

# Parent/Student Handbook

2024-2025



Kuricheses Alexander  
**Principal**

Pricilla Newby

**Vice Principal** 



Angela Griffin  
**Administrative Intern**

**Superintendent of Syracuse City Schools**

Anthony Q. Davis



416 East Raynor Ave  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
315-435-4580

As approved by the Board of Education at the Annual Organizational Meeting on May 9, 2023, the Board of Education Officers are as follows:

**PRESIDENT:** Tamica Barnett

**COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION:** Twiggy Billue  
Nyatwa Bullock  
Karen Cordano  
Mary Habib  
Gwendolyn Raeford  
Ranette Releford

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:** Anthony Q. Davis, Superintendent  
Pamela Odom, Deputy Superintendent  
Britt Britton, Chief Academic Officer  
Robert DiFlorio, Ed.D., Chief Operations Officer  
Laura Kelley, Ed.D., Chief of Student Support Services  
Timothy Moon, Chief Accountability Officer  
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Monique Wright-Williams, Chief Engagement Officer  
Kathryne Moulton, Assistant Superintendent  
Jennifer King-Reese, Assistant Superintendent

**NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

The Syracuse City School District hereby advises students, parents, employees and the general public that it is committed to providing equal access to all categories of employment, programs and educational opportunities, including career and technical education opportunities, regardless of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, Native American ancestry/ethnicity, creed or religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity or expression, disability or any other legally protected category under federal, state or local law.

Inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies should be directed to:

Civil Rights Compliance Officer  
Syracuse City School District  
725 Harrison Street • Syracuse, NY 13210  
(315) 435-4131

Email: [CivilRightsCompliance@scsd.us](mailto:CivilRightsCompliance@scsd.us)

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Dear **STEAM** Families,

We are so delighted to be a partner with you in your child's education. At STEAM, we are committed to the health, safety, and well-being of your child. The STEAM in our name stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math. It is our goal to provide a well-rounded education for your child. Along with academics, we also focus on social emotional learning. We want your child to be the best they can be academically and behaviorally.

We believe all students, staff and families at STEAM do the best they can each and every day. We hold ourselves and our students to high expectations. The success of your child not only comes from the opportunities here at STEAM, but also from the positive working relationship between home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you support us in making sure that your child is on time for school each and every day. We also ask that students read each night to develop and maintain their skills. Please remember to communicate with your child's teacher on a regular basis to ensure your child's success. We encourage you to contact us if there is anything we can do to support your child's learning.

Please take a minute to look through this handbook with your child to review STEAM's expectations, policies and procedures. We also ask that you follow STEAM at Dr. King on Facebook. Also, be sure to update your contact information if it changes throughout the year. We are looking forward to a wonderful year working together for your child's academic success!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Alexander*  
Principal

*Mrs. Newby*  
Vice Principal

*Mrs. Griffin*  
Administrative Intern



## Whose Child is This?

“Whose child is this?” I asked one day  
Seeing a little one out to play  
“Mine”, said the parent with a tender smile  
“Mine to keep a little while  
To bathe his hands and comb his hair  
To tell him what he is to wear  
To prepare him that he may always be good  
And each day do the things he should”

“Whose child is this?” I asked again  
As the door opened and someone came in  
“Mine” said the teacher with the same tender smile  
“Mine, to keep just for a little while  
To teach him how to be gentle and kind  
To train and direct his dear little mind  
To help him live by every rule  
And get the best he can from school

“Whose child is this?” I ask once more  
Just as the little one entered the door  
“Ours” said the parent and the teacher as they smiled  
And each took the hand of the little child  
“Ours to love and train together  
Ours this blessed task forever.”

Author Unknown



### Vision

To prepare and inspire all of our students to innovate locally and contribute globally.

### Mission

To build, support and sustain school communities that provide all students with a high-quality education that prepares them to graduate a responsible, active citizens ready for success in college and careers and prepared to compete in a global economy.



### Vision

Empower students to make a positive impact in their classroom, school, and community.

### Mission

We believe that education is the lifeline in growing our students to become the leaders of tomorrow. We will achieve our vision by doing the following:

- Creating and maintaining a positive and nurturing environment where students feel loved, seen, valued, heard, supported, appreciated, celebrated and respected
- Engaging students in relevant and meaningful learning opportunities
- Empower students to use their voice by giving them multiple opportunities to answer and ask questions and to dialogue with their peers
- Providing learning opportunities that are hands-on, require students to investigate and solve problems, and require students to take ownership of their learning

# Title 1 Letter and School Parent Compact

Dear **STEAM** Families,

Your child's success in school cannot be ensured by the schools or parents alone. We must both work together toward this common goal. Studies indicate that students do much better in school when their parents actively participate in this process. Therefore, we wish to ensure that you have an opportunity to share in your child's education experience.

Your child's school is receiving funds from Title I under the Federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). These funds are provided to guarantee the educational success of ALL STUDENTS in our school. Title I also requires that each school develop, jointly with parents, a School-Parent Compact that outlines how parents, staff and students will share responsibility for improved student achievement. Attached, please find a copy of the School-Parent Compact which was developed with parent representatives. Please feel free to contact us if you wish to discuss this compact.

Throughout the school year, you will be given opportunities to be involved in your child's education. We will hold informational meetings, workshops and activities, and will provide resources to support home-school communication, such as the academic updates you receive. Please monitor your child's academic and social emotional progress. Join us in our efforts to ensure your child's success.

Together we can make a difference in our children's lives and community!

Sincerely,

The **STEAM** at Dr. King Administrative Staff



# Syracuse City School District School-Parent Compact

- The school and parents working cooperatively to provide for the successful education of the children agree:

The School agrees to:	The Parent/Guardian agrees to:
<p>Offer an annual meeting for parents of children enrolled to inform them of the Title I program and their right to be involved.</p> <p>Offer a flexible number of meetings at various times, and—if necessary and if funds are available—to provide transportation, childcare or home visits for those parents who cannot attend a regular school meeting.</p> <p>Actively involve parents/guardians in planning, reviewing and improving the Title I programs and the School Parent &amp; Family Involvement policy.</p> <p>Provide parents with timely information about <u>all</u> programs in a language they can understand.</p> <p>Provide performance profiles and individual student assessment results for each child, along with other pertinent individual and school district education information.</p> <p>Provide high quality curriculum and instruction.</p> <p>Deal with communication issues between teachers and parents through: parent-teacher conferences at least annually; frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; reasonable access to staff; opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class and observation of classroom activities.</p> <p>Assure that parents may participate in professional development activities (e.g., literacy classes, workshops on reading strategies) if the school determines that it is appropriate.</p>	<p>Be involved in developing, implementing, evaluating and revising school parent and family involvement policies and practices.</p> <p>Use or ask for technical assistance training that the school district or school may offer on child-rearing practices and teaching and learning strategies.</p> <p>Work with my child/children on schoolwork, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reading for 15 to 30 minutes per day to K through 1<sup>st</sup> grade students.</li> <li>• listening to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders read for 15 to 30 minutes per day.</li> </ul> <p>Monitor my child's/children's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attendance at school</li> <li>• homework</li> <li>• technology usage and television watching</li> </ul> <p>Share the responsibility for improving my child's/children's academic achievement.</p> <p>Communicate with my child's/children's teachers about their educational needs.</p> <p>Ask other parents and parent groups to provide information to the school on what type of training or assistance they would like and/or need to help them to be more effective in assisting their child/children in the educational process.</p>







2024 - 2025  
**STEAM AT DR. KING**  
 Staff Listing



<b>Pre K</b>	A128 - Brittany DeSalvatore - Pre-K Speech A129 - Maureen Catone A130 - Jaime Schulz A131 - Talia Masse A132 - Bailey Wynn A133 - Lisa Miller	<b>Office</b>	C154 - Principal - Kuricheses Alexander C155 - Vice Principal - Priscilla Newby B212 - Admin. Intern - Angela Griffin C215 - Dean - Elizabeth Kreinheder C152 - OA II - Javonna Mitchell-Thomas C152 - OA I - Amo Featherstone C152 - Information Aide - Susan Cocola
<b>Kdg</b>	A117 - Ericka Core/D. Kirby A118 - Dionne Bennett/M. Snow A119 - Delaney Clifford/ C. Bishop A120 - Jennifer Gregory/E. Glinski/ S. Ibrahim	<b>Social Workers</b>	C146 - TBD A231 - Nikki Harrell
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>	A233 - Angelina Lundy/ A. Mitchell A235 - Madisyn Wheeler/TBD A236 - Sarah Braithwaite/J. Green/ J. Dixon/TBD A237 - Terrice Hamilton/ K. Creque	<b>Counselor</b>	A215 - Yvonne Mack
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade</b>	A217 - Mollie Palmisano/ TBD/M. Williams/TBD A218 - Jessica Rush/S. Russo A219 - Kamali Douglas-Baker/TBD A221 - Maya Jean/J. Little	<b>Psychologist</b>	B124 - Callie Beldock
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	B217 - Alexis Winans/Osiris Daniel/A. Troutman B218 - Victoria Fontana B224 - Saida Balume B225 - Marissa Campanello	<b>Health Office</b>	C133 - Nurse - April Darr C131 - Health Attendant - Karen Dorazio
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	C219 - Gregory Elias C220 - Jade Farrell C221 - Eleanna Ventura/Dylan Gwilt/ M. McDonald	<b>Clinic</b>	C141 - Nurse Practitioner - Jaime Sheffler C135 - Medical Assistant - Sisy John C144 - ARISE - Stephanie Guglielmi C143 - SBHC Counselor - Danielle Bannigan (Thursday)
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	C225 - Kristi King/Gregory Bickett/ M. Billue C226 - Angel McFadden C227 - Rosemarie Stanley	<b>Speech</b>	B123 - Lauren Radford
<b>ENL</b>	A116 - Ariana Harvin (K-1) A234 - Emily Dittmar (2-3) B136 - Reagan Doe (4-5)	<b>OT/PT</b>	<b>PT</b> - Jennifer Dunning <b>B129</b> OT - Stacey Cappon
<b>Art</b>	B211 Kristina Martin (PK-2) Andrea Buckvold (3-5)	<b>Behavior Specialist</b>	Rashad Burns
<b>Music</b>	B130- Kaymber Felton (3-5) B134-Sharlene Del Favero (PK-2)	<b>TA's</b>	Esraa Asmar Mered Billue Carrie Bishop Suzanna Catal Kiyana Creque Ja'Rhea Dixon Sarah Hill- LaFirst Suad Ibrahim Tyrema Johnson Daquille Kirby Jamya Little Sharon Margrey Marcus McDonald
<b>Instrumental</b>	B133-Lansing Dimon	<b>Rec Aides</b>	Tiffany Cage, Michelle Cobb Kayi Lawson, Latoya Walker, Jerryka Pizarro, Lashea Wright
<b>8888 PE</b>	Maryam Ek Kaufman (PK-2) Kelsy Gladding (3-5) Erin Cherock	<b>Custodial</b>	Nathan Park, Justin Cramer, Demetrian Goolsby, Brandon Owens, Ira Sanders, Montel Thomas
<b>7777 Library</b>	Rebecca Shaffer Mannion	<b>Security</b>	Sentry-Maxine Washington <b>Guard</b> - Aniyah Moore
<b>Coaches</b>	C218 - Lisa Watts (Inst) C218 - Chassidy Vaughn (Math)	<b>Promise Zone</b>	B220 - TBD
<b>AIS</b>	B116 - Steven Vincent - STEM	<b>Family Support</b>	A230 - vickey Mayes A114- TBD
A232 - Angelica Smith-Math	B213-Diane Schulman-ELA	<b>PAX</b>	B122 - Jean Kelsey/Cammy Sherman
A220 - Farrah Doty - ER	B223 - Ashley Burke - QR	<b>Community Outreach</b>	D111 - Khaliah Major
<b>Building Sub (Teacher)</b>		<b>Adult Ed</b>	D126- Javier Garcia- Case Manager D127 - Emily Howden- HSE Teacher D128 - Katia Dickson - HSE Teacher
TBD			08/10/24



# Important District Phone Numbers

SCSD District Department	Number
Superintendent of Schools	(315) 435-4161
Office of Elementary Education	(315) 435-4220
Early Childhood/Pre-K	(315) 435-4276
ENL	(315) 435-4927
Food Service	(315) 435-4207
Student Support	(315) 435-4131
Registration	(315) 435-4545
Special Education	(315) 435-4425
Transportation	(315) 435-4260
First Student East	(315) 423-5385
First Student West	(315) 448-1342

## School Schedule

9:10 a.m. School day begins, doors open, and students will eat breakfast in the classroom.

**Please note:** Students may not enter the building before 9:10 a.m. unless they are in the morning program. **Supervision is not provided prior to 9:10 a.m.**

9:30 a.m. Morning announcements begin (**Students are considered late after this time.**)  
If your child arrives after this time, they must report to the front desk to sign in.

9:30 a.m. Instructional day begins

11:15 a.m. Lunch service begins

3:35 p.m. Dismissal begins



# Class Schedules by Grade Level

Kindergarten

9:15-9:30	Arrival, Breakfast, and Announcements
9:30-9:50	SEL
9:50-10:00	Teacher Read Aloud or Independent Reading
10:00-11:00	TSG
11:00-11:25	Skills
11:30-12:10	Specials
12:15-12:30	Recess
12:30-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:00	Writing/Integrated Knowledge
2:00-2:45	Math
2:45-3:20	Math TSG
3:30	Dismissal

1<sup>st</sup> Grade

9:15-9:30	Arrival, Breakfast, and Announcements
9:30-9:50	SEL
9:50-10:00	Teacher Read Aloud or Independent Reading
10:00-10:30	Skills Part 1
10:30-11:15	Integrated Knowledge
11:15-11:45	Lunch
11:45-12:00	Recess
12:05-12:35	Skills Part 2
12:35-1:05	Math TSG
1:05-1:55	Math
2:00-2:40	Specials
2:45-3:25	TSG
3:30	Dismissal

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

9:15-9:30	Arrival, Breakfast, and Announcements
9:30-9:50	SEL
9:50-10:00	Teacher Read Aloud or Independent Reading
10:00-10:45	Integrated Knowledge
10:45-11:45	Skills
11:45-12:30	TSG
12:30-12:45	Recess
12:45-1:15	Lunch
1:15-1:55	Specials
2:00-2:55	Math
2:55-3:25	Math TSG
3:30	Dismissal

# Class Schedules by Grade Level

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

9:15-9:30	Arrival, Breakfast, and Announcements
9:30-9:50	SEL
9:50-10:00	Teacher Read Aloud or Independent Reading
10:00-10:40	Specials
10:45-11:30	TSG
11:30-11:45	Recess
11:45-12:15	Lunch
12:15-1:15	Math
1:15-2:15	Humanities
2:15-2:55	Math TSG
2:55-3:25	Science/Writing
3:30	Dismissal

4<sup>th</sup> Grade

9:15-9:30	Arrival, Breakfast, and Announcements
9:30-9:50	SEL
9:50-10:00	Teacher Read Aloud or Independent Reading
10:00-11:00	Math
11:00-11:30	Math TSG
11:30-12:15	Science/Writing
12:15-12:45	Lunch
12:45-1:00	Recess
1:00-1:45	Humanities
1:45-2:40	TSG
2:45-3:25	Specials
3:30	Dismissal

5<sup>th</sup> Grade

9:15-9:30	Arrival, Breakfast, and Announcements
9:30-9:50	SEL
9:50-10:00	Teacher Read Aloud or Independent Reading
10:00-10:45	TSG
10:45-11:25	Specials
11:30-12:00	Math TSG
12:05-1:05	Math
1:05-1:20	Recess
1:20-1:50	Lunch
1:50-2:35	Humanities
2:35-3:25	Science/Writing
3:30	Dismissal

# Arrival Procedures



Students that are dropped off in a car should be dropped at the side door in the large staff parking lot. Refrain from *Double Parking* by the side door. This is a safety issue due to visibility and space.

**Please note:** between 8:30a.m.- 9:30a.m. & 3:30p.m.- 4:30p.m., Raynor Avenue (in front of the school) is **ONE WAY**. Park in the parking lot if you wish to escort your child to the building.

Bus riders will enter the main doors of the building. Walkers can enter through the door with the ramp on the right side of the building. All students will immediately go to the classrooms to have breakfast.

**Please note:** There is a single point of entry into the building after 9:30 a.m. Students who arrive after 9:30 must use the main entrance and report to the front desk before going to their classroom.



# Dismissal Procedures

## Walkers:

All students (K-5) that walk home without a parent/guardian will be dismissed at 3:35 from the Gymnasium to the small parking lot on Oakwood.

**Please note:** K-2<sup>ND</sup> grade students **must** walk home with an older sibling or a person you have designated. We **do not** allow them to walk home alone.

## Pick Ups:

Pick up students will be picked in the large parking lot behind the school. **Please stay in the car line and have your student number visible.** We will bring your child out to you, but it is the **parent's responsibility** to get the student safely into the vehicle.

If someone other than parent (or person that normally picks up the child or not on pick up authorization sheet) is picking up your child, we will need the parent or guardian to call the school and give us **verbal permission** to release the child.

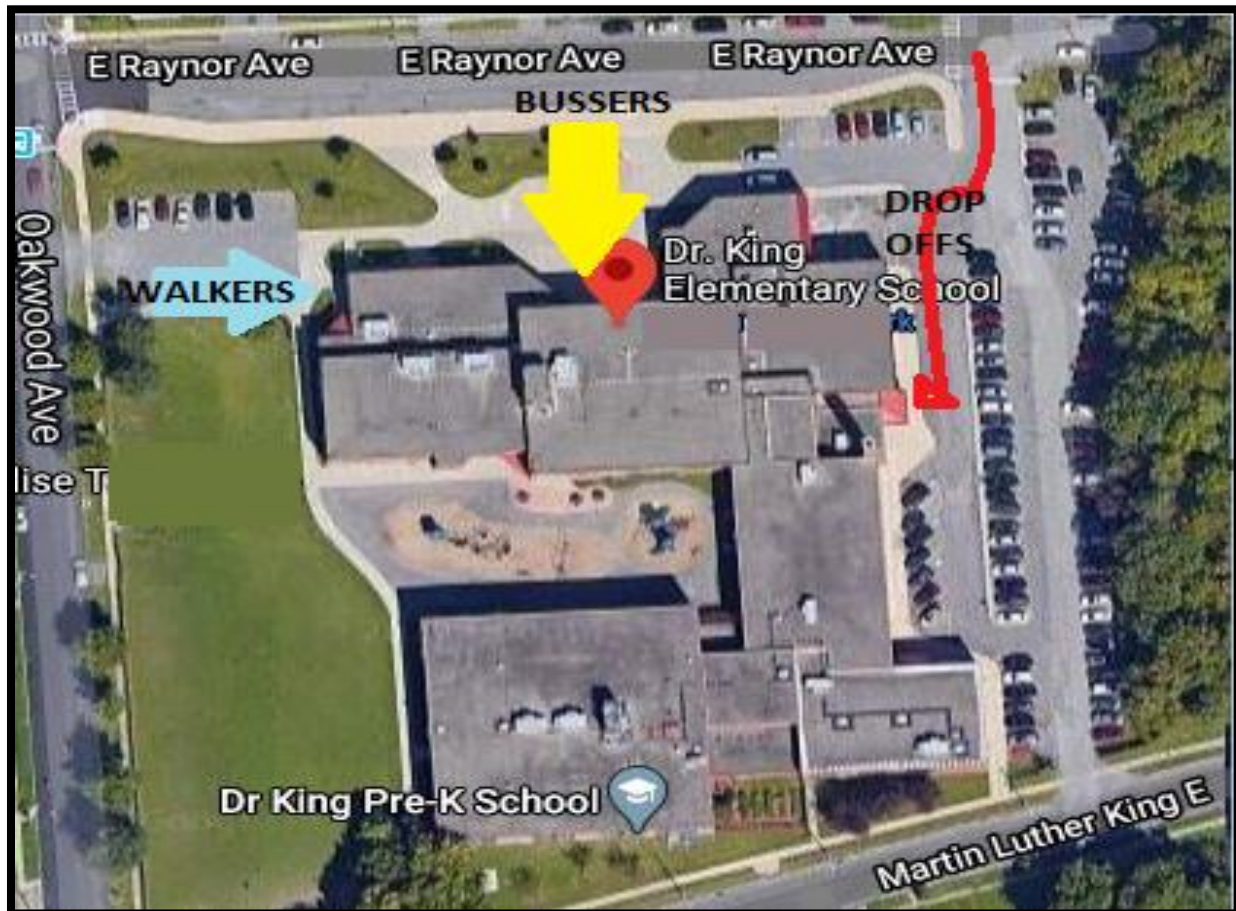
**All children must be picked up by 4:00 pm.** We understand that situations arrive that could make this difficult. However, due to lack of adult supervision after this time, we ask that you have another plan in place. This is for the safety of your child.

## Bussers:

Students riding a bus will be walked to their bus by a designated staff member starting at 3:35.

## **Additional Reminders:**

- If your child has a PAR stop, please be home to receive your child from the bus. Transportation cannot drop off a child at home without an adult there to receive the child. If you are not home, the child will be brought back to school and you will have to find a way to transport the child from here.
- Raynor Avenue is only open to busses during the hours of 8:30a.m. to 9:30a.m. and 3:30p.m.-4:30p.m, so please do not park on that street during those hours.
- Please refrain from picking up your child/children early in the day. They will miss valuable instructional time.
- If your child needs to be picked up early, please pick up your child before **3:15 p.m.** We do not release students between **3:15p.m-3:35p.m.**
- If you need to change your child's dismissal arrangements, please finalize arrangements by **3:00 p.m.**



# Transportation/Bus Safety

Transportation to and from school is a service provided by the school district. Students who live more than a mile from **STEAM** are eligible for busing. In the event that a child misses the school bus, it is the responsibility of the parent to get the child to school. Bus routes and schedules will be mailed a few days before school begins.

Once a child is assigned to a bus, he/she may not ride on a different bus unless it has been approved through the Transportation Department. If your child is not to be dropped off at his/her stop, you must send a note to school.

If the bus does not pick up your child as expected or your child does not arrive at home on time, please contact the Transportation Department directly for assistance at (315) 435-4260, (315) 435-4261 or (315) 435-4263. **If you move, please notify the school office immediately at (315) 435-4580.**

The Transportation Department requires 5-10 days to begin a new stop for your child. Therefore, it is best to notify the school before you move. It is imperative that all children are safe and secure on the bus. Please take a moment to review the following bus expectations with your child:

- Use polite and appropriate language and quiet voices at all times
- Sit and stay in your assigned seat
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself



## Emergency Information/Procedures

### Emergency Information

We must have accurate information on file concerning your child. Each September, two emergency cards and a pickup authorization are sent home with each student to be completed by the parent and returned to school. It is also necessary to provide the school with an emergency phone number of someone who can be contacted if you cannot be reached. If you should move or change your phone number, please let the school know immediately, and we will update your child's card. Our telephone number is (315) 435-4580.

### Emergency Closing or Evacuation of School

Regularly held fire drills and emergency evacuation practices ensure a definite plan of action in case of an emergency. The safety of the children is of utmost concern at all times. In the event of school dismissal due to an emergency, the local media will be informed, and parents will be contacted using the numbers on file.

# Attendance Policy

School attendance is critically important to children's learning. Students are expected to be at school **on time, all day, every day** and to be prepared to learn. We ask that you please try to schedule any doctor's appointments and any other appointments after 4:00 p.m. or during breaks.

If your child is absent and you have not communicated with the teacher or office that he/she will be absent, somebody will call to check in on the student.

We ask that a parent or guardian submit a written excuse to the classroom teacher when the child returns to school. If possible, please call the school office (315-435-4580) as early as possible to report your child's absence or early dismissal.

Students can be excused from school for legal reasons, in accordance with New York State Regulations. We are asking you to have children stay home if they have a severe cold, fever or signs of a communicable disease. Below is a list of excused and unexcused absences:

## **Excused:**

- Sickness
- Sickness or death in the family
- Impassable roads or weather
- Quarantine
- Required to be in court or detention
- Music lessons
- Attendance at health clinics
- Religious observance



## **Unexcused:**

- Personal visitations
- Oversleeping
- Vacation
- Missing a bus

**REMEMBER**



- If a student comes to school late, he/she must sign in at the front desk.



# Home-School Communication

The staff at **STEAM** at Dr. King has made a commitment to communicate with families. This will take place through conferences, newsletters, progress reports, phone calls, social media, and digital platforms. We hope that on-going communication will help us to work together on behalf of your children. This two-way communication is critical to your child's success.

## Do you have a question or concern about your child's classroom?

Follow these steps:



1. First, contact the classroom teacher
2. Then, if you are not satisfied with the outcome contact a member of the Administrative team at (315) 435-4580.

## Do you have a question or concern about school policy or practices in general?

Follow these steps:



1. Contact a member of the Administrative team at (315) 435-4580.



# Visitors Policy

Parents are allowed to walk their child to their classroom the first week of school. For the safety of our students and staff, after the first week of school, parents will need to make an appointment to visit.

Below you will find the procedures that are to be followed any time you come into the building.

- Report directly to the main office
- Please have your ID so our security system can capture this information and print out a visitor's pass
- Sign-in on the visitor sheet and wear ID Tag
- Sign-out before you leave

By following the above procedures, you will help us to maintain a safe and secure school for all our students and staff.

All doors to the building will be locked at 9:30 a.m. There is a buzzer system in place to access the building. You must use the main entrance located on Raynor Avenue as this will be the only point of entry. Please press the call button located outside of the door and once you have identified yourself, you will be buzzed in by the main office/security. Please note that this is to promote the security of our students and staff and not an obstacle to keep people out.

# Student Dress Code & Inappropriate Items for School

Every year, families receive a document entitled **Code of Conduct-Character & Support**, which includes the District's Dress Code. Please review this important information with your child. It clearly lays out our school district's expectations for student apparel and appropriate appearance. We continue to ask for your support in ensuring that children are dressed appropriately for school by:

- Wearing clothing that is safe, appropriate and will not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
- Excluding garments such as tube tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, plunging necklines (front and back) and see-through garments. Tops need to cover abdomen area.
- Excluding hats, hoods, bandanas, or scarves with the exception of medical or religious reasons
- Ensuring underwear is completely covered. Belts should be worn with trousers to insure that they are waist level.
- Wearing appropriate footwear at all times. Flip-flops should not be worn in school.
- Excluding tops with inappropriate language, pictures or implications of inappropriate behavior.

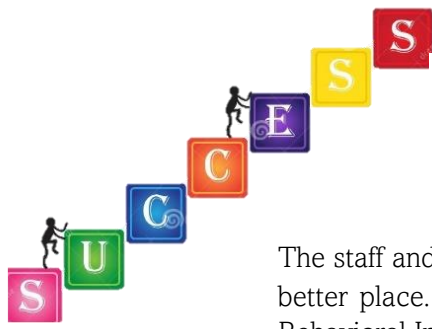


## Inappropriate Items for School

We ask that you speak with your child and check their backpacks to make sure that the following items do not come to school:

- Electronic games of any kind
- Trading cards
- iPods
- Toys
- Weapons of any kind or anything that could be used as a weapon (such as nail files, nail clippers, box cutters, knives, etc.)
- Lighters/matches
- Inappropriate reading material
- Chains
- Inappropriate food or beverage
- Cell phones- must be turned off and not visible. The school staff may authorize appropriate use of electronic devices in class, when they are used for educational purposes only.





# Positive Behavioral Expectations

The staff and students at **STEAM** at Dr. King are committed to making our school a better place. The behavior plan at **STEAM** at Dr. King is based on PBIS-Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support and PAX.

## Expectations of Students

- Accepting direction and support from **ANY** and **ALL** adults.
- Using self-discipline to make good choices in behavior and academics.
- Showing responsibility for learning.
- Following all school rules.
- Accepting consequences when expectations are not met.
- Making an effort to improve behavior and academics.
- Cooperating with others and treating others with respect.
- Respecting school property and the property of others.
- Responsibility to help keep **STEAM** a safe school community.




## Responsibilities of Family Members:

- Keep contact information updated at **ALL** times. We **MUST** have working numbers in case of an emergency.
- Making sure children are at school each day and **ON TIME**.
- Work with school staff regarding your child's academic or behavioral needs.
- Support school staff and the school by talking about student expectations with your child.
- Support classroom learning by encouraging reading, discussing what your child is learning in school, and asking to see work that is sent home.
- Model respect and courteous behavior to all staff, parents/guardians, and students while at **STEAM**.
- Reinforce with your child that **ALL** children have the right to be at **STEAM** and to be treated with **RESPECT**.

*At **STEAM**, we believe in working together with families in order for students to be successful.*

# STEAM @ Dr. King Behavior Matrix



	Personal Best	Act Responsibly	Work and Play Safely	Show Respect
Classroom	-Ask clarifying questions -Stay focused	-Community comes first	-Stay in your seat	-Listen for instructions
Hallway		-Single line together	-Hands to yourself -All eyes forward -Legs moving safely	-Listen for instructions
Bathroom		-Quickly use the bathroom -Wash your hands and remember to flush -Quickly return to class		
Recess	-You can be a role model		-Play safely	-Listen for instructions -Always be kind
Stairs			-Take one step at a time -Right hand on the railing	-PAX quiet or voice level 0
Gym			-Have safe fun	-Enter the gym on PAX quiet
School	-Be your best self at all times	-Care for others	-All eyes forward	-Keep your school clean
Office		-Have a pass from the teacher -Go directly back to class		-Enter the office on PAX quiet -Respectfully speak with adults
Library		-Put items back where they belong		-Enter the library on PAX quiet -Listen for instructions -Stay on PAX quiet during library time

# DASA: DIGNITY for ALL STUDENTS ACT

The Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) is a federal law that requires districts to provide a safe and supportive school environment, which is free from bullying, discrimination, and harassment. This act prohibits harassment and bullying that occurs on school property, at a school function, and/or that which is extended through technology (Facebook, text messaging, Instagram, etc.) impacting concern for student safety at school. Local authorities should handle serious harassment, which occurs outside of school, but it should also be reported to administrators.

## What is harassment/bullying?

- The serious threat of physical or emotional harm.

This includes:

- Any harmful or threatening act that is based on a *person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex.*

Normal Conflict	vs.	Bullying
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Equal power</i></li><li>• <i>Accidental</i></li><li>• <i>Not serious – no harm</i></li><li>• <i>Equal emotional reaction</i></li><li>• <i>Not seeking power or a reaction</i></li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Imbalance of power</i></li><li>• <i>Purposeful</i></li><li>• <i>Reaction from victim only</i></li><li>• <i>Seeking power and control</i></li><li>• <i>Gain material things or power</i></li><li>• <i>No remorse</i></li><li>• <i>No effort to problem-solve</i></li></ul>

(Adapted from Ferrara Fiorenza, 2015)

\*DASA complaints can be made by calling the front office.





## Breakfast and Lunch Expectations

In order for our students to enjoy a safe and pleasant time in the cafeteria, we ask that you review the following cafeteria expectations at home.

- Sit at assigned tables
- Enter and exit the cafeteria in a safe and orderly manner
- Enter the line only when your table is called
- Use an indoor voice – no shouting
- Sharing food is **NOT** allowed due to health and safety precautions
- Raise your hand to recycle or get up for any reason
- Stay in your seat unless you have permission to be up
- Pick up after yourself – leave the cafeteria neat and clean for those who come after you

## Student Support Programs at STEAM @ Dr. King

### **PBIS**

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a system approach to preventing and responding to school and classroom discipline problems. PBIS develops school-wide systems that support staff to teach and promote positive behavior in all students. By reducing behavioral problems, PBIS creates and maintains safe learning environments where teachers can teach, and students can learn. Included in our PBIS systems approach is the use of The PAX Good Behavior Game and The Nurtured Heart Approach strategies which are also designed to increase positive behaviors in students.

### **PAX**

PAX Good Behavior Game teaches students self-regulation, self-control and self-management in the context of collaborating with others for peace, productivity, health and happiness.

### **SIT (School Intervention Team)**

The School Intervention Team focuses on students in grades K-5. It operates using a team format consisting of teachers, support staff, social worker, and school psychologist. Students who are having academic or behavioral concerns will be referred to SIT by their teachers. Interventions will be designed and put into place to support the students. These interventions will be monitored and revised if necessary.

## **FSSS (Family Support for Students Success)**

FSSS is based on the knowledge that every family wants their child to be successful and every child has the potential for success. We believe that the most practical and effective way to help students is by helping their families and bridging the gap between family and school systems. Our overall goal is to increase student success by improving family functioning, decreasing risk, ensuring access to needed supports and services, and increasing parent involvement in their child's education.

## **Promise Zone Specialist**

Our Promise Zone Specialist works closely with our school worker as another liaison between the school, home and community. The specialist plays a key role in supporting students' social emotional well-being.

## **School Based Health Center**

The School-Based Health Center at **STEAM** at Dr. King School is here to help meet students' medical, dental and emotional concerns. It does not replace any Doctors or Providers that you already have in place. We work with all of the Medical Providers in Syracuse. We offer Medical Services such as treatment for illness – ear infections, sore throats, asthma, Physical Exams, Immunizations, lab services – lead testing, blood work, throat cultures, referrals to Specialists such as Ear Nose and Throat, Lung (Pulmonology), etc. and services for sleep and behavioral concerns. Services that you might receive for your child at your regular Primary Care Doctor Office can be given here at **STEAM** @ Dr. King School just by filling out 2 forms to register them for the School-Based Health Center Program. We also have Dental Services which include Dental Cleanings, X-Rays and fillings for teeth. We have a Mental Health Therapist who can provide weekly Counseling services for emotional or behavioral concerns. These are provided at no cost to families, but we would like your insurance information in order to bill for some of our services. This helps keep the program going. You just need to fill out the enrollment forms which is 2 pages in length. These can be obtained in the **STEAM** Dr. King Health Office. You can also talk to any staff member in **STEAM** @ Dr. King Health Office about this program and what you need for your child, either in person or by calling 315-435-4031. A Nurse Practitioner, Medical Assistant, and Mental Health Therapist are available as well as a part time Dental Hygienist and Dentist for your needs.

## **ARISE**

ARISE staff support students with disabilities and their parents by providing advocacy and information to ensure that students with disabilities obtain the accommodations in school that will help them succeed. ARISE also offers a school-based mental health program clinicians who can help offer prevention and treatment for students and families experiencing emotional distress.



# **STEAM @ Dr. King**

## **Special Areas and Support Staff**

### **Academic Intervention Services (AIS)**

We have two teachers assigned to provide academic interventions in small groups to students who are in need of academic support in reading or math.

### **Early Reading Intervention (ERI)**

Syracuse City School District Early Literacy Initiative is designed to ensure that by the end of second grade, all students are reading on- or above-grade level, placing them on the path to become active and literate learners. **STEAM** at King has adopted the PLL curriculum that specializes in helping students learn the foundational skills that lead to strong decoding and fluent reading. Students who come to the **STEAM** at King Reading Room receive personalized literacy instruction in primary grades, and upper elementary grade students attend small reading groups to develop decoding skills that lead to reading accuracy and fluency.

### **ART**

The art program is focused on building skills in creative thinking, expression, cross-disciplinary connections, and building a community of artistic explorers. Students work in a variety of two and three-dimensional mediums.

### **Physical Education**

The physical education program provides for the development of life-long skills in many sports. Movement education, exercise and good sportsmanship are stressed for all students.

### **Instrument Music/Vocal Music**

The instrumental music teachers provide instruction in playing woodwind, percussion and string instruments for students in grades 4 and 5. The instrumental music program consists of small group lessons and concert band participation. The music program provides for the study of music notation, rhythm, and instrumentation as well as the history surrounding certain songs and their influence on people's lives and times.

### **Library Media Specialist**

Our library media specialist conducts library lessons for children in grades prek-5.

### **STEM Education**

We are fortunate enough to have a STEM special built into our students' schedules as well. In STEM, students learn coding, build robots, learn engineering principles, and more.



## **Speech/Language Pathologists**

The speech pathologists test students suspected of having speech or language impairments. They provide speech remediation for students needing the service as well as provide language therapy for students who need it.

## **School Psychologist**

The psychologist's duties include providing support to staff and families of children with special needs. The psychologist is a crucial member of Local Committee for Special Education (L.C.S.E).

## **School Social Workers**

Our school social workers counsel with students and parents, and serves as a liaison between school, home and community. They also play a key role in contacting community agencies for **STEAM** @ Dr. King students and their families with additional whole child and family needs such as health care/insurance and legal services.

## **School Counselor**

The school counselor collaborates with parents/guardians, teachers, supporting staff, administrators and community agencies to enhance students' success. The school counselor identifies preventive and intervention services to all students and their families. The counselor role is to provide assistance to students by implementing individual counseling and small groups to help them with their academic issues, social/emotional development and career development.

## **Nurse**

**STEAM** @ Dr. King has a full-time nurse. Their responsibilities include:

- Assess child for all complaints of illness and injury
- Administer first aid and routine care for minor problems
- Communicate with parents and teachers regarding injuries, illness during school, and absence from school
- Maintain a current health card on each child
- Monitor the height and weight of all students
- Work with school and county social work on situations of physical abuse or neglect as an advocate for students
- Vision screening for every student every year
- Communicate relevant information to teachers from parents (i.e. illness, allergies, absence, etc.)
- Follow up and referrals on hearing screening done by audiologist
- Participate on the Pupil Services Team/Local Committee for Special Education
- Administer medication to students after receiving proper documentation as stated below

Every effort should be made to administer medication at home but if your physician feels that medication is necessary during the school day, please submit a completed form, available from the nurse, before medication is sent to school. A new form must be filled out for each change of medication and renewed each school year. State Law does permit administration of medication during the school day only with written directions from the physician and parent including the name of medication, dosage and time to be given.

A child's illness can present a sudden and difficult problem to manage in busy families. Please plan ahead for those days when a child must be dismissed or absent from school. Include that information on the health office emergency card that is distributed each fall. The information on this card is used on a daily basis and it is important for good communication to keep it updated and accurate.

## Digital Tools

Students will use various digital learning tools throughout the school year. Some of them are listed below. Please be sure that your child knows their computer login information. If you have questions or need that information, please contact your child's teacher.

- Seesaw
- Zearn
- Imagine Learning
- TEAMs
- Dreambox
- Imagine Language and Literacy

## Grade Level Standards

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has adopted grade level standards for ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, PE and the Arts. The Arts Standards include Music and Visual Arts. The URL address for each set of standards is below. These standards show what students should learn and know by the end of the school year. If you have questions about the standards, please contact your child's teacher or a member of the administrative team.

ELA and Math Standards: <http://www.nysed.gov/next-generation-learning-standards>

Social Studies: <http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/k-12-social-studies-framework>

Science: <http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/science-learning-standards>

Arts: <http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/arts-standards-implementation-resources>

PE: <http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/physical-education-learning-standards>

## Homework Guidance

Homework is a great opportunity for students to practice what they have learned during the school day. Please be sure to have your child complete their homework if it is assigned. If they do not have homework, please have your child read something of their choice to you each night. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher.

# Assessment Information

Your child will participate in various assessments throughout the school year to assess their learning. One of the most important assessments given is the New York State Assessment. This test is given to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders every year. The tests are usually administered in April and/or May. The tests are taken on the computer. If you have questions about the New York State assessment or any other assessment that your child takes, please contact your child's teacher or a member of the administrative team.

## Report Card Dates:

Your child will receive four report cards this year. They will be mailed home from our print shop. Please look for report cards around the following dates:


- **November 5, 2024**
- **January 30, 2025**
- **April 14, 2025**
- **June 24, 2025**

If your child is in Pre-K, they will receive only 2 report cards. One is at the middle of the school year and the other is at the end of the school year.



## STEAM @ Dr. King Family Engagement / Special Events



Open House		9/26	STEAM Night		5/15					
Trick or Treating & Academics		10/24	Roller Skating		6/13					
Game Night & Test Prep-		1/23	Field Day		6/20					
Multicultural Fest		4/24	Music Concerts		1/24 & 5/30					
<b>Attendance &amp; Behavioral Celebrations</b>				<b>End-of Year Celebrations:</b>						
Nov. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	April 4 <sup>th</sup>	June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Pre-K	K	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
 <b>Mark Your Calendar</b>				6/10	6/11	6/12	6/16	6/17	6/18	6/24

\*Other events and dates will be communicated throughout the year



# STEAM

at Dr. King Elementary



We are going to have a great year!



Contact Us:

-  315-435-4580 
-  [www.syracusecityschools.com](http://www.syracusecityschools.com)
-  416 E. Raynor Ave. Syr. NY 13202

*Thank you for the opportunity to educate your children. We look forward to partnering with you throughout the 2024-2025 school year!*

STEAM @ Dr. King Administrative Team 