

# HEMINGWAY



# STEAM SCHOOL

## Parent & Student Handbook

Grades PreK-8  
2021/2022

# *Ernest Hemingway STEAM School*

*Mailing: P. O. Box 298  
Physical: 111 Eighth Street West  
Ketchum, Idaho 83340  
208-578-5050*

## ***Members of the Board of Trustees Blaine County School District #61***

*Keith Roark - Chair  
Lara Stone - Vice Chair  
Amber Larna - Trustee  
Dan Turner - Trustee  
Gretchen Gorham - Trustee*

***Superintendent of Schools: Mr. James Foudy  
Principal: Patricia Short  
Vice Principal: Lydia Flynn  
Secretaries: Sarah Stavros & Fernanda Moya***

## ***School Hours***

*Kindergarten - 8th Grade 8:00 am to 2:30 pm  
Preschool 8:00 am to 11:00 am*

## ***Important Telephone Numbers***

*School Office 208-578-5050  
Social Worker 208-578-5052  
Bus Shop 208-578-5420*

*District Website: [www.blaineschools.org](http://www.blaineschools.org)  
School Website: [www.hemingwayschool.org](http://www.hemingwayschool.org)*

## **Mission Statement**

At Ernest Hemingway STEAM School our mission is to provide all children a safe and supportive learning environment, in which students can explore their creativity, take intellectual risks and reach their full potential as individuals, as learners and as respectful, contributing members of our global society.

## **School Vision**

Our vision is to have a school where all children are fully engaged and actively involved in their education, where every child is challenged and their individual, and exceptional learning needs are being met.

Our vision is to have a school that provides all children experiences that promote tolerance and respect for other individuals and cultures.

Our vision is to develop self-directed and life-long learners with the knowledge and skills to use evolving technology to solve the problems and meet the demands of the 21st century.

Our vision is to be part of a community of learners that extends beyond the walls of the school, one that opens children's eyes to all of the possibilities the future holds.

## **STEAM Education at Ernest Hemingway STEAM School**

### **STEAM is a philosophy of teaching and learning**

Science is a way of finding evidence to support answers to questions

Technology is any tool used to solve a problem

Engineering is a means of designing and testing solutions to problems

Art is the application of human creativity and imagination

Math is the computational language of measurement, pattern, formation and relationships

Hemingway Elementary School has transformed itself into Ernest Hemingway STEAM School with an integrated, inquiry-based curriculum and expanded to include middle school. Much has been accomplished to bring STEAM into curriculum and instructional practices.

### **STEAM PK-8**

STEAM is an integrated approach to learning in which science, technology, engineering, art and math are infused into all lessons across the curriculum.

The focus on STEAM has led us to heightened engagement because students can see the relevance of material to their daily lives. Teachers are becoming more and more comfortable each day with this new approach to teaching and are excited about the projects that are taking shape in their classrooms. Students are excited to come to school and often have planned for or worked on projects at home even when it is not asked of them.

Outdoor education is a gem in our curriculum as it has inspired our connection with the local community and environment. We incorporate the outdoors as much as possible. We are within walking distance to the Big Wood River, The Environmental Resource Center, and the Sun Valley Museum of Art. The Sawtooth Botanical Gardens is a bike ride away and the SNRA is a short bus ride away making it very easy for us to access these wonderful 'STEAM' resources as well. All 6th graders will be going on a 4-night trip to the McCall Outdoor Science School. 5th graders hike up to Baker Lake and will go on a 2 night camping trip to the BASE Camp, 4th graders participate in Wagon's Ho, 3rd graders go to Craters of the Moon, 2nd graders explore Ketchum and frequently visit the Community Library. Kindergarten and 1st graders do a number of 'Wonder Wander' nature walks observing the outdoors and visit the Sawtooth Botanical Garden.

All students in 1st-8th grade participate in our Winter program by either skiing, snowshoeing, Nordic skiing or ice skating at the Sun Valley ice rink. All students keep track of their STEAM learning in a STEAM journal.

## SCHOOL HOURS

Warning bell rings at 7:55 am

School begins at 8:00 am and dismisses at 2:30 pm

Preschool begins at 8:00 am and dismisses at 11:00 am

Students are asked not to arrive at school before 7:30 am. Adult supervision will begin at 7:30 am and end at 7:55 am when the students will enter the building to begin their school day. It is important that children are in class for the start of the school day. Please take the morning traffic into consideration.

Depending upon the time your child arrives at school and the weather conditions, careful attention needs to be given to your child's clothing.

To facilitate children's access to the playground, parents who drive their students to school are asked to drop them off at the **south** side of the building. The North parking lot is reserved for staff and buses only. We ask that you park only in our **South** lot when visiting school.

## **GENERAL OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS**

Classrooms at Ernest Hemingway STEAM School are self-contained. Teachers in grades four and five often specialize in science or social studies. Students alternate among the grade level teachers based on study units. Art, Engineering & Design, Instructional Technology, Music, PE instruction and Instructional Technology comes from a specialist teacher.

Students identified by school personnel as being in need of additional assistance receive some of their instruction by a trained specialist. Programs available include: Counseling, Gifted and Talented Education (GATE), Special Education, English as a Second Language (ELD) and Speech and Language Instruction. Referrals can be from staff members or parents. If you feel your child should be considered for any of these services, please contact the principal, Ms. Short, or your child's classroom teacher. A Child Study Team recommendation and parent permission is required before these services can begin.

During the school year family circumstances and student needs sometimes change (i.e., death of a family member, divorce, or family illness). It is helpful if parents contact their child's teacher or Ms. Short if they feel these changes may affect their youngster's school life.

We are cautious about who asks to have a student dismissed early. Children will not be released to anyone other than their parent, or legal guardian, without written permission. Please do not feel insulted if you are not recognized and are asked to identify yourself when picking up a student. We are only demonstrating concern for your child's safety. Students need to be signed out in the office. Please **DO NOT** go directly to the classroom.

## **ABSENCES**

We encourage perfect attendance. If your child is sick we do support that you keep him/her home to help prevent spreading any illness. For the latest Blaine County School District health protocols, please visit [www.blaineschools.org](http://www.blaineschools.org). We ask that you limit any unnecessary absences from school. In order to be successful in school, students need to be present. If your child is going to be absent, please telephone the school office by 8:30 am on the day of the absence. We request that parents/guardians provide a written excuse stating the reason for the student's absence if you did not call in the absence to the office. If an absence due to illness extends past 3 days, you will need to provide a medical excuse signed by a physician.

## **EXCESSIVE ABSENCES**

The laws of Idaho require students to attend school regularly. Blaine County School District defines this as missing no more than 10% of the days school is in session. Excessive unexcused absences may result in a referral to *Attendance Court* in the judicial system. To access more information regarding student attendance please go to [www.blaineschools.org](http://www.blaineschools.org) and click on the link for *Students and Parents*. You will find attendance procedures under *500 Students/ 522*.

## **EXTENDED ABSENCES**

Extended absences interrupt and reduce the continuity of the student's learning. These absences should be avoided whenever possible. The school recognizes that circumstances can arise when the absences occur. If this is known to parents/guardians in advance, the school should be notified five (5) days prior to the absences. This will give the teacher an opportunity to gather homework for such absences. It should be noted that teachers can only give general curriculum area assignments. This is due to the fact that instruction speed is governed by the rate students gain mastery in the classroom. Parents will be expected to set aside time each day for students to complete their schoolwork. Students who will be out of school more than 10 consecutive days will automatically be un-enrolled and will need to be re-activated upon their return.

## **SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM**

An account will be set up in each student's name. Parents may send checks or pay online to put money on their lunch accounts. For more information on how to set up your Fee Management account, please [CLICK](#) here. Each student will be given a scan card to use when going through the cafeteria line. Charges will be applied to the student's account. When an account goes below a certain amount, notices will be sent home to remind parents to put more money on the account. Applications for free or reduced hot lunches are available online. To access an application [CLICK](#) here.

## **MONEY**

We encourage parents to use Fee Management through Skyward. All cash and check payments sent to the school should arrive in a sealed envelope with your child's name, the amount enclosed, and for what purpose the money is intended, written on the outside.

## **BUS TRANSPORTATION**

Parents wanting information about bus routes or general bus safety should contact Blaine County Transportation Department at 208-578-5420. Bus routes are posted on the Blaine County School District website at [www.blaineschools.org](http://www.blaineschools.org). Students are not able to ride school buses other than their assigned bus. Parents concerned about student behavior on the buses are encouraged to contact the bus department directly.

## **BICYCLES, ROLLER BLADES, SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS**

Students must walk their bicycles, scooters and skateboards off the school grounds to the Bike Path before they begin riding. Students are not allowed to rollerblade or skate on school grounds.

## **MESSAGES TO STUDENTS**

While we realize situations come up that your child may need to be made aware of, we would greatly appreciate your limiting these calls/messages. The Office delivers messages, forgotten lunches, etc., @ 10:00 and 2:00 each day. Please DO NOT deliver messages, lunches, etc. to your child's classroom.

## **VISITORS and VOLUNTEERS**

**School doors are locked from 8:15 to 2:15 each day. Parents and visitors will need to ring the bell for entry. Proceed to the office, sign in and receive a *Visitor's Sticker* before proceeding to the classroom. You may also go to the District Office to obtain an official Volunteer Badge.**

## **CELL PHONE POLICY FOR STUDENTS**

Put Them Away for the Day – The Board of Trustees has adopted a policy for Electronic Communication Devices, also known as cell phones, or the mini computers in our pockets. The goal of the policy is to increase the focus on learning and lessen the distractions at school. The bottom line is that students are not allowed to use their cell phones during the school day, except for high school students during their official lunch period. What are the consequences?

First Incident:



Students must give their phones to a staff member upon request. The first time a phone is confiscated, a parent or the student can pick it up in the school office.

Second Incident:

The second time a phone is confiscated, a parent must pick up the phone no earlier than the next day or end of the end of the school week.

Third Incident:

The third time a phone is confiscated, the parents/guardians and student meet with an administrator and decide on disciplinary action.

## **MEDICATION**

Students who need to take prescription or nonprescription medication during school hours may do so only with a signed [Medical Release form](#). Medication must come to school in the original container with the label identifying the medication and dosage. Medication will be stored in the office and administered by our school secretary unless otherwise noted.

## **NUT ALLERGIES**

Please be aware that we have several students in our School with SEVERE Nut Allergies. We ask your cooperation in not sending nuts or nut products to school for snacks, lunches, classroom parties or bake sales. Please be alert to any notices teachers may send home.

## **TOYS AT SCHOOL**

Toys, trading cards (Pokemon, etc.) should not be brought to school. We cannot be responsible for items being lost or broken.

## **SCHOOL BOARD**

The Board of Trustees has regularly scheduled meetings during the second Tuesday of each month. These meetings are open to the public and all are welcome.

## **SCHOOL CLOSURES**

School may be closed, have a delayed start, or students may be dismissed early due to inclement weather or other emergencies. If this happens, announcements will be made on the local radio stations; (95.3), (103.7) and (107.5). **Emergency communications and school closures are also sent out through Skylert via Txtwire.**

## **SCHOOL DRESS**

Children are encouraged to wear clothing appropriate for school activities. Outside recesses are held nearly every day and parents are reminded that the playground can be cold or muddy. Please try to **label** all clothes. Check zippers and buttons to see that they work properly. If possible, try to arrange for an extra pair of old footwear to be left at school in case feet get wet. Children are prohibited from wearing any clothing that is disruptive, distracting, has inappropriate slogans or promotes tobacco, alcohol or any controlled substances. For more information regarding the district wide dress code, please [CLICK](#) here.

## **LIBRARY**

A notice will be sent home by our Librarian if your child's book is overdue. **If the book is not returned, you will be billed for its replacement.**

## **LOST AND FOUND**

If your child is missing an article of clothing or another important possession, you may check the *Lost & Found* area. Please be aware that items NOT claimed by the end of the school year will be donated to *The Gold Mine* in Ketchum.

## **PARENT AUXILIARY**

Our Parent Auxiliary has regular meetings. Dates/times are posted in our newsletter, on the web and digital display board in the school lobby. Please consider becoming involved with this important organization. The PA will also be launching a new online directory called Classroom Parent. More information can be found on the [PA website](#).

## **SNACKS**

Please check with your child's teacher to see if snack time will be a part of the program. In school we prefer nutritious snacks such as; fruits, vegetables, unsweetened juices, etc. This would apply to classroom parties and birthday celebrations as well. Please check with, and respect the requests of the teachers when planning to bring in classroom treats. We would like to see a reduction in the high sugar treats brought in for parties and birthday celebrations.

## **USE OF FACILITIES**

Fee schedules and regulations governing the use of Hemingway facilities are established by the School Board of Blaine County and are available from the District Buildings and Grounds office. Groups or persons interested in scheduling the use of school facilities should contact 208-578-5460.

## **HARASSMENT AND BULLYING POLICY**

See Blaine County School District #61 website. Choose *District Policy & Procedures* on the left side. Scroll down to *Policy Section 502.6*.

If any student feels they are being bullied, threatened, harassed, or injured in any way please contact one of the following staff at our school:

- Classroom Teacher
- Social Worker
- Principal

**Physical, verbal, and emotional abuse toward students is not tolerated in Blaine County schools.**

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Our *Code of Conduct* was designed by the Hemingway Staff with input from the student body to enhance the learning opportunities for all students.

\*We will maintain a quality learning atmosphere.

\*We will show concern for the rights and safety of ourselves and others.

\*We will show respect for school and personal property.

\*We will respect adult decisions.

\*We will use polite language and good manners.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT (cont'd.)**

These items were designed to help students translate the *Code* into specific responsibilities. Within the building, our *Code of Conduct* requires:

Walking in a quiet, orderly manner

Using a quiet voice while working in the hall

Keeping hands to oneself

Leaving class only with permission

Proper use of Restrooms

In the cafeteria, our *Code of Conduct* requires:

Using "please" and "thank you"

Using restaurant table manners

Speaking in a 12 inch whisper voice

Not sharing food (for health reasons)

Standing in line quietly

Selecting a seat and remaining there for the period

Cleaning the eating area before being excused

Receiving permission to be excused

On the playground, our *Code of Conduct* will not permit:

Rough play

Rude language and swearing

Throwing snowballs

Misuse of playground equipment

Uncooperative behavior

Injuring students with objects

Leaving boundaries

Closing games to other students when using school equipment

### **Weapons**

Blaine County School District has a “Zero Tolerance” policy concerning students bringing any weapons on to school grounds. This policy includes pocket knives and will result in the student being suspended or expelled from school.

### **Policy on the use of alcohol, tobacco and other controlled substances.**

It is the policy of the Blaine County School District #61 to prevent and prohibit the possession, use, sale, distribution, and/or intent to distribute tobacco or any illegal or controlled mood-altering chemical, or abused chemical on school property, at school-sponsored events and possession of or distributing such chemicals on school property, at school-sponsored events, or on school buses shall be in violation of this policy. This applies to student vehicles on school property as well. The principal of each school will be responsible for the development of procedures unique to his/her building and community within the parameters of the District wide policies and procedures.