

 **Paradise Charter School**  
**Parent/Student Handbook**  
**2008-2009**



**3361 California Avenue**  
**Modesto, CA 95358**  
**(209) 524-0184**

**[www.paradiseesd.org](http://www.paradiseesd.org)**

# PARADISE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

3361 California Avenue  
Modesto, CA 95358  
(209) 524-0184  
FAX (209) 524-0363

Dear Parents:

This handbook is provided to better acquaint you with our school and the educational programs that are available. The board and staff believe Paradise School is a special place where students have a unique opportunity to develop an appreciation for life-long learning and build a solid moral, physical and emotional foundation for successful entry into adulthood.

The very special school environment here results from three major sources: a school staff that is committed to building and maintaining a positive learning atmosphere where all pupils are nurtured and encouraged to *be and do* their best; parent/community involvement that greatly enhances the total school effort and gives our children a clear message of support, and encouragement; and a rich school/community heritage that includes a tradition of high value for education and schools, and equally high expectations for our school family-pupils, staff, parents, and the extended school community.

The Paradise School Staff is committed to providing your children with the best education possible. We are focused on achieving to the State standards in all curricular areas, raising test scores to exceed the County and State averages, and to meet the academic, physical and emotional needs of all our students.

Only through continued, strong commitment of this community and effective efforts, of the staff can our students be successful.

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**PARADISE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

(209) 524-0184 FAX (209) 524-0363

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*Diana Terra*  
*Manuel Furtado*  
*Nick Blom*

The Board of Trustees meet monthly, usually on the third Thursday of the month, at 7:00 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend all board meetings.

**SCHOOL STAFF**

**Superintendent/Principal**

**Administrative Secretary**

Terica Young

**Kindergarten**  
 Roxanne Padgett

**Grade 2**  
 Christine Booth

**Grade 4**  
 Donna Walsh

**Grade 6 (Homeroom)**  
 Lisa Bryant-Language Arts

**Grade 8 (Homeroom)**  
 Patricia Best-  
 Mathematics/Science/Social Studies

**Maintenance/operations**  
 Ralph Rodgers

**School Nurse**  
 Ruth Larsen

**Grade 1**  
 Elsa Escalante

**Grade 3**  
 Leslie Hoegh

**Grade 5**  
 Shelby Fox

**Grade 7 (Homeroom)**  
 Loren Diaz-Bach-  
 Science/Social Studies/Algebra

**Title I**  
 Lisa Bettencourt

**Assistant Custodian**  
 Marco Bettencourt

**Attendance/Lunch Clerk**  
 Gloria Silveira

**Instructional Paraprofessionals**

Toni Thomason  
Gloria Silveira  
Melody Brasil  
Erica Haltom

✂ Please take note! This symbol acknowledges new or important information.

## Paradise Elementary Schedule

PLEASE NOTE: Students are NOT to be on the school campus before 8:10 a.m.

### Schedule for all Grades K-5 Bells

(Bell rings, late bell)

<b>On Campus Bell</b>	<b>8:10 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>8:00</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Period</b>	<b>8:30a.m. – 9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>8:30, 8:33</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Period</b>	<b>9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</b>	
<b>Break K-8</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.</b>	<b>10:00</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Period</b>	<b>10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:15, 10:18</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Period</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.</b>	
<hr/>		
<b>(K-4) Primary Lunch/Recess</b>	<b>11:30a.m. – 12:05 a.m.</b>	<b>11:30, 12:05, 12:08</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Period</b>	<b>12:05 p.m. – 12:50p.m.</b>	
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Period</b>	<b>12:50p.m. – 1:35p.m.</b>	
<b>Break K-2</b>	<b>1:35 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.</b>	<b>1:35, 1:45, 1:48</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Period</b>	<b>1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</b>	
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Period</b>	<b>2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>	
<b>Break 3-5</b>	<b>1:55 p.m. – 2:05 p.m.</b>	<b>1:55, 2:05, 2:08</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Period</b>	<b>2:05 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.</b>	
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Period</b>	<b>2:40 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>	
<hr/>		
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Period</b>	<b>11:35 p.m. – 12:10p.m.</b>	
<b>(5-8) Intermed. Lunch/Recess</b>	<b>12:10 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.</b>	<b>12:10, 12:45, 12:48</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Period</b>	<b>12:45 p.m. – 2:05 p.m.</b>	
<b>Break 6-8</b>	<b>2:05 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.</b>	<b>2:05, 2:15</b>

7<sup>th</sup> Period

2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Dismissal

3:00 p.m.

3:00

### Paradise Middle School Schedule (Grades 6,7,8)

Monday	8:30-8:40	8:40-10:00	10:00-10:15	10:15-11:35	11:35-12:10	12:10-12:45	12:45-2:05	2:05-2:15	2:15-3:00
6th Grade	Home Room	Math	Recess	Social Studies	Drama	Lunch	Language Arts	Recess	PE
7th Grade	Home Room	Language Arts	Recess	Math	Computers	Lunch	Social Studies	Recess	PE
8th Grade	Home Room	Math	Recess	Language Arts	Leadership	Lunch	Social Studies	Recess	PE

Tuesday	8:30-8:40	8:40-10:00	10:00-10:15	10:15-11:35	11:35-12:10	12:10-12:45	12:45-2:05	2:05-2:15	2:15-3:00
6th Grade	Home Room	Math	Recess	Social Studies	Drama	Lunch	Language Arts	Recess	PE
7th Grade	Home Room	Language Arts	Recess	Math	Computers	Lunch	Social Studies	Recess	PE
8th Grade	Home Room	Math	Recess	Language Arts	Leadership	Lunch	Social Studies	Recess	PE

Wednesday	8:30-8:40	8:40-10:00	10:00-10:15	10:15-11:35	11:35-12:10	12:10-12:45	12:45-2:05	2:05-2:15	2:15-3:00
6th Grade	Home Room	Math	Recess	Social Studies	Drama	Lunch	Language Arts	Recess	PE
7th Grade	Home Room	Language Arts	Recess	Math	Computers	Lunch	Social Studies	Recess	PE
8th Grade	Home Room	Math	Recess	Language Arts	Leadership	Lunch	Social Studies	Recess	PE

Thursday	8:30-8:40	8:40-10:00	10:00-10:15	10:15-11:35	11:35-12:10	12:10-12:45	12:45-2:05	2:05-2:15	2:15-3:00
6th Grade	Home Room	Math	Recess	Social Studies	Drama	Lunch	Language Arts	Recess	PE
7th Grade	Home Room	Language Arts	Recess	Math	Computers	Lunch	Social Studies	Recess	PE
8th Grade	Home Room	Math	Recess	Language Arts	Leadership	Lunch	Social Studies	Recess	PE

Friday	8:30-8:40	8:40-10:00	10:00-10:15	10:15-11:35	11:35-12:10	12:10-12:45	12:45-2:05	2:05-2:15	2:15-3:00
6th Grade	Home Room	Math	Recess	Social Studies	Drama	Lunch	Language Arts	Recess	AR
7th Grade	Home Room	Language Arts	Recess	Math	Computers	Lunch	Social Studies	Recess	AR

**PARADISE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2008/2009 INSTRUCTIONAL CALENDAR**  
**Classes Begin: August 20, 2008**      **Classes End: June 4, 2009**

**AUGUST/SEPTEMBER (1<sup>st</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
<del>18</del>	<del>19</del>	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
<b>1♦</b>	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

**OCTOBER (2<sup>nd</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	<b>23 X</b>	24
27	28	29	30	31

**NOVEMBER (3<sup>rd</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	<b>11♦</b>	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	<b>27♦</b>	<b>28</b>

**DECEMBER (4<sup>th</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
29	30	31		

**JANUARY (5<sup>th</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
			<b>1♦</b>	<b>2</b>
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	<b>14X</b>	15	16
<b>19♦</b>	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

**FEBRUARY (6<sup>th</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	<b>13♦</b>
<b>16♦</b>	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

**MARCH (7<sup>th</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	<b>24X</b>	25	26	27
30	31			

**APRIL (8<sup>th</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	<b>10</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

**MAY (9<sup>th</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22

**JUNE (10<sup>th</sup> School Month)**

M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	<b>4 X</b>	<b>5√</b>



## ✂ PARADISE PowerSchool PORTAL

In an effort to increase communication, the Paradise Elementary School District has implemented a web-based access site located at <http://powerschool.stan-co.k12.ca.us/public>

Statistics have shown that regular communication between a child's parent/guardian and school staff members increases the effectiveness of a child's education. The Paradise PowerSchool portal will allow you to view your child's academic progress, attendance and lunch balance using any internet accessible computer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Access to the Paradise PowerSchool Portal is granted by a user ID and password provided by the school main office for each student. Your user ID and password will be mailed to you.

## MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS

To minimize classroom interruptions, please discuss after-school plans with your children **before** they leave for school. Excessive message requests cause a hardship for the office staff and disrupt learning. While there are unavoidable situations that occur from time to time, we do appreciate your cooperation in keeping such requests to a minimum. Messages called in to students after lunch will most likely be delivered at the end of the school day.

✂ We discourage students bringing cell phones to school. If a student brings a phone to school then it must be turned off during the school day and may only be used after school. Phones used during the school day will be confiscated unless prior arrangements have been made with the school administration.

## OFFICE TELEPHONE

Our telephone system is for the business operation and other necessary communications that pertain to the school. It is available for students' use **only** in case of emergency or to notify parents/guardians if they are to remain after school by teacher's request. It has become necessary to restrict calls that unnecessarily tie up the telephone that **are not an emergency**. Please plan with your child **before** they leave for school to minimize telephone usage.

## CLOSED CAMPUS

Paradise Elementary School is a closed campus. The primary reason for a closed school campus is to better provide for student safety. All students are expected to remain on campus during the entire school day and shall not leave school without parental/guardian approval and must check-out in the office when doing so. Willful failure to comply with this regulation will result in a disciplinary conference with the principal. Repeated violations will result in suspension from school for disobedience to the reasonable authority of the school administration and the board-approved rules set forth to maintain an appropriate level of student safety.

## STUDENT VISITORS AT SCHOOL

Requests for students to have other children attend their class with them will be **routinely** denied. Generally, student visitors prove to be a disruption and as such, are not appropriate. In the event of a genuine family hardship or difficulty, the request should come to the principal **in advance** for special consideration.

## LOST AND FOUND

Unclaimed items, clothing, etc. are placed in the Lost and Found bin. Students should have their belongings marked or labeled for identification and accept responsibility for their care. Parents and/or students may check the bin located in the gymnasium lobby for lost items before or after school.

## **SCHOOL TO HOME TRANSPORTATION**

It is expected that all students return home from school by the same means as they arrived to school. To ensure your child's safety the school would appreciate a signed note by the parent if your child is to return home by different means.

Students who are going to another student's home after school must provide a written note signed by their parents. This note needs to be signed by the teacher, and the front office. These signatures are to be obtained before school, during recess or lunch break. This is done so the school personnel have knowledge of the student not going to their own residence.

Students at school are not allowed to use the school phone to make arrangements to go to other student's homes after school. However, there are occasions where parents call because they forgot to write a note that morning for their child and we will draft a note and sign it, "per phone conversation with parent" and that note will be given to the teacher to pass on to the student. In this instance, the school secretary must be given at least one half hour to accomplish this procedure.

## **BICYCLE SAFETY**

As of January 1, 1994, it is required that all bicycle riders under the age of 18 **must wear a helmet** when riding on any public street or roadway. We believe it is important and necessary for all our students to comply with this law if they wish to ride their bicycles to our school. For the safety of your child we ask that every child wear a helmet when riding bicycles to and from school. Students are to lock their bikes to the bike racks located near the Gym and are not to ride in the parking lot when entering and exiting the school.

## **✂ SKATE BOARDS**

Students riding skateboards to and from school must wear a helmet and upon arriving at the school, carry their skateboard to the classroom where it is to remain until it is time to leave for home. Then the skateboard is to be carried to the parking lot where it may be ridden home.

## ***HOME-PREPARED FOODS AND FOOD HANDLING***

The following policies and procedures were adopted by the Board of Trustees and are considered to be good health practices.

Paradise School will no longer allow home prepared food to be brought to school except as an individual lunch or snack. Commercially prepared food is allowed; however, we **request** that parents **contact the classroom teacher prior to bringing any food to school**. Paradise does encourage healthy eating habits for our students. Teachers can help parents select appropriate commercially prepared items for classroom parties and celebrations.

Cooking in classrooms as a part of the instructional program will still be allowed. Instructional staff will be required to follow guidelines for food handling preparation in classrooms. Food prepared in classrooms may only be served in individual portions. No food may be served communally.

## **CLASSROOM FOOD HANDLING PROCEDURES**

The following is a list of the fundamentals of proper food handling:

1. All participants must wash their hands prior to handling food. Participants should be directed not to touch anything other than the food and the food preparation utensils. The teacher is responsible for

ensuring that the students do not contaminate their hands without repeating the washing process.

2. All fresh foods and utensils must be washed on site before preparation. Food must be purchased from a licensed food retailer. Home-grown foods may not be used in the classroom.
3. Foods that have been partially or fully prepared at home should not be brought into the classroom.
4. Foods must be served in individual portions. Foods may not be served communally. The teacher should monitor students to ensure that students do not share food.
5. People serving food must wear sterile gloves during serving.
6. The teacher is responsible for the proper handling of any foods that need refrigeration, cooking or heated storage.

### ***PARADISE SCHOOL MEAL PROCEDURES***

Paradise School has implemented a computerized lunch reporting system. Students may purchase school meals before school (8:10 a.m.-8:30 a.m.) in the school office. All lunch purchases will be placed into a computer lunch account. We encourage students to purchase meals on a weekly basis. ✨ Lunch balances may be conveniently monitored via computer by accessing the Paradise PowerSchool Portal at <http://powerschool.stan-co.k12.ca.us/public>.

Each and every morning, teachers take a meal count. If your child is to be tardy and desires a school lunch the office personnel **must** be notified (524-0184) **before 8:45 a.m.** so Paradise School can tell Modesto City Nutritional Services the exact number of lunches to be delivered. ✨ **We order no extra lunches.**

#### **✨ Students are no longer allowed to use the school microwave in the gym**

For lunch accounting purposes, every student will be assigned a number that the student will have to punch into the computer. This number will allow a debit in the student's computer account. Students who want to purchase a meal but don't have the money must have ordered a lunch that morning. That student may also punch in their assigned number and a charge will be placed on their account. Parents may be notified about outstanding charges via meal charge notices mailed home or by visiting the Paradise PowerSchool Portal at <http://powerschool.stan-co.k12.ca.us/public>. Meal charges due and payable immediately upon receipt or the student(s) will not be able to order future school meals. If your child's account exceeds the charge limit, they will need to bring a lunch until payment is made.

\* Per California State Law all purchased school meals must be consumed on school grounds.

### ***WELLNESS PLAN and POLICY***

#### **SALES OF FOODS AND BEVERAGES OUTSIDE OF REIMBURSABLE SCHOOL MEALS**

All foods and beverages sold individually outside the reimbursable school meal program (including those sold through student store, snack bar, vending machines, or other fundraising activities) during the school day, or through programs for students after the school day, will meet the SB12 requirements and the following nutrition and portion size standards:

## NUTRITON STANDARDS FOR INDIVIDUAL FOODS AND BEVERAGES

### ◆ Beverages

- Allowed: Beverages that meet SB 965 and SB 12 requirements.
- Not Allowed: Soft drinks containing caloric sweeteners; iced teas; fruit-based drinks that contain less than 50% real fruit juice or that contain additional caloric sweeteners; beverages containing caffeine, including energy drinks, but excluding low-fat or fat-free chocolate milk (which contain trivial amounts of caffeine).

### ◆ Foods

- A food item sold individually:
  - ◆ Will have no more than 35% of its calories from fat (excluding nuts, seeds, peanut butter, and other nut butters) and 10% of its calories from saturated and trans fat combined;
  - ◆ Will have no more than 35% of its weight from added sugars;
  - ◆ One and one-quarter ounces for chips, crackers, popcorn, cereal, trail mix, nuts, seeds, dried fruit, or jerky;
  - ◆ One ounce for cookies;
  - ◆ Four ounces for cereal bars, granola bars, pastries, muffins, doughnuts, bagels. And other bakery goods;
  - ◆ Four fluid ounces for frozen desserts, including, but not limited to, low-fat or fat-free ice cream;
  - ◆ Eight ounces for non-frozen yogurt;
  - ◆ Twelve fluid ounces for beverages, excluding water, sports drinks and juices;
  - ◆ Fruits and non-fried vegetables are exempt from portion-size limits.

**Fundraising Activities.** To support children's health and school nutrition-education efforts, school fundraising activities will not solely focus on food and will use foods that meet the above nutrition and portion size standards for foods and beverages sold individually.

Paradise Elementary School and Paradise Charter School encourages organizations to support our educational programs and students through fundraising and will continue to promote their support even though their fundraising activities may not follow the above nutrition and portion size standards for foods and beverages sold individually. However, Paradise Elementary School District will encourage fundraising activities that promote physical activity.

**Snacks.** Snacks served during the school day or in after-school programs will make a positive contribution to children's diets and health, with an emphasis on serving fruits and vegetables as the primary snacks and water as the primary beverage.

**Rewards.** Paradise Elementary School District will discourage the use of foods or beverages, especially those that do not meet the nutrition standards for foods and beverages sold individually, as rewards for academic performance or good behavior, and will not withhold food or beverages as a punishment.

Paradise Elementary School District desires to involve the community and local businesses in our educational program and will continue to encourage their support even though the focus may be rewarding academic performance or good behavior with food.

**Celebrations.** Paradise Elementary School should limit celebrations that involve food during the school day to no more than one party per class per month. Each party should include no more than one food or beverage that does not meet nutrition standards for foods and beverages sold individually.

**School-Sponsored Events.** Foods and beverages offered or sold at school-sponsored events outside the school day do not have to meet the nutritional requirements.

**Sharing of Foods and Beverages.** Paradise Elementary School District discourages students from sharing their foods or beverages with one another during meal or snack times, given concerns about allergies and other restrictions on some children's diets. If your child does not bring a lunch to school to eat, they will not be allowed to beg food from their friends.

## **NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROMOTION AND FOOD MARKETING**

**Nutrition Education and Promotion.** Paradise Elementary School District aims to teach, encourage, and support healthy eating by students. Paradise Elementary School and Paradise Charter School should provide nutrition education and engage in nutrition promotion that:

- ◆ Offers at each grade level as part of a sequential, comprehensive, standards-based program designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote and protect their health;
- ◆ Is part of not only health education classes, but also classroom instruction in subjects such as math, science, language arts, and social sciences;
- ◆ Includes enjoyable developmentally-appropriate, culturally-relevant, participatory activities, such as contests, promotions, farm visits, and school gardens;
- ◆ Promotes fruits, vegetables, whole grain products, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, healthy food preparation methods, and health-enhancing nutrition practices;
- ◆ Emphasizes caloric balance between food intake and energy expenditure (physical activity/exercise);
- ◆ Teaches media literacy with an emphasis on food marketing; and
- ◆ Includes training for teachers and other staff.

**Integrating Physical Activity into the Classroom Setting.** For students to receive the nationally recommended amount of daily physical activity (i.e., at least 60 minutes per day) and for students to fully embrace regular physical activity as a personal behavior, students need opportunities for physical activity beyond physical education class. Toward that end:

- ◆ Classroom health education will complement physical education by reinforcing the knowledge and self-management skills needed to maintain a physically-active lifestyle and to reduce time spent on sedentary activities, such as watching television;
- ◆ Opportunities for physical activity will be incorporated into other subject lessons; and
- ◆ Classroom teachers will provide short physical activity breaks between lessons or classes, as appropriate.

**Communications with Parents.** Paradise Elementary School District will support parents' efforts to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for their children. The district/school will send home nutrition information and post nutrition tips. Paradise Elementary School District should encourage parents to pack healthy lunches and snacks and to refrain from including beverages and foods that do not meet the nutrition standards for individual foods and beverages.

The district/school will provide information about physical education and other school-based physical activity opportunities before, during, and after the school day; and support parents' efforts to provide their children with opportunities to be physically active outside of school.

**Food Marketing in Schools.** School-based marketing will be consistent with nutrition education and health promotion. As such, Paradise Elementary School District will limit food and beverage marketing to the promotion of foods and beverages that meet the nutrition standards for meals or for foods and beverages sold individually. School-based marketing of brands promoting predominantly low-nutrition foods and beverages is prohibited. The promotion of healthy foods, including fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products is encouraged.

**Staff Wellness.** Paradise Elementary School District highly values the health and well-being of every staff member and promotes activities and policies that support efforts by staff to maintain a healthy lifestyle. These policies should be based on input solicited from school staff and should outline ways to encourage healthy eating, physical activity, and other elements of a healthy lifestyle among school staff.

## **PHYSICAL ACTIVITY OPPORTUNITIES AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**Daily Physical Education (P.E.) K-8.** All students in grades K-8, including students with disabilities, and/or special health-care needs, will receive daily physical education (225 minutes/week) for the entire school year. Students are to spend at least 50 percent of physical education class time participating in moderate to vigorous physical activity.

**Daily Recess.** All elementary school students will have at least 20 minutes a day of supervised recess, preferably outdoors, during which schools should encourage moderate to vigorous physical activity. Extended periods of two or more hours of inactivity are discouraged. Periodic breaks are encouraged during which students are encouraged to stand and be moderately active.

**Physical Activity Opportunities Outside of School Hours.** Paradise Elementary School District encourages physical activity programs outside of school i.e., youth football and the Shiloh/Paradise Baseball Association.

**Physical Activity and Punishment.** Teachers and other school and community personnel will not use physical activity (e.g., running laps, pushups) as punishment.

**Safe Routes to School.** The school district will assess and, if necessary and to the extent possible, make needed improvements to make it safer and easier for students to walk and bike to school.

**Use of School Facilities Outside of School Hours.** School spaces and facilities should be available to students, staff and community members before, during and after the school day, on weekends and during school vacations. These spaces and facilities also should be available to community agencies and organizations offering physical activity programs only after being reserved through the District Office and have a completed Use of Facility Form on file.

## ***ATTENDANCE***

Studies show that there is a direct correlation between good school attendance and high student achievement. We encourage you as parents to reinforce the importance of good school attendance and to make every effort to send your child to school on a regular basis.

Since July 1, 1998 schools will receive state funding only for students who actually attend school. If you find it necessary to keep your child out of school for reasons other than illness, we encourage you to send your child to school for at least part of the day. Then your child will not be counted absent for the day

and will not miss out on important school assignments. We want to avoid the unnecessary absences that reduce district resources and limit your child's opportunity to get good grades.

A written note from the parent must verify all absences and accompany the student upon their return to school.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICIES**

The California Education Code states that each person between the ages of 6 and 18 years not otherwise exempted is subject to compulsory full-time education.

1. When absent from school student's need a note from their parent/guardian stating the reason for the absence which is to be presented to the student's teacher upon their return to school.
2. Make-up school work will be allowed - only when an absence is excused. It is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher to determine what work is to be made up. School work during unexcused absences cannot be made up and thus receive a failing grade.
3. Leaving school during the day must first be preceded by permission from the office. A written note from home for reasons such as dental or medical appointments, etc., is necessary. All students must be signed out by their parent/guardian. Minors are not permitted to take students from school.
4. **Tardies:** Paradise School recognizes tardy to be anytime a student arrives to school after 8:25 a.m. (third bell).  
**Unexcused Tardy:** A student who is late for school (after 8:25 a.m. ) and has no note will be considered unexcused tardy. ✂ Three unexcused tardies will prevent a student from receiving the perfect attendance award. For each three unexcused tardies an after-school detention will be issued.  
**Excused Tardy:** A student who is late for school (after 8:25 a.m.) due to an appointment and has provided a note on the day the tardy occurred is considered an excused tardy. That tardy will not count against perfect attendance and will not count toward an after-school detention.
5. For physical education excuses, a student must have a written note from home and in some cases from a physician to be excused.

For SARB purposes California truancy law is expressly applicable whenever a student is absent without a valid excuse for more than three (3) days or tardy in excess of thirty (30) minutes on each of more than three (3) days in one school year.

### **EXCUSED STUDENT ABSENCES**

Excused student absences include the following:

1. Illness
2. Quarantine directed by a county or city health officer
3. Having medical, dental or optometry services rendered
4. Attending funeral services of a member of the pupil's immediate family to the extent of not more than one day if service is conducted in California and not more than three days if the service is conducted outside of California. School districts are no longer funded for excused absences.

### **✂ ATTENDANCE ACTION PLAN**

Each parent, guardian, or other person having control or charge of any child between the ages of 6 and 16 years shall send the child to the public full-time school for the full time for which the public schools are in session.

1. Child misses 3 days of school and/or tardy in excess of 30 minutes on each or more than 3 days and has been reported as truant, an Excessive Absence Notice will be mailed to the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian is to make contact with the principal concerning the notice and excessive absences.
2. Child misses 10 unexcused days of school and has been reported truant, and Excessive Absence Notice will be mailed to the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian is to call and schedule an appointment with the principal. If no appointment is made, administrator may conduct a home visit.
3. Child misses 15 days of school and has been reported truant, an Excessive Absence Notice will be mailed to the parent/guardian. The principal has scheduled and appointment for the parent/guardian. If appointment is kept, administrator will conduct a home visit.
4. Child misses 20 days of school and has been reported truant, an Excessive Absence Notice will be mailed to the parent/guardian informing them that they must attend an attendance hearing before the Paradise Charter School Board. At this hearing, if the child fails to provide reasons as to why his/her absences were excused or he/she fails to attend, the student may be withdrawn from Paradise Charter School.
5. Absences due to head lice are considered excused, but only up to a period of three(3) days. After the three day period, students are expected to be in school. If the absence exceeds the three day period, these absences will be considered unexcused.

#### **FAILURE FOR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES**

Attendance and participation in daily classroom activities is an essential part of the learning process. Excessive unexcused absences prevent the student from successfully meeting course requirements.

It is our policy to encourage a teacher to include participation in daily classroom activities as one of the criteria used in assigning a grade for the subject and to permit a lower grade to be given because of excessive absences.

It is our policy to permit a teacher to assign a failing grade to any student whose unexcused absences from a teacher's class equal or exceed five (5) days in a quarter.

The following procedures are followed in assigning a failing grade:

1. The teacher keeps an accurate record of unexcused absences of students in his/her class.
2. When the student has accumulated three (3) unexcused absences from a teacher's class, that student is in danger of failing the course because of unexcused absences. The parents/guardians have an opportunity to meet with the teacher to discuss subject requirements and the student's absences.
3. When the student has accumulated or exceeded five (5) unexcused absences during a quarter, the parents or guardians of the student are to be notified by the teacher that the student may receive a failing grade for the subject because of unexcused absences. The student and the student's parents/guardians have an opportunity to meet with the teacher and the principal or his designee to explain the absences.

4. A failing grade assigned to the student on the basis of excessive/unexcused absences is indicated by a notation on the written report card and in the student's records.

Any absence means the district may not claim A.D.A. The student or his/her parent/guardian are given a reasonable opportunity to explain the absences before the failing grade is assigned.

### **INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Attendance and participation in daily classroom activities is an essential part of the learning process. Excessive unexcused absences prevent the student from successfully meeting course requirements. Occasionally a student must be absent for an extended period of time. Students who are to be absent five (5) days or more are eligible for independent study. This program is an option available to provide students an opportunity to not miss out on their education and to maintain their school attendance.

An Independent Study Agreement form can be obtained from the school office two or more weeks before the date the student will not be in school attendance. This agreement states the school's responsibilities, the student's responsibilities, and the parent/guardian/caregiver's responsibilities. Please give the teacher at least two weeks notice to prepare materials for students.

Along with the Independent Study Agreement is a Student Work Assignment Record. This document must be completed by the teacher and explains the student work being assigned for the student to complete while on independent study. Copies of this document will need to be made for each assignment given to the student and must accompany the assignments when they are turned in to the teacher upon the student's return.

Some important information needs to be highlighted for teachers. First, the teacher must provide the student all assignments equal to the work being assigned to students who are in regular school attendance. Second, all work is due to the teacher upon the first day of the student's return to the classroom. Third, all student work and forms must be turned in to the office after the teacher has recorded the student's grades. The original work and forms must be kept by the school for auditing purposes.

✂ If all the student work is not completed and turned in on the first day of the student's return to school, the student has not fulfilled their contract. This will result in five days or more of unexcused absences thus a failing grade for all independent study work assigned. It is our policy to permit a teacher to assign a failing grade to any student whose unexcused absences from a teacher's class equal or exceed five (5) days in a quarter.

### ***Special Programs***

#### **PARENT'S CLUB**

This is an active club that is dedicated to serving Paradise School. They have been responsible for many worthwhile projects to generated funds that benefit the entire school. These fundraisers help with equipment purchases, field trips, and other special needs.

#### **SCHOOL-BASED COORDINATED PROGRAM (SBCP)**

Our K-8 school is involved in a state-funded program that provides funds to serve special needs students. This program includes offerings for students who may need language-specific instruction, students who need tutorial assistance in certain academic areas, and those who qualify for intensive reading instruction. The SBCP is based on the educational needs of the individual student, specifies improvement objectives, and necessary steps to achieve these targets.

## SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

The School Site Council meets as an advisory committee for our categorical programs. The council is made up of parents, teachers, classified and administrative personnel.

## TITLE I

Paradise Elementary School is a Title I, Target Assistance School. Title I is a federally funded program that serves to assist students who score Basic and lower on the California Standards Test in mathematics and/or language arts. The U. S. Department of Education's *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB), has established the goal of 95 % of all students at Proficient and Advanced levels by 2014. Students identified for Title I assistance are seen as being in some need of additional help in certain areas to bring them to the levels of Proficient or Advanced on the CST. This assistance may be provided in small groups, individualized instruction, or with parent-directed help at home.

## ✂ Paradise Elementary School-Parent Compact

The Paradise Elementary School, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA) and the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Acts (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards. This school-parent compact is in effect during school year 2008-2009.

## REQUIRED SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT PROVISIONS

(provisions bolded in this section are required to be in the Title I, Part A school-parent compact)

### School Responsibilities

The Paradise Elementary School will:

- 1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:** Paradise Elementary School provides State adopted curriculum that meet and/or exceed the California State Standards.
- 2. Hold parent-teacher conferences (at least annually in elementary schools) during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.** These conferences will be held during the week of November 3-November 7, 2008.
- 3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress.** Paradise Elementary School reports at least twice quarterly on student progress. These are Progress Reports sent out mid-quarter and Report Card given out at the end of each quarter.
- 4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff.** Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows: Parents need to contact teachers for consultation via: telephone, e-mail and /or voice mail.

- 5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities, as follows:** Parents are welcome to volunteer in their child's or other classrooms, be a member in the Paradise Parents Club or join the Site Council.

### **Parent Responsibilities**

**We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:**

- Monitoring attendance.
- Making sure that homework is completed.
- Monitoring amount of television their children watch.
- Volunteering in my child's classroom.
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education.
- Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time.
- Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
- Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A parent representative on the school's School Improvement Team, the Title I Policy Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the State's Committee of Practitioners, the School Support Team or other school advisory or policy groups.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

Paradise Elementary School District (PESD) provides internet access for all its students, K-8. PESD recognizes the importance of the use of technology as an educational tool for learning to support PESD's instructional goals and the California State Content Standards utilizing the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS).

PESD acknowledges the fact that there is information available that may be inappropriate for student use, and it is PESD's intent to protect students from this inappropriate information. PESD's internet access is filtered by Stanislaus County Office of Education.

It should be understood that willful access to inappropriate material in any form is a violation of this policy and may result in the revocation of internet access.

### **RESOURCE**

Resource is a Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) program for children with assessed special learning difficulties. A Resource teacher and an aide are under contract with SCOE to work with the students, teachers and parents/guardians as needed.

### **SPEECH**

Speech is a Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) program for children with assessed speech articulation needs. A speech therapist is under contract with SCOE to work with the students, teachers and parents/guardians as needed.

### **LIBRARY**

The library is an important resource in every child's education. Curious minds can be cultivated and enriched; the love of reading and the enjoyment of the written word is perhaps the single most important ingredient in the development of a true life-long learner. Students are encouraged to handle and browse through books, check out books, read and listen while books and stories are read to them.

All the books in the Paradise School Library have been color coded for readability levels according to Accelerated Reader, a computer-based comprehension program. Students are tested to determine each student's readability level.

Students are taught how to conduct research, collect data, check out books, and return them in a timely manner. Check out procedures and guidelines are posted in the library and carefully explained to all students.

All lost books are to be reported to the librarian immediately. After a reasonable search time, a letter will be sent home giving the name of the book and the replacement cost. All books must be returned or paid for before the June report cards are issued to the student responsible for the missing/lost book.

Library use rules are as follows:

- Noise level at a minimum. Violators will return to their classroom.
- No leaning or sitting on bookshelves.
- Books and magazines not being checked out must be returned to their proper location on the shelves before students leave the library.
- Books are not to be abused. Willful damage or abuse will result in loss of library privilege.

These rules are intended to teach responsibility and good citizenship. In doing so, the books and the library will be maintained in the best possible condition to serve all students at Paradise School.

## ***Assessment and Accountability***

### **STAR (Standardized Testing and Reporting program) Three Parts**

#### **Part 1: CST (California Standards Test)**

Grade levels 2-8 are given the CST. This testing program is based on the California content standards by grade level. These assessments cover mathematics, language arts, and in specific grade levels science and social science. The results for these assessments are reported as follows: Advanced, Proficient, Basic, Below Basic, or Far Below Basic.

#### **Part 2: CSWT (California Standards Writing Test)**

Grades 4 and 7 are given the California Standards Writing Test. This test incorporates a writing prompt that students respond to and the student responses are scored by two independent readers each using a four point rubric to formulate a combined score. Scores of this test are combined with student scores on the multiple-choice component of the test to produce California English/Language Arts Standards Test scores.

#### **Part 3: Standardized Testing (California Achievement Test, Form 6 - CAT-6)**

This testing program is designed to compare the performance of groups of students at one grade in a given school with a similar grouping on a national sampling norm group. The national sample reflects a mix of students from a variety of backgrounds, economic levels, community sizes, and geographic areas. The assignments of grade level scores to these tests are not intended to mean actual achievement at that grade level. Example - An average 8<sup>th</sup> grader taking a 4<sup>th</sup> level CAT-6 test would get as many questions correct as the 4<sup>th</sup> grader who scored 8.0 on the same test. When scores are given as a percentile (%ile), it allows the teacher to see the relationship of the pupil to the norm group for that grade level. Example - a 4<sup>th</sup> grader score at the 60<sup>th</sup> %ile indicates that pupil could be expected to perform ahead of 59 (out of 100) other 4<sup>th</sup> graders in that norm sample.

### **API (Academic Performance Index)**

The California State Department of Education assigns a score between 200 and 1,000 to every public school. The score is based on a combination of the CST, the standardized test scores, and other data. The state has set a target of 800.

### **AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress)**

Following the requirements of the U. S. Department of Education's *No Child Left Behind* Act (NCLB), all schools must demonstrate annual progress in getting a minimum percentage of students at each school to perform at or above the "Proficient" level each year in reading-language arts and mathematics. The goal is by 2014, all students in all schools must achieve at the "Proficient" level or higher in both content areas.

## ***Dress Code***

### **Philosophy**

The school shall have authority over student dress and grooming matters as may affect the learning environment necessary to provide a quality education at Paradise School.

### **Guidelines & Requirements For Pupil Dress and Grooming**

Pupil conduct with respect to dress, grooming, and appearance that disrupts or tends to disrupt the educational process or offset the health and/or safety of individuals shall be prohibited.

1. Neatness, cleanliness, and appropriateness are emphasized.
2. The following are considered inappropriate for school:
  - a) Excessive make-up;
  - b) Bare midriffs;
  - c) ✂ Saggy/baggy pants;
  - d) Shirts/tank tops with low neck lines;
  - e) Any clothing with obscene/suggestive writing or drawing;
  - f) Shoes with heels that are dangerous for school activity;
  - g) Tank tops with exaggerated arm and neck openings, spaghetti straps and halter tops.
3. Appropriate dress includes a coat or jacket in cold weather.
4. Modest walking shorts are allowed. Length of the shorts are to be no shorter than to the tip of the middle finger when arms are at the student's side.
5. Dress length shall be such that girls can perform routine school activities, such as sitting, reaching, bending, etc., and easily maintain modesty.
6. Shoes must be worn at all times.
7. No flip-flops or foot attire without heel straps are allowed.
8. Appropriate footwear is required for athletic activities.
9. Hair length and style for both male and female pupils shall be such that no unusual attention is drawn to an individual pupil. Any unnatural hair color is not allowed.
10. No clothing may be worn which:
  - Displays a slogan or picture portraying any alcohol, tobacco, or drug product.
  - Is offensive to school staff/administration
  - Is disruptive to the school environment
11. No caps or hats are to be worn indoors.
12. Any attire/paraphernalia/symbol that signifies gang involvement/affiliation verified by juvenile authorities will not be permitted on the school grounds.
13. Earrings may be worn as long as they do not pose a safety hazard to the student, ie. hoops, dangling earrings and naval piercing.

14. ✂ Lip rings, nose rings, tongue piercing, eyebrow piercing and other visible piercing will be removed due to potential safety hazard to the student.
15. ✂ Tattoos and other permanent unnatural skin staining must be covered at all times.

### **Consequences:**

**First offense:** Warning to the student; notification of parents of the incident. Student may be sent home to dress properly, if necessary.

**Second offense:** One (1) day suspension.

**Third offense:** Three (3) day suspension.

**Fourth offense:** Five (5) day suspension and consideration for recommendation for re-assignment to an alternative educational program.

## ***Parents' Rights***

### **Definition of Parent**

Legally, *parent* is defined as anyone having legal custody of a child. *Parent* also includes persons having custody of a minor if neither parent nor the guardian can be notified of educational actions under consideration. *Parent* also includes a parent surrogate.

### **Immunization for Communicable Diseases**

In accordance with the California Health & Safety Code, sections 3380-3389, every student up to age 18 that is enrolled in public or private school is required to be fully immunized against polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, mumps, and rubella. For all Kindergarten and seventh grade entrants, hepatitis B is required. The parent/guardian has the right to sign an affidavit stating that such immunization is contrary to his/her beliefs.

### **First Grade Physical Examinations**

State law requires that all children must have a physical check-up with 18 months prior to, or 90 days after their first grade entry. The health check-up may be performed by your family physician, the Public Health Clinic, or by other Child Health Disability Prevention (CHDP) program providers. Forms and information are available in the Paradise School Office.

A student may be exempt from this requirement when the parent or guardian completes the appropriate form: "Waiver of Health Check-up for School Entry."

### **Administration of Prescribed Medication**

If your child has been prescribed medication by a physician either on a continuing or episodic basis, or needs to take "over the counter" medications while in school, your child may be assisted by school personnel if the **Parent Request for Administration of Medication** form is filled out and signed by both the physician and the parent, and returned to the school office, along with the medication. No student may have any form of medication on his/her person or in his belongings at anytime during the school day. Such medication, if found in a student's possession, will be confiscated and may be dealt with as a discipline matter.

### **Health Tests**

**Vision** - Students in all grades will have a vision screening. Parents of students who should be referred for a medical follow-up are notified.

Speech - Students referred by teachers or parents for speech help are screened by the speech therapists after parent notification. Parents are informed of results of the screening and parent permission is required before children in need of speech therapy can participate in the program.

Hearing - Students in grades K, 1, 2, 3, 5 and 8 have a hearing screening. Parents of students who should be referred for a medical follow-up are notified.

#### Color Vision

All 1<sup>st</sup> grade boys will have a color vision screening. Parents of students showing any deficit will be notified.

#### Scoliosis

All 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys will have a scoliosis screening. Results of screening will be sent home and parents of students who should be referred for a medical follow-up are notified.

#### Sex Education Courses and Family Life Education

The school may not require students to attend any class in which human reproductive organs and their function and processes are described, illustrated or discussed. Whenever such classes are offered, the school must (a) notify parents in advance in writing; (b) provide an opportunity prior to the class for the parent to inspect and review all materials; and (c) provide sufficient opportunity for the parent to request in writing that his/her child be excused from the class and a provision for a substitute assignment(s) be made.

Parental rights for notice, materials inspection, and opportunity to request student non-participation units of instruction in venereal disease education are essentially the same as for sex education classes.

This section does not apply to descriptions or illustrations of human reproductive organs that may appear in any science, hygiene, or health textbook.

#### Excuse from Instruction on Religious (Moral) Grounds

Whenever any part of the instruction in health, family life education, or sex education conflicts with the beliefs of the parent/guardian of a pupil, the student, on written request, shall be excused from the part of the training which is in conflict with such religious training and beliefs.

#### Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Gender

Federal Law P.L.920318 (Title IX) requires that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of gender, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. A complaint procedure to be used regarding this law may be obtained from the school office.

#### Parent/Individual Rights & Safeguards for Exceptional Children

Any individual from ages 1-21 that experiences learning, behavioral, and/or speech/language difficulties may require Special Education services. Parents/guardians, and when appropriate the student, have the right to participate in the development and review of the student's individualized education program (IEP). Due process and procedural safeguards provide that children in Special Education programs and their parents/guardians are given their rights by schools according to the law. A school district may contract with a private school to provide those special education and related services specified in a student IEP.

#### Rights of Parents Regarding Student Records

Parents of currently enrolled or former students have an absolute right to access any and all student records, related to their children, which are maintained by the school district. These rights include (a) review and inspection; (b) interpretation by certificated personnel; and (c) written request to challenge the content and have information removed. An appointment must be scheduled with the school administration.

### **Alternative School Notice**

California law authorizes all school districts to provide for alternative schools. Alternative schools are defined as a school, or separate class group within a school, operated in a manner designed to: maximize the opportunity for students to develop self-reliance, initiative, kindness, spontaneity, resourcefulness, creativity, and responsibility.

In the event any parent, student, or teacher is interested in further information concerning alternative schools, the school principal and the county superintendent of schools have copies of the law available for your information and review. This law particularly authorizes interested persons to request the governing board of the district to establish alternative school programs.

### **Corporal Punishment**

No person employed by or engaged in a public school shall inflict, or cause to be inflicted, corporal punishment upon a student.

### **Field Trip Chaperones**

✂ For the safety and protection of our students, Paradise Elementary School requires all chaperones to complete a Chaperone Application and have on file in the school office.

Please note the rules for Paradise Elementary School District field trips:

- ◆ All students must ride to and from the event on district provided transportation.
- ◆ Those who are not registered chaperones or student participants will not be permitted to join a fieldtrip at its destination.
- ◆ All chaperones must be at least 21 years of age.
- ◆ Dress appropriately. You are a representative of Paradise Elementary School District.
- ◆ No siblings can attend.
- ◆ Supervise your group at all times.
- ◆ Chaperones may not discipline a student or another chaperone.
- ◆ Get to know the students in your group. Make the trip a great experience for everyone in the group.
- ◆ Follow the planned timeline and itinerary. Be sure your group is in the right place at the right time.
- ◆ Accompany your students to the restroom area. The entire group **must** stay together.
- ◆ **Never** permit students to leave your group and chaperones **must** stay with their assigned group.
- ◆ Smoking, tobacco products, and alcohol are not permitted.
- ◆ Do not use profane or inappropriate language, including conversations with other chaperones.
- ◆ Do not buy drinks, snacks, treats, or souvenirs for your group unless it has been planned as part of the trip.
- ◆ Do not ask other chaperones to supervise your group.
- ◆ Do not use cell phones during the entire trip, except for emergency purposes.
- ◆ All student illnesses must be immediately reported to the field trip coordinator.
- ◆ In an emergency, always contact the field trip coordinator first. In an EXTREME emergency, call 911. Always remain calm.

- ◆ Failure to comply with any of these Field Trip rules could result in removal from the field trip, not being allowed to chaperone in the future, and/or disciplinary action being taken.

## ***Playground Rules***

### **Play Areas**

There are separate and specific areas on the playground for student recreation and recess activities. The Kindergarteners have their own area; grades 1 & 4 primary playground; and grades 5 through 8 on the exercise equipment. Student's grades 1-8 may play on the blacktop and grassed playfields.

### **GENERAL PLAYGROUND RULES**

- During all recesses, students should be involved in some type of physical activity, preferably an organized game. Small groups of students may be allowed to walk the track and talk. Groups of students will not be allowed to congregate for the purpose of socializing.
- No public displays of romantic affection between students.
- Use play equipment for its intended use.
- Do not stand on top of bars.
- No play equipment in the restrooms.
- Do not bounce balls off any buildings.
- Do not kick balls while on the blacktop.
- No gum - EVER.
- No "play" fighting, wrestling or physical contact.
- The game of TAG is not allowed.
- Students are not to pick up or carry other students.
- No cursing, vulgarity or verbal harassment.
- Do not climb trees.
- Do not stand on tables or benches.
- Students must have permission to leave the playground areas.
- Do not walk on grass inside the sidewalk areas.
- No electronic devices or personal toys on the playground.
- ✂ Not Allowed: beverages containing caffeine, including energy drinks, but excluding low-fat or fat-free chocolate milk (which contain trivial amounts of caffeine).
- **ALL GAMES AND ACTIVITIES MUST IMMEDIATELY STOP WHEN THE BELL RINGS AND STUDENTS ARE TO LINE UP.**

### **Equipment Use**

All balls and other equipment should be returned to the classrooms at the end of recess. Balls should not be kicked on the blacktop area. Volleyballs should not be kicked.

✂ Personal sports equipment is not allowed at school with the exception of softball equipment. Mitts are allowed after the first Shiloh-Paradise practice, and other softball equipment will be allowed on the playground after Spring Break. Baseball bats are only allowed during teacher supervised P.E. The following equipment is not to be on the playground at any time unless it is part of an instructional physical education activity: Frisbees; cell phones; radios/tape-players/walkman radios; hardballs; food or gum of any kind; any other object the yard duty supervisors believe to be unsuitable.

## ***Discipline Policy***

### **Philosophy**

The Paradise Elementary School District believes that all children are entitled to the kind of discipline that teaches self-control and emotional stability. To do so, the school provides a discipline structure that will promote attitudes and understanding which pupils will need to function effectively in their futures. The Board's position is that appropriate discipline be established and maintained by the staff and administration in our school.

To stress the importance of prevention of discipline problems before deeply set patterns of negative behavior develop, our belief is that parent involvement at the earliest possible time is critical. Parental awareness of and understanding of potential problems have been shown to be very effective in assisting the school in preventing and eliminating negative pupil behaviors that detract from a safe and productive learning environment at the school. Because of that reason, Paradise School uses a system of "warnings". These "warning" are slips issued to students that require a parents signature and must be returned to school the following day.

### ***Discipline Program***

**In all discipline, individual student consideration will be taken.**

#### **Educational & Behavioral Goals**

Paradise School believes in the importance of each child developing:

- Respect for himself and the capacity to maintain individuality while respecting the same right for every other individual;
- Self-awareness, self-esteem, self-confidence, and self-discipline;
- Personal responsibility for one's own actions;
- A cooperative attitude for living and working with others;
- The knowledge of and appreciation of the rights, privileges, benefits, and responsibilities of individuals living in a democracy.

**Warning:** Warnings are given to students who have broken school rules on the yard. These student behaviors are not usually serious in nature but warrant parent notification and documentation. Warnings may also include a "Time Out" for the offending student. A collection of three Warnings in one month is an indicator of a habitual behavior problem and on the third Warning a Detention will also be given and also with subsequent Warning there after for that month. Warning slips must be returned to school signed by the parent/guardian. If not returned signed, an additional Warning will be given and "Second Notice" will be written across it. Teachers will be required to track and monitor student Warnings. Issued Warnings will be placed in the teacher's box. Students who are habitual offenders will be skipped directly to the next discipline step, being Detention.

**Time Out (On The Wall):** A student is placed in Time Out when that student has been a problem on the yard and needs immediate disciplinary action or disciplinary action is needed to reinforce a rule. If a student leaves the wall without permission, refused to do Time Out, is found eating or communicating to other students, that student will be given a Detention for defiance and possibly In-House Suspension depending on the severity of the defiance.

**School Detention:** ✨ Students grades K-8 may serve detention as a result of breaking a school rule or accumulating **three** unexcused tardies. Detention will be served weekly for a two day period of time (days will be noted on the detention slip) at the 10:00 to 10:15 recess. All students in detention have been issued a detention slip that a parent **MUST** sign. If a student does not return his/her detention slip

he/she will still serve the detention, but will be issued a second detention slip for parent signature. If that detention slip is not signed and returned to school, the student will serve an in-school suspension. Also, if a student receives three detentions in one month this is an indicator of habitual discipline or tardy problem that needs to be addressed in a meeting with the school administration.

**Classroom Detention:** Teachers may have their own detention program for classroom rules that have been broken. These programs may vary from teacher to teacher and are separate from school detentions.

**Referral:** Referrals are issued to students who have reached a level of behavior that warrants their removal to the office for sterner disciplinary measures, i.e. parent phone call from the site administrator, In-School suspension, investigation for Suspension or even some strong counseling from the site administrator. Also, referrals can be used to inform the administration of a student behavior problem that may need looking in to.

**In-School Suspension:** In-School Suspension is issued to students who have reached a severe level of discipline by breaking either a school rule, class rule, or the Education Code. If it is an Education Code violation, it is most likely not a severe Education Code issue or a Suspension would have been appropriate. A phone call receiving permission from parents is expected, if contact is not made an In-School Suspension form needs to be signed by the parent and returned informing parents that their child will be placed on In- School Suspension and will not be participating in the regular classroom and all school sponsored activities. Students will be placed in a study carrel for the term of the In-School Suspension to complete classroom assignments, eat lunch, and have no recess privileges. If a disruption occurs on behalf of the In-School suspended student, a regular Suspension could occur.

**Suspension:** A student may be suspended for prohibited misconduct if the act is related to school activity or school attendance occurring at the school or at any other school or school -sponsored event at anytime including, but not limited to: a) while on school grounds; b) while going to or coming from school; c) during the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus; d) during, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity. Students may receive from one (1) to five (5) days of suspension from school for their behaviors.

**Expulsions:** A student may be expelled for prohibited misconduct if the act is related to school activity or school attendance occurring at the school or at any other school or school -sponsored event at anytime including, but not limited to: a) while on school grounds; b) while going to or coming from school; c) during the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus; d) during, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity.

**Paradise Pride Card:** These are a positive reinforcement tool to be used for those occasions that an immediate reward is necessary. These should only be given for exceptional behavior. The ticket given to the student is redeemable at the front office.

### **Suspension from School**

A student may be temporarily removed from school for disciplinary reasons by a teacher or administrator. A Principal or teacher may suspend for up to five days for a single incident. A parent/teacher conference shall be attempted as soon as possible regarding the suspension. A telephone conference may be substituted if a personal meeting cannot be arranged. The principal shall attend the conference if either the teacher or parent/guardian shall so request. A suspension may be extended under certain circumstances, such as when an expulsion hearing is pending with the Board of Trustees. Students who accumulate more than 20 days suspension in the same school year will be referred to an available Alternative Education program.

### Expulsion from School

A school district's Board of Trustees has the authority to expel students for serious and/or repeated offenses. Both the student and the parent/guardians must receive appropriate notices of such actions and be informed of their rights of appeal. Expulsion hearings are held in a formal manner, and must follow established legal procedures. In certain cases wherein the school administration finds that expulsion is somehow inappropriate due to an individual's circumstance, a written report shall be submitted to the board which describes the incident and providing rationale for the expulsion to be set aside.

Pupils may be suspended or expelled for their behaviors related to school activities or attendance, which may occur at any time, including but not limited to:

- On the grounds during the school day;
- While going to or from school;
- During lunch period
- During, going to, or from other school-sponsored activities.

### Alternative Education Programs

In the event that a student is expelled or has accumulated more than 20 days of suspension in the same school year Paradise School District has on file a 922 plan to assist in referring that student to the correct placement at an available Alternative Education Program.

### *Causes for School Discipline*

- A. Steal/Damage/Destroy school property or private property  
All students are expected to take care of items the school and others let you use. If a student damages, destroys, or steals something on purpose, they have broken this rule.
- B. Disobedience/Defiance of school authority.  
Disobedience/defiance means refusing to do what an adult tells a student to do. While at school, in the classroom, on the playground, or on a field trip, students are expected to treat all school staff with respect and follow their directions. Students are expected to follow their directions the first time they are given.
- C. Fighting or threatening others.  
Fighting or threatening others on the school grounds or while going to and from school is not allowed. Students must keep their hands, feet, and other objects to themselves. Students must not tell others they are "going to get them" or hurt them in any way.
- D. Profanity/Name Calling/Teasing  
Name-calling, teasing, or using swear words will not be allowed.
- E. Completing school work.  
When a teacher gives an assignment, it is to be completed and turned in at the required time. A student is expected to meet the deadline unless there is good reason otherwise.
- F. Things student can not bring to school without teacher's permission because they could interfere with rights of other students to learn.  
There are some things a student must not bring to school without permission because they may disrupt the class or interfere with the rights of others to learn. Some of these

things are pets, radios, toys, games, dice, playing cards, tape players, and collectable cards.

G. Things that are against the law to bring to school:

There are other things that must not be brought to school because it is against the law and is of potential danger to the student and others. The laws about these items say students can be expelled from school (no longer able to attend this school) for such violations.

Some of these items are: matches, firecrackers of any kind, pills, medicines, pocketknives, and all other weapons.

H. Things you don't sell or trade at school:

Clothing items are examples of things you don't sell or trade at school.

I. Behavior while riding the school bus on school related events.

J. Cheating: Copying another student's work, getting answers verbally from another student, or in any way obtaining unauthorized assistance on tests, quizzes, or other graded assignments, or assisting others to do so, are all considered *cheating*.

**✂ *Serious Conduct Code Violations: Enumerated Offenses***

Students may be suspended or expelled for any of the following acts when it is determined the pupil:

1. Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person or willfully used force of violence upon the person of another, except self-defense.
2. Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the principal/administrator or designee's concurrence.
3. Unlawfully possessed, used, sold or otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of any controlled substance, as defined in Health and Safety Code sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
4. Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid substance or material and represented same as controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
5. Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
6. Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
7. Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
8. Possessed or used tobacco or any products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including but not limited to: cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel.

9. Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
10. Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Health and Safety Code section 11014.5.
11. Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, other school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
12. Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
13. Possessed an imitation firearm, i.e.: a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
14. Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code sections 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a or 289, or committed a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code section 243.4.
15. Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness.
16. Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
17. Engaged in or attempted to engage in hazing of another.
18. Aiding or abetting as defined in Penal Code section 31, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person.
19. Made terrorist threats against school officials and/or school property.
20. Committed sexual harassment.
21. Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in an act of hate violence. Intentionally harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student or group of students to the extent of having the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class work, creating substantial disorder and invading student rights by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment.

***Causes of Mandatory Suspension On First Offense:***

- A. Possession, use, or be under the influence of any intoxicant or controlled substance.
- B. Unlawful possession of, or unlawfully offered, arranged or negotiated the sale of drug paraphernalia.
- C. Fire-setting or attempted fire-setting.

- D. Willful defiance or disruption of the school, bomb threat, or otherwise interfering with the peaceful conduct of the activities of the school.

**Note:** Restitution for resulting costs and/or damages are the responsibility of the parent. Depending on the circumstances, the school administration may recommend an expulsion hearing on the first offense. Law enforcement agencies will be notified as per Ed Code section 48904.

***Zero Tolerance Policy, Causes for Mandatory Recommendation for Expulsion on First Offense:***

(School administration will recommend for expulsion, upon finding that the student violated any of the following)

The Charter School must recommend expulsion for the following behaviors, even though the student may have no prior discipline history.

1. Possession, selling or otherwise furnishing a firearm, except in instances where the student obtained prior written permission to possess the firearm.
2. Brandishing a knife at another person.
3. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.
4. Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault.
5. Possession of an explosive.
6. In addition to the Director's recommendation for expulsion in all of the above areas, local law enforcement agencies will be notified and the student will be responsible to the adult or juvenile justice system for their actions.

**Students With Disabilities**

A pupil identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the Charter School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act ("IDEIA"), or who is qualified for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") is subject to the same grounds for disciplinary action, including suspension and expulsion, and is accorded the same due process procedures applicable to regular education pupils. Except when federal and state law mandates additional or different procedures, the Charter School will follow the IDEIA, Section 504, and all applicable federal and state laws when imposing any form of discipline on a pupil identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the Charter School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability or who is otherwise qualified for such services or protections in according due process to such pupils.

**Suspension**

**Suspension Procedures**

Suspensions shall be initiated according to the following procedures:

1. Conference:

Suspension shall be preceded, if possible, by a conference conducted by the director or the director's designee with the student and his or her parent and, whenever practical, the teacher, supervisor, or school employee who referred the student to the director. The conference may be omitted if the director or designee determines that an emergency situation exists. An "emergency situation" involves a clear and present danger to the lives, safety, or health of students or school personnel. If a student is suspended without this conference, both the parent/guardian and student shall be notified of the student's right to return to school for the purpose of a conference. At the conference, the pupil shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action and the evidence against him or her and shall be given the opportunity to present his or her version and evidence in his or her defense.

This conference shall be held within two school days, unless the pupil waives this right or is physically unable to attend for any reason including, but not limited to, incarceration or hospitalization.

No penalties may be imposed on a pupil for failure of the pupil's parent or guardian to attend a conference with school officials. Reinstatement of the suspended pupil shall not be contingent upon attendance by the pupil's parent or guardian at the conference.

## 2. Notice to Parents/Guardians:

At the time of the suspension, an administrator, or designee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian by telephone or in person. Whenever a student is suspended, the parent/guardian shall be notified in writing of the suspension and the date of return following suspension. This notice shall state the specific offense committed by the student. In addition, the notice may also state the date and time when the student may return to school. If school officials wish to ask the parent/guardian to confer regarding matters pertinent to the suspension, the notice may request that the parent guardian respond to such requests without delay.

## 3. Suspension Time Limits/Recommendation for Placement/Expulsion

4. Suspensions, when not including a recommendation for expulsion, shall not exceed five (5) consecutive school days per suspension.

Upon a recommendation of placement/expulsion by the director or director's designee, the pupil and the pupil's guardian or representative will be invited to a conference to determine if the suspension for the pupil should be extended pending an expulsion hearing. This determination will be made by the director or designee upon either of the following determinations: 1) the pupil's presence will be disruptive to the education process; or 2) the pupil poses a threat or danger to others. Upon either determination, the pupil's suspension will be extended pending the results of an expulsion hearing.

## **Expulsion**

### **Authority to Expel**

A student may be expelled either by the Board following a hearing before it or by the Board upon the recommendation of an Administrative Panel to be assigned by the Board as needed. The Administrative Panel should consist of at least three members who are certificated and neither a teacher of the pupil or a Board member of the School's governing board. The Administrative Panel may recommend expulsion of any student found to have committed an expellable offense.

## **Expulsion Procedures**

Students recommended for expulsion are entitled to a hearing to determine whether the student should be expelled. Unless postponed for good cause, the hearing shall be held within thirty (30) school days after the director or designee determines that the pupil has committed an expellable offense.

In the event an administrative panel hears the case, it will make a recommendation to the Board for a final decision whether to expel. The hearing shall be held in closed session unless the pupil makes a written request for a public hearing three (3) days prior to the hearing.

Written notice of the hearing shall be forwarded to the student and the student's parent/guardian at least ten (10) calendar days before the date of the hearing. Upon mailing the notice, it shall be deemed served upon the pupil. The notice shall include:

1. The date and place of the expulsion hearing;
2. A statement of the specific facts, charges, and offenses upon which the proposed expulsion is based;
3. A copy of the school's disciplinary rules, that relate to the alleged violation;
4. Notification of the student's or parent/guardian's obligation to provide information about the student's status at the school to any other school district or school to which the student seeks enrollment;
5. The opportunity for the student or the student's parent/guardian to appear in person or to employ and be represented by counsel or a non-attorney advisor;
6. The right to inspect and obtain copies of all documents to be used at the hearing;
7. The opportunity to confront and question all witnesses who testify at the hearing;
8. The opportunity to question all evidence presented and to present oral and documentary evidence on the student's behalf including witnesses.

## **Special Procedures for Expulsion Hearings Involving Sexual Assault or Battery Offenses**

The school may, upon a finding of good cause, determine that the disclosure of either the identity of the witness or the testimony of that witness at the hearing, or both, would subject the witness to an unreasonable risk of psychological or physical harm. Upon this determination, the testimony of the witness may be presented at the hearing in the form of sworn declarations which shall be examined only by the school, Administrative Panel chair, or the hearing officer in the expulsion. Copies of these sworn declarations, edited to delete the name and identity of the witness, shall be made available to the pupil.

1. The complaining witness in any sexual assault or battery case must be provided with a copy of the applicable disciplinary rules and advised of his/her right to (a) receive five (5) days' notice of his/her scheduled testimony, (b) have up to two (2) adult support persons of his/her choosing present in the hearing at the time he/she testifies, which may include a parent, guardian, or legal counsel, and (c) elect to have the hearing closed while testifying.
2. The school must also provide the victim a room separate from the hearing room for the complaining witness's use prior to and during breaks in testimony.

3. At the discretion of the person or panel conducting the hearing, the complaining witness shall be allowed periods of relief from examination and cross-examination during which he or she may leave the hearing room.
4. The person conducting the expulsion hearing may also arrange the seating within the hearing room to facilitate a less intimidating environment for the complaining witness.
5. The person conducting the expulsion hearing may also limit time for taking the testimony of the complaining witness to the hours he/she is normally in school, if there is no good cause to take the testimony during other hours.
6. Prior to a complaining witness testifying, the support persons must be admonished that the hearing is confidential. Nothing in the law precludes the person presiding over the hearing from removing a support person whom the presiding person finds is disrupting the hearing. The person conducting the hearing may permit any one of the support persons for the complaining witness to accompany him or her to the witness stand.
7. If one or both of the support persons is also a witness, the school must present evidence that the witness's presence is both desired by the witness and will be helpful to the school. The person presiding over the hearing shall permit the witness to stay unless it is established that there is a substantial risk that the testimony of the complaining witness would be influenced by the support person, in which case the presiding official shall admonish the support person or persons not to prompt, sway, or influence the witness in any way. Nothing shall preclude the presiding officer from exercising his or her discretion to remove a person from the hearing whom he or she believes is prompting, swaying, or influencing the witness.
8. The testimony of the support person shall be presented before the testimony of the complaining witness and the complaining witness shall be excluded from the courtroom during that testimony.
9. Especially for charges involving sexual assault or battery, if the hearing is to be conducted in the public at the request of the pupil being expelled, the complaining witness shall have the right to have his/her testimony heard in a closed session when testifying at a public meeting would threaten serious psychological harm to the complaining witness and there are no alternative procedures to avoid the threatened harm. The alternative procedures may include videotaped depositions or contemporaneous examination in another place communicated to the hearing room by means of closed-circuit television.
10. Evidence of specific instances of a complaining witness's prior sexual conduct is presumed inadmissible and shall not be heard absent a determination by the person conducting the hearing that extraordinary circumstances exist requiring the evidence be heard. Before such a determination regarding extraordinary circumstance can be made, the witness shall be provided notice and an opportunity to present opposition to the introduction of the evidence. In the hearing on the admissibility of the evidence, the complaining witness shall be entitled to be represented by a parent, legal counsel, or other support person. Reputation or opinion evidence regarding the sexual behavior of the complaining witness is not admissible for any purpose.

### ***Student Behavior Sexual Harassment Policy***

The Paradise Elementary School District seeks to maintain a learning environment that promotes the self-respect and dignity of each pupil and staff member. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated within this district.

By legal definition, sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances and other behaviors of a sexual nature that are offensive to another person. Any pupil who takes part in such harassment of another will be subject to disciplinary action.

Any pupil who feels he or she has been or are being harassed in this manner should contact the principal immediately.

The following are excerpts from Paradise School District Policy (BP) 5145.7

### **Introduction**

It is the intent of the Board of Trustees that a suitable academic and work environment that protects the dignity and promotes mutual respect of all pupils and staff be maintained at all times at Paradise School. The Board therefore prohibits all unlawful sexual harassment of any pupil by any employee, another pupil, or any other person in or from the school.

The Board expects pupils and/or staff to report all such incidents to be reported to the principal immediately. Complaints are to be handled confidentially, fair treatment provided all parties involved, and investigated promptly.

Persons who file sexual harassment complaints shall not be retaliated against for making such complaint.

### **Sexual Harassment Defined**

Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature.

### **Forms of Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment may occur as a pattern of degrading sexual speech or action ranging from verbal or physical annoyances or distractions to deliberate intimidation and frank threats or sexual demands. Forms of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ***Verbal harassment*** - Derogatory comments, jokes, or slurs; graphic verbal commentaries about an individual's body or dress; sexually degrading words to describe an individual.
- ***Physical harassment*** - Unnecessary or offensive touching, or impeding, or blocking movement or passage.
- ***Visual harassment*** - Derogatory or offensive posters, cards, cartoons, graffiti, drawings, or gestures; suggestive or obscene letters, notes, or invitations.
- ***Sexual favors*** - Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature upon which is conditioned an academic or other benefit or decision, or which unreasonably interferes with a student's classroom performance, or created an offensive classroom or related environment.
- ***Reprisals*** - Making threatening reprisals after a negative response to sexual advances.

### **Complaint Procedures**

Any pupil who feels that he/she is being sexually harassed should immediately contact the school principal. If an allegation involving sexual harassment is not promptly addressed by the principal, a second-level complaint can be filed with the Board of Trustees in accordance with the district's Uniform Complaint Procedures.

The district prohibits retaliatory behavior against any complainant or any participant in the complaint process.

### **Consequences for Sexual Harassment**

Any pupil who engages in sexual harassment of anyone in or from the district is subject to disciplinary action as provided in the Student Conduct Code (**Serious Conduct Code Violations: Causes for Suspension from School**, paragraph C., page 26 of the Student Handbook.)

### **Notifications**

Teachers are to discuss this policy with their classes in age-appropriate ways and assure them they need not endure any form of sexual harassment at this school.

## ***PUBLIC COMPLAINT PROCEDURES***

Concerned parties may file a complaint regarding the condition of public school restrooms on the Restroom Maintenance Complaint Form SAB 892 which is provided for you in the School Office.

## ***TOBACCO FREE SCHOOL POLICY***

### **Background**

Research statistics substantiate tobacco product use as the source of health problems in the United States today. Nicotine, an addicting drug found in all tobacco products, is the leading cause of premature death, disease, and disabilities in our country. It contributes to heart attacks, strokes, high blood pressure, emphysema, and several forms of cancer.

Smoking is hazardous to non-smokers as well as smokers. Recent studies indicate that serious health problems are caused by exposure to secondary smoke.

Every year hundreds of thousand of adolescents begin smoking and using smokeless tobacco. In doing so, many model adult behavior and a majority of them go on to become regular tobacco users as adults.

### **Purpose**

The Governing Board of the Paradise Elementary School District acknowledges its responsibility to provide a healthy, pleasant, and productive environment for staff, students, and the community. The Board further believes that education has a central role in establishing positive behavior patterns related to good health. Consistent with this mission, the District shall encourage programs and activities that help our students resist tobacco use.

The District is equally concerned with the health and well being of its employees and also recognizes the importance of adult role modeling for pupils during their formative years. Therefore, the Board shall promote a tobacco-free environment within and about all district facilities, district owned property, district vehicles, and school activities.

## ***PESTICIDE USE ANNUAL NOTIFICATION***

Pursuant to the Healthy Schools Act of 2000, schools are required to annually notify parents of the dates and time of pesticide use, and the types of chemicals utilized. Paradise School District presently does not use pesticides on the school site. If this changes parents will be notified. Occasionally, Stanislaus Mosquito Abatement will spray for mosquitoes. Any spraying will be done either before or after school. Spraying for mosquitoes is not allowed while students are on campus.