

# Lil' Stangs Preschool

**Stanton Community Schools**

**2026-2027 Handbook**



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## **Welcome**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! The Stanton Community School District provides a strong and meaningful early childhood experience to our early learners. We are excited to welcome you and your little ones to the Lil' Stangs Preschool!

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day or school year. This handbook does not create a "contract." The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well-being of all students. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

The policies of the Board of Education may cover areas not addressed in this handbook. Every parent or guardian and student should familiarize themselves with Board policies online.

Collaboration, positive support, and communication between the home and school will be key for the success of the children and the program. The preschool handbook contains much information about the early childhood program, services, and policies that affect the students. We ask that you review this information. Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

### **Contact Information:**

Stanton Elementary  
506 Fir Street  
PO Box 749  
Stanton, NE 68779

Preschool Learning Center: 402-439-2255  
Elementary Office: 402-439-2639  
Superintendent Office: 402-439-2233

**School's Website:** <https://www.stantonmustangs.org>

**School Board Policies:** <https://meeting.sparqdata.com/Public/Organization/405>



## **Lil' Stangs Preschool Partners**

Educational Service Unit 8  
Noah's Ark Preschool  
Stanton Public Library  
Stanton Community for Kids  
Stanton Businesses

## **Board of Education**

John Mandl ..... President  
David Morfeld ..... Vice-President  
Rob Hupp ..... Treasurer  
Amanda Tomasek ..... Honorary Secretary  
Shad Pohlman ..... Member  
Brian Wehner ..... Member

## **Administration**

Darren Soucie ..... Superintendent  
Sarah Remm ..... Elementary Principal  
Micah Buller ..... Secondary Principal

## **Preschool Faculty & Staff**

Annette Soucie ..... Preschool Teacher  
Sylvia Sherman ..... Paraprofessional  
Kenna Hellbusch ..... Paraprofessional  
Sedrick Svehla ..... Physical Education/Health Teacher  
Austin Brown ..... Music Teacher  
Tara Padilla ..... Library/Media Specialist



# 2026-2027 School Calendar

2026-2027



CALENDAR

| KEY                                      |  |
|------------------------------------------|--|
| New Teacher Inservice                    |  |
| Prek Only Status                         |  |
| No School                                |  |
| Parent - Teacher Conferences             |  |
| No School; Full Day Staff Development    |  |
| 1:20 Early Out; Staff Development/Grades |  |

| August                                                          | SD   | S  | T  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------|----|----|
|                                                                 | 3.32 | 13 | 16 |
| 7 New Teacher Inservice                                         |      |    |    |
| 10-12 No School; Staff Development/Work Day                     |      |    |    |
| 13 School Begins - 11:35 Dismissal                              |      |    |    |
| 19 First Day of Pre-School<br>- Pre-School Early Dismissal 1:20 |      |    |    |

| September                       | SD | S  | T  |
|---------------------------------|----|----|----|
|                                 | 1  | 20 | 21 |
| 7 Labor Day - No School         |    |    |    |
| 28 No School; Staff Development |    |    |    |

| October                                                         | SD | S  | T    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|------|
|                                                                 | 0  | 21 | 21.5 |
| 7 PK-6 No School - PT Conferences                               |    |    |      |
| 7 7-12 PT Conferences (2:30-7)<br>- 1:20 PM Early Dismissal     |    |    |      |
| 16 1st Quarter Ends = 45 days<br>- 1:20 Early Dismissal; Grades |    |    |      |
| 22 Pre-School - No School                                       |    |    |      |
| 23 No School; Fall Break/.5 PT Comp Day                         |    |    |      |

| November                                  | SD   | S  | T  |
|-------------------------------------------|------|----|----|
|                                           | 0.32 | 18 | 18 |
| 4 1:20 Early Dismissal; Staff Development |      |    |    |
| 25-27 No School - Thanksgiving Break      |      |    |    |

| December                                                                                   | SD | S  | T  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
|                                                                                            | 0  | 16 | 16 |
| 22 2nd Quarter Ends = 43 days<br>1st Sem. Ends = 88 days<br>- 1:20 Early Dismissal; Grades |    |    |    |
| 23-31 Christmas Break                                                                      |    |    |    |
| 23-27 NSAA Five-Day Moratorium<br>- No NSAA activities                                     |    |    |    |

| July 2026 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun       | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|           |     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   |
| 5         | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  |
| 12        | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  |
| 19        | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  |
| 26        | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |

| August 2026 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun         | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|             |     |     |     |     |     | 1   |
| 2           | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |
| 9           | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  |
| 16          | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  |
| 23          | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  |
| 30          | 31  |     |     |     |     |     |

| September 2026 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun            | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|                |     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   |
| 6              | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  |
| 13             | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| 20             | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  |
| 27             | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |     |     |

| October 2026 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun          | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|              |     |     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   |
| 4            | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  |
| 11           | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  |
| 18           | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  |
| 25           | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |

| November 2026 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun           | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 1             | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   |
| 8             | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  |
| 15            | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  |
| 22            | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  |
| 29            | 30  |     |     |     |     |     |

| December 2026 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun           | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|               |     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   |
| 6             | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  |
| 13            | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| 20            | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  |
| 27            | 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |     |

| January 2027 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun          | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|              |     |     |     |     | 1   | 2   |
| 3            | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   |
| 10           | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  |
| 17           | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  |
| 24           | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |
| 31           |     |     |     |     |     |     |

| February 2027 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun           | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|               | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   |
| 7             | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| 14            | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| 21            | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  |
| 28            |     |     |     |     |     |     |

| March 2027 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun        | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|            | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   |
| 7          | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| 14         | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| 21         | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  |
| 28         | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |     |     |

| April 2027 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun        | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|            |     |     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   |
| 4          | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  |
| 11         | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  |
| 18         | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  |
| 25         | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |

| May 2027 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun      | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|          |     |     |     |     |     | 1   |
| 2        | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |
| 9        | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  |
| 16       | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  |
| 23       | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  |
| 30       | 31  |     |     |     |     |     |

| June 2027 |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun       | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|           |     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   |
| 6         | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  |
| 13        | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| 20        | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  |
| 27        | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |     |     |

| January                                    | SD | S  | T  |
|--------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
|                                            | 2  | 18 | 20 |
| 1 Christmas Break                          |    |    |    |
| 4 No School;<br>- Staff Development/Grades |    |    |    |
| 5 School Reconvenes                        |    |    |    |
| 18 No School - Mid-Winter Workshop         |    |    |    |

| February                                                      | SD   | S  | T    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------|----|------|
|                                                               | 0.32 | 19 | 19.5 |
| 3 1:20 Early Dismissal; Staff Development                     |      |    |      |
| 11 PK-6 No School - PT Conferences                            |      |    |      |
| 11 7-12 P/T Conferences (2:30-7)<br>- 1:20 PM Early Dismissal |      |    |      |
| 18 Pre-School - No School                                     |      |    |      |
| 19 No School;<br>- Winter Break/.5 PT Comp Day                |      |    |      |

| March                                                          | SD | S  | T  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
|                                                                | 0  | 16 | 16 |
| 5 3rd Quarter Ends = 42 days<br>- 1:20 Early Dismissal; Grades |    |    |    |
| 8-12 No School - Spring Break                                  |    |    |    |
| 25 Pre-School - No School                                      |    |    |    |
| 26 No School - Easter Break                                    |    |    |    |
| 29 No School - Easter Break                                    |    |    |    |

| April                                      | SD   | S  | T  |
|--------------------------------------------|------|----|----|
|                                            | 0.64 | 22 | 22 |
| 7 1:20 Early Dismissal; Staff Development  |      |    |    |
| 21 1:20 Early Dismissal; Staff Development |      |    |    |

| May                                                                                                  | SD | S  | T  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
|                                                                                                      | 0  | 14 | 15 |
| 5 Last day for seniors                                                                               |    |    |    |
| 8 Graduation - 2:00 p.m.                                                                             |    |    |    |
| 13 Last Day of Pre-School                                                                            |    |    |    |
| 20 4th Quarter Ends = 47 days<br>2nd Sem. Ends = 89 days<br>Last Day - 11:35 Early Dismissal; Grades |    |    |    |
| 21 Teacher Checkout Day                                                                              |    |    |    |
| 31 Memorial Day                                                                                      |    |    |    |
| 21-28 Snow Makeup Days (if needed)                                                                   |    |    |    |

Student Contact Days..... 177  
Teacher Contract Days..... 185

Updated 4/15/2026

Board Approved - February 9, 2026

## **Preschool Fee**

There is no weekly fee for attending Lil' Stangs Preschool.

## **Curriculum**

Lil' Stangs Preschool implements *Creative Curriculum* to support active learning through a variety of experiences for all students. There are 38 research-based objectives that guide the lessons and learning activities each week. The preschool staff is able to see each child's development and learning along a progression across the entire span of early childhood years.

Developmentally appropriate practice requires teachers to teach in ways that match the way children develop and learn so as to promote their optimal development and learning. Our team makes decisions about the education of children on the basis of three types of information:

- Child development and how children learn
- The individual strengths, needs, and interests of each child
- Each child's family and community cultures

The Creative Curriculum is a research based system that combines curriculum, assessment, professional development and family connection resources. The curriculum is based on five fundamental principles:

- Positive interactions and relationships with adults provide a critical foundation for successful learning.
- Social-emotional competence is a significant factor in school success.
- Constructive, purposeful play supports essential learning.
- The physical environment affects the type and quality of learning interactions.
- Teacher-family partnerships promote development and learning.

The Creative Curriculum is researched based on 38 objectives for development and learning. The curriculum helps guide teachers to determine the developmental progress of each child and plan appropriate learning experiences. The 38 objectives fall under the following 10 categories:

- 1) Social-emotional
- 2) Physical
- 3) Language
- 4) Cognitive
- 5) Literacy
- 6) Mathematics
- 7) Science and Technology
- 8) Social studies
- 9) The arts
- 10) English language acquisition



## **Social-Emotional Learning**

*Early Learning Second Step* is implemented in the preschool classroom to teach and address the social and emotional learning needs of young learners. The *Second Step* program is also utilized with students in grades K-5.

## **Assessment and Screening**

*GOLD* is the assessment tool used to measure and monitor student growth and development at the preschool level. *Creative Curriculum* aligns with the *GOLD* standards assessment; therefore, guiding the overall teaching and learning process.

Children that will be eligible for kindergarten during the following school year will be screened three times a year with the Acadience PELI (Preschool Early Literacy Indicators). Results will be shared with parents.

The ASQ-3 (Ages and Stages Questionnaire) is a development screening tool that pinpoints developmental progress in young children.

## **Transition Opportunities**

The four-year-old preschool students have opportunities to get to know the elementary building and staff with scheduled music, PE, and library times throughout the week.

## **The Preschool Day**

### **Four-Year-Old Program:**

On regular school days, preschool will start at 8:05 a.m. with the serving of breakfast to students. Your child may be dropped off at the preschool no earlier than 7:40 a.m. The school day will end at 3:30 p.m. Preschool is in session Monday through Thursday for students.

### **Three-Year-Old Program:**

The three-year-old program is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:05 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Breakfast is offered to students. A morning snack will be provided by the school.

## **Bus Transportation**

Bus services are provided to our preschool students. Bus services are available both before and after school for four-year-olds. Bus services to school are provided for three-year-olds; however, busing after school is not provided. A request for transportation will need to be completed via a link sent out by the high school office. Transportation requests are filled based on a priority list, starting with rural routes.

## **Home Visits and Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Stanton Community Schools recognizes parents as their child's primary teachers. We encourage intentional strategies to engage parents in their children's learning and development and support parent-child relationships. Home visits allow parents and staff to build relationships and stronger communication. They provide staff with greater insight into children and their families, give the families a greater opportunity to get to know staff, and show children how important they are to the staff. The first home visit must be completed before a child can attend preschool.

Visits may be completed at home, school, or another location as agreed upon by both the parents and school. The first visit is conducted in August with two more opportunities throughout the school year during parent-teacher conferences. During these visits you may be asked to:

- Share your child's health information
- Identify family strengths and skills

- Review developmental screenings
- Review child's attendance
- Review child's performance (social emotional, academic, and physical)
- Request resources and referrals
- Discuss any other pertinent information regarding your child

### **Family Engagement (Volunteering, Classroom Celebrations, Etc.)**

By volunteering, you and your family will become acquainted with our program, observe first-hand its potential to impact the development of your child, and help staff make a fun learning experience for your child. We encourage and welcome parent/family and community volunteers. If you are interested in ways to serve and learn, please contact your child's teacher.

Other opportunities to get involved include providing treats for celebrations, supplying materials for activities/projects, reading to students, and career exploration.

All birthday and celebration treats must be pre-packaged. This means store-bought items, such as *Little Debbie* snacks or pre-packaged bakery items. No homemade treats please.

### **Early Childhood Advisory Committee**

Parents will have opportunities to serve as members of school committees. Those that are aligned with early childhood initiatives include Teaching and Learning, Title I, Special Education, and Communities for Kids.

### **Celebration Statement**

Our program believes that parents are the child's most important teachers. Teachers teach children for a few hours a day, but parents teach children all the other hours of the day. We believe that parents should teach their child about their culture, their values, and their faith beliefs since parents are the best people to teach.

- **Celebrate milestones** – Examples include; first steps, first haircut, the first tooth, learning to whistle, printing names, moving from one age group to another, tying shoelaces, telling a story, and making a friend.
- **Celebrate points of learning** – the number 3, worms, the color red, a favorite story, Thursday.
- **Celebrate children and families** – the birth of a sibling, a grandparent visit, moving to a new house. Children need this reinforcement that what happens at home is important at the center and vice versa.
- **Celebrate events in the world** (natural and unnatural) – the first snowflake, puddles, seasons, a presidential visit. Let's celebrate wonder.

### **Walking Field Trips/Classroom Visitors**

During orientation, forms are signed giving your child permission to participate in walking field trips. Throughout the year, the staff will be sending home notes/weekly newsletters informing you of upcoming trips. Classroom visitors may be scheduled to attend the classroom as part of the weekly lesson plan.

### **Attendance & Absences/Tardiness**

Attendance is crucial! We are learning new skills everyday and it is hard for your child to catch up if they miss too much school. Please inform the elementary office (402-439-2639) if your child will be tardy or absent from school.



## **Personal Belongings**

All the children's belongings must be labeled with his/her name. The program is not responsible for any lost items. Please do not send toys, money, or food to school. We do a lot of exploring, painting, etc. so play clothes are best for your child to wear. Each child must have extra clothing (winter and summer) at the school with their name on them in case of an emergency (spills, toileting accidents, messy artwork, etc.)

Each child has a cubby and/or coat locker with his/her name on it. Notes from the office, newsletters, artwork, etc., will be placed here. The child's coat and backpack will be on a coat hook/locker. **Be sure to check your child's backpack daily!**

## **School and Personal Care Supplies**

All supplies such as crayons, paper, pencils, and meals will be provided for children enrolled in center-based programs *at no cost* to the family.

## **Toilet Accident Procedure**

If during the day your child has a toileting accident, the staff will assist your child in changing his/her clothes. The soiled garments will be placed in a plastic bag and sent home that day, with a note making the parent aware of the accident. If no clothes are available, the staff will notify the parents or an emergency contact to bring a clean change of clothes for the child. **Please make clothes and footwear simple, washable, sturdy, not too tight or loose, safe and easy to manage.**

## **Breakfast, Lunch, & Snack**

Meals are considered to be a part of the instructional time because children are engaging with each other, socializing, using vocabulary taught in the classrooms, interacting, and learning expected lunchtime behaviors and healthy food choices.

Breakfast will be served each morning and lunch will be provided each day. Parents/guardians are responsible for the cost of breakfast and lunch. Morning and afternoon snacks and the milk offered during the afternoon snack break are provided by the school. A healthy snack will be provided any time there is a 3 hour or longer break between meals.

Children are allowed to bring a sack lunch from home, but we highly encourage them to take advantage of the school lunch program, which meets the USDA Child Nutrition Program guidelines.

We ask that families who have a child with food allergies students fill out a form as provided through our lunch program. Students are required to try something at each meal. If you are providing lunch for your child, we request that it is nutritious and contains at least 2 items from the 5 food groups and does not include candy. We follow the wellness policy as provided on the district website.

Breakfast - \$2.25      Lunch - \$3.25

## **Outdoor Procedure**

**Does my child have to go outside every day?** Children will go outside daily unless the temperature and/or wind chill is 20 degrees or below, or the heat index is 90 degrees or above.

Health experts agree on the importance of fresh air and the negative health consequences of children spending too much time in indoor settings. If a child is well enough to be at school, the child is generally assumed to be well enough

to go outside. Children are expected to go outside every day, except in extreme weather. However, when a parent presents a note from a physician that requires their child to stay inside, the note is honored. Special circumstances will be discussed on an individual basis.

**But what about my child's health?** We understand that parents naturally have strong feelings about keeping their children healthy. Health experts agree that cool or damp weather is rarely harmful to children and going outside is essential.

**What if my child is not dressed properly?** Please provide a coat, hat, mittens, and boots for your child. If you do not have these items, let the staff know. Staff know that things get lost, so we will try to keep extras on hand for those times when items disappear. Our program depends on children arriving with all the appropriate clothing for a full, active day, indoors and out.

### **Smoke Free Environment**

All facilities follow a “*Smoke-Free Environment*” policy. The policy prohibits smoking, including electronic cigarettes, in all spaces utilized by the program. This includes classrooms, staff offices, kitchens, restrooms, parent and staff meeting rooms, hallways, outdoor property, home visits, parking lots, and walking field trips. Caregivers should prohibit from wearing clothing that smell of smoke when working with preschoolers to reduce the exposure thirdhand smoke presents.

***Under no circumstances should smoking occur in the presence of children.***

### **Child Abuse and Neglect Procedure**

***\*All adults are mandatory reporters\****

In compliance with Nebraska Revised Statute 28-711 Reporting Law, when any person has reasonable cause to believe that a person is being subjected to conditions that would result in neglect or abuse, he/she is required by law to report such incidents to the Child and Family Services (formally CPS) or proper law enforcement agency (police/sheriff department). It is the primary goal of the program to provide and ensure a safe environment for all children. Child abuse exists in every level of society. There are four recognized and defined forms of child abuse:

- **Physical Abuse:** Non-accidental injury, which may include severe beatings, burns, strangulation, or human bites.
- **Neglect:** The failure to provide a child with the basic necessities of life-food, clothing, shelter, or medical care.
- **Sexual Molestation:** The exploitation of a child for the sexual gratification of an adult, as in rape, incest, fondling of genitals, or exhibitionism.
- **Emotional Abuse:** A behavior that places unreasonable demands on a child to perform above his or her capabilities and does so in an excessive or aggressive manner. Examples include constant teasing, belittling, verbal attacks, and a lack of love, support, or guidance.

It is important that parents know that it is against Nebraska law and considered child neglect to leave a child, six years of age or younger, alone in a vehicle. Please let staff know if you require assistance with other siblings. Staff are required, by law, to report to the authorities if children are not properly restrained in a car seat.

**Staff can neither confirm or deny any child abuse or neglect cases reported by our program.**

In the event of a suicide threat made by a child, staff will first contact the Mental Health consultant; the parent will be

notified and referred to the Nebraska Family Hotline (Available 24/7) 1-888-866-8660. Comprehensive background checks including sex offender and criminal are completed on staff upon hire. Parents and volunteers will never be left alone with children at any time. All information is confidential. If a parent, volunteer, or visitor appears on the Sex Offender Registry or as a perpetrator of sexual abuse against a child or vulnerable adult, schools will enforce their local city ordinance. For the safety of your child, the Nebraska Sex Offender Registry can be found on the website: [www.nsp.state.ne.us](http://www.nsp.state.ne.us)

## **Health Screens and Assessments**

All children enrolled in preschool must receive the following screens. All screenings are valid for one calendar year, unless otherwise stated.

**Dental Examination** - Children must have an up-to-date dental exam. This must be done by a qualified health professional (dentist).

**Growth Assessment** - Each enrolled child's nutrition history will be reviewed by a Registered Dietician. The nutrition history will be taken from the Nutrition Questionnaire and Height and Weight/Length measurements. Parents are notified of the results of the assessment through the Nutrition Assessment summary. Parents will have an opportunity to work with the Registered Dietician if concerns exist.

**Developmental Screens** - Staff will complete the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3) for each enrolled child. This screening will identify potential problems in the areas of personal/social, communication, gross motor, fine motor, and problem-solving skills. Parents will also assist the Teacher with the Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social Emotional screener.

**Physical Examination** - Children must have an up-to-date physical exam. This must be done by a qualified health professional (Physician, Physician's Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner). The following screenings need to be completed with the physical:

- **Height and Weight/Length:** Measurements recorded.
- **Lead Screening:** If screenings were not completed at 12 and 24 months of age, one screening is required after age 3. If screenings are not completed with a child's physical, a medical professional will provide the screenings.
- **Hemoglobin Screening:** A hemoglobin screening questionnaire will be completed within the first 90 days for all children ages 3-5. If a child is determined to be at risk, further testing may be requested.
- **Vision Screening:** Each enrolled child is required to have a vision acuity test performed. A trained professional will perform this screen. Children who are 3 years old are eligible for a free vision screening through the "See-To-Learn" program.
- **Blood Pressure Screening:** Each enrolled child is required to have a blood pressure screening. This screening is done to identify possible high or low blood pressure. This screening is most often done as part of the child's physical. If not, a trained professional will complete the screening.
- **Hearing Screening:** Each enrolled child is required to have a hearing test performed. A trained medical professional will perform this screen.

## **Immunization Requirements**

Nebraska law requires that children who attend school be adequately protected against specific childhood diseases through immunizations. Parents or guardians of each enrolled child are required to submit one of the following within 30 days of enrollment:

- Proof that the child is protected by age-appropriate immunization against:
  - DTP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)
  - Polio
  - MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
  - Hib (haemophilus influenza type B)
  - Hepatitis B
  - Prevnar (pneumococcal)
  - Varicella –chickenpox (1 dose or documented history of the disease); or a certificate from a licensed medical professional stating that immunization is not appropriate and explaining the medical reason.
- Affidavit Refusal of Immunization for Religious Reasons-A notarized affidavit signed by the parent stating the immunization conflicts with their religious denomination and beliefs.
- Refusal of Immunization for Medical Reasons - Must be signed by a medical physician.

For the protection of all children, if parents have a Refusal of Immunizations in place, the child cannot attend school if there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease in school. The exclusion time will be determined by administration.

## **Birth Certificate**

The school is required to have on file a certified copy of each child's birth certificate. This copy needs to be provided to the school within the first 30 days of enrollment.

## **Sick and Short-Term Exclusion Policy**

- The *Daily Visual Health Check* will be used by parents and staff as a resource to check for symptoms/illness. Children may be excluded for any condition spread through the intestinal tract, the respiratory system, direct contact or excessive drainage.
- Any child showing symptoms from the *Daily Visual Health Check* may be excluded from the center at the discretion of the designated staff person.
- If a child is ill and/or in distress, they should remain at home until they are symptom free for 24 hours.
- If a child is absent due to illness for 3 days or more, a doctor's note may be required before the child can return to class.

## **Daily Visual Health Check**

- |                                                                                                 |                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| ● Fever at or above 100°F (Tympanic-ear) or 99°F (Axillary-armpit) - with or without medication | ● Respiratory: cough sneezing, wheezing, runny nose |
| ● Unusual skin color, spots or rashes                                                           | ● Urine problems                                    |
| ● Swelling or bruises                                                                           | ● Eye drainage, redness                             |
| ● Sores or cuts                                                                                 | ● Mouth sores with drooling                         |
| ● Vomiting                                                                                      | ● Headache                                          |
| ● Diarrhea                                                                                      | ● Ear drainage, ear pain                            |
| ● Stomachache                                                                                   |                                                     |

### **Evidence of Ecto-Parasites (Head Lice, Scabies, Fleas, Bedbugs)**

- Head Lice: The child must be nit free to return to class.
- Scabies: The child must receive medical treatment and have a doctor's note before returning to class.
- Fleas: The child must be flea free to return to class.
- Bed Bugs: The child must be bed bug free to return to class.

### **Communicable Diseases**

If a child has a suspected or physician confirmed communicable disease or in the event of a community outbreak, the appropriate staff will notify our advisory group immediately. This group may choose to close the center for a short time.

### **Health Emergency Policy**

Staff will take all reasonable steps to minimize injury, provide first-aid, and secure medical treatment for each child, parent, and volunteer in the school or at a school event. All staff are required to undergo and maintain first-aid certification, CPR certification, and blood-borne pathogens training to provide immediate care for an acute illness, medical condition, or injury. A complete first-aid kit, Procedures for Health Emergencies, CPR procedure, and first aid procedures for health emergencies are available in the classroom.

### **Health Emergency**

Staff will follow appropriate steps to provide First Aid/CPR in a medical Emergency. Parents or emergency contacts will be notified immediately, when appropriate. A Child Incident Report form will be completed for a minor health emergency for a child that can be resolved at the school by school staff. A copy of the form will be given to the parent.

### **Health Emergency for a Medical Condition (Medical Action Plan)**

Staff will make every effort to minimize triggers and prevent an attack or episode of the individual's medical condition. Staff will be trained to provide emergency treatment and/or medication to the child in accordance with the child's Medical Action Plan.

### **Classroom Safety/Supervision Policy**

Everyone shares responsibility for keeping children safe. Staff must ensure that *"no child will be left alone or unsupervised while under their care"*.

- The classroom environment will be arranged to allow staff to easily view and supervise children always. A daily visual schedule will be posted and followed in the classroom for children, teachers, substitutes and volunteers.
- Teachers will be assigned responsibility for small groups of children daily according to who is present at their mealtime tables.
- Teachers will take attendance daily and note who is present and/or absent for the day.
- Teachers will complete counts of children during the day to ensure that all children are present. Teachers will count children when leaving and returning to the building for outside time or other field trips from the classroom.
- Teachers will alert other staff in the classroom if they leave the classroom for any reason.
- Teachers will follow the Teaching Pyramid model to engage and redirect when children are unable to solve problems on their own and require additional support.

- All staff will be available to assist with arrival/dismissal times to ensure that children are supervised at all times.
- Each classroom will develop an Emergency Contact Book which will contain up to date emergency contact information for all children, teachers, substitutes and volunteers. This book will be kept in a central location that is accessible to all staff.
- All staff working with children will have a current CPR/First Aid Certification.
- Any employee who is the subject of a reported case of abuse or neglect must be removed from contact with children during the state investigation and until the charge is fully resolved.

## Teaching Pyramid Model

It is our goal to provide a safe and nurturing environment for all participants to benefit from a positive and successful learning experience in our program. We have adopted the evidence-based Teaching Pyramid Model to support this goal and to foster social and emotional competence in young children and their families.



We have established the following guidelines as a policy to be implemented within each classroom in our program:

***Nurturing and Responsive Relationships:*** which includes the family or primary parent as well as the teachers. Adults who actively support children's engagement respond to children's conversations, promote communication, and provide encouragement to learn and develop.

***High Quality Supportive Environments:*** which includes a developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum that fosters all areas of child development, a safe physical environment, guidance to all children on rules and expectations, and classroom schedules and activities that allow for children's engagement and learning.

***Targeted Emotional Supports:*** which includes the provision of intentional instruction in children's social skills and emotional regulation. Adults will provide guidance and instruction to help children learn how to express their emotions appropriately, play cooperatively and use social problem strategies.

***Intensive Intervention:*** which includes developed interventions to help the child be successful. The team, including the family may implement a support plan if needed for additional support to resolve problem behaviors and support the development of new skills.

***Families:*** Families are essential partners in the success of the implementation of the Pyramid Model. All families will be provided with information on how to promote their child's social development. Families can provide increased opportunities for their child to learn and practice new skills in the context of everyday activities and routines in the home and the community.

**Resources:** The Pyramid Model and related resources are available to all families free of charge through two federally-funded research and training centers: Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning ([www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel)) and the Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Interventions for Young Children ([www.challengingbehavior.org](http://www.challengingbehavior.org)).

### **Disability Services for Children**

Children with disabilities are encouraged to apply. The preschool works in cooperation with schools to make services available in the least restrictive environment and in accordance with an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Our program screens children through the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3) and staff observations. If a concern is observed, parents will be notified. School staff and parents will decide if further evaluation is needed. Parents are invited to become a member and attend these meetings for support, training, and resources.

### **Mental Health Services**

With permission from the parents, a school psychologist or other mental health professional will observe the classroom as needed. Information received from professionals, parents, and teachers will help to determine if a further evaluation for individual services is needed. Resources may be available to assist with mental health services.

### **Notice of Nondiscrimination**

The Stanton Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, military or veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in the admission, access to its facilities or programs or activities, treatment, or employment.

### **Designation of Coordinator(s)**

Any person having inquiries concerning this district's compliance with anti-discrimination laws or policies or other programs should contact or notify the following person(s) who are designated as the coordinator for such laws, policies, or programs. The contact information for the district coordinator is:

Mr. Darren Soucie, 1007 Kingwood PO Box 749, Stanton, NE 68779, (402) 439-2250

| Law, Policy or Program                                                            | Issue or Concern                                                                     | Coordinator    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Title VI                                                                          | Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin; harassment    | Superintendent |
| Title IX                                                                          | Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity                             | Superintendent |
| Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) | Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities | Superintendent |
| Homeless student laws                                                             | Children who are homeless                                                            | Superintendent |
| Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities                                        | Safe and drug free schools                                                           | Superintendent |



### **Elimination of Discrimination**

Elimination of Discrimination. The Stanton Community Schools hereby gives this statement of compliance and intent to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination or harassment and requiring accommodations. The school district intends to take necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination or harassment or which require accommodations, as outlined in Policy #1200.

### **Complaint and Grievance Procedures**

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or classroom teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision. In the case of a student, the Principal would be the next or alternative person to contact.

If the employee or student's complaint is not resolved to his or her satisfaction within five (5) to ten (10) calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, or if as a student you feel you need immediate help for any reason, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of Stanton Community Schools. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent of Stanton Community Schools, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.

The supervisor, teacher or the Superintendent of Stanton Community Schools will thoroughly investigate all complaints. These situations will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, and disciplinary action up to expulsion against a harassing student, may be taken. Under no circumstances will any threats or retaliation be permitted to be made against an employee or student for alleging in good faith a violation of this policy.

### **Notification of Rights Under FERPA**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading at the time the record was created. Parents or eligible students may ask the school district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests or otherwise allowed by law. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to

fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Office of the Chief Privacy Officer  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

### **Notice Concerning Directory Information**

The district may disclose directory information. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the District to include information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples may include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Under FERPA, "directory information" is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. The types of personally identifiable information that the District has designated as directory information are as follows:

1. Student's Name, address, telephone number, and the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and other contact information of the student's parent/guardian or other adult acting in loco parentis or with authority to act as parent or guardian in educational matters for the student;
2. School and dates of attendance;
3. Student's current grade;
4. Student's enrollment status (e.g. full-time or part-time);
5. Student's extra-curricular participation;
6. Student's achievement awards or honors;
7. Student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team; and
8. Student's photograph.

The district does not designate as directory information personally identifiable information from students' education records where the district determines that the disclosure to the potential recipient poses a risk to student safety or well-being, including but not limited to circumstances where the potential recipient is a registered sex offender and the personally identifiable information would permit the potential recipient to communicate with or otherwise contact the student, or would otherwise not be in a student's best interests.

A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse to let the district designate information about the student as directory information. Parents or guardians may refuse to allow their student's information to be designated as "directory information" at any time during the school year, so long as the parent or guardian notifies the Superintendent in writing.

## **AVAILABILITY OF 2026-27 LIL' STANGS PRESCHOOL STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK ONLINE**

The Lil' Stangs Preschool Student-Parent Handbook of Stanton Community Schools is available on the internet. Go to the school webpage at <http://www.stantonmustangs.org/> and click the "Policies/Handbooks" icon.

Because of the expense of printing the handbooks, we are asking that you consider using the internet to access and review the Handbook rather than a paper copy. Using the internet to access the Handbook will allow the district to direct printing dollars to instructional needs and eliminate the need for you to search for your handbook when you have questions throughout the year. Thank you for considering this use of technology to improve school-home communication.

Please complete and return this form by **Friday, August 21, 2026**. This will allow us time to get the Handbook to all students and parents who prefer a paper copy before school starts while avoiding the necessity of printing more copies of the Handbooks than necessary.

- ☐ Thank you for providing the Lil' Stangs Preschool Student-Parent Handbook online. I will review it on the internet. My signed receipt below acknowledges receipt of the Handbook in a satisfactory manner via the internet.
- ☐ I prefer a paper copy of the Lil' Stangs Preschool Student-Parent Handbook.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

## **RECEIPT OF 2026-27 LIL' STANGS PRESCHOOL STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK**

This signed receipt acknowledges receipt of the Lil' Stangs Preschool Parent-Student Handbook of Stanton Community Schools. This receipt acknowledges that it is understood that the handbook contains student conduct and discipline rules. The undersigned, as student, agrees to follow such conduct and discipline rules. This receipt also serves to acknowledge that it is understood that the district's policies of non-discrimination and equity, and that specific complaint and grievance procedures exist in the handbook which should be used to respond to harassment or discrimination.

Drug-free schools statement: receipt shall also serve to demonstrate that you as parent or guardian of a student attending Stanton Community Schools have received notice of the standards of conduct of this district expected of students concerning the absolute prohibition against the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities as described in board policy or administrative regulation. This notice is being provided to you pursuant to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Law and 34 C.F.R. Part 86, both federal legal requirements for the district to obtain federal financial assistance. Your signature on this receipt acknowledges that you and your child or children who are students attending this district fully understand the district's position absolutely prohibiting the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and the possession, use, or distribution of alcohol or tobacco on school premises or as a part of the school's activities as herein above described and that compliance with these standards is mandatory. Any non-compliance with these standards can and will result in punitive measures being taken against any student failing to comply with these standards.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student's Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature)

### **Return to:**

Sarah Remm, elementary principal  
Stanton Community Schools  
506 Fir, PO Box 749  
Stanton, NE 68779

**Stanton Community Schools (Grades PK-6)**  
**Social Media Permission Slip**  
**2026-2027**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

We love to share all the neat things our students are doing at school, and we want to make sure you are okay with that, too. Please select below whether or not you give permission for your child's photographs, artwork, writing, or other projects to be posted on the school's social media platforms (school's website, Class Dojo, Facebook, etc.). Your child's personal information will not be shared.

\_\_\_\_\_ I **GIVE** permission for my child's picture, artwork, writing, etc. to be posted on social media.

\_\_\_\_\_ I **DO NOT** give permission for my child's picture, artwork, writing, etc. to be posted on social media.

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_