



2024/2025

# M.O.R.E. of Baltimore Homeschool Co-op Student and Parent Handbook

Founder: Korene Senior  
[Info@moreofbaltimore.com](mailto:Info@moreofbaltimore.com)  
[www.MoreofBaltimore.com](http://www.MoreofBaltimore.com)  
Phone: 443-297-3744

M.O.R.E. means Mentoring. Our. Rising. Entrepreneurs  
[www.MoreOfBaltimore.com](http://www.MoreOfBaltimore.com)

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- I. Mission & Vision & Contact**
- II. Co-op Safety**
- III. COVID-19**
- IV. Daily Schedule**
- V. Delayed Opening and Co-op Closure**
- VI. Lunch & Snack**
- VII. Homework**
- VIII. Parent / Instructor Conferences**
- IX. Attendance**
- X. Food Allergies**
- XI. Bullying**
- XII. Field Trips**
- XIII. Volunteering**

## **I. MISSION & VISION**

### **MISSION**

We believe that everyone has the potential to be an entrepreneur and have a significant impact on their community. It's simply a matter of teaching children early on how to make informed and effective financial decisions. Which is why we begin teaching fundamentals of business, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship to children as young as six years old.

### **VISION**

Our vision is to teach every parent and child that entrepreneurship should be considered a realistic alternative in addition to college and trade schools before, during, or after high school. We'll provide M.O.R.E. students with the skills and self-assurance they need to launch their own business while inspiring their peers to do the same.

### **CONTACT**

Email will be the primary means of communication. Members are responsible for checking their email on a regular basis to receive important news related to the co-op. Pertinent information will also be added to our website.

## **II. CO-OP SAFETY**

A critical incident plan is developed by our team to proactively help protect the co-op community from emergencies with prepared and appropriate crisis responses. To enforce our co-op's security, all doors remain locked and video surveillance is accessible inside and outside the building. Visitors must enter the second set of glass doors only. As part of safety preparedness, various emergency drills are conducted throughout the year to practice critical situations with children. These types of drills include:

Evacuation/Fire: Students exit the building in the event of an emergency situation, such as fire or smoke.

Reverse Evacuation: During an outside activity, students re-enter the building due to an unsafe situation that is occurring in the neighborhood or surrounding communities.

Drop, Cover, and Hold: Due to extreme weather events (which are pretty rare in our community) students drop to the floor, take cover under desks or tables, and hold on.

Lock-In: All exterior doors are locked and regular instructional routines are followed inside the building. This is the normal procedure during daily instructional time.

Lockdown: With every situation presenting different scenarios, students and staff must make safety choices. The option determined by our co-op is to instruct students in the “Run, Hide, Fight” method. M.O.R.E of Baltimore Instructors will use age-appropriate methods to communicate what this information means. This approach teaches the following if a bad person enters the building:

4. Run: Run and exit the building to a safe location.
5. Hide: Hide in a safe location that has been determined by the teacher.
6. Fight: Fight to provide time to escape to a safe place (ex. throwing a book).

## Parents and Other School Visitors

### Entering Our Building

For the safety of our students, all persons who'd like to enter our school, must ring a bell and wait to be welcomed in. In doing this, all students will be better protected and it will eliminate unnecessary interruptions to the instructional day. Surveillance cameras have been positioned both outside and inside the school to increase security. Please do not visit any classroom without first

stopping at the front office. You can choose to enter the building or wait in your car at dismissal. Please give your name to the staff person on duty and remain in your car until your child is dismissed, if this is your preference for pick-up.

Parents who are either bringing a child who is tardy, or picking up a child who is leaving early, will need to visit the front desk. The co-op coordinator will guide parents through this new process.

Co-op volunteers will sign in and out at the front desk.

**III. COVID-19 : During the time of this writing, COVID-19 will not require student and staff monitoring. If this requirement changed, per CDC recommendations, we will alert all families, students and staff.**

**IV. DAILY SCHEDULE**

9:00am	Co-op doors are opened
9:45am	First Class starts
11:05am	Snack
12:30pm	Lunch
2:55pm	Dismiss

**V. DELAYED OPENINGS and SCHOOL CLOSURES**

During inclement weather, stay close to your phone. We will email and text all parents with status of co-op closings or delayed openings. When the opening of the co-op has been delayed, students should not arrive at the co-op earlier than the announced opening time.

**Early Dismissal School Closings**

In case of an emergency dismissal, the co-op needs to be aware of a plan for where your child will go if you are not home (to a neighbor, relative or friend's house). Please make sure that this plan is included on your child's yellow Emergency Information Sheet that all students turn in at the beginning of each

year. Please confirm your plan with the neighbor or relative and discuss the plan with your child. Should the arrangements you determine appropriate at the start of the year change later in the year, please call to notify the office.

### Dismissal Procedures

These procedures have been established to help ensure that all children are safe from the time they are dismissed from their classroom until they arrive home:

#### Early Dismissal

Any parent wishing to pick-up their child prior to 2:30 p.m., must report to the front desk upon arrival at the co-op. Parents will sign students out at the front desk and then can proceed to pick up the child.

#### Student Arrival

Students may enter the building through the front double doors. Students are permitted in the building at 9:30 a.m.

#### End of Day Dismissal

Parents can either pick up students in building or by driving up the front double doors.

## **VI. LUNCH AND SNACKS**

Parents must bring in lunch, snacks and a drink (reusable water bottle, preferred) each day for their child. Parents are highly encouraged to pack a healthy lunch so that students would have the fuel they need to be successful throughout the day.

## **VII. HOMEWORK**

Homework extends the learning experience beyond the classroom. The objective is to strengthen skills, increase understanding, improve study habits,

and involve parents in their child's progress. The school also recognizes the involvement of afterschool activities and the need for family time.

#### Forms of Homework:

- o Practice assignments to reinforce taught skills
- o Preparation assignments to read, gather, and organize information prior to a lesson
- o Extension assignments for a project that parallels class work and requires students to apply prior learning

#### Expected Time Requirements:

- o Grades 1-2 – approximately 30 minutes
- o Grades 3-4 – approximately 40 minutes
- o Grade 5+ – approximately 50 minutes
- o All grades are encouraged to read (or be read to) for 15-30 minutes.

Children are responsible for completing homework independently. Parents are to review the assignments and provide support, as needed.

Assignments may vary between children based on individual needs.

In addition to other homework assigned, your child is encouraged to read for 15-30 minutes each night. Books, magazines, and newspapers are all appropriate sources of reading material. In addition, consider these suggestions:

### **VIII. PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Sharing information with teachers will enable us to provide a learning program that will best meet the needs of your child. Parent conferences are scheduled for November, February and May and March 9th, but additional conferences may be scheduled with the teacher. Call the office and a convenient time will be arranged.

### **IX. STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

In order to maximize academic achievement, there must be a unified effort by allco-op staff, parents, students, and the community to improve overall school attendance.

-Children arriving at school after 9:45am is considered tardy.

### **X. FOOD ALLERGIES**

Food allergies can affect a child's health and academic performance, therefore a plan is implemented for avoidance and management of food allergy situations.

*Parent Responsibilities: Written authorization is needed to begin action for food allergies, restrictions, substitutions, modifications and treatment to allergic reactions.*

### **XI. BULLYING**



All children have a right to an equal education that is free of bullying and harassment that is displayed through hurtful and harmful behavior. Harassment is offensive behavior that is threatening and creates an intimidating environment. Bullying occurs when these offensive behaviors become repetitive with a person maintaining a power position. The co-op investigates complaints and appropriate disciplinary actions address this type of negative behavior.

## **XII. FIELD TRIPS**

Field trips extend classroom instruction and enhance learning experiences. Parental permission must be received for children to attend. Chaperones are determined based on supervision needs and transportation funding.

## **XII. VOLUNTEER INFORMATION**

The volunteer program is an effort on the part of parents, community citizens, and schools working together as partners to create better and more successful educational experiences for children. This additional help provides opportunities for children to receive more individualized attention, to improve communication skills, to reinforce and extend learning experiences and to overcome minor learning problems. This program also provides opportunities to build a positive home-school-community climate, provide supportive services in all schools, and to enhance children's learning and self-esteem. Like all visitors, volunteers must first report and stop at the front desk upon arrival at the co-op. The Parent Involvement Coordinator is in the building once every week.