transportation.

Students excluded from a **non-curriculum based** event for any of the above reasons, may participate if they are accompanied by a parent/ legal guardian **AND** if the Principal have given prior approval.

STUDENT STUDY TEAM

Our site has a Student Study Team, which consists of a variety of professionals from our school/district. Meetings are held on Wednesdays. Parents and teachers may refer students to the Student Study Team if problems that interfere with the child's learning exist. The team will make recommendations to help each student be successful. Students may be recommended for testing, resource, counseling, speech, language development, or GATE. Our school also has additional counseling and social skills services for our students. Students may be seen by school health or mental health professionals (e.g., school nurse, counselor, social worker, school psychologist, student support specialist, social skills facilitators) without parental notice or consent to ensure that the student is safe or is not a danger to others. District school psychologists routinely assist teachers in planning classroom instruction and monitoring its effectiveness and do not need to notify parents of, or seek consent for, such involvement in student support.

G.A.T.E. (Gifted and Talented Education)

G.A.T.E. students are identified each year through testing in grades 4-6. If your child qualifies, you will be contacted and given further information.

SPEECH AND HEARING

Children who need assistance in speech correction or language development are served by our Speech Therapist. Please feel free to call the school to discuss any speech or hearing difficulty your child may have.

DISTRICT HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework helps students succeed in school. It is an integral part of the school program, and it should help the student become an independent learner. Teachers assign regular homework that is appropriate to the subject area, objectives and the achievement levels of the students. (CUSD Board Policy #6154)

At our schools, we believe homework is an important part of the learning process. Homework is an extension of learning that has taken place in the classroom. It gives students a chance to practice independently what has been previously learned. Equally important to the practice is the fact that homework is an exercise in developing responsibility and good study habits.

The purpose of homework is to accomplish the following:

1. Reinforce skills taught in school
2. Allow the child to practice age-appropriate skills
3. Broaden vocabulary
4. Keep parents aware and involved in their child's progress and education
5. Teach the child to complete work independently
6. Prepare the child for upcoming lessons
7. Extend concepts or new ideas and provide for creative enrichment
8. Assist the child in continuing the development of sound study habits and skills
9. Prepare the child for life's self-directional needs

As part of the CUSD's emphasis on the importance of homework, staff has developed clear homework expectations for each grade level. Each teacher will share their own classroom homework policy with parents at Back-to-School Night. We hope you will pay special attention to the homework expectations, discuss them with your child, and work with him/her to make sure homework is completed and returned. **Students are to charge devices overnight.**

TIPS FOR HELPING WITH HOMEWORK

Research shows that when schools and parents work together, students achieve more. Here are some ways you can help your child with homework.

1. Set up a comfortable workplace for your child.
2. Set a consistent homework time.
3. Reinforce that homework is a student's responsibility, but that you are there to help.
4. Think of yourself as a consultant, not as a proofreader or editor.
5. Make sure the television and radios are off.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Sam Vaughn School, in conjunction with the Educational Options Division, offers academic and other student support services beyond the regular school day.

The Academic Intervention Program (AIP) -We are pleased to offer Ceres Unified School District's Academic Intervention Program (AIP) for students in grades 2-6. The goal of AIP is to



give students who are “at-risk” of not graduating from high school the extra academic support needed for promotion to the next grade level. Students who are at risk of retention, or in need of some extra help in reading, writing, or math are encouraged to take advantage of the program. Classes are offered for 1 ½ hours, three days per week (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) and during the summer for Summer School. Your child’s teacher will be contacting you about these programs if they believe your child is in need of the service. Additional classes are offered with extra support for students who are learning English. Feel free to discuss your child’s participation in this with his/her teacher. Due to limited AIP spots only our most at risk students will be offered our AIP. These spots will be determined by the teachers based on classroom data.

After School Program (ASES) – ASES is open to all students in grades TK-6. ASES runs Monday through Friday beginning right after school and ends at 6:00 PM including minimum days. Students may be signed out before 6:00 PM in accordance with our early release policy. Students receive a snack and the program is supervised by CUSD recreational leaders who provide homework support and recreational, enrichment activities in a safe and structured environment. This year we will also experiment with intramurals and possible supper program. Guidelines will be provided by ASES.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council is a way to involve the children in school decisions, to teach responsibility, and to help students understand procedures. Our Student Council is an active group that supports the school's activities. Student leaders are elected yearly. Each classroom of students (grades 3-6) elects a Student Council Representative and an alternate. Some of the activities of Student Council include: dress-up days and involvement in many school-wide events. Fundraisers are conducted to help pay for many of the school activities and special events. School beautification projects, additional playground equipment, and canned food drives for needy families in our community are just a few of the many activities and events sponsored by our Student Council.

SAFETY PATROL

School Safety Patrol members are student volunteers from upper grades. Patrollers direct children, not traffic. As school-age leaders in traffic safety, patrol members teach other students about traffic safety on a peer-to-peer basis. They also serve as models for younger children, who look up to them. School Safety Patrol members:

- Complete training in traffic safety.
- Protect students from hazards of crossing roads on their way to and from school.
- Teach fellow students about traffic safety.
- Serve in other leadership roles under the direction of school officials.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

Every child has a right to feel safe at school and to be in a productive learning environment. Every teacher has a right to teach and to expect students to allow others in the room to learn. Therefore, we expect proper conduct from ALL students. If your child has any problems, encourage him/her to contact the teacher immediately. As a parent, feel free to call the teacher or Administration at any time about your child's school behavior or that of another person toward your child. Each

parent is requested to review the Sam Vaughn rules and the Ceres Unified School District's Conduct Code with his/her child. It is very important that parent and student have a clear understanding of the rules and consequences. If a child continually chooses to break rules, or is involved in major behaviors (fighting etc.), students may be suspended and/or expelled. The key to our Multiple Tiers of Support is not just the consistency of applied consequences, but the abundance of positive recognition offered to students who mind the rules.

GENERAL RULES:

- **Keep hands & feet to yourself. No pushing, hitting, kicking etc.**
- Treat ALL people and property with respect.
- Behave in a safe manner.
- Follow directions at all times.
- Use appropriate school language.
- No equipment or toys from home.
- Students are not to go past Red Line or past Second Pole on the field.
- No use of grass area before school or if wet (i.e. Yard Duty calls it).
- No running on white (Concrete).
- No food is allowed outside the cafeteria or on the yard.
- All playground equipment should be used appropriately
- Soccer and Football and tag should only be played on the field
- All games/activities should be played appropriately, NO horseplay or physical contact.
- No throwing or kicking footballs/ soccer balls on blacktop.
- Put all equipment back at the end of every recess.
- Come prepared and ready to work.
- No playing in the bathrooms.

CROSSWALK

- Follow crossing guard directional at all times
- Use the crosswalk whenever crossing the street
- Do not exit your car in the street

Cafeteria rules

- Be respectful to ALL staff and peers.
- Line up quietly one behind the other on yellow while outside; 1 on wht. & 1 on blue inside.
- No talking while in the serving area.
- Quiet/ Inside voices while at your table.
- Stay seated at all times. Raise your hand and ask for permission to leave your seat.
- Do not share food with others.
- Make sure your area, table and floor around you is clean before being dismissed.

BICYCLE RULES

Riding your bicycle to school is a privilege. If the student chooses not to follow the rules, this privilege will be taken away. Bicycles must be kept in the bike rack. For safety reasons, they should be locked during the day. The school is not responsible for theft or damage.

RULES TO REMEMBER:

1. Students cannot ride bicycles, skateboards, roller skates etc.. on campus

2. Students must walk their bicycles to the bike rack.
3. Students must leave all bicycles alone except their own bicycle.
4. Students must follow California state law and wear bicycle helmets.

BULLYING AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

Related to Students from Board Policy #5131.2(a) and #5145.7 bullying and sexual harassment of students can be a serious problem in schools. It can threaten a student's emotional well-being, impair academic progress, and ultimately inhibit the attainment of career goals. Bullying and sexual harassment is more than inappropriate behavior. It is illegal under both federal and state laws and constitutes a violation of Title IX of the 1972 Education amendments. Prevention is the best tool for eliminating sexual harassment. Creating awareness and sensitivity to potentially negative effects on students and on the school as a whole is the first step toward preventing sexual harassment. Awareness decreases the probability of bullying and sexual harassment and aids in early identification so that problems can be addressed informally. It is the intent of Ceres Unified School District to maintain an academic environment which protects individual dignity and promotes the mutual respect of students. Students must understand what bullying and sexual harassment is and know the consequences of harassing other students. Instruction regarding bullying and sexual harassment will focus on respect for self and others. (I.e. how to treat other people and how you want to be treated by others) Students or staff are to immediately report incidents of bullying or sexual harassment to the principal or other school officials. Any parent who believes their son or daughter is being bullied or sexually harassed are advised to contact the principal or other officials at the school.

TECHNOLOGY

Technology provides students with access to people and materials from all over the world. We believe that information and interaction promotes educational excellence and is consistent with the goals of the district. The Internet does include some materials that are not appropriate for students. Efforts are taken to protect students from inappropriate materials, but it is impossible to completely protect students from materials that are not consistent with CUSD goals. Students will use the Internet within an educational activity, such as performing research, developing projects and disseminating information. We also recommend purchasing the affordable insurance for your child's device. Information will be sent home at the beginning of the year.

***Your wifi at home does not have the same filters as the school wifi. Please closely monitor your child's device and check their email & website history for any inappropriate activity.**

An "Acceptable Use Policy" is sent home yearly with students. It is important to discuss the rules and consequences with your child. Students will not be allowed to use the Internet until the contract is signed and returned.

INTERNET RULES

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right.

The privilege may be withdrawn if it is not used responsibly.

Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. Communications on the network are often public in nature.

General school rules for behavior and communications apply. The network is provided for students to conduct research, complete assignments, and communicate with others. Independent access to network services is provided to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parent permission is required for minors. Access is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility. Individual users of the district computer networks are responsible for their behavior and communications over those networks. It is presumed that users will comply with District standards and will honor the agreements they have signed.

Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on District servers will always be private. During school, teachers of younger students will guide them toward appropriate materials. Outside of school, families bear responsibility for such guidance.

As they must also exercise guidance with information sources such as television, telephones, movies, radio and other potentially offensive media.

The following are not permitted:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Using obscene language
 - Giving personal information when using the system, such as complete name, address, phone number, and identifiable photo without permission from teacher and parent or guardian.
- Harassing, insulting or attacking others
- Damaging computers, computer systems or computer networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Using others' passwords
- Trespassing in others' folders, work or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes, financial gain, or fraud.

SANCTIONS

- Violations may result in a loss of access.
 - Additional disciplinary action may be determined at the building level in line with existing practice regarding inappropriate language or behavior, including expulsion. When applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

Minor Behavior DESCRIPTIONS



Class Disruption - Student engages in behavior causing an interruption in a class or activity. Disruption may include some loud talk, yelling, or screaming; noise with materials; horseplay or roughhousing; and/or sustained out-of-seat behavior.

Misuse of Technology - Student engages in off task use of technology. (Cell Phone, Camera, Chromebook)

Inappropriate Language - Student delivers verbal messages that include swearing, name calling or use of words in an inappropriate way.

Teasing - Student delivers messages to another that does not include threats and intimidation, obscene gestures or pictures. These messages may not be kind, but are not intended to threaten, intimidate, or offend.

Physical Contact - Student engages in non-serious physical contact.

Defiance/Non-compliance - Student engages in refusal to follow directions, talks back and/or delivers socially rude interactions.

Dress Code - Student wears clothing that does not fit within the dress code guidelines practiced by the school/district.

Out of Bounds - Student is in an area that is outside of expected boundaries.

Lying/Cheating - Student delivers message that is untrue and/or deliberately violates rules.

Major Behavior DESCRIPTIONS



Disruption of class - Student engages in behavior causing a **major** interruption of the class and/or **unsafe** behavior. Disruption includes yelling, or screaming; loud noises with materials; horseplay or roughhousing; and/or leaves the classroom.

Technology Violation - Student engages in inappropriate (cyberbullying, viewing lewd content) use of cell phone, music/video players, camera, and/or computer.

Inappropriate Language - Student delivers **threatening/directed** messages that may include swearing, name calling or use of words in an inappropriate way.

Harassment/Bullying - Student frequently delivers disrespectful messages* to another person that includes threats and intimidation, obscene gestures, pictures, or written notes.

Physical Aggression - Student engages in actions involving **serious physical contact** where injury may occur (e.g., hitting, punching, hitting with an object, kicking, hair pulling, scratching, etc.). Student involved in mutual participation in an incident involving physical violence (fighting).

Defiance/Non-compliance - Student engages in ongoing refusal to follow directions, talks back and/or delivers socially rude interactions.

Alcohol/Drug Possession - Student is in possession of or is using alcohol. Student is in possession of or is using illegal drugs/substances or imitations. Student is in possession of or is using tobacco.

Theft/Forgery - Student takes property from another individual.

Vandalism - Student participates in an activity that results in destruction or disfigurement of property.

Weapons - Student is in possession of knives or guns (real or look alike), or other objects readily capable of causing bodily harm.

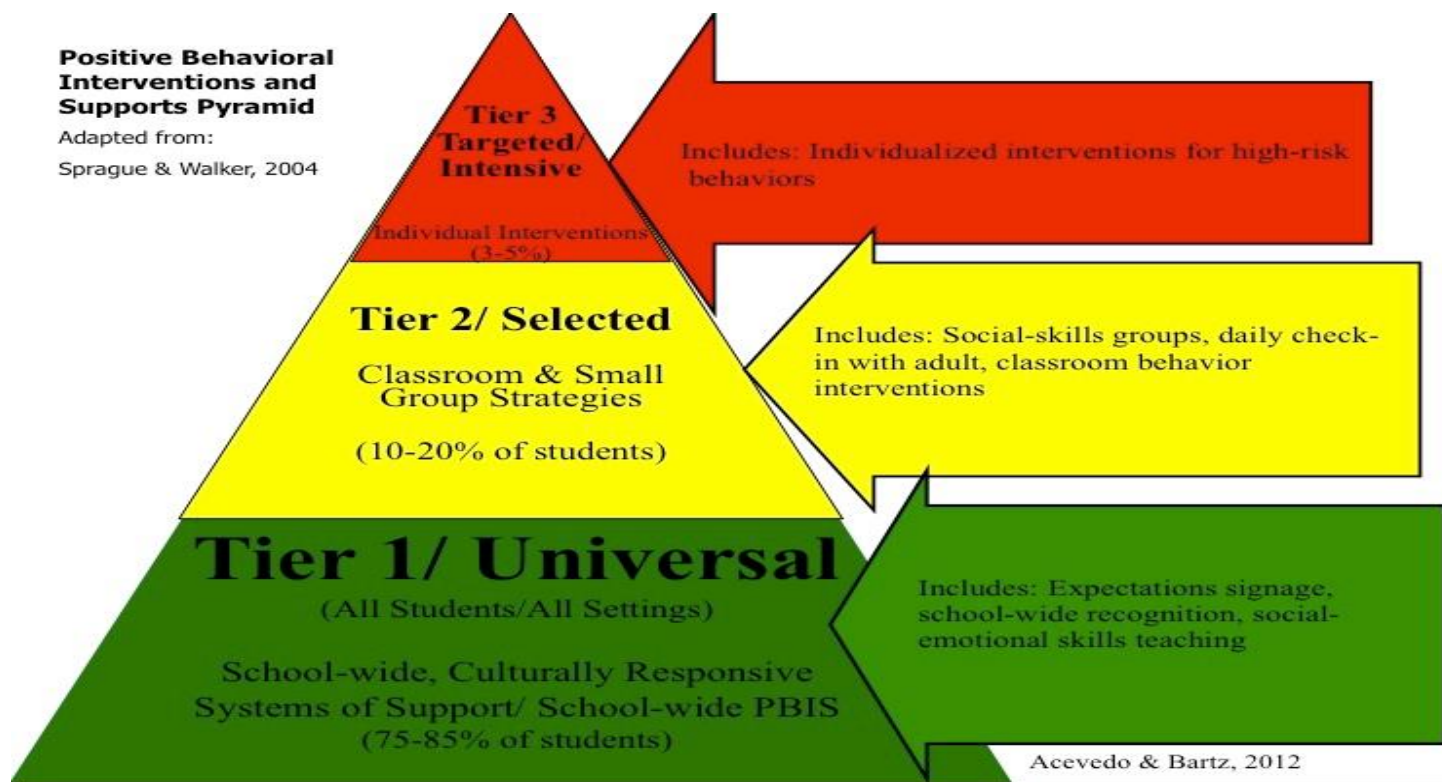
Sexual Conduct - Student engages in inappropriate verbal, written and/or physical gestures/contact, of a sexual nature to another student/adult.

**Disrespectful messages include negative comments based on race, religion, gender, age, and/or national origin; sustained or intense verbal attacks based on ethnic origin, disabilities or other personal matters.*

BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS

The Board of Trustees and staff of the Ceres Unified School District believes that all students are accountable for their behavior and conduct while attending school and school-sponsored activities. Repeated offenses may result in a maximum consequence of expulsion. Violation of the rules and regulations set forth may cause one or more of the following interventions:

- Cooperative Reviews (CUM File review- health issues, prior SSTs, assessments, etc.)
- Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA)
- School/Classroom Reward System
- Behavior Contract
- Daily home/school notes
- Parent-Teacher Conferencing
- Parenting Classes/resources
- SST Referral with Psych-Teacher Consult (PENT)
- Classroom Management Plans/Class Pass Intervention/Reset
- Online referral for services (Ceres Healthy Start)
- Referral to Social Skills
- Referral to Mentoring/Referral to SSS/SAP
- Modified Day
- Referral to Clinician
- Inter-agency/Wrap Around Services (Sierra Vista, VMRC, Ceres Partnership, etc.)
- Ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities
- Behavior Plan/Classroom Management Plan
- Suspension from school
- Expulsion



SUSPENSIONS

The following behaviors may result in suspension from school and could lead to expulsion:

AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION LAW (State Law 48900)

- Caused, Attempted or threatened physical injury to another person.
- Willfully used force or violence on another.
- Disruption of school activities or defiance to school authorities.
- Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity.
- Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive or other dangerous objects.
- Offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substances.
- Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- Possessed, use, sale, or under the influence of drugs, alcoholic beverages, or intoxicants.
- Caused or attempted to cause damage to school or private property.
- Possessed an imitation firearm.
- Stole or attempted to steal school or private property.
- Knowingly received stolen school or private property.
- Committed or attempted to commit Sexual harassment.
- Caused, Attempted to cause, threatened, or participated in Hate violence.
- Engaged in harassment, threats, or Intimidation.
- Terrorist threats against school officials or school property, or both.

1. (E.C. 48900) No pupil shall be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated unless the act is related to school activity or school attendance. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts which are enumerated in this section and related to school activity or attendance which occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following.
 - (a) While on school grounds.
 - (b) While going to or coming from school.
 - (c) During the lunch period whether on or off campus.
 - (d) During or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.
2. Students accumulating 20 days of suspension, in one school year, are subject to involuntary transfer to an alternative program, or to the Administrative Panel for possible expulsion. Parents and students may be referred to the School Attendance Review Board.
3. Disciplinary action will be taken if a student's behavior is disruptive to the instructional process or causes a danger to persons or property even though the offense is not defined in this Student Conduct Code.
4. In addition to those sections enumerated in E.C. 48900 (a through o) and 48915 (a and c), a student may be suspended or expelled from school for violation of school/classroom rules.

Teacher Suspension

Teachers have the right to suspend a student from class due to violations listed below. (E.C. 48910) Teachers are responsible for contacting parents regarding incidents and should organize a parent meeting within an appropriate time frame. Sam Vaughn does not have in school suspension and all students removed from class will meet with administration to provide due process and assign appropriate consequences, which may result in home suspension or recommendation for expulsion.

CUSD STUDENT DRESS CODE K-6 Dress Code BP #5132

The parents/guardians of the Ceres Unified School District are charged with the responsibility of dressing their children in a neat and clean manner. In addition, under normal circumstances, no student will be sent to school wearing any kind of clothing, costume, and/or hair style which will tend to interrupt, disturb, or interfere with the normal educational program being carried on, either on campus or in the classroom, or negatively affect the health and safety of individuals. The students must dress in such a manner that will conform to good taste. Explicit or implied profanities and/or obscenities will not be acceptable. Any items of clothing, jewelry, footwear, or headgear which would be injurious or potentially disruptive to the normal education program or to any person or school district property are prohibited. (cf. 6136 Gangs) These guidelines shall be in effect at all school-related activities except where modified by the site administrator for specific extracurricular activities or specific cases.

1. All clothing, including jackets, shoes, and head coverings that may be determined to be gang related are not allowed.
2. Accessories, such as jewelry, belts, bandanas, purses, and sunglasses which have logos, insignias, color, or writings depicting gang related activities are not allowed.
3. Attire and hairstyles worn or altered in such a way as to identify students with gangs is not allowed. This includes, but is not limited to: sagging/baggy pants, shorts with knee high socks, hanging belts, canvas belts (military style), or gang related initials on belt buckles.
4. Pants must fit at the waist and not be more than one size too large or one size too small. If belts are worn, they must not be more than one size too large.
5. Attire which is sexually suggestive or extremely brief is not allowed. This includes, but is not limited to: low-cut garments, strapless or off the shoulder tops, straps less than 2 inches in width, bare midriffs, tank tops/racer-back tops or muscle shirts, undershirts, tops that expose undergarments, shorts which are shorter than mid-thigh or fingertip length, and skirts shorter than fingertip length.
6. Attire that advocates, advertises or symbolizes any type of alcohol, drugs, tobacco or acts which are illegal, violent, obscene, or hazardous to one's health is not allowed.
7. Shoes must be worn at all times. Flip-flops, socks or sock-like footwear, slippers, backless shoes, or shoes with over a one inch heel are not safe or appropriate for school.
8. Clothing, jewelry, and other accessories that present a safety hazard to the wearer or others are not allowed. Facial piercings other than ear lobes are not allowed.
9. Facial make-up is not allowed, nor is non-natural hair color that creates a distraction.
10. In accordance with Education Code 35183.5 hats or other head coverings may be worn at school. Such hats or head coverings must be school appropriate and follow the various guidelines enumerated in this policy.
11. Sun glasses may not be worn in school buildings

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Giant of the Week: teachers select one student a week to be featured in a unique way. Students will be announced at Friday Jamborees.

3 R's Award: Every Month Sam Vaughn focuses on a different life skill. At one Jamboree a month we will honor those who demonstrated the specific life skill.

1. TRIMESTER AWARDS:

Achievement incentives will be given out every trimester for the following:

Honor Roll (grades 4-6)

Perfect Attendance (No tardies, No Partial (early check out), No absences)

2. STUDENT OF THE YEAR:

6th grade teachers assess their class in all areas (academics, attendance, behavior, citizenship). Each teacher chooses 2 students to receive the special plaques.

3. PRESIDENT'S EDUCATION AWARDS:

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE:

The President of the United States issues a certificate to each graduating sixth grader who has maintained a grade point average of 3.5 or higher throughout 4th, 5th, & 6th grade.

4. HONOR ROLL:

This certificate is awarded to 4th, 5th, & 6th grade students that have maintained a grade point average of 3.0-3.49.

5. PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL:

This certificate is awarded to 4th, 5th, & 6th grade students that have maintained a grade point average of 3.5 – 3.99.

6. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:

This certificate is awarded to 4th, 5th, & 6th grade students that have maintained a grade point average of 4.0.

7. RFEP CERTIFICATE: This certificate is awarded to English Learners who have made sufficient growth in their English Proficiency to be reclassified as English Fluent.

LIBRARY

We are proud of our library! All students visit the library on a weekly basis. Students check out books for a variety of purposes. All students are responsible for keeping the books in good condition and returning them to the library. Students who damage or lose books will be charged for repairs or replacement of the book. If books are not returned or paid for, students may not check out any other materials. Please visit our library clerk for details.

All Chromebooks are also checked out through our library. If a Chromebook is lost or damaged, it needs to be paid for. All Chromebooks must be returned in good condition.

ACCELERATED READER (AR)

AR provides a way for educators to monitor and guide reading practice and ensure success for their students through goal setting.

- AR provides quick and accurate assessments of whether students have read and understood trade books that they have selected and textbook passages that have been assigned to them.
- It assigns point values for each AR Practice Quiz taken. Point values are a factor of book level and performance on quizzes. Points accumulate during the school year, and are a way for teachers to monitor students' reading volume.
- The system tracks student performance on AR quizzes over time.

Sam Vaughn uses software called Renaissance Place, this program has a special feature called Renaissance Home Connect, which you can access outside of school from any computer with an Internet connection. Renaissance Home Connect is fun and easy to use. It allows the teacher, you and your child to share information about your child's progress in Accelerated Reader. You will receive a username and password specific to your student. You can view Renaissance Home Connect from any computer with an Internet connection using these browsers:

To log in to Renaissance Home Connect

Website: <https://Hosted118.renlearn.com/284705/HomeConnect>

If you'd like to receive emails showing your student's quiz or test results, click the Email Setup link in Renaissance Home Connect and follow the directions. To be sure these emails reach your inbox, add homeconnectautodelivery@renlearnrp.com to your address book.

If you have questions about Renaissance Home Connect, please call Blong Thao Sam Vaughn's Library and Media Clerk.

HEALTH

A letter from our Nurses...

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year! Healthy children learn best and your school nurse is here to help each child reach and maintain optimal health. We would like to share some information with you to help insure a safe, healthy year for your student.



Emergency Information: Please keep the office informed of changes in home and work phone numbers. It is also important that you have local emergency numbers for when you cannot be reached. We will always attempt to notify parents first but need the emergency number so an ill or injured child can receive prompt care. Children left after 6:00 P.M. will be turned over to the Ceres Police Department.

Medications: California Education Code 11753.1 allows the school to assist in the administration of medication if requested to do so by the physician and parent. An authorization form, available from the school office, must be completed by the physician and parent. Medications must be brought to school by an adult in the original pharmacy labeled bottle. Medication requests must be renewed each year and any changes in medication should be reported to the school by the parent. **Inhalers and auto-injectable epinephrine (Epipen) may be carried by the student, as long as the student's parents and doctor give permission and the notes are on file in the nurse's office. As a way to safeguard against students losing or using up their inhalers, the American Lung Association of California recommends that all students with asthma have an inhaler in the health care office, even when that inhaler is in addition to the one the student carries.**

Be aware that the school may take disciplinary action if a student misuses an inhaler or Epipen in any way, including sharing it with anyone, using it inappropriately, or spraying it at anyone. In these circumstances, the question of a student's maturity may be also raised with the physician and your child may lose the privilege to carry their own inhaler.

First Grade Physicals: The California Health and Safety code requires that every child entering first grade in a California school have a health check-up. A certificate signed by a doctor, must be presented to the school by December 1st to verify that the child has received the health check-up.

TB testing: Parent volunteers, as well as staff members, must have a current clearance for tuberculosis. The PPD or Mantoux Skin Test is acceptable and may be obtained from your physician, the County Health Department or Ceres School District. Clinics are held once a month. Call your school nurse or staff for information about the next clinic. The skin test is good for four years. *If you have had a positive skin test in the past, a chest x-ray is required.*

Illness: Your child will be in close contact with many children in the school setting which allows illness to spread easily. Please be alert to signs of illness and keep your child home if you suspect he/she is not well. If you think your child might have a communicable disease such as chicken pox, ringworm, impetigo, strep throat, hepatitis or head lice please notify the school.

Chronic health problems: If your child has a chronic health problems such as diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, allergic reactions, etc., please notify your school nurse and child's teacher. This allows them to plan for any special needs your child might have.

Lice: Did your child come home with head lice? Understand the problem before it becomes one. A lice infestation can happen to anyone. Socioeconomic background or lack of cleanliness has nothing to do with determining who gets lice. Lice are insects. They are an easily treatable condition that can be eliminated once they are discovered. Know the symptoms of a lice infestation. If your child is constantly itching, check the scalp for lice or eggs. The eggs will appear as white specks stuck to the hair near the scalp.

Growth and Development: The school nurse will be meeting with the 4th grade girls, 5th grade boys and girls, and the 6th grade boys and girls in the spring. Topics related to changes experienced during puberty and HIV/ AIDS will be discussed. A parent preview will be held prior to the presentations. The parents will be notified by mail regarding times and dates for the parent preview. Please contact the school nurse for any questions related to the growth and development presentations. Parents can opt out.

Kindergarten Dental Requirements; California law requires every kindergarten student to have an oral health assessment prior to May 31st. The law specifies that the assessment must be performed by a licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional. Oral health assessment that have happened within the 12 months before your child enters school meets this requirement.

INSURANCE

An insurance policy is available to parents who wish to voluntarily enroll in this coverage for their children. The fee is nominal and there are several plans from which to choose. Information will be sent home the first week of school. The district does not provide paid insurance for students.

TOBACCO FREE SCHOOL

Ample evidence has demonstrated the health hazards associated with the use of tobacco products, including smoking and the breathing of second-hand smoke. Therefore, in accordance with state and federal law, as well as Ceres Unified School District Policy, Sam Vaughn Elementary School prohibits the use of tobacco anywhere and anytime on district property.

PERSONAL PROPERTY WAIVER/RELEASE OF LIABILITY

The Ceres Unified School District, its officers, agents, or employees shall not be responsible, in any manner, for the loss, theft, damage, or destruction of any personal property brought onto District premises by students, for any reason whatsoever, including, but not limited to, a request by a staff member. Students who bring personal property onto school premises assume all risk of loss, theft, damage, or destruction of personal property, which may occur. All bikes, scooters, and skateboards must be locked in the bike rack area. Personal items should not be brought to school. These include toys, cell phones, games, radios, skateboards, skates, scooters, balls, and trading cards. Confiscated items will not be returned until a parent comes to pick them up.