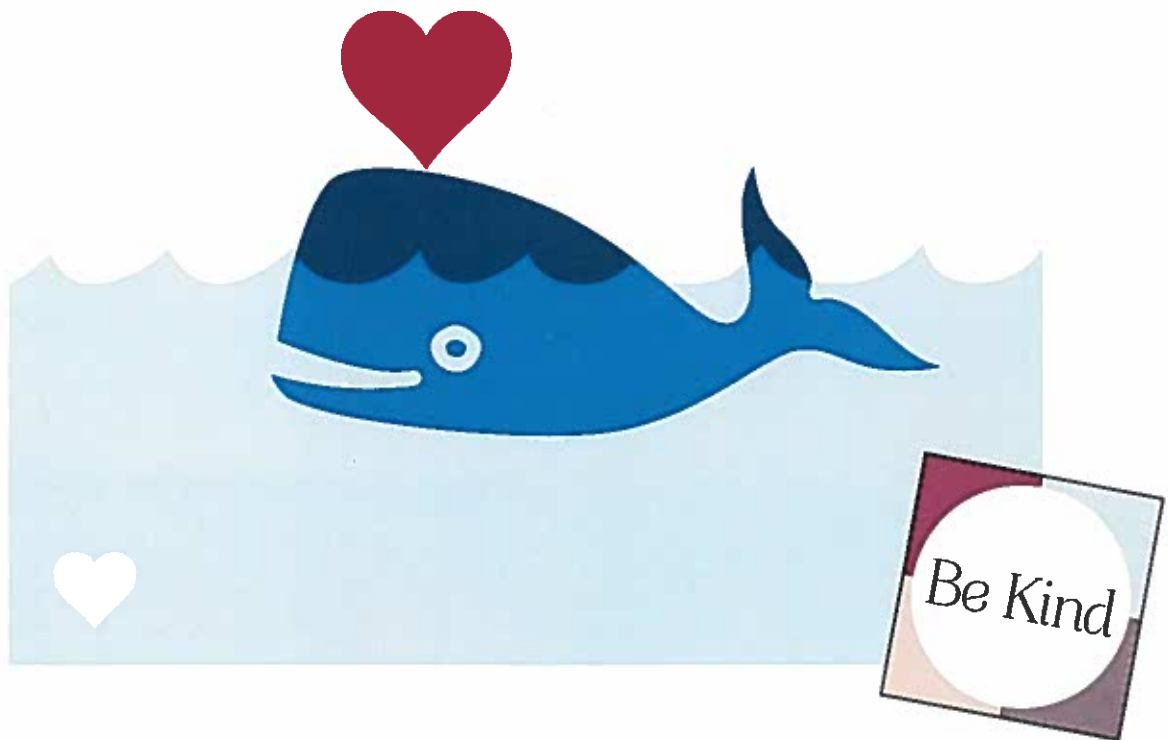


Eli Whitney Family Handbook 2020 - 2021



Mrs. Victoria Florek, Principal
Mr. Robert Veteri, Assistant Principal

Please keep on hand to refer to throughout the year!

General Information

<u>Address:</u>	Eli Whitney Elementary School 1130 Huntington Road Stratford, CT 06614
<u>Phone:</u>	(203) 385-4198
<u>Fax:</u>	(203) 381-6950
<u>Absentee Line:</u>	(203) 385-4198 Option 2
<u>Principal:</u>	Mrs. Victoria Florek
<u>Assistant Principal:</u>	Mr. Robert Veteri
<u>Secretaries:</u>	Mrs. Beth Remeika Ms. Patty McCallum
<u>Nurse:</u>	Mrs. Tammy Ciuci
<u>Custodian:</u>	Mr. Mike Hooks
<u>Eli Whitney Website:</u>	http://eliwhitney.stratfordk12.org
<u>District Website:</u>	http://www.stratfordk12.org
<u>Email:</u>	Staff email addresses can be found on Eli Whitney's website

MISSION STATEMENT OF DISTRICT AND SCHOOL

The mission of the Stratford school community is to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge, character and 21st century skills to succeed through high quality learning experiences and community partnerships with a culture of diversity and respect.

PREFACE

The material covered within this student handbook is intended as a method of communicating to students and parents regarding general district information, rules, and procedures and is not intended to either enlarge or diminish any Board policy, administrative regulation or negotiated agreement. Material contained herein may therefore be superseded by such Board policy, administrative regulation, or negotiated agreement. Any information contained in this handbook is subject to unilateral revision or elimination from time-to-time without notice.

This booklet is written for our students and their parents. It contains required and useful information. Because it cannot be as personal a communication as we would like, we address students not directly as "you" but rather as the "student," "students," or "children." Likewise, the term "the student's parent" may refer to the parent, legal guardian or other person who has agreed to assume responsibility for the student. Both students and parents need to be familiar with the District's Student Code of Conduct which is intended to promote school safety and an atmosphere conducive for learning.

The Student Handbook is designed to be in harmony with Board policy. Please be aware that the handbook is updated yearly, while policy adoption and revision may occur throughout the year. Changes in policy that affect portions of this handbook will be made available to student and parents through newsletters, web pages and other communications.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

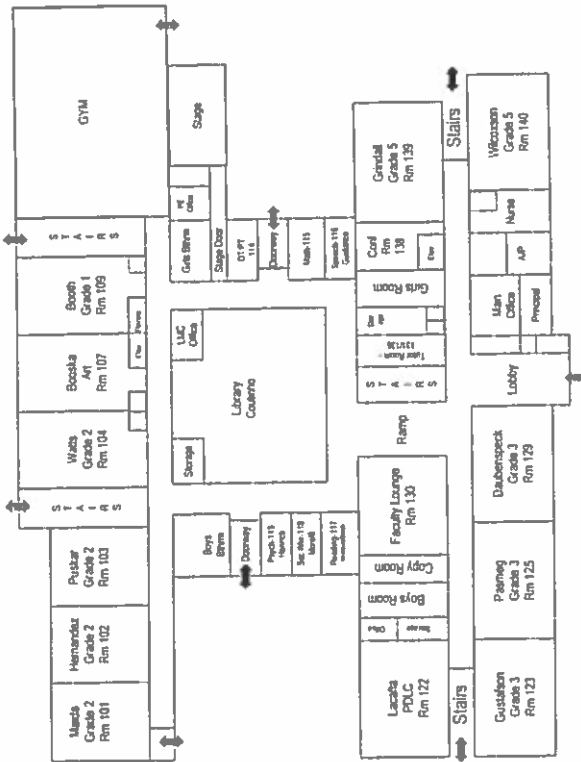
Each student is encouraged to develop and achieve individual educational goals. The district will provide every student with equal educational opportunities regardless of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, economic status, marital status, or disability. No student will be excluded on such basis from participating in or having access to any course offerings, student athletics, counseling services, employment assistance, extracurricular activities or other school resources.

2020-21 Staff and Room Number Listing

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Room #</u>	<u>Specialists</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Room #</u>
FDK	Caterina Eigo	G-3	Art	Aubrey Booska	107
FDK	Lisa Moretti	G-2	Art	Cristine Marks	107
FDK	Sue Simmons	G-11	ESOL Tutor	TBD	G-1
1	Dawn Booth	109	Math Coach	Jessica Scandurra	115
1	Nicole Walsh	G-13	LMC	Christina Coutinho	121
1	Caroline Perry	G-12	Band	Jacob Habegger	P2
2	Christianne Hernandez	102	Music/Chorus	Carrie Lugo	P1
2	Sue Maida	101	Music	Laura Coletti	P1
2	Aimee Puskar	103	Strings	Erin Mena	P2
2	Jessica Watts	104	Occupational Therapist	Michelle Neumann	114
3	Kristin Daubenspeck	129	Physical Therapist	Amy O'Leary	114
3	Connie Gustafson	123	Physical Education	David Terwilliger	111
3	Jason Hubball	208	Physical Education	Allison Pinto	111
3	Seri Pasmeg	125	Physical Education	Katherine Ciambriello	111
4	Nancy Dolph	204	Psychologist	Katrina Henrick	119
4	Laura Sinkewicz	201	Reading	Stacey Michaud	117
4	Shawn Stillway	202	Reading	Marisa Bloch	117
5	Denise Dunbar	207	Resource	Lindsay Darling-Doyle	217
5	Laura Grindall	139	Resource	Katelyn Lacafta	122
5	Lynn Wilcoxson	140	Resource	Jennifer Cusmano	G-5
6	Renee DiMatteo	216	Resource	Kate Temple	213
6	Laurelle Gallo	210	Social Worker	Jessica Morelli	118
6	Dave Henning	219	Speech	Joy Aginski	116
6	Lynn Martin	218	Speech	Catheryn Gatto	203
			Tutor - Reading	Sharon Maignan	G-1
			Tutor - Math	Lauren Thomas	115
			6th Grade Counselor	Louis Bonaventura	116

Eli Whitney Elementary School 2020-2021

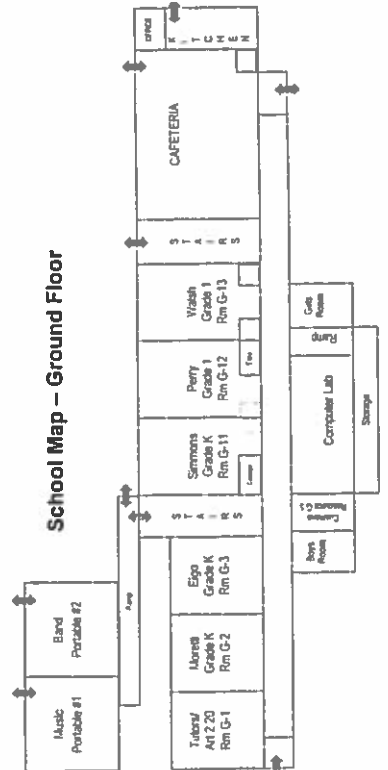
School Map – Main Floor



School Map – Second Floor

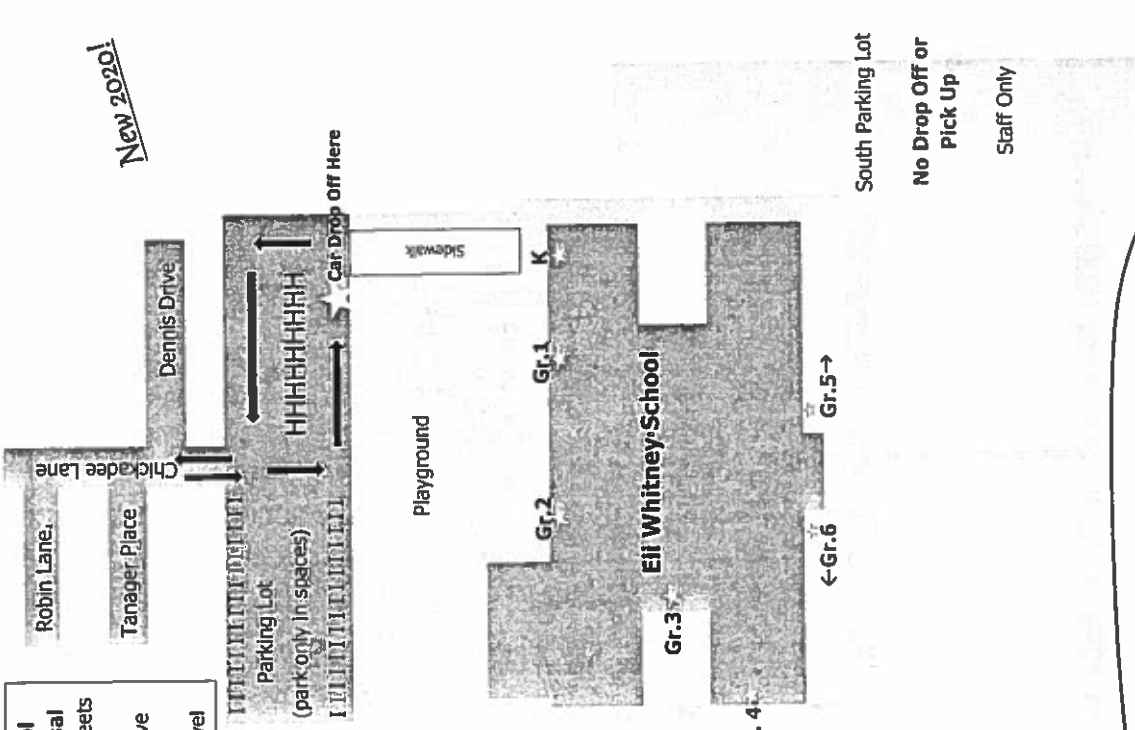


School Map – Ground Floor



Eli Whitney School Arrival and Dismissal

- Park in lot, or on streets
- Use sidewalks
- Students should arrive and dismiss at designated grade level



North Parking Lot
No Drop Off or Pick Up
Handicap and Staff Only

South Parking Lot
No Drop Off or Pick Up
Staff Only

Bus Lane – Buses Only!
Huntington Road – No Drop Off or Pick Up Here!

New 2020!

Stratford Board of Education - Proposed SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021

- First day of classes for students *
- Holidays & School Breaks
- Uniform Professional Development

Parenthesis display number of school days in a given month

Note: State law requires a minimum 180 school days in a year – Stratford builds in 182.

Early Dismissal = ED
Teacher PLC days are early dismissals (ED)

OCTOBER (22 days)

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

28 – Teacher PLC Day - ED

JANUARY (19 days)

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

1 – New Year's Day
18 – Martin Luther King Day

APRIL (16 days)

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

2 – Good Friday
12-16 Spring Recess Break

AUGUST

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31*				

31 – Teachers Convocation
Sept. 1-2 Teachers' Days (PD)
Sept 3, 4, and 8 – PD Days

NOVEMBER (18 days)

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25*	26	27
30				

3 – Election Day / PD Day
*25 – Early Dismissal
26 – Thanksgiving Day
27-Day after Thanksgiving Day

FEBRUARY (18 days)

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

24 – Teacher PLC Day - ED
12-15 President's Weekend

MAY (20 days)

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

5 – Teacher PLC Day - ED
31 – Memorial Day

SEPTEMBER (17 days)

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

* First Day of School will be September 9, 2020
7 – Labor Day
28 – Yom Kippur
30 – Teacher PLC Day - ED

DECEMBER (17 days)

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
		*		
28	29	30	31	

9 – Teacher PLC Day - ED
*23 – Early Dismissal
24-31 Winter Break

MARCH (23 days)

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

17 – Teacher PLC Day - ED
26 – PD Day

JUNE (12 days)

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	*15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

*15th - Tentative Last Day of School

Approved by: Stratford Board of Education – March 25, 2019

- Revised: July 29, 2020

-Revised: September 1, 2020

Daily Schedule for Eli Whitney Students Kindergarten through Grade 6

Regular School Day: 8:45 am – 3:15 pm
(Student supervision from 8:30 am – 3:25 pm. Please do not drop off your child(ren) any earlier than 8:30 am or pick them up any later than 3:25 pm.)

Delayed Opening: TWO HOUR DELAY **10:45 am** – 3:15 pm
(Student **supervision starts at 10:30 am**. Please do not drop off your child(ren) before 10:30 am.)

Early Dismissal: 8:45 am – **12:30 pm** (*Conferences, Teacher PLC, Inclement Weather*)
(Student supervision from 8:30 am – 12:40 pm only)

Dates for 2020 – 2021 Please mark your calendars!

- Wednesday, October 28 – Teacher PLC
- Tuesday, November 17 – Parent Conferences
- Thursday, November 19 – Parent Conferences
- Wednesday, November 25
- Wednesday, December 9 – Teacher PLC
- Wednesday, December 23
- Thursday, February 4 – Parent Conferences
- Wednesday, February 24 – Teacher PLC
- Wednesday, March 17 – Teacher PLC
- Wednesday, May 5 – Teacher PLC
- June 14 & 15* - tentative last days of school

<u>Lunch Schedule:</u>	Gr 3	10:30 – 11:00 am
	Gr 2	11:10 – 11:40 am
	Gr K & Gr 4	11:50 – 12:20 pm
	Gr 1 & Gr 5	12:30 – 1:00 pm
	Gr 6	1:10 – 1:40 pm

*Early Dismissal – lunch times vary, beginning at 10:10 am.

**Delayed Opening - lunches begin 25 minutes later.

Important Information – Eli Whitney School Guidelines

Arrival at School – 8:45 a.m.

Supervision begins at 8:30 a.m. and unattended students can present a safety issue. Please do not bring students to school before 8:30 a.m.

Please help your child by making sure all school materials (i.e. lunch money, dismissal notes, homework, glasses, etc.) are placed in his/her backpack the night before and are labeled with the child's name. We will be working on minimizing class disruptions by asking students to refrain from calling home for items after the school day has begun. In addition, it really helps your child when he/she knows of clear dismissal plans each day. (*See Dismissal Procedures*)

If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please send them an email. Arrival/dismissal times are busy times and not conducive to proper communication.

Attendance

If your child will be absent for the day, call **203-385-4198 BEFORE 8:30 a.m.** Leave a message on the absentee line stating the child's name, teacher and reason why your child is absent. **All distance learners must live stream by 9:00 a.m. so the teacher can take their attendance.**

The responsibility for regular attendance rests with the parent or guardian. Regular attendance is essential for an effective school experience and necessary for annual promotion. Contact with the principal will be necessary if the student is marked with more than 10 days of unexcused absences. Successful performance in school is closely related to regular attendance and students arriving on time. Please read the entire BOE policy on Attendance at <http://www.stratfordk12.org/Content/Policies>.

An absence shall be considered "excused" when a child does not attend school due to illness or injury, death in the immediate family, religious obligation, an emergency, or other exceptional circumstances. Written excuse for such absences should be submitted to school officials. Documentation shall explain the nature of and the reason for the absence as well as the length of the absence. Separate documentation must be submitted for each incidence of absenteeism. After nine absences, student absences must be documented with a doctor's note regarding the illness to be "excused." In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-198a, a student is truant when he/she has four (4) unexcused absences from school in one month or ten (10) unexcused absences from school in any school year. (SBOE Policy 5113c: Attendance)

Before/After School Care

Supervision is provided for 15 minutes before the instructional day begins. Students should not be on school grounds without parental supervision before 8:30 or after 3:20. If you need before or after school care, please call the YMCA at 203-375-5844. Sterling House is also an off-site afterschool provider at 203-378-2606.

Bicycles

Bicycles may be ridden to and from school for children in grades three through six. Please obtain an Authorization Request Form from the main office prior to letting your child ride his/her bike to school. Once the form is completed and approved, your child may ride his/her bike to and from school. If a student is caught riding their bicycle on school property without a helmet, parents will be contacted and permission will be revoked. No skateboards or scooters may be ridden to school. Bicycles should be locked to the bike rack on the playground.

Board of Education Policies

All policies for Stratford Public Schools can be found listed at:

<http://www.stratfordk12.org/Content/Policies>

A sampling of BOE Policies:

- Administering of Medications
- Adult / Continuing Education*
- Annual Parent Notification
- Attendance
- Bullying
- Bring Your Own Device (Revised Policy)*
- Conduct
- Cyber-bullying
- Discipline – Conduct
- Dress Code School Uniforms
- Educational
- Electronic Information Security
- Emergencies & Disaster Preparedness*
- Field Trip
- Food Services/Food Allergy Management
- Hazardous Materials
- Healthcare - 2011 HUSKY Information
- Homeless Students
- Homework
- Immunization
- Inhalant Abuse (*To be reviewed annually)*
- Notification of Student Arrest (To Supt.)*
- Organization Chart / Structure (2019-2020)*
- Pesticides Management
- Physical Exam/Interscholastic Athletics
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Press Release
- Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Protection of Undocumented Students*
- Registration
- Retention
- School Attendance Area and Waivers
- School Placement
- Sexual Harassment
- Sex Offender Notification*
- Smoke Free Environment
- Social Networking Websites
- Student Attendance Area*
- Suicide Statement
- Student Sunscreen Use*
- Summer School information
- Technology
- Transportation
- Vehicle Search*

**Newly approved and adopted policies at the Aug. 26, 2019, Board of Education Meeting.*

**** BOE Policy – Nut-Free Elementary Schools**

As of the start of the 2016 school year, the Stratford Board of Education started adhering to a TOTAL NUT-FREE policy through-out grades pre-k – 6 of the Stratford Public School system. This includes all other school-related activities, as well. If you send in a nut-free product that looks similar to “nut butter,” please label the product so we know that it does not contain any nuts.

**** BOE – Bullying Policy**

Eli Whitney is a KIND school. According to the District's bullying policy #5131.911, any student who engages in repeated acts against another student that causes physical/emotional harm to a student, damages a student's property, places a student in fear of self-harm, creates a hostile environment at school for a student, or substantially disrupts the educational process may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Students, parents, and guardians can anonymously report an act of bullying or make an oral or written report to any school employee. The policy and the reporting forms can be found on the school and District websites.

Buses and Vans (Small Buses)

Bus stops and bus numbers change from year to year. Students must ride his/her assigned bus or van. This is a safety and a space issue. Students are not allowed to switch buses for any reason. If no one is at the bus stop to meet a kindergartner, they will be brought to the YMCA where they will have to be picked up. All other students in grades 1-6 will be dropped off regardless of any one being at the bus stop.

Eli Whitney School expects that all students will be respectful, responsible, honest, and safe including the hours before and after school when transportation is being provided. According to the Board of Education policy 5131.1, "School transportation privileges are extended to school students conditional upon their satisfactory behavior on the bus." Students may be suspended from transportation services for unsatisfactory conduct while waiting or receiving transportation to and from school which endangers persons or property or violates a policy.

Cafeteria (Breakfast and Lunch)

****NEW**** All students will receive free breakfast and lunch (if requested) through December. We encourage you to still fill out the free/reduced application in the event we resume paid lunch after the New Year. The cafeteria will only serve one hot and one cold choice per day. Milk may still be purchased individually to go with home lunch. There will be no Supers or snacks available this year.

Celebrations

No outside food is permitted due to the serious nature of food allergies. All celebrations in the classroom must be pre-approved due to district policy. Please do not send any food treats to celebrate your child's birthday. Check with the teacher for other options. Also, no outside party invitations may be sent in unless the entire class is invited.

Change of Afterschool Dismissal

If you have *an afterschool change of dismissal* for your child, please send in a written note for the teacher. (*For example, Sally will not go home on the bus today. She will be picked up by her mother at afternoon dismissal.*) Again, do not email the teacher any changes of dismissal request. As the school server occasionally experiences server outages, the office staff cannot count on this method of communication to be an effective way to manage the dismissal process. A written note sent in with your child in the morning works best to ensure your dismissal changes are recorded properly.

Conferences

Parent conferences are twice a year: November 17, November 19 and February 4*. All these dates are early dismissals at 12:30 p.m.

Dismissal – 3:15 pm

Parents/guardians should meet their children at the designated grade level location. Bus and van students are called at 3:10.

Dress Code

Face masks must be worn correctly. Students are expected to dress appropriately for school in a manner that demonstrates respect for self and others. Shorts must be mid-thigh or longer; short-shorts are not allowed. Inappropriate attire also includes thin strapped tank tops, strapless tops, exposed backs or midriffs as well as visible undergarments. Coats and hats are

not to be worn while in the classroom throughout the day. Older clothes are suggested for days when your child has art class. Safe footwear should be worn daily. Slippers, flip flops, sandals and open-toed shoes must not be worn. Sneakers are highly recommended for recess on the playground. It is town policy that students must also wear sneakers during physical education class. Students who do not wear their sneakers will not be allowed to participate in physical education. If a student's appearance is judged to be inappropriate or unsafe, a parent or guardian will be contacted. Please also keep in mind, during the colder months, children need to dress warm enough to be outside for 20 minutes of recess. (SBOE Policy 5132: Student Attire)

Early Dismissal or Any Change of Dismissal**

****NEW**** It is imperative that everyone follows the new early dismissal procedures in order to keep everyone safely distanced from one another. We ask that you try to schedule any outside appointments for your children after school or on distant learning days as best you can.

1. Call the school in the morning the day you need to pick up your child early.
2. Tell the office the approximate time you need to pick up your child.
3. The office will assign you an appointment time to come in. We ask that you arrive on time so that you do not cut into another parent's appointed time slot. If an appointment time is already filled, you will be assigned to the next closest appointment time.
4. Call the school from your parked car when you arrive. The office will tell you when you may enter the building so as to limit the number of people in our lobby.
5. The office will then call down your child for dismissal.

Please do not show up during school hours without having an appointment to pick up your child. As always, please have your ID on your person at all times.

Do not email early dismissal requests to teachers. All early dismissals must go through the office in order to have an appointment.

Electronics

Students should refrain from bringing any electronic devices to school. This includes handheld devices, smart watches, cell phones, cameras, video games, iPods, iPads, etc. Cell phones must be turned off and put away in backpacks for the entire school day, including arrival and dismissal on the bus. They must not be displayed, activated, or used inside school buildings during the instructional day, including school sponsored transportation and extracurricular activities. If a student violates this policy, an administrator will confiscate the device and a parent or guardian will be contacted. (SBOE Policy 5132.81: Electronic Devices)

Fire Drills and Other Safety Drills

Connecticut State Law requires that all schools conduct 10 fire drills per school year. Therefore, every student will participate in fire drills through the course of the school year. For the 2020-21 school year, we will conduct 20 fire drills; 10 for Cohort A and 10 for Cohort B. In addition, we will conduct monthly lockdown drills. Students who ride either the bus or van will participate in two bus/van evacuations, one in the fall and one in the spring.

Health Information

When your child is ill, please call the absentee line, [203-385-4198](tel:203-385-4198), and leave a message detailing the reason for the absence. Please report all communicable diseases to the school. This includes COVID-19 (see below), flu, strep throat, conjunctivitis (pink eye), bronchitis, chicken pox, impetigo, pinworm, ringworm, mono and pneumonia.

Notify the nurse immediately of any head lice findings, even if discovered over the weekend or if it occurred during the summer. Confidentiality is always observed.

Do not send any medication to school with the children at any time. (This includes vitamins, cough drops, prescription and non-prescription drugs.) If your child will need medication in school, please obtain a special form for this purpose from the nurse.

****NEW** COVID-19 Information:**

Daily Symptom Checklist: Prior to sending your child or children to school, you should be assessing their health status. If they have any of the following, they should not be sent to school. Please contact your child's doctor if your child is exhibiting any of the following symptoms.

- Fever -100.0 or above
- Cough
- Chills
- Headache
- Shortness of Breath/Congestion
- Muscle or Body Aches
- Loss of taste or smell
- Sore Throat
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Diarrhea

We ask that you make sure you have updated your **Emergency Contacts to include three reliable contacts** in case your child needs to be sent home. It is imperative that we have a reliable contact to reach to pick up your child **within 30 minutes**. Each school has the required special area for students and staff if they present with COVID19 symptoms. We are calling these special rooms the "Medical Observation Area." This area will be where the sick student or staff will be monitored while they wait to be picked up. Remember they will need to be **picked up within 30 minutes**.

We will be monitoring for any signs and symptoms of the COVID-19 illness. **If your child needs to be sent home with fever or COVID-19 related symptoms we will ask for you to contact your child's pediatrician and obtain a note from the doctor for your child to return to school.** Your child will need to stay home for at least 48 hours. This may increase to 72 hours if there is an increase in community COVID-19 cases. If a child tests positive for COVID-19, they will be out of school for at least 14 days. They must have a doctor's note to return. It may also be necessary for a full classroom or cohort to remain home if there is a positive COVID-19 case within their Cohort; this means group or classroom and perhaps an entire school. We will notify you when there is a need for this. With each positive case of COVID-19 we will consult with Stratford Public Health Department to evaluate the best course of action. *Another important plan to have in place is child care in case you need to continue to go to work.*

Students with asthma, please be sure you send in a SPACER with your child's inhaler and doctor orders. The school nurse will determine if a student will use their inhaler in the nurse's office or outside with the nurse. This is to decrease exposure to illness.

Homework

If you'd like to request homework for your child if they have been out two or more days, please email the teacher directly. Teacher emails are located on our web site, eliwhitney.stratfordk12.org.

Lost and Found

There is a large wooden crate located near the main office. Please call the office to let us know what you are looking for and we will go and check the lost and found for you. Don't forget to label your child's jackets and lunch boxes with their names! What is not claimed will be donated throughout the year as the bin becomes filled.

OOPS! BOX

If your child has forgotten their homework, water bottle, folder, lunch, sneakers, etc., please place the forgotten item in the clear plastic box outside the main doors. There will be a pad of sticky notes so you can properly label the item with your child's name and teacher. The office staff will check the box throughout the day.

Parking/Traffic Circle Information

If you drive your child to and from school, please see the directions below for the drop-off procedures for the **back** traffic circle. Children should exit cars from the passenger side onto the sidewalk. You may never leave your car unattended with the motor running or park your car in the traffic circle. Do not park your car alongside the property border fence. Try to be patient while waiting for a spot or park on one of the side roads to pick up your child. The front parking lots should not be used to pick up or to drop off your children. We strongly recommend that parents do not drop off their children on Huntington Road which is an unsafe and busy thoroughfare.

If you are picking up a student during the school day, you can park in the north lot in a designated visitor parking space and come into the main office to sign your child out. The office will call your child for dismissal when you arrive. Also, we have handicapped parking spaces in the north lot should visitors require it. If you do not have a handicap parking sticker, do not park in the handicap spaces for any reason or amount of time.

Directions to Eli Whitney's Back Parking Lot

- From Main Street, go up Huntington Road past Eli Whitney School on the right side
- After the school, take your first right onto Florence Road
- Turn right onto Tanager Road
- Go to the end and turn right onto Chickadee Lane
- Drop-off circle for pick-up and drop off lot is at end of road

PTSA

PTSA...Parent, Teacher, Student Association - The PTSA's main focus is our children. Our mission is to support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children; to assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children; to assist parents in developing the

skills they need to raise and protect their children; and to encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.

The Eli Whitney PTSA works hard to provide educational support by means of supplies, books, and software. The PTSA is also active in supporting educational issues on a town and state level. This is in addition to sponsoring and promoting positive school-based activities for both children and families.

The PTSA is only as successful as we make it! We encourage you to volunteer in any way you are able to, as your membership helps the PTSA fund – and run - a slew of events throughout the school year.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued quarterly for all students. No paper copies will be printed; you will have access to the Parent Portal to see your child's grades and attendance.

Snacks/Drinks

Eli Whitney requests that students drink just water during the school day. Please do not send any cans or bottles of soda, tea, juice, Gatorade or any other flavored beverages. Be kind to the environment and use a recyclable bottle! There are brand new water bottle fill-up stations located throughout the building. When packing a snack for your child, pack one healthy nut-free snack such as fruit each day. Candy is not allowed in school.

Tardiness

Students are expected to be in their classrooms no later than 8:45 a.m. Students entering class late are disruptive to the learning environment. Late students must stop at the office and be checked in before going to their classrooms. When your child is late, please call the absentee line to report that your child will not be in on time. You must provide a note with a valid reason why your child is late or your child will be marked unexcused. Contact with the Principal will be necessary if the student is more than 10 (ten) days late to school.

Virtual Backpack

On Eli Whitney's website is a section for our Virtual Backpack. It contains copies of most of the notices that go home from Eli Whitney and Eli Whitney's PTSA. Did you misplace that flyer or forget an upcoming date? Just look in our Virtual Backpack!

Visitors

There will not be any visitors allowed in any of the Stratford Public Schools for the 2020-21 school year due to the pandemic.

Weather Information

Please be sure you have a plan for emergency situations (i.e. early dismissals due to weather or other conditions). Discuss this plan frequently with your child. Check for delayed openings, early dismissals and school closings on WICC, WEBE 108 and Channel WTNH 8 News.

Eli Whitney School Rules

Please review these rules with your children throughout the year.

General

Students will be expected to:

1. Walk at all times in the building.
2. Keep hands and feet to themselves.
3. Use appropriate language at all times.
4. Show respect to peers, teachers and other adults at all times.
5. Be respectful of the property of others.
6. Be respectful of the rights of others.
7. Be respectful of school property.
8. Keep the school and grounds clean.
9. Bring materials needed for class.
10. Leave all gum and candy home.
11. Leave electronic devices home.

Corridor Traffic

Students will be expected to:

1. Walk at all times in an orderly fashion.
2. Keep voices down.
3. Keep to the right.
4. Follow the teacher's directions.

Lavatories

Students will be expected to:

1. Use the lavatory only for its intended purpose.
2. Keep the lavatory clean.
3. Go in one at a time.

Assemblies*

Students will be expected to:

1. Show respect to guests, peers, teachers and other adults.
2. Respond appropriately to guests.
3. Stay in his/her own space.

**Will resume when it is deemed to be safe.*

Playground

Students will be expected to:

1. Keep all stones, sticks, dirt, sand, snow, etc. on the ground.
2. Stop all play activities when requested by teacher.
3. Return equipment to its proper place.
4. Display good sportsmanship.
5. Wash hands before and after use.

Cafeteria

Students will be expected to:

1. Remain in their seats while eating.
2. Speak using inside voices.
3. Eat all lunch items in the cafeteria only.
4. Raise your hand if you need something.
5. Lights out means silence.
6. Obey and respect the cafeteria monitors.
7. Eat only foods that are nut-free.

Bus

Students will be expected to:

1. Stay in their seats and follow the driver's instructions at all times.
2. Use appropriate language at all times.
3. Keep head, arms, and hands in the bus.
4. Keep the bus clean.
5. Will not eat or drink on bus.
6. Obey bus patrols.
7. Get on and off the bus in an orderly fashion without pushing.
8. Line up in an orderly fashion when waiting for the bus.

Eli Whitney School Positive Behavior Expectations

As we begin the new school year, it is important to set positive behavior expectations with students. Please use this chart as a reference for expected behaviors in all areas of our school as we build classroom communities and teach the school expectations of **"Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Honest, and Be Safe."**

	Arrival/ Dismissal	Classroom	Hallways	Cafeteria	Bathroom	Assembly	Playground
Be Respectful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Say "Hello", "Goodbye" and "Thank You" -Listen to bus patrol monitors -Listen to your bus driver 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Raise your hand to speak -Listen to teachers -Be kind to others -Work quietly -Wait your turn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Walk quietly -Keep hands and feet to self -Keep hands off of bulletin boards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Raise your hand if you need help -Wait your turn -Be kind to lunch aides -Use appropriate language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Be quiet in the bathroom -Quietly wait your turn -Allow others privacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stay seated -Keep your body quiet -Look and listen to the speaker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Take turns -Use kind words -Look and listen to your teacher -Respect school property
Be Responsible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Go straight to class -Keep the bus clean (no eating/drinking) -Take your things with you when you get off the bus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Complete homework -Put materials away -Ask for help -Follow directions -Try your best 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Look and listen to your teacher -Stay with your class -Go right to your destination -Walk at all times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Use an indoor voice -Pick up after yourself -Raise your hand for garbage -LIGHTS OFF, VOICES OFF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Flush toilet -Throw paper towels in the trash -Wash hands with soap and water -Sign in and out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stay with your class -Follow teacher directions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Share equipment -Include everyone -Line up quickly -Take care of recess equipment
Be Honest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Take ownership of words and actions -Go where you say you are going -Be truthful about actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Take ownership of words and actions -Be truthful about actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Take ownership of words and actions -Go where you say you are going -Be truthful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Take ownership of words and actions -Take the lunch you ordered -Be truthful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Take ownership of words and actions -Only use the bathroom when necessary -Be truthful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Take ownership of words and actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Take ownership of words and actions -Be truthful about actions
Be Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Keep hands and feet to yourself -Walk quietly to class -Use stairs safely -Sit and stay in your seat -Stay in designated spot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Keep hands and feet to yourself -Use materials appropriately -Follow classroom rules -Get help from an adult if there is a problem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Keep your hands and feet to yourself -Stay with your class -Keep a safe space and distance from others -Get help from an adult if there is a problem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Keep hands and feet to yourself -Keep your seat on the floor -Raise your hand for help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Walk safely in and out of the bathroom -Use the bathroom appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Keep your hands and feet to yourself -Enter and exit with your teacher -Keep a safe space and distance from others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Keep your hands and feet to yourself -Play safely -Follow teacher directions -Play where you can see your teacher -Get help from an adult if there is a problem

And Always Be Kind!