## ALICE TERRY ELEMENTARY HOME OF THE PANDAS

## **Toys From Home Policy**

The Alice Terry Team understands that adjusting to a new school year can often be an emotional and distressing time for students and their families. Our students may feel anxious in a new environment filled with unfamiliarity.

At Alice Terry Elementary we believe that the key to a successful school year is communication, empathy and the establishment of consistent routines.

We understand that a student may be attached to a favorite toy or object from home and accept that this item may be instrumental to our student's emotional wellbeing and sense of belonging.

## Therefore, we will:

- 1. Encourage children who bring special belongings into school to place them in a special "toys from home" box to reduce the likelihood of their becoming lost or broken. However, we must make it clear that whilst all care is taken, Alice Terry Elementary is not responsible for damaged, lost or stolen items.
- 2. Discourage toys from home being brought to Alice Terry Elementary on a regular basis unless they are essential to a child's emotional wellbeing and/or sense of belonging.
- 3. Enforce a non-violent toy policy in which we seek family assistance in preventing their children to bring in violent toys from home. Any such toys will be removed from the child immediately and placed in the reception area for parental collection at the end of the day.
- 4. Discourage the wearing of wearing dress ups that incorporate capes, guns, holsters, knives or swords. Such clothing encourages violent play and may present a danger to the child and others within our school.
- 5. Not allow students to bring any kind of outside playing equipment into the playground during school hours. This includes, but it is not limited to dolls, video games, poker cards, soccer ball, football, baseballs, etc. Alice Terry Elementary will provide students will playing equipment while in recess and special outdoor activities.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call, e-mail, or stop by. Thank you for all your support! It's going to be a great year for our Pandas!

Sincerely, **Diego J. Romero, Ed.S.** Principal, Alice Terry Elementary