

RAVENNA PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT HANDBOOK

2023-2024 Edition

Ravenna Public Schools
41750 Carthage Road
Ravenna, NE 68869

Phone: (308) 452-3249
Fax: (308) 452-3172



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WELCOME

Dear Students and Parents:

On behalf of the faculty, administration and board of education, we welcome you to another school year. We are looking forward to helping your children reach their learning potential and achieve their educational goals in the upcoming year.

Please read this handbook carefully. Students and their parents are responsible for knowing the rules, regulations, and procedures covered in this handbook. The student handbook is an extension of school policies and has the force and effect of board policy when approved by the board of education.

There are several forms at the end of this handbook which you must read, sign and return no later than August 25, 2023.

This handbook contains information of value to every student and parent. It contains explanations of school regulations and procedures necessary for our school to run smoothly and efficiently. If you are ever in doubt about what is the right thing to do, ask a classroom teacher, speak with the building principal, or contact my office.

Sincerely,

Ken Schroeder

Mr. Ken Schroeder – Superintendent

Intent of Handbook

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff as a guide to the rules, procedures, and general information about this school district. Students and their parents must become familiar with the handbook, and parents should use it as a resource and assist their children in following the rules contained in it. The use of the word “parents” refers to any adult who has the responsibility for making education-related decisions about a child, including, but not limited to biological parents, adoptive parents, legal guardians, and adults acting in loco parentis.

Although the information in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, it is not intended to be all-encompassing or to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during a school day or school year. This handbook does not create a “contract” with parents, students or staff, and the administration may make decisions and rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well-being of all students. The administration is responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. If a situation or circumstance arises that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based on applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Name: Ken Schroeder
Title: Superintendent
Address: 41750 Carthage Road, Ravenna, NE 68869
Telephone: 308-452-3249
E-mail: ken.schroeder@ravennabluejays.org

For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area or call 1-800-421-3481.

For additional prohibited discrimination and related information, please review school district Policy 3053 – Nondiscrimination.

MISSION STATEMENT

FAMILY – COMMUNITY – SCHOOL

Preparing Students Today to Succeed Tomorrow

SECTION ONE

BASIC SCHOOL RULES AND GENERAL PRACTICES

Admission of Part-Time Students

A student may be permitted to enroll on a part-time basis pursuant to this policy and applicable curricular practices when enrollment is appropriate for reasons that include but are not limited to the following: the student attends another education institution on a part-time basis; is enrolled for a limited number of credit hours needed to graduate; has a modified schedule because of a disability or as part of an individualized education plan; or is a student who resides in the school district but attends a private, denominational, or parochial school or a school that elects not to meet accreditation or approval requirements (referred to herein as an exempt school student or an exempt school, respectively).

Application for Enrollment. The parent or guardian of an exempt school student who is of appropriate age to attend school, is a resident of the school district, has not graduated from high school, and has not received a graduate equivalency diploma must meet all of the district's admission requirements and file an application for enrollment on forms provided by the school district by August 1 of the year of enrollment. For second semester high school courses, the application must be filed by December 1. For students who move into the district mid-semester, the application must be filed within 20 days of moving into the district. The administration shall review the application, determine whether to approve or deny it, notify the parent or guardian, and schedule enrollment at an educationally appropriate time in the building or attendance center of the administration's choice. Enrollment does not carry over from one school year to the next, and the parent or guardian of an exempt school student must apply for enrollment each school year.

Limitations Based on Resources. The enrollment of exempt school students is subject to limitations established by the district for grades, classes, courses, and programs based on the limited resources available to the school district. Full-time students shall be given priority for enrollment in grades, classes, courses, and programs.

Placement of Students. Exempt school students shall be placed in courses for which they have adequate preparation and which are determined to be educationally appropriate based on criteria that include, but are not limited to the student's age, achievement test scores, academic record, evaluation by school personnel and any other standards used by the district for the placement of students.

Grades and Academic Honors. Exempt school students shall receive grades, report cards, and transcripts, but shall not be eligible to graduate, receive a diploma or qualify for class ranking unless they meet all district requirements for such including earning a

sufficient number of credit hours and semesters of attendance.

Applicability of School Rules. Exempt school students are subject to all rules and standards of the board of education and administration as set forth in policy, handbooks or other communications, as well as the rules and directives of the building administration and teaching personnel. They must remain on the school campus during scheduled classes but must leave the school campus when not engaged in a course or course-related activity unless the course or course-activity requires their presence or the building principal approves their presence. Students who violate school policies, rules, or directives shall be subject to disciplinary procedures up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Extracurricular Sports and Activities. Students who are enrolled in a private, denominational or parochial school may not participate in extracurricular sports and activities sponsored by the public school district if they participate in extracurricular sports and activities offered by the private, denominational or parochial school. Exempt school students may participate in extracurricular sports and activities if they are enrolled in at least 20 credit hours per semester, with at least 5 credit hours of enrollment in the public school district. All part-time students must also meet all other eligibility requirements set by the board, administration and coach/sponsor prior to participating and for continued participation in the sport or activity. This includes all eligibility and other requirements of the Nebraska School Activities Association and any other governing bodies for the activity.

Transportation. Part-time school students are not entitled to transportation or reimbursement for transportation to and from the school for class attendance purposes, unless required by law. Eligible part-time students are entitled to transportation to and from practices and extracurricular events to the same extent as the school district's full-time students, but part-time students must arrange their own transportation and arrive timely to the designated pick-up point for such transportation.

Option Enrollment. Students may not enroll on a part-time basis pursuant to the school's option enrollment program.

Attendance

Required Attendance

Every person residing in the school district who has legal or actual charge or control of any child who is of mandatory attendance age shall cause that child to attend a public or private school regularly unless the child has graduated from high school or has been allowed to disenroll pursuant to this policy.

Mandatory Attendance Age

All children who are or will turn six years old before January 1 of the current school year are of mandatory attendance age. Children who have not turned eighteen years of age are of mandatory attendance age.

Exceptions

This policy does not apply when temporary illness or severe weather conditions make attendance impossible or impracticable.

A child who will not reach age 7 before January 1 of the current school year may be excused from mandatory attendance if the child's parent or guardian completes an affidavit affirming that alternative educational arrangements have been made for the child.

Discontinuing Enrollment – 5 Year Old Students

The person seeking to discontinue the enrollment of a student who will not reach six years of age prior to January 1 of the current school year shall submit a signed, written request to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The school district may request written verification or documentation that the person signing the form has legal or actual charge or control of the student. The school district shall discontinue the enrollment of any student who satisfies these requirements. Any student whose enrollment is discontinued under this subsection shall not be eligible to reenroll in this school district until the beginning of the following school year unless otherwise required by law.

Discontinuing Enrollment – 16 and 17 Year Old Students

Only children who are at least 16 years of age may be disenrolled from the district. The person seeking to discontinue the child's enrollment shall submit a signed, written request and submit it to the superintendent using the form which is attached to this policy. The district will follow the procedures outlined on the attached form in considering requests to disenroll.

Only children disenrolling to attend a non-accredited school may be exempt from this policy. The person with legal or actual charge or control of the child must provide the superintendent with a copy of the signed request submitted to the State Department of Education for attending non-accredited schools. The superintendent may confirm the validity of the submission with the State Department of Education.

Attendance Officer

Each building principal is designated as an attendance officer for the district. Each building principal, at his or her discretion, may delegate these responsibilities to any other qualified individual. The attendance officer is responsible for enforcing the provisions of state law relating to compulsory attendance. This responsibility includes but is not limited to filing a report with the county attorney of the county in which a student resides. Compensation for the duties of attendance officer is included in the salary for the superintendent or designee.

Excused Absences

The following absences will be considered excused if they are confirmed by communication to the school from the student's parent/guardian:

1. Physical or mental illness of the student (a physician's verification is required after three (3) consecutive days of absence for illness)
2. Severe weather
3. Medical appointments for the student
4. Death or serious illness of the student's family member
5. Attending a funeral, wedding or graduation
6. Appearance at court or for other legal matters
7. Observance of religious holidays of the student's own faith
8. College planning visits
9. Personal or family vacations

Excessive Absenteeism

When a student receives 10 absences or the hourly equivalent in any semester, the Attendance Officer will address barriers to the student's attendance.

When a student is absent more than 20 days per year or the hourly equivalent, the Attendance Officer may file a report with the county attorney of the county in which the student resides. For example, if the student accumulates 20 days of excused absences due to documented illness and is tardy one time, the Attendance Officer must file a report with the appropriate county attorney.

Absences due to illness

The school district will contact parents if a student becomes ill at school. A student who is absent due to illness has two days for every day of absence to complete missed assignments.

Planned absences

Parents who know in advance that a student will be absent must call the school or send a written note at the earliest possible date. Students who will be absent for reasons that can be anticipated, such as routine medical appointments and school activities, must complete any work required by the teacher before the absence. Parents should make every attempt to schedule medical and other appointments after school hours when possible.

Students are obligated to:

- 1) Complete all class work in advance for any absence that can be anticipated;
- 2) Attend school one half day (four periods) before attending practice or participating in a scheduled student activity except in cases of family emergencies or pre-arranged absences, it is the responsibility of the student and parent to prearrange the absence with the building principal
- 3) Check out of school at the office if leaving school during the school day; and
- 4) Make up any and all work that is assigned by teachers as make-up work for the instructional time that has been missed.

Parents are obligated to:

- 1) Call the appropriate building office to inform the school of the reason for each absence. Students will not be released to any adult other than their parent, unless the parent has contacted the appropriate building office; and
- 3) Submit a doctor's statement, if requested, for each period of absence due to illness that exceeds five days.

Pregnant and Parenting Students

Students who are pregnant or parenting are encouraged to continue participating in the district's educational and extracurricular programs. Students who anticipate deviations from their regular school experience or accrue absences due to pregnancy or parenting should notify their building principal as early as possible to discuss their educational programming. The building principal will work with the student to develop a plan to assist the student in participating in district curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

Make up allowance

Students will have *two school days* after an excusable absence to notify the office (written note, email or phone call by the parent). Doctor excuses will be required for each non-consecutive medical absence and the doctor's notes must be in written form. After the two days, all undocumented absences will be considered unexcused and students may earn zeros for the academic work.

Loss of Credit

Once the limitation in a given semester is reached the following may go into effect:

1. Loss of Credit

- 11-13 days 1 credit per class
- 14-16 days 2 credits per class
- 17-19 days 3 credits per class
- 19+ days No credit given

2. Approved computer courses may be used to recover credit. Once the student goes over the limitation, the administration will determine credit recovery opportunities. Parents will be informed of excessive absences each quarter and up to date attendance information is available for parents on Infinite Campus.

Band

Students may participate in the elementary band and begin taking band lessons in the 5th grade. Students in grades 7-8 may participate in the junior high school band; grades 9-12 may participate in the high school band. Grades 7-12 will be participating in joint marching and any band competitions. Instruments will be provided by students or the school as provided by school policy. Fees may be charged as allowed or provided in the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act and the school's student fee policy or other applicable policy.

Bills

Students should pay bills for supplies, fines, shop materials, clothing orders, etc. to the school bookkeeper's office or building secretary. Any check for these payments should be made out to Ravenna Public Schools unless otherwise instructed. Pursuant to board policy, the district will assess an additional penalty of \$30 for any check returned from the bank for insufficient funds.

When students purchase items of significant value, such as class rings and letter jackets, they must make payment at the time of purchase or when the order is placed.

Books and Supplies

Students must take care of books and other supplies provided by the district. The school will assess fines for damage to books, books that are lost, and any damage to school property.

Students must supply their own consumable items such as pens, pencils, tablets, notebooks, erasers, and crayons. Each classroom teacher will prepare a supply list for students at the beginning of the school year.

Bulletin Boards

Bulletin boards are maintained throughout the building to communicate general information. Announcements will be made available online through Infinite Campus and the school website.

Bulletin board or electronic publishing space may be provided for the use of students and student organizations for notices relating to matters of general interest to students. The following general limitations apply to all posting or publishing:

1. All postings must be approved by the appropriate building principal or designee. Students may not post any material containing any statement or expression that is libelous, obscene, or vulgar; that would violate board of education policies, including the student code of conduct; or that is otherwise inappropriate for the school environment.
2. All postings must identify the student or the student organization posting or publishing the notice.
3. Material shall be removed after a reasonable time to assure full access to the bulletin boards or electronic publishing media.

Bullying

Students are prohibited from engaging in any form of bullying. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines bullying as “any unwanted aggressive behavior(s) by another youth or group of youths who are not siblings or current dating partners that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated.” Nebraska statute defines bullying as “an ongoing pattern of physical, verbal or electronic abuse.” The District’s administrators will consider these definitions when determining whether any specific situation constitutes bullying. Both of these definitions include both in-person and cyberbullying behaviors.

The disciplinary consequences for bullying will depend on the severity, frequency, duration, and effect of the behavior and may result in sanctions up to and including suspension or expulsion. Students who believe they are being bullied should immediately inform a teacher or the building principal.

Reporting Bullying

Students who experience or observe bullying behavior must immediately report what happened to a teacher or administrator. Students can use the district’s anonymous platform called SafeSchools to make this report. Students may always confer with their parents or guardians about bullying they experience or witness, but the students must also ultimately report the situation to a teacher or administrator.

Bullying Investigations

School district staff will investigate allegations of bullying using the same practices and procedures that the district observes for student disciplinary matters. In no circumstance will school district staff be deliberately indifferent to allegations of bullying.

Cafeteria

1. All food is to be eaten by the student or left on the tray when returned to the dishwasher. All straws, papers, milk cartons should be deposited in the trash cans. All leftover food should be scraped off the tray into the correct container.
2. Forks and spoons should be placed in the pan with water, NOT THROWN AWAY!
3. Students are to use proper manners including eating quietly.
4. There will be no throwing of food or other items.
5. Second servings are available to those after the other students have had a chance to go through the line.
6. Students should remain at their tables until they are dismissed.
7. Students must treat lunch personnel with respect.

Candy & Pop

Food, candy, and drink are not to be brought to school by students for consumption during class periods, except for special projects (early morning practices, breakfast club, etc.) that have been scheduled by the instructor and must be consumed in the designated area. You may bring your lunch for your noon meal and the lunch is only to be eaten during your lunch time. All lunches are to be eaten in the school cafeteria. Only transparent (see through) bottles will be allowed for water.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

Students may use cell phones or other electronic devices while at school, so long as they do so safely, responsibly and respectfully and comply with all other school rules while using these devices.

Students may use cell phones or other electronic devices on school sidewalks and in the common areas of the school before and after school, during passing periods, and during lunch so long as they do not create a distraction or a disruption and comply with all other policies and handbook provisions.

By bringing their cell phones and other electronic communication devices to school, students consent to the search of said devices by school staff when the staff determines that such a search is reasonable or necessary.

Students are strictly prohibited from sending, sharing, viewing, or possessing pictures, text messages, emails or other material of a sexual nature in electronic or any other

form on a computer, cell phone, or other electronic device while at school. Students who possess prohibited material on their cell phone or other electronic device while at school shall be subject to disciplinary consequences as articulated by the student handbook.

Students may not use cell phones or electronic communication devices while riding in school vehicles, including listening to music, unless they have permission to do so from the driver or other adult responsible for their supervision.

Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones or electronic devices. The district is not responsible for theft, loss or damage of a cell phone or any calls made on a cell phone.

In the elementary building, all cell phones and personal electronic devices must be turned off and kept in the student's backpack during school hours.

Students who violate this policy or other school rules will have their cell phones or electronic devices confiscated immediately. The administration will return confiscated devices to the parent or guardian of the offending student, after discussing the rule violation with the student and parent or guardian. Students who violate this policy may, at the discretion of the school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Child Abuse and Neglect

School employees will report suspected abuse or neglect of a child as required by state law and school policy. Nebraska law defines abuse or neglect as knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child or an incompetent or disabled person to be (1) placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health; (2) cruelly confined or cruelly punished; (3) deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter or care; (4) left unattended in a motor vehicle, if such child is six years of age or younger; (5) sexually abused; (6) placed in a situation to be sexually exploited through sex trafficking of a minor as defined in state law or by allowing, encouraging, or forcing such person to engage in debauchery, public indecency, or obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions; or (7) placed in a situation to be a trafficking victim as defined in state law.

Class Dismissal

Classes are in session from the ringing of the tardy bell until the teacher dismisses the class. The bell at the end of the period is not a dismissal bell, and students may not leave their classrooms until they have been excused by their classroom teacher.

Classroom Behavior

Student behavior and attitude in the classroom must be cooperative and serious. All students must:

- arrive to class on time;
- prepare for class with all necessary materials;
- be considerate of others;
- respond promptly to all directions of the teacher; and
- take care of school property and the property of others.

Teachers will establish classroom conduct rules which students must obey.

Closed Campus

Once students arrive at school, they are expected to stay at school for the entire day. Students may not leave the building without permission from an administrator. Students may leave school during the day for legitimate purposes provided the parents have provided written or verbal permission to the office. Students will not be excused during the school day for non-emergency situations, such as running home to get gym shorts, picking up forgotten assignments, retrieving a computer, going off campus for lunch, etc. Students who leave for appointments during the school day will be required to provide an 'appointment card' from the doctor, dentist, or office they visited during their absence in order to verify the purpose for their absence from school.

Coats and Boots

Elementary students must wear coats outdoors when the weather makes it advisable. The staff will decide when coats are required for recess.

Elementary students may choose to wear over shoes or boots when the playground is wet or muddy. Waterproof boots worn to school should be taken off and regular shoes worn during the day. Boots worn to school must be marked with the student's name.

Secondary students will not be permitted to wear coats in the building. Students are encouraged to dress in layers in order to ensure they are able to meet their comfort needs.

College Visits

Any student who wishes to attend a college visit must pre-arrange the absence, prior to the absence. When arranging the visit with a guidance counselor, the student needs to provide the name of the college, date and time of visit, and college contact for the visit. Upon conclusion of the visit, the student must return

with a signed form provided by the guidance counselor, completed by the student and the college contact indicating the visit occurred, otherwise the absence will not be excused.

Communicable Diseases

Any student who has contracted a contagious disease may be restricted from attendance at school until the student is no longer contagious. The school district uses Title 173-Nebraska Health and Human Services/Control of Communicable Disease, Chapter 3 of the Nebraska Administrative Code as a “best practice” guideline for contagious and infectious diseases. If there are questions regarding the communicability of your child’s health condition or if you know your child has contracted a contagious or communicable disease or condition not otherwise specified in board policy or this handbook, please call the school nurse, Mrs. Karalee Fiddelke.

Communicating with Parents

Parents shall be kept informed of student progress, grades, and attendance through access to Infinite Campus, report cards, and parent/teacher conferences. The school district will notify parents if their students are failing or close to failing. The school district will endeavor to notify parents of failing students prior to entry of the failing grade on the student’s report card. Parents will also be notified of their student’s possible failure to meet graduation requirements. Other pertinent information will be communicated to parents by mail or by personal contact. Official transcripts of student progress, grades, and attendance will be sent to other school systems upon the student’s transfer when the district receives a written request signed by the student’s parent or guardian or upon being notified that the student has enrolled in another school.

Complaint Procedure

Good communication helps to resolve many misunderstandings and disagreements. This complaint procedure applies to board members, patrons, students and school staff, unless the staff member is subject to a different grievance procedure pursuant to policy or contract. Individuals who have a complaint should discuss their concerns with appropriate school personnel in an effort to resolve problems. When such efforts do not resolve matters satisfactorily, including matters involving discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, or age, a complainant should follow the procedures set forth below. Students and employees who believe they have been subjected to sex harassment in violation of Title IX should refer to the board’s policy titled “Title IX”, attached below.

A preponderance of the evidence will be required to discipline a party accused of misconduct. This means that the investigator must conclude that it is more likely

than not that misconduct occurred.

I. Complaint and Appeal Process.

- A. The first step is for the complainant to speak directly to the person(s) with whom the complainant has a concern. For example, a parent who is unhappy with a classroom teacher should initially discuss the matter with the teacher. However, the complainant should skip the first step if the complainant believes speaking directly to the person would subject the complainant to discrimination or harassment.
- B. The second step is for the complainant to speak to the building principal, Title IX/504 coordinator, superintendent of schools, or president of the board of education, as set forth below.
 1. Complaints about the operation, decisions, or personnel within a building should be submitted to the principal of the building.
 2. Complaints about the operations of the school district or a building principal should be submitted in writing to the superintendent of schools.
 3. Complaints about the superintendent of schools should be submitted in writing to the president of the board of education.
 4. Complaints involving discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, or age may also be submitted, at any time during the complaint procedure to the School District's Title IX/504 coordinator. Complaints involving discrimination or harassment may also be submitted at any time to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education: by email at OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov; by telephone at (816) 268-0550; or by fax at (816) 268-0599.
- C. When a complainant submits a complaint to an administrator or to the Title IX/504 coordinator, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:
 1. Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the staff member involved.
 2. If the complainant has not, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with that staff member, if appropriate.
 3. If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the staff member, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
 4. Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
 5. Interview the complainant to determine:
 - a) All relevant details of the complaint;
 - b) All witnesses and documents which the complainant believes support the complaint;

- c) The action or solution which the complainant seeks.
- 6. Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 calendar days after the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator received the complaint.
- D. If either the complainant or the accused party is not satisfied with the administrator's or the Title IX/504 coordinator's decision regarding a complaint, he or she may appeal the decision to the superintendent.
 - 1. This appeal must be in writing.
 - 2. This appeal must be received by the superintendent no later than ten (10) calendar days from the date the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - 3. The superintendent will investigate as he or she deems appropriate. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.
 - 4. Upon completion of this investigation, the superintendent will inform the complainant in writing of his or her decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the superintendent shall submit the decision within 180 calendar days after the superintendent receives the complainant's written appeal.
- E. If either the complainant or the accused party is not satisfied with the superintendent's decision regarding a complaint, he or she may appeal the decision to the board.
 - 1. This appeal must be in writing.
 - 2. This appeal must be received by the board president no later than ten (10) business days from the date the superintendent communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - 3. This policy allows, but does not require the board to receive statements from interested parties and witnesses relevant to the complaint appeal. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.
 - 4. The board will notify the complainant in writing of its decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the board shall submit its decision within 180 days after it receives the complainant's written appeal.
 - 5. There is no appeal from a decision of the board.
- F. When a formal complaint about the superintendent of schools has been filed with the president of the board, the president shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:
 - 1. Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the superintendent.
 - a) If the complainant has not, the board president will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with the

- superintendent, if appropriate.
- b) If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the superintendent, the board president shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
2. Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
 3. Determine, in his or her sole discretion, whether to place the matter on the board agenda for consideration at a regular or special meeting.
 4. Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 days after the president received the complaint.

No Retaliation.

The school district prohibits retaliation against any person for filing a complaint or for participating in the complaint procedure in good faith.

Special Rules Regarding Educational Services and Related Services to Students with Disabilities.

Students with disabilities and their families have specific rights outlined in state and federal law, including administrative processes by which they may challenge the educational services being provided by the school district. Therefore, the appeal process contained in this policy may not be used to challenge decisions made by a student's individualized education plan (IEP) team or 504 team.

Complaints about the educational services provided to a student with a disability, including but not limited to services provided to a student with an IEP, access to curricular and extracurricular activities, and educational placement must be submitted to the school district's Director of Special Education. The Director of Special Education will address the complaint in a manner that he/she deems appropriate and will provide the complainant with a copy of the Notice of IDEA Parental Rights promulgated by the Nebraska Department of Education.

Complaints about the educational services provided a student with a disability pursuant to a Section 504 plan must be submitted to the school district's 504 Coordinator. The 504 Coordinator will address the complaint in a manner that

he/she deems appropriate and will provide the complainant with a copy of the Notice of Section 504 Parental Rights adopted by the board of education.

Complaints about the educational services provided to a student who is suspected of having a disability must be submitted in writing to the school district's Director of Special Education or to the district's 504 Coordinator. The Director of Special Education or 504 Coordinator will either refer the student for possible verification as a student with a disability or will provide prior written notice of the district's refusal to do so.

Bad Faith or Serial Filings.

The purpose of the complaint procedure is to resolve complaints at the lowest level possible within the chain of command. Complaints filed (a) without a good faith intention to attempt to resolve the issues raised; (b) for the purpose of adding administrative burden; (c) at a volume unreasonable to expect satisfactory resolution; or (d) for purposes inconsistent with the efficient operations of the district may be dismissed by the superintendent without providing final resolution other than noting the dismissal. There is no appeal from dismissals made pursuant to this section.

Computer Network Use by Students

Students are expected to use computers and the Internet as an educational resource. The following procedures and guidelines govern the use of computers and the Internet at school.

I. Student Expectations in the Use of the Internet

A. Acceptable Use

1. Students may use the Internet to conduct research assigned by teachers.
2. Students may use the Internet to conduct research for classroom projects.
3. Students may use the Internet to gain access to information about current events.
4. Students may use the Internet to conduct research for school-related activities.
5. Students may use the Internet for appropriate educational purposes.

B. Unacceptable Use

1. Students shall not use school computers to gain access to material that is obscene, pornographic, harmful to minors, or otherwise inappropriate for educational uses.
2. Students shall not engage in any illegal or inappropriate activities on school computers, including the downloading and copying of copyrighted material.
3. Students shall not use electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, or other forms of direct electronic communications on school computers that are not approved by the school.

4. Students shall not use school computers to participate in on line auctions, non-educational on-line gaming or file sharing systems.
5. Students shall not disclose personal information, such as their names, school, addresses, or telephone numbers outside the school network.
6. Students shall not use school computers for commercial advertising or political advocacy of any kind without the express written permission of the system administrator.
7. Students shall not publish web pages that purport to represent the school district or the work of students at the school district without the express written permission of the system administrator or supervising teacher.
8. Students shall not erase, rename or make unusable anyone else's computer files, programs or disks.
9. Students shall not share their passwords with fellow students, school volunteers or any other individuals, and shall not use, or try to discover, another user's password.
10. Students shall not copy, change or transfer any software or documentation provided by the school district, teachers or another student without permission from the system administrator.
11. Students shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate or attempt to introduce any computer code designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called, but is not limited to, a bug, virus, worm, malware or Trojan Horse.
12. Students shall not configure or troubleshoot computers, networks, printers or other associated equipment, except as directed by a teacher or the system administrator.
13. Students shall not take home technology equipment (hardware or software) without permission of the system administrator.
14. Students shall not forge electronic mail messages or web pages.

II. Enforcement

A. Methods of Enforcement

1. The district monitors all Internet communications, Internet usage and patterns of Internet usage. Students have no right of privacy to any Internet communications or other electronic files. The computer system is owned by the school district. As with any school property, any electronic files on the system are subject to search and inspection at any time.
2. The school district uses a technology protection measure that blocks access to some Internet sites that are not in accordance with the policy of the school district. Standard use of the Internet utilizes a proxy server-based filter that screens for non-curriculum related pages.
3. Due to the nature of filtering technology, the filter may at times filter pages that are appropriate for student research. The system

administrator may override the technology protection measure for the student to access a site with legitimate educational value that is wrongly blocked.

4. The school district staff will monitor students' use of the Internet and cell phone usage through direct supervision and by monitoring Internet use history to ensure enforcement of the policy.

B. Consequences for Violation of this Policy

1. Access to the school's computer system and to the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Any violation of school policy and rules may result in:
 - a) Loss of computer privileges;
 - b) Short-term suspension;
 - c) Long-term suspension or expulsion in accordance with the Nebraska Student Discipline Act;
 - d) Taking a class administered by the district administration for the purpose of reteaching students appropriate use of technology in accordance with this policy; and
 - e) Other disciplines as school administration and the school board deem appropriate.
2. Students who use school computer systems without permission and for non-school purposes may be guilty of a criminal violation and will be prosecuted.

III. Protection of Students

A. Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

1. The school will not allow companies to collect personal information from children under 13 for commercial purposes. The school will make reasonable efforts to disable advertising in educational computer applications.
2. This policy allows the school to act as an agent for parents in the collection of information within the school context.
3. The school's use of student information is solely for education purposes.

B. Education About Appropriate Online Behavior

1. School district staff will educate students about appropriate online behavior, both in specific computer usage units and in the general curriculum.
2. Staff will specifically educate students on
 - a) Appropriate interactions with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms.
 - b) Cyberbullying awareness and response.
3. The School District's technology coordinator shall inform staff of this educational obligation and shall keep records of the instruction which occurs in compliance with this policy

Conferences

Students' academic success has been closely linked to parental involvement in school. The school district has formal parent-teacher conferences during the first and third quarters of the school year.

In addition to formal conferences, classroom teachers will communicate with parents as necessary. Parents are encouraged to communicate with their student's teacher or the building principal to discuss parental concerns, student needs or any other issue.

Contact Information

Parents must supply the school with their student's address and telephone number as well as information about how to reach a responsible adult during the school day. Parents must promptly inform the school if this contact information changes during the school year.

Contraband

Students may not bring items to school that have no educational purpose or educational value.

Damage to School Property

Students who damage school property either intentionally or unintentionally may be required to pay to replace or restore the property, at the discretion of the administration.

Dances

Dances may be held by clubs and organizations at regularly scheduled times and appropriate seasons but outside the regular school hours. Such activities must end by 10 PM on school days and 11:45 PM on Fridays and Saturdays unless changed by the Principal. School events which allow for an outside date must have the date registered with the principal's office at least one week before the activity is to occur. All dates of Ravenna 9-12 students must be at least a 9th grade student and cannot be older than 20 years old. Forms for registration will be made available prior to the event. Verification of the outside date must be approved by the guest's school administration. Once at the dance, if a student leaves, they will not be permitted to return. Students who are academically ineligible will not be allowed to attend school dances.

- **Homecoming** (Open to all 9th-12th grade students and approved outside guests, Junior High students are ineligible to attend)

- **Winter Dance** (Open to all Ravenna 7th-12th grade students, only Ravenna 9th-12th grade students are permitted to bring an approved outside guest)
- **Junior-Senior prom** is to be held each year during the spring semester. Only Ravenna High School Junior and Senior students (and their dates) may attend. Ravenna High School students in the 9th and 10th grades may only attend as dates of Juniors and Seniors. Foreign exchange students and prom servers are also allowed to attend prom. Junior High Students are ineligible to attend prom. Outside dates of Ravenna High School Juniors and Seniors must be at least 9th grade students and cannot be older than 20 years old. Students who are academically ineligible will not be allowed to attend school dances.

Dating Violence

The board prohibits behavior that has a negative impact on student health, welfare, safety, and the school's learning environment. Incidents of dating violence will not be tolerated on school grounds, in district vehicles, or at school sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.

Dating violence is defined as a pattern of behavior where one person uses threats of, or actually uses, physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control his or her dating partner. Dating partner means any person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person primarily characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement whether casual, serious or long-term.

The district will provide appropriate training to staff and incorporate within its educational program age- appropriate dating violence education that shall include, but not be limited to, defining dating violence, recognizing dating violence warning signs, and identifying characteristics of healthy dating relationships.

Dating violence, as that term is defined by Nebraska law, will not be tolerated by the school district. Students who engage in dating violence on school grounds, in a school vehicle or at a school activity or that otherwise violates the Nebraska Student Discipline Act will receive consequences consistent with the Act and the district's student discipline policies.

The school district shall provide dating violence training to staff deemed appropriate by the administration and in accordance with Nebraska law Neb. Statute 79-2,141.

Discrimination and Harassment

The school district prohibits discrimination and harassment based upon or related to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, marital status, disability, age or any other unlawful basis that (1) has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school environment, (2) has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's school performance, or (3) otherwise adversely affects a student's school opportunities. Students who believe that they have been the subject of unlawful discrimination or harassment due to their disability should contact the following Section 504 Coordinator: Tony Schirmer at 308-452-3249, <tony.schirmer@ravennabluejays.org> or in person at school. Students who believe that they have been the subject of unlawful discrimination or harassment due to their sex should contact the following Title IX Coordinator: Tony Schirmer at 308-452-3249, <tony.schirmer@ravennabluejays.org>, PO Box 8400, Ravenna NE, 68869 or in person at school. Students who believe that they have been the subject of any other unlawful discrimination or harassment should contact Tony Schirmer at 308-452-3249, <tony.schirmer@ravennabluejays.org>, or in person at school. Students may report discrimination or harassment to any staff member who will then forward it on to the appropriate coordinator or administrator. The staff member will follow school district policies to respond to the report.

Dress Code

Students must come to school dressed in clean, neat and appropriate clothing to conform with educational standards.

Students are prohibited from wearing the following attire:

1. Clothing displaying indecent, suggestive or profane writing, pictures or slogans
2. Clothing that advertises or displays alcohol, tobacco or any illegal substance
3. Caps, hats and bandanas may not be worn during the school day
4. Bare feet (some type of footwear must be worn)
5. Short-shorts, cutoffs, or compression shorts alone (unless under other shorts)
6. Hairstyles which distract from the learning process or the health and safety for either the student or others
7. Any clothing that could cause damage to others or school property
8. Clothing that is torn, ripped, or cut
9. Shirts, blouses, or other clothing worn unbuttoned, unzipped, or otherwise purposely unfastened
10. "Grubby clothes," those which are purposely torn or bedraggled or threadbare, dirty or disheveled
11. Costumes and/or those clothes intended only for leisure, entertaining or special occasions

12. Bare "midriff" (belly button) styles, see-through and low cut blouses, halters, tank tops or thin-strapped tops (spaghetti straps)
13. Pants and shorts worn below the waist so as to expose undergarments
14. Pants that drag on the floor
15. Chains hanging or attached to pants or shorts
16. Coats during school hours unless the student has permission from a faculty member
17. Blankets are not allowed
18. Clothing with tears or holes that expose flesh inappropriately or that exposes underclothes
19. No spaghetti strap tops, string backless or plain backless tops will be worn unless there is another shirt worn over these garments that cover the skin and is not see through material.
20. Sleeveless tops are allowed providing the armhole openings are appropriate and do not show chest, undergarments (including sports bras) or side chest portions of the body.
21. Clothing may not include symbols that cause a significant disruption to the educational environment.
22. Hooded Sweatshirts must be worn with the hoods down while in the building.

This list is not all encompassing. The administration reserves the right to determine whether any piece of clothing is appropriate for a school setting and will make the final determination as to whether or not a student's attire is acceptable for a school setting. Students who violate dress code guidelines will be required to correct the violation by changing into something appropriate at school or returning home to change. A detention or suspension may be given to make up the time away from school. Students will also receive zeros for any class time they miss while correcting the violation. Repeated dress code violations may result in more severe consequences.

Driving and Parking Personal Vehicles

Students who drive privately owned motor vehicles to school must obey the following rules:

1. Students may not move their vehicles during the school day without the permission of the building principal or superintendent. Students will not be allowed to sit in or be around their vehicles during the school day, without administrative permission.
2. Students must drive with care to ensure the safety of the pedestrians. Students may not drive carelessly or with excessive speed.
3. By driving personal vehicles to school and parking on school grounds, students consent to having that vehicle searched by school officials when they have reasonable suspicion that such a search will reveal a violation of

school rules.

4. Students will park only in the designated student parking.

Drones and Unmanned Aircraft

Drones, Unmanned Aircraft Systems, and any other such vehicles ("drones"), which are not operated for purposes of district programs or activities, may not be operated on or above district property without the prior written permission of the superintendent or designee. Any authorized use of drones must comply with all state and federal regulations governing the operation of drones, including FAA regulations.

Drones owned by the district or operated on or above district property with permission must be operated:

1. In compliance with this policy and all other district policies;
2. Only outside the school building(s) in the area authorized or designated by the superintendent or designee;
3. Under the direct supervision of an individual fully trained and skilled in the system's operation;
4. By an individual with the requisite skill and training to safely operate the drone; and
5. Consistent with any other limitations imposed by the superintendent or designee.

Any monitoring or recording of picture, video, or audio by a drone must have the prior written permission of the superintendent or designee and comply with all board policies governing recordings, data, and records.

Any unauthorized use of a drone is strictly prohibited. Devices used in a manner that does not comply with this policy or applicable state and federal law may be confiscated and the operator may be subject to discipline, civil liability, or criminal liability.

Drug Free Schools

The board of education has adopted policies to comply with the Federal Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. Students are prohibited from using, possessing or selling any drug, alcohol or tobacco while on school grounds, at a school activity or in a school vehicle. In addition, students who participate in the school's activities program should refer to the Activities Handbook which prohibits the use or possession of alcohol, controlled substances and tobacco at all times.

Any student who violates any school policy regarding drug, alcohol and tobacco use will be disciplined, up to and including short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion from school and/or referral to appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution.

Emergency Contact Information

Parents must complete an emergency information card for each child enrolled in the district. The card should list the family physician's name, where parents or a responsible adult can be located, and any necessary emergency instructions.

Evacuations

The school district will hold routine evacuation drills throughout the school year. Whenever the fire alarm sounds, all students and faculty must evacuate the building in a quiet and orderly fashion and remain outside until told to return to the building. Classroom teachers will provide students with detailed instructions on building evacuations.

Eye Exams

All students enrolling in kindergarten or transferring into the school district from out of state must undergo a visual examination by a physician, a physician assistant, an advanced practice registered nurse, or an optometrist, which consists of testing for amblyopia, strabismus, and internal and external eye health, with testing sufficient to determine visual acuity, except that no such physical examination or visual evaluation shall be required of any child whose parent or guardian objects in writing. They must provide evidence of the vision examination within six months prior to entrance. The cost of such physical examination and visual evaluation shall be borne by the parent or guardian of each child who is examined.

Field Trips

Classes occasionally take field trips off school property for educational enrichment. A student's parent must authorize a student to participate in a field trip by signing a permission slip and providing it to the school before the field trip. Students who have not completed classroom work on time may not be allowed to attend field trips. Students must comply with the student code of conduct, any applicable extracurricular conduct codes, and all directives by trip chaperones.

First-Aid

First-aid items may only be used by school staff. Students who need first aid should ask for assistance from their classroom teacher or the nearest staff member.

Food Service Program

The school district provides a food service program that is designed to provide adequate nutrition and an educational experience for students.

Breakfast

The school will serve breakfast daily from 7:40 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch also qualify for free or reduced price breakfast. The school district charges students K-6 \$2.10, 7-12 \$2.25 and adults \$2.85 for breakfast.

Second Chance Breakfast

The school will offer a second chance breakfast for 7th-12th grade students. This will occur during second period(access) Monday through Thursday. Second chance breakfast is only served on 3:30 dismissal days. Students must report to their second period class for attendance purposes and be dismissed to the cafeteria by their access teacher. All food must be consumed in the cafeteria. When students are done eating they will be required to return to their second period class.

Lunch

Lunch prices depend on the federal funding that the program receives. Lunch for K-6 is \$3.15, Lunch for 7-12 lunch is \$3.35 for students and \$4.45 for adults.

Milk Break/Snack

All milk served to a student (except the initial carton served with lunch/breakfast) will cost \$.45 per half pint. Snack milk is \$.25 per half pint for preschool and \$.45 for K-3 students. The price for milk may change during the school year.

Payment for Meals

Students are encouraged to pay for meals several weeks in advance. Payment should be made to a building secretary.

Low balance notices will be provided to parents when the account balance reaches less than \$5.00.

Food service charge privileges are denied to any student (regular price or reduced price) who is delinquent in his/her payments until such time as the family account is brought current. When the account is delinquent, there will be an optional offering, or the student may bring lunch from home. The opportunity to order second entrees will be denied to free-priced students if their family account is delinquent until the account is brought current.

If a student has a negative or zero balance on their lunch account the student and the parent will be notified at the end of the day that the student will be given credit for one meal. If the family doesn't bring the account current by the end of the following business day, the student will either need to bring a sack lunch or eat an alternate meal provided by the school. Family's accounts will be debited for the alternate meal provided by the school.

Notice of Non-discrimination

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have

Speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at [\(800\) 877-8339](tel:8008778339). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: <http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaintfilingcust.html>, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call [\(866\) 632-9992](tel:8666329992). Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

(2) Fax: [\(202\) 690-7442](tel:2026907442); or

(3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Fundraiser

All fundraising activities shall require authorization by an administrator.

Head Lice

Students found to have live head lice or louse eggs will not be permitted at school and will be sent home. Upon discovering the presence of any indication of lice or

louse eggs the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) will be notified, and if appropriate will be asked to pick up the student from school immediately.

Students will not be permitted to return to school until the district finds that no live lice or eggs can be detected. The parent(s) or guardian(s) will be required to treat the student and accompany the student to school to be examined.

The student cannot ride the school bus until the district has cleared the student to return to school.

Health Problems

Parents who do not want their children to play outdoors or participate in physical education for health reasons must send a written request to school. If a student persistently requests to be excused from these activities, the building principal or classroom teacher may require a doctor's verification.

Parents should notify the principal or superintendent if their student has any special health problems such as diabetes, asthma, and the like.

Homebound Instruction

The school district may provide a student with instruction in his or her home and under parental supervision if the student is physically or mentally ill or injured and unable to attend regular classes for an extended period of time. Homebound instruction shall be provided when the student's physical and mental conditions are such that the student can benefit from instruction and no other provision will meet the student's educational needs. If you believe that homebound instruction is appropriate for your child, please contact the building principal to initiate the appropriate process to determine eligibility.

Homeless Children and Youth

Homeless students generally include children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, as further defined by applicable state and federal law.

It is the school's policy not to stigmatize or segregate homeless students on the basis of their status of being homeless. Transportation for homeless students who enroll in the district shall be furnished by the district under the same guidelines applying to other students or if such transportation is necessary for compliance with federal law.

Each homeless child shall be provided services for which the child is eligible comparable to services provided to other students in the school selected regardless of residency. Homeless children shall be provided access to education and other services that such children need to ensure that they have an opportunity to meet the same student performance standards to which all

students are held.

If a homeless child registered to attend school in the district is receiving family reconciliation services pursuant to state law, the district will work in cooperation with any county or department of social services in the district to jointly develop an educational program for the child. The district's homeless coordinator is Dr. Ken Schroeder, who may be contacted at 308-452-3249.

Illness or Injury at school

Students who feel ill or are hurt while at school should seek immediate assistance from their classroom teacher or the nearest staff member. The school will contact parents to pick students up from school whenever necessary. When school officials determine that a student needs immediate medical attention but the parents cannot be reached by phone, emergency services will be summoned or the student will be taken directly to the doctor and/or hospital. Parents must complete an emergency information card for each child enrolled in the district. The card should list the family physician's name, where parents or a responsible adult can be located, and any necessary emergency instructions.

Immunizations

All students must furnish one of the following to school officials:

- proof of adequate immunizations for mumps, measles, rubella; diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus; polio; and hepatitis B series; or
- A signed parental statement of refusal to provide the immunization history. Homeless students who are in need of immunizations will be referred to the homeless coordinator, who shall assist in obtaining necessary immunizations or medical records.

Provisional Enrollment.

Students who meet the statutory requirements for provisional enrollment shall be allowed to attend school for sixty days without the necessary immunizations.

Students who are exempted from the immunization requirement may be excluded from school in the event of an outbreak of any contagious disease in the school population.

Initiations and Hazing

Initiations by classes, clubs, or athletic teams are prohibited except by permission of the administration. Hazing in connection with any school organization is absolutely prohibited. Hazing is defined as any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any school organization. Hazing activities include, but

are not limited to whipping, beating, branding, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, or any brutal treatment or the performance of any unlawful act that endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person.

Lockers and Other School Property

The school district owns and exercises exclusive control over student lockers, desks, computer equipment, and other such property. Students should not expect privacy regarding usage of or items placed in or on school property, because school property is subject to search at any time by school officials. Periodic, random searches of lockers, desks, computers and other such property may be conducted at the discretion of the administration. The assignment of a locker is on a temporary basis and may be revoked at any time. School officials may inspect student lockers without any particularized suspicion or reasonable cause.

Lost and Found

All lost and found articles are to be taken to the elementary or high school office. Students may claim lost articles there. Unclaimed articles will be donated to a local charity or otherwise disposed of at the conclusion of each quarter or as determined necessary by the administration.

Medications

Whenever possible, parents should arrange medication schedules to eliminate the need for giving medication during school hours. When it is necessary for school personnel to administer medication to students, the school district will comply with the Nebraska Medication Aide Act, the requirements of Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 59, (promulgated by the Nebraska Department of Education and entitled *Methods of Competency Assessment of School Staff Who Administer Medication*), and all state and federal regulations. Parents and guardians who wish to have their child receive medication from school personnel must comply with the following procedures:

Prescription medication. (1) Parents/guardians must provide a physician's written authorization for the administration of the medication. (2) Parents/guardians must provide their own written permission for the administration of the medication. (3) The medication must be brought to school in the prescription container and must be properly labeled with the student's name, the physician's name, and directions for administering the medication.

Non-prescription medication. (1) Parents/guardians must provide written permission for the administration of the medication. (2) The medication must be brought to the school in the manufacturer's container. (3) The container must be labeled with the child's name and with directions for provision or administration of

the medication

The district reserves the right to review and decline requests to administer or provide medications that are not consistent with standard pharmacological references, are prescribed in doses that exceed those recommended in standard pharmacological references, or that could be taken in a manner that would eliminate the need for giving them during school hours. The district may request parental authorization to consult with the student's physician regarding any medication prescribed by such physician.

Media Center

Students must check out materials from the librarian on duty. Each borrower is responsible for all books checked out in his/her name. A fine of five cents per day per book may be charged for overdue books. Each student is responsible for any fine which accumulated on a book charged to him/her. If a book is lost and not found by the end of the semester, the student must pay for it. Students must also pay for any damage they cause to library books.

Memorials

Memorials or plaques honoring deceased students are generally not allowed in or on the school grounds unless authorized by board policy. Dedications to students will not be allowed.

Scholarships in the deceased person's name will not be set up by the school. Scholarships set up by outside organizations or individuals, such as a foundation, will be allowed.

Parental Involvement

The school district recognizes the unique needs of students who are being served in its Title I program, and the importance of parental involvement in the Title I program. Parental Involvement in the Title I Program shall include:

1. An annual meeting to which all parents of participating children will be invited to inform parents of their school's participation under this part, to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved. Invitations may take the form of notes sent with students or announcements in the school newsletter. Additional meetings may be scheduled, based upon need and interest for such meetings.
2. An explanation of the details for the child's and parents' participation, including but not limited to: curriculum objectives, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards, type and extent of participation, parental input in educational decisions, coordination, and integration with other Federal, State, and district

programs, and evaluations of progress.

3. Opportunities for participation in parent involvement activities, such as training. A goal of these parent activities is to provide parents with opportunities to participate in decisions relating to the education of their students, where appropriate.

4. The district will, to the extent practicable, provide parents of limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children with opportunities for involvement in the Title I Program. Communication to parents about student progress and the district's other Title I Program communications will be provided in the language used in the home to the extent practicable. Responses to parent concerns will be provided in a timely manner.

5. Opportunities for parent-teacher conferences, in addition to those regularly scheduled by the school district, if requested by the parents or as deemed necessary by school district staff.

6. The district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other programs in the community. These may include cooperation with other community programs such as Head Start and preschools and other community services such as the public library.

7. The district will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.

Parties

Elementary classes may have seasonal parties during the year. Parents shall communicate with their student's classroom teacher for the teacher's rules regarding birthday and holiday parties.

Personal Hygiene

It is expected that all students will maintain an acceptable level of personal hygiene/cleanliness. Personal hygiene is a factor that can have a detrimental impact to our learning environment. If a student reports to school and is impacting the learning environment in a detrimental way due to their personal hygiene they will be required to resolve the issue. This could mean going home to change clothes and/or shower.

Personal Items

The school provides the necessary equipment for classroom and school day activities. The school is not responsible for ruined or lost personal equipment. Page Students should not bring items such as athletic equipment, electronic devices, toys, or other similar personal items to school unless they have the prior permission of their classroom teacher or a school administrator.

Physical Education

The school district requires students to receive physical education to assist them in developing gross and fine motor skills. Students are not required to wear PE uniforms, but are encouraged to wear tennis shoes for P.E.

Physical Exam

Students entering kindergarten and the seventh grade, and those entering school from another state, are statutorily required to show evidence that they have had a physical examination within six months prior to the date of entering school.

Pictures

The school district arranges for a photographer to be present at school in the fall to take class pictures. Parents will be notified of the date. Included in the individual packet is a class composite. Parents who want pictures of their students or of their student's class composite may purchase them directly from the photographer.

Playground Rules

Students must follow these rules to keep the playground safe:

1. Students must obey the playground supervisor at all times.
2. Students may not enter the street/highway to retrieve a ball unless given permission by the playground supervisor.
3. Students must play away from the school windows.
4. Touch and flag football are permitted, but tackle football is prohibited.
5. Students may only play football on grassy areas.
6. Students may throw balls and other authorized play equipment. They may not throw rocks, gravel, snowballs, and clothing.
7. Students must use the playground equipment properly and in a safe manner.
8. Students may not leave the playground after they have arrived at school for the day.

Students who violate these rules will be disciplined with the loss of recess or other

privileges, detention and/or other consequences.

School staff supervise the playground during school hours. However, it is not supervised after school, and students should not play on the equipment without adult supervision.

Police Questioning and Apprehension

Police or other law enforcement officers may be called to the school at the request of school administration, or may initiate contact with the school in connection with a criminal investigation. The school district shall inform parents when law enforcement officers seek access to their student prior to the student being questioned unless the officers are investigating charges that the student has been the victim of abuse or neglect. Members of the school district staff will comply with board policy regarding police questioning of students.

Protection of Student Rights

The Board of Education respects the rights of parents and their children and has adopted a Protection of Pupil Rights policy in consultation with parents to comply with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) and The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). The policy is available on the district's website or upon request from the district's administrative office. Parents may opt their child out of participation in activities identified by the Protection of Pupil Rights policy by submitting a written request to the superintendent. The approximate dates during the school year when such a survey requesting personal information as defined in the Protection of Pupil Rights policy may occur between the timeframe of: August 10th-May 20th. Parents may have access to any survey or other material described in the Protection of Pupil Rights policy by submitting a written request to the superintendent.

ACT Exam

Students taking the ACT Exam will be prompted to complete a short, optional questionnaire addressing a number of topics. If you wish to review this questionnaire prior to the administration of the exam, please submit a written request to the superintendent.

Public Displays of Affection

Students may not engage in public displays of affection that is disruptive to the school environment or distracting to others. Prohibited conduct includes hugging, kissing, touching or any other display of affection that a staff member determines to be inappropriate.

Rights of Custodial and Noncustodial Parents

The school district will honor the parental rights of natural and adoptive parents unless those rights have been altered by a court.

The term “custodial parent” refers to a biological or adoptive parent to whom a court has given primary physical and legal custody of a child, and a person such as a caseworker or foster parent to whom a court has given legal custody of a child.

The district will not restrict the access of custodial and noncustodial parents to their students and their student's' records, unless the district has been provided a copy of a court order that limits those rights. If the district is provided such a court order, school officials will follow the directives set forth in the order.

The district will provide the custodial parent with routine information about his or her child, including notification of conferences. The district will not provide the non-custodial parent with such information on a routine basis, but will provide it upon the non-custodial parent's request unless it has been denied by the courts.

A non-custodial parent who wishes to attend conferences regarding his or her child will be provided information about conference times so both parents may attend a single conference. The district is not required to schedule separate conferences if both parents have been previously informed of scheduled conference times.

If either or both parents' behavior is disruptive, staff members may terminate a conference and reschedule it with appropriate modifications or expectations.

Secret Organizations

Secret organizations are prohibited. School officials shall not allow any person or representative of any such organization to enter upon school grounds or school buildings for the purpose of rushing or soliciting students to participate in any secret fraternity, society or association.

School Day

The school day typically begins at 8:03 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. Students are to leave the school grounds after dismissal. School staff will provide supervision for students on school grounds starting at 7:40 a.m. Students are to leave school grounds within 15 minutes after dismissal, unless they are under the direct supervision of a staff member or parent. **There will be no supervision provided by the school before or after these times.** Parents must make arrangements for their children to leave school promptly at the end of the day.

Self-Management of Diabetes or Asthma/Anaphylaxis

The school district will work with the parent or guardian in consultation with a physician to develop a medical management plan for a student with diabetes, asthma, or anaphylaxis subject to school policy. Parents desiring to develop such

a plan should contact the School Nurse.

Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of the Ravenna Public School District to maintain a learning environment that is free from religious, racial, or sexual harassment. The School District prohibits any form of religious, racial, or sexual harassment and violence.

Sexual harassment can take two forms, quid pro quo and hostile environment. Quid pro quo sexual harassment occurs when a school district employee explicitly or implicitly conditions a student's participation in an education program or activity or bases an educational decision on the student's submission to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of sexual nature, whether or not the student submits to the conduct.

Hostile environment harassment occurs when unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature by another students, a school employee, or a third party are sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive to limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity or create a hostile or abusive educational environment.

Sexual Harassment - Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to that conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either explicitly or implicitly, of a student's participation in an education program or activity.
- Submission to or rejection of that conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting that individual's participation in an education program or activity.
- That conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's education or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include but not be limited to:

- Unwelcome verbal harassment of a sexual nature or abuse.
- Unwelcome pressure for sexual activity.
- Unwelcome sexually motivated or inappropriate patting, pinching, or physical contact.
- Unwelcome sexual behaviors or words, including demands for sexual favors, accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning an

- individual's educational status.
- Unwelcome behavior, verbal or written words or symbols directed at an individual because of gender.

The use of authority to emphasize the sexuality of a student in a manner that prevents or impairs that student's full enjoyment of educational benefits, climate or opportunities.

The prohibition of sexual harassment applies whether the harassment is between people of the same or different gender. The prohibition against sexual harassment does not preclude legitimate, nonsexual contact such as the use of necessary restraints to avoid physical harm to persons or property, or conduct such as a teacher's consoling hug of a young student, or one student's demonstration of a sports move requiring contact with another student. In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes a violation of the policy, the School District should consider the surrounding circumstances, the nature of the behavior, the relationships between the parties involved and the context in which the alleged incidents occurred.

Whether a particular action or incident constitutes a violation of this policy requires a determination based on all of the facts and surrounding circumstances. The School District will discipline or take appropriate action against any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel who retaliates against or attempts to retaliate against, any person who reports alleged harassment or violence, files a complaint of harassment, who testifies, assists or participates in any investigation, hearing or proceeding related to such harassment or violence. Retaliation includes but is not limited to any form of threat, intimidation, reprisal or discrimination.

Reporting Procedure

Any person who believes he or she is being harassed or is otherwise the victim of sexual harassment or sexual violence shall report such conduct to the building principal, who serves as our Title IX Compliance Coordinator. Thereafter, the complaint shall be investigated and processed in a manner consistent with district policy.

Smoking and Tobacco

The use or possession of any tobacco product, including cigarettes, cigars, or other tobacco or tobacco derivative products; vapor products or electronic nicotine delivery systems; alternative nicotine products; or any other such look-alike or imitation product, is not permitted on school property at any time.

Sniffer (Drug) Dogs

The administration is authorized to use sniffer dogs to minimize the presence of

illicit items on school grounds. Students and staff are specifically notified of the following:

1. Lockers may be sniffed by sniffer dogs at any time.
2. Vehicles parked on school property may be sniffed by sniffer dogs at any time.
3. Classrooms and other common areas may be sniffed by sniffer dogs at any time students and staff are not present.
4. If contraband of any kind is found, the student or staff member shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Standardized Testing

The school will use NWEA MAP testing to check on the progress of student achievement at a local level. Students will take this test at the assigned times as set up by the Assessment Coordinator and the Building Principals. The Nebraska State Department of Education may also require other standardized tests to be administered such as the NSCAS and ACT test.

Student Assistance

If your child has any learning, behavior, or emotional needs that you believe are not being addressed by the school district under existing circumstances, please contact your child's teacher. If appropriate, the teacher may convene the Student Assistance Team (SAT) or MTSS Team (Multi-Tier System of Supports). The SAT & MTSS can explore possibilities and strategies that will best meet the educational needs of your child.

Student Fee Policy

The school district shall provide free instruction in accordance with the Nebraska State Constitution and the Nebraska statutes. The district also provides activities, programs, and services that extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the district is permitted to charge students fees for these activities or to require students to provide specialized equipment and attire for certain purposes. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or board regulations. Students are encouraged to contact their building administration, their teachers or their coaches, and sponsors for further specifics.

Definitions.

1. "Students" means students, their parents, guardians or other legal representatives.
2. "Extracurricular activities" means student activities or organizations that (1) are supervised or administered by the

district; (2) do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades; and (3) are not otherwise required by the district.

3. "Post-secondary education costs" means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a post-secondary educational institution.

Listing of Fees Charged by this District.

1. **Clothing Required for Specified Courses and Activities.** Students are responsible for complying with the district's grooming and attire guidelines and for furnishing all clothing required for any special programs, courses or activities in which they participate. The teacher, coach, or sponsor of the activity will provide students with written guidelines that detail any special clothing requirements and explain why the special clothing is required for the specific program, course or activity.
2. **Safety Equipment and Attire.** The district will provide students with all safety equipment and attire that is required by law. Building administrators will assure that (a) such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, (b) teachers are directed to instruct students in the use of such devices, and (c) students use the devices as required. Students are responsible for using the devices safely and as instructed.
3. **Personal or Consumable Items.** The district does not provide students with personal or consumable items for participation in courses and activities including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers and notebooks. Students who wish to supply their own personal or consumable items may do so, as long as those items comply with the requirements of the district. The district will provide students with facilities, equipment, materials and supplies, including books. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of such property. Students will be charged for damage to school property caused by the student and will be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of any school property that they lose.
4. **Materials Required for Course Projects.** The school district will provide students with the materials necessary to complete all curricular projects. In courses where students produce a project that requires more than minimal cost for materials, the finished product will remain the property of the district unless the students either furnish or pay for the reasonable cost of materials required for the course project.
5. **Technological Devices.** The district will provide students with the technological devices necessary to complete all basic curricular projects. To the extent that a student is not required by the district's curriculum to utilize a device off district property, the district may charge students a convenience fee to take the device off district property. The maximum dollar amount of

this convenience fee charged by the district will be \$100.

As with all school property, students may be charged for damage to such devices. To protect against such potential losses, students and parents may, but are not required, to purchase insurance coverage for the devices. The maximum dollar amount of this insurance coverage facilitated by the district will be \$100. The district may also charge a damage deposit which will be returned or may be rolled to cover the damage deposit for the next year if it is not needed to cover the costs of any damage to the device. The maximum dollar amount of this damage deposit will be \$1000

Additionally, the district may allow students to purchase technological devices by arranging for the students to purchase these devices through a single, or series of, payments.

6. **Extracurricular Activities.** The school district may charge students a fee to participate in extracurricular activities to cover the district's reasonable costs in offering such activities. The district may require students to furnish specialized equipment and clothing that is required for participation in extracurricular activities, or may charge a reasonable fee for the use of district-owned equipment or attire. Attached to this policy is a list of the fees charged for particular activities. The coach or sponsor will provide students with additional written guidelines detailing the fees charged, the equipment and/or clothing required, or the usage fee charged. The guidelines will explain the reasons that fees, equipment and/or clothing are required for the activity.
 - a. The following list details the maximum dollar amount of all extracurricular activities fees and the specifications for any equipment or attire required for participation in extracurricular activities:
 - i. Event admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for students, and \$3.00 for any junior high game. Ravenna students get free admission to home games. Admission pass prices are \$40.00 for adults (covers admission to all home extracurricular events; away events and certain conference and district events are not covered by the activity card).
 - ii. Student Participation Fee - \$100
 - Required of all students who participate in athletics and/or other extracurricular activities
 - iii. Future Business Leaders of America- \$30
 - iv. Cheerleading, drill team, flag corps. - \$50 each
 - Students must purchase uniforms and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group.
 - v. Football- \$50
 - Students must provide their own football shoes and undergarments.

vi. Golf- \$50

- Students must provide their own golf shoes, undergarments, and clubs.

vii. Track, volleyball, wrestling and basketball - \$50 each

- Students must provide their own shoes and undergarments.

viii. Future Farmers of America- \$20.00

- Students must purchase their own jackets in addition to paying dues.

7. **Post-Secondary Education Costs.** Some students enroll in post-secondary courses while still enrolled in high school. As a general rule, students must pay all costs associated with such post-secondary courses. However, for a course in which students receive high school credit or a course being taken as part of an approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum program, the district shall offer the course without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees. Students who chose to apply for post-secondary education credit for these courses must pay tuition and all other fees associated with obtaining credits from a post-secondary educational institution. The costs of these items will naturally vary, but the maximum dollar amount of the fee is anticipated to be \$650 per course.
8. **Copies of Student Files or Records.** The school district will charge a fee for making copies of a student's files or records for the student's parents or guardians. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of student record fees. Students' parents have the right to inspect and review the students' files or records without the payment of a fee, and the district shall not charge a fee to search for or retrieve any student's files or records. The district will charge a fee of 5 cents per page for reproduction of student records.
9. **Participation in Before-School, After-School or Pre-Kindergarten Services.** The district may charge reasonable fees for participation in before-school, after-school or pre-kindergarten services offered by the district pursuant to statute.
10. **Participation in Summer School.** The district may charge reasonable fees for participation in summer school. The maximum dollar amount for summer and night school shall be \$200.
11. **Charges for Food Consumed by Students.** The district will charge for items that students purchase from the district's breakfast and lunch programs. The fees charged for these items will be set according to applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. The district will charge students for the cost of food, beverages, and the like that students purchase from a school store, vending machine, booster club or from similar sources. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.
- a. The maximum dollar amount charged by the district for the breakfast and lunch programs is as follows:

- i. Breakfast Program – Grades K-6
 - Regular Price \$2.10
 - Reduced Price \$.30
 - ii. Breakfast Program – Grades 7-12
 - Regular Price \$ 2.25
 - Reduced Price \$.30
 - iii. Lunch Program – Grades K-6
 - Regular Price \$ 3.15
 - Reduced Price \$.40
 - iv. Lunch Program – Grades 7-12
 - Regular Price \$ 3.35
 - Reduced Price \$.40
 - v. Second milk or second entrée (each) \$.45 and \$1.50
12. **Charges for Musical Extracurricular Activities.** Students who qualify for fee waivers under this policy will be provided, at no charge, the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. For musical extracurricular activities, the school district will require students to provide the following equipment and/or attire:
- a. Band students shall provide their own instruments. Ravenna Public Schools will have a select number of instruments available for use.
 - b. Swing choir students must purchase outfits and shoes selected by the sponsor and/or student group.
13. **Contributions for Class Extracurricular Activities.** Students are eligible to participate in a number of extracurricular activities during their years in Junior/ Senior High school, including prom, various senior recognitions, and graduation. In order to fund these extracurricular activities, the school district will ask each student to make a contribution to their class's fund beginning in seventh grade. This contribution is completely voluntary. Through fundraising activities throughout the 7th-12th grade years, students may choose to work for the contributions to the class. Students who choose to work in lieu of contributions to the class fund are still eligible to participate in the extra activities. The suggested donation to the class fund will be \$10.00 to \$20.00 per year.

Waiver Policy.

Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) materials for course projects, and (3) the use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Students are not required to participate in the free or reduced-price lunch program to qualify for the waivers provided in this section. The district is not obligated to provide any particular type or quality of equipment or other material to eligible students. Students who wish to be considered for waiver of a particular fee must submit a completed fee waiver application to their

building principal. Application forms are available in each school building office.

Voluntary Contributions to Defray Costs.

When appropriate, the district will request donations of money, materials, equipment or attire from parents, guardians and other members of the community to defray the costs of providing certain services and activities to students. These requests are not requirements, and staff members of the district are directed to communicate that fact clearly to students, parents and patrons.

Student Illness

Students who suffer from a significant illness which has an actual or expected duration of six months or more may be eligible for accommodations and supports under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act. The school will provide accommodations to students who are returning to school after a prolonged absence due to illness, including pediatric cancer, through a 504 plan or an IEP, as appropriate. The student's plan will include informal or formal accommodations, modifications of curriculum and monitoring by medical or academic staff as determined by the student's IEP team or 504 committee. Parents and staff will engage in ongoing communication about the needs of a student who is facing these circumstances.

Students who become ill at school will be sent to the building office where the school nurse or other school employee will determine the appropriate response. When a child is too ill to remain at school, a school employee will contact the child's parent(s) and make arrangements for the child to be picked up or sent home. If an illness or injury requires immediate medical attention, school officials shall attempt to contact the child's parent(s) regarding treatment for the child. If the parents cannot be contacted, school officials may have the child treated by an available physician. Students who show symptoms of a contagious disease may be sent home, and the district may require a physician's statement before allowing such students to return to school.

Student Government

Students are encouraged to formulate and participate in elective and representative student government activities. The organization, operation and scope of the student government shall be administered by the superintendent or designee.

Class meetings will be held when needed and arranged by sponsors. Times will be announced in advance. All class meetings must be pre-arranged with the sponsor. Class secretaries are to keep a record of all meetings and turn in after each meeting to the sponsor. Treasurers should check each month before a meeting in order to have an accurate account of their financial condition. Organization meetings will be held at the beginning of the year. All meetings must be cleared with the Principal.

Student Records

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") provides parents certain rights with respect to their student's education records. These rights include the right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the date the school receives a request for access; and the right to request the amendment of the student's education records that you believe to be inaccurate.

If parents believe one of their student's records is inaccurate, they should write to the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why they believe it is inaccurate. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested, it will notify the parents of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment.

Directory Information. FERPA and the Nebraska Public Records Law authorize school districts to make "directory information" available for review at the request of non-school individuals. These laws also give parents and guardians a voice in the decision-making process regarding the disclosure of directory information regarding their children. The school district has designated the following as directory information:

name and grade, address, telephone number, including the student's cell phone number, e-mail address, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, the image or likeness of students in pictures, videotape, film or other medium, major field of study, participation in activities and sports, degrees and awards received, weight and height of members of athletic teams, most recent previous school attended, certain class work which may be published onto the Internet, classroom assignment and/or home room teacher, student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by the student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems (but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a personal identification number (PIN), password, or other factor known or possessed only the authorized user). Directory information does not include a student's social security number.

Directory information about students may also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that market or manufacture class rings, sell student photographs or publish student yearbooks.

Federal law requires school districts to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education with the names, addresses and telephone listings of high

school students unless parents have notified the school district in writing that they do not want this information disclosed without prior written parental consent. Military recruiters will be granted the same access to a student in a high school grade as is provided to postsecondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of such students.

Parents who **OBJECT** to the disclosure of any directory information about their student should write a letter to the principal. This letter should specify the particular categories of directory information that the parents do not wish to have released about their child or the particular types of outside organizations to which they do not wish directory information to be released. This letter must be received by the school district no later than September 1st.

Non-Directory Information

All of the other personally identifiable information about students that is contained in this school district's education records will generally not be disclosed to anyone outside the school system except under one of two circumstances: (1) in accordance with the provisions of the FERPA statutes and related administrative regulations, or (2) in accordance with the parent's written instructions.

One FERPA exception permits disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests without consent. A school official includes, but is not necessarily limited to, a teacher or other educator, administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); school board member; volunteer; contractor or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, representative of the district's insurance providers, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, or a third-party website operator who has contracted with the school district or its agent to offer online programs for the benefit of students and/or the district; members of law enforcement acting on behalf of the school district; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a "legitimate educational interest" if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill a school related professional, contractual, statutory, or regulatory responsibility.

The district will share information with the Department of Education necessary to comply with the requirement of state law that all third- year high school students take a college entrance exam. Any redisclosure of information related to the administration of this exam shall be governed by the agreement between the Nebraska Department of Education and the third-party testing company.

Transfer of Records Upon Student Enrollment

Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. The school is not obligated to inform parents when it makes a disclosure under this provision.

Complaints

Individuals who wish to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA may contact the Office that administers FERPA:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

Tardiness

A little late is too late. Tardiness is usually created by a lack of planning or caring. Students are expected to be prompt and on time. Students who are tardy in the morning will be issued a tardy pass by the office to their first period class. Students must have a pass prior to attending any class if they are late. Teachers will address and record tardiness to all other classes during the school day. Students arriving to school after 8:05-will be considered tardy. If a student misses more than 1/3 of a given period (including the ACCESS period), they will be considered as absent. Detention will be served after three incidents of tardiness for any particular class, to be served in the classroom. Lunch detention or In-School Suspension may be assigned for excessive tardiness. In-School-Suspension will be assigned each time a student accumulates 5 tardies to first period.

- 5-1st period tardies will result in one day of in-school suspension.
- If a student reports to school late and is unexcused by their parent, that also constitutes a tardy.
- Example: A student misses all of first period, but reports to school during the middle of 2nd period unexcused. That would count as a first period "tardy".

Telephone Calls

The school's telephone may be used only with permission of staff. Students are not permitted to use cellular telephones during school hours or on school property without the express permission of a member of the staff.

Threat Assessment and Response

The board of education is committed to providing a safe environment for members of the school community. Students, staff and patrons are urged to immediately report any statements or behavior that makes the observer fearful or uncomfortable about the safety of the school environment.

1. Definitions

- a. A **threat** is an expression of willful intent to physically or sexually harm someone or to damage property in a way that indicates that an individual poses a danger to the safety of school staff, students or other members of the school community.
 - i. The threat may be expressed/communicated behaviorally, orally, visually, in writing, electronically, or through any other means.
 - ii. A **transient threat** is an expression of anger or frustration that can be

quickly or easily resolved.

- iii. A **substantive threat** is an expression of serious intent to harm others which includes, but is not limited to, any threat which involves a detailed plan and means
- b. A **threat assessment** is a fact-based process emphasizing an appraisal of observed (or reasonably-observable) behaviors to identify potentially dangerous or violent situations, to assess them and to manage/address them. Threat assessment is the process of distinguishing “transient” threats from serious ones in a systematic, data-informed way.
 - i. The threat assessment process is distinct from student disciplinary procedures. The mere fact that the district is conducting a threat assessment does not by itself necessitate suspension, expulsion or emergency exclusion without complying with state law and board policy related governing those actions.
 - ii. The threat assessment process is distinct from specialized instruction which a student with a disability may receive from the school district. The school district will not change a student’s educational placement as that term is used in the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act *solely* as part of a threat assessment.

2. Obligation to Report Threatening Statements or Behaviors.

All staff and students must report **substantive threats** to a member of the administration immediately and comply with any other mandatory reporting obligations. Staff and students who are unsure whether a threat is substantive or transient should report the situation. Staff and students must make such report regardless of the nature of the relationship between the individual who initiated the threat or threatening behavior and the person(s) who were threatened or who were the focus of the threatening behavior. Staff and students must also make such reports regardless of where or when the threat was made or the threatening behavior occurred.

THREATS OR ASSAULTS WHICH REQUIRE IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE POLICE AT 911.

3. Threat Assessment Investigation and Response

When a threat is reported, the school administrator shall initiate an initial inquiry/triage and, in consultation with members of the threat assessment team, make a determination of the seriousness of the threat as expeditiously as possible. The school administrator must contact law enforcement if the administrator believes that an individual poses a clear and immediate threat of

serious violence.

If there is no reasonably apparent imminent threat present or once such an imminent threat is contained, the threat assessment team will meet to evaluate and respond to the threatening behavior. The superintendent may, but is not required to, review the following types of information:

- Review of the threatening behavior and/or communication;
- Interviews with the individuals involved including students, staff members, and family members as necessary and/or appropriate;
- Review of school and other records for any prior history or interventions with the students involved;
- Any other investigatory methods that the law enforcement unit determines to be reasonable and useful.
- The superintendent must confer with at least one member of the school's guidance counseling staff as part of his/her investigation. If the threat has been made by, or is directed towards, a student with a disability, the superintendent must confer with a staff member who is knowledgeable about special education services or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as appropriate.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the superintendent will determine what, if any, response to the threat is appropriate. The superintendent is authorized to disclose the results of his/her investigation to law enforcement and to the target(s) of any threatened acts. The superintendent may refer the individual of concern to the appropriate school administrator for consequences under the school's student discipline policy or, if appropriate, report the results of his/her investigation to the student's individualized education plan team.

Regardless of threat assessment activities, disciplinary action and referral to law enforcement will occur consistent with board policy and Nebraska law.

4. Communication with the Public about Reported Threats

To the extent possible, the superintendent will keep members of the school community informed about substantive threats and about the District's response to those threats. This communication may include oral announcements, written communication sent home with students, and communication through print or broadcast media. However, the superintendent will not reveal the identity of the individual of concern or of any target(s) of threatened violence unless permitted by law.

5. Coordination with the Crisis Team After Resolution of Threat

The superintendent will confer with the district's crisis team after a threat has been investigated to provide the crisis team with information that the crisis team may

use in assessing or revising the district's All-Hazard School's Safety Plan.

Transportation Services

The district operates school buses as a convenience for students and parents. They represent a substantial investment, and students are expected to care for and respect them.

Transportation to School

Students who ride the bus to school will arrive in time for them to eat breakfast at school. Parents must contact their bus driver if a student will not ride the bus on a given day. Bus drivers endeavor to adhere to their schedule, and will wait for riders only a short period of time so as not to jeopardize the time remaining for the rest of their schedule.

Non-resident or option enrollment students may ride the buses, if their transport does not interfere with the efficient and economical operation of the transportation schedule, but they may be charged a reasonable fee to be established by the board of education. The Superintendent will schedule bus routes, and questions concerning them should be directed to that office. The superintendent, in consultation with the transportation director, will make the final determination regarding whether or not the transport of non-resident or option enrollment students is feasible for the school district.

Bus Regulations

Riding school vehicles is a privilege, not a right. The bus drivers have the same authority as teachers while transporting students. Students must comply with the following rules and all school conduct rules and directives while riding in school vehicles. In addition, students must also comply with the student code of conduct while riding in school vehicles. If misconduct is recurring, the student will not be allowed to ride the bus.

1. Rules of Conduct on School Vehicles:

- a. Students must obey the driver promptly.
- b. Students must wait in a safe place for the bus to arrive, clear of traffic and away from where the vehicle stops.
- c. Students are prohibited from fighting, engaging in bullying, harassment or horseplay.
- d. Students must enter the bus without crowding or disturbing others and go directly to their assigned seats.
- e. Students must remain seated and keep aisles and exits clear while the vehicle is moving.
- f. Students are prohibited from throwing or passing objects on, from, or into vehicles.
- g. Students may not use profane language, obscene gestures, tobacco, alcohol, drugs or any other controlled substance on the vehicles.
- h. Students may not carry weapons, look-a-like weapons, hazardous

materials, nuisance items or animals onto the vehicle.

- i. Students may carry on conversations in ordinary tones, but may not be loud or boisterous and should avoid talking to the driver while the vehicle is in motion. Students must be absolutely quiet when the vehicle approaches a railroad crossing and any time the driver calls for quiet.
- j. Students may not open windows without permission from the driver. Students may not dangle any item (e.g. legs, arms, backpacks) out of the windows.
- k. Student must secure any item or items that could break or produce injury if tossed about the inside of the vehicle if the vehicle were involved in an accident
- l. Student must respect the rights and safety of others at all times.
- m. Students must help keep the vehicle clean, sanitary and orderly
- n. Students must remove all personal items and trash upon exiting.
- o. Students may not leave or board the vehicle at locations other than the assigned stops at home or school unless approved prior to departure by the superintendent or designee.
- p. Video cameras may be placed on buses, at random, to monitor student behavior on the bus.

2. Consequences

- a. Drivers must promptly report all student misconduct to the administration.
- b. These reports may be oral or written.
- c. Students who violate the Rules for Conduct will be referred to their building principal for discipline.
- d. Disciplinary consequences may include
 - i. a note home to parents,
 - ii. suspension of bus riding privileges,
 - iii. exclusion from extracurricular activities,
 - iv. in-school suspension,
 - v. short term or long term suspension from school, and/or
 - vi. expulsion.
 - vii. These consequences are not progressive, and school officials have discretion to impose any listed punishment they deem appropriate, in accordance with state and federal law and board policy.

3. Records

- a. Records of vehicle misconduct will be forwarded to the appropriate building principal and will be maintained in the same manner as other student discipline records. Reports of serious misconduct may be forwarded to law enforcement.
- b. Requests to be dropped off at a point **not** on the regular route will not be accommodated, unless extenuating circumstances arise and the request is approved by the transportation director or administration.

- c. Parents of students who are not regular route riders and plan to have their students ride the bus home with a friend or family member are strongly encouraged to communicate those travel plans to the school office and to the regular route driver. Ideally, the parent should provide the written permission to the office and the route driver which includes the date, the non-route rider's name, the signature of the non-rider's parent, and the place approved for drop off. Parents communicating this information to the school office and the route driver will help everyone develop a common understanding and avoid confusion. It will also ensure there is not overcrowding on the regular routes.

4. Transportation to Activities

- a. The school district provides transportation to students who are participating in school-sponsored events and they must ride to and from those events in a school vehicle. Students who wish to take private transportation home from a school event before the event concludes must contact the activity sponsor prior to leaving for the activity. Students who wish to take private transportation home from a school event after the event concludes must contact the activity sponsor.

Video Surveillance, Recordings, and Photographs

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video cameras on school district property to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of all staff, students and visitors, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations deemed appropriate by the Superintendent. If a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state, or federal laws, it may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

Recordings Made by Parents/Guardians and Patrons. Parents/guardians and patrons may make recordings of school activities in a non-disruptive manner including things like athletic contests and school board meetings to the extent permitted by law unless otherwise lawfully restricted by the administration. Parents/guardians or patrons may not make recordings if they are volunteering or visiting school during the school day without permission of the administration or supervising staff member and subject to this policy, such as recording their child's classroom activities or recess. Violation of this policy may be grounds for exclusion from school property, loss of volunteer privileges, or other restrictions deemed appropriate by the administration.

Recordings Made by Students. This policy applies to students during the school day on school grounds; when being transported to and from school activities or programs in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee; or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. Students may make recordings of school activities in a non-disruptive manner including things like athletic contests and other extracurricular performances to the extent permitted by law. Students generally are not permitted to record classroom instruction or members of the school community during the school day without the express consent of a staff member or as required by the student's education plan. Student use of assistive technology that has the capacity to record and/or transmit recordings (e.g. AngelSense) must be approved by the student's education team or administration. Students remain subject to all other district policies and rules. In no event shall recordings be taken or made in restrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Students who violate this policy may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.

Weather-Related School Closing

The Superintendent will occasionally announce an emergency early school dismissal, late start, or cancellation of school due to extreme heat, snow or ice. School closings will be announced on NTV Television Network and through the School Messenger Alert System. Parents should assume that school is open and a regular schedule is being followed if there is no announcement concerning the school district. Please do not call the school or individual staff members to find out whether school is being canceled. Parents who do not believe it is safe to transport their students to school may keep their students home after contacting the district office.

If schools are closed due to severe weather conditions, all after-school activities will be canceled.

Withdrawal from School

Students who are moving from the district must notify the school office.

Work Permits

The building principal or other authorized school official shall be responsible for the issuance of work permits for children in accordance with state law.

SECTION TWO

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Academic Dishonesty

A student found to have committed academic dishonesty will receive a consequence at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

Artificial Intelligence

As used in this policy, artificial intelligence tools ("AI Tools") mean machine-based resources that use computer science, algorithms, large language models, and/or machine learning to perform tasks, answer questions, collect information, and respond to human-directed tasks, queries, and objectives. AI Tools include, but are not necessarily limited to, commercially-available resources like ChaptGPT, Google Bard, and other chatbots.

The board recognizes that among other resources, when properly used, AI Tools may provide valuable source information to students and teachers in relation to the district's academic curriculum and assignments. Student use of AI Tools should focus on using such tools as a resource and for background material, rather than using the AI Tools to complete the assignment. Therefore, AI Tools may only be used by students in accordance with the following requirements:

1. Unless an individual teacher affirmatively communicates to students that AI Tools may be used for a specific assignment, then AI Tools may not be used. Individual teachers will decide for each individual assignment the extent to which students may use AI Tools for such assignment. Teachers are encouraged to make such a decision in advance of students being given the individual assignment in question.
2. Teachers will communicate to all students responsible for completing an assignment the extent to which such students may use AI Tools in connection with such assignment. Teachers will endeavor to include in such communications examples of permissible and impermissible uses of AI Tools.
3. If a student uses any AI Tools in connection with a school assignment, the student must comply with the following:
 - a. The student must explicitly disclose to the teacher in writing that the student used an AI Tool and the specific AI Tool used.
 - b. In any student work (whether hard copy, electronic,

digital, or otherwise), the student shall give proper attribution to the AI Tool(s) used to the same extent that students are expected to give proper attribution to other sources of information such as books, texts, encyclopedias, secondary sources, and other traditional media. Such attribution may include, but is not necessarily limited to, accurate quotations, citations, footnotes, endnotes, and/or bibliography entries.

- c. In no instance may the output from one or more AI Tools be copied and placed within a student's work as if the student wrote such section himself or herself. For example and not limitation, students may not outsource the organization or the writing of any written work to any AI Tool.
- 4. A student's failure to meet the requirements stated in this policy will constitute a violation of the district's prohibitions against cheating plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty, including but not necessarily limited to such prohibitions stated in the Student Handbook, which violation will subject the student to discipline up to and including expulsion.
- 5. The student requirements stated above are the minimum requirements for any student assignment. An individual teacher may impose more stringent requirements for any specific academic assignment or coursework.

Certificate of Attendance

To qualify for a Certificate of Attendance, which will be awarded at the commencement exercises, a student must attend four complete years of high school.

Class Rank

Student class rank shall be determined by using a numeric grade point average derived from all classes graded on a numeric basis. To be included in the class ranking, a student must have received a numeric grade for each core curriculum class in which he/she was enrolled. For the purposes of this policy, core curriculum shall include all courses in the areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Students who transfer into the school district will be eligible to be included in class ranking after two semesters of attendance.

Students who transfer into the school district in the middle of their senior year will be eligible to be included in class ranking, although a mid-year transfer will not displace the ranking of a student who has not transferred mid-year. In those

circumstances there will be two students holding the relevant class ranking. Mid-year transfer students will not be eligible to receive senior awards such as valedictorian and salutatorian unless the student has been enrolled in the district's high school for the last two semesters.

Correspondence and Online Courses

The district will not be liable for the costs of correspondence or online courses, unless otherwise approved by the board of education.

Credit for Non-Academic Work

Credit is not awarded for participation in extracurricular activities such as sports, speech, drama, etc. However, all such activities in which the student participates, as well as honors earned, are noted on the student's permanent record.

Eligibility Grades 7-12

Student academic eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities will be determined on a weekly basis. A student will become ineligible by maintaining an average of less than seventy percent (70%) in two or more classes weekly. There is a two week grace period at the start of each quarter. Following the grace period the eligibility report will be run each Tuesday at approximately 11:00 am. The eligibility period runs from Tuesday to the following Tuesday. Ineligible students, will at the discretion of the sponsor, be allowed to participate in practice. Activities affected by the eligibility rule are:

1. All interscholastic contests, including but not limited to, athletics, FFA, FBLA, speech contests, and similar organizations or events.
2. Cheerleading
3. Music competition, performances (except Christmas and Spring concerts), and clinics
4. Ineligible students are not allowed to attend extracurricular activities unless they are a participant in the activity
5. Other activities deemed appropriate by the principal

Grades

Students will receive letter grades for their academic core classes.

- A+ 98-100
- A 95-97
- A- 93-94
- B+ 90-92
- B 88-89
- B- 85-87
- C+ 82-84
- C 80-81
- C- 78-80
- D+ 75-77
- D 72-74

- D- 70-71
- F 0-69
- NG No Grade
- P - Pass

A student may earn an incomplete when he or she fails to complete classroom assignments. Any student in grades 7-11 who receives an incomplete will have this grade recorded on his/her permanent record until the required work is completed to the teacher's satisfaction. If a student does not remove an incomplete by completing the minimum classroom assignments, the incomplete will be calculated as a failing grade in determining the student's grade point average.

If a student does not remove an incomplete by completing the necessary work within two weeks of the end of the grading period, the incomplete will become a failing grade which the student may make up only by taking the entire course again. The two-week period may be extended by mutual agreement of the teacher, principal, and student.

A student who receives an incomplete during his/her senior year must satisfactorily complete the classroom assignments to participate in the graduation ceremony. Seniors with incompletes will not be dismissed from school attendance until the classroom assignments are completed to the teacher's satisfaction.

Graduation Awards

Graduating seniors will be awarded for their academic achievements during the annual commencement activities. The winners of these awards will be determined on the basis of student academic achievement. The valedictorian and salutatorian of the graduating class shall be the students with the highest and second highest cumulative percentage grade point averages respectively in curriculum course work completed in grades nine through twelve. These students will receive their awards during commencement exercises.

Student Class Requirements

REQUIREMENTS FOR JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

Junior High students will have to pass a minimum of 110 credits or a minimum amount of credits approved by the school administration during their 7th and 8th grade years to move on to high school. This would include 60 units from core classes and 50 units from electives or satisfy their IEP.

Any Junior High student that fails a core class (Math, Science, Social Studies, or English) both semesters will be required to attend Summer school during June in order to continue to develop their basic knowledge of the curricular material in that subject area.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. All students will be required to take at least 7 subjects per day for a 1-9 period day during the school year and a maximum of 1 study hall unless there are special circumstances. Any special circumstances must have prior approval of the principal.
2. The requirements for graduation are:
 - **English (Language Arts): 40** credits required in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade
 - **Speech: 5** credits required during 10th grad
 - **Mathematics: 30** credits required in 9th, 10th and 11th
 - Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the minimum math requirements will reflect the following to earn the 30 credits (requirements are for all incoming 9th grade students in fall 2011)
 - 9th Grade Students > Algebra I OR Pre-Algebra
 - 10th Grade Students > Geometry OR Algebra I
 - 11th Grade Students > Algebra II OR Geometry
 - **Science: 30** credits required 9th, 10th and 11th grades.
 - 9th Grade Students > Biology
 - 10th Grade Students > Physical Science
 - 11th Grade Students > Earth and Space Science
 - **Social Studies: 30** credits--Including 10 credits of American Government
 - **Physical Education: 10** credits
 - **Health: 5** credits (beginning in 2012-2013 for all sophomores)
 - **Personal Finance: 5** credits (beginning in 2022-2023, during junior or senior year)
 - **Computer Information Systems: 10** credits— Consisting of:
 - Info Tech - **5** credits (1st Semester - 9th Grade)
 - IT Fundamentals - **5** credits (2nd Semester 9th Grade)
 - **Electives: 85** credits--Must pass a minimum of 85 credits (beginning 2022-2023)

250 credits are required for graduation. Commencement ceremonies will be conducted for graduates and eligible attendees. The majority of our classes that are offered are scheduled to be offered on a year-long basis. If a student is enrolled in a class of this type then at the end of the first semester decides to drop the class, the student will receive credit for the semester taken. If the class dropped is a requirement for graduation, that class will have to be retaken for the semester dropped.

Transfer students must meet the minimum hour requirement for graduation both in terms of total number and specific subject areas. Substitutions may be made for deficiencies in required courses, provided that it was not possible to include the courses on the student's schedule while enrolled at this school district.

Students who receive special education services are mainstreamed into the regular education curriculum when appropriate. The curriculum content of regular

education classes may be modified to accommodate the individual needs and abilities of verified special education students. Each curriculum modification will be included on the student's Individual Education Plan by the Multidisciplinary Team and/or school staffing teams composed of special and regular education staff. Hours in special education will be counted toward a high school diploma.

Parents of students who may not qualify for their high school diploma because of academic deficiencies will be notified of this possibility by the beginning of the second semester of the student's senior year.

Homework

Classroom teachers will often assign homework. Parents who have questions about homework or concerns about class work should contact the teacher. Questions not resolved by the teacher should be referred to the administration.

Each student is expected to spend some time preparing for studies outside of school hours. The amount of time that is needed will depend upon each student. The APL Instructional model provides a guideline that time spent on homework should be approximately 10 minutes x Grade level (i.e. 3rd grade = 30 min).

Students who struggle to complete assignments or who must spend an inordinate amount of time completing an assignment should seek the help and advice of their teachers and consult with the principal and/or the guidance counselor.

Honor Roll

Roll of Excellence:

- Average that falls between 97.00 and 100.00.
- No grade below a 70.00.

Roll of Honor:

- Average that falls between 93.00 and 96.9999.
- No grade below a 70.00.

Honor Days Rewards

The purpose of this program is to recognize those students who have worked to achieve to the best of their ability in all facets of school. This includes student behavior. The administration will maintain the authority to deny the request for an honor day for any reason that the administration deems appropriate. Students who work diligently deserve to be rewarded for their hard work. This program may be utilized only by students in grades 9-12.

1. At the end of each semester, students who reach the "Roll of Excellence" honor roll will earn one day of release time from school.
2. At the end of the semester, students who make the "Roll of Honor" will earn ½ day of release time from school.
3. Students earning release time must request and fill out the release form, signed by their parents, and file it with the principal designating the day or ½ day they

plan to be gone from school. Students must take release time in ½ or full days; four periods constitute ½ day. The form must be returned to the principal prior to taking the Honor Day or the absences will be counted as an “unexcused absence”. Students may not use an honor day if they are failing a class. All grades must be passing.

4. All work must be made up before students can take release time. Once the work is handed in, the teachers will then sign the release form.
5. Students will not be counted absent during release time.
6. Students may only earn two full days of release time per year and can only carry over a maximum of one release day into the next school year.
7. Students who are over the attendance limit for a semester cannot use honor days.

Mid-Term Graduation

Students are generally required to attend four years of high school (minimum of seven semesters) to be eligible to receive a diploma from the school district.

The Board of Education, upon receiving administrative recommendation, may grant midterm exit from high school to students who have completed the requirements for graduation. To be considered for mid-term exit from high school, the student and his/her parents or guardian should apply during the first quarter of the student’s senior year. The Board of Education will act on all requests. Any student who is granted midterm exit from high school forfeits all privileges of high school enrollment, except the right to participate in commencement exercises.

Report Cards

Report cards are sent home the week following the end of the nine-week reporting period.

Study Halls

A study hall is maintained each period of the day for students not having classes that period. This is a place for study and, consequently, quiet must be maintained. All students are to be in their seats and in order when the tardy bell begins to ring. To assist in maintaining more uniform study halls, the following regulations have been listed and are to be in effect in all study halls.

1. Students must sit in an assigned seat when coming into the room.
2. Students must get a tardy slip if late for study hall.
3. Roll shall be taken and recorded.
4. The study hall must be quiet.
5. Students must have studies to work on or material to read with them upon arrival.
6. Students shall not talk or whisper except with the teacher's permission.
7. Students wishing to study together may do so with the teacher's permission.

8. Sleeping will not be allowed.
9. Students shall not have their feet on the furniture nor re-arrange the furniture.
10. No more than one student at a time may go to the restroom, unless an emergency arises.
11. Students shall not leave unless in possession of a student pass from a teacher.
12. Study hall teachers may issue a student a pass to see another teacher. Students are encouraged to pre-arrange visits to classroom teachers during study hall by securing a pass from the teacher they wish to see during the study hall, before reporting to study hall.
13. A student pass may be issued to a student to go to the administration or guidance offices if it is necessary.
14. No food, pop, or candy is allowed in study halls.
15. No online computer games unless it is an educational program approved by the instructor or administration.
16. Ear buds may be worn with the permission of the supervising instructor only. iPods and other music devices are prohibited.

SECTION THREE

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

General Discipline Philosophy

The school district has the authority to discipline students who behave inappropriately on the way to school, at school, during lunch, on the way home, and at all school activities (home and away or any time while on school or district property).

The school district's discipline is guided by the following principles:

1. The school district's discipline policy is intended to ensure that students take responsibility for their behavior.
2. Behavior expectations and the consequences for failing to meet those expectations will be clearly communicated to all students and their parents.
3. The severity of consequences for violating behavior expectations will generally be progressive in nature. That is, sanctions will increase with each instance of misconduct; however, each instance will be assessed on its own facts, and sanctions will be imposed based on the severity of the misconduct.
4. Parents play a vital role in supporting and reinforcing the school district's expectations of their students.

5. Behavior expectations apply to all students; consequences are enforced consistently without regard to a student's academic record or achievement.

Extracurricular activities including athletics, cheerleading, band, chorus, and club activities, are governed by the Student Activity Handbook. Students who are involved in extracurricular activities may face consequences related to the activity in addition to the consequences discussed in this handbook.

The school district reserves the right to refer to the appropriate non-school agency any act or conduct of its students which may constitute a crime under federal, state, county, or local law. The administration will cooperate with these agencies in their investigations.

Forms of School Discipline

Administrative and teaching personnel may take actions regarding student behavior that are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but need not be limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, referral to restorative justice practices or services, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation upon the written consent of a parent or guardian to such counseling or evaluation. The actions may also include in-school suspensions during the day or mandatory attendance at Saturday school. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, Saturday School, or other disciplinary measures are assigned, the student is responsible for complying with such disciplinary measures; a failure to serve such assigned discipline as directed will serve as grounds for further discipline, up to expulsion from school. District administrators may develop building-specific protocols for the imposition of student discipline.

In this section, references to "Principal" shall include building principals, the principal's designee, or other appropriate school district administrators.

Any statement, notice, recommendation, determination, or similar action specified in this section shall be effectively given at the time written evidence thereof is delivered personally to or upon receipt of certified or registered mail or upon actual knowledge by a student or his or her parent or guardian.

Any student who is suspended or expelled from school pursuant to this section may not participate in any school activity during the duration of that exclusion including adjacent school holidays and weekends. The student activity eligibility of a student who is mandatorily reassigned shall be determined on a case-by-case basis by the principal of the building to which the student is reassigned.

After School Sessions and Detentions

Teachers and administrators may require students to stay after school or to serve a detention when the student violates any of the rules contained in this handbook or violates classroom-specific conduct rules set by individual teachers.

Students who ride the bus home from school will be given a 24-hour notice of after-school time or a detention so that the parents may make plans to pick up the student the following day.

- After-school sessions will not exceed 30 minutes from the time of dismissal and are to be served in the teacher's room. A student who fails to attend an after school session may be given a detention by the teacher or may face additional disciplinary consequences up to and including long-term suspension and/or expulsion. A student who has a conflict with an after-school session is responsible for working it out with the teacher.
- Detentions are 30 minutes, served in the central office or the detention room designated by the building principal.

Jay Time

Jay Time is an extended learning opportunity provided for students that have proven to be in need of academic support as indicated by being ineligible or failing the same class for two consecutive weeks on our Tuesday eligibility report. Jay Time begins immediately after school and ends at 4:00. Students are required to attend on Wednesday and Thursday of the week they qualify along with Monday and Tuesday of the next week. There is no Jay Time on the last day of the school week.

In-School Suspension

The building administrator may require a student to serve in-school suspension. Students may be required to attend up to 7 hours per day of school-sponsored suspension a day at a designated location where they will study and participate in campus clean up. There will be zero tolerance for behavior problems from students placed in in-school suspension. Students not completing their in-school suspension will face further disciplinary action. Any student serving I.S.S. will not be allowed to have any personal electronic devices.

Emergency Exclusion

Students may be emergency excluded from school pursuant to the board's separate policy on emergency exclusion or state law.

Short-Term Suspension

The Principal or the Principal's designee may exclude a student from school or any school function for a period of up to five school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:

1. Conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth; or
2. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the board of education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, which occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a nexus between such conduct and school.

The following process will apply to short-term suspensions:

1. The Principal shall make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. Short-term suspension shall be imposed only after a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
2. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what he/she is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and an opportunity to explain his/her version of the facts.
3. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension (not to exceed an additional 48 hours), the Principal will send a written statement to the student and the student's parent or guardian, describing the student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard and the reasons for the action taken. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the Principal ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The Principal shall determine who, in addition to the parent or guardian, is to attend the conference.
4. Students who are short-term suspended will be given the opportunity to complete classwork, including but not limited to examinations, under the following conditions: all assignments due during the time of suspension

will be finished/completed upon reentry to school.

Weapons and/or Firearms

Firearms. No person may bring, possess, handle or transmit a firearm on school grounds, in a school owned vehicle, or at a school activity or event off school grounds except as permitted by this policy.

Definition of Firearm. The term firearm is defined as any object which is designed to or may readily be converted to expel any projectile by the action of an explosive or frame or receiver of any such weapon.

Weapons. Students and visitors under the age of 18 may not knowingly possess, handle, or transmit any weapon while on school grounds or at any school activity or event off school grounds except as permitted by this policy.

Definition of Weapon. The term weapon is defined as a firearm or any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon.

Exceptions Regarding Firearms. This prohibition does not apply to (1) the issuance of firearms to or possession by members of the armed forces of the United States, active or reserve, National Guard of this state, or Reserve Officers Training Corps or peace officers or other daily authorized law enforcement officers when on duty or training, (2) firearms which may lawfully be possessed by a person who is receiving instruction at the school under the immediate supervision of an adult instructor, or (3) firearms contained within a private vehicle **operated by a non-student adult** which are not loaded and are encased or are in a locked firearm rack that is on a motor vehicle.

Definition of encased. The term encased shall mean enclosed in a case that is expressly made for the purpose of containing a firearm and that is completely zipped, snapped, buckled, tied, or otherwise fastened with no part of the firearm exposed.

Exceptions for Students. The only exceptions for a student to bring or possess a weapon, including a firearm, are as follows:

1. The firearm or weapon has been brought to school grounds or to an activity or event off school grounds for some educational purpose; and
2. The person bringing the firearm or weapon has requested and received the prior approval of both the instructor and the building principal to do so; and
3. All arrangements to use and store the firearm or weapon safely while it is on school premises have been agreed to

and carried out.

Consequences. Federal Law requires that a student who brings a firearm onto school grounds be expelled from school for a year. State law and this policy provide that any student who violates this policy may be expelled for two semesters, suspended on a long-term basis or mandatory reassigned.

Confiscation of Firearms. Administrative and teaching personnel are statutorily authorized, without a warrant, to confiscate any firearm possessed in violation of this policy. By statute, any firearm which is confiscated by school personnel shall be delivered to a peace officer as soon as practicable. Such firearms are subject to being destroyed by law enforcement authorities. All school personnel are required to report any violations of this policy to a principal or the superintendent of schools.

Long-Term Suspension

Students may be excluded by the Principal from school or any school function for a period of more than five school days but less than twenty school days (long-term suspension) for any conduct constituting grounds for expulsion as hereinafter set forth. The process for long-term suspension is set forth below.

Pre-Kindergarten through Second Grade Students

An elementary school shall not suspend a student in pre-kindergarten through second grade unless the student brings a deadly weapon as defined in section 28-109 on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. As an alternative to suspension, the school district may take any action authorized by law, including those provided in section 79-258.

Expulsion

1. **Meaning of Expulsion.** Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in

effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.

2. **Summer Review.** Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year. The review will be conducted by the hearing officer who conducted the initial expulsion hearing, or a hearing officer appointed by the Superintendent in the event no hearing was previously held or the initial hearing officer is no longer available or willing to serve, after the hearing officer has given notice of the review to the student and the student's parent or guardian. This review shall be limited to newly discovered evidence or evidence of changes in the student's circumstances occurring since the original hearing. This review may lead to a recommendation by the hearing officer that the student be readmitted for the upcoming school year. If the school board or board of education or a committee of such board took the final action to expel the student, the student may be readmitted only by action of the board. Otherwise, the student may be readmitted by action of the Superintendent.

3. **Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion:** Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., "stayed") for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect, and as a condition of such suspended action, the student may be assigned to a school, class, or program/plan and to such other consequences which the school district deems appropriate.

4. **Alternative School or Pre-expulsion Procedures.** The school shall provide either an alternative school, class or educational program for expelled students or shall follow the pre-expulsion procedures outlined in Neb. Rev. Stat. 79-266.

Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment:

The following conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, subject to the procedural provisions of the Student Discipline Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-254 through 79-296, when such activity occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event:

1. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes;
2. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, or repeated damage or theft involving property;
3. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, to a school volunteer, or to any student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision;
4. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student;
5. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon (*see also board policy on weapons and firearms*);
6. Engaging in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or an imitation controlled substance, as defined in section 28-401, a substance represented to be a controlled substance, or alcoholic liquor as defined in section 53-103.02 or being under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor (*note: the term "under the influence" for school purposes has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant*);
7. Public indecency as defined in section 28-806, except that this prohibition shall apply only to students at least twelve years of age but less than nineteen years of age;
8. Engaging in bullying as defined in section 79-2,137 and in these policies;
9. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person if a complaint has been filed by a prosecutor in a court of competent jurisdiction alleging that the student has sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault any person, including sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults which occur off school grounds not at a school function, activity, or event. For purposes of this subdivision, sexual assault means sexual assault in the first degree as defined in section 28-319, sexual assault in the second degree as defined in section 28-320, sexual assault of a child in the second or third degree as defined in section 28-320.01, or sexual assault of a child in the first degree as defined in section 28-319.01, as such sections now provide or may hereafter from time to time be amended;
10. Engaging in any other activity forbidden by the law of the State of Nebraska which activity constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes; or
11. A repeated violation of any of the following rules if such violations

constitute a substantial interference with school purposes:

- a. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, sex, national origin, or religion;
- b. Dressing or grooming in a manner which violates the school district's dress code and/or is dangerous to the student's health and safety, a danger to the health and safety of others, or which is disruptive, distracting or indecent to the extent that it interferes with the learning and educational process;
- c. Violating school bus rules as set by the school district or district staff;
- d. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing tobacco, drug paraphernalia, an electronic nicotine delivery system, or a tobacco imitation substance or packaging, regardless of form, including cigars, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and any other form of tobacco, tobacco derivative product or imitation, or electronic cigarettes, vapor pens, etc.;
- e. Possessing, using, selling, or dispensing any drug paraphernalia or imitation of a controlled substance regardless of whether the actual substance possessed is a controlled substance by Nebraska law;
- f. Possession of pornography;
- f. Sexting or the possession of sexting images (a combination of sex and texting - the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photos electronically);
- g. Engaging in initiations, defined as any ritualistic expectations, requirements, or activities placed upon new members of a school organization for the purpose of admission into the organization, even if those activities do not rise to the level of "hazing" as defined below. Initiations are prohibited except by permission of the superintendent;
- h. Engaging in hazing, defined as any activity expected of someone joining a group, team, or activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. Hazing activities are generally considered to be: physically abusive, hazardous, and/or sexually violating and include but are not limited to the following: personal servitude; sleep deprivation and restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing and insulting new members/rookies; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such on one's skin; branding; physical beatings; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual stimulation and sexual assault;

- i. Bullying which shall include cyber-bullying, defined as the use of the internet, including but not limited to social networking sites such as Facebook, cell phones or other devices to send, post or text message images and material intended to hurt or embarrass another person. This may include, but is not limited to; continuing to send e-mail to someone who has said they want no further contact with the sender; sending or posting threats, sexual remarks or pejorative labels (i.e., hate speech); ganging up on victims by making them the subject of ridicule in forums, and posting false statements as fact intended to humiliate the victim; disclosure of personal data, such as the victim's real name, address, or school at websites or forums; posing as the identity of the victim for the purpose of publishing material in their name that defames or ridicules them; sending threatening and harassing text, instant messages or emails to the victims; and posting or sending rumors or gossip to instigate others to dislike and gang up on the target;
- j. Violation of the district's computer acceptable computer use policy are subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion; and
- k. Knowingly possessing, handling, transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a simulated of "look-a-like" weapon;
- l. Using any object to simulate possession of a weapon;
- m. Knowingly making a false statement or knowingly submitting false information during the Title IX grievance process or any other school investigation or making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a Title IX grievance proceeding or any other school investigation; and
- n. Any other violation of a rule or regulation established by a school district staff member pursuant to authority delegated by the board. The length of any suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment shall be as provided or allowed by law.

Reporting Requirement to Law Enforcement

Violations of this section will result in a report to law enforcement if:

- 1. The violation includes possession of a firearm;
- 2. The violation results in child abuse;
- 3. It is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code that the administration believes cannot be adequately addressed by discipline from the school district;
- 4. It is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code that endangers the health and welfare of staff or students; or
- 5. It is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code that interferes with school purposes.

Due Process Afforded to Students Facing Long-term Suspension or Expulsion

The following procedures shall be followed regarding any long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment:

1. The decision to recommend discipline shall be made within two school days after learning of the alleged student misconduct. On the date of the decision to discipline, the Principal shall file with the Superintendent a written charge and a summary of the evidence supporting such charge.
2. The Principal shall serve the student and the student's parents or guardian with a written notice by registered or certified mail or personal service within two school days of the date of the decision to recommend long-term suspension or expulsion. The notice shall include the following:
 - a. The rule or standard of conduct allegedly violated and the acts of the student alleged to constitute a cause for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, including a summary of the evidence to be presented against the student;
 - b. The penalty, if any, which the principal has recommended in the charge and any other penalty to which the student may be subject;
 - c. A statement that, before long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment can be invoked, the student has a right to a hearing, upon request, and that if the student is suspended pending the outcome of the hearing, the student may complete classwork and homework, including, but not limited to, examinations, missed during the period of suspension pursuant to district guidelines which shall not require the student to attend the school district's alternative programs for expelled students in order to complete classwork or;
 - d. A description of the hearing procedures provided by the act, along with procedures for appealing any decision rendered at the hearing;
 - e. A statement that the principal, legal counsel for the school, the student, the student's parent, or the student's representative or guardian has the right (i) to examine the student's academic and disciplinary records and any affidavits to be used at the hearing concerning the alleged misconduct and (ii) to know the identity of the witnesses to appear at the hearing and the substance of their testimony; and
 - f. A form on which the student, the student's parent, or the student's guardian may request a hearing, to be signed by such parties and delivered to the principal or superintendent in person or by registered or certified mail to the address provided on the form.
3. When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect, if the

principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of (a) interference with an educational function or school purpose or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers.

4. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the student, student's parents, guardian or representative from discussing and settling the matter with appropriate school personnel prior to the time the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect.
5. If a hearing is requested within five days after receipt of the notice, the Superintendent shall recommend appointment of a hearing examiner within two school days after receipt of the hearing request. The student or the student's parent or guardian may request designation of a hearing examiner other than the hearing examiner recommended by the superintendent if notice of the request is given to the superintendent within two school days after receipt of the superintendent's recommended appointment. Upon receiving such request, the superintendent must provide one alternative hearing examiner who is not an employee of the school district or otherwise currently under contract with the school district and whose impartiality may not otherwise be reasonably questioned. The student or the student's parent or guardian must, within five school days, select a hearing examiner to conduct the hearing who was recommended or provided as an alternative hearing examiner, and shall notify the superintendent in writing of the selection. The superintendent must appoint the selected hearing examiner upon receipt of such notice.
6. The hearing examiner must, within two school days after being appointed, give written notice to the principal, the student, and the student's parent or guardian of the time and place for the hearing.
7. The hearing shall be held within a period of five school days after appointment of the hearing examiner, but such time may be changed by the hearing examiner for good cause with consent of the parties. No hearing shall be held upon less than two school days' actual notice to the principal, the student, and the student's parent or guardian, except with the consent of all the parties.
8. The principal or legal counsel for the school, the student, and the student's parent, guardian, or representative have the right to receive a copy of all records and written statements referred to in the Student Discipline Act as well as the statement of any witness in the possession of the school board or board of education no later than forty-eight hours prior to the hearing.
9. If a hearing is requested more than five school days following the receipt of the written notice, but not more than thirty calendar days after receipt, the Superintendent shall appoint a hearing examiner. The hearing will be held according to the requirements of section 79-269. The student shall be entitled to a hearing but the consequence imposed may continue in effect pending final determination.

10. If a request for hearing is not received within thirty calendar days following the mailing or delivery of the written notice, the student shall not be entitled to a hearing.

In the event a hearing is requested, the hearing, hearing procedures, the student's rights and any appeals or judicial review permitted by law shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the Nebraska Student Discipline Act (NEB. REV. STAT. § 79-254 to 79-294).

Section Four

Staff Directory

Members of the Board of Education:

Misti Fiddelke..... President
Tara Schirmer..... Vice-President
Dawn StandageSecretary
Michael Voelker..... Member
Ryan Osten..... Member
Marc Vacek..... Member

Administrative Staff:

Mr. Ken Schroeder..... Superintendent
Mr. Cannon BlauveltHigh School Principal
Mr. Paul Anderson Elementary Principal

Teaching Staff:

Michelle Abels.....Grade One
Lisa Anderson.....Speech Path
Trent Benjamin.....Media Specialist
Dan Bolling.....Phys Education, Elem
Brandy Brodersen.....Special Education
Brook Bult Grade Four
Cody Chilewski.....Ag Education
Kaleb Christensen..... Science
Libby Clark..... Art
Tiffani Drabek Grade Three
Angie Drahota.....Counselor, K-12
Barbara Ellis.....HS Music/Band
Tanner Ellis..... Business

Haley Gadeken.....	Grade Five
James Habe.....	Grade Six
Paige Havranek.....	English, Journalism
Jody Hutsell.....	Speech Path
Karrie Huryta.....	English
Erin Jarvi.....	Grade Three
Kelley Jarzynka.....	Science
Justin Lammers.....	Ind Arts
Katie Lewandowski.....	Grade Two
Julie Maulsby.....	English, Reading
Noah Maulsby.....	Phys Education, HS
Alec May.....	Social Studies
Adam Mingus.....	Math
Caley Mingus.....	Kindergarten
Kinsley Musil.....	Behavior Interventionist
Sherry Nelson.....	Grade Six
Melodie Nozicka.....	Grade Five
Allan Osburn.....	Special Education
Jenna Pritchard.....	Grade Four
Sonya Rasmussen.....	Life Skills
Michelle Riens.....	Grade Two
Trey Rossman.....	Social Studies
Tony Schirmer.....	Math/AD
Kirby Sheets.....	Grade One
Abby Steele.....	Kindergarten
Kayla Wiarda.....	Preschool
Korina Wick.....	Instructional Coach
Cindy Wilke.....	Special Education
Andrea Wolf.....	Science, Health
Alison Yendra.....	Spanish
Teresa Zinnel.....	Special Education
Shelbi Zinnell.....	Elem Music/Office Staff

Para Professionals

Colleen Cornelius - Michelle Dethlefs - Brittney Lutz - Julie McGuigan

Sue Nissen - Julie Otte - Krissy Reisbeck - Krista Rodriguez - JoEllen

Russell - Jessica Schuller - Amy Styren - Hannah Turek - Stephanie Yost

Office Staff

Hilary Bolling..... General Fund/Payroll/HR
Shari Spaulding..... HS/Sup/AD Secretary/Activity Fund
Lacey RagerElem Secretary/Lunch Fund

School Nurse

Karalee Fiddelke

Technology

Dave Huryta

School Nutrition Program

Lynda Endecott - Manager
Chris Bruning - Nancy Chizek
Pearl Sklenar

Custodians

Dan Cyboron (head) Marcie Gross - Kristi Hagge

Transportation/Groundskeeper Department

Todd VanWinkle

Bus Drivers

Cheryl Deines - Peg Dethlefs
Richard Douglas - Lenay Palser
Gary Psota - Heidi Downer

Title IX Policy

It is the policy of the school district that no person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any of the school district's programs or activities. The district is required by Title IX (20 U.S.C. § 1681) and 34 C.F.R. part 106 to not discriminate in such a manner.

Title IX Coordinator

1.1 **Designation.** The district will designate and authorize at least one employee to coordinate its efforts to comply with its responsibilities under this policy, who will be referred to as the "Title IX Coordinator." The district will notify applicants for admission and employment, students, parents or legal guardians of students, employees, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the district, of the name or title, office address, electronic mail address, and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinator. Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment (whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment). This report may be made by any means, including but not limited to, in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report. Such a report may be made at any time (including during non-business hours).

1. Definitions. As used in this policy, the following terms are defined as follows:

2.1. **Actual knowledge** means notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment to any district employee. Imputation of knowledge based solely on vicarious liability or constructive notice is insufficient to constitute actual knowledge. This standard is not met when the only district employee with actual knowledge is the respondent (as that term is defined below). "Notice" as used in this paragraph includes, but is not limited to, a report of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator as described in subsection 1.1 above.

2.2. **Complainant** means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

2.3. **Formal complaint** means a document filed by a complainant or signed

by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting that the district investigate the allegation of

sexual harassment. The only district official who is authorized to initiate the Grievance Process for Formal Complaints of Sexual Harassment against a respondent is the Title IX Coordinator (by signing a formal complaint). At the time of filing a formal complaint with the district, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the district's education program or activity. A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, or by electronic mail, by using the contact information required to be listed for the Title IX Coordinator under subsection 1.1 above, and by any additional method designated by the district. As used in this paragraph, the phrase "document filed by a complainant" means a document or electronic submission (such as by electronic mail or through an online portal provided for this purpose by the district) that contains the complainant's physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint. Where the Title IX Coordinator signs a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator is not a complainant or otherwise a party under this policy or under 34 C.F.R. part 106, and will comply with the requirements of this policy and 34 C.F.R. part 106, including subsections 5.1.3–5.1.4 and 34 C.F.R. § 106.45(b)(1)(iii).

2.4. Respondent means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

2.5. Consent for purposes of this policy means the willingness in fact for conduct to occur. An individual may, as a result of age, incapacity, disability, lack of information, or other circumstances be incapable of providing consent to some or all sexual conduct or activity. Neither verbal nor physical resistance is required to establish that an individual did not consent. District officials will consider the totality of the circumstances in determining whether there was consent for any specific conduct. Consent may be revoked or withdrawn at any time.

2.6. Sexual harassment means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

2.6.1. An employee of the district conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the district on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;

2.6.2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the district's education program or activity;

2.6.3. **Sexual assault**, as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), which means an offense classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

2.6.3.1 **Sex Offenses, Forcible**—Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

2.6.3.1.1. **Rape**—(Except Statutory Rape) The carnal knowledge of a person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

2.6.3.1.2. **Sodomy**—Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity

2.6.3.1.3. **Sexual Assault With An Object**—To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity

2.6.3.1.4. **Fondling**—The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity

2.6.3.2. **Sex Offenses, Non-forcible**—(Except Prostitution Offenses) Unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse.

2.6.3.2.1. **Incest**—Non-Forcible sexual intercourse

between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law

2.6.3.2.2. **Statutory Rape**—Non-Forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age



RAVENNA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR



JULY '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

10 – School Board Meeting

JANUARY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

01 – Winter Break, No School
02 – Winter Break, No School
03 – Teacher PD Day
No School for Students
04 – Classes Resume
08 – School Board Meeting

(5-20, T-21)

AUGUST '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

11 – Teacher Inservice Day
14 – Teacher Inservice Day
14 – School Board Meeting
15 – Teacher Inservice Day
16 – First Day of School

(5-12, T-15)

FEBRUARY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

09 – Teacher PD Day, No School
12 – No School
12 – School Board Meeting

(5-19, T-20)

SEPTEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

04 – Labor Day, No School
11 – School Board Meeting
20 – Parent/Teacher Conf (4-8 pm)
2:00 pm Dismissal
22 – Parent/Teacher Conf (8-11 am)
No School for Students

(5-19, T-20)

MARCH '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

06 – Noon Dismissal, End of 3rd QT
07 – Spring Break, No School
08 – Spring Break, No School
11 – School Board Meeting
14 – Parent Teacher Conf (4-8 pm)
2:00 pm Dismissal
15 – Teacher PD Day
No School for Students
29 – Easter Break, No School

(5-17, T-18)

OCTOBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

09 – School Board Meeting
18 – End of First Quarter
20 – Teacher PD Day
No School for Students
23 – Fall Break – No School

(5-20, T-21)

APRIL '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

01 – Easter Break, No School
02 – JH Track Meet, Noon Dismissal
08 – School Board Meeting
11 – RHS Track Invite, Noon Dismissal
22 – Teacher PD Day
No School for Students

(5-20, T-21)

NOVEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

11 – Veterans Day
13 – School Board Meeting
22 – Noon Dismissal
23 – Thanksgiving Day, No School
24 – Thanksgiving Break, No School

(5-20, T-20)

MAY '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

11 – Graduation
13 – School Board Meeting
17 – Last Day of School, Noon Dismissal, End of 4th Quarter
20 – Teacher Work Day

(5-13, T-14)
185 Teacher Days
174 Student Days

DECEMBER '23						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

01 – Teacher PD Day
No School for Students
11 – School Board Meeting
21 – Noon Dismissal - End of 2nd Quarter
22-29 – Winter Break, No School

(5-14, T-15)

JUNE '24						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

10 – School Board Meeting

RECEIPT

This Student Handbook is distributed in accordance with Nebraska State Law, Section 79-262, paragraph three which states in part: "Rules and Standards which form the basis for discipline shall be distributed to students and parents at the beginning of each school year or at the time of enrollment..."

Parents (or guardians) and students are required to sign & return the receipt form below and return it to the school office before August 25th, 2023.

PARENT/STUDENT AGREEMENT

I have received and read the Student Handbook or reviewed the electronic copy of the Student Handbook on the school's website that describes the Ravenna School District's discipline policies, regulations, rules, and expectations to be followed by students enrolled in the Ravenna Public Schools, including the Drug Free School Policy & Computer Network Use by Students. My child and I have discussed these policies and understand that we must comply with them.

Student's Signature Date

Parent/Guardian's Signature Date

Student Cell Phone Number

Parent Cell Phone Number

Parent's Email Address

Ravenna Public School 2023-2024
Parent Permission to use Standing Orders
Medications and Treatments

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

My Child may receive the following medication as needed during the school day:
(Check all that are allowable) Medications are given as directed on the label for age and weight.

- ☐ **Tylenol (Acetaminophen)** - Liquid dose according to age/weight for 11 years and younger - 325mg tabs each - Dosage 2 tablets for 12 years old and older. May be given every 4 hours as needed for headache, toothache, earache or other pain.
 - ☐ **Advil/Motrin (Ibuprofen)** - Liquid dose according to age/weight for children 3-11 years old - 200mg tabs - dosage 1 or 2 tablets for students 12 years old or older - May be given every 4 hours as needed for headache, toothache, earache, menstrual cramps, orthopedic injuries or other pain.
 - ☐ **Benadryl (Diphenhydramine)** - Liquid or tablet dose according to age and weight - Maybe given every 6 hours as needed for allergic reactions.
 - ☐ **Tums** Dosage 1 or 2 tablets every 4 hours as needed for indigestion, upset stomach, nausea or bloating.
 - ☐ **Cough Drops** - 1 lozenge every 2 hours as needed for cough, irritation, pain, sore mouth or sore throat.
 - ☐ **Bacitracin/Triple Antibiotic/ Burn Cream** - as needed for superficial wounds/ abrasions to prevent infection.
 - ☐ **Hydrocortisone cream or Benadryl (Diphenhydramine) cream/ spray** - to affected area every 2 hours as needed for itching.
 - ☐ **Visine/Artificial Tears** - 1-2 drops per eye for redness or itching related to allergies or dryness.
 - ☐ **Orajel (oral pain relief gel)** - every 4 hours for sore mouth, toothache or irritation from orthodontic appliances.
 - ☐ **Barrier Creams, lotions and other skin protectants** - Examples Vaseline, Aquaphor, lip balms
- I understand a new form needs to be filled out and signed every school year.
 - I understand that my child will only be able to receive these medications subject to the availability of the school nurse.
 - I understand that First Aid and nursing care for illness and accidents will be provided.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ADMINISTRATION OF OVER THE COUNTER OR PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

PHYSICIAN'S REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATION OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL

DATE: _____

CHILD'S FULL NAME _____ is under my care and must
take medication which I have prescribed during the school day. Name of medication (as it appears
on container in which the drug is stored) _____

Dosage and time _____ Date administration of drug is to begin
_____. Possible adverse reactions to be reported to physician Special instructions
for the administration and storage of the drug

I or my designee(s) have trained school personnel or approved alternative training as adequate to
administer the medication, have evaluated the situation, the general administration plan and if
applicable, the self- administration plan or emergency care plan, and deemed each to be safe and
appropriate, and if applicable authorize the use of hypodermic syringes and needles or similar
medical terms.

Name of Physician and Designee

Print or Type

Primary Phone Number

Secondary Phone Number

Signature of Physician

RECORD OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Parent's Phone _____
Student Name _____ Grade _____
Date to Begin _____ Date to End _____
Name of Medication _____
Dosage of Medication _____ Time _____
Doctor _____ Phone #1 _____ Phone # _____
Possible Adverse Reaction: _____

_____ gives permission for _____ our son/daughter
to self-administer specific medications at school. This medication cannot be taken at any other
non-school time.

DATED this day _____ of _____ . 20__ .

Students who are able to self-administer specific medication may do so provided:

1. The physician provides written authorization allowing self-administration of said medication.
2. The parent provides written authorization allowing self-administration of said medication.
3. Such medication is transported to the school and maintained under the student's control in the original, properly labeled package and
 - a. is not opened except when self-administering the medication,
 - b. is not self-administered during instructional time or in the presence of other students unless medically necessary, and
 - c. is not shown or exhibited to other students.
4. The student's physician or physician's designee has
 - a. evaluated the situation and deemed it to be safe and appropriate;
 - b. documented this on the physician's authorization for the student's cumulative health record, and
 - c. approved the general administration plan.
5. The student and the student's physician or physician's designee have developed a plan for reporting and supervising self-administration.
6. The principal and appropriate teacher are informed that the student is self-administering prescribed medication.

Doctor's Signature:
