

School Wide Positive Behavior Support (SWPBS)

Mount Nittany Elementary School has a School Wide Positive Behavior Support system in place that is focused on teaching and reinforcing appropriate behavior at all grade levels. Our school rules are:

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE
WE ARE RESPECTFUL
WE ARE SAFE
(And Because We Follow These Rules)
WE ARE READY TO LEARN!

SWPBS Mission Statement:

At Mt. Nittany Elementary we strive to create a positive community for all students, staff and families. We teach and model respect, responsibility, and safety throughout our learning environment to ensure all students are ready to learn.

Staff members have designed lesson plans that teach our students how to apply these rules in various settings around the school, such as in the classroom, in the hallways, on the playground, in the cafeteria, on the school bus, in the bathrooms and more. We have reward systems in place to encourage positive behaviors and an office referral system that tracks and deals with undesirable behavior.

All students are expected to learn and follow these rules.

Rules and expectations are taught to every student at the beginning of each school year and reviewed throughout the year. Staff members will model positive behaviors for the students. "SWPBS Rule Reminder" posters are displayed in classrooms and in all common areas of the school.

Students can be rewarded for displaying appropriate behavior by any member of the school staff. When a student is "caught" displaying acceptable behavior, they are praised and rewarded with a "Paws" ticket (example below). One part of the ticket is taken home to share with family members and the other part is entered into a weekly drawing at school. There are different prize selections available, hopefully creating a desire for the student to want to earn "Paws" tickets.

Tickets will also be used to work towards all-school rewards such as a movie and popcorn in the all-purpose room, a winter carnival, or a special assembly. These assemblies are designed to celebrate our school and recognize the effort that students make to make our school a more positive environment. Classroom teachers may also use the tickets in creative ways in their own classrooms.

There are also "Classroom" tickets that can be earned by each class as a group. These tickets are earned when a class demonstrates commendable behavior in situations outside of the classroom. The teacher will use these classroom tickets, at their discretion, to reinforce the whole class for positive behavior.

How can families help with SWPBS?

We ask parents/guardians to support the school by reinforcing these rules and expectations at home and meeting with us when there is a problem that needs follow-up.

Parents/guardians are the best role models for their children. Children often imitate behaviors they see at home. Be sure to talk to your child about their school day. Ask your child about the "Paws" tickets and encourage them to follow the rules and expectations in order to receive tickets. Keep communication open between you and your child's teacher throughout the school year. Please encourage your child to make smart choices at school and at home.

Consequences for inappropriate behavior may include, but are not limited to the following: a student/principal conference, a warning, a student/teacher/parent conference, loss of privilege or an out of school suspension.

School and Weather Appropriate Clothing and Footwear

Parents/guardians can also help your children to be more comfortable and safe at school by dressing them in clothing and shoes that are appropriate for elementary school activities and the weather for outdoor recess. Your children are fond of outdoor recess and every opportunity is taken to allow them to run and play outdoors.

Jackets should be worn to school when the temperatures are cool to cold. **When there is snow on the ground, winter boots are required for all students who wish to walk around in the snow on the playground. If your child wants to play and romp in the snow at recess he/she must bring snow pants along with their boots.**

State College Area School District Dress Code

The purpose of wearing appropriate school attire is to enhance and support a respectful school environment that enhances learning.

Ball caps/hats are appropriate during recess and before/after school. Students may not wear them inside the building.

We understand that it can get warm in the classrooms. Students are permitted to wear tank tops as long as they do not expose stomachs or are cut too low and are too revealing. All shirts, including tank tops should cover stomachs and backs. Camis and spaghetti straps are not allowed. Shorts and skirts are permitted as long as they are not considered to be "short" shorts or skirts. (No shorter than the ends of the fingertips' extension while standing.) Pants that are cut too low and fall well below the waistline to expose the undergarments are also not appropriate. Students should be cautioned about wearing flip-flops, as they are not the safest foot attire for playing at recess. Sneakers are required for PE and heeled shoes are not allowed to be used in school or on school grounds. Any clothing or jewelry with printed materials that may be offensive or obscene (including anything that advertises the use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs) will not be permitted.

If a student is dressed inappropriately, s/he can call a parent/guardian, or have access to clothing available in the health room.

At Mount Nittany Elementary, we strive for a safe, responsible, respectful learning environment. There is no tolerance for bullying, threats, or harassment.

SCHOOL WIDE EXPECTATIONS

Classrooms

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be attentive • Be on time • Have supplies ready • Follow directions the first time given • Use materials properly • Accept responsibility for your actions • Finish work on time • Use time wisely • Clean up your workspace • Be honest • Have a positive attitude • Try your best • Be organized • Return homework on time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up after yourself • Follow directions • Help others • Listen to the speaker (adults or students) • Maintain personal space • Raise your hand • Use kind words • Use materials properly • Use quiet voices • Wait your turn • Be a good group member • Allow others to learn • Treat others' property with respect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk • Use materials appropriately • Push in your chair • Listen to all adults • Keep walkways clear • Ask permission to leave • Keep hands and feet to yourself

Bathrooms

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use supplies and equipment appropriately • Flush • Use one paper towel • Put towel in the garbage • Clean up after yourself • Follow directions from all adults • Let a staff member know if there are any problems • Return to classroom promptly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give people privacy • Knock on the stall door if necessary • Stay in your own stall • Use quiet voices • Help others • Listen to all adults • Flush 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to and from the bathroom • Keep your feet on the floor • Wash hands with soap and water • Keep soap and water in the sink • Listen to all adults

Playground

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the bathroom before going outside • Ask an adult for permission to go back inside the school • Stay in playground boundaries • Drink the water from the fountain, no spitting it out • Stay away from the drain pipes and other dangerous areas • Don't disrupt classes in the building • Stay within view of adults at all times • Line up quickly when called • Return equipment to the proper place • Wear weather appropriate clothing • Shoes stay on at all times • No flip flops, crocs or high-heel shoes on dome. • Kickball will be played in grass area • Boots are required to walk in snow • Snow pants are required to play in snow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to and obey all adults • Play fairly • Be a good sport • Include everyone • Help others • Avoid physical contact with other children • Wait patiently for your turn • Share the equipment and toys • Settle differences peacefully • Use proper language • Use kind words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to and obey all adults • Walk to and from the playground • Stay within the boundaries • Keep hands and feet to yourself • Be aware of the activities/games around you • No play fighting • Use all playground equipment appropriately • No climbing on top of monkey bars • No flipping on high bars • Slide down the sliding board on your bottom, feet first, one at a time • One person per swing • You must stay seated on swings • Back and forth swinging only; No twisting • No jumping off swings • No wall ball • Jump ropes are only for jumping • Leave rocks, sticks and other dangerous objects alone • No sitting under the bridge • No throwing or kicking snow

Cafeteria

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take what you plan to eat and ordered • Get all utensils, milk, etc. before sitting down • Follow all directions of the cafeteria workers • Sit at assigned table • Raise hand if you need anything • Remain seated until you are dismissed • Pick up trash even if it isn't yours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use please and thank you • Use quiet voices • Raise your hand, don't shout • Eat politely and use good table manners • Maintain your personal space • Leave your eating area clean for the next person • Use kind words • Eat only your food • Help others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk at all times • Wash your hands before eating • Carry tray with two hands • Use utensils appropriately • Get adult help for accidents and spills • Keep all food to yourself • Sit with feet on the floor, bottom on the bench, facing the table

Library

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions from all adults • Use quiet voices • Take care of books and library materials at home and at school • Use browsing stick properly • Return books on time so others may enjoy them • Keep the library shelves in order • Clean up after yourself • Push in your chair • Sit and read once you've checked out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to all adults • Listen for directions • Use quiet voices during checkout • Raise your hand when you want to talk • Wait your turn for help • Use good manners • Take turns using the library search catalog • Maintain your personal space • Carry books the proper way • Help others • Use materials properly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter library quietly • Walk at all times • Keep hands, feet and items to yourself • Use books and materials appropriately • Use the stairs appropriately • Use the handrails on the stairs • No jumping on or from the stairs • Ask for help to reach items

Physical Education

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prepared to participate • Wear appropriate clothing • Wear sneakers • Follow procedures • Listen to directions the first time • Take responsibility for your actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to all adults • Be a good sport • Maintain personal space • Use proper voice volume • Use kind words • Include all students • Wait your turn patiently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to all adults • Follow all directions • Use equipment appropriately • Move carefully • Be aware of games and activities going on around you • Keep hands, feet and items to yourself • No sliding or spinning on the floor

Hallways

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get adult approval to be in the hallway • Walk with your class, don't fall behind the line • Move to your destination without lingering • Respect hallway displays • Follow all directions from all adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silent voices • Quiet Feet • Carry materials properly • Hold the door open for the person behind you • Keep the building clean • Listen to all adults • Smile and wave to others • Hang up coats and backpacks • Help others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay to the right • Walk in a single line • Walk facing forward • Keep hands, feet and other items to yourself • Listen to all adults • Hang up belongings on hooks

Stairways/Ramps

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk on each step facing forward • Keep your body off the handrail and balcony railing • Watch out for the person in front of you 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silent voices • Quiet feet • DO NOT touch the emergency button unless there is an actual emergency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay to the right • Hold the handrail • Keep eyes forward • Keep hands, feet, and items to yourself

Fieldtrips

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come prepared for any weather • Be attentive • Follow directions from all adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond appropriately to speaker • Maintain personal space • Use audience manners • Use appropriate voice • Use kind words • Wait your turn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk everywhere • Stay with your class • Listen to all adults

Arrival

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to destination without lingering • Get breakfast quickly • Organize belongings on hooks and shelf • Unpack quickly and report to your room • Follow directions from all adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove hats when entering the building • Use quiet voices • Help others • Maintain personal space • Use kind words • Wait your turn • Listen to adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk from the bus on the sidewalk • Walk up and down the ramp • Keep hands, feet and items to yourself • Listen to all adults

Dismissal

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to destination without lingering • Move quietly and quickly • Secure all your belongings before leaving the building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiet voices, quiet feet • Maintain personal space • Use kind words • Wait your turn • Listen to all adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk up and down the ramp • Listen to adults • Keep hands, feet, backpacks to yourself • Watch out for the person in front of you

Assemblies

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be attentive • Keep hands and feet to yourself • Follow directions from all adults • Remain seated until given the dismissal signal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen so others can hear • Sit on your bottom • Maintain personal space • Use audience manners • Keep hands and feet still and quiet • Wait your turn • Raise your hand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter and exit quietly • Stay in your spot • Sit in assigned area • Listen to all adults • Keep hands and feet to yourself

Office

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let office staff know why you are there • Demonstrate self control • Return what you borrow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a quiet voice • Use please and thank you • Greet people by name • Wait your turn • Knock on closed doors and wait for someone to answer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to the office • Stay on your side of the counter • Sit on your bottom in the chair • Wait patiently

Bus

We Are Responsible	We Are Respectful	We Are Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be in control of yourself • Follow bus driver's directions • Remember your belongings • Clean up after yourself • Dispose of trash properly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to the bus driver • Quiet voices • Wait your turn • Use kind words • Help others • Maintain personal space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit on your bottom • Stay in your seat • Face the front of the bus • Use your quiet voice • Maintain personal space • Listen to the bus driver • Help others • Remain seated until the bus driver lets you off

Tier 2/3 School-Wide Positive Behavior Supports

When students need social-emotional or behavioral support beyond universal supports for all students (Tier 1), they may benefit from our Tier 2/3 school-wide positive behavior supports. Tier 2/3 provides additional interventions to support that smaller percentage of students who do not sufficiently respond to our universal (Tier 1) strategies.

Students are identified for these Tier 2/3 supports through various ways, such as parent or teacher recommendation, frequent office disciplinary referrals, slipping grades, frequent nurse visits, or attendance concerns. In addition, teachers will complete a rating scale for all students in their classes two or three times a year to find students who may be in need of additional social-emotional or behavioral supports. Please note: if you do not want your student to be screened with this rating scale, please submit this request in writing, to the building principal.

Examples of interventions which may be considered at Tier 2/3 include the following:

- Participation in the PAWS program (a check-in/check-out system with frequent behavioral feedback)
- Increased classroom management support
- Targeted instruction in social skills and positive replacement behaviors (individual or small group)
- School-based mentors
- Individualized positive behavior support plan
- Increased academic support
- Use of community supports, such as Integrated Mental Health services

Family involvement is crucial to the success of these more individualized social-emotional and behavioral supports. If your child is in need of additional supports through our school-wide positive behavior support program, we will contact you to participate in the process. Feel free to contact the building principal if you feel that your child would benefit from additional social-emotional or behavioral supports.

Please go over these rules and expectations carefully and review them with your child. Sign this "Paws"itive Paw along with your child that shows you are committed to building a family-school partnership that promotes student success in an optimal environment for teaching and learning.

Return this signed Paw by Wednesday, September 30, 2016. When this Paw is returned, your child will earn a "cool" prize.

We appreciate your support!
