PARENT/GUARDIAN HANDBOOK 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR



ELMWOOD VILLAGE CHARTER SCHOOLS
HERTEL

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Welcome and Mission

Welcome to Elmwood Village Charter Schools 2026-2027 school year! Our mission is to provide a stimulating and engaging learning environment that recognizes student capability, fosters connectedness to immediate and broader communities, and offers ways to contribute to school life. EVCS believes that all children can and will learn at high levels when provided with the right learning conditions.

School Building Leaders

EVCS Hertel

- Sara Corona, Principal
- Brandon Williamson, Assistant Principal

Organizational Leaders

Danielle Bruno, Senior Advisor

Liz Evans, Director of Operations

Anne Wechsler, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Staff Directory

The complete staff directory is available at: http://www.evcsbuffalo.org/.

School Hours

8:05 AM—3:30 PM

Drop Off: 7:40-8:00 AM

Pick Up: 3:05-3:30 PM

EVCS Online

Follow our social media and bookmark these sites for timely updates.

Website: www.evcsbuffalo.org

Social Media:

- Facebook EVCS Hertel: facebook.com/evcs2
- Facebook EVCS Days Park: facebook.com/evcsdayspark/
- Instagram: @evcsbuffalo
- LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/evcs-elmwood-village-charter-school

Classroom Teacher Connection Events

Meet the Teacher Night - 9/16/26: Teachers discuss academic expectations and curriculum.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are held two times a year, and are a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress. All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend. Teachers will inform families about scheduling parent-teacher conferences. They are held in November and January (See School Calendar for exact dates).

Communication

At EVCS, we value and encourage open communication between home and school. We try to send most communication electronically. Please notify the School of any changes to your preferred email or phone number, at 716-424-0555 (Hertel); or 716-886-4581 (Days Park). The weekly Panther Press lists critical information about a variety of topics, including upcoming events, school news and more. Watch for text and email reminders announcing each new issue.

Contact Information: Please inform the School's office staff if you have a change of address. Non-custodial parents who wish to receive

correspondence from the school should make sure that a current email address is on file with the main office and with your child's teacher(s). (Non-custodial parents are also welcome to keep a communication folder in the main office at the school for hard copies of all correspondence.)

EVCS Alerts and EVCS News: School correspondence, including the weekly Panther Press newsletter, school calendar and lunch menus, is sent via email through ParentSquare. All parents/guardians will receive important text notifications and emails throughout the school year.

School News: Administrators and teachers will send school and classroom e-newsletters, with updates about curriculum, field trips, special projects and school events, and more through ParentSquare.

School Closings due to inclement weather: Elmwood Village Charter Schools will be closed when the Buffalo Public Schools are closed. School closings are announced via text and email messages; EVCS's website; local television channels; and on the school's social media pages.

Family Directory: EVCS distributes a campus family directory early in the school year. At the time of registration, families may opt in or out of having their contact information included in the directory. Information found in the directory is confidential; families may not:

- share directory information with anyone outside of the school community
- use the information for marketing
- use the information for political or commercial solicitation.

Custody

Parents must bring custody papers to the school to inform us of custodial arrangements or issues regarding non-custodial parents. Please make school personnel aware of any potential risks to your child from a non-custodial parent, and contact the School office if you have

questions about custody or documentation currently in your child's student records.

Community Association

Each campus of Elmwood Village Charter Schools has an active parent-teacher Community Association (CA). All parents/guardians with children enrolled in school are members of the CA and are encouraged to attend monthly meetings. The CA's meeting schedules and officer lists are published on our website but are usually held the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

EVCS is a community school. Parent/guardian participation in school activities and events helps us to provide more high-quality opportunities for students, and helps to build the sense of belonging and ownership that are vital to strong school communities. We encourage all members of our school community to contribute to school life in at least one way. To support or participate in activities sponsored by the CA, please view the website for activities that may interest you, and be sure to check your email for event announcements.

CA Fundraiser events: are open to all members of the EVCS community. Please watch for messages from school with information about these events.

Food Services

Elmwood Village Charter Schools partner with the Buffalo Public Schools Food Service program to meet the nutritional needs of our students. Breakfast and lunch are available to all students, free of charge, for the entire school year.

EVCS participates in the Community Eligibility Option (CEO) under the National School Lunch program. In order to provide free breakfast and lunch to our students, it is important that EVERY family completes the Household Income Verification Application.

Household Income Application—Important: In the beginning of the school year, every EVCS family must complete the Household Income Verification Application sent home. This is extremely important information used for federal grant money and charter accountability. If you know that your family is not eligible, you may write "not eligible" with the name(s) of your child(ren) and return it to school.

Snacks

Please refrain from sending in any snacks or treats for the class that contain any nut products. Nuts are prohibited in our classrooms.

Families wishing to provide a snack or treat for special events should check with the classroom teacher first. If the teacher feels that a snack is acceptable, preferred choices are healthy, whole, store-bought snacks in original packaging with manufacturer's label. We cannot accept any home-baked or home-canned goods. Whole foods, such as fruits and vegetables, are recommended snacks and treats.

Children with food allergies are not permitted to eat any homemade snacks or treats -- these families are encouraged to provide substitute snacks as an alternative on hand at school. Sharing of food in the cafeteria is not permitted, and our cafeteria includes nut-free tables.

Outside Breakfast and Lunch

We appreciate that what families elect to feed their children is a personal choice. However, we also have guidelines to ensure that outside food that enters EVCS maintains the safety and cleanliness of our building.

- Students may bring in any homemade breakfast and lunch, and consume both during their assigned breakfast and lunch times in the cafeteria.
- All lunch items are to be stored safely in a secure bag.

- Store or restaurant-bought breakfast items must be consumed prior to entering the building.
- Water that enters EVCS must be within a container with a screw top lid. Other beverages and aluminum cans or disposable cups with straws will not be permitted.
- No students at EVCS will be able to receive meals via a food delivery service such as DoorDash, Grubhub, etc. at any time.

Attendance and Tardiness

EVCS Attendance Goals are:

- That each child attend school and participate in instruction every day
- That each child participates in instruction at the scheduled time(s)
- That early departures from instruction be kept to a minimum

Attendance Policy	
Chronic Tardiness or Absenteeism - 10% of days tardy or missed	Phone Call from School
Unexcused absences - 10 days	Meeting at the School
Total absences - 15 days	Written Notification and Meeting with Principal
Total absences - 18 days	Possible Referral to Child Protective Services (CPS)

Please see Code of Conduct for more details on attendance expectations.

There is a direct correlation between student attendance and student achievement. EVCS will work with families to ensure that every child is in school and arriving on time every day. Disruptions to the educational day are very difficult on students already involved in an in-person or virtual lesson or morning meeting. The morning meeting is a vital part of our day and our philosophy. If children miss Morning Meeting or Advisory because of tardiness, they are missing out on activities that build community and support a caring environment.

If your child must be absent, please put the reason for the absence in School Dismissal Manager (SDM) and/or tell your child's teacher. Excused absences are those due to student illness; medical, dental, or counseling appointments; court appearance; death in the family; religious observance; family emergency; and serious illness in the immediate family. In addition to SDM, you may be asked for supporting documentation regarding excused absences.

EVCS Student Discipline Philosophy – Responsive Classroom & Cooperative Discipline All students are expected to adhere to the EVCS Code of Conduct regardless of the mode of instruction in which they participate (e.g. in-person or virtual). We expect students to respect the rights and privileges of others and accept responsibility for their own actions and the consequences of their behavior. Our approach, first and foremost, is to be proactive:

- Establish a calm, peaceful, and orderly environment for learning.
- Give students the opportunity to be capable, connected, and contributing members of the school community (Cooperative Discipline).
- Teach and help children to develop self-control and self-discipline.

- Teach children to be responsible members of a democratic community.
- Promote and model respectful, kind, and healthy interactions.

When responding to misbehavior, we aim to:

- Help children become aware of their actions.
- Help children become aware of how their actions can bring positive and negative consequences to themselves and others.
- Use respectful strategies to stop misbehavior and restore positive behavior as quickly as possible.
- Preserve the dignity of every child.

Each class will make an agreed-upon list of the class rules regarding behavioral expectations, which students may revisit. The class rules will include pictures/drawings for students not yet reading. Teachers will also teach the rules for the school community encompassing appropriate behavior when participating in field trips, community service projects, attending performances, and dealing with conflict. Classroom rules will echo the school-wide standards.

During in-person school, additional techniques to be used for creating an orderly learning environment in the classroom may include a “take-a-break” spot, or a “buddy classroom.” These will be places where children go to reflect on behavior before returning to the group. It will provide the student having difficulty following rules with an opportunity to decompress, reflect, and rejoin the class. The teacher will assess the immediate needs of the child and take time to discuss issues and problem solve. The teacher will communicate with the parent(s)/guardian(s) if the child continually exhibits behaviors counter to the rule system of the classroom and schedule a conference with the parent(s)/guardian(s). A Wellness Room has been established

regardless of the method of instruction used if a child needs a space other than the classroom to reflect on his/her behavior.

The Principal or Assistant Principal of the school will interact with students on a daily basis to assist teachers in reaching our goal of helping all children succeed. Informal visits to the Principal's or Assistant Principal's office for a conference, intervention, reminders or reprimands should not be interpreted as formal disciplinary action. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified whenever formal disciplinary action is taken by an administrator.

Chronic Issues

If disruptive behavior continues after initial interventions with the student, a teacher or administrator will contact parents/guardians. Suspension or a formal time-out may be required when a student's conduct results in the need to temporarily remove the student from the classroom community. An administrator will conduct a re-entry meeting with the student prior to his/her return to school from suspension at which time the School's behavioral expectations will be reviewed and reinforced.

Code of Conduct

Creating a positive and safe learning environment is critical for student and school success -- a responsibility shared by students, parents, staff and administration. When everyone works cooperatively to prevent problems and promote success, the need for disciplinary action is reduced.

Required: at the beginning of each school year, all parents/guardians must review the EVCS Code of Conduct with their children, and sign the acknowledgement form.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Responsive Classroom: Elmwood Village Charter Schools embraces the Responsive Classroom model. Responsive Classroom is an approach to elementary and middle school education that emphasizes social, emotional. and academic growth in a safe school community.

The social curriculum is as important as the academic curriculum, and social responsibility is an integral part of daily classroom life. The goal of Responsive Classroom is optimal student learning. More information about the Responsive Classroom (RC) approach can be found on the RC website (https://www.responsiveclassroom.org/about/).

Grading and reporting: EVCS operates on a trimester schedule, with three marking periods and report cards. This provides teachers with more time to assess student progress between report cards. This is particularly important for younger students, as they transition to a new grade level and may require additional review time at the beginning of the year. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled halfway through each marking period, providing additional opportunities for teachers and guardians to communicate about student progress.

Curriculum: EVCS's curriculum has been developed to provide the conditions for all students to achieve at high levels. EVCS uses scientifically research-based programs which are aligned to approved learning standards. These include Really Great Reading, Wit and Wisdom, Teach Like A Champion (reading), LEAP (Elementary Math), Desmos (MS Math), Mystery Science, Amplify Science, The Great Body Shop (Elementary Health), SPARK (MS Health), Caring School Community (SEL), and many more.

Special subjects and specialists: The curriculum includes physical education, visual art, dance, music, library, digital literacy and Spanish.

New York State Assessments: In accordance with Federal and State requirements, all students in public and charter schools in grades 3-8

must take all state assessments administered at those grade levels. These tests are considered to be part of the course of study for each grade level.

State assessments in Grades 3-8: English Language Arts and Mathematics; in Grades 5 and 8: Science. EVCS also offers Regents credit in 8th grade for Regents Algebra and Living Environments.

NYS does not recognize “opt-outs.” Any student who does not sit for a required test is coded as “Refusal to Test.”

EVCS does not “teach to the test.” Our teachers and specialists minimize test anxiety as much as possible. We recognize that state assessments are just one way to evaluate the outcomes of our curriculum and instruction, and they are neither the focus of our efforts, nor the sole indicator of a child’s academic achievement. As such, we deliver and review multiple sources of formative and summative assessments throughout the year to monitor and measure student progress and growth.

Class Placements: Per our Board policy, families cannot request specific teachers for their child(ren). EVCS staff thoughtfully places each child in a class with the intention of maximizing academic and social growth.

Curriculum and Instructional Accommodations: EVCS was founded on the principles of diversity, with the express intention of forming an inclusive community where all students feel welcomed and valued. To that end, EVCS strives to educate students about the diversity of people and ideas that exist in our society, and give them access to information that will broaden their perspective of the world around them. When children learn about other cultures, it helps them understand the diverse values, ideas, and traditions of all people.

When it comes to the academic curriculum a school chooses to teach, schools have broad latitude to determine appropriate instruction. EVCS makes decisions and takes particular actions to

impart a broad spectrum of views and ideas to its students, encouraging students to consider multiple perspectives before forming their own conclusions.

In accordance with federal legal protections, EVCS balances its commitment to a comprehensive education with respect for families' sincerely held religious beliefs. If a specific instructional text or material presents a substantial, direct conflict with a student's religious faith, parents or guardians may submit a written request for an accommodation to the building administration.

To ensure the integrity of student learning, the school will review these requests on a case-by-case basis. If an accommodation is granted, the student will be assigned an alternative, educationally equivalent assignment or text. The student's academic standing, grades, and class participation record will not be penalized for participating in an approved alternative assignment.

Time spent understanding and appreciating differences benefits everyone. It is equally important to stress the similarities among all people. Research shows that when students' identities are understood and appreciated by teachers, they do better in school. They feel more accepted and part of their school community.

If you have any questions or concerns about the content presented in school, or wish to inquire about the accommodation process, please contact Anne Wechsler, Director of Curriculum and Instruction at awechsler@elmwoodvillageschool.org.

Complaint Policy

Complaint Policy which articulates how to file a formal complaint alleging a violation of law or the charter, and provides appeals information. Available in print at each School office, or on the School's website: Complaint Policy

Technology

EVCS's many technology resources include Interactive White Boards, Chromebooks, and iPads. School technology is to be used for educational purposes only, and under the direction of a teacher, teaching assistant, or library/media specialist. The school's Acceptable Use Policy is included in the Code of Conduct. Please review the Acceptable Use Policy with your child(ren). Any student found in violation of the Acceptable Use Policy will have his/her technology privileges suspended or revoked.

Students and Personal Electronic Devices Policy

EVCS recognizes students may have personal electronic devices that include but are not limited to: phones (both smartphones and call/text only phones), tablets, smart watches, smart glasses, wireless headphones and earbuds, internet-connected accessories, and e-readers.

These devices can create significant distraction to the school environment, reduce student engagement, and, in an emergency, distract students from directions, contribute to the spread of misinformation, interfere with emergency response protocols, and more.

In grades K-3, student personal electronic devices may not be brought to school.

In grades 4-8, student personal electronic devices will be collected upon entry into the school building and stored in a secure location. Devices will be returned to students at the end of the school day. Students may not keep their devices in their lockers or backpacks.

For the full policy (in alignment with the New York State Department of Education's Cell Phone and Personal Device Policy), including enforcement and consequences, electronic devices in relation to testing, and exemptions, please visit https://evcsbuffalo.org/families/#resources.

Safety and Security

Safety of all members of the EVCS community is our top priority and drives our policies and decisions.

Visitor Policy

Visitors must sign in whenever they are in the building. Visitors should have a purpose to be in the building, e.g. attending an event, picking up their child, attending a meeting with a staff member, etc. EVCS is implementing the Raptor Visitor Management System to better monitor and account for visitors to our buildings. Visitors must bring ID, including a state-issued driver's license, a military ID, or a Passport ID.

- Parents, guests, and visitors to the school must be "buzzed" in through the main doors of the building and sign in/out at the main office through Raptor.
- Upon arrival, parents, guests, and visitors will be asked to give their name and the child's name.
- The main entrance of the building is monitored by a security camera, and surveillance cameras are positioned throughout the interior and exterior of the school.
- Parents, guests, and visitors may not enter a classroom unless invited to do so by the teacher (*i.e.* parents, guardians, guest volunteers).
- All students at EVCS are minors, and it is expected that parents will not approach another person's child to discuss grievances, arrange

playdates, change dismissal procedures, or share any other information that should only be discussed with the child's parent or guardian.

Student safety: Please review student safety guidelines found in the Code of Conduct. Safety instructions during arrival and dismissal, and more can be found in this document and on our website's section on safety. Emergency safety procedures are reviewed and updated on a regular basis. Fire, lockdown, and other safety drills are conducted at least twelve (12) times per year.

Health Services including Medication Policy

EVCS has a licensed nurse on premises during school hours. Parents/guardians should notify the school nurse of any health-related issues. Our medical director has advised us to strictly follow the policy illustrated in the diagram below.



Food Allergies

Please notify the school nurse and your child's teacher of any food-related allergies. A medical plan from your child's physician must

be kept on file in the Health Office. We ask that all families remain sensitive to students' food allergies.

Forms for Sports Participation

If students are participating in any school-sponsored sport, they must fill out and submit an Interval Health History Form to the Health office. Students who do not have this form completed may not participate in school sports at EVCS

Medications

If your child needs to take prescription medication during the school day, please contact the school nurse. New York State Law requires:

- Parents or guardians must personally deliver the medication to the school health office or a school official (unless a self-carry order form is signed by the parent/guardian and a NYS licensed physician).
- All medication must remain in properly labeled pharmacy or original over-the-counter (OTC) containers.
- A new prescription/medication form signed by the medical provider is required at the beginning of every school year.
- The parent/guardian must sign the medication permission form before a student can use the medication.

In accordance with New York State Law, teachers or employees of a school, other than a licensed nurse, cannot administer or assist with medications unless the student is deemed "self-directed" by his or her physician. Parents/guardians may authorize an adult to assist their child on a field trip if the parent/guardian cannot attend.

In order for a child to be deemed "self-directed," there must be an order from the child's physician stating that the child is self-directed, and parent permission for the child to be self-directed under the

supervision of a staff member. In order for the child to be "self-directed," he/she must be able to do the following:

- Recognize the medication (*i.e.,* color, shape, size, etc.)
- Determine the correct dosage needed (*i.e.,* one tablet, 2 puffs, 3 units, etc.).
- Identify the time that the medication is needed during the school day (*i.e.*, lunch time, before/after PE class, etc.).
- Describe how to take the medication from original labeled pharmacy container or original OTC container, and administer it to themselves or direct a staff member to assist by correct route (*i.e.*, oral, nasal, inhaled, topical, etc.).
- Describe why (purpose) the medication is taken and under what circumstances it is appropriate to do so (*i.e.,* to improve attention, headache, shortness of breath, etc.). • Describe what happens when the medication is not taken (i.e. unable to breathe, etc.). • Describe when to refuse to take the medication (*i.e.,* wrong color, shape, amount, etc.).

If you or your child's physician do not feel that your child can be deemed "self-directed," options for field trips include:

- Chaperoning the field trip yourself.
- Providing written permission to another adult who is chaperoning the field trip and is willing/able to administer your child's medication.

Parents are encouraged to discuss this issue with the child's physician, so that all students may be safe and have their medical needs met. Medication forms are available on our website or may be obtained from the main office. Your physician may use his/her own form if desired.

Vaccinations

New York State Law prohibits children from attending school unless they are current on all required vaccinations. This law is strictly enforced. Please contact the school nurse with any questions about vaccination requirements.

Current School Year New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance may be found at:

https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2370.pdf

Transportation

Bus transportation: is provided by the Buffalo Public School District or the student's district of residence. Students must adhere to all rules established by the district of residence and EVCS. Bus transportation is a privilege that may be suspended if a student does not follow established rules. The EVCS Code of Conduct applies to students on school buses. Bus drivers have the right to suspend a student from the bus for unacceptable behavior.

Review the BPS Transportation Office letter you receive in the beginning of the school year. Ensure that drop-off and pick-up information is correct. Notify BPS of any incorrect information.

An adult must be present to receive a kindergarten student at the bus stop. The driver will not release a kindergarten student without an adult present.

If EVCS is aware that your child's bus will be late, an alert will be sent from school. You can also access the progress of your child's bus through the FirstStudent App. You may also call the bus terminal to determine the estimated time of arrival at your child's bus stop. Phone numbers are on our website.

Changes in Dismissal

Timely communication about changes in dismissal is essential. Because student safety is our foremost concern:

- We will not release children unless we have explicit communication from the parent/guardian about any dismissal change.
- No last-minute dismissal changes (with the exception of emergencies). Families must make dismissal changes in School Dismissal Manager in a timely fashion, so that classrooms receive notification prior to the beginning of dismissal, and to protect instructional time. Allow at least two hours prior to dismissal for changes.
- Be courteous of school staff during dismissal time; refrain from calling the main office during the last two hours of school, except in the case of emergencies. We appreciate your cooperation.
- If you want your child to walk or take a Metro Bus home, provide signed, written permission to release your child without an adult.
- **Students will not be released to any adult who is not on the approved pick-up list**, unless the parent/guardian sends written permission to release the student to another adult. The adult will be required to show photo identification before the child is released.

Parent Transportation

Families may provide their own transportation to and from school.

Arrival: Morning drop-off begins at 7:40 AM. All students may eat breakfast at no charge in the cafeteria prior to the start of the school day.

- **Student safety** is the utmost priority at arrival and dismissal. Please observe the following: Obey all parking and traffic flow signs.

- In order to maintain a smooth flow of traffic, please be ready to have your child enter/exit the car quickly. Drivers, please remain in your vehicles.
- Cars must come to a full stop, and pull up adjacent to a curb; children must enter/exit the passenger side of the vehicle. Students are not permitted to exit cars in the middle of the lot. Refrain from double parking and stopping (in the bus loop at Hertel) (on the street at Days Park) for drop offs and pickups.
- Exercise extreme caution whenever entering or exiting the parking lot and street; watch for children who may be crossing the entrance to the lot or street.
- Pull away from the building slowly. Be particularly careful when backing up (small children may be in a blind-spot below the driver's line of sight).
- Students should not cross between parked cars. Please remind students to look carefully whenever walking/crossing near cars at all times, especially during arrival and dismissal.
- Be courteous of our neighbors — please do not block streets and driveways.
- Unaccompanied vehicles must not be left on campus. Cars parked illegally may be ticketed and / or towed.

Dismissal Procedures and Expectations: Parent pick-up for dismissal is 3:10 PM to 3:30 PM.

- No student dismissals are allowed between 2:30 and 3:10. This is to ensure that our dismissal is safe and orderly, and all students are accounted for.
- Dismissal is coordinated with the School Dismissal Manager's FastLane system. All families are required to access this system to let EVCS know how children will be dismissed each school day. Be sure

you have updated your child's dismissal plan in School Dismissal Manager (online or using the app).

- When entering campus, check in with a FastLane attendant. Have your FastLane Pin # handy, or self check-in using the app.
- Once the attendant has checked you in, proceed to the designated pick-up area.
- As with morning drop off, please follow traffic flow to prevent congestion, and safety precautions: do not get out of your vehicle unless you must assist a younger child. All children must load on the curb side of the vehicle. Instruct your child NOT to step out onto the street to access the backseat. Obey all traffic regulations, direction of flow, and speeds; be courteous.
- Staff members will be ready outside, to confirm what student(s) you are picking up and that students are on their way.
- Parents/guardians are not allowed past the main office during dismissal unless you have a pre-planned appointment. If you are required to pick up your child outside the dismissal time period, communicate with the main office in advance to make arrangements.

After Dismissal: Afterschool

For your convenience, EVCS partners with afterschool providers at each campus, to offer free or low cost after school child care.

At Hertel: BestSelf Behavioral Health (BSBH) Afterschool Program runs an on-site after school enrichment program for students age 5 - 12, as well as an off-site after school enrichment program run by the Boys and Girls Club of Buffalo, at the Butler-Mitchell Club House on Massachusetts. For parents who have students in grades 7 and 8, or who prefer the Boys and Girls Club, busing is available for Buffalo residents to the Butler-Mitchell Clubhouse. At Days Park: Boys & Girls

Club (BGC) runs the off-site program at the Beecher Club House on 10th St. The BSBH and BGC programs are not affiliated with EVCS; most BSBH and BGC afterschool program staff members are not employees of EVCS.

Registration for these programs is on a first-come, first-served basis. Space is limited and is open to students age 5-14 for Boys & Girls Club, and all students except for grades 7th & 8th for BestSelf.

Year-Round Recess

Recess at EVCS takes place outdoors every day according to a recess schedule, this includes during the winter months. Please ensure that your child is properly dressed for recess everyday. Students will only be permitted to remain indoors with a medical excuse signed by a doctor.

If outdoor recess is not possible due to ice, wind, rain, or temperatures below 0 degrees Fahrenheit (real or windchill), then screen-free indoor recess will be held.

Dress Code

The EVCS Student Dress Code is as follows:

- Students should dress comfortably, modestly, and appropriately for school, in a manner that should not distract themselves or others from instruction.
- Sneakers may be worn, but for student safety heelys and flip-flops are not permitted.
- Hats and head coverings are not permitted to be worn in the building unless for religious observance.
- Students should wear loose fitting clothes and sneakers on days when physical education or dance classes are scheduled.

- Students are not permitted to wear dangling jewelry on days when they have scheduled physical education and dance classes.

Toy and Trading Card Policy

Toys, electronic games, and trading cards (such as Pokémon, sports cards, or gaming cards) are not permitted at school.

We know how much students love sharing their favorite items with friends. However, these personal items create frequent distractions in the classroom, lead to trading disputes, and risk getting lost, stolen, or damaged.

The Rule: All toys, figurines, stuffed animals, electronic devices, and trading cards must be left safely at home.

Trading and Selling: Trading or selling cards and toys on school grounds, including on the school bus, at recess, or during after-school care, is strictly prohibited.

School Supplies: Only school-approved supplies and comfort items explicitly approved by a teacher or administration are allowed in the classroom.

If a student brings a toy or trading cards to school, the item will be collected by a staff member and kept in a secure location. A parent or guardian will need to come to the school office to pick it up.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our learning environment focused, fair, and distraction-free for all students!

We hope that this handbook has provided you with helpful information about Elmwood Village Charter Schools. Please note that this document is not all-inclusive. If you have questions, or need

additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the school at any time.

Best wishes for an enjoyable school year for you and your child!