

1129 Oakdale Road Rock Hill, SC 29730

Important Contact Information Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (M-F) Main Office: 803-981-1585 Fax: 803-981-1593 Nurse: 803-981-1499 Transportation Department (Buses): 803-980-2022 Rock Hill Schools District Office: 803-981-1000

> www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us http://od.rock-hill.k12.sc.us

Follow us on Twitter @STEAMatOakdale

Find us on Facebook at Oakdale Elementary School

Denise Khaalid, Principal dkhaalid@rhmail.org

Leigh Grimsley, Assistant Principal lgrimsley@rhmail.org Dear Oakdale Students and Parents/Guardians,

Did you know that the students who will enter the doors of our K-12 schools during the 2017-2018 were born in the 21st century? The high school Class of 2018 represents students who were born in the year 2000. Some of us remember Y2K and all the excitement, and fears, about what would unfold in a new century. As a matter of fact, our kindergarten students are the future Class of 2030 and will be among those who live into the 22nd Century! So what does that mean? Well, perhaps you've heard the statement that the careers and jobs our students will pursue haven't been created yet. That reality is more and more evident as we see various technology developments and witness how connected our lives are globally. With these facts in mind, we must ensure that all of our students meet the Profile of the SC Graduate described below.

Our theme for this year, "Be awesome now!", is based on a challenge from Kid President. The time for all of us to give our best is now. We at Oakdale are entrusted with the precious opportunity to care for and educate our future leaders now, and we do not take that opportunity for granted. We believe that there is greatness in each and every one of our students, and we are committed to making Oakdale a place for all of them to be awesome now!

It is a blessing to serve you every day, and we know that it is a team effort with both home and school working together. Don't hesitate to become involved and share your questions, suggestions, and concerns with us.

Sincerely,

Denise Khaolid

Denise Khaalid, Principal

PROFILE OF THE South Carolina Graduate WORLD-CLASS WORLD-CLASS **KNOWLEDGE** SKILLS Creativity and innovation Rigorous standards in language arts Critical thinking and and math for career and college problem solving readiness Collaboration and teamwork Multiple languages, science, technology, Communication, information, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and media and technology social sciences Knowing how to learn LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS Integrity · Self-direction · Global perspective · Perseverance · Work ethic · Interpersonal skills mittee, SCASCD, SC Chamber of Commerce, SC Council on Competitiveness, SC Education d by: SC Arts in Basic Curriculum Steering Co n. SC State Department of Education. Transfor Oversight Comr transforms® SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL ON COMPETITIVENESS 2

Parent and Student Handbook 2017-2018

NOTE: Information contained in this handbook may change as district policies and procedures are updated.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

Classes will begin at 7:45 a.m. For those students who ride with parents, we ask that they arrive at school **no** earlier than 7:00 a.m. If you drop your children off in the morning, please remember not to block the lanes of traffic in front of the school. If you need to come inside the school, park in a parking space. The school day ends at 2:25 p.m. Bus students are dismissed to the bus lot. Car riders are picked up in front of the school. <u>Car riders</u> will be dismissed at 2:25 p.m. and should be picked up by 2:40 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend school on a regular basis. Any student who misses school must present a written excuse, signed by a parent/guardian, or a medical excuse. If this excuse is not turned in within THREE days after the student returns to school, the absence will be UNLAWFUL. Students will be considered lawfully absent when:

- a. They are ill and their attendance in school would endanger their health or the health of others.
- b. There is a death or serious illness in their immediate family.
- c. There is a recognized religious holiday of their faith.
- d. Activities are approved in advance by the principal.
- e. The student is suspended from school.
- f. There is a necessary medical or legal appointment that cannot be scheduled during non-school time.

The maximum number of days that will be recorded as lawful absences with parent notes will be FIVE. The maximum number of days a student is allowed to miss is TEN per school year (lawful or unlawful).

BULLYING/HARASSMENT

The board prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying of a student by students, staff and third parties that interfere with or disrupt a student's ability to learn. The board also prohibits such acts that interfere with the school's responsibility to educate its students in a safe and orderly environment whether in a classroom, on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, at an official school bus stop, at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises, or at another program or function where the school is responsible for the student. Students should promptly report incidents to an adult (administrator, teacher, counselor, for example), whether they are the victim or a witness to such acts.

The school board has adopted policies on harassment, intimidation and bullying. A copy of these policies can be accessed on under the Parent and Student links on the school website at <u>http://od.rock-hill.k12.sc.us</u>, as well as on the Rock Hill Schools website (Policy JIAA, Policy JICFA, Policy JICFAA). Students should promptly report incidents to an adult.

BUS TRANSPORTATION AND CONDUCT

Bus transportation is considered an extension of the regular school program. **Riding the school bus is a privilege, not an absolute right.** Specific student behavior expectations are established for the safe and efficient operation of the school district transportation system in accordance with state laws and regulations. Students who violate behavior expectations while riding a bus are subject to suspension from riding the bus and/or all other penalties established for misbehavior while students are on school premises. If you have questions regarding bus transportation, please call the Rock Hill Schools Transportation Department at 980-2022.

CLASSROOM VISITS AND OBSERVATIONS

We encourage parents to observe and visit their child's classroom. We ask that you please keep the following district policy (KI-R) in mind: 1. Parent/guardian may either visit their student's classroom at the teacher's/school's invitation or make a request to the school principal to have a formal observation of the classroom. 2. Classroom visits and/or conferences by parent/guardian must be arranged in advance. 3. Classroom observations are at the discretion of the school principal. 4. Building level administrator or designee may remain with parent/guardian during a classroom observation, and the administrator may conduct a post observation

conference with parent/guardian. 5. Classroom visits and conferences must be conducted in such a manner that the visits and/or conferences do not interfere with the classroom activities of any student in the class. Principals retain the authority to deny access to the school for any individual who has or may disrupt or disturb the learning environment. 6. Classroom observations should be scheduled for no longer than 45 minutes to an hour.

CONFERENCES

Communication is an essential part of the educational program. We feel it is very important for parents to keep in close contact with their child's teacher concerning his/her progress. Teachers, parents, or the principal may call for a conference when desired or necessary. Parents may call the school office at 985-1585, write a note in the student's agenda, or email the student's teacher to set up an appointment. We prefer that conferences be scheduled after 2:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays. However, attempts will be made to arrange a time convenient for all.

DISCIPLINE

It is necessary that children learn to develop self-discipline in order to further their learning. We ask that you discuss with your child(ren) the importance of and the need for good behavior and a good attitude while at school. If problems recur, parents will be contacted. Each classroom has rules that are similar to the ones listed below:

- 1. Be Respectful.
- 2. Be Responsible.
- 3. Be Safe.
- 4. Be a Problem Solver

Students who break rules continuously or who are interfering with other students' learning will be given consequences in the classroom or be given a discipline referral to the office.

Three Minors System:

Three minor referrals (blue sheet, teachers contact parent(s) to discuss each minor) will equal one major, which is a discipline referral to the office. Minor referrals are often written for behaviors that can be managed in the classroom; teachers generally lose less instructional time when they handle these issues. However, once a student receives three minors, he/she will receive a discipline referral (major). Discipline referrals are also issued for severe incidents such as, but not limited to, fighting, bullying, threats, or destruction of school property.

If a student has a discipline referral, possible consequences are as follows:

- Student conference with administrator
- Parent conference with administrator
- Loss of privileges (for example, silent lunch)
- Suspension from school

These consequences will be issued by administrators. All referrals require a parent signature and must be returned the following school day.

DRESS CODE

- 1. All students must wear shoes. Shoes must be tied, buckled, or worn as the manufacturer intended. Flip flops, slide sandals, and "Heelys" are prohibited. Sandals must have back straps. It is recommended that all students wear athletic type shoes each day to avoid injury during recess and PE.
- 2. Hats, caps, head wraps, hoods, etc. may not be worn inside of the building.
- 3. Offensive or suggestive writing, pictures, or patches on clothing are prohibited.
- 4. Clothing shall be worn with appropriate undergarments. Undershirts customarily worn as undergarments may not be worn without shirts or blouses. Tank tops, spaghetti-strapped shirts, see-through blouses or shirts, and bare midriffs are prohibited.
- 5. Combs may not be worn in the hair unless they are designed to serve as a barrette. Hair curlers and picks are also prohibited.

- 6. Belts must be buckled, sashes tied, and buttons buttoned except at the neck. Oversized pants must be belted at the waist. Sagging pants may be secured by school personnel with twine or plastic tie wraps.
- 7. All shorts and skirts should be at least "fingertip length" when hands are held straight by one's side. The following items are NOT appropriate for school: biker's shorts, form-fitting clothes, tattered or torn clothing, or any other type of clothing that exposes skin.
- 8. Clothing or hair styles which tend to be so attention getting as to disrupt the educational process are prohibited.

EARLY DISMISSAL

We encourage you to try to schedule your child's doctor and dental appointments around school hours. If this is not possible, you must come to the office first to check your child out. If someone other than the parent signs the student out, the parent must provide permission before the student will be permitted to leave the building. **Proper picture identification will be required for dismissing a student.** Due to busy nature of the office, students will not be called out of class for early dismissal after 2:00 p.m. unless they have a scheduled appointment. Be sure to provide an excuse upon your child's return.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Emergency drills are necessary for the safety of students, staff, and faculty. Everyone is given specific directions for reaching safety points from those areas of the school building in which he/she may be. Specific information for emergency drills is posted in each room. In the event of a radiation disaster, students will be transported by school bus to designated shelter areas.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Students entering kindergarten must be five years old on or before September 1. All students entering a South Carolina school for the first time must have a birth certificate, South Carolina Certificate of Immunization, and proof of residence.

EMERGENCY CARD

During the first week of school your child's teacher will be sending home a white emergency card for you to complete. This information is kept in the school office in case you need to be contacted. Please make sure all telephone numbers and addresses are accurate and clearly written. Remember to put the name and telephone number of a local person who can be contacted in case you cannot be reached. Please notify the school if you change addresses or telephone numbers during the year. It is very important that our records are kept up to date. **Family members and/or friends who are not listed on the card as emergency contacts will not be permitted to pick-up students.**

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

Student personnel records are managed in a confidential manner as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA). Regulations and procedures for compliance of this act are provided through school board policy JRA. A copy of this policy is on the district's website (<u>www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us</u>) under the link "District Policies" and is also available upon request of the student's principal or the district's Office of Public Information.

Directory Information

The following information is releasable upon request at the discretion of the student's school principal: the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, photo, subjects of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance (on both an annual and daily basis), diplomas and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student. Any parent or guardian of a student attending Rock Hill School District Three who would prefer that any of the information designated above not be released without the parent's or guardian's prior consent should notify in writing the Office of the Superintendent, Rock Hill School District Three, P.O. Drawer 10072, Rock Hill, SC 29731 by the Tuesday following Labor Day. If such notice is given, the school attended by the student must be notified.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Parents of any student who has a financial obligation to the school/district, (lost book, library fines, fees, etc.) should pay within the prescribed time or sanctions will be taken by the school/district to collect the outstanding debt.

FOOD SERVICES

On their first day in school, students will receive an application for free or reduced-priced meals. Only those who wish to apply need to return this form. Nutritious meals are served for breakfast and lunch. Students are encouraged to pay for meals for the week on Monday. Any student who has no money will be given an IOU. If the student receives an IOU, payment will be expected on the following day.

GRADE/PROGRESS REPORTING TO PARENTS

Samples of your child's work are sent home periodically. In an effort to improve home/school communication, a red folder will be provided to each student for this purpose. The entire staff will send all notices, work samples, newsletters, etc. on Wednesday of each week. Please expect all communications on this day, review them, and return the folder to the school. You will receive more specific information from your child's teacher. Report cards are designed to inform you of your child's level of instruction, academic progress, and growth in desirable habits and attitudes. The report card provides a means of communication between you and your child's teacher which is very important to his or her success and happiness in school. Report cards are issued every nine weeks. The evaluation of student achievement is one of the important functions of the teacher. Each student is evaluated with reference to his or her own instructional level.

HEALTH ROOM

If your child becomes ill at school, we will contact you immediately. If we cannot reach you, we will use the emergency contact information you have provided. We cannot keep ill children at school. Students who need to take prescription or non-prescription medication must have the appropriate form signed and the medication must be brought in by the parent.

INTERNET AND EDUCATIONAL APPLICATIONS

Use of the Internet

Student Assurances: When using network or Internet resources, students will...

- 1. Use the Internet for legitimate educational purposes
- 2. Send e-mail only at the direction of my teacher during school hours
- 3. Not register the name, home address, or telephone number of myself or anyone else in any location on the Internet
- 4. Not attempt to download or save files to the computer without teacher permission
- 5. Not search for, download or print any material that violates school handbook codes regarding possession or display of inappropriate, offensive or vulgar material, or assist any other student in such activities
- 6. Not use or attempt to engage in interactive internet exchanges without teacher permission
- 7. Not harass, insult, or attack others via electronic communications
- 8. Not damage or alter computers, computer systems, or computer networks
- 9. Not violate copyright laws
- 10. Not trespass in another's folders, work, or files

Use of Educational Applications

Students may be required to download specific applications for educational purposes and utilize Web 2.0 tools as directed by their teacher. These applications and tools are to be used for educational purposes only. Parent(s) agree that downloading and using these applications and tools is permissible under teacher direction. Parents are encouraged to request/access the list of required and recommended applications as well as to check the

content and applications downloaded on the student device.

LOST AND FOUND

All items which are lost at school may be claimed in the cafeteria. We urge parents to put the child's name in coats and sweaters to help us return lost items. Since storage space is a problem, we urge students to inquire about lost items as soon as they are discovered to be lost.

PARTIES

A Valentine's Party will be held in each classroom, and you may be asked to assist with donations for this event. This is the only party to be held during the school day. Other times of celebration will be held during designated lunch times. Invitations for private parties will be distributed only in cases where all students in the class receive an invitation.

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE AGREEMENT

In response to requests to use your personal electronic device (PED*) during the school day, you agree to abide by the following requirements. Any violation of this agreement may result in suspension of this privilege and/or disciplinary action.

- 1. The sole purpose for the use of the PED during the school day is for educational reasons.
- 2. The PED is only to be used during the instructional class period with express permission of the classroom teacher. This may mean that the device will be permitted for some instructional activities but not for all. The student must comply with all district policies and procedures, including the district's Student Behavior Code and Policy JICJ (Use of Cell Phones, Personal Electronic Devices in School/Use of Technology in School), when using the PED.
- 3. Students must connect to the district's guest WIFI. By doing so students access the district's Internet filters.
- 4. The Rock Hill Schools (RHS) will NOT provide any support for the PED at any time.
- 5. ALL PED'S ARE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AT THE OWNER'S RISK. NEITHER RHS NOR THE SCHOOL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEFT OR DAMAGE TO THE PED.
- 6. Use of the PED for unauthorized gaming is prohibited on school property.
- 7. The recording of audio or video images in locker rooms or restrooms is prohibited.
- 8. Recording audio or video images on school property without permission is prohibited.
- 9. Consequences for inappropriate use: 1st offense warning; 2nd offense detention; subsequent or severe offenses appropriate consequence assigned based on cumulative disciplinary history.
- 10. Any cell phone, picture taking, or text messaging that results in students cheating or which cause major disruptions will result in the electronic device being confiscated with additional discipline at the principal's discretion.

Administrators may ban an individual from using a PED as deemed necessary. PED may be confiscated at any time if these guidelines are not followed. Return of the device is contingent on the outcome of a meeting with student and parent.

*A PED is any personal electronic device.

NOTE: Personal belongings subject to search pursuant to State law and District Policy JIH (Student Interrogations, Searches and Arrests), may include PEDs.

PROMOTION/RETENTION OF STUDENTS

Students not mastering performance indicators at their grade level will be considered for retention. The first notification of a possible retention is sent at the end of the first semester. If necessary, the second notification is sent at the end of the third grading period. Final decisions concerning retention are made in early May. Students may be retained due to poor academic performance or failure to attend school regularly.

<u>PTO</u>

The Oakdale Parent Teacher Organization is open to relatives and teachers of students. The main purpose of the PTO is to work with the school in creating a safe, happy environment where our children can learn and grow. You

can reach the PTO at oakdalepto1@gmail.com.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS AND DELAYS

Announcements concerning school closings or delayed openings will be provided to parents through the parent notification phone system and will be broadcasted on all local radio and TV stations and on the district website as soon as the decision is made. When schools operate on a delayed opening due to bad weather, **please do not bring child at the regular time.** There will be no one available to supervise your child. In ALL delayed openings, the morning sessions of four-year-old early childhood kindergarten classes do not convene. **The breakfast program does NOT operate on delayed start days.** If hazardous weather develops during the school day, a decision to close school early will be announced via the parent notification phone system, on all local radio and TV stations, and on the district website. Please have a plan for this situation and discuss this plan with your child. The school district has an information line that is updated during conditions that might impact school opening. This number is **366-INFO**.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Oakdale has a School Improvement Council composed of elected parents, teachers, and community members appointed by the principal. If you are interested in being a part of this council, please contact Ms. Khaalid.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

As authorized by State law, District and school administrators and officials may conduct reasonable searches on District property of lockers, desks, vehicles, and personal belongings such as purses, book bags, wallets, and satchels, with or without probable cause, subject to the limitations and requirements of this policy.

Board policy permits district personnel to conduct random blanket searches of school property with professionally trained handlers and dogs for the purposes of detecting the presence of illegal materials. Policy JIH and Administrator Rule JIH-R

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Supervision will be provided in designated areas for a reasonable length of time before and after regular school time for classes. Supervision will be provided for students who ride a bus upon their arrival and until such time as the bus departs after classes are dismissed. All other students will be provided supervision no earlier than 7:00 a.m. and up to 15 minutes after classes are dismissed.

TARDINESS

Students are tardy after **7:45 a.m**. Any student arriving after 7:45 a.m. should be <u>signed in by an adult</u> to be marked present for the day. We realize that anyone could be late occasionally; however, habitual tardiness is a disruption to classroom instruction. Please make every effort to have your child at school on time, daily.

TELEPHONE

There are limited telephone lines in the school. The school phone is a business phone and is not to be used by students. All arrangements for end-of-the-day transportation should be communicated in writing.

TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT

Rock Hill Schools prohibits the use and/or possession of all tobacco products or paraphernalia including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco and snuff by all students, staff and visitors. Rock Hill Schools is a 100% tobacco-free, smoke-free environment for all students, staff and visitors within all district facilities, vehicles and grounds and at all district-sponsored events or when district facilities are being use.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

Please notify the teacher in writing if there is to be a change in the transporting of your child. If no notification is received, your child will follow his/her regular method of transportation home. If a

emergency situation arises after the start of school and you need to call to make a change in your child's transportation home, please do so by 1:30 p.m.

VISITORS

Visitors who are on school business are welcomed at school; however, immediately upon entering the school grounds, all visitors must sign-in at the school office with an ID and state the nature of their visit. In-district students will not be allowed to visit between schools of the district. Out-of-town student visitors or relatives must obtain prior permission or special invitation to visit the school. Anyone failing to comply with the check-in procedure will be asked to leave the campus.

VOLUNTEERS

Parents and guardians are encouraged to be volunteers at the school. Interested persons may call the school office to offer their services. Volunteers are used in the teacher work room, as classroom helpers, and with PTO projects. Our goal is to have every parent involved in our school. All volunteers must be approved by completing the volunteer application located on the district web page under the Community and Parents links.

WITHDRAWAL OF STUDENTS

If you are moving and withdrawing your child from school, please call or come by the school a few days prior to the withdrawal date, so that we can collect textbooks, library books, etc. Your cooperation is always greatly appreciated.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Refer to our school web site for a link to additional details regarding Rock Hill Schools policies on various topics. Contact the school if you have any questions.



2017-2018 School Calendar

Temporary Location for 2017-2018: 1234 Flint St. Ext.

> Phone: 803-981-1000 www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us

July 4 Independence Day -District Closed

July 17-18 Teacher Professional Development Conference

July 31 New Teacher Orientation

August 1 - 3 New Teacher Orientation

August 9 Teacher PD Exchange Day

August 10-11, 14-16 Teacher Days - No Students

August 17 First Day for Students

August 21 Half Day for Students

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September 4 Labor Day - District Closed

> October 9 Teacher PD Day

November 22 - 24 Thanksgiving Holiday -District Closed

December 21 Half Day for Students Last Day of First Semester

> December 22 - 29 Winter Holidays -District Closed

> > NOTE

Teachers works Teachers work do not attend the July 17 - 18 Professional Developement Conference are required to work on August 9 and January 4.

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January 1-3 Winter Holidays -District Closed

January 4 Teacher PD Exchange Day

January 5 Teacher Work Day

January 8 Students Return

January 15 MLK Jr. Day - District Closed

> February 16 Inclement Weather Make-Up Day

February 19 President's Day Inclement Weather Make-Up Day

District will be closed If days are not needed

March 30 Inclement Weather Make-Up Day

"District will be closed if day is not meeded"

April 2 - 6 Spring Break -District Closed

May 28 Memorial Day -District Closed

May 31 Half Day for Students Last Day of Second Semester

> June 1 Teacher Day

June 2 Graduation Day Northweatern - 10 am South Points - 2 pm Rock Hill - 6 pm

Ceremony is held at the Winthrop Collseum

HALF DAY DISMISSAL TIMES Elementary - 11 a.m. Middle - 11:30 a.m. High - 11:45 a.m.

Note: Report Card Dates will be published later and included on school websites.

Blue = New Teachers Only Purple = Teacher Day Red = First/Last Day of Semester Orange = School Closed * = Inclement Weather Make-Up Day O = End of Grading Periods

Available on the App Store