

Runnels Elementary Discipline Program

Grades 4-6

Dear Elementary Parents,

The "discipline" program we follow at Runnels is designed to guide the children through successful experiences in the classroom and in their relationships with each other. We like to explain the program to parents and students at the beginning of each school year so that it can be a truly cooperative venture with positive results.

Our *school wide* discipline plan strikes a balance between positive reinforcement and disciplinary consequences. All of our elementary teachers have the same behavior expectations of the students. The same basic "classroom rules" are posted in every room, and the consequence for missing the mark is the same throughout each grade for all students in that grade. This consistency from class to class makes it easier for the children to learn and follow the rules. They will know that their cooperation is appreciated by the positive reinforcements (rewards) they will receive from their teachers.

The specific policies for your child's grade will be found on the accompanying page, and they are being explained in detail to your child at school. The consequences mentioned are *not* cumulative through the day - they apply to one class period only. At the beginning of the next class period, your child begins anew.

The same philosophy and attitudes govern our approach to seeking behavior standards outside the classroom - on the playground and walkways, at assemblies, and during recesses. We have a teamwork approach to "discipline" at Runnels, with its ultimate goal being the creation of a friendly and cooperative atmosphere for learning. Our students gain increased self-esteem as a byproduct as they learn the respect for others that is implicit in the program. We invite your participation in the team effort. Please call me with any questions you may have now or at a later time.

Sincerely,

Marcia Mackay, M.S.
Elementary Principal
Elementary Guidance Counselor

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Rules (In our classrooms)

1. Enter and leave the classroom quietly and orderly.
2. Follow directions given by teachers and substitute teachers.
3. Raise your hand to speak, and wait to be called on.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
5. Observe general rules of courtesy at all times. Swearing, rude gestures, cruel teasing insults are not allowed.

Rewards (For students who follow rules)

1. Verbal praise
2. Teachers will use a variety of ways of expressing praise to students who follow the rules. (For example: stickers, stamps, "Raider Star tickets," to individual students; free recess and special group activities to reward good behavior by the whole class.)
3. Self-esteem gained from increased self-control

Consequences (For students who break the rules)

Each student begins each quarter with a "perfect" conduct grade of 100 points. The teacher informs students whenever points are deducted for breaking rules.

1. The first time (during a class period) = 2 points deducted from conduct total.
2. The second time = Another 2 points deducted from conduct total.
3. The third time = 2 more points deducted a "Pink Slip" issued, and a visit required to the principal's or assistant principal's office. The principal or assistant principal may assign an additional consequence, including the possibility of the deduction of additional points.

Severe Clause: Severe misbehavior will result in the child being sent immediately to the principal or assistant principal - bypassing steps 1 -2.