

Edith L. Frierson Montessori School

Parent and Student Handbook

2022-2023

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School Website: <http://frierson.ccsdschools.com>

From the Desk of the Principal

Dear Frierson Families,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 year. We are very excited about a new year in a newly renovated building. This summer our construction team has been busy working hard to complete the creation of our Elementary Hallway, and the flooring of our Commons Area, Hallway, and Cafeteria. Once this work is finished we will have two new beautiful Upper Elementary classrooms, and two new Adolescent classrooms. Additionally, our Art, Music, and Resource rooms have been completely redone. Finally, the best part of this work has been the creation of additional restrooms at the top of the Upper Hallway.

We are very thankful for the commitment of our District leaders to create a beautiful space for our students to learn. I know that you will be very pleased with the work done for our children, staff, and this community.

We are planning for a great school year, and are committed to providing the support our students need. I thank you for your work and support in our planning meetings to determine what the best possible use of ESSER funding would be for Frierson. With your support, I wrote our grant requesting a Student Concern Specialist to support our student's social and emotional needs, and a full-time Guidance Counselor to support students and families as a result of the challenges created by the COVID19 virus. Finally, I wrote to have Mrs. Blue as our Master Reading and Math Interventionist for two additional years to support our students' achievement and used ESSER funds to create our second Upper Elementary Classroom. With your continued support, we are off to a great start!

As our 4th & 5th grades transition into our first two Upper Elementary classes, I am pleased to share that once again we are full and have a waiting list! As we grow I will continue to work with our district to find highly qualified staff who are committed to the 2-3 years of training our teachers must do to become highly qualified Montessori educators. We are proud of the fact that Ms. Maxson and Ms. Ivanova are now trained to teach all components of the Montessori curriculum and will continue their training this school year. We understand that this work is not easy but worthy of a second Master's Degree. Therefore, I am very thankful for our new Montessori lead teachers, Ms. Bursed and Ms. Schmitz, who will begin their training this year.

This year's theme is "Teach Peace". While we are planning for a more normal year, we will continue to work with our school district leaders and staff to keep you up-to-date by informing you of any new information as soon as we get it. Feel free to contact me, Principal Dr. Deborah Cummings, by email at deborah_cummings@charleston.k12.sc.us for any questions or concerns.

With the Children in Mind,
Dr. Deborah Davis-Cummings

To Parents, Community Members, and Stakeholders:

The goal of our Montessori program is to provide high quality instruction to the students at Edith L. Frierson Elementary school. As we know, there is a shortage of qualified teachers across the state of South Carolina. This shortage has impacted the way we hire and train Montessori teachers. Ultimately, our goal is to have fully trained Montessori teachers in all of our classrooms. While we would like for teachers to be fully trained before they start teaching in August, we have some teachers who have not completed their training. The following is our plan of action for training our Montessori teachers and incorporating as much Montessori instruction throughout the day as possible in classrooms that do not have fully trained Montessori teachers.

- A new teacher candidate will enroll in the Masters of Montessori Education program at Lander University. This course work will take two years to complete. The first year will focus on content (Montessori curriculum and instruction in all subject areas) and the second year will be a teaching practicum.
- **If a teacher was hired before June 2022**, she took Montessori ELA and Montessori Math classes at Lander University this summer, and will be able to implement the Montessori curriculum in her classroom starting in August. These teachers will continue their course work focusing on Science and Social Studies Montessori curriculum during the fall and spring semesters.
- **If a teacher was hired after June 2022**, she was not able to start course work for the ELA and Math Montessori curriculum this summer. These teachers will begin their course work in August and focus on the Science and Social Studies Montessori curriculum (cultural curriculum) during the fall and spring semesters.

The following is a description of what trained Montessori teachers and traditionally trained teachers will be doing during the instructional day with students:

Content	Teacher who was trained in June in Math and ELA Montessori Materials	Teacher who starts graduate Montessori course work in the Fall
Math	<p>-Montessori Curriculum lessons that align with district priority standards</p> <p>-Bridges Workplaces that focus on Number lines and conceptual models.</p> <p>-OGAP Framework: Additive Reasoning- Primary and Lower Elementary Multiplicative Reasoning- Lower and Upper Elementary Fractional Reasoning- Lower and Upper Elementary</p>	<p>-Bridges lessons that align with district priority standards.</p> <p>-Bridges Workplaces that focus on Number lines and conceptual models.</p> <p>-OGAP Framework: Additive Reasoning- Primary and Lower Elementary Multiplicative Reasoning- Lower and Upper Elementary Fractional Reasoning- Lower and Upper Elementary</p>
ELA	EL Education- Modules Students will go with their respective grade level for 60 minutes daily to receive high quality reading and writing instruction.	EL Education- Modules Students will go with their respective grade level for 60 minutes daily to receive high quality reading and writing instruction.
Phonics and Phonemic awareness instruction	Waseca Towers and other Montessori works Heggerty Phonics (K-1)	Waseca Towers Heggerty Phonics (K-1)

	EL Education- ALL BLOCK (3rd & 5th) Teachers will modify the all block instruction to align with Montessori materials	EL Education- ALL BLOCK (4th) Teachers will use the EL Education materials provided with the curriculum.
Science and Social Studies	Cultural lessons provided by the Montessori curriculum.	Gradual introduction of cultural lessons provided by the Montessori curriculum. (August -December)
Social Emotional Learning	Project Wisdom (Morning News Show) Second Step curriculum Peace Lessons	Project Wisdom (Morning News Show) Second Step Curriculum Gradual introduction of peace lessons

At Frierson Elementary, we prioritize the professional learning of our certified teachers. Each week, teachers meet in professional learning communities to discuss standards, educational philosophy in the Montessori setting, as well as curriculum. We do this to provide the best possible instruction for each student at Frierson. These meetings contain certified staff that are at different stages of their Montessori training and the collaboration during these meetings helps set a solid foundation in all classrooms at our school.

As teachers go through the Montessori training program, they will gain more knowledge and understanding regarding the presentation of new lessons that incorporate concrete materials seen in the Montessori classroom.

Montessori philosophy believes that students should start with concrete materials to build conceptual understanding when introduced to a concept or topic. Once a student gains confidence and knowledge with a material, they move to abstraction. This means they no longer need the material to understand the concept.

Similarly, Bridges math lessons provide concrete materials and development of models and strategies that support students as they move from concrete understanding to abstraction. Our goal is to align the SC state math standards to the Montessori curriculum and to the Bridges curriculum; as a teacher gains more experience with introducing Montessori materials, more Montessori lessons will be rolled out versus Bridges materials.

By providing this information, we are hoping to create transparency and an understanding of what the environment and curriculum will look like across all our classrooms at Frierson Elementary. We are always available to talk more about the integration and implementation of traditional and Montessori curriculums. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact Samantha Kurtz or Dr. Cummings.

In partnership,

Samantha Kurtz
Instructional Coach
Edith L. Frierson Elementary School

Edith L. Frierson's Mission Statement

The mission of E. L. Frierson Magnet Montessori School is to develop confident life-long learners who are competent, responsible, and self-motivated by providing a safe environment where parents and teachers support children as they explore an integrated, culturally diverse and innovative curriculum that fosters critical thinking and creativity.

To accomplish our mission, our **goals** are to:

- Provide rigorous instruction.
- Encourage a love of reading and writing.
- Promote critical thinking through a hands-on, problem solving approach to instruction.
- Provide opportunities for students to increase computer literacy across the curriculum.
- Improve social skills (i.e. self-control, self-esteem, self-respect, self-motivation, conflict resolution, cultural diversity awareness and acceptance).
- Increase opportunities for family involvement.

Visitors

While we welcome and encourage parents and community members to visit our school, it is District policy that all visitors check in at the office. This is true under all circumstances. We will inform you of any changes due to COVID 19.

Parents and other adults must enter the building through the front office to receive a visitor's badge. A state issued ID is required to obtain this badge, which must be worn at all times.

Thank you for supporting this important and necessary safety policy.

Starting September 1, 2022, we ask that parents allow their children to walk to class with the assistance of staff on duty. We promote student independence and support a quiet learning environment. This begins with a calm separation and acclimation into the classroom routine.

Staff members are positioned strategically throughout the building and are available every moment of the day to help ensure your child's safety.

Please turn all cell phones on silent when entering the building and when visiting and working in our school. **Be here, be present.**

Academic Success

Some helpful hints to ensure that your children have positive experiences in school are:

1. Avoid absences, tardies and early outs.
2. Plan for quiet homework or study time as well as safe play time; encourage at least 20 minutes of reading **every day**.
3. Plan for good nutrition and good personal hygiene; supervise television time. Limit screen time and monitor online activity.
4. Schedule a conference anytime you have a concern and attend conferences scheduled by the school.
5. Attend as many school functions as possible.
6. Plan an early bedtime Sunday-Thursday.
7. Visit the school and [volunteer](#) when possible.
8. If your child takes medicine, do not let the medication lapse.
9. Keep home/school communication lines open.

At school, we have the following in place to ensure your child's success:

1. Highly qualified teachers.
2. Montessori trained instructional leaders.
3. Outstanding parent and community support.
4. Active business partners and community affiliates.
5. Professional development to stay current on best practices.
6. Interactive literacy programs.
7. Open door policy by administration and staff.

Attendance

We cannot teach an empty seat. Your child's attendance is critical to their success. Consider your own work - does attendance matter? Does it matter if you show up? What are the consequences when you arrive late or take a sick day? The same holds true for students of any age. These are critical life skills that develop starting at an early age: being responsible, showing up on time, being consistent, and following the rules. [CCSD's Parent Resource Manual and Code of Conduct](#) for attendance policies and South Carolina law.

All absences require a written explanation from the parent/guardian within three (3) school days of return from the absence. Written explanation of absences must include the student's name, parent/guardian's full name, address and telephone number(s), dates of absence(s), and documentation of the reason for absence. *A phone call or email will not suffice for this purpose.*

Lawful Absences (Excused)	Unlawful Absences (Unexcused)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Illness of the student	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical or dental appointment • Court appearance or court-ordered activity • Death in the immediate family • Observance of a religious holiday • Activities approved by the administrative team • Extenuating circumstances as determined by the principal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence from school for any portion of the day without the knowledge of their parents/guardians • Absence from school for any portion of the day without acceptable cause with the knowledge of their parents/guardians • Absence from planned home-bound or home-based sessions <p>Note: Students are not considered absent when attending approved school field trips, arriving late due to bus problems, or assigned to an in-school suspension program.</p>
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***Absences in excess of ten days per year will not be considered excused with a parent/guardian note unless they are accompanied by official medical or legal documentation.**

Arrival Procedures

1. Students should not arrive on the campus before 8:00 a.m.
2. Teachers will be on duty beginning at 8:00 a.m. each school day.
3. Buses will run so that students arrive by 8:00 a.m.
4. School personnel will not be responsible for children who arrive prior to 8:00 a.m.
5. When arriving at the car-rider line, drivers should not use their cell phones, paying careful attention to pedestrians and other cars.
6. For morning arrival, drivers should form a single line, stopping at the area directed by staff. Staff will be on hand from 8:00 to 8:30 am to assist students as they get out.
7. During car rider times, please do not pull in front of any vehicle in line and do not double-park unless directed by a staff member.
8. Arrival time for all students is 8:00 – 8:30 am. If arriving after 8:30 am, drive to the main entrance, park and come to the lobby to sign your child in. The car rider gate will be closed at 8:30.
9. We have a “bus loop” separate from the car loop. The bus loop is located by the cafeteria. Students who are four years and older are eligible to ride the bus.
10. Parents and guardians must complete transportation paperwork in order for students to ride the school buses.

Tardies

TARDY POLICY: Students arriving in the classroom after the 8:30 bell are considered tardy. A student who rides a bus is not tardy if the bus arrives late. The office will announce late buses. Students arriving after 8:30 must report to the main office for a pass before being admitted to

class. **Students who are tardy must be walked into the office by the parent/guardian.** If tardiness persists, a conference with the principal will be necessary. Students are expected to arrive at school on time.

Early Sign Out Procedures

In the event of an emergency and your child must go home with another adult, student, or friend, please plan ahead and send your child with written permission. When an adult who we do not recognize comes in to sign out a child, we will ask for identification. If an adult is listed on the emergency card and has proper identification, the child will be released. If the adult is not on the card, we will attempt to contact the parent for verbal approval. If we cannot contact the parent, the child will not be released.

Dismissal

Dismissal time for all students is 3:30 pm. For car riders, all students must be picked up by 3:45. Bus riders will be escorted by ELF faculty and staff to the afternoon bus loop. *Whenever possible, parents should establish a consistent, rarely changing plan that is clear to students and staff. Frequent changes cause stress and uncertainty in children and open the door for confusion and errors during dismissal, the busiest time of the school day.* **For safety and security reasons, there is no early sign out between 2:30 and 3:30.**

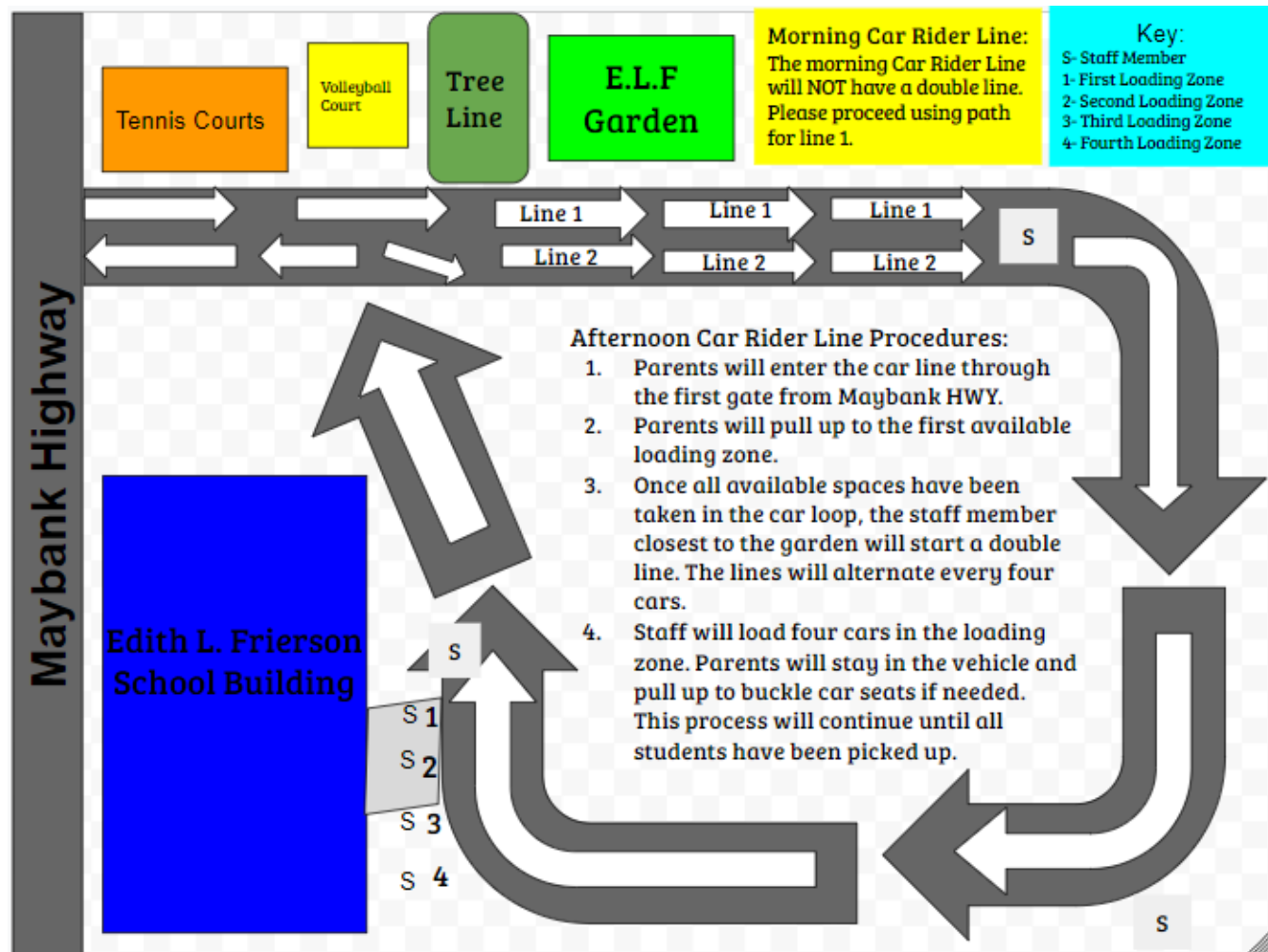
Car Riders

For car riders, each school year, you will be provided with two car placards for each child. One of these placards should be displayed on the left side of your car windshield during the afternoon car line. If there is not a visible placard, the driver will be required to park and come into the school for identification and authorization to pick up. If you need an additional placard, you may request one at no additional charge. **As a note of parking lot etiquette: please do not double-park or leave your car unattended. ELF faculty and staff will help children into cars from the designated areas.**

Afternoon Car Rider Line Procedures:

1. Parents will enter the car line through the first gate from Maybank HWY.
2. Parents will pull up to the first available loading zone.
3. Once all available spaces have been taken in the car loop, the staff member closest to the garden will start a double line. The lines will alternate every four cars.
4. Staff will load four cars in the loading zone. Parents will stay in the vehicle and pull up to buckle car seats if needed. This process will continue until all students have been picked up.

See Afternoon Car Rider Map in your packet for more detailed instructions.



Kaleidoscope 3 Year Old Extended Day Program

We are very proud of the fact that we will be able to serve both our 3-year-old families until the end of the school day (3:30 PM) and our 4-year-olds in afterschool care (6:00 PM). Both programs will be provided through the Fee-Based Kaleidoscope program. Kaleidoscope is a fee based program that operates using an income based sliding scale for tuition. Parents/Guardians must fill-out an application to be a part of the program. Your cost will be determined based upon your income by Kaleidoscope.

We will also continue to be a part of the 21st Century grant and will serve our students in Kindergarten - 5th grade in our after-school program which ends at 6:00 PM at no cost to our families. The Office of Expanded Learning leads Charleston County School Districts' after school efforts and manages Frierson's 21st Century Afterschool Grant. Parents/Guardians must fill-out an application to be a part of the program.

Behavior Expectations for Students

[CCSD's Parent Resource Manual and Code of Conduct](#) is followed at Frierson and is an important resources for our families. This code of conduct will be discussed with students and posted on Frierson's website for parents to read. Please read it carefully and discuss it with your child. Within the first 10 days of school, you will also receive a copy of the Classroom Management plan from your child's teacher.

Consequences of Misconduct

Frierson will use the [District Progressive Discipline Plan](#) when misconduct occurs. This Plan is available on the CCSD website.

1. **Fighting:** Fighting will not be tolerated. Children who fight are subjected to a **Parent Conference and Parental Shared Day or Suspension**. In severe incidents involving school/class disruption or physical injury, police will be notified. Students who encourage others to fight by "attending" the spectacle are subject to loss of privileges such as recess, field trips, etc. Your child has various options if he/she sees a fight, such as tell a duty teacher or any adult available then leave the area immediately. A conference with parents of students involved in a fight will be required before students are permitted to return to school.
2. **Shared Responsibility Day:** A Shared Responsibility Day (SRD) is when a parent or other eligible adult is asked to shadow a student for the entire or a portion of the school day due to misconduct during the school day. SRD serves as an option to suspension and allows the student to attend school. When SRD is requested, we ask that you bring your child to school, sign in at the Front Office, conference with the principal, and then you and your child will be permitted to go to the classroom. During a Shared Responsibility Day, **parents are to observe only**. If you see something that concerns you, please see the office or principal and the situation will be handled by school staff. Your presence should not interfere with the teacher's instruction and the student's learning process.

Bus Transportation

The [District transportation](#) website is a great resource.

Students who ride the bus must obey the instructions of the bus driver. Students are expected to remain seated and orderly while they are transported on the bus.

1. **Misbehavior on the bus:** First Student is a private company that operates the Charleston County Bus System. Students in 4K and up are able to ride the bus. Three year old students cannot ride the bus. Riding the bus is a privilege provided by the State of South Carolina and student conduct should reflect this. Disciplinary problems that the driver is unable to control are reported to the principal. Students will be suspended from riding the school bus due to misconduct. Bus suspensions will vary depending on the severity

and frequency of occurrence. Students must be at their proper bus stop and exit at the same stop.

2. **Bus Changes:** Bus changes are made **ONLY if a note is written requesting a bus change.** The note must include your child's name, the number of the bus he/she should ride, the date for the bus change, the address to which your child should be delivered and your signature.

Due to the high level of activity at the end of the day, we ask that bus changes are called in before 2:30 p.m. Changes after 2:30 p.m. may not be able to be honored.

The bus rules and consequences are as follows:

BUS RULES	CONSEQUENCES OF BROKEN BUS RULES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.● No standing on seats, in aisles or moving from seat while being transported.● Sit in assigned seat and remain seated.● Profane or obscene language, gestures, or loud noises are not permitted.● Damaging seats, windows, or bus equipment is not permitted.● Follow the driver's directions.	<p>1st Referral: The student will be warned by an administrator and the parent will be contacted.</p> <p>2nd Referral: The parent will be contacted and the student may be suspended from the bus.</p> <p>For an offense that an administrator considers major, such as any action that endangers the safety of passengers, the driver, or willful vandalism, more severe action will be taken and parents will be notified immediately. Every student must be ensured a safe ride to and from school each day. Please be sure to read the <u>CCSD's Parent Resource Manual and Code of Conduct</u>.</p>

Communication from the School

The principal sends a weekly Messenger Phone call each Sunday to prepare the community for the week ahead. This phone call comes at 6:00 PM and provides updates from PTA, SIC, information about school events and other important updates.

Teachers will send newsletters every week. **Parents should look for the Take-Home Folder every Wednesday.**

Progress reports will be sent home every 4 weeks and Report Cards will be sent home every 9 weeks. Teachers will hold one mandatory conference in the Fall. Teachers and/or parents may request conferences as needed. (See Parent Conference section)

The expectation of all staff is that they respond to your emails and/or voicemails within 48 hours. Sometimes the response will be that they received your email and will find out more.

When teachers need to seek an answer or clarification, please allow them additional time to ensure their replies are comprehensive and accurate.

Communication is very important to make sure everyone is working on the same goals.

Classroom Observations

1. Parents are encouraged and welcome to observe. We have designated each Wednesday as an observation day, beginning in the last week of September. This allows our classrooms time to normalize and get into a routine. If you feel you need to observe earlier than September 26, 2022, contact your child's teacher or administration directly.
2. Visits need to be scheduled in advance with the teacher or front office as to not disrupt the learning environment. Check in at the office each time you visit to ensure a safe and orderly campus per CCSD guidelines.
3. You will be escorted to the classroom, where you will walk in quietly, watch and listen. Younger children are not allowed to accompany parents during these visits.
4. **PLEASE TURN CELL PHONES ON SILENT BEFORE ENTERING THE BUILDING. THEY ARE A DISTRACTION TO THE STUDENTS AND TEACHER.**
5. The teacher's attention needs to be focused on students and instruction at all times. Please refrain from talking with your child during the visit so that they are not distracted from the information the teacher is giving.
6. Save questions, comments or observations for a separate conference time. Please fill out the visitor's comment sheet and leave it with the teacher or return it to the main office.
7. Please feel free to call the school at 843-559-4500 to schedule a conference or you may leave your number on the visitor's comment sheet and request a conference.

Parent Volunteers

Parent and Volunteer participation strongly influences student success. Please contact your child's teacher to see how you can positively impact your child's educational experience. As per CCSD Policy, volunteers having contact with students must be cleared through a background check. To complete the clearance process, go to <https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/Mzg2OmVuLVVT> and follow the link to complete the online application. Your volunteer clearance will be good for a three year period of time. After three years, you will need to complete the application again.

We need you at Frierson!

Parent Conferences

A parent/teacher conference will be held with all parents once during the school year. Parent/teacher conferences may be requested by the parent or teacher. Conferences are scheduled before or after school or during the teacher's planning period. Conferences, even short conferences, **can not be held during instructional time**. All conferences must be scheduled so that the teacher has class coverage and time to plan. If your child is identified as a Read to Succeed candidate it is required that you meet with your child's teacher 3 times. Teachers will call to schedule these conferences.

Emergency Cards

Parents/Guardians must complete an emergency office card and a nurse's card for their children at the beginning of the school year. The school office must have a current address and telephone number at all times in case of an emergency. Parents must complete an emergency card for each child with a minimum of three telephone numbers of contacts who may be called in the event of an accident or emergency. Please notify the school as soon as possible when moving, changing telephone numbers or place of employment, etc. This is to ensure the safety of every child by providing a means of communication if needed.

Clinic

A registered nurse or licensed practical nurse is on duty every day of the week during school hours. Frierson makes every effort to provide a safe environment for your child. In the event of an accident, the school nurse or member of the staff will render first aid and notify parents, if appropriate.

All medications – including prescription, some over-the-counter, homeopathic, etc - must have a medical doctor's order to administer during school hours. Do not put medications of any kind (this includes cough drops) in your child's backpack for him or her to take "later". All medications must be in the original container and be brought in to school by the parent or guardian to be logged and checked in at the clinic. The nurse or designee will administer medications at the time prescribed on the medical doctor's order.

Some over the counter medications are kept on hand at ELF. Acetaminophen, ibuprofen, hydrocortisone cream, anti-fungal cream, and antibiotic ointment are listed on the Emergency cards. Parents, indicate on the card whether or not the nurse is permitted to administer these over the counter products.

Student Illness

Students who have been ill should not return to school until their temperature has been normal for 24 hours without the aid of fever-suppressing medications.

Field Trips

Field Trips and Special Guests

Field trips offer enrichment and relevant experiences beyond the classroom. Field trips are used so that students may benefit from experiences that make learning more relevant, memorable and meaningful. They are an extension of what is being taught in the classroom and correlate with CCSD curriculum standards. A field trip may be as small as a single class or may include multiple classrooms. Whether an outing to a fine arts event or locale, an environmental education program, or a community-building activity, all trips link student learning with the trip experience, broadening students' knowledge.

For a child to participate in a field trip, all field trip permission forms must be completed properly and returned to the school office with any necessary fees by the date indicated. Frierson will provide all children with a tag stating the child's first name, school name and school telephone number.

All trips begin and end at Frierson. The class teacher will take attendance prior to departing on a field trip. Any child not present will be marked absent and will not be considered to be a participant on the field trip.

Parents may participate as chaperones for these trips only after they have been cleared as approved CCSD Volunteers and completed the chaperone/driver form. All chaperones must be signed in as "Volunteers" through the main office on the day of the field trip. If chaperones are driving children other than their own, they must also provide a valid driver's license and current insurance on the vehicle being driven on the trip.

All schools reserve the right to refuse the participation in future field trips of any volunteer or parent who does not follow the chaperone guidelines:

- Chaperones will support the supervising teacher/sponsor in enforcing established rules, procedures and expectations for student participation and effort.
- Chaperones will give their undivided attention to the students assigned to their supervision. Siblings will not be allowed to come on field trips and chaperones will not engage in activities that would distract their attention from the students under their supervision.

- Chaperones will model appropriate language and behavior and abide by all CCSD policies and regulations which govern the behavior of employees during working hours for the entire duration of the field trip while in the presence of students.

Parents are reminded to keep the school informed of any changes in home, work, or emergency numbers.

School Menu Programs

The Frierson cafeteria serves breakfast and lunch daily. Breakfast is served from 8:00 a.m. to 8:25 a.m. Lunch is served every day that school is in session. All enrolled students are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at no charge to your household each day of the 2022-2023 school year. Your child(ren) will be able to participate in these meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit an application.

Buying snacks from the cafeteria is a privilege and is at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

Health Requirements

All children (**Kindergarten through 12th Grade**) are required to have a birth certificate and an up-to-date South Carolina Immunization Card before enrolling in any South Carolina school.

School Dress

Uniforms

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Boys | Navy blue, baby blue, yellow & white shirts with collar (polo type)
Navy blue & khaki pants (<u>shorts</u> fingertip length)
Tennis shoes or soft sole shoes (no flip flops or open toe shoes)
Sweaters/Sweatshirts – Navy blue, baby blue, yellow or white |
| Girls | Navy blue, baby blue, yellow & white blouses with collar (polo type)
Navy blue & khaki pants, jumpers, dress or skirts (<u>shorts</u> fingertip length)
Tennis shoes or soft sole shoes (no flip flops or open toe shoes)
Sweaters/Sweatshirts – Navy blue, baby blue, yellow or white |

- *Shirts/blouses must be tucked in
- *Pants with loops must have a belt
- *Pants must be worn at the waist line

Outdoor Jackets and Hoodies will not be permitted to be worn in the classroom. Students may wear a **navy blue, baby blue, yellow or white** sweater, long sleeved sweatshirt, or long sleeve shirt under a short sleeve shirt.

Spirit Day

Spirit Day typically occurs on the **First and Third** Fridays of the month. Students may wear jeans or school uniform pants and a school uniform shirt or Frierson t-shirt. **Spirit Day** is a FREE Dress Down Day.

Tag Day

Tag Day typically occurs on the **Second and Fourth** Fridays of the month. Students may wear their casual clothing for **\$1.00**. Clothing must be appropriate in attire. Shorts and skirts must measure at least finger length when arms are straight against a child's leg. See-through tops, and strapless/spaghetti straps are not permitted. **Tag Day** is a fundraiser and funds from **Tag Day** are used for student activities throughout the school year.

Inclement Weather

In the event of extreme weather conditions (hurricanes, tornado, ice or snow), school may be dismissed early. Please **do not** call the offices of the superintendent, police or fire department. Your call may block emergency calls. Local media will carry all needed information. Should inclement weather or other problems cause school to open later than the regular schedule, **the media will broadcast the message that schools are operating on a "one hour or two hour delayed opening"**.

Money and Valuables

Students should not leave money or valuables in desks or the classrooms. They should not bring more money than is required for school purposes. The school will not be held responsible for any items stolen or lost.

School Telephone

Please do not ask for a teacher to be called to the phone during school hours. You may leave a message on the teacher's voice mail or email and he/she will contact you by the end of the day.

Students are not permitted to use the telephone, except in cases of emergencies. Please make sure that your child comes to school prepared with books and materials. Students will not be called to the telephone nor can the office relay messages to your child unless it is an emergency. If it is necessary to pick up your child early, please come to the office before 2:30 PM before car and bus riders are dismissed. Students will not be allowed to sit and wait for you in the office.

Textbook and Instructional Fees

The school district provides textbooks and a reasonable quantity of supplies to each student. Students are responsible for the materials checked out directly to them. Students are expected to exercise care in the handling of textbooks and other school materials. Any books (including media) lost or damaged must be paid for before the student is given a replacement.

Interim Reports/Report Cards

In addition to weekly progress reports, students receive interim reports in the middle of each nine weeks period. **These must be signed and returned.** Report cards are issued at the end of each grading period. Interim and Report Card dates are noted on the Academic Calendar sent home at the beginning of the year and can be found on the District's Website.

Media

Students have access to books and reference materials as well as the latest computer technology in the Media Center. When students check out books each week, they assume responsibility for any lost or damaged books or materials. All students are expected to adhere to appropriate internet sites and conduct. Inappropriate use of computers and the internet may result in denied privileges.

School Pictures

Student pictures are taken in the fall and again in the spring. Class pictures are also taken. The ELF school yearbook will be published annually in the spring.

Frierson PTA

The PTA is dedicated to furthering the goals of the South Carolina and National PTA. Your membership and participation is important to the school community. The PTA may use both email and the Wednesday Folder to communicate with you.

Parent Education and Class Meetings

Several parent education and class meetings are offered each year. These informal sessions are designed to provide parents with information and support. Topics may be Montessori-specific, may address current education issues or trends or may address the hard work of parenting. We know that your child will benefit from the school experience most fully when he or she has the benefit of our cooperative efforts. If you have suggestions or ideas for classes that would be help to our families, please let our staff know.

Withdrawal or Transfer

Parents must go through formal withdrawal procedures when moving. Children must have all textbooks, library books, school property checked in, fees paid and records cleared before a transfer can be issued. Parents should come to school or send a written request for transfer giving the withdrawal date, new address and name of the new school if known.



Edith L. Frierson Elementary 2022-23 Faculty & Staff Roster



Administration

Dr. Deborah Davis-Cummings, Principal

Office Staff

Nicole Barnes, Secretary/Bookkeeper
Eulonda McCanick, Data Clerk

Literacy Staff

Samantha Kurtz
Crystal Blue
Katherine Simmons

Area / Room

Reading Coach / K11
Master Reading/Math Interventionist
Associate Reading Teacher

Teachers

Heather Grant & Sheleta Wright
Tameka Smalls-Robinson & Rosalie Magwood
Melissa Reese & Amy Bearden
Bethany Burnsed & Matthew Swope
Faythe Prince & Deana Commodore
Holly Maxson & Kristin Pittman
Nadezhda Ivanova & Gwinette Gordon
Jae Schmitz & Layna Foster
Kathy Ratcliffe

Area / Room

Primary Montessori / K15
Primary Montessori / K19
Primary Montessori / K24
Lower El Montessori / K14
Lower El Montessori / K
Lower El Montessori / K04
Upper El Montessori 1
Upper El Montessori 2
Gifted & Talented

Teacher Assts.

Viola Mitchell

Area / Room

K01 / 3YO/Garden Curriculum

Special Area

Taylor Bensinger
TDB
Lynn Kramer

Area / Room

Art / E27 & Phys Ed / E09
Music / E28
Media Specialist

Special Services

Traci Rhoden
Sarah Vicary
Beth Raposa
Jacqueline Deas

Area / Room

Resource
Resource
School Psychologist
Student Concern Specialist

Support Staff Area / Room

Savannah Spivey	Guidance
Nicole Edwards	Office / Nurse
Cokey Scott	Perm. Sub

Cafeteria Staff

Renee Williams	Manager
TBD	Cook
Debra Legare	Cook

Day Porter

Ricky Buggs

Night Porter

Leroy Chisolm