

Welcome to Chasco Elementary School  
2021-2022 School Year  
727-774-1200

Mrs. Michele Boylan  
Principal

Mr. Michael Toncich  
Assistant Principal



**School Motto**  
#TogetherWeAreAwesome

**School Mascot and Colors**  
Chaz, the Lion Cub  
Navy, Burgundy, and Gray

**Our Vision**

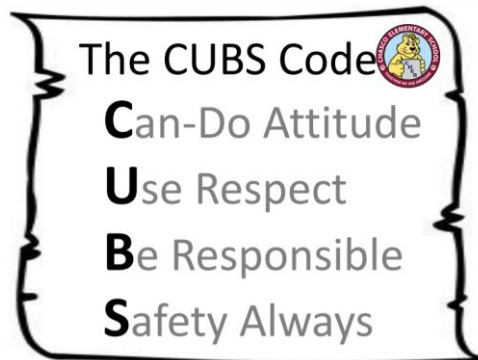
ALL students will be independent thinkers, prideful citizens, and develop a life-long love for learning.

**Our Mission**

Together we will provide a safe environment where we empower ALL students to learn at high levels.



**Schoolwide Expectations**



**Family Involvement Policy:** We believe the education of our children must be a partnership between the home and the school with an ongoing exchange of information. By agreeing on goals and strategies within our Home/School Agreement and by sharing the rights and responsibilities of the educational process, together we will **take pride in the success** of our children.

**Attendance:** **Having your child at school is critical for your child's academic success.** Excused absences are limited to illness and family emergencies. Vacations are not considered excused absences. When your child is absent, be sure to send in a doctor note documenting the dates and reason for the absence. To support our students' attendance, a committee will monitor and periodically communicate with families that do not meet attendance requirements.

**Arrival/BREAKFAST:** Subject to change, Chasco's current school hours are **9:30 am-3:50 pm**. Please plan for your child to arrive no earlier than **9:20 am**, the time when adult supervision begins. In the morning, we ask that you use the car loop for drop off if your child does not ride a bus. **Children are not permitted to cross over from the parking lot to campus without an adult.** Students that arrive after **9:40am** must go to the office for a tardy pass before going to class.

All Chasco students receive FREE breakfast. Students will grab a breakfast off of our breakfast carts before going to their classrooms.

Our goal is to support the growth of independence and responsibility in each of our students. Therefore, we ask that you “say goodbye at the gate” and encourage your child to walk to class on his/her own. Chasco staff members are visible around campus during arrival to ensure that all students get to class safely.

**Dismissal:** Students will be dismissed to the bus or car loop beginning at 3:50. All students need to be picked up from school by **3:50 pm**. Students may not be picked up late on a daily basis. You will need to arrange day care for your child if you are unable to pick up your child on time.

**Keeping your child’s dismissal plans consistent is important.** For the safety of your child, our staff works together to create transportation lists to ensure that your child is at the appropriate dismissal location each day. If you must change your child’s dismissal method, we request that all changes be in writing so that proper arrangements can be made and we can ensure your child’s safety.

**Early dismissals are disruptive to the learning environment.** We will not release students for early dismissal after **3:15 pm** unless there is an emergency or important scheduled event. To maximize student learning and progress, all students need to be present from 9:30-3:50 each day. **Attendance is critical for the success of your child.**

**Release of students:** Students will only be released to a parent/guardian or person listed on the emergency card housed at the school. For the safety of the child, the person who is picking up the child should be prepared to show proof of his/her identity. Students will only be released from the classroom once you arrive at the school site, so your child will not miss more academic time than is necessary. Students will be released to either parent unless a copy of an official court order denying parental rights is filed with the school. All official court orders that impact parental rights to release and pick up the child must be filed with the school.

**Bus Loop:** 100% of our zoned students have the privilege of riding the bus. Our staff is available to load and unload children at the bus loop in the morning and afternoon. Bus passes will be ready to view on your myStudent Parent Portal before the first day of school. If your child does not have a bus pass and you would like your child to ride the bus please inquire in our front office.

**Car Loop:** If you choose to drop off and pick up your child each day you must use our car loop. **For the safety of all students we will not dismiss a child to a parent that walks up to the car loop.** Our goal is to move as quickly as possible to get your child(ren) to you at the end of the day.

For your child’s safety, we are asking you to abide by the following rules for car riders:

1. Use the designated car loop area and drive slowly. Please do not text and drive.
2. When entering the loading and unloading area, move up to the furthest available loading spot, form a single file line and remain in your car. Children will be released to cars in an orderly and supervised fashion.
3. Display your school issued car tag in the windshield.
4. While you are waiting in the car line, please be mindful of the movement of the traffic flow. School personnel will direct you to move forward accordingly.
5. Please do not leave your car unattended in the line. There will always be staff members on duty from 9:20-9:30 and 3:50-4:00. Please follow instructions and feel free to ask questions and/or make suggestions.

6. In order to keep traffic moving and handle arrival and dismissal in a timely fashion, we ask that you do not use this area for student conferencing and/or extended conversations with staff.
7. Students should not be dropped off in the car loop without staff supervision.
8. On **rainy days**, students will be individually dismissed from the art room hallway, media center, and computer lab. If weather is severe, dismissal will be delayed to ensure the safety of students and staff. We appreciate your patience and support in ensuring safety first.

**Birthdays:** In order to comply with [USDA Local School Wellness Policy](#) requirements **birthday parties and/or classroom celebration food items must now meet USDA Smart Snack Standards and be prepared in a commercial kitchen.** Celebration foods are available to parents to purchase for their child's class through their school cafeteria. [Pasco Smart Snack Celebrations.](#) Our cafeteria personnel will support your child with distributing birthday treats the last 10 minutes of his/her lunch. In order to keep instructional focus and student safety, balloons will not be delivered to classes or allowed on the bus. All gifts, decorations, and birthday parties should occur outside of the school day.

**Code of Student Conduct:** Students' rights and responsibilities are outlined and defined in the Pasco County School District Code of Student Conduct. Please review these with your child.

**Conferences:** You are encouraged to meet with the staff and discuss your child's educational progress each quarter. Since staff members have scheduled meetings and planning periods, please call your child's teacher and make an appointment. When arriving for a conference, please check in at the office and we will inform the teacher of your arrival.

**Equal Education Opportunities:** Students will have the right to participate in classroom instruction and extracurricular activities regardless of age, sex, race, color, gender, national or ethnic origin, disability, handicapping condition, pregnancy, parenthood, marriage, political beliefs, social and family background, or for any other reason not related to his/her individual capabilities.

**Fees:** Each elementary school in Pasco County is permitted to collect a fee of \$29.00\* per student for supplies such as: workbooks, special reading and art materials, etc. (\*subject to change).

**Field Trips:** Field trips enhance the learning of our students. Trips are planned around particular units of study or interest. **Volunteers that are already approved will be given priority spots to chaperone a field trip. If you are interested in attending a field trip with your child, please register at the beginning of the year.**

**CHANGES to Address/Telephone Numbers: It is very important that we know how to reach you in case of an emergency.** It is important to keep the school informed of student information changes. Parents are responsible for notifying the school office in writing of any change in address or phone number. **It is important that the school has current phone numbers in the event of an emergency.** When submitting a change of address, proof of residency is required.

**Home-School Communications:** It is our desire to keep all parents informed as to what is happening at school. Our main forms of communication between school and home will be Class Dojo, periodic phone messages, our school web page: [ches.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://ches.pasco.k12.fl.us), and please make sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter which can be accessed through our school website. In the first weeks of school, each teacher will let you know their preferred means of home-school communication. Some teachers may use the student planner while others use a folder. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions about the best way to communicate.

**Homework:** All students are required to read for at least 30 minutes each night. Research has proven that students that read 30 minutes in school and 30 minutes at home will make the progress they need to become proficient readers.

Homework will look different at each grade level, depending on the team of teachers and what they find meaningful for students to practice at home. To ensure success with extended learning at home prepare a homework space for your child to complete homework.

**Instructional Program:** Instruction for all students is based upon standards and district guidelines - with specific goals or outcomes expected and with common indicators or benchmarks to guide the instruction. All teams of teachers work together to review student data and differentiate instruction in order to meet individual student needs.

**Lost and Found:** Lost and found is located in the clinic. Clearly write your child's name inside jackets, lunch boxes, etc. Unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity at the end of each month.

**Make-Up Work:** If your child is out for an extended period and you would like to come to school to pick up work, call a day ahead so that the work will be ready. Teachers need 24 hours to prepare appropriate work.

**The Cubs' DEN (Media/Technology Center):** The Cubs' DEN is otherwise known as our media and technology center. Our DEN is available to students and families for checking out materials or using the available resources. Students can have up to two items checked out for a two-week period. There are no late fees, but overdue item(s) must be returned before new items are checked out. Students will be charged the original price of the item if it is lost or damaged beyond repair.

**Notification of Inspection for Asbestos-Containing Materials in Public Schools:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a final rule, 40 CFR Part 763, Asbestos-Containing Material in Schools, commonly referred to as AHERA. The rule requires all Local Education Agencies to identify asbestos-containing materials in their school buildings and to take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers.

All inspections for Chasco Elementary School have been completed, and a Management Plan describing the results of the inspection and the action plan to control any asbestos found during the inspection, where applicable, has been submitted to the governor for approval. A copy of this plan is located in the administrative office of the school and at the District School Board of Pasco County Maintenance/Facility Operations Department, and is available for review upon request.

**PLACE:** Pasco Learning and Activity Centers of Enrichment (PLACE) is an affordable before and after school child care program offered by the District School Board of Pasco County. The program is available for children in kindergarten through fifth grade, Monday through Friday. In addition, full-day childcare is provided on teacher planning days, during winter and spring breaks, and throughout the summer. The contact number is 774-1292.

**Parent Teacher Organization/PTO:** We are always looking for committed and dedicated members to join our PTO. PTO supports the goals of the school through family events, student activities, and fundraisers. We encourage all families to get involved by joining our PTO. It is never too late to join our PTO, ask in the front office for information.

**Report Card/Progress Report:** All students will be issued a progress report halfway through each nine-week period. Report cards will be issued every nine weeks. Dates for reports being released on your myStudent Parent Portal are reflected on the district calendar.

**School Advisory Council:** The School Advisory Council (SAC) is a link between the school and community. It provides for active participation in identifying critical student needs, and developing goals and plans for meeting those needs. SAC partners are identified as parents, business and community members, and staff members who are elected for two years. The Council serves as a resource to the school and principal by offering assistance and suggestions concerning our school.

**School Pictures and Yearbooks:** School pictures will be taken twice during the school year. Yearbooks will be for pre-order and purchase during the end of the school year.

**Smoke Free Campus:** The District School Board Policy dictates that all new schools to Pasco County, including Chasco Elementary, must be smoke free campuses. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Smoking is not allowed anywhere on campus, including the parking lot.

**Student Insurance:** Student accident insurance is available at a very reasonable cost. With this insurance policy, pupils are covered while traveling to and from school and during school hours. Twenty-four hour protection during the school term is also available. If you do not have medical coverage for your children, give the student insurance your consideration.

**Student Services:** Guidance, P.E., Music, and Art are available at Chasco. We have a variety of support staff to assist you and/or your child with academic or behavioral needs. Lastly, a school student services team made up of a School Psychologist, Social Worker and Nurse are at the school at least one day a week.

**Textbooks:** Every pupil is directly responsible for textbooks loaned to him/her and the student will be held responsible for any damage to or the loss of these textbooks.

**Visitors:** (Due to COVID-19 policies, we cannot have visitors on campus at this time. We will revisit this again after the first quarter of the school year). We want our families to feel welcome at Chasco. For the safety of our students, all parents and visitors must come to the office **with picture ID** to receive a visitor's badge when on campus. Parent visits during the school day should be prearranged with your child's teacher. Students are not permitted to bring visiting school-age friends or relatives to school.

~~**Families may visit their child(ren) during their lunchtime on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. You and your child will eat outside at a picnic table. Due to crowding, we will not be able to provide an inside eating area in the event it is raining. For safety reasons, only your child may accompany you for lunch unless we have written notice.**~~

**Volunteers:** (Due to COVID-19 policies, we cannot have visitors on campus at this time. We will revisit this again after the first quarter of the school year). The Golden School Award is presented annually by the Florida Department of Education to schools with outstanding volunteer programs. With the help of our dedicated volunteers, we hope to win this award again this year. You can become involved by assisting with:

1. Special class events/projects and field trips
2. Clerical tasks
3. Tutoring and/or supporting students with their learning
4. School wide health screenings and/or other school-wide events

**You must be an approved volunteer in order to volunteer at the school and attend a field trip. If you are interested in attending a field trip with your child at some point within the school year, please register at the beginning of the year.**

Interested volunteers must complete an online application available online @ [www.pasco.k12.fl.us/comm/volunteer/](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/comm/volunteer/). Volunteer trainings will be available for volunteers that work on campus.

**Peer volunteers:** (Due to COVID-19 policies, we cannot have visitors on campus at this time. We will revisit this again after the first quarter of the school year). We welcome students, 7<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, to volunteer on our campus. Each peer volunteer must complete an application and attend a peer volunteer training prior to volunteering on campus. Volunteer time needs to be prearranged and approved. Peer volunteers must arrange for their own transportation and be picked up no later than 3:50pm each day.

**Withdrawal:** Parents need to contact the school several days prior to the withdrawal date to complete appropriate forms. All books and other school materials must be returned before the student leaves.

**Clinic:**

Any prescription medication that needs to be administered at school must be brought in to the clinic by a parent or guardian, and an authorization form must be completed at that time. Medication must be in the prescription container. Non-Prescription medication cannot be administered at school unless accompanied by a physician's statement. Under no circumstances should a child transport medication of any kind. When a student has a fever of 100 degrees or higher, they may not come to school until they have been fever free for 24 hours from onset of the fever.

**Dress Code:**

Students should wear adequate, modest clothing of a style, which is consistent with community standards as determined by the Code of Student Conduct and the school administration. Shorts and skirts must be of appropriate length. Short shorts, miniskirts, spaghetti straps, muscle/cut off shirts, see-through clothing or tops that leave the stomach showing are not allowed. We ask that hats be worn only when outside for P.E. and Recess. Student shall not wear decorations, symbols, mottos, designs on the body, clothing showing unacceptable products (tobacco, alcohol drugs), inappropriate clubs or groups or inappropriate pictures and/or words. Clothing shall be worn appropriately as designed. For example, pants are to be worn securely at the waist. Shoes and sandals must have a back. Shoes with built-in-wheels are not permitted on campus. Parents will be contacted if clothing or shoes are inappropriate.