

Whipple Heights Behavior System

We are excited to begin a new year at Whipple Heights Elementary School! Please read the information below with your child regarding our School-Wide Behavior System. **Once you have discussed this plan with your child, please sign the attached form and return it to school.**

Rules/Expectations

Our behavior system involves three main school-wide rules with consistent expectations for everyone. These rules are part of **Whipple's "Paw"sitive Behavior**; and are displayed on posters throughout the school. The rules are:

- **I show Kindness and Respect in everything I do.**
- **I always play and act in a Safe manner.**
- **I am Responsible for my work and actions**

*The specific expectations under each rule are attached. (See Behavior Matrix)
These expectations will be directly taught to ALL students throughout the first week of school.*

Behavior Wheel

We will be using a Behavior Wheel that will track each student's behavior during the day throughout the building. Each student will have a clothespin with his/her name on it that will be clipped to the wheel. The Behavior Wheel (positives and consequences) are described below:

- **Great Behavior (Dark Green)** = Everyone starts here each day!
- **Gold Star (Gold)** = Exhibiting Behavior(s) attached to Whipple Manners
- **Good Behavior (Light Green)** = **Oops** Warning
- **Step 1 of Discipline -(Yellow)** = Card Home to Parent
- **Step 2 of Discipline -(Orange)** = Recess Detention
- **Step 3 of Discipline -(Pink)** = Phone Call Home w/ Recess Detention

If your child moves to either step 1, 2 or 3 in the discipline plan, he/she will bring home a note explaining what behavior choice(s) they made that day. The consequence(s) for their behavior will be determined by their teacher. This note will need to be signed and returned the following day.

- **Severe Disruptions on Discipline Plan-(Red) = Principal's Office**
The behaviors that result in an automatic skipping of steps, a move directly to red, or progression along the wheel to red will be addressed by the principal. Automatic moves included but are not limited to: lying, stealing, inappropriate words/gestures, physical harm to others, emotional harm to others, and destruction of property.
- **Zero Tolerance Definition: NEW**
Zero Tolerance means a consequence (of some form) will be given for intentional emotional or physical harm to another person.
- **Definition of Bullying Behavior: NEW**
Bullying Behavior is defined as repetitive or intentional words or actions intended to create an imbalance of power.
A one time incident of vandalism (ruining someone's property), assault (hurting someone's body), or theft (taking something from someone) is NOT considered bullying behavior. However, a consequence will still be given for such offenses.

Gold Star Behavior

Students that voluntarily exhibit any of the 15 Whipple Manners may even have the chance to move up to Gold Star Behavior. This reward is saved for **outstanding** behavior choices and will be signified with your son/daughter bringing a gold star home in their behavior folder.

Behavior in Specials

Students will be held accountable while attending both Specials and/or Title Classes. Poor behavior choices according to the Whipple Rules and Expectations in either of these 2 settings will be considered separate offenses from the Classroom Behavior Wheel. The consequences for misbehavior in either of these 2 settings are as listed below:

White Card (sent home)=2 Infractions

2 White cards from ANY Special/Title One Teacher within a 6 week period=Absence from the Behavior Party

Reward Parties

As part of our Whipple's "Paw"sitive Behavior system, all students have the opportunity every 6 weeks to earn entrance into a positive behavior reward party. The reward parties are planned by our staff and will vary each time (i.e. movie and popcorn, ice cream party, magic show, etc.).

Those students who move to Step One (Yellow) **more than one time** (i.e. twice) in a six week period will NOT qualify to participate and will instead participate in a character enrichment activity.

Students who move **beyond Step One** (Yellow) at any time during the six week period will NOT be permitted to attend the reward party and will attend the character enrichment activity.

Additionally students in grades K-4 who move their clip to the Good Behavior or Oops (Light Green) spot on the wheel during the six week period will be monitored. On the 4th warning for the same infraction for students in grades K-3 and on the 3rd warning for grade 4, students will move to **Step One** (Yellow).

***Students who are unable to attend multiple behavior parties in a row will automatically be placed on an *Individual Behavior Plan*. This plan will be focused on helping the student improve a specific behavior(s) with the goal being participation in future behavior parties. Parent involvement in the design and implementation of individual behavior plans is expected.

Individual Behavior Plans

Students who are unable to attend two behavior parties in a row will automatically be placed on an *Individual Behavior Plan*. This plan will be focused on helping the student improve a specific behavior(s) with the goal being participation in future behavior parties. Parent involvement in the design and implementation of individual behavior plans is expected.

In addition, any student who receives 5 Step One (Yellow) cards, or beyond, in a six week period will also be placed on an *Individual Behavior Plan*. Again, parent involvement in the design and implementation of these plans is expected.

Parent Communication

Kindergarten thru 2nd Grade

Every student in grades K-2 will receive a gold vinyl folder to bring home-completed work or important information and as a means of communicating your child's placement on the Behavior Wheel for the day.

3rd & 4th Grade

All students in grades 3-4 will receive an assignment book to communicate assignments and communicate your child's placement on the Behavior Wheel for the day. (This is located inside the back cover of the book.)

We want to work as team to help ensure your child has a great year. We appreciate your support and look forward to a very successful year! Please sign below indicating you reviewed this system with your child.

Sincerely,

The Whipple Heights Staff



I have read and discussed the *Whipple Heights Behavior System* with my child.

Student's Name _____

Student's Teacher _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Phasing in Behavior Expectations

Kindergarten Families:

With Kindergarten being a child's first experience in a formal school setting, we have designed an additional support level to help phase in the Behavior Wheel at Whipple Heights Elementary School. For the 1st semester, the behavior system will be adjusted to provide more opportunities for students to meet the expectations and make the connection between their behavior choices and the rewards or consequences given

We will be using a 10 cube tower that is aligned with our School-Wide Behavior Wheel. Each day, your child will start with a tower of 10 cubes. This is something they can tangibly carry with them throughout the school day. A single cube will be removed from your child's tower when a behavior choice is exhibited that does not align with our building expectations. (For example: A cube could be taken for not following directions, talking out of turn, not being kind etc.) For every 2 cubes that are taken, your child will move their clip one time on the Behavior Wheel.

You will want to pay close attention to the behavior card placed in your child's gold folder. Keep in mind; it takes two cubes to move their clip on the wheel one step. At the end of each week you will receive a graph showing exactly how many cubes your child had at the end of each day. This will help you see the exact number of reminders your child needed throughout the week.

Sincerely,

Whipple Heights Kindergarten Team