

PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
2017-2018
PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

BRYANT RANCH SCHOOL

Reflect the Past, Explore the Present, Invent the Future



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Bryant Ranch Elementary School! Our motto is “Reflect the Past, Explore the Present, Invent the Future.” We serve approximately 600 students preppy kindergarten through fifth grade. The Bryant Ranch school community works together to provide a positive learning environment for students where we shape academic, physical, social and emotional development for all students. We recognition individual differences that help students make the transition between learning and living in the 21st century a smooth one. Preparing your child for the future is our ultimate goal, and we welcome you as our partners in that endeavor.

The elementary years are critical for students to develop a strong foundation for learning how to build independent thinking and problem solving skills in a safe, stimulating and academically challenging environment. Learning is supported through common core instruction, direct explicit lessons, technology, and numerous enrichment opportunities. We embrace our school community to help students prepare for the future and become career and college ready.

As we embark on our new school year together, please take time to thoroughly read through this handbook with your child. This handbook contains necessary information regarding procedures, policies, and behavior management. We believe the first step for students to excel at school begins with RESPECT for themselves and others, and pride in their school. Again, please read and discuss the handbook with your child so the expectations for Bryant Ranch are clear. We will provide opportunities for every child to reach their highest potential!

Please feel free to contact the school office if you should have any questions. I look forward to working with the Bryant Ranch school community ensuring nothing but success for all of our students.

Warmly,

Dominique A. Polchow

Teacher, Student, Parent Compact

The Teacher Pledge

I understand the importance of fostering a positive school experience for every child. I am committed to creating a school that knows no limits to the academic success of each student. I agree to carry out the responsibilities found in the Bryant Ranch Staff Handbook. Each of these responsibilities speaks to my commitment to teach to the state standards, communicate regularly with parents, and strive to meet the individual needs of each student.

The Student Pledge

I understand that my education is very important to my future. It will help me develop the tools I need to become a successful and productive citizen. I know my education now will prepare me for the future. I am committed to the following requirements found in the Bryant Ranch Student Handbook. In addition, I commit to:

- Arriving to school every day and on time unless I'm ill.
- Pledging to be an Excellent Explorer by...being **safe, respectful, responsible, and kind in all areas on campus.**
- Completing and turning in homework and assignments on time every day.
- Communicating with my parents about my grades and school work.
- Treat all other students and adults with kindness and respect
- Be responsible for my own behavior
- Ask for help when needed and offer to help others
- Respect school rules, school property, and the property of others
- Each of the above responsibilities speaks to my commitment to learn and become the best student I can.

The Parent Pledge

I understand that my child's education is essential for their success in life. I am committed to support my child to become a productive citizen preparing them for the future. I am committed to the requirements found in the Bryant Ranch Parent Handbook. In addition, I commit to:

- Ensuring that my child arrives to school every day and on time unless they are ill. This includes scheduling doctor appointments after the instructional day.
- Pledging to be a Proudful Parent of an Excellent Explorer by making goals important, making character count, and encouraging my child each and every day to do their best.
- Treat all staff in a kind, professional and respectful manner (See CIVILITY POLICY 1312 – BP)
- Provide support and a quiet place and time for my child to read and do homework
- Review all school communications and return necessary paperwork
- ATTEND Parent's Night, conferences, Open House, and other school events
- Make sure that my child gets ample sleep and physical activity, and eats nutritious foods
- Limit time spent by my child on TV, computer, and video games
- Support the school's/district's homework, discipline, and attendance policies ([PYLUSD Parent Handbook](#))
- Communicate with my child's teacher when I have questions or concerns
- Observe all traffic safety rules in the school parking lot
- Each of the above responsibilities speaks to my commitment to support Bryant Ranch in order to ensure a bright future for my child.

CIVILITY POLICY 1312 – BP

Members of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District staff will treat parents and other members of the public with respect and expect the same in return. The district is committed to maintaining orderly educational and administrative processes in keeping schools and administrative offices free from disruptions and preventing unauthorized persons from entering school and district grounds. This policy promotes mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among district employees, parents, and the public. This policy is not intended to deprive any person of his/her right to freedom of expression but only to maintain, to the extent possible and reasonable, a safe, harassment-free workplace for our students and staff. In the interest of presenting district employees as positive role models to the

children of this district, as well as the community, PYLUSD encourages positive communication and discourages volatile, hostile, or aggressive actions. The district seeks public cooperation with this endeavor.

GENERAL INFORMATION

After Hours/Weekends - The school is not responsible for injuries that occur on campus when authorized supervision is not present. Please do not send children to play at school unattended before or after school or on weekends. There is no skateboarding, rollerblading, bicycle riding, or riding scooters on campus during or after school hours. **If you see anyone vandalizing or destroying school property, please call the Orange County Sheriff's Department at 714-647-7000 or the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District's hotline at 866-996-2550.**

Animals at School - District policy prohibits bringing pets or other animals on school grounds without prior permission by the teacher and/or principal. This is important for student safety.

Attendance Information - On time, full day attendance is necessary for an optimum educational experience. Please make note of the following procedures for absences, tardies, and early checkouts. More information can be found in the PYLUSD Parent Handbook on pg. 9: [Attendance & Absences](#)

Absences - Please do not send a sick child to school. Children should be kept home 24 hours after a fever breaks, for *your* child's health and the health of others. Students absent four or more days in a row are required to bring in a "return to school" note from their doctor.

For student safety and attendance purposes, please call in your child's absence each day to 714-986-7120, ext. 3, and indicate the reason for the absence. If we do not hear from you, an automated telephone call will go to the primary phone number you have listed for your child. As a reminder, District policy is you have 48 hours to clear an absence once your child returns to school or they will be marked as truant.

Tardies/Early Checkout/Medical Appointments - When a student is tardy or leaves early, he/she misses out on announcements, discussion of lesson/homework plans, or learning an important skill. This fragments a student's day and puts him/her at a disadvantage as well as disrupting the educational program for the entire class. It is imperative that each student arrive on time. For all grades, the bell rings at 7:50 a.m. Students should be on campus by 7:45 a.m. to insure that they get to class on time. Children are supervised 15 minutes before and after school. They should not arrive before 7:35 a.m. or remain after 2:30 p.m. All students who arrive after 7:50 a.m. must obtain a pass from the office before being admitted to class. **We begin instruction promptly at 7:50 a.m.** Please make use of non-student days and/or our weekly Early Release Days (every Wednesday at 1:15 p.m.) for appointments. If an early checkout is unavoidable, please send a note to your child's teacher at the beginning of the day to inform them you'll be picking up early. All early checkouts require the parent/guardian's signature in the school office. Attendance and punctuality is a habit which needs to be learned as an important life skill.

Back to School Night is in September when *Parents only* are invited to classrooms to meet their child's classroom teachers and gain an overview of curriculum and teacher expectations for the year.

Bicycle/Scooter Riders - 4th & 5th Grades Only - All riders (4th & 5th grades only) are required to wear a helmet and use a bike lock at school. The school is not responsible for any bicycles/scooters that are damaged or stolen. As a safety precaution once on campus, students are required to walk their bikes/scooters to the fenced bike rack. Violations of school safety rules will result in denial of riding privileges.

Birthdays

Birthdays are a memorable time to share with teachers and friends at school and each classroom teacher has their own policy that will be shared with you at Back to School Night.

Cell Phones— *EC Section 48901.5 – The PYLUSD Board of Education may regulate the possession or use of an electronic signaling device. No student will be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician to be essential for the health of the student. Students are not to use cell phones or other electronic devices during the instructional day unless authorized by school personnel.*

Students who use their phone at inappropriate times will have it taken away for the day and can pick up it in the office after school.

Classroom Treats and Flower/Gift Deliveries - There has been an increase in the number of students with food allergies. We recommend store bought foods (that can be served individually) when providing a treat for your student's classroom. Ingredients can then be reviewed for possible allergies. Please inform your child's teacher before bringing in any treats. Treats are given to the children at recess and/or lunch break and must come through the office. All food is eaten outside, with the exception of rainy/windy days. We do not allow delivery of flowers/balloons/gifts for birthdays or other such occasions.

Communication - The Bryant Ranch staff embraces open communication. Each week, the principal sends out weekly school news with the most up-to-date information. Additionally, you can contact your child's teacher via email, phone, or in person. If you would like to meet in person with your child's teacher, please be courteous and give them ample notification. This will ensure that the teacher is prepared and has enough time to meet with you. Individual teacher extensions and emails can be accessed on our website.

Computer Lab/Technology - All students receive 30 minutes of instruction weekly from a Computer Instructional Specialist in the main computer lab, which is equipped with 40 computers. Students are instructed following the District Technology Curriculum. Each grade, 1st through 5th, also use minilabs located in each classroom building where they have monitored access to educational games to enhance and review learning., e.g., Jiji Math.

Technology – Student Network/Internet Acceptable Use Agreement

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD) believes that the benefits of Internet access in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration far exceed any disadvantages. In order to be given access to the PYLUSD network, students and their parents/ guardians must sign this agreement. Please refer to pg. 5 of the [PYLUSD Parent Handbook](#)

STUDENT NETWORK/INTERNET - I understand and agree to abide by rules and expectations of this contract as well as with any and all district rules and regulations that may relate to the use of technology at school, including use of the Internet and the district network. I also understand that my use of the Internet, network and electronic communications through district computers and equipment is strictly limited to educational purposes, that I am not guaranteed any rights to privacy with respect to electronic communications or Internet records, and that, from time to time, district administration may review such electronic communications or Internet records for general security purposes and in order to ensure compliance with this agreement.

Students who violate the Network/Internet Acceptable Use Agreement, misuse electronic resources, or violate state or federal laws may be subject to disciplinary action, loss of access privileges and/or legal action in accordance with law and BP (cf. 5144 – Discipline) (cf. 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process) (cf. 5144.2 – Suspension and Expulsion/ Due Process [Students with Disabilities]). PYLUSD supports the parent's or guardian's right to authorize or decline Internet access for their student.

During the 2015-2016 school year, PYLUSD initiated a “Bring Your Own Device” policy. An explanation of this policy, as well as Frequently Asked Questions, can be found online at www.pylusd.org/byod.

Dress Code - *EC Section 35183 – Students must wear appropriate clothing, footwear and accessories, and must groom themselves for school in a manner that supports standards of safety, does not offend common standards of decency, does not reflect negatively on or detract from any phase of the educational program, and does not indicate a relationship to unauthorized student groups. School dress codes do allow for the outdoor use of sun-protective clothing (e.g., hats, etc.). These guidelines apply during the school day and at school-sponsored activities conducted on or off campus outside the official school day. Principals will publish specific statements and guidelines developed by their staff, students and community. The Education Code authorizes school districts to adopt a dress code policy that would require students to wear a school-wide uniform.*

Students are responsible for wearing appropriate and safe attire (as determined by the Principal and in accordance with District policy):

- Clothing and personal appearance should be conducive to a positive educational atmosphere so as not to interfere with the learning process.
- Clothing should be in good repair and appropriate size (no baggy or saggy)
- Shorts should be mid-thigh or longer with no frayed hems.
- No oversized tank tops, halters, spaghetti straps and/or midriff tops.
- Undergarments should not be visible.
- Shirts must not have printed messages or pictures that are negative, relate to drugs, alcohol, tobacco or violence.
- Apparel, jewelry or accessories that promote negative remarks or racial, ethnic or religious prejudice are not allowed.
- Shoes must have a closed toe and back strap. Tennis shoes must be worn on P.E. days.
- Shorts should be worn under dresses/skirts, especially on PE days.
- Sunglasses are not allowed (exceptions are made for medical reasons).
- No shoes with wheels of any kind.
- No jewelry, clothing, makeup, hair dye or hairstyle that will distract from learning.
- Headwear may be worn outside for sun protection only, and can only include baseball style caps, visors, or bucket style hats. Caps and visors must be worn with the bill in the front. Headwear is to be stored in backpacks while students are in class. In the interest of hygiene, students may not wear other students’ headwear.

Emergency Contact Information- Please make sure your information is up-to-date at all times. This information is very important for the health and safety of your child. **NOTE: Children cannot be released to persons who are not listed on this sheet.** Please be sure you keep your student’s online contact information up-to-date through your parent portal (<https://portal.pylusd.org/>). If you move, we will update that information for you. Please bring proof of your new address to the office. Persons authorized to pick up your child: Please list local persons and their best contact numbers as emergency contacts. A very sick or injured child cannot wait 45-60 minutes to be picked up from school.

English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC) is an advisory board of parents of children learning English. The group meets three times a year to discuss the progress of English Learners.

Expanded Learning (Child Care)- The school district offers an outstanding child care program at Bryant Ranch. The program is developmental in nature, staffed with caring, nurturing teachers. This before and after school care is open from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and provides a safe and structured environment. Afternoons are filled with snack time, homework time, crafts, recess and indoor/outdoor games. The 2nd through 5th graders walk directly to their childcare classrooms from their school classrooms for check-in. Preppy K, Kindergartners and 1st graders are picked up at their school classroom by the childcare teachers.

Explorer Day is every Friday. Students are encouraged to show school spirit by wearing their Bryant Ranch shirt or school colors (turquoise, silver and white).

Field Trips are any time students leave the school grounds, whether by foot or bus, and are considered a valuable part of the instructional program. Information and permission slips are sent home whenever there is a field trip planned. Students **MUST** have a properly completed permission slip, with parent/guardian signature, to attend the field trip. During a bus ride, all students use quiet voices, sit down at all times, keep hands inside the windows, no food or drink, respond respectfully to the bus driver, keep electronics in their backpacks, and use kind words when interacting with others.

Health and Safety Procedures - You will be notified promptly if your child becomes seriously ill or is seriously injured at school or on a school field trip. If we are unable to reach you, the school will contact one of your listed emergency contacts and/or your physician. Please keep your child's emergency information up to date through the online parent portal (<https://portal.pylusd.org/>). It is school policy to send a child home with a fever of 100° or above. Children should be kept home 24 hours after a fever breaks for your child's health and the health of others. For more information regarding health services please refer to pg. 17 of the [PYLUSD Parent Handbook](#).

Temporary Release from Physical Education/Physical Activity

A student who requires an exemption from participation in physical education/activity due to illness or injury will need to provide the school with a completed "Medical Release for School Activity" or "PYLUSD Physical Education Medical Exemption" form. Forms are available in the school's office or on the school district website at www.pylusd.org/healthforms.

- A request by a parent will be honored up to, and including, three days.
- A request by a licensed medical adviser will be honored up to, and including, five weeks.
- A request by a physician is necessary for an excuse to exceed five weeks.

All requests must state the diagnosis and the length of time the student will need to be excused.

Homework Brochure – Please click [HERE](#) to access the homework brochure.

Homework for Absentees - Teachers will provide homework, upon request, when a child is absent. Work for each day absent will be available **at the end of the next day**. Homework can be sent home with another child or picked up after the dismissal hour. Students are allowed a day to complete missed work for each day absent. If the absence is of some duration, please notify the office so we can properly prepare class work for your child.

Independent Study Contracts - For emergency situations or unavoidable extended absences of 5 or more days in length, independent study contracts can be requested. **AT LEAST ONE (1) WEEK'S NOTICE IS NECESSARY FOR THE TEACHER TO PREPARE THE CONTRACT.** The parent/student is required to maintain a detailed work log during the trip showing *at least* four hours of work per school day on the contract. Please request independent study contracts only if you (parent/guardian) will ensure completion of all work and do the required record keeping. The completed contract must be turned in to the teacher the day the student returns to class. It will not be accepted after that date.

Library - All classrooms visit the library once a week. Kindergartners and First Graders can check out one book per week. Second through Fifth Graders can check out two books per week. Books are due one week from checkout, but are renewable for an additional week if the student brings the book with them to the library. New books may not be checked out until overdue books are cleared. Parents/Guardians are responsible for paying for any lost and/or damaged books, and students may not check out or renew other books until their account is cleared. A notice will be sent home with the student letting parents know how much must be paid to clear the account. **All accounts must be cleared at year's end to receive the final report card.**

Lost and Found - Please have your child check the racks in the room next to the school kitchen for lost items during lunch time. Items of clothing, lunch boxes, etc. should be clearly labeled. All unclaimed items are donated twice a year (December and June) to a local charity. The school is not responsible for lost items.

Lunch Program and e-Funds for Schools Pre-Payment Options - Children may bring their lunch, or they may purchase a balanced lunch with milk for \$2.75. Milk and Capri Sun 100% juice can also be purchased separately for 50¢. If you need to deliver a lunch or money for your child, bring it to the office clearly marked with the student's and teacher's name. We will not be able to interrupt instruction, but we will inform the teacher. Be sure your child has been instructed to check the noon supervisors' cart first when they have forgotten their lunch. Please take advantage of the options to prepay your student's meal account. You may bring/send cash or check (made out to PYLUSD Nutrition Services) to the school office, or use eFunds for Schools. There are fees of \$1 for electronic transfer from a checking account or \$1.99 for a credit card purchase. Click [HERE](#) to access Nutrition Services.

Medication at School - Rules have been created to protect children from ingesting improper amounts of medication. If your child requires medication during school, a form for your doctor to sign is available in the office. All prescriptions must be in labeled prescription bottles, and will be administered by school employees. As a safety measure, no medication (including over-the-counter) may be sent with a child. Taking medication under any conditions other than described above is prohibited. For more information, please refer to pg. 18 of the [PYLUSD Parent Handbook](#).

Continuing Medications EC Section 49480 – Parents/guardians of a student on a continuing medication regimen for a non-episodic condition are required to inform school officials of the medication being taken, the current dosage and the name of the supervising physician. With the consent of the student's parent/guardian, the school nurse may communicate with the physician, and may counsel with school personnel.

School District Must Provide Administration of Prescribed Medication for Student EC Section 49423 – Any student who is required to take prescribed medication by a physician may be assisted by the school nurse or other designated school personnel if the school district receives a written statement from the physician detailing the method, amount and times the medication is to be taken, and a written statement from the parent/guardian of the student indicating their desire that the school district assist the student per the physician's statement.

Music Instruction is offered to all 4th and 5th graders. These students are enrolled in either general music or instrumental music for 45 minutes once a week, not missing any regular class instruction. Instrumental students will have one additional lesson each week. Students will participate in their chosen class for the entire school year. As instrumental classes are often large, students selecting this class should be able to work independently and in an environment that is highly stimulating and filled with sound. The school district has a limited number of instruments available for those students who are unable to obtain their own due to financial need.

Open Enrollment - For up-to-date information regarding open enrollment visit [Student Services](#).

Open House - This is a time for both parents and students to visit classrooms and see many of the year's activities. This event typically happens closer to the end of the school year.

Parent/Teacher Conference time is a special opportunity for both you and your child's teacher. (Your teacher will let you know if your student should also attend the conference.) Below are some helpful tips for you:

Before you go:

- Think about what you want to discuss with the teacher and jot down some notes.

- Share special interests about your child with the teacher.
- Share information about your child so the teacher can have a better understanding about your child.
- Ask your child what you might discuss with the teacher or if there is anything in particular that your child wants you to tell the teacher.

At the Conference:

- Arrive on time.
- Turn off your cell phone!
- The teacher will be prepared to tell you about your child’s school work. Here are some questions you might want to ask:
In what subject does my child do well? What needs improvement? What can I do at home to help?
- Ask questions about any part of the school program (homework, recess, test results, etc.)
- Bring paper to jot down notes so you don’t forget.
- Be aware that other parents are waiting for their conference. Leave promptly when your conference ends.

When you get home:

- Tell your child something good that the teacher said about him/her.
- Share information with your spouse if they were unable to attend.
- Keep communicating with the teacher throughout the year.

Parking Lot Information

Click [HERE](#) to access our parking lot rules and map. Note, there are two parking lots to access. The parking lot closest to Bryant Ranch Park is typically where students in grades PK-3 are dropped off.

Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS)

A General Overview of our school-wide Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) is a research-based framework that has been proven to improve school climate, reduce problem behavior, and increase academic instructional time in schools (for additional information go to www.pbis.org). Two primary areas of emphasis in PBIS are prevention and instruction of social behavior. PBIS is based on the idea that when students are taught clearly defined behavioral expectations and provided with predictable responses to their behavior, both positive and corrective, all students are more likely to meet those expectations.

Bryant Ranch has developed school-wide procedures to accomplish the following:

1. Define Behavior Expectations - A small number of clearly defined behavioral expectations are defined in positive, simple rules. At Bryant Ranch an **Explorer is Safe, Respectful, Responsible and Kind**. Click on the following hyperlink to access [BR Expectations Matrix](#). During the first few weeks of school, students are taught these expectations.

2. Teach Behavior Expectations - Behavioral expectations are taught using the same teaching formats applied to academic instruction. When teaching, behavioral expectations are linked to the rules of being an **Exceptional Explorer: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Kind**.

3. Acknowledge Appropriate Behaviors - Once appropriate behaviors have been defined and taught, they need to be acknowledged on a regular basis. Giving regular positive feedback when students use behaviors they have been taught is a critical step to teaching and maintaining desired behavior. Through the Bryant Ranch School program, Brag Cards and Scholar Dollars are used by individual staff members to recognize students for engaging in positive behavior. Staff members can award students across all school settings, whether they teach the student or not. When handing out Brag Cards we clearly identify the specific positive behavior the student is being recognized for and match it with one of the school rules “**Exceptional Explorer: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Kind**”. School-wide drawings occur at least once per week to recognize an “**Exceptional Explorer**” for their positive behavior.

4. **Responding to Problem Behavior.** Despite our efforts to proactively set students up for behavioral success and to prevent problem behavior, there will still be incidents of problem behavior. When it comes to responding to problem behavior we have three primary goals:

- a) Make sure to keep everyone safe.
- b) Minimize the loss of instructional time for all students (including the student who engaged problem behavior).
- c) To teach the student the appropriate behavior to use instead of the problem behavior.

For students who engage in recurring problem behavior, who are not responding to the school's progressive discipline system, additional individual behavioral supports will be provided.

Individual Student Behavioral Supports

Bryant Ranch School regularly reviews discipline referral data to identify areas for intervention and students who are at-risk. For students who engage in repeated, chronic behavior, additional supports will be put into place. Research has found that 10-15% of students will require additional support to be successful socially in school. Some of these students will respond to simple levels of intervention, while others will require more intensive individualized support.

Correction System – Responding to Problem Behavior

Despite our best attempts to set students up for success in a positive environment that prevents problem behavior, kids will still occasionally engage in problem behavior – they are kids! When responding to problem behavior, we will be guided by the following principles:

- We will respond to problem behavior only in ways that maintain the safety, well-being and dignity of the child
- A primary focus of responses for problem behavior is the instruction of the expected behavior
- Our primary goal in responding to problem behavior is to minimize the loss of instructional time for that student and all other students in the setting

Primary goals in responding to problem behavior are to identify minor problem behavior early and quickly and calmly redirect the student back to the task at hand. If the student does not respond to initial redirects, pre-planned consequences may be required.

Level 1: Staff is encouraged to deal with minor problem behavior in the classroom. The response to many behaviors will be a simple redirection and return to instruction (e.g. redirect to task, a calm response to engage in the expected behavior, or recognizing a neighboring peer for the expected behavior).

Level 2: For student behavior that persists beyond a warning or repeated redirection, disrupts instruction or recurring student behavior, a teacher redirection may be paired with the discipline referral. When delivering a Behavior Notice (see sample below), staff members should clearly identify the behavior of concern, link it to violation of a school-wide rule and use the opportunity to have the student practice the appropriate response whenever possible. Staff may pair with a classroom consequence. However, they will make sure to try to reduce the loss of instructional time. Behaviors that are given a [Behavior Notice](#) frequently warrant communication with parents and could require administration support.

Level 3: Serious student offenses will merit a [Behavior Notice](#) and the principal will become involved. Such offenses will require parent communication and will likely result in disciplinary action. Based on teacher judgment a student may also receive an office Discipline Referral for receiving three level 2 infractions within a two month period. Disciplinary responses for Level 3 offenses will focus on minimizing the loss of instructional time and focus on returning the student to the classroom as quickly as possible when it is safe to do so. Once again, instruction of the expected behavior, including student practice, should be a consistent component of all disciplinary responses.

Pictures/Videos - Capturing special moments during your child's elementary years is important and we encourage you to do so. Please keep in mind that each student has a "Release of Waiver." Parents give their permission to have their child photographed or videotaped. In order to respect the privacy of all our families, please do not post pictures and/or videos of other students on Facebook, YouTube, or any other internet site. In addition, please do not submit pictures to any newspaper and/or media unless you have cleared it with the Principal.

Report Cards - All PYLUSD elementary schools are on a trimester reporting period and report cards are given out once per trimester. Students in grades Kindergarten through 2nd receive symbol grades, and grades 3 through 5 receive letter grades. The purpose of the report card is to formally notify parents/guardians of their child's academic progress based on learning the standards at their grade level. This is a legal document which is used to monitor progress and to evaluate academic success.

REWARDS FOR STUDENTS - All students have the opportunity to receive:

Bryant Ranch Brag Cards/Scholar Dollars for positive behaviors (designed by previous year 4th graders). They expire at the end of each school year in which they are earned. Redemption choices are listed below.

Explorer Awards are awarded monthly based on our Excellent Explorer character traits.

Perfect Attendance Certificates are distributed on the last day of school along with the final report card. Criteria: No absences and no more than one tardy or early out of less than 15 minutes. (A tardy means a student is not in his or her seat when the 7:50 a.m. bell rings.)

Honor Roll Certificates for students in 3rd grade (awarded for 2nd and 3rd trimesters only), and 4th and 5th grades with a 4.0 grade point average (*PRINCIPAL*); 3.5 to 3.9 (*HIGH*); or 3.0 to 3.4 (*HONOR*) and no N's, U's, D's or F's in core curricular areas. Spelling grades are not included in the averaging of grades for honor roll status.

President's Educational Achievement Awards - Students in 5th grade have the opportunity to receive this award upon promotion, if they meet the criteria as designated by that program.

Earning Brag Cards/Scholar Dollars - Below are examples of how you can earn Brag Cards:

Efficient—Uses time well (*On time and here daily*)

eXceptional—makes smart choices (*Shows awesome behavior*)

Prepared—ready to learn every day (*returns homework, Tuesday Folder*)

Leaders—shows good character all times (*Shows awesome character*)

Organized—aware of what you are doing and where you are going (*returns homework, Tuesday Folder*)

Resourceful—seeks ways to problem solve (problem solves on own)

Effective—produces expected results and beyond (A's on tests)

Respectful—to others and self (uses manners and is helpful)

Redeeming Brag Cards - Students can redeem Brag Cards in the office (on Fridays only) throughout the school year.

School Colors are turquoise, silver and white.

School Hours

Preppy K & Kindergarten - Eagles: 7:50 - 11:10 a.m.; Owls: 9:30 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.

Grades 1-5 - 7:50 a.m. - 2:15 p.m. (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)

Early Release Day - Dismissal every Wednesday at 1:15 p.m.

Minimum Day - Dismissal at 12:45 p.m. on 10/28/17; 11/15/17; 11/16/17; 3/2/18; 6/8/18; and 12:00 on 6/14/18
Lunch Times - Grades 1, 2, 3 - 11:30 - 12:15; Grades 4, 5 - 12:15 - 1:00 p.m.

School Records - Please keep your child's emergency information up to date by immediately notifying the office when there are changes.

School Site Council (SSC) is a committee comprised of parents, teachers, classified staff and the Principal. The function of the SSC is to review the implementation of the school improvement plan and make recommendations for consolidated school improvement programs and the expenditure of categorical program money. Teachers elect teacher members and the parent community elects parent members. The SSC meets four to five times during the school year at 2:30 p.m. See the School Calendar for specific dates.

Tuesday Envelopes - In an effort to keep the lines of communication open between home and school, every Tuesday, school and community information is sent home in a "Tuesday Envelope." We conserve paper by sending most information home with the family's youngest or only student at Bryant Ranch. Items that are supplied for distribution by outside sources are given to every student. Parents/Guardians are asked to sign the Envelope each Tuesday and send it back to school with their child on Wednesday.

Visitors - All visitors are required to enter campus through the school office, sign in, and receive a visitor's badge. Visitors must also check out through the office when leaving. Students or other minor children may not accompany you on your visit. Due to lack of space and facilities, as well as legal liabilities, the school will not approve visits for the day or part of the day by children who are relatives or friends of the pupil enrolled at the school.

Volunteerism is one of the hallmarks of Bryant Ranch which helps to make our school so successful. Our volunteers are valued partners in our educational program! You are welcome to volunteer in your child's class, health office, computer lab, library, front office and on PTA committees

- o All volunteers are required to complete a Volunteer Liability and Confidentiality Statement.
- o Volunteers must attend a Volunteer Orientation which is held in September.
- o Please see your teacher for classroom volunteer opportunities.
- o Please sign in and out at the office and wear visible school identification at all times while working as a volunteer.
- o Volunteers are required to hold confidential all information that may be obtained directly, or indirectly, regarding pupils/parents/staff.
- o Please conduct yourself in a manner that will not be distracting from the educational process.
- o As a matter of safety, please do not bring children with you when volunteering (including class parties).
- o School staff is responsible for the direct supervision of volunteers. Your privileges as a volunteer may be revoked if any inappropriate actions occur as deemed by the administration.
- o School staff is responsible for maintaining student discipline.
- o Volunteers may be held liable for any act that could be considered as gross negligence in the performance of duties as a parent volunteer

Bryant Ranch Parent and Teacher Association

PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Voicemail - 714/986-7120 ext. 7

Email - PTA@bryantranchschool.com



President	Stephanie Brannon	PTAPresident@bryantranchschool.com
Executive VP	Telli Chave	PTAEVP@bryantranchschool.com
1st VP (Fundraising)	Heather Moulden	PTAFundraising@bryantranchschool.com
2nd VP (Programs)	Lynsey Ellsworth	PTAPrograms@bryantranchschool.com
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Treasurer	Heidi Barnes	PTATreasurer@bryantranchschool.com
Financial Secretary	Lyndsey Jorgenson	PTAFinancialSecy@bryantranchschool.com
Auditor		PTAAuditor@bryantranchschool.com
Historian	Angela Eilers	PTAHistorian@bryantranchschool.com
Parliamentarian		PTAParliamentarian@bryantranchschool.com

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) - Our Bryant Ranch PTA enhances the education of every child at Bryant Ranch by generously supporting the school both financially and through their wonderful volunteers. Don't miss out on joining this amazing group of volunteers and helping make a difference.

The Purpose of PTA

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, and community
- To raise the standards of home life.
- To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.
- To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth.
- To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

PTA Meetings

PTA Monthly Meetings are open to anyone interested in getting involved. These meetings are held in the Multiuse Room on the first Thursday of each month, or as published in the Tuesday Envelope.

PTA General Association Meetings are held three times a year (September, February, and May). These are brief, albeit important, meetings at which the business of the PTA is conducted. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Check your Tuesday Envelope for up-to-date specifics.

PTA PROUDLY SPONSORS THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a 4th and 5th grade incentive program designed to encourage students to read daily and advance their reading levels by passing comprehension questions.

Art Masters is a fine arts program that is woven into the school curriculum that brings to life the world's great

artists. Students of all grade levels are inspired to become excited about art when they emulate the work of a master artist and learn to create their very own masterpiece.

Disaster Preparation facilitates the maintenance of proper supplies needed in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Family Nights typically held two or three times throughout the year, are fun filled events when the whole family can spend an evening together with other members of our school community.

Fundraisers: *Book Fairs (2)*; Box Tops and Labels for Education collection; **Investment Membership, Jog-a-Thon**, year-round **recycling** of printer cartridges, and **Spirit Clothing** sale. Proceeds from these fundraisers and any other funds raised benefit the many **student programs, incentives, assemblies, field trips, supplies, playground equipment and technology.**

Hospitality/Staff Appreciation, where a committee of volunteers coordinate refreshments for occasional school functions throughout the year.

MIND Research Institute Spatial-Temporal (ST) Math - ST Math (Jiji) promotes mastery-based learning and mathematical understanding through integrated development and practice of math concepts, skills, and problem solving. It's a self-paced system that addresses individual needs with gradual difficulty accelerating learning for all students. These engaging games help students learn math principles aligned with state standards.

PTA Membership, only \$10 for regular dues offers the opportunity to support a national network of people who believe in the promotion of parent and public involvement in schools and communities. New this year, and still under construction, membership includes an online Parent to Parent directory (with access code) for facilitating communications within your school community. This will also include you in text communications for PTA events. Additional donations are welcome and recognized through Investment Membership Levels.

Read Naturally is a PTA purchased program supported by teachers and administrators. It is implemented and run by teachers and volunteers who are trained to provide support on an individual basis to help improve student reading frequency rates and, therefore, reading comprehension.

Red Ribbon Week is part of a nationwide celebration encouraging healthy, drug-free lifestyles. Scheduled for the end of October, the week is packed with activities aimed at reminding all students how to **say NO to drugs.**

Reflections is a National PTA student arts recognition and achievement program. Reflections provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by a pre-selected theme, while increasing community awareness on the importance of the arts in education.

School Pictures are taken of each student during the fall (including a make-up/new student date).

School Play is a wonderful opportunity for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students who wish to show their creativity and participate in a play through acting or on the Tech Crew. This production is a hit every year!

Spelling Bee, held in the spring, offers students in grades 3-5 an opportunity to show off their spelling skills. Competitions begin in the classroom and culminate with a spelling championship.

Tuesday Envelopes is a crew of volunteers that distribute a weekly envelope containing information regarding

school and PTA activities, helping keep the lines of communication open between the school and our families.

Yearbooks are distributed at the end of the school year and serve as a meaningful memento of the students' Bryant Ranch experience.