

Reading Edge Academy

Volusia County's Premier Charter School

Serving the children of Volusia County

Dear Parents and Students:

It is the goal of the Academy to build a community which joins parents, the school staff, and the children together in a partnership of education. The purpose of this handbook of policies and regulations is to make clear what is expected of each party. To achieve our common goals, it is essential that all of us understand our commitment. Joining the Academy means that we work together to put these policies into practice.

Mission Statement

The Reading Edge Academy is dedicated to launching children's academic careers with success, confidence, and a love for reading.

Philosophy

The vision and purpose of the Reading Edge Academy is to ensure that all enrolled students will begin their school careers with success, confidence and a firm foundation in all core subjects, with particular emphasis on students' reading effectiveness. The Executive Board and administrators of the Reading Edge Academy base the curriculum and other activities of the school on the finding that, although success in the early grades does not guarantee success throughout school life, lack of success in the early grades does, most certainly, guarantee lack of success in later schooling. The program is based on the following key developmental hurdles young children must face:

- a. The development of cognitive, linguistic, social and psychological basis which success depends;
- b. A firm foundation in pre-reading and early language skills in preschool (including kindergarten); and
- c. The need for children to make enough progress so they enter fourth grade able to read for content knowledge.

The purpose of instruction in this charter school is to educate the total person in an environment in which each individual is recognized and respected, and in which moral values and academic excellence are central. To create this environment, the faculty and staff promote and proclaim moral values they teach and uphold. The school strives to develop each child's potential through programs that aim to meet the individual needs of students.

As Dolphins, we:

- D Do our best work
- O Own our mistakes
- L Listen and Share
- P Play fair with all
- H Help those in need
- I Independently Work Hard
- N Never Stop Trying
- S Show our Respect

Family Involvement

1. The family will participate in at least three parent meetings scheduled by the school the child is attending.
2. The family will give 30 hours of service to the Academy, keeping track and recording hours is the family's responsibility.
3. Completion of the 30 volunteer hour requirement establishes your child's continued attendance at the Academy.
3. The family will support all the regulations specified in the Parent/Student Handbook and work closely with the school staff.

Admission Policy

The Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, national or ethnic origin, or handicapping condition in the admission of students, employment of personnel, administration of educational policies, athletics, or other school programs.

1. As mandated by Florida State Law, a current health certificate (yellow card, Form 3040), an immunization record (Blue Form 680), and a birth certificate must be on file prior to the first day of school. These may be obtained from your child's doctor.
2. To enter Kindergarten, a child must be five years old by September 1.
3. To enter Grade One, a child must have successfully completed Kindergarten and be six years old by September 1.
4. A birth certificate must be presented at the time of registration. Transfer students must present a transcript of test scores and the most recent report card from the previous school.
5. All incoming students must present proof that they have fully complied with Florida immunization laws and have up-to-date medical records

Curriculum

The Academy curriculum is designed to increase children's knowledge and skills in all developmental areas: physical, social, emotional and intellectual, and to help children learn how to learn in order to establish a foundation for lifelong learning. It is presented in such a way as to develop children's self esteem, sense of competence and positive feelings toward education. Selection of new curriculum and/or programs will always be based on results of validated research. The Academy will use the scope and sequence benchmarks set forth by the Florida Department of Education's Sunshine State Standards and the Volusia School District Pupil Competencies as guidelines for its curriculum.

Attendance Requirements

1. Florida law requires 180 student days annually, exclusive of holidays.
2. All students are expected to come to school on time every day. Students who are not in their classrooms by 7:50 AM ***MUST BE SIGNED IN BY AN ADULT*** in the office. Excessive tardiness must be brought to the attention of the proper authorities.
3. Absence from school and tardiness are detrimental to the student's progress no matter what the reason. For very serious reasons, such as personal illness or death of a close family member, students may be excused from classes at the written request of their parents or guardians.
4. Anyone taking a child from school for appointments or illness must report to the office to sign a checkout sheet for the child's dismissal. Phone calls to excuse an absence are received from 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM at 386-668-8911.
5. School law requires that students present a written excuse on the first day they return to class after an absence. This excuse should ***include the date(s) of absence and the reason for the absence.*** Tardiness and/or absences not explained in this written form will be marked "unexcused" in the attendance record.
6. **Family vacations which do not coincide with the school calendar are strongly discouraged.** Teachers *will not* provide make-up work in advance to a student leaving on a vacation. This work may be obtained from the teacher(s) when the child returns to school and must be completed within seven days. Please refer to VCSB current school year School Calendar for student holidays.
7. Parents of a student who will miss more than three days because of a family outing must sign a release form available from the office ***before the child leaves.***

Homework

Beginning in kindergarten, children are expected to do some homework each weekday night. If a specific classroom task is not assigned the child should study prior content and read. The type and length of assignments will vary as the child advances academically. In general, the maximum time devoted to written work, study, library reading, research or projects should be: Primary - 15 - 30 minutes daily and Intermediate - 40-60 minutes daily.

Written homework will not be given on weekends or over holidays and vacations.

A succession of missed homework assignments will lead to slower academic achievement and may result in a gift of time.

While parental interest in, and assistance with, homework is desirable, children must learn to assume responsibility for their own work as early as possible. If a parent feels that the child cannot cope with the work assigned, please discuss this matter with the child's teacher so that adjustments can be made.

Reports to Parents

Report cards are issued every 12 weeks. Formal parent-teacher conferences are encouraged whenever the need arises. Please contact teachers by note or call the office to make an appointment for a conference between the hours of 2:25PM and 2:45PM . The teachers may send home some sort of weekly information about your child's class work. Please contact your child's teacher to know if this is part of their routine.

Many problems grow out of simple misunderstandings and are often resolved when parents and teachers communicate directly. Only when this contact has not been effective are parents advised to confer with the principal by phone or by setting up an appointment for a conference.

Parents are asked to be reasonable in their demands on teachers both as to the time and the frequency of reports about a child. During class hours, all business is conducted through the office. Teachers can not be pulled from class to confer with a parent and may not be interrupted during class time or morning routines for any reason. We ask that parents and teachers do not use the car line for quick conferences.

Field Study Trips

The Academy usually plans field trips throughout the school year for every grade level. Educational field trips are used to enhance classroom instruction, and we encourage your child's participation. Parents are asked to assist with these and are expected to defray the costs of the excursion. To participate, a child must have the written permission of the parent, using only the form provided by the school. Telephone calls will not be accepted in lieu of proper forms. All field trips are announced ahead of time. Because field trips are privileges afforded to students, participation may be denied to those students who fail to meet behavioral requirements.

Lunch

Lunch is provided through the school's lunch program. Menus will be sent home each month. *Please pay a minimum of one week in advance. Pre-paying for lunches in advance is strongly encouraged. Please send all monies to your child's classroom clearly marked in a sealed envelope, with your child's name, amount, lunch number, specifically what for and dates. Change will not be given unless otherwise requested.* Money due notices are sent home weekly. Once an account exceeds \$15 overdue the child will be fed a sandwich lunch until the account is made current.

For children who do not use the provided lunch program, parents are asked to provide a nutritious lunch daily for their children. Milk, water, or juice may be ordered each morning at additional costs. **NO CANDY OR SODA**. Please label lunch boxes with your child's name. We do not have refrigerators to keep lunches cold. We do not heat student lunches. Messy food and containers that are hard for your child to open, present a problem for children. Be sure to pack plastic forks or spoons for your child to eat with and napkins. *A good rule of thumb to use is: if the child cannot open the container, do not send it with them.* Lunch time at the Academy is an opportunity for the children to learn proper table manners and to enjoy lunchtime conversation in a relaxed yet controlled atmosphere.

Any family that is eligible for the free or reduced lunch program and completes the paperwork will be advised about the program the first week of school or any time during the year. In accordance with Federal Law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this academy is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independent Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800)795-3272 or (202)720-6382 (TTY). USDA and Reading Edge Academy Inc. are equal opportunity providers and employers.

Illness

1. Children who show signs of illness in the morning should be kept home as should those having bad colds or coughs.
2. The school should be notified by 9:00 a.m. each day a student is absent.
3. Parents, or the person listed on the emergency form, will be called if a child becomes ill at school or is injured. **It is imperative that we have up-to-date emergency forms from every family prior to entering school. Parents are asked to notify the school immediately about address changes and especially home or work phone number changes that occur during the school year.**
4. Whoever comes to take a sick or injured child home must first report to the office with proper identification.
5. Please call the office if your child contracts a contagious disease, and consult with a doctor as to when the child may return to school.
6. For short term illnesses, *please do not call the school to request work for your child.* A reasonable time period will be given to make up missing work after the child returns to school. Special arrangements will be made in the case of a prolonged absence.
7. Head Lice -please inform the front office ASAP so we may help prevent spreading. The Academy has a nit free policy before a child may return to the classroom. Bring the child to the office to be checked before going to the classroom.

Evaluation of Student Progress

Methods of assessment for student progress include the following:

1. A Formative Evaluation System.
2. Teacher-made tests or alternate forms of assessment correlated to the Common Core Standards and Volusia Pupil Competencies.
3. Student portfolio assessment
4. Individualized testing by county psychologist as needed and requested by Student Success Team
5. Florida Writes in Fourth Grade
6. FCAT or the Florida Comprehensive Achievement Test in Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grade
7. F.A.I.R. Florida Assessment In Reading grade K-5

Placement Tests

All students, upon entrance to the Academy, may be given placement tests *which may* include any of the following:

- Skills Assessment
- DIBELS K-3 Reading Assessment
- Developmental maturity test; and/or
- The Stanford full battery or sub-tests: Reading Comprehension and Mathematics concepts.
- IPT I test for ELL students or English Language Learners.

Playground Rules

To make the playground enjoyable and safe for everyone, and to protect school property, all students are to:

1. Obey adult supervisors promptly.
2. Speak respectfully to all adults and to fellow students.
3. Treat each other kindly and share playground equipment.
4. Avoid all play that involves tackling, fighting, jumping on one another, damage to clothing or any other unbecoming behavior.
5. Refrain from throwing or kicking sand, stones or other potentially harmful objects.
6. Refrain from using profane or obscene language.
7. Play in the areas specified.
8. Take proper care of equipment and of the play area itself.

For violations of these rules, one or more of the following actions will result:

1. The child will receive a verbal reminder.
2. The child will receive a time out.
3. The child will lose playground privileges for a specific time.
4. The child will be sent to the administrator, and the parents will be notified to have a parent conference with a success team.
5. The child or his/her parents will be held financially responsible for deliberate damage caused or for that which results from behavior contrary to the school's code of conduct.

Conduct

The school's philosophy of student behavior aims to motivate students to develop positive attitudes towards self-discipline and responsible behavior so that they may attain their fullest potential. To help create a conscientious school environment, attention must be given to:

- Showing respect for other students, teachers and for all persons.
- Playing and working cooperatively with others.
- Showing initiative and being dependable.
- Taking pride in the school by caring for books and school property.

Cooperating with school policies and regulations is imperative. Parents are expected to help their children understand and follow school rules and to cooperate with the school when a child's behavior needs to be changed.

The following types of behaviors are totally unacceptable:

1. Serious lack of respect for an adult or fellow student in words or gestures.
2. Repeated use of abusive, profane or indecent language, gestures or materials.
3. Fighting, bullying or mistreating other students.
4. Persistent lack of cooperation in class.
5. Disregard of rules at school and/or school-sponsored activities.
6. Stealing or damaging of another's property.
7. Defacing or destruction of school property.
8. Use or possession in school of tobacco or other drugs, alcohol or weapon-like materials.
9. Sexual harassment of any student by another student through words, gestures or overt actions.

When these unacceptable behaviors occur, one or several of the following procedures will be followed:

1. Personal interview with an administrator.
2. Notification of parents or guardians.
3. Loss of privileges.
4. Detention session or other appropriate action.
5. In-school or out-of-school suspension.
6. An expulsion recommendation.

The school administration reserves the right to search the person or the belongings of students when a reasonable cause exists that poses a threat to the general welfare of the school.

Bus Rules

School bus transportation, by the sponsor school system, is available for some areas served by the school. Please contact the office for specific information. Parents must send a written note in the morning should they need to change their child's bus arrangement for the day.

Students who wish to ride the bus must observe these rules:

1. **Be on time for your bus, it will not wait.**
2. Refrain from rough playing or damage to nearby property while waiting for the bus or boarding it.
3. Speak to the driver in a friendly, courteous way and obey the rules.
4. Remain seated on the bus until your stop.
5. Keep hands, arms and head inside the bus at all times.
6. Refrain from eating or chewing gum on the bus.
7. Never throw anything on the bus or from the bus windows.
8. Take good care of the bus and leave nothing behind when you leave.
9. Refrain from mistreating fellow passengers by offensive words or actions.
10. Take nothing onto the bus which is excessively large or which jeopardizes safety.

The school principal, in conjunction with the bus driver's report, may suspend a student from the bus for a short time or permanently as circumstances demand.

Supervision and Safety Procedures

1. To assure the safety of each child, all parents are expected to cooperate fully with arrival and dismissal procedures sent home at the beginning of each school year. **YOU CANNOT park and walk your child to class, except in case of an emergency, as we do not have a large number of parking spots.** Please use the established traffic pattern following the paved driveways to the front of the school for drop-off and pick-up.
2. Children dropped off before 7:30 AM or not picked up by 2:20 PM will not have adult supervision provided by the school. The safety of these children is the responsibility of their parents. They will be sent to Extended Day Program at the parent's expense at the current year rates for the first hour or any part of that hour and a full day charge for any part after the first hour.
3. During the school day, students may not leave the campus without the written permission of their parents and approval from the office.
4. The school is not responsible for the supervision and/or safety of pre-school children who accompany their parents to school.
5. Cell phones should not be in use while in line or while driving on school property. Consequence is 1 added service hour per offense.

EXTENDED SCHOOL DAY PROGRAM / REGISTRATION FORM

The Reading Edge Academy has **CHANGED** the ESD program so please **READ** the new policy regarding the Extended School Day program (or ESD) which is available to **ONLY 80** students at REA, under the following conditions:

- A. Registration is limited to the first 80 paid students. Any additional children will be placed on a waiting list.
- B. A non-refundable registration fee of twenty-five dollars per family is due upon registration.
- C. A fee of \$45 per week for childcare, regardless if child attends, includes both morning and afternoon. Payment for the week must be paid **prior to childcare beginning each week.** For example: payment is due on Friday for the following week.
- D. Unexpected childcare is limited and the \$6 or \$13 charge must be **paid when child is picked up that day.**
- E. Breakfast is offered to every student. The breakfast consists of one each, juice, milk, and entrée for the day. The cost is \$1.00 full price, 30 cents reduced price, and each item can be purchased separately. If a student wants a second breakfast the cost is at full price - \$1.00. Student breakfast charges will come out of your child's lunch account. Breakfast and lunch money should be sent to the classroom in an envelope marked lunch, child's name, amount, and teacher's name. Prepaying is always a wise choice.
- F. Your child will receive a snack and a drink. Quiet time is set aside for homework with assistance as needed. A schedule will be posted and a weekly newsletter may be available.

The times and fees for ESD Program for the 2012-2013 school year is as follows:

Times

Before school care 7:00 am – 7:40 am

After school care ends at 6:00 pm

Fees

Breakfast starts at 7:00am

1 child \$45.00 per week, flat fee, regardless if child misses an afternoon.

2 children \$75.00 per week

More than 2 children – an additional \$20.00/wk for each child

*Payment is due **before** each week begins. A \$5 late fee will be charged each week to any past due account.*

Early Release Days: (ERD)

On the Wednesdays with a 1:15pm dismissal time You must come in and sign your child out of ESD, the charges will be:

One child picked up no later than 2:15pm is \$6.50. One child picked up after 2:15pm is \$13.00

Two or more children picked up before 2:15pm is \$10. Two children picked up after 2:15pm is \$20.

Payment is expected in advance or on the day of service. If we must bill you for this service you will be charged the normal rates. Please register your child so we are prepared for the number of children in attendance on Wednesdays. These charges are based on a low number of additional children that will need ESD due to early release and are less than the normal fees for ESD. Should the number of students increase drastically and there is a need to hire more staff for ESD these charges may need to increase to cover the expense of additional staff.

RULES: for ESD

- Be prompt to pick up your child in the evening. Late charges of \$1.00 *per minute* start at 6:01 p.m.
- Escort your child into the building for before school care **and sign the child in.**
- We must have a signature each evening for your child in the attendance book. (located with group). Your child will not be released to anyone not on your pick-up list.
- If a parent or guardian fails to prepay for the upcoming week, student(s) will not be allowed to attend ESD until a payment is made. After 2 weeks of non attendance, the student will be withdrawn from the program and the spot will be given to the next person on the waiting list. A new registration fee will be needed to restart your child's attendance to the program.
- Appropriate safe behavior is expected from your child. Disciplinary strategies such as warning, time-out of various lengths, or loss of privileges (such as watching videos, crafts or playground time) will be used. If these do not work, your child may be suspended from attending the ESD program for up to five days. If the child's behavior does not improve after that, we reserve the right to revoke your child's privilege of attending the ESD Program.

There is a phone in ESD: You may call 386-668-8911. This is the school number and it will ring in the office until the office is closed. Please be patient when calling after hours, sometimes ESD is outside playing.

Early Release Days (ERD): The county calendar has mandated Wednesdays as early release days (ERD). If you do not pick up your child at the correct dismissal time, they will be placed in Extended Day and you will be charged accordingly.

Tutoring Days: **If you are late picking up your child from tutoring they will be placed in ESD. There is a \$5 charge up to the first hour, after that, normal rates will apply.**

****** ESD Changes this year. ******

Very important – Please read the following:

Please note the fees have changed as described above. *This is different than past years.*

The charges for the week per child are regardless of the number of days child attends ESD.

**** We are going green and billing will now be sent to your email address, unless otherwise requested.****

Dress Code

Academy students wear a uniform to help the students realize they belong to a special group and to stress equality to all. We expect your cooperation in supporting all requirements of the dress code which is in effect from the first day of school. Students who are not in the proper attire will be given a written warning and two days to remedy the situation. A second infraction will result in a call home. Guardian will be expected to bring proper attire to school, following the call. A third infraction will result in a parent/principal conference to ensure the numerous uniform infractions will not continue.

UNIFORMS: for Reading Edge Academy

1. Green or burgundy knit shirt with Reading Edge Academy logo.
2. UNIFORM STYLE: Navy blue slacks, jumpers, skirts shorts, Capri's or skorts. (Nothing more than 3 inches above the knees.)
3. Brown or black belt to be worn if pants do not stay at the waist.
4. No cargo pants, carpenter pants, or other trendy clothing
5. Solid navy or white socks which cover the ankles (no stripes).
6. Plain, solid hunter green, maroon or navy sweaters or sweatshirts may be worn in school for warmth.
7. In cold weather, any color jacket may be worn outdoors only.

SHOES:

Both boys and girls must wear white or black athletic shoes trimmed in no more than one other color. Sneakers should be below the child's ankles. Sneakers that have a character on them, light up, have platforms, wedges, wheelie's or similar faddish styles may not be worn. It is preferable to have tie or Velcro fastened sneakers. Laces must be white or black with no charms attached. **Sneakers must be tied in the traditional manner.**

OTHER REGULATIONS:

1. Uniforms should always be clean, neat and in good repair.
2. Shirts are to be tucked in at all times in all grades.
3. Regarding jewelry, with physical activity every day, it is necessary to have the following rules:
Boys: A watch and a single chain are the only jewelry permitted. **No other** medallions or charms may be worn.
Girls: Girls may **wear post earrings**, a watch and a **single chain only**. Bracelets and rings should not be worn in school because of daily physical activity.
4. Neat haircuts in good taste are expected. Please no extreme hairstyles. Neither boys nor girls should wear bangs that extend below the eyebrows, because it inhibits vision.
5. Hair spray, perfume, cosmetics, nail polish, etc. are not to be worn or brought to school.
6. Fingernails should be kept clean and neatly trimmed so that their length does not prevent full and safe participation in all school activities. **No nail polish or artificial nails may be worn by students.**

Volunteering at Reading Edge Academy

Our volunteers are valuable and greatly appreciated. We ask our volunteers to take pride in the school they have chosen for their child to attend to help make it a very special place. We respectfully ask our volunteers to dress appropriately while volunteering at our elementary school. Keeping in mind that appropriate dress on campus means the following;

Our lady volunteers *may wear*:

- Long skirts or dresses
- Capri pants or slacks
- Jeans without holes, trendy or otherwise

We ask our lady volunteers to *refrain from wearing*:

- Skin tight or revealing clothing

- Tank or halter tops, low necklines, any type that may reveal chest or waist
- Shorts

We ask that **all** volunteers ***refrain from wearing:***

- T-shirts with vulgar words, gestures or suggestive media of any type

We ask our gentlemen volunteers to ***refrain from wearing:***

- Shorts, jeans or pants ***that hang below the hips***, with holes, trendy or otherwise
- Tank tops

Our children are expected to wear a uniform and take pride in their school. We ask no less of our parents.

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT BY SELECTING THIS SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION, YOU ARE AGREEING TO ADHERE TO ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The Academy also adheres to all rules and policies of the Volusia County Student handbook.

Birthday Celebrations

1. On the occasion of a child’s birthday, parents may notify the teacher ahead of time of their desire to send a **small treat** that the teacher will distribute at an appropriate time set by the teacher. ***The treat should be individually portioned*** and should not include gum, candy or perishable foods such as ice cream. Please note this is ***not time for a birthday party atmosphere.***
2. Birthday parties are important to everyone, but especially children. We respectfully ask that if you are planning a birthday party outside of school, please do not distribute invitations during school, ***unless all*** the children in the class are being invited. We would never inadvertently want to hurt another child’s feelings by excluding them.

Book Bags/ School - Owned Books

To help keep our books and other school materials in good condition, students in grades K-5 are required to have and to use a backpack that is as plain as possible. PLEASE, NO ROLLING BACKPACKS. Textbooks and workbooks **are to be kept covered and clearly identified. Children and parents are financially responsible for the loss or damage of any school-owned books, equipment or furniture in proportion to the expense involved.** The same rule applies to damage caused to another student’s property or clothing.

Use of Telephone

1. Ordinarily, students should not make telephone calls on the school premises. When calls are necessary, they are to obtain permission to use the telephone from both their classroom teacher and the administration in the front office.
2. Parents are asked not to call the school office with messages for students which could be taken care of with better planning or at another time. **Only emergency messages** will be delivered to students during the day. Students should not bring cell phones to school unless the teacher and office are notified. Students should not be using cell phones during the day. It is always best if a student knows before they come to school how they are getting home, if they are staying for an activity, etc. A student may only call home if the school has changed the scheduled activity. Kindly send a note to the teacher for young students or students who may have difficulty remembering.
- 3. It is imperative that the office has a working phone number for all guardians.**

Calendar/Bulletin

Detailed information about activities listed on the school calendar is posted on the school web site. School-wide newsletters/ flyers are given to the youngest child in each family unless the family requests a different arrangement. Reading these newsletters or flyers is the best way to keep informed about school activities and opportunities for completing the service hour requirement. *Please visit the school website at www.readingedgeacademy.org.*

Please remember that the dates and activities on this calendar may change.

Emergency Closing

When dangerous weather and other conditions affect the entire area, the school will follow the directions of the *Volusia County agencies responsible* for public safety. Stay tuned to local radio and TV stations for information regarding school closings. **When the public schools of Volusia County are closed for emergencies, we are closed.** Please help us by tuning in to the local news for updated reports. Kindly refrain from calling the school for this information, because it ties up the phone line which may be needed by the staff for the emergency.

Medication

1. Any type of medication (prescription or non-prescription) brought to school must be accompanied by a note signed by a parent or guardian. This includes lozenges, cough drops, etc. The note should contain all pertinent information about the administration of the medication and should be brought with the medication to the school office **by an ADULT.**
2. **NO FORM OF MEDICATION IS TO BE KEPT ON THE CHILD'S PERSON OR AMONG THE CHILD'S BELONGINGS.**
3. All prescribed medication should be brought to school, by an adult, in original containers with pharmacy labels and signed in by the adult in the school office.
4. Non-prescription medication, such as aspirin, may not be administered by the school. Children who are on prescribed medication, must be clearly instructed by the parent as to when they are to go to the office to take their prescribed medicine under the supervision of a trained adult.
5. Parents are required to complete a form available from the office if a child must take prescribed medication on a daily basis.

Physical Education

1. Physical education classes and/or movement classes are conducted by a fully-certified instructor.
2. To excuse a child from participation in a physical education class, a child must have a written note from the parent each time.
3. For more than three consecutive classes of non-participation, a doctor's excuse is required.
4. All students are expected to be in regulation attire available at the beginning of each year.
5. Athletic shoes must be worn for these classes.

Art & Music

Art and Music are considered Core Subject areas. Students are evaluated, and a grade is placed on the report card. Participation and good conduct are expected from all students.

Lost/Forgotten Items

1. All articles, including lunch boxes, should be clearly marked with the owner's name.
2. Lost and found items are kept in the cafeteria and may be claimed there by the owner.
3. Lunches and other forgotten items needed for the school day **should always be brought to the Office, Not delivered to the child's classroom.**

Parent-Teacher Academy

All parents are encouraged to actively support the Parent-Teacher Academy which serves as a link for communication between home and school. **Attendance at scheduled PTA meetings is MANDATORY for all families.** In addition to raising funds for the school, the PTA sponsors programs which benefit the school community. The assistance and support of all families are required as a condition for membership in the school. This is a great way to sign up for volunteer work. The PTA board is elected each year. The board meets monthly to plan upcoming events.

Reading Edge Academy Executive Board

In accordance with the charter law, the Reading Edge Academy Executive Board has been established to assist the principal in school decision-making. Interested parents of students attending the Reading Edge Academy are eligible to become appointed members of the board. The Executive Board meets the third Tuesday of each month, at 6:00 PM, and is open to the public. All minutes are available in the office at any time, as are the school's monthly financial report.

Citizen/Virtues

The Academy believes instruction in key citizenship skills such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility and caring are important to the students. Each week a topic is presented to the students and emphasized in the classroom. Other virtues such as honesty, loyalty, perseverance, compassion, friendship, humility, self-discipline, generosity and so forth are included.

A Last Word

It is impossible, and inappropriate, to make a rule on everything that may come up during the year. If you have any questions, please contact the school and ask. It is important that both the school and home work together in educating your child. We feel that the education of children goes beyond the three R's and includes social skills, learning to obey rules, following directions and listening. Parents or Guardians and teachers are our children's first role models. Let's all pledge to make our children the best citizens by watching what we do everyday, everywhere. Following the rules to keep our campus safe for everyone is important.

Kindly remember the following safety rules for parents:

Speed limit on campus is 5 MPH. Penalty is 1 more volunteer hour added to your required 30.

Cell phone use while driving on campus or picking up your child is not allowed. Penalty is 1 more hour added to your 30.

* Be courteous and polite to all other drivers and parents.

For the safety of all concerned, DO NOT PASS another vehicle or bus while in the drop-off or pick-up line.

Give the right of way to the bus.

Give the right of way to our neighboring businesses.

Do not block entry ways to other businesses.

ALL visitors report to the office and get a badge.

Miscellaneous

School E-Mail: www.readingedgeacademy.org www.samsulaacademy.org

School Address: Reading Edge Academy Samsula Academy
2975 Enterprise Rd. 248 N. Samsula Dr.
DeBary, FL 32713 New Smyrna Beach, Fl 32168

School Office Telephone Number: (386) 668-8911 or (386) 423-6650 or
(386) 668-8012

School Office FAX Number: (386) 668-8443 (386) 423-6651

Principal: Mrs. Peggy Comardo Mrs. Peggy Comardo
Assistant Principal: Ms. Gail Conrad

School Hours: 7: 50 AM - School Begins 7:50 AM – School Begins
2:10 PM – Dismissal 2:10 PM - Dismissal

Lunch Hours: 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM 10:40 AM – 11:50 PM

Please Keep This Calendar And Important Information
Readily Available
Throughout The School Year

Twenty-four Hour Audio-Video Surveillance System REA only

***This is a very important document. Please read carefully,
sign and return it to school with your child.***

Attention any and all guardians who are involved in the care of any student at the Reading Edge Academy, you must sign this document **acknowledging** the use of the school's security system on the school property and its purposes. I, we acknowledge that my, our child(ren) are being audio and video - taped while on the premises of the Reading Edge Academy. This also includes any visitors to the campus. Be it known that this is a security system: the purpose is for security against acts of vandalism, violence, theft, etc., safety for students, staff, visitors, and teacher training. Should any portion of the surveillance be saved at any time, it shall become part of a student record; thereby, making it a private student record and not public record. It may also be used for a parent to view their child in action during school or Extend School Care time without being in the same room with the child.

I, we have read the above notice and are aware of the purposes for this system.

My/our child(ren) name(s) is/are: _____

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. | _____ | _____ | date: _____ |
| | Guardian Signature | Relationship | |
| 2. | _____ | _____ | date _____ |
| | Guardian Signature | Relationship | |
| 3. | _____ | _____ | date: _____ |
| | Guardian Signature | Relationship | |

Thank you for your immediate attention to this very important matter.

Executive Board of the Reading Edge Academy
Policy adopted August 2003

Please print, sign, pull or cut out and return to the school.

***This is a very important document. Please read carefully,
Sign and return it to school with your child***

Photographs

During the school year, there may be times when your child will be photographed and/or video taped by staff, other parents, or news crews during special occasions. Some of these photos/videos may be made public. In order for us to do this, we will need your permission. Please check one of the spaces below:

___ **I DO** give permission for my child to be photographed or videotaped and for the photo and/or tapes to be made public.

___ **I DO NOT** give permission for my child to be photographed or videotaped and for the photo and/or tapes to be made public.

Signature

I have received and read the student handbook given to our family for Reading Edge Academy.

Printed Name of
Guardian:

Signature of
Guardian:

Date:

Printed: Child(ren)'s
Name(s):
