



We Are Marray!

Viewmont Elementary School
PBIS & Behavior Handbook
2023 – 2024

Viewmont Elementary School

Our Vision: Viewmont Eagles **ASCEND.**

A: Accountable

S: Solution Oriented

C: Communicators

E: Engaged

N: Noble

D: Driven

Our Mission: Viewmont Elementary is committed to the development of academic and practical skills so that students can be life-long learners and achievers.

Core Beliefs:

- We believe that all students deserve to be part of a safe, nurturing community.
- We believe that all students can be inspired and empowered to love learning.
- We believe that all students can develop the ability to persevere and be resilient.

The faculty and staff of Viewmont Elementary keep students at the center of our work and focus. We strive to develop and maintain strong family and community relationships to best meet student needs.

We seek to honor the diversity amongst our student body. We do this through our curriculum, school culture and climate, ongoing communication, and celebrations. As faculty and staff, we know that positive and trusting relationships with students and families help us form a solid foundation for learning. Each student can grow and succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.

For this growth to occur, students need structure and support. Viewmont Elementary is a PBIS (*Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support*) school. This means we work proactively in our approach to naturally occurring school behaviors.

A PBIS School has 8 key features:

1. Administrative leadership
2. Team-based implementation
3. Data based decision making
4. Behavioral expectations defined
5. Behavioral expectations explicitly taught
6. Appropriate behavior is acknowledged and rewarded
7. Behavioral errors monitored and corrected
8. Family and community collaboration is built and maintained

Viewmont provides three Tiers of Behavioral Support for our students. Each Tier can be tailored to meet each student's individual needs.

Tier 1: This is a school-wide approach geared toward every student. This Tier involves clear and explicitly taught expectations and the use of common language.

- Viewmont works to explicitly teach, practice, and maintain Tier 1 skills throughout the school year.
- The school uses assemblies, classroom lessons, and other opportunities to teach and reinforce school rules from our school-wide behavior matrix and to teach positive behaviors and responses.
- Norms are reiterated consistently and reviewed after long weekends or breaks during the school year (*e.g. Fall Break, Thanksgiving, Winter Break, Spring Break, etc.*).
- Community circles are conducted regularly in classrooms to build trusting, supportive classroom cultures and strong relationships between students, teachers, and staff.

- Viewmont continually reinforces positive behaviors through multiple means (*words of praise, positive postcards mailed home, calls made to parents, classroom incentives, Eagle Tickets, etc.*).
- Students will engage in social skills education, mindfulness processes, and social-emotional instruction (*using the Second Step curriculum - approved by USBE and adopted by MCSD*).

Tier 2: This approach is typically centered in classrooms and small-group settings.

- Students may participate in a point system within the classroom to serve as a reminder or motivator.
- Students may work with their teacher on a behavioral intervention to address mild and moderate issues.
- Students may participate in a Check-in and Check-out program with our student advocates.
- A Restorative Circle may be utilized, as appropriate.
- The student may participate in skill-based groups with the school social worker.

Tier 3: This approach is highly structured and provides individualized support to a student demonstrating high-risk behaviors.

- The parents, student, administrator, and school counselor work together to develop a level of support to help the student with behaviors.
- A student may have a daily contract.
- The student may work with the school social worker regarding behaviors and choices.
- A referral *may be made* to the school-based mental health therapist.

Viewmont Elementary has a **Student Support Team (SST)**. This team consists of the school principal, the social worker, a student advocate, the academic coach, a grade-level teacher, and a special education teacher(s). The team meets and collaborates regularly to evaluate student data (*behavioral, academic, and attendance*) and to identify potential research-based strategies to support interventions.

If appropriate, the SST may make a referral, using the TIP form, to the Special Education team. The SST is also available to help teachers make decisions regarding student behaviors and/or instructional needs. Finally, the SST uses data to support the culture and climate of the school.

Student Recognition:

Students are recognized for achievement and success in multiple ways throughout the year. Teachers have identified individual plans for their classrooms to recognize student growth, achievement, cooperation, support, etc.

Students in each classroom will be recognized via ASCENDED Eagle Certificates. Teachers will be able to choose which quality from ASCEND they would like to recognize the student for; they can recognize up to 3 students a month. At the end of year, any student who has received more than one ASCENDED Eagle Award will be invited to participate in a Pizza with the Principal party.

Students can be praised by any staff member when they are “caught doing good.” We know that the impact of positive words lasts far longer than tangible rewards and we want our students to hear praise frequently and to be able to internalize it. They submit a name and 2-3 sentences of what was the ‘*kind or good thing*’ that was done. This student will receive special recognition and a special certificate at the next awards assembly.

Positive phone calls home or positive postcards are also mailed home to students. These can be earned through positive behaviors or academic successes. *Anyone from the faculty and staff* can communicate these positives and are encouraged to do so. We know the value of a positive word and the pride that accompanies these communications.

Students can also earn points or Eagle Tickets which can be used to “buy” classroom prizes, supplies, *Yes! Box* items, or EagleActivities (school experiences). The PTA is our partner in this PBIS program and we are grateful for their unwavering support.

Viewmont Elementary School-wide Behavior Matrix

	<p>School-wide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BE NICE • Choose to have a positive attitude 	<p>Hallways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk quietly • KYHFOOTY (lunches, PE equipment, coats, backpacks) • Give space to others 	<p>Bathroom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eyes in your own stall • Stay private • Quiet voice level 	<p>Cafeteria: Lunch Line and Entering/ Leaving Lunchroom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALK • Give space to others - remain 6 feet away from others • Quiet voice level • Be polite 	<p>Cafeteria: Table Behaviors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BE NICE • Use manners 	<p>Outside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play fair & include others • Use good sportsmanship • Use appropriate language • Treat self, others, and things with care 	<p>Assemblies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be attentive • Applaud when appropriate • Invited positive responses only 	<p>Arriving At And Leaving School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School rules apply before and after school • Give space to others when waiting for rides
<p>Be Respectful: <i>I will treat myself, others, and things with care.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions the first time • Show you're ready to learn • Wash your hands often • Grades 3-6, bring charged Chromebooks daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be where you are supposed to be • Walk on the correct side of the hallway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep restroom clean • In and out quickly • Enter the bathroom when you know there is space for you (look to see the number of bathroom passes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter and Exit using the correct doors • Stay in your assigned seat • Get what you need the 1st time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise your hand if you need help • Stay in your seat until the Exit Signal • Leave no trash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a role model for others • Line up the first time a signal to go inside is given • Stay in grade level area • Line up in appropriate space 1st time asked • Sanitize hands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter and wait quietly • Follow directions the 1st time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be where you are supposed to be • After school play with others should be arranged at home; school phones may not be used for this
<p>Be Responsible: <i>I will choose to do what is appropriate and be accountable for my actions.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear your mask • Keep hands, feet and all other objects to yourself • Walk on the correct side of the hallway • Cough into elbow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALK • Keep hands, feet and all other objects to yourself • Do NOT eat in the hallways • Be alert 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash your hands with soap & water/be clean • Paper towels in garbage can only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter and Exit using the correct doors • WALK • Remain socially distanced • Stay in your assigned seat • Do not share food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands, feet and all other objects to yourself • Sit and stay in place until you are dismissed • NO Sharing of food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO food outside • Use equipment appropriately • Keep hands, feet and all other objects to yourself • Sanitize your hands when entering the building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay with your teacher • Keep hands, feet and all other objects to yourself • Carry chairs with both hands and chair legs down 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always use the crosswalk & have an adult help you cross • Wait on a dot, alone or with family until your ride arrives • Enter and exit cars on the curb side of the car (NEVER walk into the pull-through lane)
<p>Be Safe: <i>I will choose activities that will keep me and others from being hurt.</i></p>								

Restorative Practices and Student Discipline:

Viewmont Elementary believes that our students care for each other and want to be respectful of one another. When conflict arises, we utilize a community-oriented process known as Restorative Practices to help with resolution. This approach allows students in conflict to restore relationships while gaining an understanding of their actions. Students can strengthen their conflict resolution skills and work towards accepting responsibility for their actions while finding a solution.

When involved in the restorative practices, students will engage in the following thought processes:

- 1) What happened?
- 2) What were you thinking about when it happened?
- 3) What have you thought about since?
- 4) Who has been affected by your actions?
- 5) What do you need to do to make things right?

Discipline:

All students and parents need to know teacher expectations and procedures as well as school rules (*school-wide behavior matrix*). There are times when inappropriate behaviors require disciplinary action. Tier 1 and some Tier 2 incidents will be handled by the classroom or specialist teacher while some Tier 2 and all Tier 3 incidents will be addressed by the Principal. In either situation, behaviors and consequences will be documented using the school's Incident Form.

Examples of Tier 1 and/or Tier 2 Behaviors	Examples of some Tier 2 and Tier 3 Behaviors
Disrespect	Failure to follow school rules
Disruption	Abusive language
Inappropriate language	Disrespect/Defiance
Bringing items from home	Aggressive Behavior
Property misuse or damage (including technology)	Lying/Cheating
Failure to follow school rules	Vandalism
Physical Contact (KYHFOOTY)	Fighting/Physical aggression

Food or drink in class	Theft
Dress code	Threat/intimidation
	Drug Possession/Use
	Weapons

Tier 1 and Tier 2 Possible Consequences:

These can include parent/guardian contact, a conference, a student phone call home, a restorative justice circle or conference, a principal conference with the student, a written assignment, a think sheet, etc.

Ongoing Tier 2 and any Tier 3 Possible Consequences:

These can include parent/guardian contact, restorative justice conference, principal conference with student, principal and parent conference with the student, written assignment, behavior contract created and implemented, in-school suspension, Level System, out-of-school suspension, and/or intervention plan discussion.

Bullying:

The term bullying is frequently used by students and parents. The faculty and staff at Viewmont believe it is important to be clear about the definition of bullying and how we handle it within the school. Bullying is defined as *“unwanted, aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated over time.”* If you suspect bullying is occurring, please notify the teacher and the Principal.