



2026-2027 Before & After School Program PARENT HANDBOOK

Kindergarten - 4th Grade
Patricia A. Duran School
Open Monday - Friday

Hours of Operation:
Before School at 6:30am
After School until 6:00pm

Program open 6:30am-6:00pm
during school vacations!

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Register Here:



DAILY SIGN IN & SIGN OUT PROCEDURES

Morning Sessions / Before School

On regular school days, the program operates from 6:30 am until school opens at 8:30am. Please drop off by 8:00am if your child is planning on attending morning rec. Students will be escorted to the main hall by a staff person to their classrooms by grade. **All students must have a current membership to attend the before school program and pre-registration is preferred. Drop-in options are available only to members if space is available and at an adjusted rate which is due day of service.**

Afternoon Sessions / After School

On regular school days, the program operates from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm. Kindergarten Rec students will be dismissed first during afternoon announcements and escorted by a Hermon Recreation staff from their classroom to the program. Grades 1-4 Rec students will be dismissed next and will be met by staff at the entrance of the gym/cafeteria.

Afternoon Check-in Procedures

The safety of each child is important to the staff of the Before & After School Recreational Program. **It is your responsibility to communicate changes in your child's schedule to both the school and the program. It is essential that you contact the program by 2:00pm to inform us of any after school schedule changes for the current day.** If we have not received an absence notification or a cancellation from a parent/guardian, we will do the following if your child does not show up to a scheduled session:

- A phone call will be made or a Remind message will be sent to a parent/guardian.
- If parents of the child cannot be reached, the emergency contact person and/or the Hermon Police Department will be sent to the child's home.

PLEASE HELP US TO AVOID UNNECESSARY CONCERNS ABOUT A CHILD'S SAFETY BY COMMUNICATING WITH THE REC STAFF REGARDING ANY CHANGES IN YOUR CHILD'S DAILY SCHEDULE. THE SCHOOL DOES NOT SHARE YOUR CHILD'S AFTER SCHOOL PLANS OR COMMUNICATE CHANGES TO AFTER SCHOOL PLANS WITH THE PROGRAM.

Pick Up Time

Afternoon pick-up from the program begins at 3:30 pm. **There is no credit or discount offered for absences or parents who arrive early.** Once a member has been signed into the program, he or she must be signed out by an authorized adult or parent during pick-up by 6 pm. If your child will be absent from the program, please contact a staff member to let us know so we can mark your child as absent.

Late Pick-Up

The Afternoon Session ends at 6:00 PM. If you anticipate being late, please notify the program as soon as possible. A \$10 late fee will be charged for any pick-up after 6:00 PM. Repeated late pick-ups may result in suspension or removal from the program.

Afternoon Pick-Up Procedures

To ensure your child's safety, we use a strict check-out system. Children will only be released to individuals listed on the emergency contact/pick-up form. If a staff member does not recognize a pick-up person, photo ID will be required—this includes parents picking up for the first time. Please remind all authorized pick-ups to bring identification.

If someone not listed on your child's registration will be picking them up, written authorization from the

custodial parent must be provided prior to pick-up.

Custody & Legal Considerations

In cases of divorce or separation, please provide clear instructions at registration regarding who may pick up your child and under what circumstances. A copy of any custody-related court orders must be provided to the Rec Department directly, as school records are not shared with us. Both parents have the right to review their child's file, regardless of custody arrangements. Please ensure the information on file is accurate and up to date. All information will be kept confidential and used only to protect your child. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and respectful environment for all children and staff.

Vacation Days

The Before & After School Recreational Program is open on most vacation days, additional registration is required. Program hours are 6:30 am to 6:00 pm. Members attending a vacation day must pack 2 snacks and lunch each day. Please review the Closing Schedule for the 2026-27 School Year for a complete list.

In Service Days

Since our program takes place inside the elementary school, we are unable to provide services on In Service days due to the possibility of School Department staff using the space. Additionally, we use In Service Days as an opportunity for team meetings and staff training throughout the school year. Please review the 2026-27 Program Closing Schedule for a complete list.

Delayed Openings / Early Release

If the Hermon School Department announces a delayed opening due to inclement weather, our program will follow the same schedule. For example, during a 2-hour school delay, the Rec program will open at 8:30 AM instead of the usual 6:30 AM. There is no additional charge for participants registered for the Morning Session on delay days. On early release school days, the program remains open for registered members at a cost of \$20.

PROGRAMMING

We strive to meet each child's needs through a carefully designed schedule of physical activity, enrichment and recreational programs. The daily activities offered in the past have included arts, crafts, games, music, yoga, dancing and sports. Children who do not participate in a scheduled activity will be given alternate choices whenever possible.

Homework

We incorporate time Monday-Thursday afternoon for members to complete their homework assignments. Staff members are available to supervise the homework area and to assist the children with their work. Using the time set aside to complete homework is the responsibility of the child. Members who do not use this time to complete homework or read independently will be offered limited choices that may include storytime, problem solving worksheets, educational games or flashcards.

Snacks

The Rec Department provides one snack each afternoon during the after-school program. Typical snacks include items like fruit, pretzels, or crackers. Students are welcome to bring their own snacks from home if they prefer. Occasionally, we offer a special treat—such as ice cream or pizza—during celebrations. These will be announced in advance via email and listed on the monthly calendar.

If your child has any food allergies or dietary restrictions, please be sure to inform us. While the Rec program is *not* a nut-free environment, we do have clearly marked “nut-free” tables. These areas are monitored by staff and used to help educate all students about the importance of keeping nut products away from those with allergies.

Outdoor Play

Members attending the Afternoon Session can expect to spend at least 20 minutes outside most days. Outdoor play will be canceled due to precipitation, icy ground conditions, temperatures below 20 degrees, or excessive wind or heat. In order to keep staffing levels at a safe number, we may not be able to offer indoor supervision for children who prefer to remain inside.

Field Trips

Group field trips are primarily scheduled on vacation days. Field trip information will be communicated by email, included in monthly calendars and posted on the program bulletin board. Unless otherwise notified, transportation will be provided by the school department. We reserve the right to refuse participation in program attendance or field trips.

Lost & Found

There is a lost-and-found area for items left behind during school or program hours. Periodically, the items that are left unclaimed will be donated to charity. Please label your child's belongings and encourage your children to check this area often!

Personal Belongings From Home

To ensure a safe and focused environment, items such as cell phones, electronics, trading cards, toys, and other personal belongings should be left at home. These items are not permitted during the school day or in the Rec program. Our priority is your child's safety and well-being, and we cannot guarantee the return of personal items brought from home. Hermon Recreation is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen belongings.

MEMBERSHIP AND PROGRAM COSTS

All children attending the Before & After School Recreational Program must have an **active membership** for the current school year before their first day of attendance. A completed registration, all required paperwork, and a current **credit/debit card on file** are required prior to participation. Membership must be renewed each school year.

The annual membership fee is **\$10 per child**. Active members are eligible to register for before and after school care throughout the school year and receive discounted rates for vacation day programs.

Registration & Drop-In's

Families are encouraged to register for care on a weekly, monthly, or full school-year basis to ensure their child's space is reserved.

Drop-in care is available for current members only and is intended as a backup or emergency option. Drop-in care is subject to availability and is not intended to replace regular registration.

- **Morning Drop-In: \$15**
- **Afternoon Drop-In: \$15**

Drop-in fees are **due at check-in** and will be automatically charged to the credit/debit card on file.

Payments are due in advance, with automatic payment processed each Friday for the upcoming registered week using the credit/debit card on file.

Families are required to maintain a valid payment method on their account at all times. Receipts are emailed after each payment is processed. Account statements and payment history are available anytime by logging into your household account at www.hermonrec.com under the Finance tab.

If a payment cannot be processed, families are responsible for updating their payment information promptly. Repeated declined payments, late payments, or failure to maintain a valid payment method may result in suspension or removal from the program. Accounts are reviewed regularly by the Program Director, and any account with an outstanding balance may be suspended or terminated until the balance is paid in full.

Cash or check payments may still be made at the Hermon Town Office during normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm). However, a valid credit/debit card must remain on file for automatic weekly tuition and any applicable drop-in charges.

Cancellation & Refund Policy

- There are **no credits or discounts** for absences or for children picked up early.
- To receive a **full refund or account credit**, cancellations must be submitted **at least seven (7) days before the start of the week being canceled**.
- Cancellations submitted **less than seven (7) days before the start of the canceled week** are eligible for a **50% refund or account credit**.
- No refund or credit will be issued for any registered session that is not canceled prior to attendance (no-shows).
- All cancellations **must be submitted online** through your account at www.hermonrec.com using the online cancellation process. **Verbal, phone, text, or email cancellations will not be accepted.**
- Refunds and account credits will only be issued to families who comply with this cancellation policy **and whose account is paid in full with no outstanding balance.**

HEALTH & SAFETY CONCERNS

Members attending the program should be well enough to be in school and able to follow the normal daily routine of the program. We understand and appreciate the needs of working parents, yet it is essential that children and staff members in our program are protected from contagious illness. For the safety of all participants and staff, we reserve the right to send a child home if they become ill. A child who is sent home due to illness should be picked up within one hour of notification. *Please Note: A child who has experienced a fever should be kept home until he/she has been fever free for 24 hours without medication.*

You will be notified if your child:

- Has a fever
- Is vomiting
- Has a rash
- Has an earache
- Has live lice
- Experiences uncontrolled coughing, persistent crying or difficulty breathing

Medical Conditions & Allergies

Please report any health concerns, medical changes, etc. to the program director. Although information will be kept confidential, it will be shared with appropriate staff members to help support the safety of your child and allow our staff to facilitate communication with parents or guardians in an emergency.

Accidents or Acute Illness

In the event of an accident or acute illness, every effort will be made to notify the child's parents. If a situation requires immediate attention, 911 will be called and the child will be transported to the hospital by ambulance.

Medication

Whenever possible, parents/guardians are encouraged to come to the program to administer medication to their child. Medication should not be sent to the Before & After School Recreational Program unless it is absolutely necessary. Any medication that must be administered during program hours requires completion of the program's Medication Authorization Form, which must be signed by both the child's licensed healthcare provider and parent/guardian. Please contact the Program Director for the required forms and procedures.

Please note that medications kept by the school nurse are not shared with or accessible to the Recreation Department. The Before & After School Recreational Program is a separate program and **cannot administer medications that are stored with the school**, including prescription or over-the-counter medications. If your child requires medication while attending the recreation program, a separate supply of medication must be provided directly to the Recreation Department and approved through the program's medication authorization process.

Clothing Requirements

Safe footwear such as sneakers or close toed shoes with a rubber sole must be worn while attending the program. Children without appropriate footwear will not be able to participate in physical activity in the gymnasium or playground. We play outside year round. Warm clothing, hats, gloves and waterproof boots are necessary for the winter months. Children without boots or snow pants will be asked to stay in shoveled areas.

EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS

Members of the program are expected to treat each other with respect, tolerance, kindness, and consideration. The program rules and behavior expectations will be explained to the children clearly and reinforced in a consistent manner. Our staff is committed to leading by example, to provide positive reinforcement and enforce program rules and expectations consistently. Positive methods of behavioral management are used in the program to encourage self-control, self-regulation and self-esteem.

Disciplinary Action

Parents will be kept informed of issues concerning their child as they arise. Sometimes reminders, redirection, verbal warnings and "taking a break" are not successful, and the behavior is documented with an incident

report. Behavior issues and incidents will be processed by staff members with the child and a logical consequence for the action will be agreed upon. Parents will be given a copy of the report at time of pick up.

Children who exhibit unusual emotional or physical behavior that threatens the wellbeing of themselves or others in the program, the behavior and/or incident will be documented and processed with the program director. Steps will be taken to work with the child to identify the inappropriate behavior, accept responsibility, and agree upon a logical consequence. Parents may be notified by phone and asked to pick up their child depending on the severity.

Phases of Discipline Procedures

Phase 1: A verbal warning or 'cue' will be given by a staff member to redirect the child to a more appropriate behavior.

Phase 2: Under staff supervision, the child will be removed from the group for a few minutes to take a break and rejoin the group when it has been determined the child can do so without further disruption.

Phase 3: Should the behavior not change, the Programmer or Director will be notified and the incident will be documented. The parent will sign the incident report upon pick up and a copy of the report will be available upon request.

Phase 4: If the behavior persists, parents will be notified and the child will be advised to take a day or more away from the program and possibly suspended. Whenever possible, we will work with the family to develop a system of discipline that will work to support the child.

The above procedure will be used when there is a gradual progression of inappropriate behavior. In extreme cases, Hermon Recreation reserves the right to establish an appropriate consequence immediately. Multiple incident reports, repeated unsafe behavior that impacts others, or behavior that seriously interferes with a positive program experience may result in suspension or dismissal from the program. Data collected from behavioral reports are reviewed by the Program Director and B&A team on a regular basis to discuss all incidents that take place in the program. This in turn, helps maintain a positive program experience for all participants.

Communication between staff and parents informing any concerns or changes in the child's routine will allow us to work as partners to support the child in and out of the program.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Communication between parents and staff is a vital component of a successful program. To keep parents updated and informed, we have established a parent communication board inside the program. We suggest checking this area daily for important information on upcoming dates, reminders, schedule changes, etc. A calendar will be available every month with an overview of the upcoming plans. Parents are encouraged to join us on Remind to receive notifications from our program throughout the week!

Link to join Remind: <https://www.remind.com/join/rec2627>

Parental Conduct

It is expected that all parents, guardians and program staff be respectful, courteous and professional toward one another. In an effort to maintain a safe and positive environment for all members of our program, parents are asked to contact the office to address concerns. A meeting may be scheduled with the director to discuss matters in an appropriate setting. Pick-up and drop-off times are not always the best or appropriate time to

discuss and resolve certain matters. Please contact us with any concerns you may have regarding payments, policies, staffing, activities or your child's participation in the program:

Julie Nadeau, B&A/Summer Programmer 207-478-0297 nadeauj@hermonmaine.gov
Lindsey Ouellette, Recreation Director 207-848-8014 ouellettel@hermonmaine.gov

