



"WHERE STUDENTS ROCK THE RIDGE"

FAMILY HANDBOOK

2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR

**13878 COMPTON DRIVE
MAGALIA, CA 95954**

August 2026

Dear Pine Ridge Families,

Welcome to Pine Ridge School, home of the Panthers! We are thrilled to begin another incredible year of learning and growth here on the ridge. I am honored to continue with the Panther Family this year. This marks my 24rd year in education and 11th year as an administrator.

At Pine Ridge, we are dedicated to supporting every student as they grow into confident, resilient learners who thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. As part of Paradise Unified School District, our mission is to inspire students to reach their full potential and become compassionate, empowered citizens. We are committed to creating a school community where all students feel safe, supported, and inspired to succeed.

Our Family Handbook has been created to provide helpful information and promote open communication between home and school. Throughout the year, updates about programs, staffing, and upcoming events will be shared via our monthly school newsletters, Parent Square notifications, and on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/PineRidgeSchool>, as well as our school website: <https://pineridge.pusdk12.org>.

Our mission at Pine Ridge is to develop competent, responsible, and self-directed students who make a positive impact on their community. We aim to foster the skills, mindset, and character needed to succeed in academics, overcome challenges, and embrace opportunities. Learning is maximized in a safe, caring, and respectful environment, and our dedicated staff is committed to maintaining a bully-free campus where every student feels valued and included.

We believe that family involvement is key to student success. We welcome and encourage you to share your time, talents, and ideas throughout the school year to enrich our school community. A parent volunteer form will be sent home early in the year—please take a moment to consider how you might get involved and make a meaningful difference for our students.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, my door is always open. You can also reach me via email at jchilds@pusdk12.org or message me via Parent Square.

Let's make this a fantastic school year—together!

Warm regards,

Jenn Childs

Principal, Pine Ridge School

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DAILY SCHEDULE

Grades TK-3 Start/End	8:05	2:05
Grades 4-6 Start/End	8:05	2:17

Snack/Morning Recess

Grades TK	9:20	9:40
Grade K	9:40	10:00
Grades 1-3	9:40	10:00
Grades 4-6	10:00	10:15

Lunch/Lunch Recess (see below for details)

Grades TK-K	11:00	11:45
Grades 1-3	11:25	12:10

EARLY RELEASE (Wed.) Schedule

Grades TK-3 Start/End	8:05	1:14
Grades 4-6 Start/End	8:05	1:15

Snack/Morning Recess (2nd chance breakfast not available until cafe kitchen is open for business)

Grade TK	9:20	9:40
Grade K	9:40	10:00
Grades 1-3	9:40	10:00

Grades 4-6

10:00 10:15

Lunch/Lunch Recess (see below for details)

Grades TK-K	11:00	11:45
Grades 1-3	11:25	12:10
Grades 4-6	11:50	12:35

MINIMUM DAY Schedule

Grades TK-3 Start/End	8:05	11:25
Grades 4-6 Start/End	8:05	11:29

Lunch (with teachers)

Grades TK-K	10:45- 1:00 1
Grades 1-3	11:00-11:15
Grades 4-6	11:15-11:29

Students Allowed on Campus: 7:30 AM

There is no supervision prior to 7:30 AM. Please do not drop off earlier than this time.

Breakfast Served in Cafeteria: 7:30 - 8:00 AM.

DIRECTORY

School Phone Number: 530-873-3800

Staff	Position	Ext.
Karen Oliver	4100	Principal's Secretary
Britani Oliver	4101	Health Tech/Librarian
Jenn Childs	4102	Principal
Teachers		
Terstegge, Heather	4002	Preschool
Bess, Amanda	4004	TK
Bettencourt, Shelly	4005	Kindergarten
Susan, Ritchey	4008	FLS
Roper, Chrissy	4011	2nd/3rd
Nixon, Christine	4013	1st
Cooper, Wil	4040	SDC
Dills, Haley	4041	3rd
Marshall, Kristen	4042	RSP
Robbins, Christian	4043	4th
Jensen, Kelli	4044	Title 1
Mangan, Derek	4045	4/5th
Lillian Follrath	4047	6th
Clark, Emily	4027	Music
Wilson, Michelle	4025	Art
Staff		
Psych Office	4104	Psych office
	4012	Counselor
Frost, Mindy/ Lee, Kassidy	4109	Panther Den
Fillmore, Grace / Sloggy, Nick	4024	Speech
Susan Jackson	4106	Kitchen
Leslie	4001	BCOE Preschool

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Boys & Girls Club coordinates a daily TK-6 after-school program. Students enrolled in the program receive homework assistance and participate in a variety of enrichment activities. Enrollment applications are available in the school office. If you have specific questions regarding the after-school program, please email the site coordinator, Travis Thornberry, at tthornberry@bgcnv.org.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL TIMES

Students should not arrive on campus until 7:30. For parents who have to drop off their child at school due to employment, we do offer student supervision in the cafeteria beginning at 7:30. Students who do not ride the bus home, or are not enrolled in the after school program, are asked to go directly home at dismissal. Please pick up your child promptly. The school does not offer after-school supervision.

In order to maximize instructional time and maintain an orderly school environment, we ask that students are not checked out of the school between 1:45 pm and dismissal unless it is an emergency or extremely urgent. Also, please wait for your student in front of the school, instead of outside the classroom door in order to minimize distractions to our students' learning.

ATTENDANCE

To succeed at Pine Ridge School, students must be present. Students who miss a lot of school do not perform as well as those who attend every day. Therefore, students are to come to school unless they are so sick that they cannot function. When your child is absent from school for any reason, it is your responsibility to call the school and clear the absence. We have a voice mail system to receive calls before or after school hours. You will receive an automated call in the morning on the day of your child's absence. This serves as a reminder to contact the school office.

All absences—excused and unexcused—are still considered absences. Any day your child does not attend school is considered an absence. Student illness, a death in the family, and religious holidays are all considered excused absences.

Schedule appointments after school hours. Families are asked to schedule doctor or dentist appointments outside of school time or after lunch if after school appointments are not available. If a student has an appointment during the school day, s/he needs to attend school before the appointment and return to school after the appointment.

Unexcused absence: Examples of unexcused absences include but are not limited to: missing the bus, getting up late, family concerns, car trouble, out-of-town trips, etc.

Tardy: Student arrive at school up to thirty minutes late.

Truant Tardy: Student arrives at school thirty or more minutes late.

When a student accrues three unexcused absences and/or truant tardies, the parent will receive an Initial Notification of Truancy Letter, which describes the parent's responsibilities in ensuring his/her child attends school regularly. If the truancy pattern continues, the parent will receive additional notification and will

need to meet with the school principal or District School Attendance Review Board Coordinator to design and sign a school attendance contract.

If a student violates the school attendance contract, both the student and the parent will be referred to the school district's SARB to enlist the assistance of Oroville area agencies to assist the family in remedying the student's truancy.

CHRONIC ABSENCES

Compulsory education laws require us to monitor and report excessive absenteeism. A student is defined as "chronically absent" if they have missed 10% or more of the school year for any reason - excused or unexcused. If a student's absences due to illness become excessive (greater than 10% of the school year), the student will receive a chronic absence letter which requires that all future absences due to illness must be verified by a physician, a health professional, school nurse, or other school personnel. Failure to provide verification will result in additional absences being recorded as unexcused or truant.

TRUANCIES

Unexcused absences are truancies. When a student accrues three truancies, the parent/guardian will receive a Notification of Truancy letter, which describes the parent/guardian responsibilities in ensuring their student attends school regularly. If the truancies continue, the parent/guardian will receive additional notification and will eventually be required to attend a meeting with the school principal to design and sign a school site attendance contract. If the school site attendance contract is violated, the student and parent/guardian will be referred to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). The SARB board conducts hearings to determine next steps including a referral to outside agencies, school changes, court referrals, and other interventions. We encourage you to contact our school anytime to review your student's attendance records and to request support.

BATHROOM USE DURING CLASS

We practice whole-class or recess bathroom breaks. If it is an emergency, you may use the restroom during independent work time. Students must sign out and in when leaving class to use the restroom. One student allowed out at a time.

BEVERAGES/SNACKS

In accordance with state nutritional guidelines, we request that students do not bring energy drinks, coffee drinks, or soda to school. In addition, we ask that parents send students to school with healthy snack choices like granola bars, crackers, and string cheese. Please refrain from providing unhealthy snacks like ramen noodles, chips, or candy. Unhealth items will be confiscated and held in the office for a parent to pick up after school. For students who do not eat breakfast at school, a "second chance" breakfast is available to them during snack recess. Home food may not be shared between students at recess or lunch. Food is not permitted in the classroom or playground only water.

BICYCLES/SKATEBOARDS/SCOOTERS

Bike riders should wear a helmet and follow all traffic laws and safety rules. Bicycle riders must walk their bikes from the street to the bike rack. All bikes should be locked to ensure the safety of student property. Skateboards, scooters, roller skates and shoes with wheels are not allowed on campus at any time. Students are not permitted to ride motorized scooters or motorcycles to/from school, per California Vehicle Code (CVC) 21235.

BREAKFAST and LUNCH PROGRAMS

All Paradise Unified School District schools offer a nutritious breakfast and lunch program for all students. Breakfast, which is served in the cafeteria from 7:30 to 8:00, and lunch is free for all students. A breakfast/lunch menu is provided for all students at the beginning of the month.

CELL PHONES

Students are allowed to have cell phones and wearable electronics on campus, but their phones/wearable electronics must be “off and in backpacks” from when students arrive at school until dismissal. In the event of an emergency or other urgent situation, school staff will direct students to contact their parents via their cell phones, if needed.

If a cell phone/wearable electronic rings or if a student is using one without permission, school staff will follow this protocol: confiscate it, send it to the office, and file a discipline referral. After the first infraction, the student may pick up the cell phone/wearable electronics at the end of the school day. On the second infraction, a parent must pick up the cell phone/wearable electronics. On the third infraction, the cell phone/wearable electronic must be picked up by a parent and the student loses the privilege of bringing cell phones to school.

The school will not be responsible for any lost, stolen, damaged, or confiscated phones/wearable electronics, or for usage fees resulting from such confiscation.

DISCIPLINE PLAN

Schoolwide Expectations:

We ARE Responsible, Respectful, Safe, and Kind

We feel that each student and staff member at Pine Ridge School is entitled to a safe and respectful learning environment. We believe that all students can behave responsibly, in a manner appropriate for school. Each student is held accountable for behavior that disrupts or inhibits teaching/learning.

The general rules for behavior and safety are as follows:

1. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
2. Follow the directions/instructions of adults.
3. Use appropriate language.
4. Treat all school and personal property with care.

We recognize students for making appropriate choices via:

Reward/Recognition:

1. Specific verbal praise

2. Individual classroom incentives
3. PAWS for the Schoolwide PBIS events
4. Monthly Recognition

Should a student choose to break a rule, one or more of the following consequences will be administered based on the severity and frequency of the student's actions:

1. Warning/reminder of school rule.
2. Receive additional instruction on rule/procedure
3. Time out in the classroom.
4. Time out in another classroom
5. Restorative practice
6. Referral to principal for counseling/plan to make amends
7. School-based community service
8. Parent conference
9. Referral to counseling and/or community agencies
10. Removal from classroom
11. Develop behavior plan
12. In-school suspension
13. Out-of-school suspension
14. Referral to community day school or home studies
15. Expulsion

DRESS CODE

The Governing Board of the Paradise Unified School District encourages students to dress appropriately for school, noting that when they are neatly attired and take pride in their appearance, there is less misbehavior and a more effective learning environment is created. Note: the following also applies for special events, including but not limited to the 6th grade promotion ceremony.

1. Clothing apparel may not be obscene, vulgar, or contain negative school statements.
2. Hair is to be clean and neatly groomed and should not be disruptive to the learning process.
3. Gang related apparel is considered to be hazardous to the health and safety of the school environment and shall be prohibited at all times.
4. Hats or attire which condone, advertise, or encourage gang activity, violence, or the use of drugs, alcohol or tobacco are not allowed. Hats, hoods, or other headgear should be removed when indoors.
5. Clothing must fully cover the torso, undergarments, and midriff at all times. Tops must have straps that sit securely over the shoulders, and all shirts and pants must meet or overlap, even during movement. Shorts, skirts, and dresses must fully cover the entirety of the buttocks when sitting, standing, or bending.

6. For health and safety reasons, shoes or sandals must be worn at all times.
Sandals must have a strap around the heel (flip flops are not recommended).
7. Facial piercings can be unsafe when students are engaged in physical activity. They are not recommended at school.
8. High heeled shoes or boots and shoes with wheels are the cause of many injured ankles and limit students' ability to fully participate in recess and PE school activities. Flat or low-heeled shoes are most appropriate. Shoes must have straps for safety.
9. Pajamas are not to be worn to school unless they have specific permission from their teacher.

EMERGENCIES

In the event of an emergency, Pine Ridge Elementary will use the district-adopted Crisis Response Plan to ensure that our students remain safe during an incident. Parents will be notified of an emergency via the Parent Square communication platform. If you would like to review the Crisis Response Plan, please come by the school office. Note: our local reunification site is the Magalia Community Center Parking Lot.

Should an emergency ever arise in our area while school is in session, our school has made preparations to respond orderly and effectively.

The most important step that needs to be implemented in case of an emergency is called a "Lock Down." The school is literally locked-down with children and staff safely secured in their classrooms in the event that an intruder, rabid animal, a natural disaster or other critical incident affects the school. Students will be secured in their classrooms until the situation is cleared, even if it is past dismissal time. An automated phone message will be delivered to you indicating that we are on a lock-down. As soon as the situation is clear and the school is deemed safe, students will be reunited with their families. Only parents, guardians, or another authorized adult will be able to check a student out of school. It is important that your student's emergency card remains updated throughout the school year.

REUNIFICATION

The procedure for reunification will be as follows:

1. Parents/guardians or other authorized adult will come to a designated reunification area, which could be the school cafeteria, a local school, church, or business. Students will not be checked out from their classrooms.
2. Parents/guardians will be asked to form a line.
3. Parents/guardians will sign students out on the student check-out log.
4. A photo ID will be requested and must be shown.
5. The student will be brought to the parent by a school staff member.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are a valuable, important, and exciting part of our students' education. The trips provide learning experiences that cannot be offered in the classroom. Throughout the year, your child may receive field trip

permission forms from his/her teacher. Please complete the permission forms and return them to school with your child in a timely manner. Board policy states that students are unable to attend a field trip without a valid, signed permission slip. You will receive advance notice of upcoming field trips that your child will be able to attend.

HEALTH OFFICE

In cases of illness or accident involving a student, every attempt is made to contact parents. It is important that we have current work phone numbers for parents as well as numbers for other emergency contacts. A school nurse is available when needed and will screen health problems and make phone calls to parents when concerns arise. Please note that students with a fever (100.4 or greater), diarrhea, or vomiting should remain at home and return when symptom free for 24 hours with no medication.

According to Board Policy, if a student is found with active, adult head lice, he/she shall be allowed to stay in school until dismissal. Parents/guardians will be provided with information for treatment and encouraged to begin treatment immediately and to check members of the family. Parents/guardians will be informed that the student will be checked upon return to school and allowed to remain in school if no active head lice are detected. A health aide is available for our students. Please note that schools today do not conduct all class head checks. You can reach the health office by calling the main office.

Medications: No child may take medication during school hours without an authorization form signed by the doctor and parent. Forms are available in the office. NO medications of any kind (i.e. cough drops, etc.) can be kept by the child during the school day.

LOST AND FOUND

To prevent loss, please print your child's name on all coats, sweaters, binders, lunch boxes, and other personal items that he/she brings to school. All unclaimed clothing will be donated to the Resource Center monthly during winter and before summer break.

MAKE-UP HOMEWORK

If your child is out of school due to illness, it is possible to arrange to pick up homework assignments. We ask that you call the school office before 10:00 a.m. if you would like to pick up the assignments after school on that day. If you call after 10:00 a.m., the work may not be available until the following day.

OFFICE HOURS

The school office is open from 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. - Monday through Friday. We have a voice mail system that is able to take messages during office hours, and also after hours. You need to call and report your child's absence by calling 873-3800. Please identify yourself, your student, his/her teacher, days absent, and the reason for the absence.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Active parent involvement is a key ingredient in the recipe for student success. At Pine Ridge, we provide various opportunities for meaningful parental participation including but not limited to:

1. **School Site Council (SSC)** - All schools receiving supplemental federal or state funding are required to form a SSC. The SSC is composed of parents and school personnel. The SSC is responsible for developing, implementing, and evaluating the Single Plan for Student Achievement programs. The council also assists in developing the *Parent Involvement Policy* and the *Parent/School Compact*. Members serve for two years and are elected by their peers. Elections for new members are held annually at the beginning of the school year.

3. **Annual Title I Meeting** - All schools receiving Title I funds are required to hold an annual Title I Meeting in which all parents of participating students are invited. The purpose of the meeting is to explain the Title I program and services and to provide parents with an opportunity to have input in the planning and implementation of the Title I Program. The Title I Annual Meeting is held in the fall and in conjunction with Back to School Night.

4. **Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)**—We currently are recruiting parents and teachers who meet monthly to plan school-wide events that enhance our school environment. Please consider joining our PTO in the fall.

5. **Volunteer Opportunities**—At the beginning of the school year, parents receive a parent volunteer survey where they can choose how they would like to be involved in their child's education and the school community. Volunteers are needed to assist teachers in the classroom, tutor students, monitor students during field trips, assist and help organize school-wide activities. Depending upon the level of involvement, prospective volunteers may need tuberculosis and fingerprint clearance. If you have any questions on any of the activities, please contact the school principal.

PHONE MESSAGES

We understand that situations may arise requiring a change to your child's after-school pick-up arrangements. If a change is needed, please contact the school office as soon as possible. Office staff will ensure that the message is relayed to your child's teacher.

To minimize disruptions to classroom instruction, calls will not be transferred directly to classrooms. Whenever possible, please make after-school arrangements with your child before the start of the school day.

Students will not be permitted to use the office phone after school to make social plans, arrange playdates, or coordinate transportation changes with friends.

PICKING UP STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL

All students leaving school for any reason during the school day and all students arriving late to school must check in/out with the office. There is a sign-out log on the front counter in the office for persons to complete when picking up students during the school day.

Parents picking up their children after school must wait in the front bench area. To expedite the pickup process, please remain in your car in the pickup line and your student's car tag number will be entered, then

they will be dismissed from the café in order of arrival. Please message your teacher via parent square before school if you have a change in pick up plans and they can dismiss your student accordingly.

PLAYGROUND EXPECTATIONS AND RULES

Playground Expectations: 1. We are Safe 2. We are Respectful 3. We are Safe 4. We are Kind

Our play is grounded in the philosophy that play is FUN and in order to have fun we need to remember how to play safely and follow the rules of the game. See www.healthy-play.com

Two simple Rules of Healthy Play:

1. If anyone gets injured or gets hurt feelings, the person closest to the injured person must stay with that person until he/she feels ready and able to play again.
2. Players wanting to argue can do so but must do so outside of the boundaries of the game. Of course, proper language, no threatening or hitting are guidelines that they must follow. When the conflict is resolved, both people can return to the game.

General Supervision Expectations

1. Build positive connections: Learn all student names. Aim for eight positive interactions for every corrective one.
2. Reward positive behavior: Carry Panther Paws to recognize students who follow rules or set good examples.
3. Stay composed: Model calm behavior during stressful situations—students and staff rely on your composure.
4. Be consistent: Enforce school policies and playground rules uniformly.
5. Health & safety:
 - a) Send injured/sick students to the office with a health pass (include first and last name).
 - b) In emergencies, radio the office immediately.
6. Movement & safety: Ensure students walk in supervised areas, use designated restrooms, and follow transitions calmly and quietly.
7. Lockdown procedures: Teacher blows 3 whistles to get students quiet and close for directions. If the threat is offsite students transition to the closest lockable space (Conex box). If a threat is on campus, students transition off the playground to a safe location.

General Playground Rules

1. Students must follow game rules and practice good sportsmanship.
2. Not allowed: throwing or collecting rocks, sticks, acorns, pinecones, grass, snow, or handling live animals.
3. No personal toys (including Panther Paw store toys).
4. No phones at recess.
5. Eating is allowed:
 - a) In the cafeteria
 - b) At picnic tables outside the cafeteria.
 - c) *Snack Recess students may finish eating while walking down to the playground - OR - Students may finish food at a table near the playground.*

- d) No food on playground
- 6. No gum, water/milk bottle flipping, or horseplay.
- 7. Spitting allowed only in dirt/grass (not on blacktop or walkways).
- 8. Line-up expectations: quiet, no horseplay. Grades 4–6 line up in lunch line order.

End of recess procedure: Blow whistle 3 short times → students freeze, hold equipment, return equipment, get water/restroom, then line up.

Blacktop Supervision

- 1. Restricted areas: No walking around classrooms or hanging on walkways. Use only blacktop restrooms.
- 2. Football is not allowed on blacktop.
- 3. Equipment use:
 - a) Only two basketballs per hoop; one ball per wall.
 - b) No closed games—everyone can play.
 - c) Balls may not be kicked or thrown against buildings, roofs, fences, or concrete walls. Use a designated ball wall or Conex box.
 - d) Staff only may retrieve balls from over fences.
 - e) No kicking balls on the *small blacktop*.
 - f) Students may kick the ball on the UPPER BLACKTOP; ONLY on the back courts near the side of the gym.
 - g) Only students who are kicking the ball are allowed to play on the back courts near the gym.
 - h) Handball allowed on small blacktop; kickball is not.
- 4. Hula hoops: one per person, rolled (not thrown), never around the neck.
- 5. Jump ropes: for jumping or “snake” games on the ground only.

RAMP AND STAIRS (UPPER BLACKTOP)

- 1. Students may sit or stand on the ramp and stairs.
 - 2. No hanging, jumping, or running.
 - 3. If students are being dangerous, any Aide may make the decision to have the ramp/stairs be off limits during that recess.
 - 4. If that decision is made, the Aide must radio all other Aides to let them know.
 - 5. *Hillsides are off limits.*
-

Field Supervision

- 1. Football only with admin approval.
 - 2. Tag allowed: two-finger touch, on field only.
 - 3. No climbing or sitting on hillsides or paths.
 - 4. No sitting/standing on stairs or sliding on rails.
 - 5. Cartwheels only (no flips).
-

Pit Supervision

- 1. No walking on borders, boulders, or large rocks.
- 2. No balls, hula hoops, or toys in the pit.
- 3. No lying down in the pit or on equipment.
- 4. Tag is not allowed on play structures.
- 5. No standing on parallel bars
- 6. No climbing up slide; until arrows are made.

Equipment Rules

SWINGS

1. Swing properly (no twisting, belly swings, or side-to-side swinging).
2. No jumping off swings.
3. Students must wait by trees for turns.
4. Turn-taking: when swings are full → “30-Mississippi” count after 1 minute of use.
5. No standing, sitting, or walking under/around swings.

LARGE PLAY STRUCTURE

1. No running or jumping from the top.
2. No climbing up slides.
3. No lying under slides/ladders.

MONKEY BARS

1. Max 3 students at a time.
2. Students may sit on top only if no one is crossing and with staff approval.
3. 30-Mississippi count applies when full (after 1 minute).
4. No standing on bars.

SPINNING EQUIPMENT

1. Max 4 students at a time.
2. Riders must push themselves—no outside pushing.
3. Hands and feet stay tucked in.
4. Students must access independently.

Tetherball

5. Play appropriately (no sitting on ball or swinging from rope).
6. No climbing poles.

REPORTING PUPIL PROGRESS/PARENT CONFERENCES

Each child receives a report card three times during the school year, which indicates his/her progress in meeting or exceeding grade level content area standards. Early in the school year, Back to School Night is held to give you an opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and to acquaint parents with classroom procedures and expectations. Individual parent conferences are scheduled midway through the first trimester. We encourage parents to contact their child’s teacher to schedule a conference at any other time.

TELEPHONE

Office phones are only to be used with office staff permission. Families are asked to make after school arrangements ahead of time so that office phones are not tied up at the end of each school day.

TEXTBOOKS/LIBRARY BOOKS

Textbooks and library books are provided, free of charge, on a loan basis. Students are held responsible for their care. If a book is lost or damaged, the students must pay for the replacement of the book.

TOYS FROM HOME

To maintain a focused learning environment and prevent the loss of cherished items, students are not permitted to bring toys, sports equipment (such as balls), electronic devices, or other personal items from home.

Why this rule is in place:

- **Minimizing Distractions:** Items from home can easily draw attention away from lessons, group activities, and academic focus.
- **Preventing Loss and Damage:** The school cannot be responsible for personal items that are accidentally misplaced, broken, or stolen.
- **Promoting Fairness:** The school provides all necessary recess equipment and learning materials to ensure a safe, inclusive, and equal experience for every student.
- **Exceptions:** Items brought for pre-approved academic purposes (such as a scheduled "Show and Tell" or a specific classroom project) are allowed but must remain tucked away in the student's backpack until the designated time.

ITEMS NOT ALLOWED AT SCHOOL

Students should keep valuables, dangerous materials or illegal articles off the school campus. The following items are not allowed at school:

aerosol cans	lighters	shoes w/retractable
drugs	matches	wheels
drug paraphernalia	toy guns	skates
electronic games	personal toys	skateboards
fidget spinners	pocket knives	tablets
fireworks	rollerblades	toys
flammable fluids	scooters	weapons
gum		

VISITORS

Parents are encouraged to visit Pine Ridge School and their child's classroom. Visits during the school day should first be arranged with your child's teacher. If you wish to have a conference with your child's teacher, please make an appointment for before or after the school day.

To ensure the safety of students and staff and minimize interruption of the instructional program, visitor registration is required in the main office. Visits during school hours should be arranged with the principal or designee. When a visit involves a conference with a teacher or the principal, an appointment should be scheduled during non-instructional time. Any person who is not a student or staff member shall register immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when school is in session.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

In order to register, a visitor shall, upon request, furnish the principal or designee with the following information: (Penal Code 627.3)

- His/her name, address, and occupation
- His/her age, if less than 21
- His/her purpose for entering school grounds
- Proof of identity
- Other information consistent with the provisions of law

PRINCIPAL'S REGISTRATION AUTHORITY

The principal or designee may refuse to register any visitor if he/she reasonably concludes that the individual's presence or acts would disrupt the school, students, or employees; would result in damage to property; or would result in the distribution or use of a controlled substance. The principal or designee or school security officer may revoke any visitor's registration if he/she has a reasonable basis for concluding that the individual's presence on school grounds would interfere or is interfering with the peaceful conduct of school activities or would disrupt or is disrupting the school, students, or staff. (Penal Code 627.4)

When a visitor fails to register, or when the principal or designee denies or revokes a visitor's registration privileges, the principal or designee may request that the individual promptly leave school grounds.

WRITTEN PERMISSION-school pick-up

For a student to have permission to go home with another student and/or adult, or go home in a mode of transportation that is different from the usual, he/she are asked to bring a written request from home that is signed by a parent or guardian. The note needs to be submitted to the school office before dismissal. Phone permission is allowed, but must be received PRIOR to the end of the school day. Transportation department is required to be notified if student will be riding the bus.

TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972

Title IX protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance. Title IX states that:

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." (20 U.S.C. §1681, *et seq.*)

Title IX applies to schools, local and state educational agencies, and other institutions that receive federal financial assistance from the U. S. Department of Education.

<https://www.pusdk12.org/Resources/Parent-Resources/Title-IX-and-Non-Discrimination/index.html>

STATEWIDE TESTING NOTIFICATION

Statewide Testing Notification: Pine Ridge School

California Department of Education • April 2027

Every year, California students take several statewide tests. When combined with other measures such as grades, class work, and teacher observations, these tests give families and teachers a more complete picture of their child's learning. You can use the results to identify where your child is doing well and where they might need more support.

Your child may be taking one or more of the following California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), California Alternative Assessment (CAA) English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC), and Physical Fitness Test assessments. Pursuant to California *Education Code* Section 60615, parents/guardians may annually submit to the school a written request to excuse their child from any or all of the CAASPP assessments. There is no exemption for the ELPAC or Physical Fitness Test.

CAASPP: Smarter Balanced Assessments for English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA) and Math

Who takes these tests? Students take these tests in grades 3–8 and grade 11.

What is the test format? The Smarter Balanced assessments are computer-based.

Which standards are tested? The California Common Core State Standards are tested.

CAASPP: California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) for ELA and Math

Who takes these tests? Students whose individualized education program (IEP) identifies the use of alternate assessments take these tests in grades 3–8 and grade 11.

What is the test format? The CAAs for ELA and Math are computer-based tests that are administered one-on-one by a test examiner who is familiar with the student.

Which standards are tested? The California Common Core State Standards are tested through the Core Content Connectors.

CAASPP: California Science Test (CAST)

Who takes the test? Students take the CAST in grades 5 and 8 and once in high school, either in grade 10, 11, or 12.

What is the test format? The CAST is computer-based.

Which standards are tested? The California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS) are tested.

CAASPP: California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for Science

Who takes the test? Students whose IEP identifies the use of an alternate assessment take the CAA for Science in grades 5 and 8 and once in high school, either in grade 10, 11, or 12.

What is the test format? The CAA for Science is a series of four performance tasks that can be administered throughout the year as the content is taught.

Which standards are tested? Alternate achievement standards derived from the CA NGSS are tested.

CAASPP: California Spanish Assessment (CSA)

Who takes the test? The CSA is an optional test for students in grades 3–12 that tests their Spanish reading, listening, and writing mechanics.

What is the test format? The CSA is computer-based.

Which standards are tested? The California Common Core State Standards en Español are tested.

ELPAC

Who takes the test? Students who have a home language survey that lists a language other than English will take the Initial test, which identifies students as an English learner student or as initially fluent in English. Students who are classified as English learner students will take the Summative ELPAC every year until they are reclassified as proficient in English.

What is the test format? Both the Initial and Summative ELPAC are computer-based.

Which standards are tested? The 2012 California English Language Development Standards are tested.

Alternate ELPAC

Who takes the test? Students whose IEP identifies the use of an alternate assessment and who have a home language survey that lists a language other than English will take the Alternate Initial ELPAC, which identifies students as an English learner student or as initially fluent in English. Students who are classified as English learner students will take the Alternate Summative ELPAC every year until they are reclassified as proficient in English.

What is the test format? Both the Alternate Initial and Alternate Summative ELPAC are computer-based.

Which standards are tested? Alternate achievement standards derived from the 2012 California English Language Development Standards are tested.

Physical Fitness Test

Who takes the test? Students in grades 5, 7, and 9 will take the FITNESSGRAM®, which is the test used in California.

What is the test format? The test consists of five performance components: aerobic capacity, abdominal strength, trunk strength, upper body strength, and flexibility.

Which standards are tested? The Healthy Fitness Zones, which are established through the FITNESSGRAM®, are tested.