

## 2025-2026 Substitute Teacher Handbook

**Administrative Offices** 

St. Pierre Education Center

3757 Upper Bellbrook Rd

Bellbrook, Ohio 45305-8750

(937) 848-5001

(Revised June 2025)







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#### Welcome

Thank you for your interest in *substitute teaching* in Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools during the upcoming academic year. The substitute teacher plays an important role in helping the district maintain instructional flow and student behavior in the absence of the regular classroom teacher. You are employed by the district as a professional to help carry out our instructional program. We encourage you to be ready and willing to adapt to various teaching assignments when called upon.

Your job will be a challenge requiring dedication, flexibility, and knowledge. An excellent substitute staff is crucial to our successful educational program; we value your services and expertise.

This handbook will help provide you with important reference information about Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools, the employment role you are about to enter, as well as basic district substitute teacher procedures. Since updates will occur to this handbook on a regular basis, you are encouraged to visit often. If you have questions throughout your employment, please feel free to contact the board of education offices for additional information.





#### **Professional Ethics**

As a Bellbrook-Sugarcreek School District substitute employee, you are expected to exemplify the high ethical standards expected of all regular district personnel. Your continued success as a substitute is based on a positive relationship with students, parents, teachers, and other school district personnel.

You are encouraged to **use extreme caution when voicing personal opinions** regarding the school district/building, staff members, students, policies and procedures. Avoid criticism of the regular classroom teacher(s) – do not participate in gossip. As a substitute professional, you have a legal and moral obligation to maintain the privacy of any confidential information which has been learned through contact with our students and other individuals in the school learning environment. Maintain a respectful relationship with all staff members, students and the community you serve. If you have any questions or concerns about a student or school situation, please contact a building administrator to discuss the situation. *See Board Policy #3210/#4210 available on our webpage.* 





# Requirements for Initial Employment

The following information is a requirement for all substitute personnel prior to employment by the board of education:

- 1. District certificated/licensed teaching application (available on our web page at <a href="https://www.sugarcreek.k12.oh.us">www.sugarcreek.k12.oh.us</a>)
- 2. Copies of transcript showing your teaching degree or (minimum) equivalent of two years of college-level coursework
- 3. Copy of valid Ohio teaching license (substitute or regular)
- 4. Employment Eligibility Verification (Form I–9) and necessary documentation which establishes identity and eligibility for employment (i.e. valid driver's license, social security card-also used for payroll purposes)
- 5. Ohio BCII & federal FBI background checks (within last 12 months)
- 6. Auditor of State Fraud-Reporting Acknowledgement form
- 7. Pre-employment payroll information

Individuals must hold a <u>minimum of an associate's degree</u> or the equivalent (per Ohio DEW guidelines *Educator Licensure and Effectiveness*) and be prepared to substitute in <u>any</u> district classroom grades K-12.

The above information must be submitted to our offices by scheduling an appointment with Sheila Woody, Assistant to the Superintendent, 848–5001, extension 6901, or via e-mail @ sheila.woody@bss.k12.oh.us . Following a review, qualified individuals are contacted to initiate further employment procedures.

The Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Board of Education is an equal opportunity employer. It is the policy of the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, military status, ancestry, genetic information (collectively "Protected Classes"), or any other legally protected category, in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. *See Board Policy #1422/#3122/#4122 available on our webpage*.





## **After Board of Education Approval**

Effective 2024, the Ohio Auditor of State requires that all public employees be trained in fraud reporting. As a substitute in our school district, you are required to view a brief video <u>on your initial employment</u> outlining your responsibilities as a school employee to report suspected fraud, theft and/or misuse of public funds.

#### You must login on the auditor's training page at

https://ohioauditor.gov/trainings/fraud.html . Click the blue "Get Started" tab in the middle of the page. Review the information in the left-hand column and complete the requested information on the right-hand side of the page to register — under "organization" list Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools, "entity" click School, "county" list your <a href="https://home.county">home county</a> of residence. Once you have viewed the short video, click "get certificate". A copy of the certificate must be emailed to our Manager of Business, Jeff Eckley at jeff.eckley@bss.k12.oh.us .

This requirement <u>is not optional</u> but *mandated* by the Ohio Auditor of State. You may complete the training immediately or within five (5) days of your first substitute assignment in the district. If you are employed as a substitute in other local districts and have already completed the required training, you can upload a copy of your previously obtained certificate to Mr. Eckley as qualifying proof of completion.





## Responsibilities of a Substitute Teacher

- Wear your ID tag
- Once you have committed to a confirmed substitute assignment, *keep it!* If you accept a vacancy assignment and do not show up for the job (and you have not returned the vacancy to Frontline or called the respective building), you may be removed from accepting future assignments in our district.
- Dress for Success by demonstrating professional attire as appropriate for the position typically, business casual is appropriate for most classroom assignments but can vary depending on the area of assignment.
- Be Prepared with a friendly attitude and firm demeanor
- Ask Questions if plans or other information are not clear
- Following the Lesson Plan left by the regular classroom teacher <u>is</u> <u>imperative</u>. If you are unable to follow the lesson plans for any reason, contact the office and leave a note for the absent teacher.
- Assume all Duties of the teacher including for example: hall, recess, cafeteria, and dismissal (bus) duties. If no information has been left reflecting an extra-duty responsibility, please confirm with the office staff that there are no duty expectations of you!
- Leave Notes for the Teacher provide feedback regarding challenging discipline problems, assignments completed and any other relevant information. Please be specific and detailed as possible. Consider leaving an email address or phone number where you can be reached in case the returning teacher has any questions about your comments.





### Frontline - Absence Management

Substitute teaching assignments are filled via an automated system called **Frontline**. You may access the automated system to proactively search for jobs and fill your own schedule and review or cancel an assignment. You can telephone the system at 1-800-942-3767 or visit the web page at <a href="https://www.FrontlineK12.com/Aesop">www.FrontlineK12.com/Aesop</a>.

Notification of available jobs will be given weekdays 5:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.; Sundays from 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Most often you will be called well enough in advance to reach the assigned building prior to the start of the school day. **If you need to cancel an assignment, you must give Frontline at least 12-hours notification**; after that time, you will need to call the building of assignment directly (and as early as possible) on the day of the assignment. Please leave the information with the lead secretary (see Directory/Resources) – – <u>do not call/email the Board of Education offices</u> regarding your vacancy cancellation.

Upon initial employment with the district, you will receive information on steps needed to set up your online account and phone log-on (your ID and telephone PIN numbers), set up your personal email account and calendar so Frontline will know whether or not you are available for open job assignments, manage your call times, view your schedule in advance, etc. You will be responsible for maintaining your information so that the system can operate in the most efficient manner possible.

<u>Web Alerts</u> – This is an important link for district information and is visible when you log on to Frontline Absence Management. You will learn more information about changes in overall building schedules, calendar reminders, and any new requirements for substitutes. Watch carefully!

If there are any questions about whether school is in session during a weather event, please check the district web page or listen to local television/radio stations for delay information and announcements of closings. Unless there have been prior arrangements made with district administration, if school is cancelled it is not a paid date for substitutes.





#### **General Procedures**

- When you enter our buildings for the first time during the school year, you will need to present a picture ID (driver's license, passport, etc.) at the school office to check into the visitor system (Verkada) and receive an identifying substitute teacher badge. This ID must be worn/displayed at all times during your work assignment identifying you as an authorized visitor in our schools.
- ❖ When you arrive at the assigned school building, check into the office to receive your attendance roster for each class period, daily schedule, lesson plan, class list/seating chart, assignments, and other pertinent information such as a substitute folder and timesheet.
- Review the teacher lesson plans as closely as possible. Follow them as instructed unless you have prior permission from building administrators to deviate from the plan. Carry out any specific instructions from the teacher such as collection and grading of papers. Show respect by doing what is asked but do not hesitate to use your own innovations should the need arise.
- When the classroom teacher is absent due to an emergency, the substitute may not have lesson plans provided by the teacher. If this happens, help is available from other teachers, support staff, and administration at the school.
- Start the day promptly, firmly, and concisely. Be pleasant and confident by informing students that you are aware of the classroom rules and expectations.
- Leave a brief summary of work that was accomplished in the teacher's absence. Leave the teacher's desk/classroom organized at the end of the day. Make a record of assignments given for the next day and papers collected from students.
- Please do not grade papers unless you have received specific permission/instructions to do so. <u>NEVER</u> (unless you are serving in a long-term substitute capacity) enter any student grades into the computer grade system.
- Complete and submit any evaluation forms given to you by the office.





- \* The supervision of the students you are assigned throughout the day is your first priority. You should never leave the school grounds or leave students unattended in the classroom unless the position requires you to do so or you have received prior permission from building administration. Subs should not leave the school at the end of the day until they have been cleared through the school office.
- ❖ Student Safety Plan − The school district has a detailed emergency plan. Each building classroom will have a set of *Crisis Procedures* posted in a visible location. Familiarize yourself with all procedures and exits in the event of a fire or weather emergency. If you have any questions, ask building administration or fellow teachers for clarification.





# Suggestions for Classroom Management

It is the responsibility of the substitute teacher to strive to teach, within their ability, the classroom materials left by the regular teacher. The following suggestions should minimize problems, establish a good classroom routine, provide a positive learning environment, and establish mutual respect.

- The initial impression of the substitute teacher will determine successful classroom management. Self-confidence, knowledge, flexibility and resourcefulness are prerequisites for the position you are about to enter.
- Provide a successful learning experience by being prompt, neat, patient, enthusiastic and accepting.
- Attempt to call students by name create name tags or seating charts if they have not been provided.
- Establish your rules and expectations from the beginning of the day/class. Communicate clearly <u>before</u> an issue arises. A proactive (vs. reactive) approach is always best.
- Be alert! make eye contact with students, use proper English grammar.
- You are the supervisor and the adult in control. Use instructional time wisely, do not do
  extra personal things, use your cell phone, or sit with casual reading take charge, don't
  allow students to challenge your authority.
- Be fair and consistent students need to know what to expect of you and what you expect
  of them in order to create and maintain a positive classroom environment.
- Expect good behavior. Students tend to respond to what is expected of them make sure
  they understand the correlation between choice and consequence. However, if discipline
  problems occur which you are unable to manage, <u>contact the principal</u>, <u>assistant principal</u>,
  <u>or designee for immediate assistance</u>.
- Busy students have less time to create problems. Get students on-task at the earliest possible convenience.
- Encourage student involvement in class discussions, questioning and other activities. Be sure that all instructions are clear.





- Carry out your duties as a professional act like the expert, not one of the kids. If you
  don't know the answer, work together to "look it up".
- Providing positive feedback creates a successful learning experience compliment the students when possible.
- Keep your sense of humor!

### Discipline Procedures

Substitute teachers are responsible for maintaining discipline and providing a classroom atmosphere conducive to learning.

- Review classroom rules and expectations.
- Be fair and consistent.
- Set the tone don't be intimidated, antagonized or ridiculed.
- Be pleasant, yet firm.
- Discipline problems are reduced when the substitute teacher is prepared, organized, and shows enthusiasm for their assigned position.
- Do not touch, slap or otherwise engage in physical confrontation with a student in an attempt to discipline.
- If a serious situation occurs beyond your knowledge of district procedures, please contact a building administrator immediately.
- Maintain eye contact with the students involved but never invade their personal space unless they are causing physical harm to another student.
- Encourage alternative solutions to the conflict. Allow for options that will help the student maintain their dignity.
- Reward good behavior with positive reinforcement. Smiles and non-verbal cues are very important in conveying appreciation and approval to students.





### Compensation

Substitute teachers are paid via mandatory direct deposit on the regular payroll (the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month). Deductions will be made for Ohio State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS), and all local, state, and federal taxes.

Substitutes are expected to keep current information on file with Human Resources and/or the Treasurer's Office. This information would include your current address, name changes, telephone number and email address, tax information, etc. <u>Changes must be submitted in writing</u> – *no telephone calls will be accepted*.

Substitute teachers are required to complete daily timesheets (FORM: TO-0060-2) when they have completed a job assignment. This information can be obtained from the school office. The current rate of pay for substitutes is \$150.00 per full day of employment based on a  $7 \frac{1}{2}$ -hour work day. Partial days worked will be paid as prorated in intervals of  $\frac{1}{4}$  days. For same duty assignments:

\* Days 1-15 \$150.00

\* Days 16-60 \$200.00

\* Days 61 + BA/Step 0 + full benefits

(\* Time in the <u>same classroom/clinic</u> position, does not need to be consecutive days; non-work day =  $\$\emptyset$  pay.)

Questions regarding payroll should be directed to Angi Baudendistel in the Treasurer's Office, 848–5001, ext. #6110, or via e-mail @ angi.baudendistel@bss.k12.oh.us.





# Schedule of Pay Dates 2025-2026

Pay Date	<u>Date From</u>	<u>Date To</u>
Friday September 5	8/4/2025	8/24/2025
Friday, September 19	8/25/2025	9/7/2025
Friday, October 3	9/8/2025	9/21/2025
Monday, October 20	9/22/2025	10/5/2025
Wednesday, November 5	10/6/2025	10/19/2025
Thursday, November 20	10/20/2025	11/2/2025
Friday, December 5	11/3/2025	11/16/2025
Friday, December 19	11/17/2025	11/30/2025
Monday, January 5	12/1/2025	12/14/2025
Tuesday, January 20	12/15/2025	1/4/2026
Thursday, February 5	1/5/2026	1/18/2026
Friday, February 20	1/19/2026	2/1/2026
Thursday, March 5	2/2/2026	2/15/2026
Friday, March 20	2/16/2026	3/1/2026
Friday, April 3	3/2/2026	3/15/2026
Monday, April 20	3/16/2026	4/5/2026
Tuesday, May 5	4/6/2026	4/19/2026
Wednesday, May 20	4/20/2026	5/3/2026
Friday, June 5	5/4/2026	5/17/2026
Thursday, June 18	5/18/2026	5/31/2026





## **Directory of Resources**

**Bellbrook - Sugarcreek Schools** 

Superintendent's Office

3757 Upper Bellbrook Rd

Bellbrook OH 45305

Douglas A. Cozad, Ph.D. Superintendent

937–848–5001 Henry S. Conte Parent/Community

Engagement & Communication

"Super" Number: 937-848-5001

Jeffery T. Eckley #6101 Mgr of Business

Betsy K. Gann Dir of Curriculum &

Gifted Services,

Staff Development

Dina J. Lefeld Assessment/Data

Sheila R. Woody #6901 Assistant to the

Superintendent/

Frontline Navigator

Treasurer's Office Amit Gautam Treasurer/CFO

937-848-4800 Angi C. Baudendistel #6110 Asst to Treas/Payroll

Stephanie M. Eben Asst to Treas
Jessica A. Cain Asst to Treas

Preschool/Special Services

937-848-5001 Jennifer A. McClure Secretary-Spec Educ Svs

Bridgett D. Pritchard

& Curriculum

Traci Womack (GCESC) Preschool Director

Jennifer S. Dreischarf Receptionist/

**Preschool Secretary** 

Dir of Special Education

Technology Dept Matthew J. DeLong Coordinator

BELLBROOK-SUGARCREEK



**Bellbrook High School** 

937-848-3737, gr 9-12 3737 Upper Bellbrook Rd

Bellbrook OH 45305

Bellbrook Middle School

937-848-2141, gr 6-8 3600 Feedwire Rd Bellbrook OH 45305

**Bell Creek Intermediate** 

937-848-3777, gr 3-5 3777 Upper Bellbrook Rd Bellbrook OH 45305

Stephen Bell Elementary

937-848-7831, gr K-2 4133 Shadowleaf Dr Bellbrook OH 45305 David D. Hann

Nicole M. LaSota Barry E. Limon

Robin S. Cordonnier #2901

J. Zack Cline

Scott E. Killen

Amy K. Rodenroth #3902

Terress M. Monroe, Ed.D.

Joshua A. Ward

Crystal M. Harnish #8901

Ginger C. Keeton

Heather M. Hebrank

Marjorie M. Horvath #5202

Principal

Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal

Lead Secretary/Frontline

Principal

**Assistant Principal** 

Lead Secretary/Frontline

Principal

**Assistant Principal** 

Lead Secretary/Frontline

Principal

**Assistant Principal** 

Lead Secretary/Frontline





## Building Time Schedules (no changes from 2024-2025 school year)

As we progress through the first quarter of the school year, please pay particular attention to Frontline/Absence Management and the information listed below for any updates to building time schedules and/or report time changes.

Building	Grades	Bus Drop	Start	Sub Report Time	End	
Stephen Bell	Stephen Bell K-2		8:15	AM 7:35-3:05 PM 11:20	2:55	
Bell Creek	3-5	8:55	9:00	AM 8:40-4:10 PM 12:30	3:40	
Middle School	6-8	7:05	7:20	AM 7:05-2:20	2:30	
High School	9-12	7:55	8:05	AM 8:00-3:30	3:05	
AM Preschool		8:25	8:35	7:50-11:20	11:05	
PM Preschool		12:00	12:10	11:50-3:20	2:40	
Admin Central & Treasurer's		-	7:30	-	4:00	





## 2025-2026 School Year Calendar

Thur Mon	Aug 14 Sept 1	First Day for Students No School – Labor Day
Fri	Sept 12	No School – Staff PD
Fri	Oct 10	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter
Mon	Oct 13	No School - ½ work day, ½ Staff PD
Mon	Oct 20	No School – P-T Conferences, grd K-12
Tues	Nov 11	No School – Staff PD
Mon	Nov 24	No School – PT Conf Trade Day
Tues	Nov 25	
	thru	No School- Thanksgiving Break
Fri	Nov 28	
Fri	Dec 19	End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter
Mon	Dec 22	Winter Break begins
Mon	Jan 5	No School – Staff PD
Tues	Jan 6	School Resumes
Mon	Jan 19	No School – Martin Luther King Day
Fri	Feb 13	No School – Staff PD
Mon	Feb 16	No School – Presidents Day
Fri	Mar 13	End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter
Wed	Mar 18	2 hr delay – Staff PD
Mon	Mar 23	
	thru	No School- Spring Break
Fri	Mar 27	
Mon	Mar 30	School Resumes
Fri	Apr 3	No School – Staff PD
Fri	Apr 24	2 hr early dismissal – Staff PD
Thur	May 21	1-hr early dismissal, Last Day for Students

