



HIGHLAND PARK ELEMENTARY

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<http://www.mccsc.edu/highlandpark>

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Cassidy Rockhill, Principal
Mrs. Lisa Quigley, Assistant Principal

Parents and Guardians
RE: Fidget Spinners

The “fidget spinner” has become a very popular item for students in a short amount of time. Although these items are promoted as a tool to help release extra energy and/or help students focus, there is already research surfacing that refutes those claims. Regardless of their merit, any fidget deemed necessary for a student to use as a focus aid must be vetted through a team approach. The genesis of a student using a fidget tool during the school day is typically initiated by a special education teacher or occupational therapist, or via a request from the classroom teacher for one of the aforementioned team members to conduct an evaluation of the need for a fidget tool. Without this process taking place, the fidget is no more than a toy and, per school policy, toys are not allowed in school unless permitted by a classroom teacher for a special occasion/event/celebration etc. Beginning Monday, May 15, “Fidget Spinners” will no longer be allowed in school. As with any toys that are brought to school, the following procedure will take place if a student is seen with a fidget spinner. On the first occasion, a staff member will confiscate the spinner and return it to the student at the end of the day. On the second occasion, the spinner will be confiscated and kept at the office until a parent/guardian comes to retrieve it. Thank you in advance for your help in keeping unnecessary distractions out of the learning environment. If you believe that your child does need a fidget, please contact your classroom teacher, Mr. Rockhill or Mrs. Quigley and we can begin an assessment to determine the level of need and find an appropriate tool.

* You may find this article informative: <https://yourot.com/parenting-club/2017/5/1/the-dangers-of-the-fidget-epidemic>

Cassidy Rockhill
Principal
Highland Park Elementary



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