

QUAIL SUMMIT ELEMENTARY

Character Education Program & School Safety Plan

Intelligence plus character, that is the goal of true education.

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

MISSION STATEMENT

Quail Summit Elementary School believes in educating not only the minds but the hearts and spirits of students. The school's mission is to be proactive. It will model, empower, and teach the students values which will help them to become empathetic, emotionally responsive, and contributing members of society. Quail Summit will strive to empower students with the knowledge that they can positively impact others and that they can face any changes or adversity that may occur in their lives. Students at Quail Summit will be educated in a safe and healthy learning environment, one free from intimidation, bullying, and social isolations.

OBJECTIVES

- Nurture and grow empathetic, ethically responsible and respectful students at school, at home, and in their communities
- Promote positive character attributes in each student
- Internalize empathy, conscience, and self discipline
- Guide and assist children to make decisions based on moral judgment, creating awareness of positive and negative consequences and accepting responsibility for actions
- Utilize current and historical figures to teach positive character traits and facilitate conversations with students about ethical behavior

CHARACTER EDUCATION PLAN

The Quail Summit Character Education program is unique to the school and combines key elements from the Success Attributes, Character Champions, and Michelle Borba character education programs. The Success Attributes program teaches the students how to connect to their world and participate in it as a global citizen. Michelle Borba teaches the students how to connect to one another with an emphasis on empathy. Character Champions and Success Attributes provide the students with language and behavioral strategies for appropriate actions and responsible, ethical behavior.

Student Success Assemblies

The staff at Quail Summit Elementary School is focused each month on a different character trait (responsibility, courage, citizenship, respect, tolerance, compassion, honesty, cooperation, perseverance and fairness.) Quail Summit students are acknowledged monthly with Kindergarten through third grade selecting each student throughout the year to celebrate their successes in exemplifying particular character traits at monthly Spirit Assemblies. Fourth and fifth grade students collaboratively select one student from each classroom to celebrate. Dog tags and pencils are given to those students selected as "Students of the Month." Eight Spirit Assemblies will be held throughout the year (September, October, November/December, January, February, March, April, and May) and will highlight student success in one particular area:

1. September: "I am a role model."
2. October: "I will notice hurts in others."

3. November/December: "I will seek wise people."
4. January: "I will set and work toward goals for myself."
5. February: "I will be aware of my impact on others."
6. March: "I will persevere for my success and not give up."
7. April: "I will praise others for good choices."
8. May: "I will step up and right my wrongs."

The Renaissance Program is held three times a year to support the success of fourth and fifth grade students. Five awards are distributed at this assembly. Three awards are for grade achievement: Gold Awards are given to students with grade point averages (GPA) of 3.8-4.0; Silver Awards are for GPAs of 3.5-3.7; Bronze Awards are for GPAs of 3.0-3.4. The Quincy Award is given to students that have raised their GPA by 0.3. A fifth award is distributed to students that have not attended Study Hall. Students' names are listed in the main hallway to reinforce their accomplishments.

Character Lessons

Teachers will provide ongoing lessons in the classroom to reinforce the character traits. Children's literature is used to emphasize core ethical values. Further, the school is committed to making connections for its learners throughout the California State Standards in reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science lessons.

Character Coupons

Character coupons are given out to reinforce each of the eight success statements. Bimonthly, whole school announcements will recognize and celebrate these accomplishments. Randomly selected students receive a special pencil and coupon from participating vendors (e.g., Golden Spoon, In-N-Out).

Student Leadership Opportunities

Quail Summit Character Crew (comprised of students, teachers and parents) promotes community service to school and community. Student Council works in conjunction with the school's character education program, thematically tying in service to the attribute of the month and involving the entire school in the process.

POLICY FOR BULLYING PREVENTION AND REPORTING PROCEDURES

The staff of Quail Summit Elementary School believes that all students have the right to a safe and healthy school environment. The school will promote mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance.

The staff at Quail Summit Elementary will not tolerate behavior that infringes on the safety of any student. Bullying is defined as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils.

Acts of bullying include, but are not limited to:

- Name calling
- Rumor spreading
- Verbal abuse
- Non-verbal acts (e.g., social isolation)
- Physical acts
- Inappropriate online communication (e.g., cyber bullying)

Quail Summit Elementary School expects students and/or staff to immediately report incidents of bullying to the principal or designee. Staff is expected to immediately intervene when they see a bullying incident occur. Each complaint of bullying will be promptly investigated. Quail Summit feels strongly about its responsibility to nurture students and will immediately intervene when a bullying incident occurs.

Quail Summit will promptly follow up with incidents of name-calling in order to prevent ongoing bullying at the school. This policy applies to students on school grounds, while traveling to and from school on a school-sponsored activity, during the lunch period, whether on or off campus, and during a school-sponsored activity. Parents will be notified by the teacher and/or administrator regarding the incident(s).

Quail Summit Elementary School will participate in ongoing staff development training in bullying prevention and maintaining a positive school culture. The school will cultivate acceptance and understanding in all students and staff to build its capacity to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment. If needed, students will receive additional support from the school counselor.

Through Quail Summit's formal character education lessons, informal classroom setting, small group and individual student conversations, the school will discuss this policy with their students in age-appropriate ways and should assure them that they need not endure any form of bullying. A box for reporting is placed centrally in the library and will be checked biweekly by the office staff. Students who bully are in violation of this policy and are subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

NO NAME CALLING & PROFANITY POLICY

Name calling and profanity are hurtful and disrespectful. Students must think about the following consequences and catch themselves before they name call and/or use profanity toward others.

1. First Offense: Parents of students using name calling or bad language will be contacted.
2. Second Offense: Students will lose recess from 1 to 5 days.
3. Third Offense: Students will be given an extended time out in the office or in another classroom.
4. Fourth Offense: Students will be officially suspended from school for 1 to 5 days. Reason for suspension will go on the student's record.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Quail Summit Elementary School Rules

1. Be respectful of yourself, one another, and property. Students will not use profanity or inappropriate language.
2. Listen carefully and follow directions.
3. Settle differences peacefully, talking out any problems. Think before acting.
4. Play safely – no rough play, tag, contact sports, or play fighting.
5. Walk in all areas except the playground grass area.
6. Honor the off-limit areas: trees, park equipment, park bank/hills, and bleachers.
7. Follow school playground and game rules.

The Student Code of Conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- All Quail Summit Elementary School students are expected to promote a safe and healthy learning environment.

- Any student who engages in bullying may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.
- Students are expected to immediately report incidents of bullying to a teacher or principal.
- Students can rely on staff to promptly investigate each complaining of bullying in a thorough and confidential manner.
- If the complainant student or the parent/guardian of the student feels that appropriate resolution of the investigation or complaint has not been reached, the student or the parent/guardian should contact the principal or the Director of Pupil Personnel Services at the District Office.
- Quail Summit Elementary is committed to protect from retaliatory behavior against any complainant or any participant in the complaint process.

The procedures for intervening in bullying behavior include, but are not limited to the following:

- All staff, students and their parents/guardians will be informed of our Character Education and Student Code of Conduct.
- The school will make reasonable efforts to keep a report of bullying. The results of the investigation will remain confidential.
- Staff is expected to immediately intervene when they see a bullying incident occur.
- People witnessing or experiencing bullying are encouraged to report the incident; such reporting will not reflect on the victim or witnesses in any way.