

Self-Manager Program at Vernonia Elementary School

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Self-Manager Program?

The self-manager program is a means of recognizing and honoring the positive example and influence of students of good character.

Why do we Need a Self-Manager Program When we have Reward Tickets?

Students that consistently behave in positive ways are sometimes overlooked when reward tickets are given, because we become so accustomed to their good behavior. If we acknowledged all or even most of their good behavior, we would be continually handing them reward tickets. Besides, these students are committed to behave well because it is the right thing to do, not because they get rewards. The purpose of the self-manager program is to provide a way in addition to reward tickets, of giving these students recognition.

What Kind of Student will be a Self-Manager?

Self-managers are students who have a habit of following our behavioral school rules. These students are consistently respectful, responsible, kind and safe. Although their behavior deserves the reward of reward tickets, their good conduct does not require the reinforcement of these because they are people of good character. Being people of good character, we can expect them to behave honorably in a variety of settings. A student that is kind, safe, respectful and responsible at school but lazy or a bully at home is not a self-manager. A student with poor attendance is not a likely candidate. A student that gets good grades but is not kind to classmates, or disrespectful to staff, is not a self-manager. Self-managers may not be the students with the highest grades in the class, but they will be students that have a routine of using their class time well and turning in their homework on time.

How do Students Become Self-Managers?

The self-manager recognition is open to third, fourth and fifth graders. Second graders may apply at the end of the year so they can begin third grade as self-managers. Students will submit an application to become a self-manager. The application can be picked up at the office. Students may also be given an application by a staff member who believes they are a good candidate. There will be a section for the student to fill out, the teacher, the parent and one other adult who is not a family member. The other adult could be a classified staff member, coach, librarian, music or PE teacher, youth group leader etc. In the application students are rated on a scale of 1-5, on how safe, kind, respectful and responsible they are. The student, parent and "other adult" portion of the application will be completed first, then the application will be submitted to the teacher who will forward it to the counselor.

Why Would a Student Want to Become a Self-Manager?

Because they have earned trust, students who are self-managers will enjoy certain privileges.

- They are given a lanyard attached to a nametag with their name and picture on it that serves as recognition.
- They will have special activities that only self-managers get to participate in. This might be a party, field trip or community service.
- They will help with reward drawings at assemblies.
- They will help keep track of reward tickets earned school-wide to determine when a school-wide reward has been achieved.

- They will help our youngest students follow the lunch expectations.
- Any staff member that needs the help of a responsible student, for example in the office, or help in a classroom, our self-managers do many jobs in our school to keep it running smoothly and their contribution is appreciated and much needed.

Can a Student Lose their Self-Manager Status?

Yes. Self-managers who are not being safe, kind, respectful and responsible may have to turn their badge in for a time until they correct their behavior. If this happens repeatedly, the badge can be forfeited and the student will need to reapply the following quarter to become a self-manager. If you have any questions, concerns or ideas to help make the Self-Manager Program work better, contact David Spackman (503) 429-1351.

Student Name _____

Self-Manager Application

This application is to determine if a student is eligible for the Self-Manager Program at Vernonia Elementary School. Students who are consistently safe, kind, respectful and responsible are students that can be recognized as self-managers. This application is to be filled out by the student, teacher, parent and another adult in their life who is not a family member. This could be another school staff member, coach, youth group leader etc. Please rate the student in the section of the application that applies to you, and return it to the student. The last person to fill it out should be the teacher, who will forward the application to the counselor. Thank you for your input.

For the Student:

On another page, describe why you believe you are a self-manager. Try to use specific examples that explain how you are safe, kind, respectful and responsible. Return this application when it is complete, to Mr. Spackman.

For the Parent:

Please rate the student in the following areas and add your written opinion of why you believe they qualify, or what they still need to work on. (5 is the best on this scale.)

Safe

1 2 3 4 5

Kind

1 2 3 4 5

Respectful

1 2 3 4 5

Responsible

1 2 3 4 5

Parent's Written comments:

Parent Signature _____

For an Adult who is Not a Family Member:

Please rate the student in the following areas and add your written opinion of why you believe they qualify, or what they still need to work on. (5 is the best on this scale.)

Safe

1 2 3 4 5

Kind

1 2 3 4 5

Respectful

1 2 3 4 5

Responsible

1 2 3 4 5

Written comments:

_____ Adult

Signature_____

For the Teacher:

Please rate the student in the following areas and add your written opinion of why you believe they qualify, or what they still need to work on. (5 is the best on this scale.)

Safe

1 2 3 4 5

Kind

1 2 3 4 5

Respectful

1 2 3 4 5

Responsible

1 2 3 4 5

Written comments:

Teacher Signature_____